

Traverse County Commission
Regular Board Meeting
January 6, 2015

The meeting was called to order by Commission Chair Kevin Leininger. Other commissioners present included Dave Salberg, Mark Gail, Tom Monson, and Todd Johnson. The agenda was approved unanimously, upon a motion by Salberg and second by T. Johnson with the addition of a Leave of Absence for Trevor Wright.

Rhonda Antrim/County Coordinator- Newly elected commissioners were sworn into office. Upon a motion by Salberg and second by Monson, Trevor Wright was unanimously granted a leave of absence from Chief Deputy. Trevor Wright was then sworn into Office of the Sheriff. Upon a motion Salberg and second by Monson, a unanimous decision was made to continue with Board Chair as Kevin Leininger and Vice Chair as Dave Salberg for 2015. Upon a motion by Salberg and second by Gail, the Wheaton Gazette was unanimously named as the official newspaper for the county. Upon a motion by Monson and second by T. Johnson, the committee delegations for Traverse County, Association of Minnesota Counties, and Coroner appointment were all approved unanimously, as well as the official regular board meeting dates and time. The coroner is Dr. Gallagher and he may also designate Michelle Rinke or Kathi Kremer to fill in. The fee is \$150.00 per hour plus mileage at the IRS rate. The 2015 Board meetings will be the first and third Tuesday of each month starting at 9:00AM. The minutes from the December 16, 2014 board meeting were approved unanimously upon a motion by T. Johnson and second by Salberg. Kit Johnson, Auditor/Treasurer, was delegated to manage the official depositories for the county as he sees fit. This was passed unanimously upon a motion by Salberg and second by Gail. Expense reimbursements for the county for 2015 were established unanimously upon a motion by Monson and second by Gail as \$40.00 per day for meals, per the county policy, and mileage at the current IRS rate. The topic of fee schedules was tabled until the next meeting. Upon a motion by Salberg and second by T. Johnson, Kit Johnson was unanimously approved to pay the county bills. Upon a motion by Salberg and second by T. Johnson, the following resolution was approved unanimously:

Definition of an Employee for Workers' Compensation Laws per Minnesota Statute 176.011, subd.9

The Board of Commissioners of the County of Traverse does hereby resolve that, pursuant to the requirements of Minn. Stat. 176.011, subd. 9 (6), that all officers of Traverse County who are elected or appointed to a regular term of office, or to complete the unexpired portion of a regular term, shall be included within the definition of "employee" as that term is defined in Minn. Stat. 176.011, subd. 9 for purposes of coverage under the Workers' Compensation Laws of the State of Minnesota.

It is further resolved that this resolution recognizes that the County of Traverse has in the past included said officials in all Workers' Compensation reports and audits and that this resolution is intended to meet the statutory requirements and confirm an existing practice, not to establish a new practice.

Further resolved, the Traverse County Board of Commissioners, for Traverse County, further resolves that pursuant to the requirements of Minn. Stat 176.011, subd. 9, all Traverse County Fair Board personnel who are elected, appointed, or voluntary in nature, shall be included within the definition of "employee" for the purposes of coverage under the Workers' Compensation Laws of the State of Minnesota.

ATTEST:
County Coordinator

Date

The following bills were approved unanimously upon a motion by Salberg and second by T. Johnson:

ELECTION SYSTEMS & SOFTWARE, INC.	7,480.94
LSS OF TRAVERSE, LLC	4,469.00
MCCC, MI33	5,406.14
MN COUNTIES INTERGOVERNMENTAL TRUST	58,273.00
MN SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION	2,333.20
TRAVERSE COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPT	7,708.72
VALLEY OFFICE PRODUCTS, INC.	2,943.41
BRANDON COMMUNICATIONS	3,069.10
BRAUN INTERTEC CORPORATION	3,371.00
HOUSTON ENGINEERING, INC.	5,340.00
Lyle Signs Inc.	9,479.40
TRAVERSE COUNTY AUDITOR-TREASURER	4,612.50

Per M.S. 375.12, the number of claims totaling \$2000.00 or less were 63, amounting to \$29,380.60. Antrim also distributed an update on the county insurance project through PrimeWest Health, Minnesota Rural County Caucus (MRCC) legislative priorities for 2015, an update on Ditch 14, and the levy for Horizon Public Health, by county, for 2015. Antrim updated the Board that Allison Frisch submitted a letter of intent for the 16 hour per week Eligibility Worker, so that will be combined with her Minnesota 21st Century Grant (MN21CCLC) position, currently 24 hours per week, for a full-time position. The MN21CCLC position was authorized during the Social Service Board meeting in November and upon a recommendation by the Board in December's meeting, to try to combine it with another position for retention purposes, the Eligibility Worker was added. The position was advertised within the county for any part-time employees to apply. Salberg questioned the hiring and Antrim reminded the Board of the 4-1 decision in November, to authorize emergency hiring so as to not lose the grant of \$249,000.00, that will enhance the education of Traverse County youth. Salberg also updated the Board that the position from MRCC to allow counties the option of utilizing a private auditor is still under debate, as they haven't decided what to use as the population component. MRCC member counties must be below 50,000 in population but if the threshold is that high it would impact too many counties and likely not go anywhere at the legislature. Antrim also distributed examples of the life insurance rates for 2015 for active employees and retirees. She explained the rationale for allowing the increase in the life insurance benefit for actives, was to bargain with the unions to remove a life time county paid benefit of health insurance for retirees. That benefit was inserted into the 2008 contract in error and was top priority in negotiations this session to have it removed, saving the county millions of dollars. To afford the life insurance increase for active employees, the retirees were separated into their own pool, which resulted in an increase of premium to them. There was discussion regarding the short notice provided to them but it was explained that the county did not receive their rates until the last week of December. However, concerns and questions can be forwarded to the Coordinator.

