

Traverse County Commission  
Regular Board Meeting  
October 20, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Vice-Chairman Dave Salberg, other Commissioners present were Kevin Leininger, Tom Monson, and Todd Johnson. Mark Gail was absent to attend a fire call. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. This meeting is being conducted pursuant to Minnesota Statute 13D.021, which allows a meeting be conducted by telephone or other electronic means during a health pandemic by the governor of the State of Minnesota in Minnesota Statute Chapter 12. Appearing personally are Tom Monson, Kevin Leininger, and Todd Johnson. Dave Salberg is appearing via Zoom. The agenda was unanimously approved 4-0 with the following additions and corrections; Kit Johnson will be removed from the agenda as he is unable to attend; 2021 SSTS Program Grant Agreement approval; AMC Voting Delegates updated; Heat Exchangers for courthouse; Tri-County Coop in Dumont Tobacco License approval; Angie Hubrig tax forfeited property; and Social Services agreement with Grant County, upon a motion by Leininger and second by T. Johnson.

**Highway Department**

Chad Gillespie, County Engineer, appeared before the Board with a Department update.

Bridge inspections started last week, each year they do half of the inspections and the next year they do the other half. Gillespie informed the Board that they are working on the plan preparation and design for projects for next year. They are also working on paperwork and payments for a few of the finalized projects.

**Law Enforcement Center**

Trevor Wright, Sheriff, appeared before the Board with a department update. The jail usage for August was 54.66%.

Salberg asked if there is talk about increasing the jail rates. Wright said that at the beginning of the year they were \$57.50 a day and now they are \$60.00 a day.

Wright explained that the office has been busy and cases are stacking up. The BCA is continuing to work on the homicide investigation.

**County Coordinator**

A motion was made by T. Johnson to approve the October 6, 2020, Board minutes, second by Monson and approved unanimously 4-0. Upon a motion by Leininger and second by Monson, the following bills were approved unanimously:

BOIS DE SIOUX WATERSHED DISTRICT	\$30,959.00
CARDMEMBER SERVICE	\$5,370.05
COUNTIES PROVIDING TECHNOLOGY	\$4,857.37
ELLINGSON PLUMBING, HTG & AC	\$16,941.00
GAZETTE PUBLISHING CO.	\$3,178.80
HORIZON PUBLIC HEALTH	\$6,226.50

HORMANN, MARK	\$2,000.00
LAKELAND MENTAL HEALTH CTR	\$5,342.00
OFFICE LIQUIDATORS INC.	\$2,936.00
SEACHANGE PRINT INNOVATIONS	\$4,003.14
TYLER TECHNOLOGIES, INC.	\$3,653.39
WEST CENTRAL REGIONAL JUVENILE CTR	\$2,743.00
TRI COUNTY COOP OIL ASSOC	\$16,151.41
TWIN VALLEY TIRE WHEATON, INC.	\$2,070.00
ZIEGLER, INC.	\$16,689.23

Per M.S. 375.12, the number of claims totaling \$2,000.00 or less were 70, amounting to \$29,912.05.

Leininger made a motion to approve Tri-County Coop in Dumont Tobacco License, seconded by Monson and approved unanimously.

The County was going to allow Angela Hubrig the opportunity to buy back her tax forfeited property as long as she came in and paid all back taxes. Kit Johnson, Auditor/Treasurer, sent a letter and did get ahold of her this morning and she is waiting for financing from the potential buyer. The Board discussed that they weren't going to wait any longer for payment. Upon a motion by Leininger and second by Monson the Board unanimously approved 4-0 to sell the property on the tax forfeited sale tomorrow.

The CARES Committee met and approved the following amounts; \$2,254.59 out of County Payroll; \$262.50 out of County Response/Recovery for COVID related charges; \$340.57 out of County Personal Protection Equipment; \$597.16 out of County Operational Enhancement for office dividers and virtual printing; \$67,706.06 out of Business Relief for a total of \$71,160.88. These expenses were approved unanimously 4-0, to pay out of the CARES act funding, upon a motion by T. Johnson and seconded by Monson. Upon a motion by T. Johnson and seconded by Monson the following agreements were approved unanimously 4-0; Horizon Public Health \$13,425.00; Browns Valley Public School \$51,623.22; Wheaton Public Schools \$28,170.19; Traverse County 4-H \$115.02; North Country Food Bank, Inc. \$5,000.00; Dumont Fire Department \$15,960.00; Donna Sweere's Daycare \$4,246.06; American Legion Wm. Krensing Post 58 \$10,000.00; Renee's Rusty, LLC \$10,000.00; Dumont Bar and Grill \$7,500.00; American Legion Merton Dale Post 80 \$10,000.00; and Raguse Bus Lines, Inc. \$10,000.00.

Upon a motion by Monson and seconded by Leininger it was unanimously approved 4-0 to reappoint Dianne Reinart as our County Assessor for the four year term beginning on January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2024.

Upon a motion by T. Johnson and seconded by Monson it was unanimously approved 4-0 to amend the Flex agreement to add CARES Act wording and to increase the 2021 carryover limits to \$550.00.

We received the Social Service Director agreement from Grant County, County Attorney Matt Franzese had some questions that he would like answered prior to approval. The Board would like to table the agreement until the next meeting.

Upon a motion by T. Johnson and seconded by Leininger the SSTS Grant agreement was approved unanimously 4-0.

It was the consensus of the Board to remove Rhonda Antrim Petersen from the Association of Minnesota Counties voting delegates and to leave it empty for now.

There were 4 furnaces that stopped working at the courthouse. One is still under warranty so Ellingson Plumbing and Heating suggests fixing that one under warranty but the other three are over 20 years old and they suggest replacing the furnaces and not fixing them. Upon a motion by T. Johnson and seconded by Monson the Board approved unanimously 4-0 to order the new furnaces.

At 9:52 a.m. Monson made a motion to close the Board meeting as permitted by section 13D.03 to discuss the County's labor negotiation strategy, seconded by Leininger and approved unanimously 4-0.

At 10:28 a.m. Monson made a motion to reopen the meeting, seconded by Leininger and approved unanimously 4-0.

Salberg adjourned the meeting at 10:30 a.m.

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Lisa Zahl, County Coordinator

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Dave Salberg, Board Vice-Chairman