

**LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MEETING MINUTES**

October 3, 2023
Courthouse Commissioner Room
Ivanhoe, MN 56142

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Board Chair Corey Sik, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioners present were, Joe Drietz, Steve Hauswedell, Dean Nielsen, and Corey Sik. Commissioner VanDeVere was absent. Also present was Lincoln County Auditor-Treasurer, Deb Vierhuf and Lincoln County Attorney, Glen Petersen. No conflicts of interest were noted.

Motion by Drietz, seconded by Hauswedell to approve the consent agenda which included approval of the Commissioner meeting minutes from September 19, 2023 with one change in Drietz's committee meetings (changing from Enterprise Development to Workforce Development) and the agenda for October 3, 2023. All (4) voted in favor.

Dustin Hauschild, Lincoln County Environmental Administrator, informed the Board that the building is up at the Transfer Site. The garage door and electrical still needs to be installed. Information only.

Hauschild informed the Board we currently share a dumpster with parks at Picnic Point. The Highway Department is currently removing trees so the site can be built up. This will also make it easier for the trucks to access the dumpster. Snow removal will also be easier and less costly. This dumpster will be maintained by Waste Management which will give us a cheaper rate. A recycle dumpster will be added at this site. Information only.

Hauschild informed the Board that he attended the Solid Waste Administrators Conference and a Solid Waste Commissioner meeting. The new MPCA rules were addressed and the reasons for these rules. The main reason is to prevent contaminants from entering our ground water supply. Once the MPCA rules are adopted, the landfills will need to decide if they will remain open within 6 months and if they are going to close, they will be closed within 7 years. The lack of room for demo in landfills was also discussed. These new rules will compound this issue. There is some hope that with these new rules, there will be grant money available, but if everyone is applying, how far will that money go. This will also be discussed at the Lyon County Regional Landfill Meeting on October 16th and the effect on each county will be discussed. Information only.

Hauschild gave a ditch update. The updates were as follows:

- CD 37 Ditch Crossing Culvert replacement in Royal Twp. Section 34 North of Ivanhoe – The pipe was installed by Ground Works. An additional load of rip wrap was needed to make sure it does not wash out in the future.

Information only.

Hauschild informed the Board that the sheet metal was installed for the Lake Shaokatan Dam Replacement. Hauschild stopped out and talked with A & C Excavating and the rip wrap is being replaced in the outlet and will hopefully be done today. They will begin cutting the pilings soon. Information only.

Joe Wilson, Lincoln County Engineer, was present to give project updates. They were as follows:

- Continue to work on getting the 2023 County and Township Box Culverts, and Paving Plans out for bid.
- Working through permitting for County Highway 8 Bridge.
- The bids for Gravel Crushing at the Skime Pit were opened on October 2nd at 2:00 p.m.

Wilson presented maintenance updates. They were as follows:

- Started roadside Fall mowing.
- Re-graveling and roadside spraying is complete.
- Finished a snow sloping project on County Road 120 and will complete some seeding on that project soon.
- Snow sloping and safety project has been started on County Road 109. This will take a couple weeks to complete.
- Plan to start preparing for shouldering.

Information only.

Wilson informed the Board that he continues to work on finalizing and closing out projects from 2020, 2021, and 2022. Information only.

Wilson informed the Board that he is working on the final sign off on the Wind Tower Project. We are waiting for a response on the final request. Information only.

Wilson presented the Gravel Crushing Project bids. They were as follows:

- CT Sibson Gravel & Crushing \$130,000.00
- WM D Scepaniak, Inc. \$200,540.00

- R&E Enterprises of Mankato \$163,730.00
- Rogge Excavating Inc. \$170,250.00
- Ferguson Aggregate & Crushing \$231,270.00

Wilson's recommendation is to approve the bid from CT Sibson Gravel and Crushing. Motion by Nielsen, seconded by Drietz to approve the Gravel Crushing Project bid from CT Sibson Gravel and Crushing in the amount of \$130,000.00 which is 25.71% below the engineer's estimate. All (4) voted in favor.

