

## RED LAKE COUNTY

Regular Meeting Held September 10, 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 September 10, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. Chairman Weiss called the meeting to order. Commissioner Dudycha was absent. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

Chairman Weiss presented longevity awards to eight (8) county employees on behalf of the County Board of Commissioners. Receiving 5-year awards are: Brett Anderson, Mason Johnson, Jeff Spiering, Kelly Rogalla and Steve Rhode. Awards for 20-years: Joyce Paquin and Brad Johnson. Jean Plante received a 30-year award.

County Engineer Erik Hove met with the board to request approval of a Township Bridge Agreement with Garnes Township to replace an existing steel arch pipe. The structure is located on Garnes Town Road 123 over County Ditch 61. Hove informed that the structure meets the criteria to be eligible for town bridge funding through the State of Minnesota. The agreement will allow the county to proceed with the project on the township's behalf. The culvert replacement will be funded 100% with State and Township funds. Commissioner Simpson moved, seconded by Flage and carried unanimously to approve the agreement with Garnes Township as presented by the County Engineer.

Hove requested that he be allowed to advertise for a bridge replacement/grading project on CSAH 13 in Wylie/Louisville Townships. The project involves replacing a narrow bridge with two (2) new 14-foot by 14-foot concrete box culverts and also involves improving sight deficiencies with the vertical road alignment. Hove informed that the proposed bid letting will be in November pending MN State Aid funding approval. Commissioner Flage moved, seconded by Remick and carried unanimously to allow the County Engineer to advertise for bids for the CSAH 13 project.

Hove informed that the county did receive a check from Polk County to reimburse for its share of the MnDak litigation costs.

SWCD Administrator Tanya Hanson was present to review the 2020 proposed SWCD budget. Hanson asked that the board again provide the \$30,000 match dollars for the Local Capacity Match Grant through the Board of Soil & Water Resources (BWSR). Chair Weiss mentioned that the board will take into consideration when preparing the proposed county budget.

Hanson informed that the county no longer has to provide a match amount to qualify for the Natural Resources Block Grant (NRBG) as the state has eliminated the requirement beginning in 2020. The county will receive \$122,030 over the 2-year NRBG grant period; years 2020/2021. The NRBG consists of funding for Local Water Management, Wetland Conservation, Shoreland, and Septic Treatment Systems. Commissioner Remick moved, seconded by Simpson and carried by unanimous vote to approve the 2020/2021 NRBG grant agreement as presented.

Hanson stated that the SWCD is currently working on several side water inlet projects throughout the county, and there are still some landowners not in compliance with the State Buffer Strip requirement. A landowner has 11 months to complete their buffer strips or penalties will be assessed.

Commissioner Flage moved, seconded by Remick and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the regular board meeting held on August 27, 2019 as presented.

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

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Bert's Truck Equipment	\$66,261.00
Counties Providing Technology	3,676.00
Field Drainage	6,700.00
Premier Signs	5,040.00
Red Lake County Co-op	5,620.00
Truenorth Steel, Inc.	4,083.52
Vatthauer Farm Supply	5,678.86
54 Vendors less than \$2,000	<u>15,320.75</u>
TOTAL	\$101,212.61

The motion also includes the following added expenditures: \$140.00 per diem and \$8.12 expenses to Allen Remick.

The following Commissioner/Committee reports were shared:

<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Meeting/Report</u>
Simpson:	None.
Flage:	Transportation Advisory meeting in Thief River Falls discussing the MN Dot proposed construction plan, RTCC and the Border-to-Border Touring Route.
Remick:	Attended SWCD and County Extension Committee meetings.
Weiss:	Attended a NW Regional Development meeting and toured the Aryshire Dairy by Goodridge. Meeting topics were: Homeland Security Training Exercises, insurance issues with the Humana Medicare Supplement for elderly in Nursing Homes, and feasibility study for a hemp Crushing facility. Area Agency on Aging: meeting discussion included the area work plan, Dementia training, and funding cuts from the MN Board of Aging. Tri-County Corrections: reviewed jail usage reports and the proposed county levies for 2020.

Commissioner Weiss commented that he is still waiting for a reply from the MN Historical Society regarding the application process for the informational sign at Huot Park.

Auditor Schmitz presented a request from the NW MN Housing Authority. Commissioner Flage moved, seconded by Simpson and carried unanimously to approve a Satisfaction of Mortgage Deed for Betty and Art Seibel 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.

HR Director Lundeen discussed some employee concerns and clarifications regarding implementation of the new compensation study completed by Bjorklund Compensation Consulting.

The board acknowledged a letter from The Nature Conservancy notifying that the organization will be acquiring land in Lake Pleasant Township as an addition to a TNC preserve. The property is being acquired with Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Funds (OHF) granted to the Conservancy.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned to September 24, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.

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

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Ron Weiss, Chair, Board of Commissioners