

Traverse County Commission  
Regular Board Meeting  
June 19, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 9:36 a.m. by Commission Chair Kevin Leininger. Other commissioners present included Dave Salberg, Tom Monson, Mark Gail, and Todd Johnson. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Upon a motion by Monson and second by T. Johnson, the agenda was approved unanimously.

**Highway Department**

Chad Gillespie, County Engineer, presented the department update. Unanimous approval was given to award SAP 078-605-006 to Mark Sand & Gravel for \$1,425,052.75 on a motion by Monson and second by Gail. The project will start July 9, 2018.

Tom Schmitz, City of Browns Valley Administrator, requested our highway trucks and drivers to haul Open Seasons,(an old brick building next to the bank on the corner of Broadway and 4<sup>th</sup> Street,) to the Roberts County landfill after it gets torn down in July. Monson made a motion to take Gillespie's suggestion to charge them our normal rates for this project, seconded by T. Jonson. T. Johnson asked if this was how it would be handled Countywide from now on, this was agreed between the Commissioners. Leininger doesn't want to use our trucks to haul bricks for anyone. The motion was approved unanimously.

Gillespie informed the Board that there was a previous understanding between Traverse County and The Dollymount Dairy Riverview Location, but it only included hauling their normal milk loads, not manure and other tasks. Gillespie spoke with Micah Fehr and the dairy will pay for anything that is beyond regular maintenance on the 4 miles of 740<sup>th</sup> to State Hwy 27 in Dollymount and Clifton Townships. Gillespie will stay in contact with them in the future regarding the roads.

Brian Koch, Highway Maintenance Supervisor, informed the Board that they started mowing the highways last week to get them done before July 4<sup>th</sup>, and will continue on to the County roads after that. Leininger informed them that he has gotten complaints about the trees that are growing in the ditches. Gillespie and Koch will talk about how they will handle this going forward.

**Law Enforcement Center**

County Sheriff Trevor Wright, gave a department update. We received a letter from the State of Minnesota in regards to registering and titling the forfeited vehicle that we took possession of. We neglected to include sales tax so we will need to pay 6.5% sales tax on the fair market value of the pickup; which will be approximately \$1,700.00. This will be included on the next round of bills.

Wright received a request from the Big Stone County Sheriff, who is in search of an old squad car. Wright contacted him and he's interested in our old 2011 Crown Victoria for \$1,000.00. K. Johnson and the Big Stone County Auditor will work together to see how we can bypass the

bidding process if approved by the Board. The Board agreed that Wright can sell it to Big Stone County for the amount stated if we can bypass the bidding process.

Wright informed the Board that the FBI is requiring all State agencies to go to NIBRS, which is a crime reporting statistical program. We have until January 1, 2021 to comply. Our vendor is working with the State of MN BCA agency to move Traverse County into NIBRS program. There will be a joint powers agreement between the Traverse County Sheriff's Office and BCA. The cost of this program will be \$8,000.00 to our vendor, but the BCA will receive some funding for it, and we will be reimbursed through them.

We currently partner with Wilkin and Ottertail County's for our 911 system. Both Wilkin and Ottertail are switching their systems to Motorola 911 solution because of texts to 911. Wright is currently working with our vendor because they have a 911 solution that will be less costly than moving to Motorola. Wright hopes to have an answer on this before the budgets are due.

Our text to 911 are being answered in Mille Lacs County and they are looking at charging us \$1,200.00 for 2019 to answer our text to 911, then the fee will double, then triple, and quadruple for the following 3 years.

Today's scheduled meeting with Browns Valley regarding the contract for police services was postponed, it will be rescheduled shortly.

Brenda Bartz, Jail Administrator gave the jail update. Our usage for the month of June was 82.13%.

Bartz has collected \$9,738.70 through revenue recapture since 2016 when we started. They are at a standstill right now until they get more information on the ex-inmates.

#### **Continuation of Public Hearing – Buffer Ordinance**

Matt Franzese, County Attorney and Ben Oleson appeared before the Board. No public was present.

#### **Planning and Zoning**

There was a motion by Monson, second by T. Johnson and approved unanimously to approve the draft Buffer Ordinance as amended and to send to BWSR for their acceptance. If and when BWSR approves it then we will have another public hearing before the approval and adoption of the final ordinance.

