

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

Tuesday, August 28, 2018. A regular meeting of the County Board of Commissioners of Lake County, Minnesota, was called to order at 2:00 pm by Board Chairperson Rich Sve. The meeting was held in the Split Rock River Room at the Lake County Service Center, 616 Third Avenue, Two Harbors, MN. The following county commissioners were present: District 1 Commissioner Peter R. Walsh, District 2 Commissioner Derrick (Rick) L. Goutermont, District 3 Commissioner Richard (Rick) C. Hogenson, District 4 Commissioner Jeremy M. Hurd, and District 5 Commissioner Rich Sve. Absent: None.

Also present: County Administrator Matthew Huddleston and Laurel D. Buchanan, Clerk of the Board. Unless otherwise stated, all actions have been approved by unanimous yeas vote. Members of the public were present. Commissioner Sve led the audience in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Knife River Recreation Council, Inc. (KRRC) hiking trail committee representative Steve Betzler and other Knife River area citizens attended to hear an update regarding the Knife River community's request to Lake County to refrain from selling at public auction 200 acres of tax-forfeited land (five (5) forty-acre parcels) located in the NW  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 30 and the NW  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the SW  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 30. These parcels were on a draft land sale list as Hawk 1, Hawk 2, Hawk 3, Hawk 4, and Hawk 5.

The Lake County Lands Committee reviewed this request and recommends making a commitment to keep four (4) of the parcels off the land sale list for up to three (3) years. However, a fifth parcel is not included in this Lake County commitment. (Not included: Parcel No. 25-5211-30550. NW  $\frac{1}{4}$  of SW  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Section 30, Township 52 North, Range 11 West.) Other considerations are under review that may involve a portion of the fifth parcel. Commissioners noted that no matter the outcome through this process, the trail would be protected with easements. After discussion between County Commissioners and Knife River representatives, it was decided that two (2) years would allow sufficient time for KRRC to develop its trail system plan.

MOTION HURD, SECOND HOGENSON: 02 – Approve the Lake County Lands Committee recommendation to refrain from selling four (4) parcels in the Knife River area for up to two (2) years, with the intention of providing time for the Knife River Recreation Council (KRCC) to create its trail system plan. Within the next two (2) years, it is expected that KRRC shall propose that plan for Lake County to consider. The four parcels included in this resolution are as follows:

Parcel No. 25-5211-30260. NE  $\frac{1}{4}$  of NW  $\frac{1}{4}$ , except the North 970 feet lying East of County Road 102, Section 30, Township 52 North, Range 11 West.

Parcel No. 25-5211-30310. NW  $\frac{1}{4}$  of NW  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Section 30, Township 52 North, Range 11 West.

Parcel No. 25-5211-30370. SW  $\frac{1}{4}$  of NW  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Section 30, Township 52 North, Range 11 West.

Parcel No. 25-5211-30430. SE  $\frac{1}{4}$  of NW  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Section 30, Township 52 North, Range 11 West.

Absent: None

Trail Prospectors Alliance President Nick Wognum attended the board meeting, along with Project Manager Jason Chopp from consultant Short Elliott Hendrickson, Inc. (SEH). This board visit was in

follow up to a discussion held with Lake County Commissioners the previous week on Tuesday, August 21, 2018, at the meeting of the Committee of the Whole held in Isabella, Minnesota. The proposed amendment would add a proposed project work scope for Taconite Trail Design and Environmental Services to the current agreement for the Prospectors Trail Project between Lake County and SEH. Mr. Wognum discussed efforts underway for a future legislative session to reinstate previous funding that was not extended due to a Governor veto of a larger omnibus bill. There is no official grant in place for reimbursement, currently. County Commissioners discussed concerns about authorizing payments with Lake County dollars without a reimbursement guarantee. County Commissioners discussed the county's role as fiscal agent for the Prospectors Trail Project. This work scope involves trail work in St. Louis County.

MOTION WALSH, SECOND GOUTERMONT: 03 – Approve “Amendment 1 to Agreement for Professional Services” dated August 14, 2018, between Lake County, Minnesota (Client) and Short Elliott Hendrickson, Inc. (SEH) for \$145,000, to be reimbursed with future grant funding appropriated for the Prospectors Loop ATV Trail Project. The amendment is for an Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) and wetland delineation, including permitting, for the project Taconite Trail Improvements for ATVs – Engineering, Environmental Review & Permitting, per the work scope specified in the amendment. The amendment amends the original agreement with SEH dated November 1, 2017, for project management for trail construction. Ayes: Sve, Goutermont, Walsh. Nays: Hurd, Hogenson. Absent: None. Motion carries with a 3-2 vote.

