

**LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MEETING MINUTES**

March 21, 2023
Courthouse Commissioner Room
Ivanhoe, MN 56142

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Mic VanDeVere (designated by Commissioner Sik, Board Chair), followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioners present were Joe Drietz, Steve Hauswedell, and Mic VanDeVere. Commissioner Nielsen attended via zoom and his location was posted on the bulletin board. Also present was Lincoln County Auditor-Treasurer, Deb Vierhuf and Lincoln County Attorney, Glen Petersen. No conflicts of interest were noted.

Motion by Hauswedell, seconded by Drietz to approve the consent agenda which included approval of the Commissioner meeting minutes from March 7, 2023, and the agenda for March 21, 2023. All (4) voted in favor.

Beth Wilms, Director of Southwest Health and Human Services, and Lisa DeBoer, Director of Business Management, were present to give an update on Southwest Health and Human Services. DeBoer informed the Board that at the end of the year, SWHHS had a cash balance of \$4,854,271.00. Total cash and investments balance was \$11,454,719.00. The 2023 budget included up to a 4.5% increase in wages. On an average, SWHHS had 11-12 open positions during 2022. Public Health Nurses and Child Protection Officers are hard positions to fill and retain. SWHHS has received Opioid Settlement dollars which went towards child protection. SWHHS is at a 4 month reserve amount. Wilms informed the Board that the workforce is a big concern for SWHHS. Recruiting and retaining staff is being looked at. A new board orientation will be held on April 19th after the regular board meeting. Wilms distributed the annual report which shows the highlights of 2022. Information only.

Chris Cauwels, IT Director, informed the Board that the server is near 8 years old and presented quotes for a new server. Cauwels received quotes from The Computer Man and Morris Electronics. Two of the quotes have drives that are much quicker and will last longer. The quote from The Computer Man is \$14,518.00 and the comparable quote from Morris Electronics is \$24,523.97. Quotes received for less speedy equipment were The Computer Man in the amount of \$14,131.00 and Morris Electronics in the amount of \$18,458.60. Cauwels recommendation is to go with The Computer Man's quote in the amount of \$14,518.00 and feels the additional \$387.00 is worth the faster and longer lasting equipment. Motion by Hauswedell, seconded by Nielsen to approve the server quote from The Computer Man in the amount of \$14,518.00. All (4) voted in favor.

Dale Sterzinger, Soil and Water Conservation District Manager, presented Resolution 16-2023 Resolution to Adopt and Implement the Lac Qui Parle-Yellow Bank Watershed Joint Powers Collaboration. Once this is approved by BWSR, the plan will be implemented for the Lincoln County area. Motion by Drietz, seconded by Hauswedell to approve Resolution 16-2023 Resolution to Adopt and Implement the Lac Qui Parle-Yellow Bank Watershed Joint Powers Collaboration. All (4) voted in favor.

Sterzinger gave an update on the Yellow Medicine, Missouri, Lac Qui Parle-Yellow Bank, and Redwood Watersheds. Sterzinger also presented information on the Highway 14 tour, and the tree seeding program. Information only.

Sterzinger informed the Board that SWCD has dedicated \$3,000.00 to go towards Pictometry. SWCD uses Pictometry daily. Information only.

Sterzinger informed the Board that he has a PowerPoint presentation of all of the projects they are working on and would like to present that to the Board at a later date. Information only.

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

- Continue to work on 2023 plans and proposals for county bridges, township bridges, paving, ADA Pedestrian Ramp, and seal coat projects.

Wilson presented maintenance updates. They were as follows:

- Staying busy with ice and snow removal. Working on moving the snow banks back.
- The new snowplow truck has been working well.
- Will need to focus on overdue routine maintenance.

Information only.

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

Wilson informed the Board that he attended the Annual Township Meeting on March 20th. Wilson went over the road plans and received township input. Information only.

Wilson informed the Board that the MN State Contractor stated that since the manufacturer cancelled our pickup order, we will need to get a new bid on a pickup. Information only.

Wilson informed the Board that a roundtable meeting will be scheduled to tentatively be April 18th at 11:30. Information only.

Wilson informed the Board that the spring road restrictions will come off around May 1st. Information only.

A conference call was held with Lyon County to set the date, time and place to review the JD #31 project bids and to appoint the Joint Board.

