

Traverse County Commission
Regular Board Meeting
April 5, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 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. The agenda was approved unanimously upon a motion by Schmidt and second by T. Johnson. The minutes from the March 15, 2022 and March 23, 2022 were approved unanimously upon a motion by Salberg and second by Gail. There were no public comments.

Highway Department

Brian Koch, County Maintenance Supervisor appeared before the Board, County Engineer Chad Gillespie was attending training and was not present. Koch asked the Board for approval of partial payment to #1 Murphy for gravel crushing in the amount of \$75,892.50. Salberg made a motion to approve payment and Schmidt seconded, the motion passed unanimously. Koch asked for approval of the following resolution for the Grant Agreement for CSAH 6 project for \$1,100,000.00, which was approved unanimously upon a motion by Gail and second by T. Johnson:

RESOLUTION
Exhibit E for Grant Agreement to State Transportation Fund
Local Road Improvement Program
Grant Terms and Conditions
SAP 078-606-027
Date April 5th, 2022

WHEREAS, **Traverse** County has applied to the Commissioner of Transportation for a grant from the Minnesota State Transportation Fund for Local Road Improvement; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Transportation has given notice that funding for this project is available; and

WHEREAS, the amount of the grant has been determined to be \$1,100,000 by reason of the lowest responsible bid;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that **Traverse** County does hereby agree to the terms and conditions of the grant consistent with Minnesota Statutes, section 174.52 and will pay any additional amount by which the cost exceeds the estimate, and will return to the Minnesota State Transportation Fund any amount appropriated for the project but not required. The proper county officers are authorized to execute a grant agreement and any amendments thereto with the Commissioner of Transportation concerning the above-referenced grant.

By: _____
Tomas Monson, Jr., Chairman, Date
Traverse County Board of Commissioners

By: _____
Kit Johnson Date
Traverse County Auditor/Treasurer

Koch presented the Board with the one quote that we received for the sidewalks around the courthouse grounds, the amount of the quote is \$169,777.95 from B.G. Amundson Construction, Inc. Upon a motion by Salberg and second by Gail the quote was unanimously approved. Koch informed the Board that his department is working as a go between for dust control, Hennen Lawn Care was the low quote again this year. Koch also informed the Board that they are hiring contractors and trucking as needed to wrap up the flood sites as quickly as possible. Conversation continued regarding flooding updates, costs, and FEMA reimbursements.

Law Enforcement Center

Sheriff Trevor Wright appeared before the Board with a department update. The jail occupancy for March was 85.37%. Wright informed the Board that the vehicle computers have arrived and will be installed this week.

Emergency Manager

Lynn Siegel, Traverse County Emergency Manager appeared before the Board with a department update. Siegel is working on the Emergency Management Performance Grant for both 2020 and 2021, the state is backlogged for several reasons. The Hazard Mitigation is at the federal level for review and when it is returned Siegel will then present to the county townships. Siegel is also updating the Emergency Operations Plan, preparing for a state review, and putting together the Emergency Declaration documents to be presented to the state.

Public Meeting

Kit Johnson presented the options for redistricting, and the proposal for staggered terms, there was no public presence. A resolution has been drafted reflecting the changes and will need to be adopted at the April 19, 2022, meeting.

Traverse Care Center

Dylon Hanson, Traverse Care Center Administrator appeared before the Board to provide the quarterly update of TCC operations. He provided the Board with a packet of information that includes Regulatory Compliance, Resident/Family Satisfaction scores, staffing levels and census data. Hanson fielded questions from the Board.

County Coordinator

A motion to approve the bills was made by Gail and second by Salberg and unanimously:

Anderson Law Office, PA	2,817.50
Fleet Services	2,831.85
Hometown Planning	2,520.00
Ottertail Power Company	4,523.45
Pre-West & Associates, Inc	2,287.58
West Central Regional Juvenile CTI	7,230.00
WEX Bank	3,020.01
John Deere Financial	3,029.50
Murphy/Gerald	75,892.50
RDO Equipment Trust Acct 80-5800	156,265.15

Per M.S. 375.12, the number of claims totaling \$2,000.00 or less were 48 totaling \$22,699.96

Coordinator Lisa Zahl informed the Board that the final rule for American Rescue Plan program has come out, prior to this it was an interim rule. Zahl explained that the final rule allows recipients to make a one-time decision to elect a “standard allowance” of up to \$10 million, not to exceed the award allocation, to spend on government services throughout the period of performance. Traverse County will receive \$633,023.00. If the County chooses to take the “standard allowance” it eliminates any risk that the county would have to pay back any funds not deemed allowable under the ARPA program, K. Johnson elaborated on the process. The Board agreed to this allocation and will adopt a resolution at the next meeting. The National Association of Counties recognizes April as County Government Employee Appreciation month. AMC is requesting that county governments adopt a resolution to declare Tuesday April 26th as County Government Appreciation Day. Upon motion by Salberg and second by T. Johnson the motion to adopt the following resolution was granted unanimously:

22-10

A RESOLUTION

Commending the commitment and dedication to public service excellence of county staff and officials by proclaiming April 26 County Government Appreciation Day.

WHEREAS, Minnesota’s 87 counties employ over 36,000 people to provide essential services to create healthy, safe and vibrant communities; and

WHEREAS, the work of all county employees is fundamental; and

WHEREAS, through their commitment to public service, county employees dedicate their time, skills, and expertise for the benefit of their neighbors, and at times, risk their personal safety coordinating emergency management and managing justice and public safety systems; and

WHEREAS, the vital work of counties promotes healthy communities, fosters conditions for economic growth, strengthens infrastructure, and improves residents’ quality of life; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, the Traverse County Board of Commissioners recognizes the commitment and dedication to public service excellence of county staff and officials and proclaims April 26 County Government Appreciation Day.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 5th day of April, 2022.

TRAVERSE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Tom Monson, Chairman

An Audit Entrance Meeting is a routine practice before starting the audit in which they conduct a phone conversation highlighting the audit process, the scope and objectives, estimated completion date and on-site workspace requirements. Schmidt offered to be present for that phone call. Salberg presented an update on a senate and house file that has been created for consideration of funds for a new courthouse. He encouraged his fellow commissioners to be in touch with our representatives. Further discussion took place regarding options.

Commissioner Reports

Salberg and Schmidt presented their committee updates. Salberg gave his update on West Central Community Action, Counties Providing Technology, Western Prairie Social Services and Minnesota Rural Counties. Schmidt Provided her update on the Viking Library System, and the Bois de Sioux Watershed District.

Monson Adjourned the meeting at 10:10 a.m.

Lisa Zahl, County Coordinator

Tom Monson, Chairman