

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

Tuesday, May 8, 2018. Lake County Service Center, Split Rock River Room, 616 Third Avenue, Two Harbors, Minnesota. County Commissioners Present: District 1 Commissioner Peter R. Walsh, District 2 Commissioner Derrick (Rick) L. Goutermont, District 3 Commissioner Richard (Rick) C. Hogenson, District 5 Commissioner Rich Sve. Absent: District 4 Commissioner Jeremy M. Hurd. Also present: County Administrator Matthew Huddleston and Laurel D. Buchanan, Clerk of the Board. Meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm by Board Chair Rich Sve. Unless otherwise stated, all actions have been approved by unanimous yeas. Members of the public were present. Commissioner Sve led the audience in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

MOTION GOUTERMONT, SECOND HOGENSON: 01 – Approve agenda. Absent: Hurd

Land Commissioner Nate Eide gave a presentation on the 2017 Lake County Forestry Department Annual Report and began the report by reviewing the Forestry Department mission statement: “It is the intent of the Forestry Department to protect, develop and administer Lake County’s land and timber resources to best meet the needs of county residents by utilizing multiple-use, sustained yield principles to provide a diverse mixture of resources uses and outcomes.” Mr. Eide continued the Annual Report by reviewing apportionment and the amounts that were apportioned to taxing districts: Recreation Fund, School District, Cities/Townships, and Resource Development. 2017 Tree Planting included 577.1 acres. Planting costs were paid by The Nature Conservancy (TNC), Minnesota Deer Hunters Association (MDHA) with Legacy Funding, and Memorial Forest Funds. Mr. Eide provided data on the tree species included in the tree planting. One timber sale auction was held in 2017 and additional timber sale auctions are planned for 2018. Timber sold, timber scaled by mill, timber revenue, mills by cords and species, and the average dollar amount per cord were included in the report. The report included County Forest Road maintenance projects funded by grants. Lake County completed several land sales in 2017. Other revenues include gravel royalty, tower site leases, cabin site leases, easements, and vehicle sale. Site prep included 147.1 acres of Winter Shear for 2017 planting and 333.9 acres of Disc Trench for 2018 planting. Winter shear work was paid by MDHA through TNC for Moose Habitat Project (Legacy Funded Moose Grant). Timber Stand Improvement (TSI) projects included hand release and budcapping. Hand release of 323.3 acres was paid for through a contract administered by TNC. Budcapping of 189.6 acres was paid with Conservation Partners Legacy (CPL) Grant and funds from the MDHA.

Mr. Eide discussed several trail-related grant updates. Lake County was awarded \$659,000 in funds from the Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails (GMRPT) Commission for Mountain Bike Trail Planning, Design and Construction, pending legislative approval. Mr. Eide talked about a \$7,500 grant with Minnesota Coastal Program for Bike Trail Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW), through a Short-Term Action Request (STAR) Grant. He also talked about a Minnesota Coastal Council grant for mountain bike trail work in the amount of \$70,000. Over twenty miles of trail have been flagged for Split Rock Wilds Mountain Bike Trail project. We are in the second season of grooming the fat bike trail at the Lake County Demonstration Forest. Work continues with the Prospectors Alliance on ATV trail development. Mr. Eide reviewed that no land exchanges were completed in 2017 and reviewed the status of several pending land exchanges. Another to add to that list is a pending land exchange with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MNDNR). This pending land exchange with the MNDNR is for a bike trail and is Minnesota School Trust Land. This state-owned land is currently being reviewed for an exchange to Lake County. Mr. Eide discussed the Moose Habitat Collaborative. Mr. Eide participated in the MN DNR Deer Management Plan Advisory Committee as a Minnesota Association of County Land Commissioners (MACLC) representative. Mr. Eide reviewed memberships, staff training, and research.

