

PROCEEDINGS OF THE RED LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

December 12, 2023

Pursuant to adjournment of its last meeting, the Red Lake County Board of Commissioners duly met in regular session at the Courthouse in Red Lake Falls, MN on December 12, 2023, at 10:00 am.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Remick called the meeting to order. Commissioners present were Al Remick, Eric Mickelson, Tony Gerardy, Ron Weiss and Chuck Flage. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Flage moved, seconded by Commissioner Gerardy, and carried unanimously to approve the agenda with the following additions:

- Alice Conwell re: Property Tax Penalty
- Brianna Ingraham re: Bottineau Trail Bridge

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

HR Director Angie Lundeen presented several employees with awards recognizing their years of service with Red Lake County. Penny Grove-30 years, Kelly Brekke-15 years, Alicia Dobias-5 years, CeJae Bakken-5 years, Teddi-Ann Pray-15 years, Mary Jo Schmitz-20 years, Michael Roerick-5 years, Willard Malwitz-5 years, Jeff Kelley-20 years, Shelly Nelson-5 years, Angie Lundeen-10 years, and Kristi Nelson-10 years.

PROPERTY TAX PENALTY

Red Lake Falls resident Alice Conwell met with the board to discuss a late fee that was imposed on her property taxes. Conwell had missed the October 15th deadline for the 2nd half payment and has accrued \$52.75 in penalties. Conwell asked the board to forgive the penalty as she had made her payments on time in the past. The board denied the request to forgive the penalty.

BOTTINEAU TRAIL BRIDGE

Red Lake Falls City Council Member Brianna Ingraham met with the board to discuss the condition of the Bottineau Trail Bridge. The county recently received a grant from the Department of Natural Resources for repair work on the bridge but was planning on declining the grant due to a lack of sufficient funding for the project. Ingraham requested the board delay declining the grant until a meeting can be held to discuss other opportunities for grants or donations. The board tasked Ingraham with planning a meeting with interested parties to discuss potential funding opportunities for the bridge.

2022 AUDIT

Colleen Hoffman, Crystelle Philipp, and Marit Martell of Hoffman, Philipp, & Martell, PLLC met with the board to present their findings of the county's 2022 audit. Overall, the county is in good financial standing.

BUFFER STRIP PENALTIES

In the matter of Alex Hinrichs' buffer strip penalties, the board was in agreement that the fines should not be forgiven. Commissioner Gerardy moved, seconded by Commissioner Weiss, and carried unanimously to not forgive the accrued buffer strip penalties. A payment plan was discussed that would allow Hinrichs to pay half in December 2023 and the other half by December 2024 with no additional interest as long as

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he remains compliant. Commissioner Flage moved, seconded by Commissioner Mickelson, and carried unanimously to approve the payment plan.

MINUTES

Commissioner Flage moved, seconded by Commissioner Gerardy, and carried unanimously to approve the minutes from the regular meeting on November 28, 2023, with changes.

EXPENDITURES

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

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Amount</u>
H & L Mesabi	\$14,976.00
Ironhide Equipment Inc	\$6,852.74
John Deere Financial	\$2,244.10
Les’s Sanitation	\$19,988.15
Moore Engineering, Inc.	\$19,957.97
Roger’s Two Way Radio Inc.	\$5,151.22
Stantec Consulting Services Inc	\$13,820.04
Thygeson Construction	\$37,415.48
20 Payments less than \$2000	<u>\$11,987.31</u>
TOTAL	\$132,393.01

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The following commissioner/committee reports were shared:

<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Meeting/Report</u>
Gerardy	Red Lake County Soil and Water Conservation District, Economic Development
Flage	Economic Development, Northwest Regional Development Commission, Transportation Advisory Council
Remick	Tri County Community Corrections, Alluma, Extension committee
Weiss	Personnel committee, Tri County Community Corrections

HR ANNOUNCEMENTS

HR Director Angie Lundeen informed the board that new requirements for earned sick and safe time were passed this year and need to be adopted by the county before January 1, 2024. Commissioner Weiss moved, seconded by Commissioner Mickelson, and carried unanimously to approve the new earned sick and safe time requirements contingent on union approval.

ENVIRONMENTAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Environmental Officer Kurt Casavan presented the board with the county’s solid waste hauler license renewal. With there being only one licensed solid waste hauler in the county, the contract was awarded to Sanitary Service & Recycling of Red Lake Falls. Commissioner Gerardy moved, seconded by Commissioner Flage, and carried unanimously to approve the contract with Sanitary Service & Recycling.

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Casavan provided the board with an update on the county landfills and the ongoing issues with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

HIGHWAY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Highway Engineer Taylor Amiot presented the board with a resolution that would redesignate CSAH 1, CSAH2, CAR 119 and establish CASA 45. Commissioner Weiss moved, seconded by Commissioner Gerardy, and carried unanimously to approve **Resolution No. 12-01-2023** as follows:

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute 163.11, Subdivision 1, provides among other things, for County State Aid Highways to be abandoned, changed, or revoked by joint action of the County Board and the Commissioner of Transportation, and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute 162.02, Subdivision 10, provides among other things, for County State Aid Highways to be abandoned, changed, or revoked by joint action of the County Board and the Commissioner of Transportation, and

WHEREAS, it is the Engineer's recommendation to revoke and re-establish these county state routes to better align the road numbering system with constructed segments and to re-designate county aid and county state aid mileage to better meet current and projected traffic demands, improve access to communities, markets, schools, and mail routes with the remaining miles going into the County State Aid mileage bank to be designated elsewhere on future adjustments.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Red Lake County Board of Commissioners hereby revokes County State Aid Highway 1 described as follows:

Revoke a portion of County State Aid Highway No. 1, beginning at the intersection of Hamilton Avenue in Red Lake Falls and Trunk Highway 32 in Section 23, Township 151 North, Range 44 West of the 5th Principal Meridian, which is the point of beginning; Thence south along the established centerline of Hamilton Avenue to its intersection with 1st Street NE; Thence east along the established centerline of 1st Street NE to the east city limits of Red Lake Falls; Thence continuing east approximately 0.15 miles along or near the quarter line of Section 23, Township 151 North, Range 44 West of the 5th Principal Meridian for a total distance of approximately 0.74 miles, there terminating.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Red Lake County Board of Commissioners hereby establishes County State Aid Highway 1 as follows:

Establish an extension of County State Aid Highway No. 1, beginning at a point near the intersection of Trunk Highway 32 and the quarter line of Section 23, Township 151 North, Range 44 West of the 5th Principal Meridian, which is the point of beginning; Thence south along or near the quarter line of Section 23, Township 151 North, Range 44 West of the 5th Principal Meridian to a point at or near the center section of Section 23, Township 151 North, Range 44 West of the 5th Principal Meridian; Thence continuing east approximately 0.15 miles along or near the quarter line of Section 23, Township 151 North, Range 44 West of the 5th Principal Meridian for a total distance of approximately 0.33 miles, there terminating.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Red Lake County Board of Commissioners hereby establishes County State Aid Highway 45 described as follows:

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Establish County State Aid Highway No. 45, beginning at the intersection of Hamilton Avenue in Red Lake Falls and Trunk Highway 32 in Section 23, Township 151 North, Range 44 West of the 5th Principal Meridian, which is the point of beginning; Thence south along the established centerline of Hamilton Avenue to its intersection with 1st Street NE; Thence east along the established centerline of 1st Street NE to the east city limits of Red Lake Falls; Thence continuing east approximately 0.07 miles to a point on County State Aid Highway 1 near the center section of Section 23, Township 151 North, Range 44 West of the 5th Principal Meridian for a total distance of approximately 0.66 miles, there terminating.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Red Lake County Board of Commissioners hereby rennumbers County state Aid Highway 2 to County State Aid Highway 45 described as follows:

Renumbering a portion of County State Aid Highway No. 2 to County State Aid Highway No. 45, beginning at the intersection of County State Aid Highway 1 and County State Aid Highway 2 in Section 23, Township 151 North, Range 44 West of the 5th Principal Meridian, which is the point of beginning; Thence east along or near the quarter line of Section 24, Township 151 North, Range 44 West of the 5th Principal Meridian; Thence east along or near the quarter line of Section 19, Township 151 North, Range 43 West of the 5th Principal Meridian, to the intersection of County State Aid Highway 2 and County State Aid Highway 2 at or near the east quarter corner of Section 19, Township 151 North, Range 43 West of the 5th Principal Meridian for a total distance of approximately 1.97 miles, there terminating.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Red Lake County Board of Commissioners hereby revokes County Road 119 described as follows:

