

Traverse County Commission
Regular Board Meeting
June 6, 2017

The meeting was called to order by Commission Chair Kevin Leininger. Other commissioners present included Dave Salberg, Tom Monson, Mark Gail, and Todd Johnson. The pledge was recited. The agenda was approved unanimously, with the addition of discussion on board meeting times and rates for the county park, upon a motion by Salberg and second by Monson.

Larry Haukos/Highway Engineer- Authorization of a Master Partnership Contract was unanimously approved with MNDOT through the following resolution, upon a motion by Monson and second by Salberg:

RESOLUTION FOR MASTER PARTNERSHIP CONTRACT

Whereas, The Minnesota Department of Transportation wishes to cooperate closely with local units of government to coordinate the delivery of transportation services and maximize the efficient delivery of such services at all levels of government; and

Whereas, MnDOT and local governments are authorized by Minnesota Statutes sections 471.59, 174.02, and 161.20, to undertake collaborative efforts for the design, construction, maintenance and operation of state and local roads; and

Whereas: the parties wish to be able to respond quickly and efficiently to such opportunities for collaboration, and have determined that having the ability to write "work orders" against a master contract would provide the greatest speed and flexibility in responding to identified needs.

Therefore, be it resolved:

1. That the Traverse County enter into a Master Partnership Contract with the Minnesota Department of Transportation, a copy of which was before the Board.
2. That the proper County officers, Chairman of the board of Commissioners and Coordinator, are authorized to execute such contract, and any amendments thereto.
3. That the Traverse County Engineer is authorized to negotiate work order contracts pursuant to the Master Contract, which work order contracts may provide for payment to or from MnDOT, and that the County Engineer may execute such work order contracts on behalf of the Traverse County without further approval by this Board.

Bid Letting for SAP 078-700-008 was set for July 11, 2017 at the Highway Shop, at 1:00 PM upon a motion by Monson and second by T. Johnson. It was unanimously approved. Unanimous approval was given for a contract with Mark Sand and Gravel for SAP 078-603-006 and SP 078-070-003, upon a motion by Monson and second by T. Johnson. Unanimous approval was given for the contract with Fridgen Excavating and Tiling, LLC for CP 17-01, upon a motion by Salberg and second by Monson. Unanimous approval was given to add Dave Pohl to the temporary and seasonal roster to work on construction projects this summer, at step one of Senior Technician Grade 17, upon a motion by Monson and second by Gail. Authorization was unanimously given to perform the work for lowering and adding flares to a farm driveway on CR 62, with costs being: \$9,000.00 to lower the pipe, \$13,000.00 for flares, and \$2,000.00 for installation, upon a motion by Salberg and second by Monson. Salberg requested a resolution by end of July regarding the stand by generator.

Public Hearing continued from May 16, 2017: Structures establishing regulations for the placement of recreational dwelling units in the county of Traverse- Matt Franzese, County Attorney, discussed changes to the initial draft ordinance. Changes included limiting it to a shore land district ordinance only. It will only apply to parcels that are 2 acres of land or less. The main reason for the ordinance is property values and sharing of resources, such as water and sewer. Betsy Deal expressed concern about protecting the value, character, and quality of her property. She discussed change and the difficulties it can bring but as leaders they have to put the needs of the county first. Ray Ehlers was prepared to discuss issues with his farmland but acknowledged that issue might be resolved with the ordinance changes. He discussed being a land owner and desired to have more campers on his land at any given