County Administrator Matthew Huddleston updated the Board of Commissioners on several items of county business. Mr. Huddleston introduced the resolution for reappointment of Krysten Foster, Highway Engineer, to a four-year term. Ms. Foster was present for the discussion and expressed her appreciation for the opportunity and her desire to continue serving as Lake County Highway Engineer. The Highway Department has adapted and continued an exceptional level of service delivery following the facility fire in December 2016. Plowing is one example of exceptional service. Our crew pulled together the resources needed to respond to the snowstorm that occurred three days after the facility fire. Ms. Foster reviewed that the engineering department kept the construction program on track and delivered construction projects.

Mr. Huddleston discussed an update that he had received from County Auditor Linda Libal regarding the Local Option Sales Tax. Mr. Huddleston gave an update on the tax-forfeited apartments (formerly owned by Carl Henze) that the Lake County Housing and Redevelopment Authority (LCHRA) currently manages and maintains on behalf of Lake County. LCHRA has been managing the property since summer 2017. LCHRA is working on priority projects and may be interested in purchasing at a future date. Lake County Auditor Linda Libal updated the Board of Commissioners on election training that County Auditor's Office staff attended. The training was provided by the Secretary of State (SOS) Office. Commissioner Goutermont updated the County Auditor that Congress passed the bill that included reauthorization of the Secure Rural Schools (SRS) program. Lake County should be receiving an SRS payment in the next few days. Payments under the SRS Act for fiscal years FY17 and FY18 are not subject to sequestration because the budget authority for these payments had not been reauthorized at the time the sequester order for each year was issued.

Lake County Highway Engineer Krysten Foster provided an update that we are getting ready for the construction season to begin after the spring load restrictions are lifted. Projects carried over from last year include the Horn Boulevard Reconstruction and the CSAH 4 Repaving Project. The Stanley Road Paving Project may be delayed until 2019, as we await permits through the permitting process of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Ms. Foster provided an update on the demolition project and site work for new building construction. Lake County Environmental Services Director Christine McCarthy discussed that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) held a meeting at the Two Harbors Public Library on May 2, 2018. Ms. McCarthy and County Commissioner Rich Sve attended and learned about coastal flood hazard analysis and mapping, including storm impacts to Lake Superior's shoreline. Reach of the storm and impacts to the Lake Superior shoreline were analyzed. The shoreline was broken down into 39 sections. Baseline elevations were recorded for comparison to data on the reach of the waves and wind speeds. Soil erosion and soil sampling data was also discussed. Ms. McCarthy discussed her request for board action for the purchase of a Clean Drain Dry Dispose (CD3) Watercraft Cleaning Station to be stationed at the Two Harbors DNR boat ramp for use in the prevention of the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS). This purchase will be paid from the AIS Prevention Aid grant dollars through the State of Minnesota Department of Revenue. This item was removed from the consent agenda for discussion and separate action to clarify the funding source.

MOTION GOUTERMONT, SECOND WALSH: 02 – Approve consent agenda, amended as follows:

1. Approve Board of Commissioners' meeting minutes from meeting held on April 24, 2018.
2. Approve Health and Human Services claims payments in the following amounts:
  - a. Administrative payments \$ 12,699.85
  - b. Region III payments \$198,014.00
  - c. Special payments \$ 7,098.83

3. Authorize remittal of Agreement No. 1028757 state-aid match funds in the amount of \$137,996.01 to Minnesota Department of Transportation for Highway 61 signals and Highway 2 intersection improvements in 2018.
4. Approve Highway Department payment of Invoice No. 638854 to Nuss Truck & Equipment in the amount of \$6,353.66 for Unit #4090 (2009 Mack) repairs.
5. Approve and authorize the Lake County Board Chair and Lake County Environmental Services Director to sign the Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) between the Western Lake Superior Sanitary District (WLSSD) and Lake County for the operation of a Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Program for the period of January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2022.
6. Approve and authorize the County Board Chair to sign the 2018 Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Firewise Grant Agreement.
7. Authorize County Board Chair to sign the 2017 State of Minnesota Federal Boating Safety Supplemental Equipment Grant Agreement.
8. Authorize County Board Chair to sign the 2018 State of Minnesota Federal Supplemental Boating Safety Patrol Grant Agreement.
9. Authorize payment in the amount of \$36,589.29 to Consolidated Telephone Company, invoice INV-3300 and INV 3302, for reports prepared for the data room, monthly circuit charge, April commissions, misc. shipping charges and CTC's share of voice revenues and expenses.  
Absent: Hurd

