

Traverses County Commission  
Regular Board Meeting  
February 15,2022

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m. by Commission Chairman Tom Monson. Other Commissioners present were Todd Johnson, Kayla Schmidt, Mark Gail and Dave Salberg. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Motion to approve the agenda was granted unanimously upon a motion by T. Johnson and a second by Gail. Minutes from the February 1, 2022 were approved with a motion by Schmidt and a second by Gail the vote was unanimous. There were no public comments.

**Highway Department**

County Engineer Chad Gillespie and Brian Koch, County Maintenance Supervisor appeared before the Board. Gillespie asked the Board for Permission to approve the final payment for SAP 078-615-016 to Central Specialties, Inc. in the amount of \$24,882.62. Upon motion by Gail and a second by Schmidt the motion passed unanimously. Gillespie shared updates on the courthouse sidewalk quotes, and a County Park grant opportunity.

**Bois de Sioux Watershed District Manager**

The Commissioners received one letter of interest for the District Manager position. Jerome Deal was unanimously reappointed as the Bois de Sioux Watershed District Manager upon a motion by T. Johnson and a second by Salberg.

**Assessors**

Dianne Reinart, Assessor, appeared before the Board to set a date for the County Board of Equalization Meeting. The date of June 15 at 6:30 p.m. was set with a consensus from the Board.

**Auditor**

Kit Johnson, County Auditor appeared before the Board with a department update. K. Johnson informed the Board that his office has been running 2021 Budget Reports comparing budget versus actual expenditures and they are working on ditch assessments. K. Johnson will be attending a conference this Thursday. Upon a motion by T. Johnson and second by Schmidt the Audit Engagement Letter was approved unanimously. The following resolution was approved unanimously upon a motion by Schmidt and second by Gail:

**RESOLUTION 22-07  
AUTHORIZING A SUSPENSION OF TAX ABATEMENT PREVIOUSLY  
AWARDED WITHIN THE COUNTY OF TRAVERSE**

**WHEREAS**, on May 7, 2019, the Board of Commissioners (hereinafter “the County Board”) of the County of Traverse (hereinafter “the County”), State of Minnesota, had previously awarded a property tax abatement, pursuant to M.S.A. §469.1813 through and including 469.1815, for a period of ten years to reimburse a portion of the costs incurred to construct a new agribusiness facility at the Traverse-Dumont Co-Op Elevator (hereinafter “Elevator”) on parcel number 03-0012000 in Tintah Township;

**WHEREAS**, the Elevator has not yet commenced construction of the new agribusiness facility;

**WHEREAS**, the County Board has determined that since construction has halted on the

project, the basis for awarding the abatement - benefits of providing new employment opportunities and expanding the tax base of the County - have also ceased; and

**WHEREAS**, the Elevator was approached about whether it would agree to suspend the award of the abatement until such time as construction of the new agribusiness facility has commenced, and it agreed to do so.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the County Board of Traverse County, State of Minnesota, as follows:

1. Based upon the agreement of the parties, the Traverse County Board of Commissioner's award of a property tax abatement to the Traverse-Dumont Co-Op Elevator on May 7, 2019, is hereby suspended until such time as the Traverse-Dumont Co-Op Elevator commences construction of the new agribusiness facility on parcel number 03-0012000 in Tintah Township.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 15<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2022.

TRAVERSE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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Thomas Monson, Chairman

ATTEST:

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Lisa Zahl, County Coordinator

**County Coordinator**

After some discussion, the following bills were approved unanimously upon a motion by Gail and second by Salberg.

BAKER TILLY MUNICIPAL ADVISORS, LLC	\$2,100.00
COUNTIES PROVIDING TECHNOLOGY	\$5,201.45
HOMETOWN PLANNING	\$2,450.00
HORMANN/MARK	\$2,000.00
MEND CORRECTIONAL CARE, PLLC	\$2,766.02
MORRIS ELECTRONICS	\$4,850.95
PENGUIN MANAGEMENT	\$3,156.00
PRO-WEST & ASSOCIATES, INC.	\$2,287.58
TRAVERSE COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPT	\$2,763.60
TRAVERSE COUNTY SOIL & WATER SERV	\$7,500.00
TRI COUNTY COOP OIL ASSOC	\$7,024.70
BORDER STATES COOPERATIVE	\$3,546.62
KRIS ENGINEERING, INC.	\$6,307.36

LITTLE FALLS MACHINE, INC.	\$2,454.08
TOWMASTER	\$11,830.00
TRI COUNTY COOP OIL ASSOC	\$29,432.92

Per M.S. 375.12, the number of claims totaling \$2,000.00 or less were 57 totaling \$21,438.19

Lisa Zahl, County Coordinator, asked for the Building Maintenance Supervisor start date to be adjusted to February 20, 2022, the start of a new payroll. Upon motion by Gail and second by Salberg this was approved unanimously.

Salberg made the motion to approve the Union Contracts for the LELS, AFSCME and, Highway departments subject to final legal approval of any additional non-financial language changes, second by T. Johnson, and approved unanimously.

Zahl reminded the Board of the AMC Legislative Conference March 2 and 3, 2022.

The Board agreed with unanimous consent to require all Department Heads to present an update to the Board at least one time per year.

#### **Commissioner Reports**

Salberg gave general updates for PrimeWest and Western Prairie Social Services. T. Johnson gave an update on the Rainbow Rider meeting.

Monson adjourned the meeting at 10:37

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Lisa Zahl, County Coordinator

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Tom Monson, Chairman