

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

Tuesday, May 28, 2019. Lake County Board of Commissioners, Lake County, Minnesota. Board meeting was held in the Lake County Service Center, in the Split Rock River Room, located at 616 Third Avenue, Two Harbors, Minnesota. Board members present: District 1 Commissioner Peter "Pete" R. Walsh, District 3 Commissioner Richard "Rick" C. Hogenson, District 4 Commissioner Jeremy M. Hurd, District 5 Commissioner Rich Sve. Board members absent: Commissioner Derrick "Rick" L. Goutermont. 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. Board Chairperson Rich Sve called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. and led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

MOTION WALSH, SECOND HOGENSON: 01 – Approval of the agenda. Absent: Goutermont

Board Chair Rich Sve opened the floor for public comments. No public comments were made.

Lake County Highway Engineer Krysten Foster, Highway Maintenance Superintendent Neil Udenberg, and Engineering Supervisor John Schlangen gave a presentation on Gravel Roads Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs). Several residents and business owners attended, asked questions and provided feedback. FAQs addressed include: Why is the road bumpy? Why aren't you grading my road? Why do we apply chloride? Why don't we apply more chloride?

Ms. Foster discussed an approach to grading and ditching to shed water off the road. Ms. Foster advises that ideally, roads should have a four percent (4%) crown. We are re-digging ditches and filling potholes and working to improve road conditions. Several roads need re-graveling or reconstruction to improve slopes and ditches. Weather considerations affect the gravel road maintenance cycle. Spring load restrictions are intended to protect roads from further deterioration when they are at their weakest. Roads are at their weakest in spring and at their strongest in winter.

Highway Superintendent Neil Udenberg discussed gravel maintenance priorities. Over the next several years, priorities include Drummond Grade, Highway 3, rural Two Harbors roads, some sections of Cramer Road, and Tomahawk Road. When conditions are dry, dirt is like flour. When conditions are wet, dirt becomes like soup or mud. If conditions are right, county staff is out grading. We cannot be on all roads at the same time. We monitor conditions and adjust accordingly. We are out there at every opportunity. Grading gravel roads requires multiple passes. Operational considerations including grader training, grader experience, training new employees and recruiting new hires.

Engineering Supervisor John Schlangen discussed different materials. Gravel "fines" are binders of smaller rocks and particle. Different classifications of materials, such as Class 1, Class 5, and select granular "good sand" are good for different purposes. Mr. Schlangen discussed the county's bidding process for crushing gravel. Lake County advertises for bids for crushing projects. Gravel is not a renewable resource. When it's gone, it's gone. We have a limited amount of gravel for use in many different projects.

Ms. Foster discussed the use of chloride. Chloride is used not only for dust control but also for binding the material together, to keep the fine material on the road. Residents provided feedback about the conditions of County Road 7. Comments were made about the slimy conditions that chloride adds to roads and is difficult to wash off vehicles. Residents inquired about the slimy conditions and asked about whether we can change the frequency and quantities, such as reducing frequency of chloride applications to every other year or using half as much chloride at a time.

Differing viewpoints were shared. A business owner would like to see an increase in dust control measures and discussed safety considerations from dust hindering visibility. The county can experiment with different methods that may accommodate all parties. The county may make changes to the mixture and may try slowing down the rate of spray on the road. Mr. Udenberg discussed a plan to change our process for grading that will incorporate more coarse material with fines.

County Administrator Matthew Huddleston introduced Ron Potter from the Prospectors Trail Alliance and project manager Jason Chopp with Short Elliott Hendrickson (SEH, Inc.). Mr. Potter and Mr. Chopp discussed the Prospectors Loop ATV Trail, Phase I and Phase II.

Mr. Huddleston reminded the Board of Commissioners that the Open House and Meet & Greet event will be held on Monday, June 24, 2019, from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm at the new Lake County Highway Department Facility. Mr. Huddleston updated the Board of Commissioners on Silver Creek township zoning. The township has adjusted its timeline and is looking to hold a public hearing in August. If it goes through the process, the revised timeframe for transition to the county may be January.

Mr. Huddleston advises that we are finalizing the Lake Connections sale and closing documents for Monday, June 3, 2019. There is a \$138,000 balance in the pledged deposit account that will go back to the Rural Utilities Service (RUS). RUS has provided an extension to the deferral agreement, to effectuate that agreement for an additional three days. Mr. Huddleston also discussed the amended purchase agreement with Pinpoint and a transition plan.

County Auditor Linda Libal updated the Board of Commissioners on property tax payments received online in May. Ms. Libal advises that she is working with the U.S. Bank and the Lake Bank to get paperwork in place regarding the sale of Lake Connections. Ms. Libal updated on the status of the deed for Stony River Café. Lake County Environmental Services Director Christine McCarthy was present for any questions on her department's items for board action.

Highway Engineer Krysten Foster updated on a water pipe break that was experienced over the weekend at the new highway department facility. Response has been prompt. Kraus-Anderson Construction Company project manager is working on it this morning, along with Lake County Facilities Maintenance Manager Kevin Traster.

One item was removed from the consent agenda for separate board action.

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

1. Approve County Board of Commissioners' meeting minutes from May 14, 2019.
2. Adopt findings by the Planning Commission for Interim Use Application I-19-007.
3. Authorize the County Board Chair to sign the 2019 State of Minnesota Annual County Boat and Water Safety Grant Agreement.
4. Approve payment in the amount of \$5,202.50 (invoice #1088079) to Election Systems & Software LLC for annual maintenance on election equipment.
5. Assessor request the abatement of 2019 taxes being assessed as Personal Property Account 26-9600-00027. The assessment was applied as a land use lease but is a cart way access lease. Personal Property Account will be deleted from future assessment.

