

Traverse County Commission  
Regular Board Meeting  
September 17, 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 Salberg and second by Monson, the agenda was approved unanimously with the following additions: Declaration of Emergency; Tax Sale; and Prepay Propane.

**Traverse Care Center**

Dylan Hanson, Administrator, appeared before the Board. Jennifer Bruhn, Regional Director Officer, was unable to attend. The current CMS 5 star status as of July 2019 is 4 out of 5 stars. New resident, family, and employee surveys have been sent out and the results should be available in October 2019. The last annual survey was done April 15, 2019 with 5 deficiencies. The Plan of Correction was accepted and they were revisited and cleared on June 5, 2019. Currently they have the Culinary Manager leadership position open. Prairieview Place census for August is 18 out of 20 rented. The \$500,000 USDA loan that the County had applied for in 2017 for improvements at the Care Center was brought to Hanson's attention. He will look into this and get back to K. Johnson regarding this. T. Johnson had asked why the 2018 employee satisfaction score goal was only at a 49% when the national average is 67%. Hanson will look into this and get back to the Board at the next quarterly update.

**Highway Department**

Chad Gillespie, County Engineer, and Brian Koch, Maintenance Supervisor, appeared before the Board. Gillespie handed out the 2018 Annual Report to the Commissioners.

Gillespie gave updates of the current projects; on CSAH 5 they finished paving on Saturday evening, shouldering started on Monday and they will be sealcoating this week. On County Road 76 Bridge they are working on east abutment. They are waiting for the water to go down so they can continue on pounding sheet pile for the west pier encasement.

They are still working with FEMA on damages from the spring flooding.

One of the park mowers has 1,319 hours on it, Gillespie would like the park budget to start building up for a new mower. The Board agreed to budget for a new mower.

Because of the rain on September 12 and 13, 2019; 18 roads were barricaded. Lynn Siegel, Emergency Manger, was unable to attend the meeting but has asked that the Board declare a State of Emergency, this may help with State funding to repair the roads. Upon a motion by Leininger and second by Salberg the following resolution was approved unanimously:

**Resolution Declaring a State of Emergency  
for Traverse County Minnesota**

WHEREAS the rain fall on September 12-13, 2019 impacted the population of Traverse County and its cities; and

WHEREAS the rain 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 rain event of September 12-13 2019;

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 rain event of September 12-13, 2019.

Adopted by the Traverse County Board of Commissioners this 17<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2019.

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Traverse County Board Chair

ATTEST:

I, Lisa Zahl, County Administrator, hereby attest that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Traverse County Board of Commissioners on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2019.

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Traverse County Administrator

### **Planning Commission/Board of Adjustment Appointment**

The Board still has been unable to find anyone to fill the position. They instructed Lisa Zahl to run the ad in the paper for two more weeks.

### **Zoning**

Ben Oleson, Zoning Administrator, appeared by phone. He went over the application for the conditional use permit for bulk storage (over 2,500 gallons) of liquid fuel which will allow the placement of three 12,600 gallon above-ground fuel tanks for farm use. The Planning Commission/Board of Adjustment, upon a unanimous vote (4-0) has recommended approval of the requested conditional use permit with two conditions. 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 with the correction of changing it from propane to fuel, second by Gail and approved unanimously.

Oleson requested a public meeting to approve the draft Zoning Map; he did try to reach out to the townships that hadn't responded. The Board asked that he change the colors to make it easier to read. Oleson will make the change and put an ad in the paper for the public meeting to discuss the draft Zoning Map for October 1 or 15, 2019. Once the meeting is held the Board can officially adopt the zoning map for the County.

### **Auditor/Treasurer**

Kit Johnson, Auditor/Treasurer gave a department update.

K. Johnson will plan to do public education regarding the election and the fact that the voter will have to choose a party prior to voting. Absentee voting starts mid-January 2010, the Primary election will be March 3, 2020.

