

Traverse County Commission
Regular Board Meeting
November 15, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Commission Chair Todd Johnson. Other Commissioners present were Dave Salberg, Mark Gail, and Kayla Schmidt. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. The agenda was approved unanimously upon a motion by Gail and second by Schmidt. The minutes from the November 1, 2022, Board meeting were approved unanimously upon motion by Salberg and second by Schmidt.

Highway Department

Chad Gillespie, County Engineer, appeared before the Board with a brief update. Gillespie has received the 2021 audit report and it stated that the financial statements are fairly presented and conform with applicable accounting standards. Gillespie reported that the 27 bridge inspections that are due this year are underway.

County Fair Board

Jerome Deal appeared before the Board with an update on the 2022 Traverse County Fair. He presented the Board with the profit and loss report. Deal reported that all the fair buildings have been restructured and that plans are being discussed for updating and repairing parts of the grandstand. Deal asked the Board to consider a \$15,000.00 allocation of funds to the fair for 2023 instead of the \$12,500.00 given in 2022. No action was taken by the Board.

Auditor/Treasurer

Kit Johnson appeared before the Board with a department update. K. Johnson reported that the post-election County Canvas has been completed and a post-election review will take place this coming Monday. K. Johnson's department has provided abstracts to all Traverse County cities, townships, and school districts. The Truth in Taxation statements were mailed and the tax settlement will be done on November 20, 2022. K. Johnson reported that there are tax-forfeited funds available and K. Johnson will await direction from the Board on how to proceed with disbursements before the end of the year. K. Johnson will be assembling updated budget numbers to present to the Board at the Truth in Taxation meeting on December 14, 2022, the preliminary levy increase stands at 6.9%.

County Coordinator

Upon motion by Schmidt and second by Gail the following bills were unanimously approved:

North Central International, LLC	2,292.46
Tri-County Coop Oil Association	13,634.68
Wallwork Truck Center	2,018.53
Cardmember Service	6,334.61
Counties Providing Technology	5,105.52
Gazette Publishing Company	3,206.63
Hometown Planning	2,520.00
MEnd Correctional Care, PLLC	2,766.02
Quadient Finance USA, Inc	2,073.68
Traverse County Soil and Water Service	59,091.00
Tri-County Coop Oil Association	2,250.00
West Central Regional Juvenile Center	18,683.00

Per M.S. 375.12, the number of claims totaling \$2,000.00 or less were 61 totaling \$23,010.85

The 2023 Joint Powers Agreement between County of Traverse and Travers County Soil and Water Conservation District, the 2023 Administration Plan Addendum and the SWCD 2023 budget proposal were approved on a motion by Salberg and second by Schmidt and approved unanimously.

The Traverse Care Center and Prairie View Place was discussed. The discussion included the request for proposal that was brought up in the past, Salberg mentioned that he and Zahl had a conversation with Health Dimensions Group and they would like us to have a conversation with them prior to going out for RFP's, if that were the wish of the Board. Salberg reminded them that St. Francis was not interested in being included in the RFP process, they didn't put in a proposal back in 2010 and they wouldn't put in a proposal now. Salberg reminded the Board that we do not run the operations of the Traverse Care Center, we own the building. Our concern is to keep someone in the building so that we can get the bonds paid off, we don't want to have to levy to pay the bonds and pass the cost onto the tax payers. Staffing continues to be a constant obstacle for the care center and this is an issue that won't go away with a new company.

T. Johnson shared a letter he received from three Traverse County residents that shared their support for the Dollymount Dairy.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Committee Reports

Gail attended the Traverse County Extension Committee and the Rainbow Rider meeting. Salberg was invited to tour one of the Riverview dairies, he reported on Horizon Public Health, PrimeWest, Western Prairie Services, Minnesota Rural Caucus, and the Soil and Water Conservation District meetings. Schmidt attended a Social Services Placement Screening Team meeting.

T. Johnson adjourned the meeting at 10:51 a.m.

Lisa Zahl, County Coordinator

Todd Johnson, Chairman