

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE COUNTY BOARD  
LAKE COUNTY, MINNESOTA**

December 2, 2014. Commissioners Chambers, Lake County Courthouse, Two Harbors, Minnesota. Commissioners Present: Goutermont, Hurd, Jones, Walsh, Sve. Absent: None. Also present: County Administrator Matthew Huddleston and Laurel Buchanan, Clerk of the Board.

Meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Chairperson Rich Sve. Unless otherwise stated, all actions have been approved by unanimous yeas vote. Members of the public were present.

MOTION GOUTERMONT, SECOND HURD: 01 – Approve agenda. Absent: None

Mr. Larry Sandretsky of Cooperative Light and Power spoke during public comment with questions regarding payment for invoices. Lake County Administrator Matt Huddleston and Lake Connections General Manager Jeff Roiland addressed those questions and will follow up with Cooperative Light and Power.

Lake County Highway Engineer Krysten Foster requested input from the Board of Commissioners on potential eligible municipal reconstruction or maintenance projects in advance of the Local Road Improvement Program grant application deadline through the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MN DOT) / State Aid for Local Transportation. The Lake County Highway Department invited municipalities in September 2014 to present priority projects for possible inclusion in a grant application that Lake County will submit before the January 2, 2015 due date. Funding is competitive through this program which has been established through state legislature. A few possible projects were discussed and whether the projects may be eligible for funding through the project selection criteria. Ms. Foster will bring forward a proposed resolution for the Board of Commissioners to consider at the meeting on December 16, 2014.

Lake County Administrator Matt Huddleston discussed and County Commissioners debated a proposed resolution regarding the Broadband Capital Funding Analysis prepared by Ehlers, Inc. Lake County entered into a Broadband Initiatives Program loan-grant agreement with the Federal government, through the Rural Utilities Service (RUS), and the RUS has withheld funds for the Project pending Lake County demonstrating its ability to complete the Project by the September 30, 2015 deadline and that the Project is fully-funded in the future. Lake County contracted with Ehlers, Inc. to prepare a Broadband Capital Funding Analysis, to determine whether Lake County is able to utilize existing fund balances, levy or bond to cover potential cash shortfalls in the future. The Broadband Capital Funding Analysis demonstrates Lake County is able to utilize existing fund balances, levy or bond to fully-fund the Project in the future, while maintaining the fiscal strength to operate the County. The discussion was regarding whether the Lake County Board of Commissioners would commit to utilize the funding models available, in accordance with the Broadband Capital Funding Analysis prepared by Ehlers, Inc. on December 1, 2014, to obtain additional financing in order to cover cash shortfalls, complete the Project, and still remain financially viable.

MOTION WALSH, SECOND JONES: 02 – Recess meeting at 2:14 p.m. Absent: None

The County Board of Commissioners meeting was reconvened at 2:22 p.m. with all members present.

MOTION JONES, SECOND HURD: 03 –Approve Consent Agenda as follows:

1. Approve County Board meeting minutes from November 25, 2014.
2. Approve claims in the amount of \$18,960.10.
3. Approve and award the lowest quote of \$8,145.00 to Let The Whole World Know for mural work to be done at the Birch Tree Center. Lake County Health and Human Services is acting as the Fiscal Agent of the Region III AMHI.
4. Approve initial payment in the amount of \$8,000.00 to U.S. Postal Service (Neopost Postage-On-Call) for the courthouse postage machine and authorize additional payments as needed.
5. Authorize payment in the amount of \$7,200.63 to Independent Emergency Services, LLC for maintenance and upgrade services for the 911 equipment and software from 10-15-2014 to 10-14-2015.
6. Approve Minnesota Lawful Gambling Application for Whitetails Unlimited, Inc. to have a raffle on April 18, 2015 at the Clair Nelson Community Center, 6866 Cramer Rd, Finland, MN.
7. Authorize payment in the amount of \$3,386.00 to reimburse Rich Sve for purchase of five airline tickets to Washington DC.
8. Approve and authorize the chair to sign the Firewise Coordinator Service Agreement (to include grant management of Stevens, Metal Roofs and DNR Firewise grants) with Nadarra Forestry LLC, for up to \$15,000 from Jan. 1, 2015 through Dec. 31, 2015.
9. Approve payment in the amount of \$10,248.12 to the State of Minnesota – Office of the State Auditor for audit services (8/27/14 to 11/18/14) on Lake County's 2013 Audit. (Invoice #65298). Absent: None

MOTION HURD, SECOND WALSH: 04 – Uphold County Auditor's recommendation to deny Application for Abatement of penalties and interest upon real estate (Parcel Number: 25-5211-10020) owned by Tradesmen and Company, LLC. Absent: None

MOTION WALSH, SECOND GOUTERMONT: 05 – Approve the renewal of a Medical Leave of Absence without pay for #2081 effective December 8, 2014, for up to six months with the condition that the return will be based on an available vacancy. Absent: None

MOTION GOUTERMONT, SECOND HURD: 06 – Authorize the purchase of VoIP phones from CDW Government (CDWG) for a price not to exceed \$27,103.97. Absent: None

MOTION GOUTERMONT, SECOND WALSH: 07 – Approve resolution accepting the Broadband Capital Funding Analysis (BCFA) prepared by Ehlers, Inc. on December 1, 2014, to obtain additional financing in order to cover cash shortfalls, complete the Project, and still remain financially viable. Yea: Goutermont, Walsh, Sve. Nay: Jones, Hurd. Absent: None

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MOTION JONES, SECOND HURD: 08 – Adjourn meeting at 2:32 p.m. Absent: None

There will be no Lake County Board of Commissioners meeting the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday this December due to the Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) Annual conference. The Board of Commissioners will hold a regular meeting in the Commissioners' boardroom on Tuesday, December 16, at 2:00 p.m. A public hearing regarding the final budget and levies will be held on Tuesday, December 16, at 6:00 p.m. in the Law Enforcement Center, 613 Third Avenue, Two Harbors, Minnesota. A regular board meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 23, at 1:00 p.m., in the Commissioners' boardroom.

ATTEST:

Laurel D. Buchanan  
Clerk of the Board

Rich Sve, Chairperson  
Lake County Board of Commissioners