The appointed joint Board members are as follows:

- Lyon County Commissioner Anderson – District 5
- Lyon County Commissioner Andries – District 1
- Lyon County Commissioner Crawley – District 4
- Lincoln County Commissioner Drietz – District 4
- Lincoln County Commissioner Hauswedell – District 5

The Joint Board was set with a roll call vote as follows: Lincoln County Commissioners -Hauswedell – yea, Drietz – yea, Nielsen – yea, VanDeVere – yea, Lyon County Commissioners – Anderson – yea, Andries – yea, The Joint JD #31 Board was set.

Shaun Luker from Bolten and Menk, Inc opened the bids for the JD #31 Improvement Project via Teams. The engineer's estimate was \$133,400.00. The bids were as follows:

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| • TE Underground \$138,490.00 | | • Brey Tiling | \$140,630.00 |
| • D&G Excavating, Inc. | \$148,360.00 | • Cooreman Contracting Inc. | \$149,872.50 |
| • Hodgman Drainage Co., Inc \$153,649.00 | | • A&C Excavating LLC \$184,950.00 | |

The bids will be reviewed and the winning bid will be awarded at the JD #31 Joint Board meeting in April. Information only.

The JD #31 Joint Board date was set for Wednesday, April 12th at 9:00 a.m. to be held at the Lyon County Courthouse in the Commissioners room. Information only.

Dustin Hauschild, Lincoln County Environmental Administrator, attended via zoom

Hauschild gave an update on the MPCA MN Recycling and Composting Grant. Lincoln County was notified that due to another county not being able to complete their project, Lincoln County will now be awarded a grant amount of \$153,750.00 with a county match of \$38,500.00. The project completion date will be June 30, 2025. This agreement will be brought to a future meeting for approval. Information only.

Hauschild presented the 2022 County Feedlot Officer's Report. The county feedlot program will no longer be on probation for the 2021 review. In 2022, Lincoln County completed 32 feedlot inspections which exceeds the 28.5 required inspections. 11.75 performance credits will be earned for the work done in 2022. Motion by Drietz, seconded by Nielsen to approve the 2022 County Feedlot Officer's Report. All (4) voted in favor.

Hauschild presented information on the County Zoning Ordinance. Some changes that will be made to the ordinance are adding language to allow fences to be placed closer to the property line on shore land areas and adding some language for Interim Use Permits. Hauschild would like to have Jay Squires of Rupp, Anderson, Squires, Waldspurger & Mace P.A. review our ordinance to be sure we have followed all statutory requirements and to see if it can be slimmed down. Jackson County had their ordinance reviewed and found they were able to slim it down and simplify it. The estimated cost to have the ordinance reviewed is between \$4,000 and \$8,000. Motion by Nielsen, seconded by Hauswedell to approve having Jay Squires of Rupp, Anderson, Squires, Waldspurger & Mace P.A. review the County Zoning Ordinance prior to formal adoption on changes proposed in December, 2021 at a cost of up to \$8,000.00. All (4) voted in favor.

Hauschild requested approval of Resolution No. 17-2023 which allows the Environmental office to submit proposals for MPCA Clean Water Partnership loans for failing septic systems. Motion by Drietz, seconded by Hauswedell to approve Resolution No. 17-2023 Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Minnesota Clean Water Partnership. All (4) voted in favor.

RESOLUTION NO. 17-2023
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
Minnesota Clean Water Partnership (CWP)
Proposal Resolution

Resolution of The County of Lincoln

Be it resolved by The Count of Lincoln to submit a proposal with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) to conduct the following project: Lincoln County Septic Loan

Be it further resolved that Dustin Hauschild, Environmental Administrator, be authorized to submit the Proposal for the above-mentioned project and shall have the authority to represent this body in all matters that do not specifically require the action of this body.

Be it further resolved that submittal of a proposal does not obligate this body to accept a grant and/or Loan if so offered.

Whereupon the above resolution was adopted at a regular meeting of the County Board of Commissioners This 21st day of March, 2023.

ATTEST:

Corey Sik, 2022, Board Chair

Deb Vierhuf, County Auditor-Treasurer

Hauschild stated that at the November 1, 2022 board meeting, the board agreed to commit \$20,000.00 to the higher density Lidar. Hauschild requested approval of the formal State Lidar Agreement and requested that the Environmental Administrator act as the authorized representative and that the Lincoln County Auditor-Treasurer be designated to sign the agreement. Motion by Drietz, seconded by Nielsen to approve the State of Minnesota Lidar Agreement and designate Dustin Hauschild, Environmental Administrator, to act as the authorized representative for Lincoln County and designate Deb Vierhuf, Lincoln County Auditor-Treasurer, to sign said agreement. All (4) voted in favor.