Wildhurst Lodge & Campground business owner LeRoy Teschendorf of Finland, Minnesota, attended the board meeting and expressed concern about trail construction delays near his property along Highway 1. Wetland impact permit application delays were discussed. Mr. Teschendorf stated that two miles of trail is needed to connect trails for three cities. Mr. Wognum clarified that the wetland impact permit application involves multiple jurisdictions. The application is for one permit, involving many jurisdictions, and covering approximately 250 miles of trail. The trail alliance is working with the contractor, the MN Department of Natural Resources (DNR), and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Project managers advise that the application is ready to be resubmitted for the permitting process.

County Administrator Matthew Huddleston updated the Board of Commissioners on several items of county business, including the annual road tour, 2019 budget planning sessions, Lake Connections broadband system public sale process, and continued site work for the Lake County Highway Department Maintenance Facility construction project. Several prospective bidders have signed the Confidentiality Agreement and provided names and email addresses for reading room access for the Lake Connections sale. Mr. Huddleston and County Commissioners scheduled the next budget session for September 11, 2018, to take place after the regular board meeting adjourns that afternoon, to prepare for the preliminary levy. The preliminary level will be set at the Board of Commissioners regular meeting on September 25, 2018.

Land Commissioner Nate Eide provided an update on the construction of the Lake County mountain biking trail system, for future Split Rock Wilds trails. Mr. Eide reported that discussions continue with landowners. These discussions have been positive. Mr. Eide provided maps illustrating the project area and parcel boundaries. Maps show plans for mountain biking trails near the City of Beaver Bay and near Split Rock Lighthouse, Minnesota State Park Campground Development, in Beaver Bay Township, Minnesota.

Lake County Auditor Linda Libal was present to answer questions about the County Auditor / Treasurer's proposed action items, including the Lake Connections sale escrow account, maintenance and support of the IFS Accounting Program, and payment of the Northeast Service Cooperative (NESC) annual membership dues.

Lake County Environmental Services Director Christine McCarthy was present to answer any questions on the four proposed resolutions that were brought forward by her department following the recent Lake County Planning Commission meeting. The proposed resolutions would adopt the Planning Commission findings for the following applications: 1) Preliminary Plat Application P-18-001, for Superior Views LLC, Jeff Lindgren; 2) Plat Amendment Application P-18-002, for Jeff Willard; 3) Interim Use Application I-18-017, for Sarah and Marc Julien; and 4) Interim Use Application I-18-018 for Paula and Emily Ford.

MOTION GOUTERMONT, SECOND HURD: 04 – Approve consent agenda as follows:

1. Approve the Board of Commissioners' regular meeting minutes from August 14, 2018.
2. Approve Health and Human Services claim payments in the following amounts:
  - a. Administrative payments \$ 43,486.57
  - b. Region III payments \$ 167,850.39
3. Authorize Auditor's office to adjust 2017 Year-End Reserve for Wellness to \$477.78.
4. Approve three-year Professional Services Agreement between Minnesota Counties Computer Cooperative (MCCC) and TriMin Systems, Inc for the maintenance and support of Lake County IFS. Agreement is effective January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2021.
5. Authorize County Board Chair to sign Board Ratification Statement for the Professional Services Agreement between Minnesota Counties Computer Cooperative (MCCC) and TriMin Systems, Inc for the maintenance and support of Lake County IFS.
6. Adopt a resolution approving and authorizing the Chair or Acting Chair to sign Lake County to enter into the grant contract for Fiscal Year 2019 (FY2019) County Veterans Service Office (CVSO) Operational Enhancement Grant, through the State of Minnesota, Department of Veterans Affairs. The resolution will signify by name and title the individual authorized to sign the grant, and the Clerk of the Board will certify the resolution with an affixed seal. The grant provides supplemental funding to existing funding in order to enhance County Veterans Service Offices throughout the state. The grant provides extra monies for advertising, outreach activities to county veterans, reintegration of combat veterans, and enhances all other services to veterans.
7. Authorize out-of-state travel for Nathan Stadler, Vicky Bailey, Daniel Sathre and Brenda Prestidge to attend the 2018 Zuercher One User Conference from September 12 through September 13, 2018, in Sioux Falls, SD. This conference includes many in-depth training opportunities using our new records management/jail management system as well as many other law enforcement training sessions.
8. Authorize payment to Northeast Service Cooperative (NESC) in the amount of \$200 for NESC Fiscal Year (FY) 19 (July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019) Annual Membership Dues.

