

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR
NICOLLET COUNTY, MINNESOTA
SEPTEMBER 8, 2020

The Nicollet County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, September 8, 2020, at 9:00 a.m. Commissioners Denny Kemp, Jack Kolars, Marie Dranttel, Terry Morrow and John Luepke were present. Also present were County Administrator Ryan Krosch, County Attorney Michelle Zehnder Fischer and Recording Secretary Abigail Lewis.

The meeting was held via teleconference pursuant to Minnesota Statute 13D.021 due to the coronavirus pandemic. There were no public comments submitted by email or phone. No members of the public requested to participate in the meeting by phone. The meeting was recorded and broadcasted live online.

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Commissioner Kemp and seconded by Commissioner Morrow to approve the agenda with one addition to the consent agenda: South Central HRA Board Member, David Anderson, term extension. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

Consent Agenda

Motion by Commissioner Kemp and seconded by Commissioner Morrow to approve the consent agenda items as follows: approval of the August 25, 2020 Board Meeting minutes, end of probation: Courtney Otto, effective September 6, 2020, South Central HRA Board Member, David Anderson, term extension approval and approval of the Commissioner Warrants as presented for the following amounts: Revenue Fund - \$140,445.04, Road & Bridge Fund - \$16,690.68, Human Services Fund - \$154,924.83 and acknowledge review of the Auditor's Warrants. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

Public Appearances

Ron Grubber, resident of Lafayette Township, appeared before the Board to address his concerns about washouts to his driveway which he believes to be caused by his neighbor. Mr. Grubber provided photos of the washouts to his driveway.

Health and Human Services

COVID-19 Update

Health and Human Services Director, Cassie Sassenberg, appeared before the Board to provide on update on the County's COVID-19 efforts. To date, Nicollet County has a reported 457 cases, 15 deaths and 2 current hospitalizations. At this time, there are no specific trends to discuss, as there has not been any shifts in the types of cases reported. Director Sassenberg addressed contact tracing, how needs are currently being met and the possibility of switching to a regional contact tracing model or opting out. With the regional model there would be multiple agencies involved and a third party would manage the overall operations and scheduling of coverage for contact tracing. While this

would provide additional assistance with weekend coverage, the regional model is only scheduled to run through December 1, 2020 at this time. Additionally, the scheduled shift times would vary from regular business hours and include learning and transitioning to different systems our employees are not familiar with using. The consensus of the Board was to allow Director Sassenberg to make the final decision as she sees fit on whether or not to opt out of the regional model with support being expressed to opt out and partner with Brown County on contact tracing.

Director Sassenberg also provided updates on applications Health and Human Services has received in regards to the Nicollet County CARES Programs.

CARES Act: Community Resiliency Funding Program

Director Sassenberg provided an overview of the proposed CARES program, Community Resiliency Funding.

The proposed program, Community Resiliency Funding, is to help meet the COVID-19 related needs of mental health and housing organizations either located in Nicollet County or contractually serving Nicollet County residents with the goal of promoting resiliency in these organizations and those they serve.

Motion by Commissioner Kemp and seconded by Commissioner Morrow to approve Nicollet County's CARES Act Community Resiliency Funding Program. Motion carried with all voting in favor on a roll call vote.

RESOLUTION APPROVING NICOLLET COUNTY'S CARES ACT COMMUNITY RESILIENCY FUNDING PROGRAM

WHEREAS, The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act was passed by Congress and signed into law by President Trump on March 27th, 2020; and

WHEREAS, this over \$2 trillion economic relief package was established to provide economic and public health assistance to the American people impacted by the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic; and

WHEREAS, through the Coronavirus Relief Fund, the CARES Act provides \$150 billion of financial assistance for state, local and tribal governments who are navigating the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, The CARES Act requires that the payments from the Coronavirus Relief Fund only be used to cover expenses that—

1. are necessary expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19);
2. were not accounted for in the budget most recently approved as of March 27, 2020 (the date of enactment of the CARES Act) for the state or government; and
3. were incurred during the period that begins on March 1, 2020, and ends on December 30, 2020 (December 1, 2020 for Minnesota); and