The preliminary levy was set at 5.25% increase over 2019 at \$5,907,803.91 upon a motion by Leininger and second by Salberg, followed by discussion. Monson would like to see it a little higher because we can always lower it but we can't increase it. T. Johnson thinks that that 5.25% is a good starting point. There was no other discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

The Truth in Taxation meeting was set for Monday, December 16, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

K. Johnson asked the Board to set the date, price and terms for the tax forfeited sale. The sale will be held Thursday, October 24, 2019 at 9:00 AM in the Auditor's Office. There are 6 forfeited parcels; one in Redpath Township, the Board set the beginning bid at \$5,000.00; there are 2 in Browns Valley and 3 in Tintah of which the Board set the beginning bid at \$150.00. The terms of sale and the following resolution was approved upon a motion by Leininger, second by Gail and approved unanimously.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF TAX-FORFEITED LANDS  
October 24, 2019 – 9:00 am  
Traverse County Auditor's Office

NOTICE IS HERBY GIVEN that the parcels of land described in the List of Tax Forfeited Land For Public Sale which is contained herein shall be sold to the highest bidder at public sale. The sale will be governed by the provisions of M.S. 282.01 and by the resolution of the Traverse County Board of Commissioners authorizing such sale. The resolution reads as follows:

Whereas, The County Board of Commissioners of the County of Traverse, State of Minnesota, desires to offer for sale certain parcels of land that have forfeited to the State of Minnesota for non-payment of taxes,

Whereas, Said parcels of land have been viewed by the County Board of Commissioners and have been classified as non-conservation lands as provided for in Minnesota Statutes 282.01.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved; That the Traverse County Board of Commissioners hereby certifies that all parcels of land have been viewed and comply with the provisions of Minnesota Statutes 85.012, 92.461, 282.01 subd. 8, 282.018 and other statues that require the withholding of tax-forfeited lands for sale.

The conditions and terms of the public sale shall be described in the list contained here-in and approved by the Traverse County Board of Commissioners.

Information about the sale of tax-forfeited land in Traverse County can be obtained at the office of the County Auditor, Traverse County Courthouse, 702 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue North, PO Box 428, Wheaton, Minnesota, 56296. Telephone: (320) 422-7740.

Given under my hand and official seal at Wheaton, Minnesota, this 17<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2019.

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Kit D. Johnson  
Traverse County Auditor/Treasurer

The Board instructed K. Johnson to get bids on prepaid propane for the coming winter months.

### County Coordinator

A motion was made by Salberg to approve the September 3, 2019, Board minutes, second by Monson, the minutes were approved unanimously. Upon a motion by Monson and second by Leininger, the following bills were approved unanimously:

CARDMEMBER SERVICE	\$3,522.83
COUNTIES PROVIDING TECHNOLOGY	\$4,696.38
HORMANN/MARK	\$2,000.00
MEND CORRECTIONAL CARE, PLLC	\$2,532.00
MORRIS ELECTRONICS	\$9,040.28
PRO-WEST & ASSOCIATES, INC.	\$2,512.21
VERTIV	\$3,675.00
WEST CENTRAL REGIONAL JUVENILE CTR	\$2,715.00
LARSON OIL, INC	\$17,817.40
M-R SIGN CO. INC.	\$2,567.38
TRI COUNTY COOP	\$2,138.61
WELLS FARGO FINANCIAL LEASING	\$15,740.29
ZIEGLER, INC.	\$4,005.11

Per M.S. 375.12, the number of claims totaling \$2,000.00 or less were 81, amounting to \$35,451.97.

Upon a motion by Leininger and second by Salberg the Board of Water and Soil Resources Natural Resources Block Grant Agreement for \$89,022 was approved unanimously.

The Board discussed the open seat on the HRA Board. The Board approved that Monica Wilson, who currently is on the HRA Board for District 3 but has moved into District 1, will take over Gay Johnsons open seat. The Board will continue to look for someone to replace the open seat in District 3.

The Board received Minnesota Counties Intergovernmental Trust (MCIT) 2018 Annual Report.

Upon a motion by Leininger and second by Monson the Board unanimously approved Ellingson Plumbing, Heating, A/C & Electrical bid for \$3,943.00 to replace the furnace in the Probation Office.

T. Johnson adjourned the meeting at 10:48 a.m.

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Lisa Zahl, County Coordinator

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Todd Johnson, Board Chairman