

Traverse County Commission  
Regular Board Meeting  
February 17, 2015

The meeting was called to order by Commission Chair Kevin Leininger. Other commissioners present included Dave Salberg and Tom Monson. Mark Gail and Todd Johnson were absent. Upon a motion by Monson and second by Salberg, the agenda was approved unanimously with the addition of the Highway contract for 2015-2016, the Subsurface Sewage Treatment System (SSTS) grant eligibility, and wage determination for Chief Deputy Forcier.

**Larry Haukos/Highway Engineer-** Haukos discussed they are preparing to post signs. Authorization was approved unanimously to purchase from M & R Sign, Inc, for \$5,640.00, upon a motion by Salberg and second by Monson. Haukos discussed the budget. Haukos updated the Board on the retirement intentions of Steve Wahl, for May 31, 2015. Upon a motion by Salberg and second by Monson, Haukos was unanimously approved to post for the position. Leininger discussed the traffic plan for Dollymount Dairy. The Dairy was in agreement with the provisions and it will be filed with the 2005 CUP in the Land Use management Office.

**Dianne Reinart/Assessor-** Reinart appeared before the Board to schedule the Board of Equalization meeting. It will be held Monday, June 15, 2015, at 6:30 PM.

**Kit Johnson/Auditor/Treasurer-** K. Johnson provided a department update. He discussed the five county probation agreement and that the contribution by county is population based. This is an effective and efficient model for Traverse County. Johnson discussed the narratives around transaction cycles and how they work with the State Auditors around them. He discussed property taxes and ditch assessments. Their department is also updating inventory and tracking it. Johnson discussed reporting requirements around PERA, Tax Increment Financing, and TIF parcels. He discussed the license bureau testing and that the schedule will be changing in April to the second and fourth Thursdays. Johnson discussed a slip and fall and the impact on our insurance in general. By consensus, insurance will be extended as agreed upon by Board Chair and Auditor/Treasurer. Johnson also distributed a quick reference guide to better be able to decipher the chart of accounts with bills.

**Public Hearing for the 5 Year Bridge Replacement Program 2015 to 2020-** Haukos distributed a county area map and a proposed bridge replacement schedule. The following five year resolution was approved unanimously upon a motion by Salberg and second by Monson:

**RESOLUTION  
FOR  
FIVE YEAR BRIDGE PROGRAM 2015 thru 2020**

WHEREAS, **Traverse County** has determined that the deficient bridges on the CSAH, County Road and Township Road systems on the attached Table 1 are a high priority and require replacement or rehabilitation within the next five (5) years, and

WHEREAS, local roads play an essential role in the overall state transportation network and local bridges are the critical component of the local road system, and

WHEREAS, State support for the replacement or rehabilitation of local bridges continues to be crucial to maintaining the integrity of the local road systems and is necessary for the County and the townships to proceed with the replacement or rehabilitation of the high priority deficient bridges described above, and

WHEREAS, **Traverse County** intends to proceed with replacement or rehabilitation of these bridges as soon as possible when State Transportation Bond Funds are available,

BE IT RESOLVED, that **Traverse County** commits that it will proceed with the design and contract documents for these bridges immediately after being notified that funds are available in order to permit construction to take place within one year of notification.

Adopted this 17<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2015.

Attested to by:

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Rhonda Antrim/County Coordinator

Kevin Leininger/Board Chair

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of a resolution duly passed, adopted, and approved by the Traverse County Board on February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

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Traverse County Auditor

Kit D. Johnson

**Ben Anderson and Melissa Persing/University of Minnesota Extension-** Anderson updated the Board on the interim position and interviews for a full-time replacement. He anticipates having it filled by the middle of March. Persing distributed county comparison data including the percent of FTE employed in the program and the percent of youth participating in the program. The data shows that the more time invested in the position, the greater numbers of youth are participating. Leininger has concerns with counties like Douglas supporting a .75 FTE and then our county hiring a full-time. He feels the program is valuable but it doesn't seem like we're meeting the older kid's needs. He's concerned we're spending a lot of money for our small county. He said it would be easier to start them at .75 FTE upfront then cut them back. The overall budget for the department is about \$115,000.00, and Anderson noted the Extension budget goes through the same approval process as other county departments. Leininger asked if there was value in having the Extension Office located at the school. Anderson speculated that Wilkin County will be increasing their support. Otter Tail is considering 3 FT staff. Douglas is adding staff as well. Salberg compared Traverse County to Wilkin and Wilkin has .75 FTE so suggested we start with that and increase if needed. Monson expressed concern around whether we need a FT support staff. Persing suggested the support staff will be working with the Minnesota 21<sup>st</sup> Century Grant in about a 20% capacity. Leininger expressed concern that this department is one they have very little control over in terms of expenditures.

**Sara Gronfeld/Soil and Water/Planning and Zoning-** Gronfeld presented 2015 SSTS Upgrade Grant Criteria. Upon a motion by Monson and second by Salberg, Gronfeld's recommendations were approved unanimously. Matthew Franzese presented the following resolution:

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT  
FOR A NEW BARN DESIGN FOR DOLLYMOUNT DAIRY, LLP**

**WHEREAS**, on August 2, 2005, a Conditional Use Permit was approved for Dollymount Dairy, LLP, to construct a feedlot for 7350 Animal Units on real property legally described as follows:

The Southwest Quarter (SW 1/4) of Section Four (4), Township One Hundred Twenty-six (126) North, Range Forty-five (45) West of the Fifth Principal Meridian, Traverse County, Minnesota.