time. He was concerned that this ordinance was just a stepping stone to more restrictions down the road. People should be able to use their property as they see fit. Dan Binsfeld, owner of Big Dog Land Development, discussed a variety of issues in opposition of the proposed ordinance. The proposed restrictions are a huge mistake. He's seen seasonal renting lead to purchasing. They often begin as a guest and purchase a lot, either alone or with a family. This generates money for Traverse County. He also addressed enforcement and future law suits. Mitch McLane attended the public hearing from Fargo, ND, to discuss his concerns. He is concerned about protecting the property. They have a lot of options near Fargo but they prefer coming here because of the lack of regulations. He said a lot of people are hearing about it and coming. They had four families with the house and a couple of campers. He estimated \$1580.00 they spent just over Memorial Day Weekend. They buy groceries and gas when they are here. He encouraged commissioners to look at the big picture. Dave Kuschel is looking at purchasing a lot. He discussed the undeveloped lots losing value and quality. He discussed several family members that go in together to share a lot and the difficulties in sharing that without use of campers. Matt Spindler discussed the lost revenue by limiting the number of people that come. He discussed the campers are not impacting shoreline. His sewer system is larger than most homes, to accommodate more than one camper. Mike Spindler questioned how many people this would impact who are already on the lake. Todd Johnson discussed the development of Lake Traverse and that the development is almost done. He discussed some of the original residents that are maintaining the lake quality. He discussed the money spent on main street. He expressed concern with the ripple effect of this ordinance. Johnson requested the ordinance be tabled indefinitely. The law suit of the private litigation should play out first. Spindler asked about enforcement. He asked why this ordinance is being pushed so hard. Leininger answered because there are five campers on one lot. Spindler suggested land use ordinance proposals should go to every land owner via a letter. Dale Dobbs said his family has been there for fifty years. They have seven children in the family and they all have campers there. The lake traffic is a big part of the community. Spring, summer and fall generate a lot of lake traffic. They buy groceries, gas, oil, supplies. This would take away the income of Browns Valley. If this goes into effect it will probably mean he would lose his full-time job as it would no longer be needed and likely would go to part-time. It would kill the economy of Browns Valley. Todd Johnson commented about their location. He's never heard one complaint about campers such as Dobbs. He cautioned the board about getting involved just because there isn't an ordinance. Gary Smith discussed his property and that he sold it to about twenty different people. His lot he kept will not accommodate building, but only a camper. He's maintained the value. He discussed the private litigation issues of property values versus selling property and that issue should not feed into all other property owners. It should not be county-wide. Lori Goodhart discussed their business generated from the lake people that camp. Troy Dohlman discussed the purchase of his Otter Tail property, the traffic, the restricted permitting and how it isn't enforced. He purchased property in Traverse County but can't do anything with it. They purchased all of their goods and services in Traverse. T. Johnson made a motion to table the ordinance indefinitely. Salberg seconded it with the addition of a friendly amendment that they take the word indefinitely out. T. Johnson accepted that. Leininger discussed the restrictions and enforcement. The ordinance is for obvious violations. Salberg indicated a few comments that were made that he wants to investigate before passing an ordinance. Monson wanted to clarify the motion and it is to table the ordinance for now. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Hearing continued from May 16, 2017: Animals at large- Franzese made one change that it would not apply to people out hunting. It was not ready for a vote today so will be placed on the agenda for the next board meeting.

Sara Gronfeld/Planning and Zoning/Soil and Water- There were three land use permits this month approved. There were two SSTS program permits. There were permits approved for two additional feedlots. Gronfeld updated the Board regarding a public hearing on June 20th for Livestock Processing in an Agricultural District. She also discussed solar energy regulation and currently Traverse County does not have an ordinance regarding it. She also discussed buffer law implementation and that she would put together a couple of meetings to discuss the funding and options. A resolution is due to the Board of Water and Soil Resources by June 28th at 4:30 on whether the county will enforce the law.

Brenda Bartz/Sheriff's Office- Brenda discussed the facility usage report. The average capacity was 61.85%. There continues to be lower numbers they can accommodate due to some mental health issues of the inmates and challenges they have. She discussed inmate texting. Traverse County retains 35% of money generated by family and friends for inmates to be able to text. It does not cost the county anything. Leininger discussed the purpose of jail and whether they should be allowed that privilege.

Appointment of Planning Commission/Board of Adjustment member- Dennis Duffield was reappointed unanimously upon a motion by T. Johnson and second by Monson, due to no other interested parties.

