

Traverse County Commission
Regular Board Meeting
February 20, 2018

The meeting was called to order by Commission Chair Kevin Leininger. Other commissioners present were Dave Salberg, Tom Monson, Mark Gail, and Todd Johnson. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Upon a motion by Monson and second by Gail, the agenda was approved unanimously.

Richard Engan, Architect from Engan and Associates – Engan and Associates was the company that prepared the Courthouse Assessment in 2014. There was discussion on the inflation cost since the last plans were done. Engan said it would be approximately a 10% increase per year, so a 40% increase in cost since 2014. Engan’s recommendation going forward was to go through the same process as before, meet with department heads and get their input, update the program, modify the plan, and adjust the cost. Engan said the Board should have a plan of what to do with County employees while the new Courthouse is going up, as it will take approximately 9 -12 months from start to finish. If the Board would like to put this up for a public referendum in the fall, the timeline would be to meet with staff within the next month to come up with a new cost estimate, and then start giving out the information to the public starting in early fall. Engan will get a quote to the Board for the fees associated with the planning process.

Mike Doll and Brian Noetzelman, Highway Department- Doll gave the Board an update on the Wendell gravel pit and will obtain an opinion from County Attorney Matt Franzese by next week. Doll also gave a Maintenance update. The snow plows went out this morning, the new plow was delivered, and the generator has been found. Noetzelman, interim County Highway Department Head, informed the Board that the only cleaning bid received at the 9:15 a.m. bid opening was from David and Janelle Tritz for \$320.00 per month. There was a motion by Salberg, second by Monson, and unanimous approval to award the cleaning bid for the Highway Department office to the Tritzs. The graveling contract for the summer of 2018 bid letting date was set for 11:00 a.m. on March 29, 2018, at the Highway Department Office. They will open the bids and bring them to the Board meeting on April 3, 2019. This was approved unanimously upon a motion by Gail and second by Monson. Final retainage payment for \$6,016.56 for CP 17-01, last year’s graveling project with Fridgen Excavating, along with the following resolution, was unanimously approved upon a motion by Monson and seconded by Gail:

BOARD RESOLUTION

WHEREAS: County Project No. CP 17-01 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 on behalf of the County of Traverse and authorize final payment as specified herein.

AUDITOR’S CERTIFICATION

STATE OF MINNESOTA, COUNTY OF TRAVERSE

I Kit D. Johnson, County Auditor, within and for said County do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution is a true and correct copy of the resolution on file in my office.

Dated at Wheaton, Minnesota. This 20th day of February, 2018.

Noetzelman shared with the Board the Department of Transportation Annual Distribution of State Aid.

Dianne Reinart, Assessor – Reinart came in front of the Board to set the County Board of Equalization date. It has to set after the second Friday of June. The Board agreed to set it for Monday, June 11, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

Kit Johnson, Auditor/Treasurer- K. Johnson gave a department update. The election equipment grant award letter was received in the amount of \$37,000. Along with this grant we have a 50% match on the tabulators and 25% match on the poll books. We have until August of 2019 to spend the money. K. Johnson would like to wait until next year to see if the counties that bought the new equipment like it before the decision is made to purchase any new equipment. The delinquent tax listing will go in the Wheaton Gazette in March, as we are required by law to publish the names of those who are delinquent on their first year of property taxes. The certificate of forfeiture for those properties that have been delinquent for three years will be filed next week and then the foreclosure sale will follow at a later date.

Lisa Siegel, County Coordinator- A motion was made by Monson to approve the February 6, 2018, minutes, with some minor grammatical changes. A second was made by Salberg and approved unanimously. Upon a motion by T. Johnson and second by Monson, the following bills were approved unanimously:

ANDERSON LAW OFFICE, PA	\$2,507.50
BIG STONE COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT	\$13,794.15
CARDMEMBER SERVICE	\$3,664.22
GAZETTE PUBLISHING CO.	\$4,574.51
HORIZON PUBLIC HEALTH	\$8,005.50
TOWNMASTER	\$10,315.00

Per M.S. 375.12, the number of claims totaling \$2000.00 or less were 58, amounting to \$24,459.65. The Board approved the advertising of a new County Highway Engineer, along with looking into other options. A letter was written asking Wilken County and Grant County if they would be interested in sharing their County Highway Engineer on a 50/50 basis or if either County was interested in contracting their County Highway Engineer for a period of time until our Engineering Technician, Jorden Roggenbuck, could obtain his engineering license. The letter was approved unanimously on a motion by Monson and second by T. Johnson. Upon a motion by T. Johnson, second by Salberg, and unanimous approval unanimously, Horizon Public Health is granted permission to hang a sign with their name and logo on the outside of our Social Service building where indicated.

Lisa Siegel, County Coordinator

Kevin Leininger, Board Chairman