

RED LAKE COUNTY
Regular Meeting Held February 12, 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 February 12, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. Commissioners present: Dudycha, Flage, Simpson and Weiss. Absent: Commissioner Remick. Chairman Weiss called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

SWCD Administrator Tanya Hanson was present to seek approval of three (3) shoreland permits requested by Enbridge Energy to perform pipeline maintenance in sections 1 & 2 of Lambert Township. Commissioner Flage moved, seconded by Dudycha and carried by unanimous vote to approve the permits as presented.

Hanson stated there was a change to the Red Lake River Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan. The Board Water & Soil Resources now requires that each partner county adopt the plan amendment. Commissioner Simpson moved, seconded by Flage and carried by unanimous vote to approve **Resolution No. 02-01-19** "Resolution to Adopt and Implement the Amended 1W1P Plan" as presented. The Board Chairman and County Auditor signed on behalf of the county. A complete document is on file at the SWCD office or the County Auditor's office.

Interim County Engineer Jerilyn Swenson was present to update on activities. Swenson explained the state funding allocations recently received from MN Dot for municipal maintenance, road construction, and the town road maintenance accounts. Swenson informed that the Truck, Motor Grader and Pup Trailer have been ordered.

County Attorney Lacoursiere met with the board to update on the Minn-Dak Asphalt litigation against Red Lake County. The courts have determined that the contract was breached by the county and Judge Marbin has ordered that Red Lake County hereby owes Minn-Dak Asphalt \$200,315.00 in damages plus the costs of attorney's fees and other disbursements. Lacoursiere is still waiting for a reply of the amount of extra costs and suggested that the county wait to pay the judgement until he is informed of the additional costs.

MN Dot State Aid Engineer Lou Tasa met with the board to update on the County Engineer interview process he participated in along with Chairman Weiss, Commissioner Flage and HR Director Lundeen. Tasa commented that Erik Hove interviewed very well for the position. Mr. Hove's strong points are highway design and technology, and is currently in a supervisory position in Clay County. Tasa stated that Hove is an excellent candidate. Tasa mentioned that Hove has to offer a 4-week notice to his present employer so he would not be available until early April if offered and he accepts the position. Members of the interviewing committee recommend Mr. Hove for the position. The board discussed a salary and benefits proposal. Commissioner Simpson moved, seconded by Dudycha and carried by unanimous vote to offer the position to Eric Hove for a 4-year appointment at a starting salary of \$95,000.00 prorated for 2019 (exempt employee-no overtime), with annual Cost of Living increases effective thereafter for each year of the appointment including a negotiable beginning PTO amount.

The board discussed that the two board members be allowed to negotiate some of the terms of employment if Hove makes a counter offer. Commissioner Simpson moved, seconded by Dudycha and carried unanimously to allow members Flage and Weiss to negotiate some of the terms of employment.

The board was informed that the current Norman County contract for shared County Engineer services expires February 15, 2019. Commissioner Simpson moved, seconded by Dudycha and carried by unanimous vote to request a 30-day extension with Norman County to the current agreement.

Commissioner Flage moved, seconded by Dudycha and carried unanimously to approve the minutes from the regular board meeting held on January 28, 2019 as presented.

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

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Cardmember Service	\$ 4,756.31
Counties Providing Technology	3,676.00
DLT Solutions, LLC	2,996.44
Magnum Manufacturing, LLC	18,750.00
Norman County Auditor/Treasurer	12,428.50
Red Lake County Co-op	16,953.73
Treasurer Lake Pleasant Township	2,965.00
54 Vendors less than \$2,000	<u>20,168.21</u>
TOTAL	\$ 82,694.19

The motion includes the following additional bills: \$246.03 to Polk County Environmental; \$115.96 to Quill.

Auditor Schmitz mentioned that the State Auditor's Office contacted his office regarding payment of the outstanding invoice for completing the re-audit of the 2015 financials, and that interest charges of 1.5% will accrue if the audit fee is not paid by the February 19, 2019 due date. Schmitz informed that Senator Johnson and State Representatives Kiel and Fabian are currently working on passing legislation that requests the state waive the costs for the nine counties affected by a re-audit, as the re-audit of the counties was unnecessary. And, since it's not a guarantee that legislation will be approved, the county would incur from four to five thousand dollars in accrued interest costs if it waits until the end of session and then the specific legislation is not passed. Commissioner Simpson moved, seconded by Dudycha and carried unanimously by the members present to approve the payment of \$75,640.31 to the State Auditor by the February 19, 2019 due date to avoid any interest charges.

The following Commissioner/Committee reports were shared:

<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Meeting/Report</u>
Simpson:	None.
Flage:	Participated in interviews for County Engineer.
Dudycha:	Attended a Tri-County Corrections meeting and discussed the North Country Food Bank at a recent Social Services board meeting.
Weiss:	Attended Tri-County Corrections meeting and reviewed information on the budget, juvenile center, and revenue from jail space rental to other counties. NW Regional Development Executive board meeting: heard various program updates, approved expenditures and appointed members to the Aging Committee. Participated in interviews for County Engineer.

HR Director Lundeen informed that the County Recorder is eligible for a longevity increase to \$60.00 per month. Commissioner Flage moved, seconded by Simpson and carried unanimously to approve longevity at \$60.00 per month for County Recorder Joyce Paquin.

Lundeen mentioned that Veterans Service Officer Kurt Ellefson is eligible for a step increase as he has met the hour's requirement for a part-time employee for step advancement. Commissioner Flage moved, seconded by Dudycha and carried unanimously to approve the increase for Kurt Ellefson from Grade 21, Step-2 (\$20.77 hourly) to Grade 21, Step-3 (\$21.09 hourly) retroactive to November 14, 2018.

Commissioner Flage moved, seconded by Simpson and carried unanimously to re-appoint Larry Johnson to a 3-year term on the Red River Valley Development Association commencing March 2019.

Chairman Weiss mentioned that he was contacted by Virgil Benoit representing the AFRAN Association. Benoit is requesting that the county consider a small \$500.00 allocation to the organization to help fund its annual summer event. Commissioner Simpson moved, seconded by Dudycha and carried by unanimous vote to authorize a \$500.00 allocation to AFRAN for 2019.

HR Director Lundeen presented listing of duties for the EMS Director and Assistant EMS Director and asked for authorization to submit to Bjorklund Consulting to create a job description and rating for the two positions at a cost of \$125.00 each. Commissioner Simpson moved, seconded by Flage and carried by unanimous vote to approve the request as presented.

Lundeen presented the Elected Official's job questioners for board members to review. The information on the questioners will be forwarded on to Bjorklund Compensation Consulting, to create a job description and rating for each of the positions.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned to February 26, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.

Attest: _____
Robert Schmitz, County Auditor

Ron Weiss, Chair, Board of Commissioners