Hauschild informed the Board that he felt he could get some money through Area II to put towards the Perch Lake Improvement. Information only.

Committee Reports were given:

Drietz – Lac Qui Parle Watershed, RCRCA and Area II, Lincoln County Enterprise Development
Hauswedell – SWHHS
Nielsen – None
Sik – Absent
VanDeVere – SW Regional Development

Auditor Warrants were presented.

Motion by Drietz, seconded by Hauswedell to approve the following Commissioner Warrants #20328 - #20388 for the following amounts: Revenue - \$253,906.59, Road and Bridge - \$41,349.36 and Ditch - \$1,823.50. All (4) voted in favor.

The following bills were over \$2,000.00 per M.S. 375.12: A.C.E of Southwest Minnesota - \$8,279.00, Alpha Wireless Communications Co. - \$26,182.50, Armor Training Services - \$3,500.00, BioAg Energy Services LLC - \$3,315.05, Counties Providing Technology - \$5,652.00, Election Systems & Software Inc. \$2,047.50, Office Peeps Inc. - \$3,447.48, PrimeWest Health - \$183,864.00, SW MN Emergency Communications Board - \$2,100.00, Titan Machinery - \$7,046.67, Truck Center Companies East LLC - \$2,132.12, TrueNorth Steel Inc. - \$24,724.40, Ziegler Power Systems (CAT) - \$3,841.70 and 47 payments less than \$2,000.00 - \$20,947.03.

Deb Vierhuf, Lincoln County Auditor-Treasurer, presented Resolution 18-2023 for approval. Motion by Hauswedell, seconded by VanDeVere to approve Resolution 18-2023 Resolution Authorizing Lincoln County Staff to Execute all Necessary Documents to ensure Lincoln County Participation in the Multistate Settlements relating to Opioid Supply Chain Participants and in the Minnesota Opioids State-Subdivision Memorandum of Agreement. All (4) voted in favor.

Resolution No. 18-2023

Resolution Authorizing Lincoln County Staff to Execute All Necessary Documents to Ensure Lincoln County Participation in the Multistate Settlements Relating to Opioid Supply Chain Participants, and in the Minnesota Opioids State-Subdivision Memorandum of Agreement.

WHEREAS, the State of Minnesota and numerous Minnesota cities and counties are engaged in nationwide civil litigation against opioid supply chain participants related to the opioid crisis; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Attorney General has signed on to multistate settlement agreements with several opioid supply chain participants, but those settlement agreements are still subject to sign-on by local governments and final agreement by the companies and approval by the courts; and

WHEREAS, there is a deadline of April, 18 2023, for a sufficient threshold of Minnesota cities and counties to sign on to the above-referenced multistate settlement agreements, and failure to timely sign on may diminish the amount of funds received by not only that city or county but by all Minnesota cities and counties from the settlement funds; and

WHEREAS, representatives of Minnesota’s local governments, the Office of the Attorney General, and the State of Minnesota have reached agreement on the intrastate allocation of these settlement funds between the State, and the counties and cities, as well as the permissible uses of these funds, which will be memorialized in the Minnesota Opioids State-Subdivision Memorandum of Agreement, as amended (the “State-Subdivision Agreement”); and

WHEREAS, the State-Subdivision Agreement creates an opportunity for local governments and the State to work collaboratively on a unified vision to deliver a robust abatement and remediation plan to address the opioid crisis in Minnesota;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Lincoln County supports and agrees to the State-Subdivision Agreement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Lincoln County supports and opts in to all future multistate settlement agreements with opioid supply chain participants; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Lincoln County authorizes county staff to execute all necessary documents to ensure Lincoln County’s participation in the multistate settlement agreements, including the Participation Agreement and accompanying Release, and in the State-Subdivision Agreement.

Corey Sik, 2023 Board Chair

Deb Vierhuf, Lincoln County Auditor-Treasurer

Vierhuf requested approval to enter into an agreement for employment background checks. Motion by Drietz, seconded by Nielsen to approve entering into an agreement with McDowell Agency, Inc. for employment background checks. All (4) voted in favor.

Motion by Drietz, seconded by Hauswedell, to adjourn at 10:34 a.m. All (4) voted in favor.

ATTEST:
(SEAL)

Corey Sik, 2022, Board Chair

Deb Vierhuf, County Auditor-Treasurer