

Traverse County Commission
Regular Board Meeting
September 3, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 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 Salberg and second by Leininger, the agenda was approved unanimously with the following addition: Sidewalk.

Viking Library System

Erin Smith, Viking Library System Director, appeared before the Board to give an annual update. The Viking Library serves 6 counties, Douglas, Grant, Pope, Stevens, Otter Tail and Traverse, with 11 member libraries within those counties. In 2018 the Viking Library did automation upgrades included a new email system and network improvements. The new Bookmobile should be delivered during the first quarter of 2020.

In 2020 the Viking Library System Governing Board approved a request of 2% from each of its six county members, Traverse County's request is \$35,497 up from \$34,801 in 2019.

Bernice Piechowski, Browns Valley Librarian, appeared before the Board and gave an update on their current and past projects along with how the library is utilized by the citizens of Traverse County.

Highway Department

Chad Gillespie, County Engineer and Brian Koch, Highway Supervisor presented the department update.

The contractors plan to start paving by the end of the week on the CSAH 5 project. The bridge replacement project on County Road 76 is coming along, they are beginning to work on both sides of the bridge and they will be pounding sheet pile on the west side shortly and continue grading and placing rip rap on the east side.

County Road 58, on the South side of section 13 in Leonardville, is still closed because of the flooding and the contractor hasn't been able to get to it with all the rain.

Koch was able to get Traverse County on the wait list for a new truck for 2020.

The Diary is going to widen and pave the intersection of CSAH 6 and 740th Avenue to allow for adequate truck turning radius.

Law Enforcement

Trevor Wright, Sheriff, appeared before the Board and gave the jail update. The usage for the month of August was at 73.05%.

Starting next week the Sheriff's office will be submitting a report to the Wheaton Gazette to run in the paper showing what the agency has been doing the previous week, the report will run Friday to Thursday.

Soil and Water

Sara Gronfeld appeared before the Board with a department update.

There were two new permits for the Subsurface Sewage Treatment System Program. There are still SSTS upgrade grant funds available. Gronfeld just received notice that additional funding will be awarded for septic upgrade grants in 2020. She suggested future review of grant eligibility standards to promote distribution of grant funds.

A wetland agricultural exemption application for a tiling project will be reviewed by staff and decision will be made.

County Coordinator

A motion was made by Monson to approve the August 20, 2019 Board minutes, seconded by Salberg, the minutes were approved unanimously. Upon a motion by Monson and second by Leininger, the following bills were approved unanimously:

FLEET SERVICES	\$2,844.22
HOMETOWN PLANNING	\$2,350.00
IDENTISYS INC.	\$57,729.95
TRAVERSE COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPT	\$2,660.76
VALLEY OFFICE PRODUCTS, INC.	\$2,551.90
HORMANN WORKS LLC	\$20,611.89
JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL	\$3,063.80
TEXAS REFINERY CORP	\$2,201.50

Per M.S. 375.12, the number of claims totaling \$2,000.00 or less were 26, amounting to \$8,344.83.

The Board reviewed the zoning report for August permit report, there were 3 permits approved.

The ability for the County to donate money to the North Country Food Bank falls under Minnesota Statute 465.039.

Salberg and T. Johnson will be attending the AMC Fall Policy meeting in Alexandria on September 12 and 13.

Audit Planning meeting will be on September 9, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. and Monson will attend.

Gay Johnson will be stepping down from the HRA Board. The Board asked that Zahl put an ad in the paper to find a replacement.

Monson was wondering if we should find someone else to do the sidewalk and get it done this year instead of waiting until next year. Leininger said that we need to do more than just the sidewalk and we decided last meeting to wait until next year so that we could budget for the cost. The Board agreed to wait until next year.

T. Johnson adjourned the meeting at 9:44 a.m.

Lisa Zahl, County Coordinator

Todd Johnson, Board Chairman