WHEREAS, Nicollet County received \$4,146,361 of CARES Act funds; and

WHEREAS, on August 11, 2020 Nicollet County approved a CARES Act Funding Plan and Budget in accordance with guidance provided by the US Department of Treasury and Minnesota Office of Management and Budget; and

WHEREAS, US Treasury Guidance dated June 30, 2020 states that CARES Act Funds may be used for expenses of actions to facilitate compliance with COVID-19-related public health measures, expenses for acquisition and distribution of medical and protective supplies and expenses for public safety measures undertaken in response to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, US Treasury Coronavirus Relief Fund Frequently Asked Questions dated July 8, 2020 states Cares Act funds may be used for consumer grant programs to prevent eviction and homelessness and may be used to provide emergency financial assistance to individuals and families directly impacted by a loss of income due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Nicollet County Board of Commissioners approves the attached Nicollet County CARES Act Funding Program:

Nicollet County CARES Community Resiliency Funding Program

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, general administrative and policy changes may be made to these Programs by the Nicollet County Health & Human Services Director or Nicollet County Administrator without Nicollet County Board approval as guidance, need and circumstances change.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Nicollet County Board of Commissioners has determined that expenditures for this Program:

1. are necessary expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19);
2. were not accounted for in the budget most recently approved as of March 27, 2020 (the date of enactment of the CARES Act); and
3. were incurred during the period that begins on March 1, 2020, and ends on December 30, 2020 (December 1, 2020 for Minnesota).

Public Works

Consider MnDOT Detour Agreement 1044820

Public Works Director, Seth Greenwood, appeared before the Board to request approval on MnDOT's Detour Agreement 1044820 and resolution.

MNDOT needs to make several repairs to TH 68 due to prior storm damage. The repair work will necessitate the closure of TH 68 and signing of a detour. MNDOT is requesting to utilize CSAH 24 and CSAH 37. The estimated length of time of the detour is 45 days. Compensation for the use of CSAH 24 and 37 is \$1,034.21. MnDOT is planning to start the repair work in September 2020.

Motion by Commissioner Kolars and seconded by Commissioner Kemp to approve the MnDOT Detour Agreement 1044820. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

NICOLLET COUNTY

RESOLUTION

IT IS RESOLVED that Nicollet County enter into MnDOT Agreement No. 1044820 with the State of Minnesota, Department of Transportation for the following purposes:

To provide for payment by the State to the County for the use of County State Aid Highway No. 37 and No. 24 as a detour route during the construction to be performed upon, along, and adjacent to Trunk Highway No. 68 from Township Road T-145 to County State Aid Highway No. 45 under State Project No. 0710-120 (T.H. 68=083).

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the _____ **Board Chair**
(Title)
and the _____ **County Administrator**
(Title)

are authorized to execute the Agreement and any amendments to the Agreement.

At the request of the Board, Director Greenwood provided an update on various road projects in the County.

Commissioner Committee Reports

The Commissioners reported on various meetings and activities including:

Commissioner Marie Dranttel

- Budget Meeting
- Community Health Board Meeting
- One Watershed One Plan Meeting
- Family Food Distribution

Commissioner Terry Morrow

- Budget Meeting

Commissioner Denny Kemp

- Budget Meeting
- MRCI Executive Meeting
- Brown Nicollet Community Health Meeting
- AMC

Commissioner Jack Kolars

- Budget Meeting
- MAPO Meeting
- Traverse des Sioux Library Meeting

Chair's Report

- Budget Meeting
- Soil and Water Meeting
- Lower Minnesota River Watershed Meeting

Approve Per Diems and Expenses


Motion by Commissioner Kemp and seconded by Commissioner Kolars to approve the expenses and per diems for the meetings noted above during the Commissioner Reports and/or as submitted on approved expense reports, and authorize payment of those expenses and per diems by the Finance Office. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

Adjourn

Motion by Commissioner Kemp and seconded by Commissioner Morrow to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried with all voting in favor. The meeting adjourned at 9:54 a.m.


JOHN LUEPKE, CHAIR
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

ATTEST:


RYAN KROSCH
CLERK TO THE BOARD