

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

Tuesday, March 28, 2017. Lake County Service Center, Split Rock River Room, 616 Third Avenue, Two Harbors, Minnesota. County Commissioners Present: Rick Hogenson, Jeremy Hurd, Peter Walsh, Rich Sve. County Commissioners Absent: Rick Goutermont. Also present: County Administrator Matthew Huddleston and Laurel Buchanan, Clerk of the Board.

Board of Commissioners meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairperson Rich Sve. Unless otherwise stated, all actions have been approved by unanimous yea vote. Members of the public were present. Commissioner Sve led the audience in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

MOTION HURD, SECOND HOGENSON: 01 – Approve agenda. Absent: Goutermont

Lake County Auditor Linda Libal spoke during public comment to inform the Board of Commissioners that tax statements have been mailed. Lake County property owners may pay property taxes online. If property owners have questions about tax statements or about paying online, please call the Lake County Auditor's Office at (218) 834-8315. More information is available on Lake County's web site at http://www.co.lake.mn.us/departments/pay_property_taxes_online.php

Lake County Sex Trafficking Task Force (LCSTTF) members Sue Hilliard and Marlys Wisch updated the Board of Commissioners on education, training, presentations, and initiatives that the task force has been involved in during the past year. Board of Commissioners Chairperson Rich Sve presented the task force with a donation of \$200, the proceeds from the County Commissioners winning the 2017 Winter Frolic curling competition against the Two Harbors City Councilors. County Commissioners and City Councilors contributed dollars to be donated to a charity to be selected by the winning team. This year the Board of Commissioners is giving to give this donation to the Lake County Sex Trafficking Task Force. LCSTTF was formed to raise awareness of sexual exploitation of youth in our greater community and to work to end these crimes. The Safe Harbor Law added the definition of sexually exploited youth in Minnesota's child protection codes; increased the penalties against commercial sex abusers or purchasers; and directed the Commissioner of Public Safety to work with stakeholders to create a victim-centered, statewide response for sexually exploited youth. The law also brought about a change that excluded sexually exploited youth under 18 from the definition of a delinquent child. This resolves the conflict that defines in law a sexually exploited youth as both a victim and a delinquent. Minnesota youth who engage in prostitution are viewed as victims and survivors, not criminals.

An update on Lake Connections was provided by Kristi Westbrook, Chief Operating Officer (COO) of Consolidated Telecommunications Company (CTC). Several changes have been implemented and more upgrades are in process. Lake Connections subscribers now have access to online bill pay through the web site www.lakeconnections.com. Lake Connections will be increasing internet speeds and updating packages. Commissioner Sve updated the group on his participation in Minnesota Broadband Coalition's Broadband Day on the Hill. This event provided opportunities to meet directly with legislators, share stories about the importance of broadband to economic vitality and quality of life – especially in rural areas – and address the need for broadband investments.

There was a discussion on professional sales support and end user technical support services which are currently provided by CTC to Lake County customers to establish a baseline of customer calls per week. CTC Sales Team has been working on Lake County's behalf for Lake Connections business sales and residential sales. A sales proposal and addendum for technical support have been received and will be reviewed.

County Administrator Matthew Huddleston updated the Board of Commissioners that the Transportation Sales and Use Tax goes into effect Saturday, April 1, 2017. Mr. Huddleston provided an update on the work of the Fire Recovery Committee, following the fire damage to the Highway Department facility structure. Cost of damage is being assessed. A revised report will be provided by the insurance provider.

Environmental Services Director Christine McCarthy updated the Board of Commissioners on a recommendation from the Planning Commission for Interim Use Application I-17-007. Historically, the property has been operated as a gift shop. The business has expanded operations including a coffee shop and restaurant, for which a Conditional Use Permit is needed. Septic system improvements are needed for both permits. The Planning Commission recommends approval with conditions for the Interim Use Permit. Conditions include: 1) Inspect system prior to June 1, 2017 and expand septic system to accommodate the commercial operation per the Planning and Zoning Administrator's approval. 2) Maximum occupancy of 4 guests. 3) A Health Department license must be obtained.