9. Authorize payment in the amount of \$9,233.75 to Baller Stokes & Lide for services rendered in July 2018 (Invoice No. DC-8-18-4200).
10. Authorize payment in the amount of \$15,219.66 to Two Harbors Towing LLC (Invoices 36232 and 36233) for repairs made to the 1988 Boston Whaler Rescue Squad Boat. This will be paid for with funds from the 2017 State of Minnesota Federal Boating Safety Supplemental Equipment Grant, which was written specifically for this boat.
11. Authorize payment in the amount of \$7,094.88 to Marine General (Invoice 63853) to upgrade all electronics in the 1988 Boston Whaler Rescue Squad Boat. This also will be paid for with funds from the 2017 State of Minnesota Federal Boating Safety Supplemental Equipment Grant, which was written specifically for this boat.
12. Authorize payment in the amount of \$15,126.81 to Consolidated Telephone Company, CTC invoice INV-3335 covering charges for third quarter safety training, supplies including shipping charges, August commissions and payroll of August 17, 2018.
13. Adopt the findings by the Planning Commission for Preliminary Plat Application P-18-001 for Superior Views LLC, Jeff Lindgren.
14. Adopt the finding by the Planning Commission for the Plat Amendment Application, P-18-002, for Jeff Willard.
15. Adopt the findings by the Planning Commission for Interim Use Application, I-18-017, for Sarah and Marc Julien.
16. Adopt the findings by the Planning Commission for Interim Use Application, I-18-018, for Paula and Emily Ford.
17. Authorize Highway Engineer to sign Mediacom utility relocation permit for CSAH 9.
18. Approve a one-day temporary on-sale liquor permit for the Minnesota Historical Society for the date of October 13, 2018 at the Split Rock Light House Historic Site 3713 Split Rock Lighthouse Rd Two Harbors MN 55616.
19. Approve the re-instatement of homestead classification and the abatement of the taxes paid over and above the homestead class amount for tax payable years 2017 and 2018 on Parcel 25-5511-22770.
20. Approve the Application for Abatement for Parcel 29-5409-33310, for the 2017 value of \$1,023,900 to be abated to the 2018 value of \$692,000, reflecting a more realistic value after the combination of parcels.
21. Authorize payment in the amount of \$5,469.07 to Saint Louis County for the equipment, labor and repairs for the Silver Cliff, Silver Bay, Finland and Isabella towers (Invoice #IN-00000575 Date of Repair Work: July 17, 2018).

22. Amend the Board of Commissioners' meeting minutes of July 10, 2018, Motion 03, Consent Agenda Item 5: Approve and authorize the Chair to sign the 2017 EMPG Special Project Grant Agreement for an Emergency Management cache of five portable ARMER radios; authorize payment to Motorola Solutions in the amount of \$11,200.70 (Invoice 16007529). Absent: None.

MOTION WALSH, SECOND HURD: 05 – Approve the 67-day temporary appointment of Dale Olson, Custodian for Maintenance Department, at \$12.50 per hour including maximum return incentive effective August 29, 2018. Absent: None

MOTION HOGENSON, SECOND HURD: 06 – Approve a General Leave of Absence without pay for Dawn Miner, Human Services Technician, effective August 30, 2018, through September 11, 2018. Absent: None

MOTION HURD, SECOND GOUTERMONT: 07 – Authorize Auditor's office to establish the "Lake Connections Sale Escrow" account with The Lake Bank. This account will be used to hold the deposits from the bidders on the Lake Connections sale. Absent: None

MOTION GOUTERMONT, SECOND HOGENSON: 08 – Authorize Linda K. Libal, Ronelle L. Radle and Lola R. Haus as authorized signers on the "Lake Connections Sale Escrow" account. Absent: None

MOTION HURD, SECOND GOUTERMONT: 09 – Adjourn County Board of Commissioners' meeting at 3:17 p.m. Absent: None

From the Board of Commissioners' meeting schedule, meetings 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:

- Agenda meeting at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 4, 2018.
- Regular meeting at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 11, 2018.
- Budget meeting after adjournment of the regular meeting on Tuesday, September 11, 2018.

ATTEST:

Laurel D. Buchanan  
Clerk of the Board

Rich Sve, Chairperson  
Lake County Board of Commissioners