

Traverse County Commission  
Regular Board Meeting  
December 7, 2016

The meeting was called to order by Commission Chair Kevin Leininger. Other commissioners present included Dave Salberg, Tom Monson, and Todd Johnson. Mark Gail appeared by phone. The pledge was recited. The agenda was approved unanimously, with the addition of the Dollymount Dairy piping and Soil and Water Buffer meeting update, upon a motion by Salberg, and second by Monson.

**Larry Haukos/Highway Engineer-** Haukos provided a department update. Larry spoke to Moore Engineering regarding county ditch 31 that runs across highway 75. There are two pipes that need to be lowered one on County Road 68 and one on Hwy 75. MNDOT has agreed that if the County will lower the pipe on county road 68 they will lower the pipe on Hwy 75. The estimate to lower the pipe is \$9,000 and the land owner has agreed to pay 1/3, it will also need flares. Since this is a watershed ditch Haukos will send it back to the watershed and see if they will cost share it. Haukos will also check to make sure the company will also clean the ditch. This will be put on hold while Haukos gathers more information. Haukos asked for approval to pay Central Specialties, Inc. \$48,741.90 for the crushing of the asphalt and concrete at Norcein's pit. The payment was approved unanimously upon a motion by Monson and second by Salberg. The board received a map of the Dollymount Dairy piping project. The piping will bore under and across the ditch on county road 77 and run into the field. Haukos gave his approval of the project. Upon a motion by Monson and second by Salberg, the Dollymount Dairy project permit to run the pipes was unanimously approved.

**Trevor Wright/Brenda Bartz/Sheriff's Office-** Bartz presented the jail report. They were operating at 82.62% average capacity usage for November. Wright reported a change in the rates in January for female inmates which will be \$60.00/day and a \$100/day for those that are noncompliant or those that have special needs from staff. The DOC came and did a facility inspection, maintenance and wellbeing checks are the two main concerns from the inspector and both issues are in progress and will continue to be worked on and need to be corrected by the end of the year. Wright expressed his concern with the 2016 budget areas of meals, salaries and other county inmates. Even with these concerns he does feel that he will have a surplus for 2016 of approximately \$35,000 - \$50,000, he is asking the boards permission to pay down the 2017 budget in the areas of juvenile bed and the men's medical contract with the surplus. Upon a motion by Salberg and second by T. Johnson, they agreed to have Wright closely monitor his December budget and pay down as much as possible without going over budget was unanimously approved.

**Lisa Siegel/Human Resources Director-** Siegel presented the Wellness Pilot program personnel policy. This is a program put on by Lakes Country for employees who are covered under the Traverse County BCBS Health Insurance. The policy was approved unanimously upon a motion by Monson, second by T. Johnson. Mike Neumann, Traverse County's Building Maintenance Specialist, is retiring as of January 27, 2017 after 30 years of service. Approval is needed to accept his retirement and advertise for his position. The personnel committee will be working on revising his job description. The board would like to approve the job description before it becomes final. There was a motion by Monson to accept his retirement and advertise for his position, second by T. Johnson, approved unanimously. Kayla Maas, the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Programmer would like to hire for a Program and Community Coordinator. This position would run until the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Grant is done and this position is fully funded by the grant. Upon a

motion by Monson to allow Kayla to advertise and fill the Program and Community Coordinator position, seconded by Salberg, the position was approved unanimously. Due to the change in our health insurance plan we need to update our flex document. This hasn't been done since 2005, Siegel is seeking board approval to have CDS update our document for a one-time fee of \$700.00. There was a motion by Monson, second by T. Johnson and approved unanimously.

**Holly Witt and Jane Eastes with Lakes Country Service Cooperative** – Holly Witt and Jane Eastes came to give a Lakes Country update. They explained the different programs they provide besides health insurance which include wellness, IT services, health and safety, HR and business services. Another service they offer is help look for grant money for different projects. LCSC will be looking into a grant for wireless internet as requested by Leininger.

**Lisa Siegel/Human Resources**- The minutes from November 15, 2016, were approved unanimously, upon a motion by T. Johnson and second by Monson. The following bills were approved unanimously, upon a motion by Salberg and second by Monson:

Computer Professionals Unlimited	3,593.02
Minnesota Department of Administration	3,205.83
CS Diesel	4,279.07
Hancock Concrete Products	2,354.24
L & O Acres Transport, Inc.	3,422.10
Larson's LLC	9,892.00
True North Steel	4,902.00
Whaley Excavating, Inc.	21,800.00

Per M.S. 375.12, the number of claims totaling \$2000.00 or less were 55, amounting to \$26,445.34. There was a motion by Salberg and second by Monson to approve the publication of the County Program Aid editorial. This was approved unanimously. The Traverse Care Center lease update was discussed. HDG has not gotten back to Antrim yet but since we have approved to put \$50,000 capital expenditures into the building we need approval to put the \$50,000 into the 2017 budget. This was approved unanimously upon a motion by T. Johnson and second by Salberg. The Rainbow Rider contract for the County is up for renewal, there was no change from last year. It was approved unanimously, upon a motion by T. Johnson and second by Monson. There was an increase in the 2017 County Park Rates as follows, \$30/day electric, \$15.00/day no electric, \$10 RV dump, \$25/day shelter with camping and \$50/day shelter without camping. These new rates were approved unanimously upon a motion by Salberg and second by T. Johnson. The salaries of the Elected and non-union personnel were discussed. Roger Schmidt asked to speak and wanted the board to be aware for those on a fixed income, Social Security increase for 2017 is less than 1%, Medicare costs went up 27% and the county budget went up 8%. Upon a motion by Monson and second by Salberg a 2% increase, as listed in attachment A, was approved for the elected and non-union employees by a vote of 3-1, with Leininger opposed. Upon a motion by Salberg, the Chair and Vice Chair for 2017 will remain the same, second by T. Johnson, and approved unanimously. There was discussion regarding the Advantennon, but the Auditor's opinion was favorable. T. Johnson would like an independent contractor to come speak with the board and give the pros and cons of this type of project. T. Johnson and Leininger will take the lead on this. The commissioners want to hold a special board session on Monday December 12<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM to meet with the department heads of Highway, Social Services, Law Enforcement and Auditor/Treasurers office regarding their department budgets. Leininger and Salberg met with the Soil and Water and the Watershed about policing the buffer law and no one wants to do it because there is

no funding to help pay for the enforcement. The board received a letter of concern from a seasonal recreation tax payer asking why her county tax went up 40%. Kit Johnson also received a phone call from this tax payer and Kit explained that the Ag value decreased this year so their taxes went down and so there was an increase in the residential, commercial and seasonal recreation taxes. For the past 10 years the Ag values were up so they were seeing the increases, this year it is opposite. Upon a motion by Salberg the board went to closed session for union negotiations strategy, second by Monson and carried unanimously. There was a motion to open the meeting by Monson, second by T. Johnson and carried unanimously.

Attested to by:

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Lisa Siegel/Human Resources Director

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Kevin Leininger/Board Chair

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