MOTION GOUTERMONT, SECOND WALSH: 03 – Authorize the purchase of a Clean Drain Dry Dispose (CD3) Watercraft Cleaning Station to be stationed at the Two Harbors DNR boat ramp for use in the prevention of the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) in an amount not to exceed \$30,000. Cost will include the shipping and tax, and will be paid from AIS Prevention Aid grant dollars through the State of Minnesota Department of Revenue. Absent: Hurd.

MOTION WALSH, SECOND HOGENSON: 04 – Approve 2017 Audit through State Auditor's office and authorize County Auditor, County Administrator and Board Chair to sign Engagement Letter.  
Absent: Hurd

MOTION GOUTERMONT, SECOND HOGENSON: 05 – Approve the reappointment of Krysten Foster, Highway Engineer, to a four-year term ending May 13, 2022. Absent: Hurd

MOTION HOGENSON, SECOND WALSH: 06 – Approve the change in employment status of Krista Olek, Human Services Professional, due to completion of trial period effective May 14, 2018. Absent: Hurd

MOTION WALSH, SECOND GOUTERMONT: 07 – Approve the probationary appointment of Adam Osterlund to Information Technology Specialist at the Step 3 rate of \$19.04 per hour effective June 4, 2018. Absent: Hurd

MOTION GOUTERMONT, SECOND HOGENSON: 08 – Approve the 67-day temporary appointment of Hunter Johnson, Grounds Maintenance Worker for Maintenance Department, at \$10.50 per hour effective May 11, 2018. Absent: Hurd

MOTION WALSH, SECOND GOUTERMONT: 09 – Approve and authorize the Chair to sign the Memorandum of Understanding between Lake County and Teamsters Local 320 regarding new bargaining unit members. Absent: Hurd

MOTION HOGENSON, SECOND GOUTERMONT: 10 – Approve the trial appointment of Kylie Dietz, Human Services Specialist, to Human Services Professional, at the Step 1 rate of \$24.53 per hour effective May 14, 2018. Absent: Hurd

MOTION GOUTERMONT, SECOND WALSH: 11 – Approve resolution electing members to the Board of Managers of the Knife River-Larsmont Sanitary District (KRLSD), Lake County, Minnesota, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 442A.14, Subdivision 2. Current KRLSD board members are listed here with 3-year term dates.

Randy Ellestad, whose term shall expire on the first business day of January, 2019;  
Chris Skadberg, whose term shall expire on the first business day of January, 2019;  
Tom Bothwell, whose term shall expire on the first business day of January, 2020;  
Phil Hartley, whose term shall expire on the first business day of January, 2020;  
Robert Entzion, whose term shall expire on the first business day of January, 2021.

Absent: Hurd

MOTION WALSH, SECOND HOGENSON: 12 – Approve the purchase and payment of Mattracks XT ATV tracks with mounting adaptors and delivery for \$5,808.20 (State Bid list) from Lakes Area Powersports, Walker MN. Absent: Hurd

MOTION WALSH, SECOND HOGENSON: 13 – Adjourn County Board of Commissioners' meeting at 3:09 p.m. Absent: Hurd

The Board of Commissioners will meet as a Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Committee of the Whole at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 15, 2018, in the Law Enforcement Center, 613 Third Avenue, Two Harbors, Minnesota. The Board of Commissioners will meet at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 22, 2018, 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