

RED LAKE COUNTY
Regular Meeting Held August 27, 2019

Pursuant to adjournment of its regular meeting the Red Lake County Board of Commissioners duly met in regular session at the courthouse in Red Lake Falls, MN on August 27, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. Chairman Weiss called the meeting to order. All members were present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Commissioner Simpson moved to approve the agenda. Motion seconded by Commissioner Flage and carried unanimously.

County Engineer Erik Hove met with the County Board on several topics. Hove requested approval to sell a pickup truck salt spreader and pup trailer. Hove mentioned that all the plow trucks now have the capability to spread salt/sand and the pup trailer has been replaced with a new belly dump in 2019. The equipment would be sold through auction. Commissioner Remick moved, seconded by Dudycha and carried unanimously to advertise the two items for sale on bids.

Hove presented the 5-year Highway Construction plan for the years 2020 through 2024 and requested its approval. Hove stated that the plan is for highway construction projects and is used as a planning tool to assist with budgeting process. The plan is subject to change if needed. Commissioner Simpson moved, seconded by Dudycha and carried unanimously to approve the 5-year Highway Construction plan for years 2020-2024 as presented by the County Engineer.

Hove informed that the plans have been approved for the Schirrick Bridge Replacement project on CSAH #13 and is ready to proceed in 2020. Advertising for bids will most likely occur later this year for 2020 project completion.

Hove and EO Kurt Casavan made a request to purchase GPS survey equipment from Frontier Precision using the state bid contract. The GPS will be used by both the Highway Department and Environmental Services to survey for various county projects and for the Buffer Strip Compliance Program, etc. Cost of the GPS equipment is \$36,859.31 utilizing funding from the State Buffer Strip Aid dollars. Commissioner Remick moved, seconded by Dudycha and carried by unanimous vote to approve the purchase as presented utilizing the state bid contract.

Hove informed that he recently had discussion with the Polk County Engineer on the reimbursement owed to Red Lake County pertaining to the MnDak Litigation. Hove informed that Red Lake County should be receiving the payment shortly from Polk County.

Al Page, a volunteer at the Huot Park met with the board at the request of a former county resident regarding a Historical Marker at the local county park. Page informed that a grant up to \$10,000.00 is available through the MN Historical Society for costs to purchase and install the marker. A grant application has to be submitted along with two letters from individuals knowledgeable about the history of the Huot Park and Old Treaty Crossing. There was discussion of utilizing a Grant Writer to complete the application. Commissioner Simpson moved, seconded by Flage and carried unanimously to apply for the grant from MN Historical Society for the Huot Park marker and work through a Grant Writer, if available, to assist with the application process.

Commissioner Flage moved, seconded by Remick and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the regular board meeting held on August 13, 2019 as presented.

Red Lake Falls Mayor Al Bertilrud was present to request that the County Board reconsider granting tax abatements on a couple properties purchased by the city as part of buyout through a FEMA Grant Program. The County Board originally discussed and denied the abatement request at a June 25, 2019

board meeting. The board took no further action on the request. Bertilrud also inquired on the tax status of a couple properties in the city, and commented of the importance to participate in the 2020 census.

County Attorney Lacoursiere, on behalf of the County Sheriff, presented a request to re-new membership with the Pine to Prairie Drug Task Force for year 2020. Red Lake County pays Associate Member dues of \$5,000 annually. The agreement provides for participation by US Customs and Border Protection to our local Law Enforcement Department. Commissioner Flage moved, seconded by Remick and carried by unanimous vote to approve the agreement as presented. The Board Chair, County Auditor and County Attorney are authorized to sign the agreement.

Commissioner Dudycha moved, seconded by Remick and carried unanimously to approve the following expenditures for the period:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Willard Malwitz	\$2,256.58
Triple D Construction	5,960.00
Wilcox Plumbing & Heating	2,985.31
27 Vendors less than \$2,000.	<u>9,856.67</u>
TOTAL	\$21,058.56

The motion includes the following added expenditures: \$3.48 expenses and \$70.00 per diem to Allen Remick, and \$12.76 expenses to John Dudycha.

The following Commissioner/Committee reports were shared:

<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Meeting/Report</u>
Simpson:	County Fair Board meeting-more fundraising events are being planned. An updated financial report was presented on the general and open-class account.
Flage:	None.
Dudycha:	County Fair Board. Tri County Corrections Advisory Board-discussed mental health issues, high staff turnover and Women's Health Assessment.
Remick:	LELS Negotiations meeting. NW Mental Health meeting in Crookston-reviewed the financial report, restructuring of the Mental Health Board and staff turnover.
Weiss	LELS Negotiations and Tri County Corrections.

Commissioner Flage moved, seconded by Remick and carried unanimously to approve a Satisfaction of Mortgage Deed for the Dale Naas Estate for a county housing rehab loan that has been paid in full. The rehab program is administered by the NW Mn Housing Authority in Mentor on behalf of the county.

The County Board discussed the Border-to-Border Touring Route that is in the design stage. A portion of the route is planned to go through Red Lake County. Several counties, including both Clearwater and Pennington, have informed the DNR that they do not want the tour route going through their respective counties. Issues are increased road maintenance, local road damages, sign maintenance costs, and will counties be reimbursed for any of these costs due to the increased traffic and traffic type. Commissioner Simpson moved and seconded by Commissioner Flage to oppose the Border-to-Border Touring Route going thru Red Lake County. The motion was carried by unanimous vote.

Commissioner Flage moved, seconded by Simpson and carried unanimously to close the regular board meeting at 12:06 p.m. to discuss LELS Union negotiations. The meeting and was re-opened at 12:43 p.m.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned to September 10, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.

Attest: _____
Robert Schmitz, County Auditor

Ron Weiss, Chair, Board of Commissioners