Rhonda Antrim/County Coordinator- Upon a motion by Monson and second by Salberg, the minutes from May 16, 2017, were approved unanimously and the minutes from May 2, 2017 were amended to fix a typo regarding the bid letting figures. Upon a motion by T. Johnson and second by Monson, the following bills were approved unanimously:

BRANDON COMMUNICATIONS	10,049.18
ELECTION SYSTEMS & SOFTWARE, INC.	4,585.00
ELLINGSON PLUMBING, HTG & AC	3,387.17
FRANZESE/MATTHEW	2,095.00
Minnesota Department of Administration	3,193.90
MN STATE AUDITOR	8,869.42
MORRIS ELECTRONICS	3,220.68
OTTER TAIL POWER CO	2,694.76
The Retrofit Companies, Inc.	3,817.40
CS DIESEL	2,133.55
HANCOCK CONCRETE PRODUCTS CO.,INC.	2,015.40
TRI COUNTY COOP	6,518.73

Per M.S. 375.12, the number of claims totaling \$2000.00 or less were 45, amounting to \$12,586.35. There was discussion of the Traverse County Park rates. There were comments that they are too high and campers won't return. T. Johnson discussed the electricity rates being expended and we need to generate enough revenue to cover some of the expenses. Monson said his son had a camper for one month and didn't utilize that much. Consensus was to wait and compare revenues from previous years after the 4th of July. Upon a motion by Monson and second by Salberg, the retail tobacco license renewal for Tri-County in Dumont was approved unanimously. Antrim notified commissioners of the next

regional AMC meeting in Fergus Falls on June 16th. She also notified them of a watershed meeting regarding JD 11 they are invited to. Lisa Siegel presented information from the Request for Proposals on Life Insurance and Short Term Disability Insurance. Upon a motion by Salberg and second by Monson, the county will change providers for Short Term Disability from Assurant to Madison Nation effective July 1, 2017 and we will stay with Minnesota Life for Life Insurance. Salberg discussed the meeting times of meetings. At the beginning of the year he had scheduled a lot of afternoon appointments. He tried it and it's been very difficult to reschedule them. He made a motion to return to 9:00 AM meeting times. Monson seconded it. Gail discussed the difficulty of getting away during the day and the desire to move them to 5:00 or later. Monson asked Gail if constituents were told by him that he could make the 9:00 AM times work. He questioned him making evening appointments as well. The meeting time was changed back to 9:00 AM the first and third Tuesdays, effective July 18, 2017 on a vote of three to two, with T. Johnson and Gail dissenting. Antrim provided an update on the wireless broadband project and timelines. Antrim read the following update:

- 1) We had ordered enough equipment for installation on 6 of the 10 tower sites in the first draw on the loan. That equipment has all been received.
- 2) All of the equipment has been assembled and configured in our shop and is ready for tower installation.
- 3) Installation of the equipment on the towers is complete for 5 of the first 6 towers. Communication and power cabling has been run and is ready.
- 4) Installation of the main Internet link in Dumont is completion and has been validated as operational.
- 5) 40 of the first set of subscriber modules have been ordered and will arrive shortly.

Next steps and approximate timing:

- 1) Turn up of all backhaul radios on the Dumont site - Late next week
- 2) Backhaul connections to all installed sites - June 12-16th
- 3) Turn up of first Access points on towers - week of June 19th. At that point we should be ready to install some early subscribers on the towers that get turned up first. Also, as a heads up, we are running a little under budget. We have been very aggressive at leveraging some volume discounts and found less need to for the longer range access points than the original design suggested, which means our total cost is likely going to be less than what we laid out in the proposal. We should have a better idea of how much less as we get the second draw/order ready to go in the next few weeks. Again, we are very appreciative of all the help that the County and others within the County (especially the Elevator) have provided to us. So far the project has been going extremely well. David Coudron

Attested to by:

Rhonda Antrim/County Coordinator

Kevin Leininger/Board Chair