

**RED LAKE COUNTY**  
Regular Meeting Held July 23, 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 July 23, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. Chairman Weiss called the meeting to order. All board members were present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Commissioner Simpson moved to approve the agenda with the addition of the County Attorney. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dudycha and carried unanimously.

County Engineer Erik Hove and Engineering staff were present to conduct bid openings on two county projects. The first bid opening is a combined project for two culvert replacements, Project SAP 063-599-028 (TR #135) and SAP 063-599-029 (TR #179) both in Terrebonne Township. Four contractors submitted the following bids: \$212,493.00 Taggart Construction; \$215,782.00 Olson Construction; \$224,830.00 Triple D Construction, and \$230,135.00 Gladen Construction. Hove mentioned that all bidders submitted the required documents.

Hove then conducted bid opening for the Salt Storage Facility at the Red Lake Falls Highway Department location. Three contractors submitted the following bids: \$141,000.00 from Aaron Seng Construction; \$226,500.00 from Schmitz Builders-Kent Schmitz, and \$246,344.00 from Gerit Hanson Construction. Hove informed that the three bidders have submitted the required documents. The Engineering staff left to proof the bid calculations and Hove will return later in the meeting with his recommendations.

Hove mentioned that he received two quotes to install drain tile along approximately  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile of CR #118. The tile will help prevent the severe frost boils in the spring by allowing water to drain faster from the section of road. Quotes are \$6,900.00 from Tile Drainage of Brooks, MN and \$14,497.81 from Ellengton Company of Concord, MN. Commissioner Simpson moved, seconded by Flage and carried unanimously to approve the quote of Tile Drainage as presented.

Rob Sipe, Executive Director of the RRWMB in Ada was present to provide an update and overview of the RRWMB operations. Al Page, County Representative to the Red Lake Watershed District was also in attendance. Sipe reported that the levy was set at 75% for year 2020 down from 100% from year 2019. The RRWMB Annual Conference is scheduled for March. Presently his office is concentrating efforts to secure bonding dollars for the area flood projects as approximately 17 to 19 million dollars are needed for year 2020. Sipe mentioned that the Black River Impoundment Project is currently on hold as funding was not approved during the recent session. Cost is estimated at around \$7 million with the RRMB contributing \$2.7 million and are seeking up to \$4 million in state funding with the balance of project cost from the Red Lake Watershed District.

Paul Hajduk, MCIT (MN Counties Insurance Trust) Risk Management Consultant met with the board to present the 2018 annual report. MCIT Insurance is a Joint Powers Company. Red Lake County has been a member of the organization for the past 39 years. Presently 81 of 87 Minnesota counties are MCIT members. Hajduk reviewed the claim history for Property/Casualty, Liability, and Workers Compensation and mentioned the many other services available to the county. Dividends will be paid to members again in 2019, the 29<sup>th</sup> consecutive year.

County Attorney Mike Lacoursiere informed that he was contacted by the Office of State Auditor (OSA) on July 16<sup>th</sup> regarding a complaint that the County Board passed a motion on June 11, 2019 authorizing one-time bonus payments of \$6,500.00 each to County Treasurer Nick Knott and to Deputy Treasurer Carmen Harmoning. Payments have not yet been issued. Lacoursiere explained that the OSA considers this a misappropriation of public funds if payment is issued. Lacoursiere recommended that the County Board rescind the motion from the June 11, 2019 board meeting that authorized the two specific

payments. Commissioner Remick moved and seconded by Commissioner Simpson that the County Board rescind the motion from the June 11, 2019 board meeting authorizing the two payments to Knott and Harmoning. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

County Engineer Hove returned to the meeting with the final tabulations from the earlier bid openings. Hove recommended the low bid of Taggart Construction for the combined culvert replacement projects. Commissioner Dudycha moved, seconded by Remick and carried unanimously to approve the low bid of \$212,493.00 submitted by Taggart Construction for the culvert replacement projects SAP 063-599-028 (TR #135) and SAP 063-599-029 (TR #179) as recommended.

