

TRAVERSE COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING

TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2013
START TIME: 8:30 A.M.

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Chair Kevin Leininger. Other members present included Commissioners Todd Johnson, Jerry Deal, Don Appel, and Dave Salberg. The pledge was recited. The agenda was amended to include an update regarding a human resources decision and a discussion regarding committee delegation for the Retired Senior Volunteer Program. The amended agenda was approved unanimously upon a motion by Deal and second by Salberg.

Larry Haukos/County Engineer- Haukos provided a department update.

Board actions requested included:

1. A request for authorization to purchase a Caterpillar 140M2 Motor Grader (under State of Minnesota Contract for Motor Graders No. M439(5) expires 31 May 13) with guaranteed buy back to replace the Dumont Motor Grader (a 2006 Cat 143H with snow wing and front hitch and one way plow) was made by Haukos. The cost for the purchase would be \$160,189.81. The total ownership cost would be roughly \$25.00 per hour. The additional \$35,000 over budgeted amount needed would be taken out of reserve dollars. A motion was made by Deal and second by Salberg to approve the purchase and carried unanimously.
2. Request for authorization to hire three temporary seasonal employees and a request to exempt them from written testing requirements was made by Haukos. A motion was made to approve the request by Salberg and seconded by Appel and carried unanimously.
3. Request for authorization to give employees two hours off with pay for snow removal was made by Haukos. Salberg appreciates the extra effort but indicated that is what they're hired for. Appel agreed. No further discussion was had on the topic.

Sara Gronfeld/ Soil and and Water/Planning and Zoning Administrator- Gronfeld presented a department update. Land use permits totaled 4 and there were no new septic permits for the month. There were also three variances requested. There is a weed management outreach workshop available March 20, 2013 at the Graceville Community Center beginning at 10:00 AM. Gronfeld also distributed the Environmental Assessment Worksheet that was done for the Tara Township Stream Channel Maintenance project.

Brion Plautz/County Sheriff- Plautz presented his department update. He distributed his jail report showing the jail has been running in double figures and they've been really busy this past month. The deputy hiring process for the current vacancy is moving forward with interviews scheduled for March 18.

Plautz also clarified the policy of closing the county offices in inclement weather. The Board agreed the Sheriff will make the final decision on when to close county offices and communicate that with the County Engineer and Board Chair.

Dustin Kindelberger/Veteran's Service Officer/Safety Director- Kindelberger provided a department update. They have been working on brochures and ways to publicize the office and they are considering a fair booth, van program, as well as looking at a fundraiser such as a golf tournament to offset the van program.

Kindelberger also discussed a Pollution grant. Upon a motion by Salbeg, second by Deal and carried unanimously, the Board approved the submission of the grant. Kindelberger also distributed the Solid Waste Management Plan for Traverse County.

Rhonda Braaten-Antrim/County Coordinator- Antrim distributed the meeting minutes from February 19, 2013. Upon a motion by Deal, second by T. Johnson, the minutes were approved unanimously.

Antrim updated the Board regarding discussions at the recent Department Head meeting around storage, court house issues, and the basement of the law enforcement center usage. The department heads would like the building committee to meet with the Safety Director and Highway Engineer, to provide some recommendations to the full Board regarding improvements needed. Matthew Franzese, County Attorney, also spoke of our District Judge requesting some painting that needs to be done in the court services area. Franzese indicated that Judge Glasrud believes it is his mission to make sure each county maintains their court and building. Salberg would like the building committee to consider the court house as well as the law enforcement basement. Antrim will schedule a building committee meeting in the near future.

Upon a motion by Deal and second by T. Johnson, the Board unanimously approved the Golf Course beer, wine and set-up licenses.

Antrim discussed a volunteer to work in the County through Cascade Disability. Upon a motion by Deal and second by Appel, the volunteer was approved unanimously. The wages and workman's compensation is covered through the Disability Services Agency and the current employer, so there should not be any liability to the County.

Antrim shared with the Board the 2013 Audit rates, refinancing of bonds modified schedule from Springsted, a handout regarding various counties' funding share for their County Fairs, and a copy of the ad that will be in the Gazette for the Watershed appointment. These were shared as informational only.

Antrim discussed a human resource issue regarding accumulated sick leave for an employee, under union contract, that was supposed to have a portion of it roll over to vacation after 800 hours and a portion of vacation roll over to HRA after 250 hours per year. It was discovered this hadn't happened over the past several years and the interpretation by Justin Anderson, contracted Human Resource professional for Traverse County, was to reimburse the employee for the time due, per the union contract.

Salberg requested a replacement for his position on the Retired Senior Volunteer Program committee as it conflicts with the Minnesota Rural Caucus Committee. Todd Johnson agreed to attend the RSVP meetings, with the next one being April 18th at 11:30 AM at the Dew Drop Inn in Hoffman, MN. Antrim will update the committee facilitator with Johnson's contact information.

Attest to:

Rhonda Braaten-Antrim/County Coordinator

Kevin Leininger/Board Chair