

Traverse County Commission  
Regular Board Meeting  
January 16, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 10:09 a.m. by Commission Chair Mark Gail. Other Commissioners present were Jerrel Olson, Dwight Nelson, Chad Metz, and Kayla Schmidt. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. The agenda was approved unanimously with the following additions: Contract for Medical Examiner Services with Anoka County, upon a motion by Schmidt and second by Olson. There was no conflict of interest expressed. The January 2, 2024, regular Board minutes were unanimously approved upon a motion by Metz and second by Nelson.

**Highway Department**

Brian Koch, Highway Supervisor appeared before the Board with a department update. Information was mailed out to the Townships for the Annual meeting on February 15. The Bombardier will be auctioned on MinnBid beginning January 15 and closing January 24, 2024.

**Auditor/Treasurer**

Auditor/Treasurer Kit Johnson appeared before the Board with a department update. January activities include year-end reporting, system updates, delinquent tax notices, and the administration of the Presidential Primary. There was a discussion regarding the Traverse Care Center and Prairieview Place funds. With the tax revenue that will be coming in and the state money we will end the year with a positive balance if there are no unknown expenses, but we need to keep a positive balance in those funds throughout the year. Upon a motion by Nelson and second by Jerrel a loan of \$100,000 to the Traverse Care Center fund and \$25,000 to the Prairieview Place fund was approved unanimously.

**County Attorney**

County Attorney Matt Franzese appeared before the Board. Looking for approval to file an eviction notice for a person who moved into a tax-forfeited, substandard building located at 538 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. NW in the City of Browns Valley. There was a motion by Schmidt to file an eviction notice, seconded by Metz, and approved unanimously. Franzese mentioned that this is the only property in Browns Valley that is tax-forfeited with a substandard building on it. The Commissioners were given a draft Resolution Extending the Interim Ordinance Placing a Moratorium on the Issuance of Conditional Use Permits for the Construction of Wind Energy Conversion Systems in Traverse County, Franzese asked that they look it over and they can discuss it at the Public Hearing February 6. Franzese also gave the Board a draft Ordinance Regulating Tetrahydrocannabinol Products Within the County of Traverse to look over. Schmidt and Olson will meet with Franzese to look over other counties' ordinances and see what modifications are needed. Franzese also brought forward a Resolution in Opposition to Redesigning the Minnesota State Flag and Seal. Discussion followed with the decision to wait for Franzese to get more information and bring this forward at the next meeting.

**County Coordinator**

Upon motion by Olson and second by Schmidt the following bills were approved unanimously.

CHAMBERLAIN OIL COMPNAY	\$2,884.98
Dlt SOLUTIONS, INC.	\$6,922.29
H & R CONSTRUCTION CO.	\$2,082.10
HOUSTON ENGINEERING, INC.	\$18,734.25
JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL	\$3,513.77
MCIT	\$73,089.00
TEAM LABORATORY CHEMICAL, LLC	\$74,062.50

TWIN VALLEY TIRE WHEATON, INC.	\$15,811.88
VALLEY OFFICE PRODUCTS, INC.	\$2,127.97
ZIEGLER, INC.	\$18,645.87
ASSOCIATION OF MINNESOTA COUNTIES	\$11,417.00
BAKER TILLY MUNICIPAL ADVISORS, LLC	\$2,100.00
BOIS DE SIOUX WATERSHED DISTRICT	\$31,213.50
FLEET SERVICES	\$2,920.03
HORMANN/MARK	\$2,200.00
MN COUNTIES INTERGOVERNMENTAL TRUST	\$114,778.00
MORRIS ELECTRONICS	\$44,127.20
PRO-WEST & ASSOCIATES, INC.	\$3,685.00
TRAVERSE CARE CENTER	\$12,560.00
WEST CENTRAL REGIONAL JUVENILE CT	\$8,049.00
WEX BANK	\$3,706.32
WILKIN COUNTY	\$9,660.26
DHS	\$2,855.05
COST EFFECTIVE HI REIMBURSEMENTS	\$17,251.02
MORRIS ELECTRONICS	\$27,529.46
COUNTY BURIAL	\$2,500.00
NCTI	\$18,515.00
SOS OFFICE	\$31,600.15
PLACEMENTS	\$39,624.34
RM CEP	\$3,688.79
LSS	\$3,936.66
MENED	\$2,520.00
TRAVERSE COUNTY AUDITOR	\$31,069.18

Per M.S. 375.12, the number of claims totaling \$2,000.00 or less were 62 in the amount of \$26,466.93.

Lisa Zahl, County Coordinator asked for approval of the 2024 Pay Equity Report which was approved unanimously upon a motion by Metz and second by Nelson.

The Medical Examiner Services with Anoka County was approved unanimously upon a motion by Olson and second by Metz.

Zahl discussed general updates.

#### **Public Comment Period**

Support was offered for the proposed Resolution opposing the redesign of the State flag.

#### **Committee Reports**

Schmidt attended the Traverse Care Center/Prairieview Place meeting; Bois de Sioux Watershed; Western Prairie; MN Rural Counties and Social Services Placement meeting.

Nelson attended the Traverse Care Center/Prairieview Place meeting; Primewest Health; Western Prairie; Horizon Public Health and Soil & Water.

Gail adjourned the meeting at 12:55 p.m.

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Lisa Zahl, County Coordinator

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Mark Gail, Chair