**WHEREAS**, on August 8, 2014, Dollymount Dairy, LLP, submitted a new Conditional Use Permit application to upgrade the barn design, which was withdrawn on September 2, 2014, and later amended and resubmitted on October 3, 2014;

**WHEREAS**, on October 23, 2014, the Traverse County Board of Commissioners approved the resubmission of the application, pursuant to Traverse County Land Use Ordinance Section 14.01(10), based upon the amended application containing new information and a change of circumstances;

**WHEREAS**, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency did not require Dollymount Dairy, LLP, to conduct an Environmental Assessment Worksheet for the proposed new barn design;

**WHEREAS**, the Traverse County Planning Commission conducted a public hearing on the proposed CUP on November 17, 2014;

**WHEREAS**, all required public notices regarding the public hearing were posted and sent;

**WHEREAS**, the Traverse County Planning Commission recommended the approval of the proposed CUP;

**WHEREAS**, the Traverse County Board of Commissioners conducted a public hearing for the proposed CUP on January 29, 2015;

**WHEREAS**, all required public notices regarding the public hearing were posted and sent; and

**WHEREAS**, with respect to this proposed new barn design, the Traverse County Board of Commissioners finds as follows:

1. The use will not create an excessive burden on existing parks, schools, streets and other public facilities and utilities which serve or are proposed to serve the area.
2. The use will be sufficiently compatible or separated by distance or screening from adjacent agricultural or residential zoned or used land so that existing homes will not be depreciated in value and there will be no deterrence to development of vacant land in a similar context of the uses in the vicinity.
3. The structure not have an appearance, traffic, noise and emission levels that will have an adverse effect upon adjacent properties.
4. The use is reasonably related to the overall needs of the County and to existing land uses.
5. The use is consistent with the purposes of the Zoning Ordinances and the purposes of the zoning district in which the applicant intends to locate the proposed use and the use is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan.
6. The use will not cause a traffic hazard or congestion.
7. Existing nearby businesses will not be adversely affected because of curtailment of customer trade brought about by intrusion of noise, glare or general unsightliness.
8. The property is not located within a Floodplain District or Shoreland District.
9. The requirements of the Feedlot Ordinance have been met, in that Dollymount Dairy, LLP, has complied with the requirements of the animal waste plan specified in Traverse County Land Use Ordinance Section 23.15(B), and one of the reasons for the proposed new barn design is to further minimize odors emanating from the barn to adjacent properties.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Traverse County Board of Commissioners that it does hereby approve the request of Dollymount Dairy, LLP, for a Conditional Use Permit for its proposed new barn design, with the following conditions: that the proposed new barn design obtain all necessary federal and state permits, and that any violation of those permits shall also constitute a violation of this Conditional Use Permit.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that all other conditions imposed by the Conditional Use Permit approved by the Traverse County Board of Commissioners on August 2, 2005, shall remain in full force and effect.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 17th day of February, 2015.

Attested to by:

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Rhonda Antrim/County Coordinator

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Kevin Leininger/Board Chair

Upon a motion by Salberg and seconded Monson by it was approved unanimously.

**Rhonda Antrim/County Coordinator**- The minutes from February 03, 2015, were approved unanimously upon a motion by Salberg and second by Monson. The minutes from the Dollymount Dairy public hearing on January 29, 2015 were approved unanimously upon a motion by Salberg and second by Monson, with the condition that the County Attorney review them for legal requirements. The following bills were approved unanimously upon a motion by Monson and second by Salberg:

3D SPECIALTIES INC.	2,160.00
LARSON OIL, INC	3,752.45
TRI COUNTY COOP	2,387.60
Big Dog Land Development LLC	52,815.34
COMPUTER PROFESSIONALS UNLIMITED INC.	3,786.39
ELLINGSON PLUMBING, HTG & AC	3,848.00
Emergency Communications Network LLC	5,442.00
GAZETTE PUBLISHING CO.	2,119.30
HAMRUM/KENNETH L.	2,700.00
Horizon Public Health	5,315.33
KRATOCHWILL & ANDERSON, P.A.	3,765.00
LSS OF TRAVERSE, LLC	2,828.00
TASER INTERNATIONAL	2,432.54
TRI COUNTY COOP	4,080.67

Per M.S. 375.12, the number of claims totaling \$2000.00 or less were 85, amounting to \$39,708.43. Salberg updated the Board that the Department Heads and Personnel Committee will be meeting with the Labor Attorney, Justin Anderson, on February 23, 2015, to discuss the Human Resource/Coordinator Structure and explore options for a new structure. Information was presented on the Broadband grants available. The Board directed Antrim to write a letter to Frontier expressing our interest in Broadband. Antrim distributed a quote for training on Respectful Workplace Communication and asked if the Board would support an afternoon session for the non-Department Head/Board. Consensus was that would be appropriate. Antrim updated the Board that there is a Watershed Appointment coming up in May and notice will be going in the paper soon regarding that. Upon a motion by Monson and second by Salberg, the Board was unanimously approved to be paid a per diem for their tour of the Dairy facility in Stevens

County. An update was provided regarding the Minnesota Rural County Caucus and the PERA results of the Social Security Majority Referendum. The Board was updated that the Township Boards meet on the 26<sup>th</sup> at 9:00AM at the Wheaton Public Library, if any of them want to attend and provide any updates. Greg Forceir's Chief Deputy Wage was certified at Grade 22, Step 1, \$28.15 per hour, effective January 20, 2015, upon a motion by Monson and second by Salberg and carried unanimously.

Attested to by:

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Rhonda Antrim/County Coordinator

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Kevin Leininger/Board Chair