

Traverse County Commission
Regular Board Meeting
May 3, 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, Dave Salberg and Mark Gail. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. With the addition of an update regarding Hall's Landing the agenda was approved unanimously upon a motion by Gail and second by Salberg. The minutes from the April 19, 2022, Board meeting were approved unanimously upon motion by Salberg and second by T. Johnson. There were no public comments.

Highway Department

Chad Gillespie, County Engineer and Brian Koch, County Maintenance Supervisor appeared before the Board. Gillespie asked the Board to approve a quote for project 22-01 in the amount of \$76,125 to Sibson Gravel and Crushing, this project includes County State Aid Highway 2 from CSAH 3 to CSAH 5. Schmidt made motion to approve the bid and Salberg seconded, approval was granted unanimously. Gillespie attained signatures for the Courthouse Sidewalk Project contract, they plan to start at the end of May. Gillespie informed the Board that the Hall's Drive Resolution has been completed and is being reviewed by the County Attorney. Gillespie provided the Board with an update on CSAH 6 project pre-construction meeting. Gillespie had information on the Wheelage Tax, following up on questions the Board had and discussion took place. Schmidt made a motion to discontinue talk about the Wheelage Tax, second by T. Johnson and approved unanimously. The Spring Weight Restrictions will end Friday, May 13th at 12:01 a.m.

County Agriculture Inspector

John Fridgen, Agriculture Inspector, appeared before the Board with a department update. Fridgen has been working with other to recertify their commercial applicator license. Fridgen is beginning his seed season, working with other districts in the state and a new seed treatment plant owner. Fridgen reported that there is already Leafy Spurge emerging and through the summer will be working on controlling Poison Hemlock, thistles, and other noxious weeds. He will also be spraying for trees in our county ditches. Fridgen reported that he received a \$3,800.00 grant that will go toward the purchase of chemical.

Law Enforcement Center

County Sheriff, Trevor Wright appeared before the Board with a department update. The census at the jail was 72.61% for April. Wright reported that the jail has been consistently housing 8 inmates per day. Wright reported his department still has 3 part-time Communications/Corrections Officer positions open. New computers are installed in the squad cars.

Soil and Water Conservation District

Sara Gronfeld appeared before the Board with a department update. They have received one new Subsurface Sewage Treatment System permit. Gronfeld reported that the Pictometry flight has been completed. An update was provided on the One Watershed One Plan initiative progress. Her department has not received any applicants for the Conservation Corps Seasonal Individual Placement - Internship position. The wet weather has delayed the start of the field season.

County Coordinator

Upon motion by T. Johnson and second by Gail the following bill were approve unanimously.

Ellingson Plumbing, Heating and Air Conditioning	14,944.00
West Central Regional Juvenile Center	8,693.00

Per M.S. 375.12, the number of claims totaling \$2,000.00 or less were 28 totaling \$10.772.33

T. Johnson reported that Hall’s Landing remains for sale, and he had taken some photos to document the high-water impact that could have the potential for price negotiation if the county considers purchasing the property.

Lisa Zahl, County Coordinator, presented the Board with a revised Counties Providing Technology Joint Powers Agreement, the change resulted from Pope County being added to the Joint Powers. There was a motion by Gail to approved the revised agreement, second by Salberg and passed unanimously. Upon a motion by T. Johnson and second by Schmidt the following resolution was passed unanimously:

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF TAX FORFEITED PROPERTY
TO THE CITY OF BROWNS VALLEY**

WHEREAS, the County of Traverse has certified the following Non-Conservation land within the City of Browns Valley as tax forfeited to the State of Minnesota for non-payment of taxes and are being prepared for public auction under MN State Statutes, Chapter 282:

PID 20-0078000, legally described as Lot 17, Block 14, Original Plat to the City of Browns Valley;

PID 20-0318000, legally described as Lots 4 and 5, Block 3, Smith's Addition to the City of Browns Valley; and

PID 20-0449000, legally described as Part of Lot 1, Auditor's Plat No. 8, formerly known as Lots10, 12, 14, & 16, Block 29, Plateau Addition to the City of Browns Valley.

WHEREAS, the City of Browns Valley has an interest acquiring the above-mentioned parcels of tax forfeited property for the following purpose:

To correct a blighted condition (substandard building) by the removal of all buildings on PID 20-0078000 and PID 20-0318000, and by removal of the overgrown trees/brush and un-mowed grass on PID 20-0449000.

WHEREAS, M.S. §282.01, Subd. 1a(d) allows the sale of real property to the city at less than fair market value provided (1) the county board determines that a sale at a reduced price is in the public interest because a reduced price is necessary to provide an incentive to correct the blighted conditions that make the land undesirable in the open market; and (2) the governmental subdivision has documented its specific plans for correcting the blighted conditions, and the specific law or laws that empower it to acquire real property in furtherance of the plans;

THEREFORE, the Traverse County Board approves the sale to the city of Browns Valley the parcels listed above for the amount of \$150 each, plus costs to convey the properties.