MOTION HURD, SECOND WALSH: 02 – Approve Consent Agenda as follows:

1. Approve the Board of Commissioners' meeting minutes from March 14, 2017.
2. Approve Health and Human Services claim payments in the following amounts:
 - a. Region III Adult Mental Health Initiative payments \$ 33,925.10
 - b. Administrative payments \$ 18,669.58
3. Approve the application, and authorize the Chair to sign, the 2017 Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Firewise Community Grant application for mitigation within the Minnesota FireWise Community Program through Northeastern Area Hazard Mitigation – Federal Assistance.
4. Authorize County Board Chair to sign the 2017 State of Minnesota Annual County Boat and Water Safety Grant Agreement.
5. Approve and authorize financial assistance for the Two Harbors Area Food Shelf in the amount of \$7,500.00 for calendar year 2017.
6. Approve and authorize the County Board Chair to sign the Motorola Radio Lease Agreement between Lake County and the Minnesota Veteran's Home for the period of March 1, 2017 through February 28, 2019.
7. Approve payment of \$22,500.00 to John Swenson for the homeowner portion of FEMA Fire Resistant Roofing Grant 1 installation, pending reimbursement to Lake County from FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program DR-1982.07.
8. Approve and authorize Board Chair to sign CP 0000-323208 cooperative agreement with St. Louis County at a cost up to \$350,000.00 payable to St. Louis County for this sales tax funded seal coat on Fernberg Road.
9. Approve monthly rent payment to T.H. Auto Partnership in the amount of \$5,500.00 per month plus utilities from December 2016 through June 2017 for plow parking and mechanics' shop lease.

10. Approve and authorize Board Chair to sign CP 0000-275389/SAP 069-030-038 (2017 State Aid Pavement Markings) cooperative agreement with St. Louis County at a state-aid eligible cost up to \$163,000.00 payable to St. Louis County.
11. Approve 2016 year end transfer of funds from Broadband to Road & Bridge in the amount of \$2,745.20 for 2016 interdepartment services.
12. Authorize labor and equipment reimbursement in the amount of \$31,574.32 to Silver Creek Township for SAP 038-599-014 East Castle Danger Rd. box culvert project.
13. Authorize Highway Department to work four ten-hour days per week beginning Monday, April 24, 2017 and ending Friday, October 27, 2017.
14. Authorize payment in the amount of \$5,688.00 to Emergency Communications Network, LLC for CodeRED services from 03/27/2017 to 03/26/2018.
15. Authorize payment to St. Louis County for invoice # IN-00000052 in the amount of \$8,386.84 for 2016 Recycling at the Fall Lake Transfer Station.
16. Amend board meeting minutes from December 27, 2016, Motion 10, pertaining to the purchase of eLations financial software to include the vendor name and sales tax. Amended as follows:
Authorize CTC to take the necessary steps for Lake County to purchase eLation financial applications from vendor Innovative Systems at a net cost of \$56,000, with additional costs of \$4,000 plus travel for installation / training and an amount to be negotiated for conversion of existing financial data, plus applicable sales tax.
17. Authorize recurring monthly payments to Innovative Systems for monthly maintenance fee in the amount of \$5,025.00 plus sales tax.
18. Authorize payment in the amount of \$16,819.99 to Innovative Systems for hardware and middleware annual support, invoice 31609.
19. Approve payment of \$5,950.00 to Brian Sanders for the homeowner portion of FEMA Fire Resistant Roofing Grant 1 installation, pending reimbursement to Lake County from FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program DR-1982.07.
20. Approve payment of \$7,500.00 to Tom Kobierski for the homeowner portion of FEMA Fire Resistant Roofing Grant 1 installation, pending reimbursement to Lake County from FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program DR-4131.13.
21. Adopt the findings by the Planning Commission for I-17-003 – Monika Bauerlein – (Initial) interim use application for vacation rental home located at 4770 Correll Road, Finland, MN 55603 in S1 T57 R8 and described as E ½ of E ½ of SE ¼ of SW ¼ LYING S of the Baptism River, Beaver Bay Township.