6. Authorize payment to Danny's Auto Shop in the amount of \$10,265.22 for the repairs done to a department squad car, which was damaged in an accident. This loss was covered through Minnesota Counties Intergovernmental Trust.
7. Approve purchase of applied calcium chloride from EnviroTech Services, Inc. in an amount up to \$130,000.00.
8. Authorize Highway Engineer to sign Law Enforcement Torch Run special event permit for June 18, 2019.
9. Approve SAP 038-609-012 (2018 Stanley Rd. project) contract changes in the amount of \$4,387.62.
10. Authorize Highway Engineer to sign Bay Days special event permit for July 14, 2018.
11. Approve sale and stockpile of up to 1,200 yards of pit material for City of Silver Bay maintenance purposes at Lax Lake Pit.
12. Approve sale of up to twenty yards of pit material for 2019 public trail maintenance purposes to Wild Country ATV Club.
13. Authorize Highway Engineer to sign agreement with Finite Earth Environmental, LLC at a cost up to \$6,000.00 for 2019 Kane Lake wetland site monitoring services.
14. Authorize payment in the amount of \$9,233.71 to Consolidated Telephone Company, invoice INV-3447, for April trouble tickets, commissions, payroll, and Pinpoint/Zito assistance.
15. Authorize payment in the amount of \$21,436.00 to Lake States Construction, Inc., invoice 7850, for CLP violation repairs.
16. Authorize SEH to advertise for bids for Phase 2 of the Prospectors Loop ATV trail project.
17. Award "Prospectors Loop ATV- Phase 1" bid of \$225,053.00 to Low Impact Excavators Inc.
18. Amend contract with SEH for Prospectors Trail Project manager for the additional environmental and construction services in an amount not to exceed \$39,900.00 above original contract amount.
19. Change the project completion date (Document 00 52 00, Article 4.01) for Prospectors Loop ATV – Phase 1 as follows: Substantial Completion: Change from June 15, 2018 to August 16, 2019. Final Completion: Change from June 25, 2018 to August 30, 2019.
20. Authorize payment in the amount of \$23,285.25 to Ballard Spahr LLP (Invoice. No. 20190502404) for services rendered through April 30, 2019.
21. Authorize payment to Afterlife Electronics Graveyard for invoice # TWH71 in the amount of \$11,679.00 for the disposal of 401 appliances and 38,699 pounds of electronics collected from Recycling Day. This invoice will be partially paid with the money collected from participants in the Recycling Day and a contribution from the City of Two Harbors Arts and Beautification Committee.

22. Authorize payment to Consolidated Telephone Company (CTC) in the amount of \$141,250.00 for five months management fee and five months marketing fee (Invoice INV-3448) regarding termination of the Management Agreement due to the sale of the Lake County fiber-optic broadband network.

23. Authorize Highway Department stamps.com subscription and approve monthly payments in the amount of \$29.99 per month plus applicable taxes and supplies fees via Highway Department County credit card. Absent: Goutermont

MOTION HOGENSON, SECOND HURD: 03 – Approve Health and Human Services claims payments in the following amounts, contingent upon review:

- a. Administrative payments \$ 22,009.80
- b. Region III Adult Mental Health Initiative payments \$ 209,348.78 Absent: Goutermont

MOTION WALSH, SECOND HURD: 04 – Approve the resignation of Scott Dowling, Forester, effective May 23, 2019. Absent: Goutermont

MOTION HURD, SECOND HOGENSON: 05 – Approve the recruitment for one full-time Forester. Absent: Goutermont

MOTION HURD, SECOND WALSH: 06 – Approve the resignation of Synthia Seliskar, Human Services Professional, effective May 31, 2019. Absent: Goutermont

MOTION WALSH, SECOND HURD: 07 – Approve the filling of one full-time Human Services Professional. Absent: Goutermont

MOTION HOGENSON, SECOND HURD: 08 – Approve the 67-day temporary appointment of Timothy Weber, Mower Operator for Highway Department, at \$13.00 per hour effective June 10, 2019. Absent: Goutermont

MOTION HOGENSON, SECOND WALSH: 09 – Approve the 67-day temporary appointment of James Williams, Mower Operator for Highway Department, at \$13.00 per hour effective June 10, 2019. Absent: Goutermont

MOTION HURD, SECOND WALSH: 10 – Approve the retirement of William Nixon, Deputy Land Commissioner, effective June 27, 2019. Absent: Goutermont

MOTION WALSH, SECOND HURD: 11 – Approve the recruitment for one full-time Deputy Land Commissioner. Absent: Goutermont

MOTION HOGENSON, SECOND HURD: 12 – Approve the filling of one full-time Highway Maintenance Worker. Absent: Goutermont

MOTION HURD, SECOND WALSH: 13 – Adjourn County Board of Commissioners' meeting at 3:25 p.m. Absent: Goutermont

The Lake County Board of Commissioners will convene for the following meetings:

- An agenda meeting will be held at Lake County Service Center, Split Rock River Room, 616 Third Avenue, Two Harbors, Minnesota, at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 4, 2019.
- A regular meeting will be held at Lake County Service Center, Split Rock River Room, 616 Third Avenue, Two Harbors, Minnesota, at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 11, 2019.
- Committee of the Whole (COW). Meeting will be held at the Town of Fall Lake Town Hall, 393 Kawishiwi Trail, Fall Lake, Minnesota, at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 18, 2019.

ATTEST:

Laurel D. Buchanan
Clerk of the Board

Rich Sve, Board Chairperson
Lake County Board of Commissioners