The resolution was presented by commissioner _____ and seconded by commissioner

_____. The resolution passed on a _____ vote.

Board Chair

The following resolution was approved unanimously upon a motion by Schmidt and second by Salberg:

**RESOLUTION 22-13
SUPPORT FOR PRIMEWEST AS MSHO/MSC+
and SNBC HEALTH PLAN**

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) has published a Request for Proposals (RFP) to provide healthcare services to participants in the Minnesota Seniors Health Options (MSHO), Minnesota Senior Care Plus (MSC+), and Special Needs Basic Care (SNBC) in eighty-seven (87) Minnesota counties including Traverse County; and

WHEREAS, DHS has requested county evaluations and recommendations regarding the RFP proposals from each respective county; and

WHEREAS, PrimeWest and several other health plans have submitted proposals to provide managed health care services in Traverse County and

WHEREAS, representatives of Horizon Public Health have reviewed and evaluated the proposals; and

WHEREAS, PrimeWest Health has submitted a proposal suitable to meet the needs of Traverse County. We strongly recommend that we remain a single source plan in Traverse County with PrimeWest Health as our sole provider for Minnesota Seniors Health Options (MSHO), Minnesota Senior Care Plus (MSC+), and Special Needs Basic Care (SNBC).

PrimeWest Health's proposal demonstrated knowledge of our counties demographics, services, and needs and has a history of working closely with our county to address said needs as well as work preventatively in our communities. PrimeWest has a long history of community reinvestment in their service area and we feel strongly that our rural providers and participants would not receive the personal attention from other health plans like we receive from PrimeWest.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Traverse County Board supports PrimeWest Health as a single source Managed Care Organization (MCO) providing managed health care services in our counties.

I certify that the above resolution was adopted by the Traverse County Board on this 3rd day of May 3, 2022.

Tom Monson, Chairman

ATTEST:

Lisa Zahl, County Coordinator

The Board accepted the resignation of Tom Monson and approved the following resolution unanimously upon a motion by Gail and second by Schmidt:

COUNTY OF TRAVERSE
RESOLUTION NO. 22-14
RESOLUTION ACCEPTING RESIGNATION OF
COMMISSIONER AND DECLARING A VACANCY

WHEREAS, the Traverse County Board of Commissioners has received the written resignation of Commissioner Tom Monson, effective May 4, 2022, at 12:01 a.m.; and

WHEREAS, M.S.A. §351.02(2) provides that a vacancy in an elected office occurs when an incumbent submits a letter of resignation before the expiration of the term of their office; and

WHEREAS, M.S.A. §351.01, Subd. 3 provides that an elected official may submit a written resignation that shall take effect at a stated future date.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners, Traverse County, Minnesota, as follows:

1. The Board hereby accepts Commissioner Tom Monson's resignation.
2. The Board hereby declares that a vacancy exists on the Traverse County Board of Commissioners for District 5.

Adopted by the Traverse County Board of Commissioners on May 3, 2022.

TRAVERSE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Todd Johnson, Vice-Chairman

ATTEST:

Lisa Zahl, County Coordinator

Subsequently Salberg made a motion to appoint T. Johnson as the new Chairperson and Schmidt as the new Vice Chair, second by Schmidt and approved unanimously. County Attorney, Matt Franzese prepared two options to replace a commissioner. The options are holding a special election or by appointment and Franzese recommended the appointment option. Zahl explained the process that would take place if that option was approved by the Board. Salberg made motion to approve the appointment option, discussion took place, Schmidt seconded the motion, discussion continued. It was agreed that the public hearing will be held on May 17, 2022, at 10:10 a.m. The motion to approve the appointment option was passed unanimously.

Zahl provided information about the past Courthouse questions on the ballots, discussion took place. Schmidt asked how much it would cost to get a better break down of the costs for the new courthouse. Zahl will contact Engan and Associates to find out. Zahl reported that the Employee Appreciation Picnic is scheduled for June 21, 2022 from 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and that the Employee Appreciation Committee asked that the Board help serve the food to the employees, the commissioners agreed. Zahl asked for approval to fill a vacant Social Worker position and to begin that process. Schmidt made a motion to approve filling the position and Salberg seconded, the motion was approved unanimously. Salberg had asked Zahl to provide the other Board members with a copy of the 2022 Second Half Score Block Grant with the notice of disbursement, this funding comes from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency in the amount of \$36,220.00. There were no general updates. Schmidt provided updates from her participation with Bois De Sioux Watershed District, Planning and Zoning, Adult Protection, and a meeting she attended discussing Health Care Directives. Salberg gave updates on Counties Providing Technologies, the West Central Juvenile Center, and West Central Community Action.

Emergency Management

Lynn Siegel informed the Board that the Hazard Mitigation Plan has been approved by the Federal government and the State. Schmidt made a motion to adopt the Hazard Mitigation Plan, second by Salberg and approved unanimously.

Monson adjourned the meeting at 10:09 a.m.

Lisa Zahl, County Coordinator

Tom Monson, Chairman