

# PROCEEDINGS OF THE RED LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

February 7, 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 February 7, 2023 at 10:00 am.

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Vice Chairman Gerardy called the meeting to order. Commissioners present were Chuck Flage, Tony Gerardy and Ron Weiss. Others present were Kelsey Gervais, Kyle Thibert, Alan Page, Gail Healy, Allen Bertilrud, Kathy Schmitz, Angie Lundeen, Josh Dickerson, Kade Ferris, Mike Lacoursiere, and Tanya Waldo. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

## **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Commissioner Flage moved, seconded by Commissioner Weiss and carried unanimously to approve the agenda.

## **BIKE PATH**

Red Lake Falls City Administrator Kathy Schmitz met with the board to seek the county's assistance in helping to maintain the bike path in Red Lake Falls. The City of Red Lake Falls has received a grant covering 80% of the projected costs and anticipates receiving another grant to cover the remaining costs. In order to receive the grant funding, City Administrator Schmitz asked the board to commit to maintaining the county's portion of the trail. Commissioner Weiss moved, seconded by Commissioner Flage and carried unanimously to adopt the following resolution to assist the City of Red Lake Falls in maintaining the bike path for the next 20 years. **Resolution No. 02-02-2023** is as follows:

**WHEREAS**, the County of Red Lake supports the City of Red Lake Falls in their goal of completing repairs to the Bottineau Trail consisting of 3.2 miles of paved trail throughout the City of Red Lake Falls and Red Lake County.

**WHEREAS**, the City of Red Lake Falls has secured funding through State and Federal grants and local cash matching to cover the cost of the repairs.

**WHEREAS**, the City of Red Lake Falls asks that the County of Red Lake commit to maintaining their portion of the trail in order to secure the grant funding.

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the County of Red Lake hereby agrees to maintaining their portion of the Bottineau Trail for a period of no less than 20 years.

A copy of the resolution is posted for inspection in the County Auditor's office.

## **HUOT PARK**

Josh Dickerson and Kade Ferris, on behalf of the Red Lake Nation and MNDOT met with the board to discuss the tribe's interest in purchasing three parcels of land within the boundaries of Huot Park. A MNDOT project in Roseau County will displace Red Lake Nation property, and in keeping with their policy of net zero loss of property, the tribe is actively looking for land to relocate to. Due to Huot Park's historic and cultural significance, it is an optimal spot for their relocation. No decision was made at this time.

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Park Board Chairman Alan Page met with the board to discuss the ongoing issue of overnight camping at Huot Park. Commissioner Flage moved, seconded by Commissioner Weiss and carried unanimously to adopt the following resolution to change the park to day use only. **Resolution No. 02-01-2023** is as follows:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Red Lake County Board of Commissioners designate that the Old Crossing Treaty Park be for day use only and not allow overnight camping.

A copy of the resolution is posted for inspection in the County Auditor’s office.

**THRONSON/VERSDAHL PROJECT**

Red Lake County Soil and Water Conservation District Manager Tanya Waldo met with the board to seek approval for the county to pay Ryan’s Backhoe Service for materials for the upcoming Thronson/Versdahl project in Gervais Township. Commissioner Flage moved, seconded by Commissioner Weiss and carried unanimously to approve the payment.

**EXPENDITURES**

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

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Cardmember Service	\$8,368.74
Hoffman, Philipp & Martell, PLLC	\$17,835.00
Michael J. Burns Architect LTD	\$12,375.65
Midstates Equipment & Supply	\$53,646.00
Minnesota Transportation Alliance	\$3,050.00
Moore Engineering, Inc.	\$28,315.00
NW MN Household Hazardous Waste Management	\$4,704.00
Pennington County Highway Department	\$10,100.63
Red Lake County Co-op	\$8,502.29
Team Laboratory Chemical, LLC	\$71,316.50
Thibert Chevrolet	\$2,214.13
Ziegler Cat	\$7,243.01
39 Payments less than \$2,000	<u>\$20,415.93</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>\$275,752.63</u></b>

**MINUTES**

Commissioner Flage moved, seconded by Commissioner Weiss and carried unanimously to approve the minutes from the regular meeting held January 24, 2023.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

The following commissioner/committee reports were shared:

<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Meeting/Report</u>
Weiss	Joint Highway Meeting

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**AUDITOR COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Auditor Kelsey Gervais met with the board to clarify which expenditures the Auditor's office is authorized to pay without board approval. A motion was made by Commissioner Flage, seconded by Commissioner Weiss and unanimously carried to authorize the County Auditor's office to pay routine expenditures without board approval (i.e., insurance, utilities).

**HUMAN RESOURCES COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

HR Manager Angie Lundeen met with the board seeking approval to increase longevity payments in order to match union contracts. The payments would change from \$15 per pay period for every 5 years of service to \$20 per pay period for every 5 years of service effective January 1, 2023. Commissioner Flage moved, seconded by Commissioner Weiss and carried unanimously.

HR Manager Lundeen discussed using GovHR's services to assist with the ongoing search for a County Highway Engineer. The board proposed a Highway Department meeting be held before proceeding any further.

**BOX CULVERT INSTALLATION FOR POPLAR RIVER TOWNSHIP**

The Red Lake County Highway Department is planning to remove an existing pipe culvert in Poplar River Township and replace it with a box culvert (S.A.P. 063-599-031). Commissioner Flage moved, seconded by Commissioner Weiss and carried unanimously to begin accepting bids through March 14, 2023.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Commissioner Flage, seconded by Commissioner Weiss and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 12:00 p.m. The next regular meeting of the board is scheduled for Tuesday, February 28, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kelsey Gervais, County Auditor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Allen Remick, Chairman  
Board of Commissioners