

Traverse County Commission  
Regular Board Meeting  
November 21, 2017

The meeting was called to order by Commission Chair, Kevin Leininger. Other commissioners present included Dave Salberg, Tom Monson, Mark Gail, and Todd Johnson. The pledge was recited. Upon a motion by Gail and second by Monson, the agenda was approved unanimously with the addition of the T.A.C (Transportation Advisory Committee) update.

**Trevor Wright, Sheriff** - Wright discussed his budget for 2018, between the Sheriff's, Communications and Corrections Departments. After discussion, he agreed to decrease these three budgets by a total of \$89,000.

**Larry Haukos, Highway Engineer**- Haukos discussed his budget for 2018. After discussion, he agreed to decrease his budget by \$55,000. The Department is busy with getting the snow equipment ready for the winter months.

**Sara Gronfeld, Soil and Water/Planning and Zoning** – Upon motion by Salberg and second by T. Johnson, the Board approved a Conditional Use Permit application submitted by James Evenson, with two conditions, adopting findings made by the Traverse County Planning Commission. The application was approved by a vote of 4 to 1, with Monson opposed. Gronfeld presented the 2018 Joint Powers Agreement between Traverse County and Traverse County Soil and Water Conservation District with the understanding that the Agreement will terminate at the end of 2018. Gronfeld and Siegel will discuss how to move forward without this Agreement in 2019. The SWCD Board approved the agreement in November, and Gronfeld will appear in December to request the Board's approval. Gronfeld discussed the 2018 Administration Plan Addendum to the Agreement. The Plan includes a subcontract with Ben Olsen to administer the Planning and Zoning program, which resulted in an increase to the department's budget request in order to fund the cost of Olsen's proposed contract. The Board requested additional time for consideration of the agreement and Olsen's proposed contract.

**Kit Johnson, Auditor/Treasurer**- K. Johnson gave the Board a department update. There is a 50/50 grant that is available for new election equipment. The application is due December 15, so Johnson will come to the December 6 Board meeting with options. Johnson did a fund balance analysis. Our County policy states that we must maintain a fund balance of approximately 35 to 50 percent of fund operating revenues, or no less than five months of operating expenditures. At the end of 2016, our fund balance was at \$4.3 million, which is at the lower end of the 35 to 50 percent of fund operating revenues, and we are at 4.46 months. Johnson also did a comparison with the surrounding counties, and although we are not doing as well as our neighboring counties, we are in our policy range. The preliminary budget was set at 9.75% increase over last year. After all the reductions that have been made since then, plus the further reductions made today, we are currently at a 6.65% increase over last year. The Board would like to see less than a 5% increase over last year.

**Lisa Siegel, County Coordinator**- The Board minutes from November 7, 2017, were approved unanimously, upon a motion by Salberg and second by T. Johnson. The following bills were approved unanimously, upon a motion by T. Johnson and second by Salberg:

BUILDERS FIRSTSOURCE	\$4,626.60
CARDIAC SCIENCE CORPORATION	\$7,580.00
CARDMEMBER SERVICE	\$2,648.80
NELSON AUTO CENTER	\$30,111.19
SCHULTZ WELDING	\$5,510.31
TITAN MACHINERY	\$2,796.79
TWIN VALLEY TIRE WHEATON, INC.	\$8,089.66

Per M.S. 375.12, the number of claims totaling \$2,000.00 or less were 67, amounting to \$21,876.93. The Rainbow Rider contract for servicing Wheaton and Browns Valley was approved unanimously, upon a motion by T. Johnson and second by Gail. T. Johnson informed the Board about the TAC (Transportation Advisory Committee) update. Rainbow Rider told the Committee about a tax statute that will tax volunteer drivers for anything over \$0.14 per mile. TAC approved a resolution to abolish this tax statute, and it will be sent to our state representative.

Attested to by:

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Lisa Siegel, County Coordinator

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Kevin Leininger, Board Chair