Revoke a portion of County Road No. 119, beginning at the intersection of Trunk Highway 92 and County Road 119 at or near the northwest corner of Section 14, Township 150 North, Range 42 West of the 5th Principal Meridian, which is the point of beginning; Thence south along or near the section line of Sections 14 and 15, Township 150 North, Range 42 West of the 5th Principal Meridian for a distance of approximately 0.27 miles to the intersection of County Road 119 and Minnesota Avenue (County Road 119); Thence east along the established centerline of Minnesota Avenue for approximately 0.33 miles to County State Aid Highway 51 in Section 14, Township 150 North, Range 42 West of the 5th Principal Meridian for a total distance of approximately 0.60 miles, there terminating.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Red Lake County Board of Commissioners hereby revokes County State Aid Highway 51 described as follows:

Establish an extension of County State Aid Highway No. 51, beginning at the intersection of Trunk Highway 92 and County road 119 at or near the northwest corner of Section 14, Township 150 North, Range 42 West of the 5th Principal Meridian, which is the point of beginning; Thence south along or near the section line of Sections 14 and 15, Township 150 North, Range 42 West of the 5th Principal Meridian for a distance of approximately 0.27 miles to the intersection of County Road 119 and Minnesota Avenue (County Road 119); Thence east along the established centerline of Minnesota Avenue for approximately 0.33 miles to County State Aid Highway 51 in Section 14, Township 150 North, Range 42 West of the 5th Principal Meridian for a total distance of approximately 0.60 miles, there terminating.

Amiot informed the board that he would like to add tracking equipment to the county's vehicles. Commissioner Gerardy moved, seconded by Commissioner Flage, and carried unanimously to approve

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adding tracking equipment to the county's vehicles. Amiot will provide the board with quotes at a later date.

AUDITOR ANNOUNCEMENTS

Gervais presented the board with a renewal for the county's agreement with Pennington County to share access with their GIS system. Commissioner Weiss moved, seconded by Commissioner Flage and carried unanimously to renew the agreement for 2024.

Gervais informed the board that she had been contacted by a Red Lake Falls resident with concerns about the county's appointment to the Northwest Regional Library Board. After speaking with the NWRL Director and another member of the board, Gervais was informed that the county appointment has been doing a wonderful job.

Gervais informed the board that the building directory in the first-floor rotunda of the courthouse needs replacement. After presenting the board with multiple options, it was determined that the most cost-effective option would be to install a TV. Gervais will provide the board with quotes at a later date.

Gervais presented the board with the Red Lake County Soil and Water Conservation District's Aquatic Invasive Species Report, Plan and Resolution. Commissioner Gerardy moved, seconded by Commissioner Flage, and carried unanimously to approve the **Resolution for Aquatic Invasive Species Aid** as follows:

WHEREAS, 2014 Session Law Chapter 308 enacted by the Legislature provides Minnesota counties a County Program Aid grant for Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) prevention. The amount designated for each county is based on the number of watercraft parking spaces within each county, and

WHEREAS, the legislation requires that Red Lake County must establish, by resolution or through adoption of a plan, guidelines for the use of the proceeds which are to prevent the introduction or limit the spread of aquatic invasive species at all access sites within the county, and

WHEREAS, the county may appropriate the proceeds directly or may use any portion of the proceeds to provide funding for a joint powers board or cooperative agreement with another political subdivision, a soil and water conservation district in the county, a watershed district in the county, or a lake association located within the county. Any money appropriated by the county to a different entity or political subdivision must be used as required under this section, and

WHEREAS, the county must submit a copy of the guidelines for use of the proceeds to the Department of Natural Resources by December 31 for the year the payments are received, and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Board of Commissioners of Red Lake County, Minnesota, designates oversight of Red Lake County's AIS prevention efforts to the Red Lake County Soil and Water Conservation District and delegates to them the responsibility to prepare, implement and report annually a plan to allocate the funding in accordance with the above legislation. For 2024, the plan is on file in the Soil and Water Conservation District office.

ADJOURNMENT

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A motion was made by Commissioner Mickelson, seconded by Commissioner Flage, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 2:21 p.m. The next regular meeting of the board is scheduled for Tuesday, December 26, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.

Attest: _____
Kelsey Gervais, County Auditor

Allen Remick, Chairman
Board of Commissioner