

Traverse County Commission
Regular Board Meeting
February 2, 2016

The meeting was called to order by Commission Chair Kevin Leininger. Other commissioners present included Dave Salberg, Tom Monson, Mark Gail, and Todd Johnson. The pledge was recited. The agenda was approved unanimously, upon a motion by Monson and second by Salberg, with the addition of a discussion about trapping.

Larry Haukos/Highway Engineer- Haukos requested authorization for the purchase of two Motor Graders from Ziegler on State Bid for \$130,820.00 to replace the Tintah Motor Grader, and \$135,320.00 to replace the Wheaton Motor Grader. The request was approved unanimously upon a motion by Monson and second by Gail. Haukos reported the close out of five projects. Upon a motion by Monson and second by Gail, the following resolutions were approved unanimously:

WHEREAS: County Project No. SAP 078-598-030 has in all things been completed, and the County Board being fully advised in the premises,

NOW THEN BE IT RESOLVED: That we do hereby accept said completed project for and in behalf of the County of Traverse and authorize final payment as specified herein.

WHEREAS: County Project No. CP 15-01 has in all things been completed, and the county Board being fully advised in the premises,

NOW THEN BE IT RESOLVED: That we do hereby accept said completed project for and in behalf of the County of Traverse and authorized final payment as specified herein.

WHEREAS: County Project No. CP 15-02 has in all things been completed, and the county Board being fully advised in the premises,

NOW THEN BE IT RESOLVED: That we do hereby accept said completed project for and in behalf of the County of Traverse and authorized final payment as specified herein.

WHEREAS: County Project No. CP 15-03 has in all things been completed, and the county Board being fully advised in the premises,

NOW THEN BE IT RESOLVED: That we do hereby accept said completed project for and in behalf of the County of Traverse and authorized final payment as specified herein.

WHEREAS: County Project No. CP 15-04 has in all things been completed, and the county Board being fully advised in the premises,

NOW THEN BE IT RESOLVED: That we do hereby accept said completed project for and in behalf of the County of Traverse and authorized final payment as specified herein.

Haukos requested authorization for purchase of a Locking Rack for the server in the highway department as required by the Office of the State Auditor, from Integrated Networking, for \$2,144.00. The request was approved unanimously, upon a motion by Salberg and second by T. Johnson. A request was made for the purchase of an eight foot snow pusher attachment for the skid loader from Shultz Welding in the amount of \$2,100.00. Upon a motion by Monson and second by Salberg, the request was

approved unanimously. There was also a request for authorization to assist the City of Wheaton with sign replacement. The city will compensate the highway department according to an agreed upon schedule. Upon a motion by Salberg and second by Gail, the request was approved unanimously. Leininger did indicate he wants the County's 911 signs up first. Haukos reported on the OSHA citations from this past summer's incident. None of the citations were related to the accident, they were items found upon inspection of facilities and policies. Leininger asked about having the County Attorney review the agreement before paying. They discussed the safety plan and the citations being related to things they should be doing anyway. Leininger said they will always find something. Upon a motion by Salberg and second by Monson, the Board unanimously approved the agreement to pay \$4,500.00. The County Attorney shall review it first.

Sara Gronfeld/Soil and Water/Planning and Zoning- Gronfeld distributed 2015 final reports for various programs. They had one Land Use Permit for January, 2016. She discussed SSTS Septic Permits and recommended an eligibility fee schedule and application. Upon a motion by Monson and second by Salberg, the funding scale and application were approved unanimously. She presented the 2015 County Feedlot Officer Annual Report and Performance Credit Report. It was approved unanimously upon a motion by Salberg and second by Monson. Gronfeld also discussed a Conservation Apprentice position that was approved and is available for this summer.

Trevor Wright and Brenda Bartz/Sheriff's Office- Wright made a conditional offer of employment for the open deputy position to Darrel Thompson, currently with Sisseton PD. He comes with high recommendations, and a lot of knowledge that will be a great asset to Traverse. They held Communications/Correctional Officer interviews but may need to advertise again for part-time. Wright is working on annual reports. Bartz presented 2015 jail statistics. Bartz reported a total of 251 inmates for 2015 with the average daily population of 6.94. She also reported on January, 2016 statistics and the average daily population was 9.87 and primarily Traverse County inmates. Wright also sought approval of an agreement with SEMCA Drug Task Force. Upon a motion by Salberg and second by Monson, the agreement was approved unanimously.

Emily Conroy/Extension- Conroy discussed the Browns Valley program and school district and the improved relationship with the district. They will serve 118 kids twice per month, whereas last year they served 18 kids once per month. She is doing a Farm to Table program, helping them understand farming and the community. She sees the program increasing in strength throughout the year as well. She also discussed the Science of Ag program. Traverse has three teams, highest in the state. She also provided an update on Got Viva program. They are working on a strategic level of planning for 4-H in the future. Conroy was also asked to be involved with the Ignite Afterschool Strategic Planning committee. She was also asked to present to Morris's 4-H camp this summer as a Lead Presenter. The state is recognizing the movement in Traverse County in 4-H. They are sending six youth to Blu, a Leadership camp. The goal is to learn leadership skills and bring the skills back to Traverse. She discussed the MN21CCLC program. They've met with Minnesota Department of Education and received feedback that the program has turned around and is strengthening. Browns Valley's summer program should take off this year too. The Annual 4-H Breakfast Feed will be at the American Legion on Sunday April 10th, 9AM-1PM.

