

Traverse County Commission
Regular Board Meeting
March 6, 2018

The meeting was called to order by Commission Chair Kevin Leininger. Other commissioners present included Dave Salberg, Tom Monson, and Todd Johnson. Mark Gail listened to the meeting by phone. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Upon a motion by Salberg and second by Monson, the agenda was approved unanimously, with the addition of three license approvals for the Wheaton County Club and the courthouse assessment proposal from Engan Associates.

Trevor Wright, Sheriff and Brenda Bartz, Sheriff Department – Bartz presented the jail report. The average capacity usage for February was 74.64%. This is the second year of revenue recapture and in 2018 we have received \$935.43 from outstanding accounts from 2013 - 2017. Wright presented his department update. Notice was received from the Traverse Care Center that our meal charge would be increasing from \$6.00 to \$6.50 per meal beginning in March. Over the weekend fire alarms went off, which was caused by the air compressor not operating properly for the sprinkler system. Wright received a quote for a new commercial grade air compressor for \$2,625.00 from NOVA. Otter Tail Power will be coming down to give a cost assessment of how much can be saved by switching their lights to all LED. There are rebates available from Otter Tail, along with the cost savings per month. A deputy hit a deer on his way to a disturbance in Browns Valley, totaling the car. Wright will be leasing a new vehicle from Ford of Hibbing, who has the State bid, and we should receive it in July or August. No travel was advised at 1:30 p.m. yesterday due to the road conditions.

Sara Gronfeld, Soil and Water/Planning and Zoning- Gronfeld gave her department update. Ben Oleson provided a planning & zoning update, which included 1 approved permit application and one incomplete application submitted in February. Oleson's office hours will be on March 15 from 10:00 a.m. – 2 p.m. There were no new permit applications for the Subsurface Sewage Treatment System Program, but there are still grant funds available to fix systems. Gronfeld has a program review next week with Nicholas Kramer, the MPCA's Regional Staff for SSTS from Detroit Lakes for the MPCA, to talk about the program, look over permits that have been processed, and talk about the City of Tintah regarding their plans for their sewage treatment system. For the Wetland Conservation Act, the Watershed District is sending their scanned permit applications for review. For the MPCA Feedlot Program, Bruce Johnson had a review and all was satisfactory. A GIS assessment meeting is scheduled with Department Heads the week of March 19. Follow up buffer non-compliance notice letters were mailed last week. There are roughly 90 parcels (45-50 landowners) that staff have not heard from for documentation of plans for bringing the land into compliance with buffer law.

Lisa Siegel, County Coordinator- Upon a motion by Monson and second by T. Johnson, the minutes from February 20, 2018, were approved unanimously. Upon a motion by Monson and second by Salberg, the following bills were approved unanimously:

AMERICAN COMMUNICATIONS INC	\$39,377.79
COMPUTER PROFESSIONALS UNLIMITED	\$4,245.78
MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION	\$3,247.63
MORRIS ELECTRONICS	\$3,936.65
TYLER TECHNOLOGIES, INC.	\$5,085.66

Per M.S. 375.12, the number of claims totaling \$2,000.00 or less were 33, amounting to \$14,692.70. The Viking Library System is asking for one-time funding of \$1,252.00, which is based on our county's percentage of bookmobile usage, to help purchase a replacement bookmobile. Upon a motion by T. Johnson and second by Salberg the one time funding was approved unanimously. The following resolution was approved unanimously, upon a motion by Salberg and second by Monson:

RESOLUTION

Affirming Traverse County's support for state capital investments for regional behavioral health crisis program facilities and permanent supportive housing for people with behavioral health needs.

WHEREAS, Minnesota's mental health continuum of care is underdeveloped, creating harmful and expensive gaps in an individual's treatment; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota's mental health system does not have the capacity to consistently respond to the needs of individuals in crisis with appropriate treatment options; and

WHEREAS, individuals experiencing a mental health crisis are often diverted to jails and other facilities ill-equipped for their care while awaiting inpatient treatment; and

WHEREAS, individuals ready for discharge from inpatient treatment can be detained at inpatient facilities because there is a scarcity of supportive housing units to transition to; and

WHEREAS, the gaps in Minnesota's mental health system are not only damaging to individuals and their families, but also result in an inefficient use of taxpayer dollars; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota has an opportunity to improve its mental health continuum of care through investments in new permanent supportive housing and regional behavioral health crisis program facilities; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, Traverse County supports state capital investments for regional behavioral health crisis program facilities and permanent supportive housing for people with behavioral health needs.

Passed and Adopted this 6th day of March, 2018

Attested to by:

County Coordinator

Board Chairman

Upon a motion by Monson and second by T. Johnson the beer, wine and set up license renewal for the Wheaton Country Club was approved unanimously. Engan Associates prepared a proposal for services to update the courthouse study that was done in 2013-2014 for \$10,000. The proposal included meeting with staff to review the previous program needs and floor plan, make any changes that are recommended, and update the project cost summary. One of Engan's suggestions is to put a greeter at the door, Monson does not believe we need one, Salberg suggested putting the Auditor/Treasurers office in the front so that they could be the

main office since there is always someone in their office. Monson doesn't feel they need to talk to all the Department Heads again, like they did that last time. Leininger feels that \$10,000 is a lot of money for updating the study and does not support the building of a new Courthouse because he doesn't want another bond. He said that if we didn't have the Care Center bond then he would be in favor of it. T. Johnson wants to see the continued progress with County Program Aid where we get some legislation establishing a minimum threshold. Salberg feels every year that we delay it, the price is going to continue to go up, and eventually it will be cost prohibitive because it will be way too high. Salberg would like to continue with the planning process and let the public decide. Monson would like to continue with the assessment, but would like to see if they don't meet with staff could it lower the price of the proposal. Siegel will contact them and bring their answer to the next Board meeting. The Commissioners received a letter from the Department of Human Services commending the Social Service Department for perfect performance in meeting the DHS financial reporting requirement for calendar year 2017. The effort required submission of 32 major reports throughout 2017. There was an update from the Center for Rural Affairs regarding help with ordinances in particularly wind energy ordinances. Salberg asked what the status with our Broadband is, Siegel will contact the company and bring an update to the next meeting. Monson would like to hear from the Traverse Care Center and Health Dimensions Group, Siegel will contact them to have them do an update at the first meeting in April.

Attested to by:

Lisa Siegel, County Coordinator

Kevin Leininger, Board Chairman