

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF THE
COUNTY OF NICOLLET
APRIL 9, 2019

The Nicollet County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, April 9, 2019, at 9:00 a.m. Commissioners Denny Kemp, Marie Dranttel, Jack Kolars, Terry Morrow and John Luepke were present. Also present were County Attorney Michelle Zehnder Fischer, County Administrator Ryan Krosch and Recording Secretary Lynette Peterson.

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Commissioner Morrow and seconded by Commissioner Luepke to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

Presentation of 3rd Annual Cream of the Crop Classic Trophy

County Attorney Michelle Zehnder Fischer and Paralegal Darcy Hoffman presented the 3rd Annual Cream of the Crop Classic trophy to Brown-Nicollet Environmental Health. Their department collected 38.33 pounds of food per person. The County as a whole collected 665 pounds of food and \$1,560.

Introduction of New Employees

The following new employees were introduced by their Department Head to the Board:

<u>Department</u>	<u>Employee</u>	<u>Position</u>
Health and Human Services	Kristina Neisen	Waiver Case Manager/Care Coordinator
Health and Human Services	Torey Bruegger	Waiver Case Manager
Facilities	Cody Johnson	Facilities Director

Consent Agenda

Motion by Commissioner Morrow and seconded by Commissioner Kolars to approve the consent agenda items as follows: March 26, 2019 Board Minutes, approval of bills, Acknowledgment of Ucare Grant, Out of State Travel Request – Nicole Cole (NADCP) and Out of State Travel Request – Arlinda Penner (Designated Breastfeeding Educator). Motion carried with all voting in favor.

Public Appearances

Charles Johnson, 44259 360th Street, St. Peter, appeared before the Board with concerns regarding the CD 62A Ditch Project. He stated the project is in the third year and the project was supposed to last two years. A landowner meeting was supposed to take place to inform landowners of the status of the project. He would like to see the project wrap up.

Henry Martens, 53988 County Road 15, Lafayette, expressed concerns regarding the ditch system along County Road 82 and Ditch 32A.

Byron Norell, 34497 441st Avenue Gaylord, expressed concerns regarding the CD 62A Ditch Project. He is on the New Sweden Township Board and inquired about graveling 361st and 441st Avenue as a result of the project.

Harland Nelson, 44727 360th Street, St. Peter, also expressed concerns regarding the CD 62A Ditch Project.

Donald McGinness, 22119 519th Avenue, Lake Crystal, expressed concerns regarding the CD 62A Ditch Project contract. He stated the contract includes penalties if the project is not completed by January 1, 2019. He wants to make sure the penalties are collected.

Sheriff's Office

Declaring a State of Emergency Resolution

County Sheriff David Lange requested the Board consider approval of the resolution declaring a state of emergency. Damage caused by spring flooding has caused significant damage in the county requiring the county to declare a state of emergency to be eligible for any possible funding assistance. The Emergency Management Department has heard from Belgrade, Nicollet and Courtland Townships with damages estimated around \$82,000. The Cities of North Mankato, St. Peter and Courtland also have incurred damages. St. Peter estimates their damages around \$53,000. Nicollet County has incurred damages but is waiting until the water level goes down to estimate the damages. Sheriff Lange stated the State threshold for declaring a State of Emergency is \$61,854 and the Federal threshold is \$123,708. Motion by Commissioner Luepke and seconded by Commissioner Kolars to adopt the Resolution Declaring a State of Emergency. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

RESOLUTION DECLARING A STATE OF EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, the flooding events from March 2019 have impacted the population of Nicollet County and its cities, and

WHEREAS, the flooding has caused a significant amount of public property damage; and

WHEREAS, Nicollet County Emergency Management requests the Nicollet County Board of Commissioners to declare Nicollet County in a State of Emergency as a result of this flooding.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Nicollet County Board of Commissioners declares Nicollet County in a State of Emergency for conditions resulting from this flooding.

MN Federal Boating Safety Supplemental Equipment Grant Agreement

Sheriff Lange requested the Board consider acceptance of the MN Federal Boating Safety Supplemental Equipment Grant. This grant was applied for to purchase new water rescue vests for the Sheriff's Office personnel. The state awarded the application in the amount of \$2,654.00 to purchase the new vests. Motion by Commissioner Luepke and seconded by Commissioner Morrow to approve acceptance of the MN Federal Boating Safety Supplemental Equipment Grant Agreement in the amount of \$2,654.00 to purchase new water rescue vests for the Sheriff's Office personnel. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

Health and Human Services

Family Homelessness Prevention and Assistance Program Resolution

Health and Human Services Director Cassie Sassenberg requested the Board consider approval of a resolution authorizing the Minnesota Valley Action Council (MVAC) as the grantee and administrator of funds made available through the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency Family Homelessness Prevention and Assistance Program in Nicollet County. Currently, MVAC serves in this capacity for the counties in Region 9 and this resolution authorizes the continuance of these services.

Homelessness prevention funds provide crisis resolution services and support dollars to 204 households each fiscal year. Families need to be income eligible (under 175% of the Federal Poverty Guideline), be homeless or on the verge of homelessness, and be willing to participate in budgeting and follow up services.

According to the last Homeless Prevention Report 2017-19 as of March 5, 2019 (20 months into 24 month grant cycle), the following statistics are available for Nicollet County: 171 individuals were screened for homelessness. Of those clients, 44 were placed on the Coordinated Entry System list for services. There were 33 clients served through a one-time funding assistance and two clients served with rapid re-housing.

