

This is a preliminary draft of the January 12, 2021, minutes as interpreted by the Clerk of the Board for use in preparing the official minutes. It is expected that there will be corrections, additions, and/or omissions before the final minutes are reviewed and officially approved by the County Board.

The Board of County Commissioners of Fillmore County, Minnesota met in regular session this 12th day of January, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Board Room, Fillmore County Courthouse, in the City of Preston.

The following members were present: Commissioners Marc Prestby, Larry Hindt, Randy Dahl, Mitch Lentz and Duane Bakke; Bobbie Hillery, Administrator/Clerk; and Karen Reisner, Fillmore County Journal.

Present by WebEx: Kristi Ruesink, Accounting Technician; Todd Froberg, Department of Natural Resources; Lori Affeldt, Finance Director; John DeGeorge, Sheriff; Jason McCaslin, Assessor; Casey Patten, Property Appraiser; Chris Hahn, EDA; Kristina Kohn, Human Resources; Kristine Oman, Accounting Technician; and Bonita Underbakke.

A discussion with possible action regarding the annual Safety Award was added to the Agenda.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

On motion by Hindt and seconded by Bakke, the amended agenda was unanimously approved.

On motion by Prestby and seconded by Lentz, the Board unanimously approved the following Consent Agenda:

- 1. January 5, 2021 County Board minutes

Inquiries and explanations were given regarding invoices from Schneider Geospatial, which was for E911 consulting to upgrade for the NextGeneration 911, Code Red, and MCIT invoice for the Fillmore/Houston Community Health Board.

On motion by Bakke and seconded by Lentz, the Board unanimously approved the Commissioners' Warrants.

The Finance Department warrants were reviewed.

Todd Froberg, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources was present virtually.

Todd Froberg from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources updated the Board on the Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) efforts in Fillmore County. Froberg presented a resolution to allow DNR access to some of the County Farm land for the purpose of disease control for deer in Fillmore County for the time frame of January 19, 2021 to April 2, 2021.

On motion by Bakke and seconded by Prestby, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:
RESOLUTION 2021-003: DNR access to some of the County Farm land for the purpose of disease control for deer.

Sheriff John DeGeorge was present virtually.

Sheriff DeGeorge updated the Board regarding the Jail Needs Assessment Committee meeting that was held on January 11th. DeGeorge explained the options that have been discussed and that the four subcommittees have been formed and have all met once or twice. He noted that he will be bringing back regular updates regarding the process and any communication documents that the committee would like to send out to the public.

The Citizen's Input portion of the meeting opened and closed at 9:38 a.m.

Jason McCaslin, Assessor and Casey Patten, Appraiser were present virtually.

McCaslin presented a request to purchase a soil clip tool from ProWest for use by the Assessor's Office, noting that the County Recorder stated that Technology Fund dollars could be used for the purchase.

Discussion ensued regarding the reason the Board would make a purchase from the GIS provider ProWest, which is the company we recently went away from. McCaslin and Patten noted that the current Schneider Geospatial soil clip tool was unable to be utilized by more than one staff member at a time, took more time to use the tool which effects his team's efficiency and had specific software requirements. The Board discussed options regarding seeking guidance from our existing contracted GIS provider to determine what could be done to our current tool for efficiency or if we would need to decrease the dollars given for the contract due to having to use a different company's soil clip tool.

On motion by Bakke and seconded by Hindt, the Board voted unanimously to form a committee of Commissioner Mitch Lentz, Blake Lea, Feedlot Officer/GIS, Bobbie Hillery, Administrator, Jason McCaslin, Assessor, Casey Patten, Property Appraiser and Louise Jennings, GIS Specialist from Schneider Geospatial to review these issues and report back to the Board with the most effective option.

Kristina Kohn, Human Resource Officer was present.

On motion by Bakke and seconded by Lentz, the Board unanimously approved the classification and wage grade for the Auditor/Treasurer position at Grade 16, as recommended by David Drown & Associates.

On motion by Bakke and seconded by Lentz, the Board unanimously approved to take the motion from the table during the January 4th meeting which was:

A motion made by Bakke and seconded by Lentz to advertise for an appointed Auditor/Treasurer.

The Board unanimously approved the previously tabled motion.

Hillery noted that at the Safety/Emergency Management meeting a discussion and vote took place and the Annual Safety Award was given to the entire Public Health department for their work during the pandemic. The group discussed award options and recommend to the Board to purchase zip up lightweight microfleece jackets

On motion by Prestby and seconded by Hindt, the Board voted unanimously to purchase the jackets for the entire Public Health Department for the 2020 Safety Award.

Bobbie Hillery, County Administrator was present.

Hillery reviewed the 2021 Appropriations, noting the SELCO amount is \$244,809.00, which was not filled into the spreadsheet. The Board of Commissioners recommended to increase the Southeast Minnesota Initiative Fund amount to \$2,000.

On motion by Bakke and seconded by Lentz, the Board unanimously approved the following 2021 appropriations noting that the SEMCAC appropriation will be brought back before the Board once we have communicated the differences between their annual request categories and the annual appropriation categories and dollar amounts:

Root River Trails	\$2,000.00
-------------------	------------

SE MN EMS	\$5,000.00
Southern MN Tourism Association	\$1,056.10
SE MN Initiative Fund (SMITF)	\$2,000.00

On motion by Prestby and seconded by Bakke, the Board unanimously approved the Fillmore County Journal as the official newspaper for 2021 with legal notices and delinquent taxes at \$11.49 per square inch.

On motion by Bakke and seconded by Prestby, the Board unanimously approved the Fillmore County Journal as the official newspaper for the publishing of the 2020 Financial Statement at \$5.00 per square inch.

Hillery reviewed the Commissioner Committee appointments lists.

A review of the calendar was done with the following committee reports and announcements given:

Bakke: Planning Commission

Hindt: Safety/EM

Lentz: Jail, DAC

Dahl: SEMCAC

Prestby: Safety/EM

On motion by Hindt and seconded by Prestby, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 10:48 p.m.