

PROCEEDINGS OF THE RED LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

September 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 September 12, 2023, at 10:00 am.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Remick called the meeting to order. Commissioners present were Al Remick, Eric Mickelson, and Tony Gerardy. Chuck Flage and Ron Weiss were not present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Gerardy moved, seconded by Commissioner Mickelson, and carried unanimously to approve the agenda.

NW REGIONAL LIBRARY

Northwest Regional Library Director Jim Trojanowski met with the board to request a 3% increase to the County’s 2024 apportionment. Trojanowski cited rising operational costs to explain the request. Commissioner Mickelson moved, seconded by Commissioner Gerardy, and carried unanimously to approve the 3% increase to the library’s apportionment.

AFRAN REPORT

Virgil Benoit met with the board to report on the 2023 Chataqua event at Huot Park. Benoit also requested an increase from \$500 to \$2500 for AFRAN’s 2024 appropriations. The decision was tabled until the upcoming regular meeting when the County’s budget will be finalized.

MINUTES

Commissioner Gerardy moved, seconded by Commissioner Mickelson, and carried unanimously to approve the minutes from the regular meeting on August 22, 2023.

EXPENDITURES

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

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Election Systems & Software Inc.	\$5,605.00
Moore Engineering, Inc.	\$12,333.50
Thygeson Construction	\$491,814.07
Titan Machinery	\$5,164.64
Valley Plains Equipment	\$2,884.97
Vatthauer Farm Supply	\$8,728.26
Ziegler Cat	\$4,151.67
20 Payments less than \$2000	<u>\$10,973.78</u>
TOTAL	\$541,655.89

HIGHWAY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Highway Engineer Taylar Amiot met with the board to provide an update on his first two weeks working for the County.

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Amiot proposed the implementation of a \$500 deposit fee to be paid when utility crossing permits are issued. Amiot also proposed increasing the County’s ditch cleaning fee from \$400 to \$500 per mile. Commissioner Gerardy moved, seconded by Commissioner Mickelson, and carried unanimously to approve the utility crossing deposit fee and the increase to the ditch cleaning fee.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The following commissioner/committee reports were shared:

<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Meeting/Report</u>
Gerardy	RLC SWCD
Remick	Tri-County Community Corrections, Alluma, RLC SWCD

HR ANNOUNCEMENTS

HR Manager Angie Lundeen met with the board to revisit the topic of holiday pay for part-time employees. Lundeen contacted multiple counties in the region to inquire about their practices regarding holiday pay. It was determined that most counties prorate holiday pay based on the number of hours worked. Commissioner Gerardy moved, seconded by Commissioner Mickelson, and carried unanimously to approve prorated holiday pay to regular part-time employees.

ATTORNEY ANNOUNCEMENTS

County Attorney Tanner Holten presented the first reading of the proposed Cannabis Use Ordinance to all those in attendance. Holten informed the board that the second and final reading would be presented at the next regular meeting of the board.

AUDITOR ANNOUNCEMENTS

Auditor Kelsey Gervais met with the board to approve a resolution to amend the dates for tax abatement given to Altoz, Inc. **Resolution No. 09-01-2023** is as follows:

WHEREAS, Red Lake County did pass Resolution 03-01-2022 authorizing certain real property tax increase abatements to Altoz, Inc. for a period of 10 years (specifically, with respect to the payable 2025 through 2034 property taxes) on Tax Parcel ID No. 17-3378-010.

WHEREAS, the increase in property taxes for the specified Tax Parcel ID No. 17-3378-10 will be payable starting with 2024 real property taxes.

NOW THEREFORE, RED LAKE COUNTY hereby amends Resolution No. 03-01-2022, paragraph 3, to read as follows:

3. Terms of Abatement.

The abatement is hereby approved. The terms of the Abatement are as follows:

- (a) The abatement shall be for a maximum of 10 years and shall apply to the taxes payable in the years 2024 through 2033, inclusive.
- (b) For each year within the abatement term, the amount of the abatement shall be equal to the City’s portion of ad valorem property tax imposed on the Project. The increase in property taxes will be

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over the 2022 base tax capacity. The abatement shall apply to increases in property taxes resulting from increases in the market value or tax capacity of the property during the tax abatement period.

- (c) The abatement may not be modified or changed during the term set forth in (a) above, except with the prior written consent of the Red Lake County Board of Commissioners.
- (d) The abatement shall be subject to all the terms and limitations of the Abatement Law.
- (e) In order to be entitled to the abatement, the Company shall not be in default within the County of any of its payment obligations respecting any taxes, assessments, utility charges or other governmental impositions.
- (f) The tax abatement approved contingent upon the proposed site improvement having been substantially completed and ready for occupancy.

All other terms and conditions of Resolution No. 03-01-2022 shall remain in full force and effect, except to the extent as amended herein.

Commissioner moved, Commissioner seconded, and carried unanimously to approve Resolution No. 09-01-2023.

Gervais informed the board that the County’s current IT service provider, ReadiTech, will no longer provide services to the County as of October 1st, 2023. Marco, Garden Valley Technologies, High Plains Technology, Corporate Technologies, and ABM Technology Group were interviewed as potential replacements for ReadiTech. Based on the current needs of the County, it was recommended the board select High Plains Technology. Commissioner moved, Commissioner seconded, and carried unanimously to accept the contract with High Plains Technology.

Gervais presented the board with the Oklee Ambulances financials for 2023 as well as their 2024 funding request. Oklee Ambulance is proposing a \$20,000 increase to their 2024 appropriation from the County. The decision was tabled until the upcoming regular meeting when the County’s budget will be finalized.

Gervais updated the board on the House of Representatives visit to the courthouse on September 14th as part of their bonding tour.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Gerardy, seconded by Commissioner Mickelson, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 12:46 p.m. The next regular meeting of the board is scheduled for Tuesday, September 26, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.

Attest: _____
Kelsey Gervais, County Auditor

Allen Remick, Chairman
Board of Commissioner