

Traverses County Commission
Regular Board Meeting
November 2, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Dave Salberg. Other Commissioners present were Todd Johnson, Kayla Schmidt, Tom Monson, and Mark Gail. The pledge of allegiance was recited. With the following additions to the agenda; Runestone Telecom Cooperative Communications and the front door to the annex building, it was unanimously approved upon a motion by Monson and second by Gail. The minutes from the October 19, 2021 meeting were approved upon a motion by Monson and second by Gail.

Highway Department

Chad Gillespie, County Engineer and Brian Koch, County Maintenance Supervisor appeared before the Board with a department update. Gillespie asked for a motion to approve the sidewalk project for the sidewalks surrounding the courthouse property and the Law Enforcement Center. A motion was made by Gail and a second by Monson, discussion followed, and the motion was passed unanimously. Gillespie updated the Board about the crushing progress. Gillespie informed the Board that he has been in contact to with landowners along County Road 15 to perform surveys in preparation for shoulder widening.

Rainbow Rider

Director Brenda Britten, and operations manager Tom Partington came before the Board to present ridership information from 2019 and 2020. Britten highlighted trends and reported they are back to 96% ridership from where they were in 2019. Among topics discussed were, expanding services to include more transports in Browns Valley, but they are having a hard time finding a driver, and bus Storage is also a barrier to services. Britten also asked that the Board approve the 2022 Browns Valley Rainbow Rider contract. With a motion by T. Johnson and a second by Monson the motion was passed unanimously.

Law Enforcement Center

Sheriff Trevor Wright and Jail Administrator Brenda Bartz appeared before the Board with a department update. Bartz reported that the jail capacity for October was at 61%, and those numbers are increasing. Bartz reported on the results of a Department of Corrections inspection that took place the end of October, the department did well. There continues to be openings for part-time Communications/Corrections Officers and Wright has made an offer to a Deputy Sheriff applicant.

Auditor/Treasurer

Kit Johnson appeared before the Board to discuss redistricting. K. Johnson provided the Commissioners with a packet illustrating the redistricting options that included a guide from the Secretary of state regarding the process. K. Johnson will contact the City of Wheaton to discuss the options presented to gather their input and will bring that information back to the Board at the next meeting.

County Coordinator

Upon motion by Gail and second by T. Johnson the bills were unanimously approved.

FLEET SERVICES	\$3,099.74
POWERPHONE	\$45,950.00
TRAVERSE COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPT	\$2,111.77

TRITECH SOFTWARE SYSTEMS	\$48,011.38
WEST CENTRAL REGIONAL JUVENILE CTR	\$4,300.00
LARSON OIL, INC	\$17,910.50
NORTH CENTRAL INTERNATIONAL, LLC	\$2,571.70
NORTHERN EROSION LLC	\$5,505.60
POWER PLAN OIB	\$7,055.50
TWIN VALLEY TIRE WHEATON, INC.	\$2,109.00

Per M.S. 375.12, the number of claims totaling \$2,000 or less were 36 in the amount of \$13,638.87.

Upon a motion T. Johnson, second by Gail and approved unanimously, the meeting was closed at 9:51 a.m. pursuant to Minnesota Statute section 13D.05, subdivision 3(c) to discuss the lease agreement with Legacy Senior Services.

Upon a motion by Monson, second by Gail and approved unanimously, the meeting was reopened at 10:17 a.m.

There was a motion by Monson and second by Schmidt to approve the Lease with Legacy Senior Services for \$20,000 per month for one year along with a quarterly report from an agent of the firm, this was approved unanimously.

Zahl reported that she has received 5 requests for proposals for the courthouse. Discussion and further options were discussed including Bank of the West for courthouse offices. The Building Committee will meet to discuss further.

Runestone Fiber Broadband was in touch with Zahl regarding a cost share for broadband covering a section of Traverse County. This section is 7.5% of the entire project and Runestone is asking for a commitment from the County of \$19,490.71. The Runestone representative is still working through the state grant process and will be in touch with Zahl as the process moves ahead. T. Johnson made a motion to approve the expenditure and there was a second by Schmidt, the motion passed unanimously. The funds will come from the American Rescue Fund.

Zahl has received quotes to replace the front door of the Annex Building. Monson made the motion to proceed with the purchase of the door, with a second by Gail, the quote from Wahpeton Paint Glass for \$8,495.00 was passed unanimously.

Zahl reminded the Board that the District AMC meeting is being held on November 5, 2021 from 8:00 a.m. to noon.

Salberg gave a brief overview of his West Central Community Actions and the West Center Regional meetings.

Salberg adjourned the meeting at 10:41.

Lisa Zahl, County Coordinator

Dave Salberg, Chairman