

This is a preliminary draft of the July 13th, 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.

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The Board of County Commissioners of Fillmore County, Minnesota met in regular session this 13th day of July, 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; Ron Gregg, Highway Engineer; Pam Schroeder, Highway/Airport Manager; Kristina Kohn; Human Resources Officer, Lindsie Engle, Accounting Technician; Cristal Adkins, Zoning Administrator; Bonita Underbakke; and Karen Reisner, Fillmore County Journal.

Also present via WebEx: Tara Kraling, Accounting Technician; Lori Affeldt, Finance Director; Kristi Ruesink, Accounting Technician; Jason McCaslin, Assessor; Chris Hahn, CEDA; and Tom Kaase.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

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On motion by Bakke and seconded by Prestby, the Board unanimously approved the Commissioner's Warrants.

The Finance Department warrants were reviewed.

Ron Gregg, Highway Engineer and Pam Schroeder, Highway/Airport Office Manager was present.

On a motion by Bakke and seconded by Hindt, the Board unanimously approved to execute the MN/ DOT grant agreement for \$13,000.00 Federal Airport Expense Reimbursement; with the final approval of grant funds and that the airport come back to board for final approval of where the grant funds will be spent.

Lindsie Engle and Kristina Kohn, Human Resources Officers were present.

On a motion by Lentz and seconded by Hindt, the Board unanimously approved the second and final reading of the Paid Time Off policy.

On a motion by Bakke and seconded by Lentz, the Board unanimously approved the second and final reading of the Personal Appliance Policy.

On a motion by Lentz and seconded by Hindt, the Board unanimously approved request to hire Justin Kraling as replacement Property Appraiser at Grade 9/Step 1 effective no later than 11/01/2021.

On a motion by Prestby and seconded by Lentz, the Board unanimously approved request to hire Ryan Welscher as replacement Property Appraiser at Grade 9/Step 1 effective 07/14/2021.

On a motion by Lentz and seconded by Dahl, to approve the changes recommended by David Drown & Associates to the Zoning Administrator position moving it from Grade 13 to Grade 12. The Chair called for a vote: Commissioners voting aye Hindt, Dahl, and Lentz. Commissioners voting nay Prestby and Bakke.

The Citizen's Input portion of the meeting opened and closed at 9:53 a.m. as no one was present to speak.

Bobbie Hillery, Administrator was present.

Hillery updated the Board regarding the American Recovery Act dollars and the potential uses. She noted that we have received half of the dollars and the other half will be sent in 2022. The Board discussed options for use of the dollars.

Sheriff DeGeorge and Administrator Hillery were asked to reach out to the Cities and Townships of Fillmore County to see what they may be using their dollars on and possible collaborative purchase options.

On a motion by Bakke and seconded by Prestby, the Board unanimously approved the request from the City of Lanesboro to hold a public hearing regarding a proposed tax abatement project.

Hillery noted that there are only two properties left from the 2018 forfeitures; a strip of property in Rushford and a home in Mabel that is directly behind a couple of downtown business. She noted that the City is asking the County to tear down the property as the constant maintenance and possibility of rodents is costing the County dollars and the City cannot find anyone to purchase it for the forfeiture price. They noted that if the building could be tore down it could be sold.

On a motion by Prestby and seconded by Lentz, the Board unanimously approved for Engineer Gregg and Administrator Hillery to reach out to local contractors regarding the cost to tear down the forfeiture property in Mabel, MN, it was noted that the request would be to have the final result be a bare lot.

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

Hindt/ Prestby: Safety meeting was held giving Kristina Kohn a thank you for her work as the Safety Coordinator. Prestby reported no employee accident reports for the second time in a row, power strip issues, and department inspections going on. Training update regarding emergency drills need to be addressed; Bakke: Historical Society meeting moved to July 15 to the 22<sup>nd</sup>; Lentz: Jail Needs Assessment and DAC

The Chair recessed the meeting at 10:41 a.m. and resumed back in session at 10:46 a.m.

On motion by Lentz and seconded by Prestby, the Board unanimously approved closing the meeting pursuant to M.S. 13D.03 for 2022 LELS labor contract strategy session.

On motion by Prestby and seconded by Hindt, the Board unanimously approved to adjourn the closed session and open the regular board meeting at 11:27 a.m.

Hillery reported that the board discussed the various requests from the LELS Union members that were presented to Human Resource Officer Kohn and Administrator Hillery, noting that the Union will be meeting with the entire Board for upcoming negotiations.

On motion by Prestby and seconded by Lentz, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 11:29 a.m.