#### **Auditor/Treasurer**

Kit Johnson gave the Board an update on the possible purchase of CPUI, our vendor software company, which provides us with 8 systems we currently use. There are 29 Counties that use the vendor for tax along with 8 Counties in North Dakota. CPUI is up for sale, and there are some Counties that are interested in buying the company because they don't want to see a bigger company buy it and provide the service and the products that the 29 smaller Counties need. There are 7 Counties that started looking at purchasing this company as a joint powers agreement, the entity would be called Counties Providing Technology and they have asked the other 22 Counties if they would like to participate in the joint powers agreement. There are 24

Counties that have signed non-disclosure statement, meaning they have looked into the financials and are thinking about joining the JPA. If we are interested in being part of the JPA , we will need to sign before July 11, 2018. The first meeting of the Counties Providing Technology will be on July 16<sup>th</sup>. One member of each County will have a seat on the Board. Stevens County has offered to be the fiscal agent. The more Counties that join the less the cost per county will be. Currently we spend \$75,000 a year in user fees for the 8 programs that we use. If we were part of the JPA we would still pay our user fees but we could receive a dividend back at the end of the year or we can reinvest our dividend to improve the software. By our next meeting we should have a better idea of how many Counties have signed the Joint Powers Agreement. Leininger and Monson would like to wait until July 3 and revisit this when we know more information.

K. Johnson updated the Board on the GASB 45 report that will be replaced with the GASB 75 report. This report is for our post-employment benefits, currently we have to submit this report every 4 years and only need to submit a portion of our liability for our post-employment benefits. With the new report we will have to submit it every 2 years and report our full liability, which will have an impact on our financials. Each time this report is filed we have to have an actuary study done which costs \$6,000.00.

#### **County Coordinator**

A motion was made by Monson to approve the June 5, 2018, minutes with a second by Salberg with unanimous approval. A motion was made by Monson to approve the Board of Equalization minutes from June 11, 2018, with a second by T. Johnson with unanimous approval. Upon a motion by Monson and second by Salberg, the following bills were approved unanimously:

Border States Cooperative	\$2,328.92
Browns Valley Hardware Hank	\$2,007.88
Cardmember Service	\$5,148.27
Central Specialties Inc.	\$4,203.00
Ellingson Plumbing, Htg & AC	\$3,319.42
Engan Associates	\$5,101.52
Gazette Publishing Co.	\$3,265.33
Hildi Inc.	\$6,655.00
Larson Oil, Inc.	\$12,025.60
The Retrofit Companies, Inc.	\$2,623.65
Tri City Paving, Inc.	\$31,068.22
Wheaton Dumont Elevator	\$2,709.12

Per M.S. 375.12, the number of claims totaling \$2000.00 or less were 77, amounting to \$32,098.40.

Monson spoke to Morton buildings and inquired if the Board would like them to come discuss a possible second opinion on the courthouse project. Morton has built a clinic that doesn't look like a Morton building. Salberg brought up the possibility of building in the empty lot where the community garden is located now so we can save the money on the relocation of the offices until the new building is built. T. Johnson stated that he has had two Big Stone County

Commissioners approach him on consolidating our two counties. And building a courthouse resembles the population of the past, we have so many joint powers boards and they are open to a discussion of looking at consolidating. Salberg said that our local representative, Backer, was at our District AMC meeting on Friday and he said that he would not support the consolidation of Counties. T. Johnson asked if our State Legislatures are going to start leveling the playing field in the rural areas and start to give us the funding we need. There was unanimous approval to have Morton come to our next meeting to talk to the Board regarding a new Courthouse. There was discussion on financing options available for the courthouse project. Northland Securities have sent a letter stating two different options, Lease Revenue Bonds or General Obligation Capital Improvement Plan Bonds. The Board could have Northland Securities or Springstead come discuss the financing options with them. They agreed to have K. Johnson contact Springstead to have them come speak to the Board about possible financing option available.

Morris Electronics has a summer intern that will be coming to Traverse County for ½ price this summer to help Darren with IT projects that need to be done.

Leininger adjourned the meeting at 10:51 a.m.

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Lisa Siegel, County Coordinator

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Kevin Leininger, Board Chairman