

Traverse County Commission
Regular Board Meeting
July 16, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Commission Chair Todd Johnson. Other commissioners present included Dave Salberg, Tom Monson, Mark Gail, and Kevin Leininger. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Upon a motion by Monson and second by Leininger, the agenda was approved unanimously with the following additions: Market Study in 2020.

West Central initiative Update

Rebecca Petersen, Director of Development, Jill Amundson, Associate Planner, and Samantha VanWechel-Meyer, Development Specialist, appeared before the Board to give an annual update. They have a new three-year strategic plan which would include an increase to the County's support to \$1,600 for 2020 and \$1,750 in the following two years, there hasn't been an increase in the past ten years. Their strategic priorities will be to invest in local, reimagine regional, and educate, activate and celebrate our area. They are going to concentrate on getting information out to the public through their Live Wide Open workforce recruitment initiative.

Highway Department

Chad Gillespie, County Engineer, and Brian Koch, Maintenance Supervisor, appeared before the Board.

As of September 30, 2019, Terry Peters will be retiring from the Highway Department. Upon a motion by Monson and second by Leininger there was unanimous approval to advertise and replace the Highway Maintenance position.

Gillespie applied for an On-Road Grant, Minnesota Diesel Replacement Program for \$40,000 towards truck replacement. We will know by the end of August if we were selected.

FEMA will be coming to Traverse County sometime in September.

Auditor/Treasurer

Kit Johnson, Auditor/Treasurer gave a department update.

The new election equipment arrived; we traded in eight of our old election machines. August 1, 2019 is the deadline to spend the money from the Election Grant but it might be pushed back. If it does get extended K. Johnson would be interested in buying an assisted voting machine, the new one has a lot more features which includes printing the ballots which would save money.

The Buffer Aide, in the new Legislative update, only appropriated 8 million instead of 10 million. This will cost the County approximately \$15,000 and the Watershed \$15,000.

There was unanimous approval to switch to the Bank of the West credit card upon a motion by Monson and second by Leininger because of the better rewards program it offers.

Zoning

Ben Oleson, Zoning Administrator, appeared by phone. He went over the application for the conditional use permit for the grading of land within the Conservation District of Lake Traverse submitted by Timothy and Elizabeth Johnson. The Planning Commission/Board of Adjustment, upon a unanimous vote (3-0) has recommended approval of the requested conditional use permit with one condition. Monson made a motion to approve the conditional use permit with the conditions and the findings of facts as were recommended by the Planning Commission/Board of Adjustment, second by Leininger and approved 4-0; T. Johnson abstained.

The Board went over the Zoning permit report for June. There were 9 permits approved in June.

Jerry Mets had requested to step down from the Planning Commission/Board of Adjustment. There was consensus by the Board to put an ad in the paper to fill the position.

County Coordinator

A motion was made by Salberg to approve the July 2, 2019, Board minutes, second by Monson, the minutes were approved unanimously. Upon a motion by Leininger and second by Monson, the following bills were approved unanimously:

CARDMEMBER SERVICES	\$5,219.66
COUNTIES PROVIDING TECHNOLOGY	\$14,696.38
FLEET SERVICES	\$2,121.53
HOMETOWN PLANNING	\$2,350.00
HORMANN, MARK	\$2,000.00
OTTER TAIL POWER CO	\$2,727.57
TRAVERSE COUNTY SOIL & WATER SERV	\$11,375.00
WELLS FARGO CORPORATE TRUST SERVICES	\$25,642.50
WEST CENTRAL REGIONAL JUVENILE CTR	\$2,715.00
KELLEN, RYAN – 54K LLC	\$2,255.00
TRI COUNTY COOP	\$21,831.96
ZIEGLER, INC.	\$388,143.21

Per M.S. 375.12, the number of claims totaling \$2,000.00 or less were 83, amounting to \$37,648.03.

The Board agreed to table the approval of the resolution for snowmobile permit until further discussion with Matt Franzese, County Attorney, regarding the liability issue.

Zahl received a quote for a wage study from Baker Tilly (formally Springsted) for all the position in Traverse County, typically it is recommended to do wage studies every 5 years, the last one was done in 2013. There was a motion by Salberg to budget \$12,800 for a wage study in 2020, second by Monson and approved unanimously.

The Courts requested that there be an installation of two power receptacles put behind the judge's stand, the estimate was for \$349.50.

Leininger spoke with Whaley's regarding replacing the sidewalk in front of Social Services, he will follow up to find out what the final bid will be.

T. Johnson adjourned the meeting at 10:19 a.m.

Lisa Zahl, County Coordinator

Todd Johnson, Board Chairman