Sara Gronfeld/Soil and Water/Planning and Zoning- Gronfeld distributed her report and a printout of the summary Traverse County Permit Log for 2014. Gronfeld is working on a septic system program annual report which will be submitted to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA). The Red Path project was discussed. They will be working on specific construction plans for replacement of impacted

wetlands. SWCD staff are also working on several different annual program reports to submit to the Board of Water and Soil Resources- (BWSR). The public meeting for the Dollymount Conditional Use Permit was discussed. Upon a motion by Salberg and second by Monson, the public hearing was scheduled for January 29th from 9:00-11:00 AM, and approved unanimously. Salberg requested the next meeting address the various rules for the special meetings, regular meetings, and public hearings and they be combined and one set of rules be utilized for all.

Trevor Wright/Sheriff- Wright provided the 2015 recommended fee schedule. Wright reported that they hired Rebekah Sprung and Brenda Bartz as part-time Communications and Correctional Officers. Their department purchased Power Phone and has been conducting training. There may be some overtime involved due to the deadline they have and the difficulty trying to train while working. A conditional offer has been made to Gordy LeClair for the deputy replacement of retired Brion Plautz. He still has to pass the psychological and physical exam. Brenda Pederson will be retiring in August. Her position is integral in management of affairs of the office. Wright requested authorization to advertise for her position. Upon a motion by Salberg and second by Gail, Wright was unanimously authorized to advertise. Aquatic Invasive Species was discussed and Wright will attend training on implementation of the allocation dollars.

Larry Haukos/Highway Engineer- Haukos presented a department update. Upon a motion by Salberg and second by Monson, unanimous approval was given for a contract with Interstate Engineering for design of a bridge replacement for BR No 89660 on Co Rd 76 over the Mustinka River in the amount of \$34,700.00 for design and \$2,100.00 for construction services if needed. Authorization was unanimously granted upon a motion by Salberg and second by T. Johnson, for letting date of February 17th at 10:00 AM for SAP 078-707-001 (streets and highway shop) for the City of Wheaton 2015 street project. Upon a motion by Monson and second by T. Johnson, Haukos was unanimously approved to advertise letting for March 3 at 10:00 AM for gravel crushing and stockpiling at Murphy Pit and March 3 at 10:15 AM to supply and deliver class V gravel on CSAH 2 and CSAH5.

Haukos requested direction from the Board on the draft Traffic Management Plan for Dollymount Dairy. He distributed a copy of the draft plan from Dollymount and also the comments and concerns he has.

They are as follows:

CSAH 6

1. Intersection with 740th Ave. should be widened and paved to ROW line to provide adequate turning radius for trucks, prevent rutting and reduce mud on CSAH 6.
2. Signage indicating trucks entering, stopping and turning would be helpful.
3. Braun is working on the final report—should be here by the end of the week.

County Road 70 (610th St.)

1. The entrance to the Dairy should be wide enough to allow adequate turning radius.
2. The intersection with 740th Ave. should be widened to allow adequate turning radius.
3. There will be rutting issues at entrance and intersection with 740th Ave.
4. Will be posted at 5 ton per axel during spring road restrictions

Other Issues

1. Form of agreement; MOU, Contract or rely on County Ordinances to protect County Interest.
2. Periodic flooding issues.
3. Any modification or change of elevation of roads will require a Watershed Permit.

Leininger and Salberg believe the county ordinance covers the issues and a memorandum of understanding or contract is not necessary. Salberg has heard concerns about other farmers and what

semis are doing to the roads and making sure we treat everyone fairly. T. Johnson understands treating people fairly but should be relative to traffic and unique circumstances. T. Johnson prefers to receive a recommendation from the County Attorney on what is necessary to protect the county. By consensus, the Board agreed to have Haukos submit his concerns to Dollymount and wait for a response.

Dustin Kindelberger/Veteran Service Officer/Solid Waste/Safety- Kindelberger distributed a summary of the Veteran Service Office contacts for 2014. He had 1251 office visits, 1911 phone calls, and 742 pieces of mail. He also discussed highlights of the year including SCORE funding from the MPCA that increased from \$56,000 to \$71,656 annually, which pays for the Solid Waste Department. The recycling facilities were revamped this year and are clean and organized. His emphasized his 2015 goals which include Veteran Outreach, revamping the Tintah recycling facility and monitoring and adjusting the County's Right-To-Know and Safety Policies and hold more safety trainings (CPR and AED). Leininger commended the electronic clean up and suggested looking into holding that day twice a year.

Attested to by:

Rhonda Antrim/County Coordinator

Kevin Leininger/Board Chair