22. Adopt the findings by the Planning Commission for I-17-005 – Joseph Richter – (Initial) interim use application for vacation rental home located at 465 Westover Road, Two Harbors, MN 55616 in S17 T53 R11 and described as SW ¼ of SE ¼ of SE ¼, Unorganized Territory 2.
23. Adopt the findings by the Planning Commission for I-17-006 – Uta Wolfe – (Initial) interim use application for vacation rental home located at 7211 Crown Creek Road, Finland, MN 55603 in S2 T57 R8 and described as All of NE ¼ of SW ¼ Lying W of Crown Cr Exc S 820ft & The W 600ft & All of NW ¼ of SE ¼ Lying W of Crown Creek Exc S 820ft, Beaver Bay Township.
24. Adopt the findings by the Planning Commission for I-17-007 – Richard Agar – (Initial) interim use application for vacation rental home located at 543 Scenic Drive, Two Harbors, MN 55616 in S21 T52 R11 and described as Outlot 1 of Govt Lot 1, Unorganized Territory 2.
25. Authorize the Board Chair to sign the Zuercher public safety software contract in the amount of \$144,600.00. Of this total, \$83,561.35 would come from 911 funds and \$61,038.65 would come from funds carried over from the Sheriff's 2016 budget.
26. Approve payment in the amount of \$101,369.85 to the City of Two Harbors in accordance with Agreement for Fire Protection for the County's share of the 2016 Fire Department expenses.
27. Authorize Lake Connections to accept quote #17-0289 and authorize payment from Northern Door and Hardware in an amount of \$6,975 plus tax to re-key and prepare the three remote central office locations for County card access key systems.
28. Authorize Lake Connections to accept a proposal from PerMar Security Services in an amount of \$7,714 plus tax to install access control systems and door monitors on 5 doors at the three remote central office locations in Aurora, Ely and Silver Bay.
29. Approve resolution to abate the Tax Classification of the property owned by the Lake County Developmental Achievement Center (DAC), located at 626 2nd Ave., Two Harbors, MN 55616. The DAC an approved application on file in the County Assessor's office dated 5-16-16 granting exemption for the taxes payable year 2017. The application was filed as a renewal in error, and the exemption on their newly purchased property was not entered in to the tax system. The amount of the abatement will be \$9,540.20.
30. Approve and authorize the Chair to sign the Joint Powers Agreement for Civil Commitment Representation for St. Louis, Carlton, Lake, and Cook Counties effective January 1, 2017, through December 31, 2017. (Damion 2016-10889).
31. Authorize payment in the amount of \$16,220.51 to Lake Communications, Inc. (LCI) for transition expenses for voice services, February 2017 (Invoice #138). Absent: Goutermont

MOTION HURD, SECOND WALSH: 03 – Approve the probationary appointment of Devin Clark to Deputy Sheriff for Silver Bay Vacation Relief at the 2016 base rate of \$25.52 effective April 5, 2017. Absent: Goutermont

MOTION WALSH, SECOND HURD: 04 – Approve the interim appointment of Russ Conrow to County Attorney at the annual salary of \$98,000 and annual Health Care Saving Plan contribution of \$2,000 effective April 5, 2017, through the remainder of the term. Absent: Goutermont

MOTION HOGENSON, SECOND WALSH: 05 – Approve the retirement of Glen Backman, interim Information Technology Director, effective May 31, 2017. Absent: Goutermont

MOTION WALSH, SECOND HOGENSON: 06 – Approve the recruitment for one full-time Information Technology Director. Absent: Goutermont

MOTION HURD, SECOND WALSH: 07 – Approve the resignation of Jean Sewell, Social Worker, effective April 6, 2017. Absent: Goutermont

MOTION WALSH, SECOND HURD: 08 – Approve the filling for one full-time Social Worker. Absent: Goutermont

MOTION HURD, SECOND HOGENSON: 09 – Approve the change in employment status of Emily Sousa, Forester, due to completion of probation effective March 23, 2017. Absent: Goutermont

MOTION WALSH, SECOND HURD: 10 – Authorize the Board Chair to sign a letter of support for the National Coastal Zone Management Program (CZM Program). Absent: Goutermont

MOTION HOGENSON, SECOND HURD: 11 – Approve request for Lake County to serve as the Fiscal Agent for 2017 Chalk.a.lot Two Harbors. Chalk.a.lot Two Harbors, the organization that coordinates the annual sidewalk chalk art festival, plans to submit applications to receive grants and will need to have a fiscal agent for those grant applications. Absent: Goutermont

MOTION WALSH, SECOND HOGENSON: 12 – Adjourn meeting at 10:28 a.m. Absent: Goutermont

The Board of Commissioners will convene an agenda meeting on Tuesday, April 4, 2017, at 2:00 p.m. and will convene a regular meeting on Tuesday, April 11, 2017. Both meetings will be held in the Split Rock River Room located on the main floor of the Lake County Service Center, 616 Third Avenue, Two Harbors, Minnesota.

ATTEST:

Laurel D. Buchanan
Clerk of the Board

Rich Sve, Chairperson
Lake County Board of Commissioners