Motion by Commissioner Kolars and seconded by Commissioner Dranttel to adopt the Resolution Authorizing Application for Minnesota Housing and Finance Agency Family Homelessness Prevention and Assistance Program. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

Resolution Authorizing Application for Minnesota Housing and Finance Agency Family Homelessness Prevention & Assistance Program

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency, State of Minnesota, has been authorized to undertake a program to provide funds for Family Homelessness Prevention & Assistance Program; and,

WHEREAS, the counties in Region 9 have developed an application for the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency Family Homelessness Prevention & Assistance Program; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Valley Action Council has demonstrated the ability to perform the required activities of the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency Family Homelessness Prevention & Assistance Program;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that Minnesota Valley Action Council is hereby authorized as the grantee and administrator of funds made available through the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency Family Homelessness Prevention & Assistance Program in the counties of Blue Earth, Brown, Faribault, Le Sueur, Martin, Nicollet, Sibley, Waseca and Watonwan, in Minnesota.

PPSD – Property Services

Set Public Hearing Date for 911 Ordinance Amendment

PPSD Director Mandy Landkamer requested the Board consider setting a public hearing for the 911 Ordinance Amendment for June 25, 2019 at 10 a.m. Motion by Commissioner Morrow and seconded by Commissioner Dranttel to set the public hearing for the 911 Ordinance Amendment for June 25, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.

Public Works

Discuss Potential Purchase of Snow Blowing Equipment

Public Works Director Seth Greenwood requested the Board discuss the potential purchase of snow blowing equipment. This is a continued discussion from the

March 19th Board Workshop. Snow blowing equipment that was discussed is a loader mounted SNOGO MP unit and a SNOGO TU3 snow blower mounted on an OSHKOSH 4x4 P-Series truck chassis. The Loader Mounted SNOGO MP is \$220,000 on the State contract that ends in 2019. This equipment takes 4 to 5 months for delivery time. The SNOGO TU3 and Oshkosh P-Series Chassis is \$742,000. The state contract on the Oshkosh Chassis ends on April 30, 2019. The state contract on the SNOGO TU3 Blower Unit ends on January 30, 2020. The equipment takes 9 to 12 months for delivery time for the complete unit. The total amount for the purchase of both units is \$962,000.

Public Works Director Greenwood reviewed what surrounding cities and counties currently have for snow blowing equipment and addressed questions the Board had requested answers for during the workshop discussion.

Commissioner Morrow commented on the County's reserves and how they are two to three times the amount of what the state auditor recommends. He feels safety is the main reason for support of the purchase of this equipment.

Commissioner Luepke stated this equipment would help serve all taxpayers in the county one way or another.

Commissioner Kolars stated with the information given, he is open to the idea of purchasing the \$742,000 blower.

Commissioner Dranttel stated she feels this equipment purchase should go through the budget process and be put in the five to ten year equipment plan. She does not support spending almost \$1 million on equipment that is not in the budget.

Administrator Krosch recommends using reserves for one-time expenditures. Wheelage tax could also be used for the purchase but he feels reserves would be the better option.

Commissioner Kemp stated the equipment will increase in price if the County waits until a new State contract. He is in support of the acquisition of both units as it adds to the safety and efficiency of operations.

Administrator Krosch stated there was discussion in the Budget Committee about earmarking wheelage tax for future construction and would recommend using the fund balance reserves for the purchase.

Motion by Commissioner Luepke and seconded by Commissioner Morrow to purchase both the loader mounted SNOGO MP unit and a SNOGO TU3 snow blower mounted on an OSHKOSH 4x4 P-series truck chassis. On a roll call vote, Commissioners Luepke, Morrow, Kolars and Kemp voted yes and Commissioner Dranttel voted no. Motion carried 4-1.

Motion by Commissioner Morrow and seconded by Commissioner Luepke to use the Road & Bridge Fund Balance to purchase the snow blowing equipment and approve a budget amendment in the amount of \$962,000 for the purchases. On a roll call vote, Commissioners Morrow, Luepke, Kolars and Kemp voted yes and Commissioner Dranttel voted no. The motion carried 4-1.

At 10:03 a.m., the Chair recessed the County Board meeting for a break. The meeting reconvened at 10:14 a.m.

At 10:14 a.m., the Chair recessed the County Board meeting to hold the Drainage Authority meeting. The meeting reconvened at 10:18 a.m.

Administration

Administrator Krosch stated he and other Nicollet County staff and Commissioners attended the AMC Leadership Summit last week.

Informational Items – Replacement Hirings

Commissioner Committee Reports

The Commissioners reported on various past and future activities/meetings, including:

Chair's Report

- Joint Sibley County Board Meeting
- Multi-County HRA
- South Central EMS
- Electronic Communication Meeting
- MRCI Board Meeting
- AMC Leadership Summit

Commissioner Jack Kolars

- Joint Sibley County Meeting
- AMC Training in North Mankato
- AMC Leadership Summit

Commissioner Marie Dranttel

- No report

Commissioner Terry Morrow

- Joint Sibley County Board Meeting
- Meeting with Executive and Legislative Branch Officials
- Meeting with Constituents on Broadband

Commissioner John Luepke

- Joint Sibley County Board Meeting
- Joint Ditch Meeting
- AMC Meeting in North Mankato
- Extension Meeting
- Ditch Committee Meeting
- AMC Leadership Summit


Motion by Commissioner Luepke and seconded by Commissioner Kolars to approve the expenses and per diems for the meetings noted above during the Commissioner reports and/or listed on the Claims Listing, and authorize payment of those expenses and per diems by the Finance Office. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

Motion by Commissioner Morrow and seconded by Commissioner Luepke to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 10:27 a.m.



DENNY KEMP, CHAIR
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

ATTEST:



RYAN KROSCH
CLERK TO THE BOARD