

Traverse County Commission  
Regular Board Meeting  
May 16, 2017

The meeting was called to order by Commission Vice-Chair Dave Salberg. Other commissioners present included Tom Monson, Mark Gail, and Todd Johnson. The pledge was recited. The agenda was approved unanimously, upon a motion by Monson and second by Gail. Commission Chair Kevin Leininger joined the meeting.

**Larry Haukos/Highway Engineer-** Haukos provided an update on various projects. They have not found a candidate on the Engineering Tech position yet.

**Kit Johnson/Auditor/Treasurer-** May 15<sup>th</sup> was the deadline for the first half of taxes so settlements will be sent out to the schools, cities, watersheds and townships. The results of the tax sale were reviewed. There were three unsold properties and three structures that were torn down. There will be seven that go up for sale in the fall. There was census training. There was some discussion around commissioner districts. The Cost Allocation Plan was received. Johnson discussed a special election that may come to fruition in 2017 to vote on a referendum and a school board vacancy. The motor vehicle department will be taking on additional responsibilities from the state due to delays at the state level. This will require additional training. The USDA loans will be reviewed at the Co-op meeting in May.

**Rhonda Antrim/County Coordinator-** Upon a motion by Salberg and second by Monson, the minutes from May 2, 2017, were approved unanimously. The following bills were approved unanimously, upon a motion by Monson and second by Johnson:

ELLINGSON PLUMBING, HTG & AC	2,733.56
GAZETTE PUBLISHING CO.	2,628.44
Minnesota Department of Administration	2,609.86
RAINBOW RIDER	3,500.00
WHALEY EXCAVATING, INC.	5,300.00
CARDMEMBER SERVICE	4,536.35

Per M.S. 375.12, the number of claims totaling \$2000.00 or less were 37, amounting to \$13,197.03. The Social Service Board minutes from April 18, 2017, were unanimously approved upon a motion by Monson and second by Gail. The Social Service bills were approved unanimously upon a motion by Monson and second by Gail. Donations to and from Social Services were approved unanimously upon a motion by Gail and second by Johnson. Sara Gronfeld discussed a proposed contract with Hometown Planning for assistance with planning and zoning. There were three options proposed. Gronfeld recommended option 2 which includes 10 hours per month of consulting including additional resources for \$1,110.00 per month for six months. Upon a motion by Monson and second by Gail, the contract was unanimously approved. Upon a motion by Johnson and second by Salberg, Dennis Zimbrick was unanimously reappointed to the Planning Commission/Board of Adjustment for a three-year term. The Board, by consensus, agreed to a process to replace Dennis Duffield on the Planning Commission/Board of Adjustment. Gronfeld will advertise the position and request a letter of interest from anyone interested in serving. Antrim distributed a letter from the Certified Public Accountants regarding the Office of the State Auditor's oversight of their county audits. The State Auditor, Rebecca Otto,

responded to the letter. The Board was also invited to the North Ottawa Impoundment educational event on June 1, 2017. Lisa Siegel also updated the Board that the vines were going to be removed from the courthouse as they are damaging the bricks.

**Public Hearing for Animal Control Ordinance-** Matt Franzese, County Attorney, discussed the proposed ordinance. There will be a requirement that animals be vaccinated but not licensed. There are several provisions around property damage, running at large, and seizure of the animals. There are also provisions around dangerous animals. Violations of the ordinance will result in a misdemeanor. Upon a motion by Monson and second by Salberg, the ordinance was continued to the next Board meeting unanimously.

**Public Hearing for Land Use regarding number of structures on a residential lot-** Franzese discussed a proposed ordinance. It would define what a recreational dwelling unit is. It would create a section that would cover all zoning areas. It would regulate placement of recreational dwelling units to allow only one recreational dwelling unit per parcel of land for a limited time if there is a permanent structure on the parcel. If there is not a permanent structure, two would be allowed but the second one would only be allowed for seven days out of every 30. Public comments were allowed. Brenda Pederson discussed history of development of Lake Traverse Estates. Former tax assessor and property owner, Mike Spindler, discussed enforcement of the ordinance and numerous parcels that have several RV's on them. He stated the proposed ordinance will impact many property owners. Franzese discussed the ordinance would set a minimum standard and doesn't impact covenants and declarations. Traverse County cannot ignore the issues that are cropping up due to not having an ordinance. T. Johnson discussed a difference between private developments versus privately owned farmland. T. Johnson suggested the county not give too much weight to one situation that is going on and broadening it county-wide. Angela Young discussed residential lots and should the ordinance state no agricultural or no commercial. Lake Traverse Estates is more restricted than what this ordinance is proposing. She questioned who would enforce the residential zoning and could it be included in the ordinance. Clarifications were sought around consecutive days and what constitutes a permanent dwelling, lot requirements, and enforcement. Upon a motion by Salberg and second by Monson, it was unanimously decided that the ordinance discussion will continue to the next Board meeting, June 6th, at 1:30 PM.

Attested to by:

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Rhonda Antrim/County Coordinator

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Kevin Leininger/Board Chair