Wilson informed the Board that Ben Bloch has began employment. Bloch will need to take CDL classes to obtain his CDL. Wilson would like to look at paying for these classes. The Board was in favor of having a contract drawn up that states we will pay for the classes, but they will need to put in a certain number of years with the county or they will need to pay that amount back. Information only.

Wilson would like to look at designating Columbus Day as a floating holiday for the Highway Department so it does not interfere with extended fall hours. The Board stated that this would have to be brought up through the union. Information only.

Wilson would like to readvertise for the open technician position and leave open until filled. The Board feels that Wilson should meet with the Personnel Committee to explain why this position is needed. Information only.

Drietz – CPT, JD31BR24 Ditch Meeting
 Hauswedell – JD31BR24 Ditch Meeting, Western Mental Health, ACE Volunteer Supper
 Nielsen – None
 Sik – Radio Board, HRA,
 VanDeVere – Absent

Auditor Warrants were presented.

Motion by Drietz, seconded by Hauswedell to approve the following Commissioner Warrants #21765-#21809 for the following amounts: Revenue - \$37,901.87, Road and Bridge - \$106,744.89, Debt - \$33,988.34 and Ditch - \$257.85. All (4) voted in favor.

The following bills were over \$2,000.00 per M.S. 375.12 Ag Plus Cooperative - \$18,579.39, Christianson Farm Mach Inc. - \$7,354.15, CliftonLarsonAllen LLP - \$9,082.50, Dean Brandt's Heating & Air Conditioning - \$6,300.00, Detco Industries, Inc. - \$2,582.86, Good Septic & Excavating - \$18,200.00, M-R Sign Co Inc. - \$5,708.00, Midwest Petroleum Equipment LLC - \$3,992.29, Pro-Vision Inc. - \$3,029.59, Regents of The University of Minnesota - \$13,923.77, Schaeffer Mfg. Co. - \$2,071.38, Sir Lines-A-Lot, LLC - \$46,978.80, Sterzinger Crushing - \$11,000.00, Thomas Plumbing Inc. - \$15,788.34, Truck Center Companies East LLC - \$3,152.52, WW Tire Service Inc. - \$2,994.62 and 29 payments less than \$2,000.00 - \$8,154.74.

Deb Vierhuf, Lincoln County Auditor-Treasurer, presented Resolution No. 31-2023 Forfeited Tax Classification. Vierhuf stated that we may not hold an auction this year due to the small number of properties and mentioned that one of the properties will need some clean-up. Motion by Hauswedell, seconded by Nielsen to approve Resolution No. 31-2023 Forfeited Tax Classification.

Resolution No. 31-2023 Tax Forfeited Classification

WHEREAS, certain lands in Lincoln County, Minnesota, have forfeited to the State of Minnesota for non-payment of taxes, and,

WHEREAS, the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners classify these lands as **non-conservation lands**, in accordance with Minnesota Statutes 282.01.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners hereby certify that all parcels of land listed below have been viewed and comply with the provisions of Minnesota Statutes 85.012; 92.461; 282.01 Subd. 8; and 282.018; and other statutes that require the withholding of tax-forfeited lands from sale.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners does not need the approval of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources for the sale of the following parcels:

Verdi Township
 Parcel #15-0195-000
 Blk - 1
 Verdi
 Lots 10-11

City of Arco
 Parcel #16-0034-000
 Arco City
 Lot – 1 Blk – 2

City of Tyler

Parcel #20-0144-000

Tyler City

Lot – 5 Blk – 2

N 1/2

ADOPTED by unanimous vote, this 3rd day of October, 2023.

ATTEST:

Corey Sik, 2023 Board Chair

Deb Vierhuf, County Auditor-Treasurer

Vierhuf stated that the door badge system is moving along and reminded the Board to stop by to get their pictures taken for their badge. Information only.

Glen Petersen, Lincoln County Attorney, stated that he has visited with Bisbee about doing our Heating and Cooling Project. Bisbee is still interested and the hope is that we could buy the equipment up front and then get a bid for each floor. Information only.

Motion by Drietz, seconded by Nielsen, to adjourn at 9:31 a.m. All voted in favor.

ATTEST:

(SEAL)

Corey Sik, 2023 Board Chair

Deb Vierhuf, County Auditor-Treasurer