Rhonda Antrim/County Coordinator- Upon a motion by T. Johnson and second by Monson, the minutes from the January 19, 2016 meeting were approved unanimously. Upon a motion by Monson and second by Gail, the following bills were approved unanimously:

MN STATE AUDITOR	3,563.00
MRCC	2,100.00
BIG STONE COUNTY AUDITOR	8,600.00

Per M.S. 375.12, the number of claims totaling \$2000.00 or less were 52, amounting to \$21,373.57. The Board discussed the 2016 committee delegations. Monson expressed an interest in getting off the Viking Library committee and getting on the Personnel Committee and the Soil and Water Conservation District committee. Salberg expressed an interest in getting off of MCIT, Vulnerable Adult, and the Ditch Committee, and desired to be on the Bois De Sioux Watershed District committee. There was no interest in the Viking Library Committee so Antrim offered to attend since it's held in Fergus Falls at 5:30. Regarding the Personnel Committee, T. Johnson expressed the opinion that all commissioners should be allowed to sit on that committee at one time or another, if there is a desire to do so, as a learning experience. Salberg said he would like to remain on the committee as they're in the middle of a few issues that he'd like to see through. T. Johnson suggested Monson serve as an alternate, since neither he nor Salberg wished to step down from the committee. Gail made a motion to appoint Monson as an alternate and T. Johnson seconded it. Monson acknowledged that it wouldn't be helpful as you wouldn't know what's going on and it would be hard to make an informed decision. He also stated that there would always be issues that are pending and at some point you need to make a clean break. Upon a vote of 2 to 3, the motion failed, with Salberg, Monson, and Leininger opposed. After further discussion, Gail made a motion for Monson to replace Salberg, since Salberg has so many committees he's already on and to help all of the commissioners to get experience. Monson seconded the motion and it passed 3 to 2 with Salberg and Leininger opposed. There were no further changes to the committee assignments for this year. Upon a motion by Monson and second by Gail, the following resolution was approved unanimously:

Resolution

Whereas, Traverse County has a need for an enhanced Broadband infrastructure;

Whereas, An enhanced Broadband infrastructure will improve productivity and reduce costs in schools, healthcare institutions, public safety, energy management, and other vital functions;

Whereas, Citizens and businesses also benefit by gaining access to new services and information;

Whereas, A Feasibility Study is necessary to ascertain the business basics of providing broadband access: cost and revenue;

Whereas, A Feasibility Study will flush out the factors that allow for a financing plan to be put in place;

Whereas, Traverse County is applying for the 2016 West Central Initiative Workforce Development Grant, to support a contract for a Feasibility Study;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Traverse County Commission fully supports the application for West Central Initiative's 2016 Workforce Development Grant, which will provide funding to conduct a Feasibility Study for an enhanced Broadband infrastructure throughout Traverse County.

The Board also discussed the grant and the cash match. Leininger expressed a desire to utilize general fund to pay a larger portion. It was explained that a 1:1 match would receive more points. Upon a motion by Salberg and second by Monson, the Board approved \$25,000.00 as a cash match. Antrim updated the Board that the Traverse Care Center lease is expiring November, 2016. She has been in contact with them and will likely bring back information regarding renewing the lease. Antrim distributed the Minnesota Rural County Caucus list of priorities. Upon a motion by Monson and second by Gail, the following PERA resolution was approved unanimously:

**Public Employees Retirement Association
Resolution – Future Qualifying Part-Time Police Officers**

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes 353.64, Subdivision 2, permits the governing body of a governmental subdivision to declare that a position is that of a police officer and that the person who holds said position on a part-time basis is to be covered by the Police and Fire retirement plan if the following employment duties and qualification requirements are met.

1. The position requires a license by the Minnesota peace officer standards and training board and the employee is so licensed;
2. The primary (over 50%) duty of the position is to enforce the general criminal laws of the state;
3. The position charges the employee with the prevention and detection of crime;
4. The position gives this employee the full power of arrest, and
5. The position is assigned to a designated police or sheriff's department.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Traverse County Board hereby declares that the position of Deputy Sheriff in the Traverse county Sheriff's Department satisfies all of the requirements listed above and declares its desire to provide all future employees holding said part-time law enforcement position with coverage under the Police and Fire plan; AND

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this governmental unit will provide a copy of this resolution to PERA each time it provides Police and Fire membership to a person who is hired to said part-time position and will indicate the name of the employee eligible for such coverage.

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF _____

I, (name of clerk) , clerk of (name of governmental subdivision) , do hereby certify that this is a true and correct transcript of the resolution that was adopted at a meeting held on the ___ day of _____, 20___; the original of which is on file in this office. I further certify that ___ members voted in favor of this resolution and that ___ members were present and voting.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

T. Johnson discussed the issue of trapping and the number of hunting dogs that are getting killed each year. He offered the following Common Good Resolution and it was seconded by Gail:

Traverse County Commission Board supports more effective laws to reduce the frequency and severity of dog trapping accidents; and

Traverse County Commission Board understands the benefits to trappers, hunters, the economy, and the dogs.

The resolution was approved 4 to 1, with Salberg opposed.

Attested to by:

Rhonda Antrim/County Coordinator

Kevin Leininger/Board Chair