Hove recommended the low bid from Aaron Seng Construction for the Salt Storage Facility. Commissioner Dudycha moved, seconded by Flage and carried unanimously to award the low bid of \$141,000.00 to Aaron Seng Construction for construction of the Salt Storage Building.

Hove mentioned that he had discussion with the Polk County Engineer regarding its reimbursement to Red Lake County for Polk County's cost share of the MnDak lawsuit. Red Lake County invoiced Polk \$81,245.00 for its pro-rated share of construction and mediation costs from the joint project with Red Lake County. Polk County disagrees over the legal/mediation fees and thus is proposing to reimburse Red Lake County \$72,764.49 representing Polk's pro-rated share of construction costs. County Attorney Lacoursiere provided additional comment. Commissioner Simpson moved, seconded by Flage and carried unanimously to authorize that County Engineer Hove prepare a revised billing in amount of \$72,764.49 and submit to Polk County for reimbursement.

Hove informed that the Road Committee is scheduled to meet on August 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. at the County Highway Department.

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

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Geo-Comm Corp.	\$3,800.00
Houston Engineering, Inc.	2,119.00
M&R Signs Company, Inc.	2,402.08
ReadiTech IT Solutions	4,503.50
Red lake County SWCD	13,750.00
Red lake County Co-op	2,500.00
Aaron Seng Construction	11,793.00
26 Vendors less than \$2,000.	<u>8,051.80</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$48,919.38</b>

The motion includes the following added expenditures: \$336.20 to AT&T; \$173.93 to Quill; \$30.16 expenses and \$140.00 per diem to Allen Remick.

Commissioner Simpson moved, seconded by Flage and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the regular board meeting held on July 9, 2019 as presented.

Commissioner Flage moved, seconded by Dudycha to change the June 25, 2019 Commissioner minutes to list Commissioner Weiss as abstain from voting on Resolution No. 06-03-19. Motion was carried unanimously.

County Auditor Schmitz presented the 2018 Tax Increment Financing report for the City of Oklee and discussed a letter from MN Department of Revenue regarding the court ruling of the 2015-2016 Enbridge Energy valuation appeals.

The following Commissioner/Committee reports were shared:

<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Meeting/Report</u>
Simpson:	None.
Flage:	None.
Dudycha:	Tri County Corrections and Inter County Community Council meetings.
Remick:	The NW Regional Radio Board and County Extension Committee with lengthy discussion and questions on the County Fair.
Weiss:	A One-Watershed/One Plan meeting. Officers were elected, discussed grant projects, and reviewed cost-share policies and the financials. Attended a Quin CHS meeting and reviewed the WIC and SHIP programs reports.

HR Director Lundeen requested that 2 job descriptions for new Social Service positions be submitted to Bjorklund Consulting for job ratings at a cost of \$125.00 each. The positions are an Office Support Specialist and Account Tech/Case Aid position. Commissioner Remick moved, seconded by Flage and carried unanimously to approve the request as presented.

Lundeen also requested that four part-time positions also be submitted for job ratings. The positions are: Highway Department Shop Assistant, Tar Crew Supervisor, Tar Crew Laborer, and the Oklee Landfill Operator 1 position. Commissioner Remick moved, seconded by Flage and carried unanimously to approve the request as presented.

The regular meeting was closed at 12:14 p.m. to discuss Local 49 Union Negotiations. The regular meeting was re-opened at 12:31 p.m.

Commissioner Remick moved, seconded by Flage and carried by unanimous vote to approve the Local 49's Union Contract for a 3-year period commencing January 1, 2020 pending the review of MCIT legal staff.

There being no further business the County Board meeting was adjourned at 12:35 p.m. until August 13, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Robert Schmitz, County Auditor

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Ron Weiss, Chair, Board of Commissioners