

Traverse County Commission
Regular Board Meeting
July 19, 2016

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

Rhonda Antrim/County Coordinator- The minutes from the July 5, 2016 meeting were approved unanimously upon a motion by Monson and second by T. Johnson. The following bills were approved unanimously, upon a motion Monson and second by T. Johnson:

EMERSON NETWORK POWER	3,410.00
MINN-KOTA COMMUNICATIONS, INC.	6,668.68
MINNESOTA UI FUND	2,977.63
NEOFUNDS BY NEOPOST	2,194.99
REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA	2,721.90
THYSSENKRUPP ELEVATOR CORP.	3,417.65
Wells Fargo Corporate Trust Services	30,792.50
WHEATON-DUMONT ELEVATOR	2,675.06
ZUERCHER TECHNOLOGIES LLC	11,042.64
LARSON OIL, INC	16,472.70
TRI COUNTY COOP	2,309.92
ZIEGLER, INC.	2,543.78
CARDMEMBER SERVICE	4,280.92

Per M.S. 375.12, the number of claims totaling \$2000.00 or less were 78, amounting to \$26,814.

Emily Conroy/Extension Department- Conroy updated the Board regarding the youth summer activities. There has been an increase of 50 new members from April 1 to July 1, 2016. She informed the Board that Maddie Duffield was selected as one of 45 applicants, through an extensive process, to represent 4-H at the Presidential Inauguration. She updated the Board regarding the renovations to the 4-H canteen. They should be completed by next week. She also highlighted community garden, which is 100% youth involvement this year. She shared a report from the summer intern on various projects that she has brought to Traverse County.

Kit Johnson/Auditor/Treasurer- Johnson discussed an Interfund loan from Traverse Care Center to Prairie View Place. Upon a motion by Monson and second by Salberg, and approved unanimously, this loan will be considered a permanent transfer. He distributed the debt service schedules on the various bonds and discussed the lease with the Traverse Care Center. Consensus was to pay Viking Library their full allocation request for 2016, including a remaining balance of \$937.00. The 2017 preliminary budget will be ready for discussion at the second Board meeting in August.

Public Hearing for the Broadband Feasibility Study- Doug Dawson and Marc Marla appeared to present the Broadband Feasibility Study. Dawson's consulting company is the largest telecom consulting firm in Minnesota and he commented that this is one of the most interesting counties with a lot of rural fiber and nothing available to the county seat and more populated areas. There are approximately 600 homes without any broadband at all. Broadband to homes usage has doubled in recent years. In a couple more years Wheaton will be struggling at the current level of service. He's seen property value issues for those without Broadband. He discussed the technology being developed to keep people in their homes longer

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and that there are approximately 100 start-up companies working on medical systems to achieve this goal. He summarized the feasibility study for Traverse County. His recommendation is to build 38 miles of fiber backbone with wireless options. Of the three options considered, Fiber everywhere would cost approximately \$12.6M, Rural Wireless would be \$2.9M, and a Hybrid option could be approximately \$5.8M. The key thing is break even penetration. For fiber everywhere, there was no breakeven point. Upon a motion by Monson and second by T. Johnson, it was unanimous to allow the consultant to release the study to the local telephone companies for consideration of options and possible DEED grant applications. It was also approved to allow surveying of the County for buy-in.

Lynn Siegel/Emergency Manager- By consensus, the Board approved the Emergency Management Performance Grant and extended the following declaration of emergency resolution:

WHEREAS the straight line winds that happened July 9-10, 2016 impacted the population of Traverse County and its cities; and

WHEREAS the straight line wind event has caused a significant amount of public property damage; and

WHEREAS the Traverse County Department of Emergency Management requests the Traverse County Board of Commissioners to declare Traverse County in a STATE OF EMERGENCY for the straight line wind event of 2016;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Traverse County Board of Commissioners declares Traverse County in a State of Emergency for conditions resulting from the straight line wind event of *July 9-10, 2016*.

Adopted by the Traverse County Board of Commissioners this 19th day of _____ h

July, 2016 for the next 30 days or completion of the clean-up whichever comes first.

Attested to by:

Rhonda Antrim/County Coordinator

Kevin Leininger/Board Chair