

This is a preliminary draft of the September 22, 2020, 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 special session this 22nd day of September, 2020, 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. Also present were: Bobbie Hillery, Administrator/Clerk; Lori Affeldt, Finance Director; Gabby Kinneberg, Tourism Director; Jen Hengel, Root River Trail Towns; Kari Berg, DFO Corrections; Laura Nauman, Rochester Women's Shelter; John DeGeorge, Sheriff; Jordan Heyer, Deputy; Don Kullot, Deputy/EM; Ron Gregg, Highway; Jessica Erickson, Public Health; Chris Hahn, EDA; Kristina Kohn, Human Resources; Karen Reisner, Fillmore County Journal.

Also present via Webex: Kristi Ruesink, Office Support Specialist, Sr.; Bonita Underbakke.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

On motion by Bakke and seconded by Lentz, the Board unanimously approved the amended agenda.

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

1. September 8, 2020 County Board minutes
2. Renewal of Liquor, Wine, Club or 3.2% license for Serenity Hills, LLC for the period of September 29, 2020 through September 29, 2021, as approved by Sheriff DeGeorge and County Attorney Corson

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

The Finance Department Warrants were reviewed.

Jennifer Hengel, Rushford-Peterson Valley Chamber of Commerce, Coordinator and Gabby Kinneberg, Preston Chamber of Commerce, Tourism Director were present. Handouts were given to the Board highlighting the 2020 Root River Trail Towns and 2020 SE Minnesota Tourism activities were reviewed. Both thanked the Board for their 2020 appropriations and asked the Board to consider them for a 2021 appropriation at the same amount.

Kari Berg, DFO and Laura Nauman, Rochester Women's Shelter were present.

On motion by Lentz and seconded by Hindt, the Board unanimously approved the activities for October Domestic Violence Awareness month.

On motion by Bakke and seconded by Dahl, the Board unanimously approved the proclamation to recognize October as Domestic Violence Awareness month.

The Citizen's Input portion of the meeting was opened and closed at 9:30 a.m.

Sheriff DeGeorge and Jordan Heyer, Deputy were present.

On motion by Lentz and seconded by Hindt, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

RESOLUTION 2020-052: 2021 Toward Zero Deaths grant.

Ron Gregg, Highway Engineer was present.

On motion by Dahl and seconded by Lentz, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

RESOLUTION 2020-053: 2020 Rock contract with Milestone Materials final payment.

On motion by Hindt and seconded by Bakke, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

RESOLUTION 2020-054: 2020 Rock contract with Bruening Rock final payment.

The Highway Committee report was given.

Jessica Erickson, Public Health Director

On motion by Bakke and seconded by Hindt, the Board unanimously approved the purchase of an OtoAcoustic Emissions (OAE) screening device for \$3,980 as well as an ear tip kit for \$79.99 and an two Audiometers for \$1,222/each as recommended by the Public Health Director of Nursing.

Kristina Kohn, Human Resources was present.

On motion by Dahl and seconded by Hindt, the Board unanimously approved 2021 employer sponsored health plan rates and contributions, with an 8% increase and the employee premiums and VEBA/HSA contributions to remain the same.

On motion by Dahl and seconded by Hindt, the Board unanimously approved 2021 Medicare Supplement plan, it was noted that there is an increase of \$1.50/month and that the County does not contribute to the Medicare supplement plan.

On motion by Lentz and seconded by Bakke, the Board unanimously approved the reappointment for Jason McCaslin, County Assessor to a four (4) year term effective October 1, 2020.

The Chair recessed the meeting at 10:14 a.m. and resumed back in session at 10:21 a.m.

Bobbie Hillery, Administrator was present.

Hillery gave a presentation of Southeast Minnesota Initiative Fund (SMIF) video and reviewed handouts that were provided.

On motion by Bakke and seconded by Lentz, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

RESOLUTION 2020-055: 2021 preliminary levy.

Hillery updated the Board regarding the CARES ACT COVID dollars, including a list of CARES internal new purchase requests.

On motion by Hindt and seconded by Dahl, the Board unanimously approved the purchase of up to two (2) masks for each employee using CARES dollars, as recommended by the Wellness Committee.

Hillery noted the following items are requests that, if approved, would not be purchased until final verification of approval for CARES dollars.

Sheriff DeGeorge and Don Kullot, Emergency Management Director presented information and quotes for an Emergency Response Trailer for mass vaccination.

Public Health Director Erickson brought forward information for a portable refrigerator and a portable freezer. Usage, specifications and price of this item was discussed.

Hillery explained that generators for the Courthouse and Office Building are items needed due to staff telecommuting as well as immunizations. These would be covered by CARES dollars and a quote was presented from Morem Electric of \$34,850/building. Hillery was asked to look into an option of natural gas rather than the LP tank quoted.

Replacement telephones with headsets to allow usage for telecommuters in the Public Health and Social Services Departments was brought forward.

A request for Microsoft365 teams, used for virtual meetings was discussed.

The final request presented was to purchase Laptops and Docking Stations to allow staff to be mobile that currently do not have that capability but would need to in an event such as COVID-19.

On motion by Bakke and seconded by Hindt, the Board unanimously approved the request to allow the CARES dollars team to bring back recommendations for specific purposes at the next board meeting for approval.

Chris Hahn, EDA presented handouts pertaining to CARES business grant applications. The application review process and payment options were discussed. It was asked to have the Commissioners that are on the EDA Committee to work with the Administrator and Executive Director to provide a recommendation at the next meeting based on state requirements for the CARES dollars.

Hillery presented CARES school requests, noting that every school responded with a technology request in various amounts, totaling \$547,077.83. This is approximately \$47,000 over the amount originally allocated.

A motion was made by Bakke and seconded by Hindt, to distribute an averaged amount to each school to stay within the \$500,000 budgeted amount. Discussion ensued regarding CARES dollars.

A motion was made by Bakke and seconded by Lentz, the Board unanimously approved to table the motion regarding the school CARES dollars for more information at the next meeting.

Non-profit grant applications are currently being accepted and received. These will be reviewed and brought before the Board in a few weeks.

Hillery presented a spreadsheet for review of the overall CARES ACT COVID dollars, noting that extra dollars are available based on current expenditures.

Hillery explained the election CARES application was completed and we received the dollars. She will work with precincts regarding the specific use of those dollars.

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

Dahl – SEMCAC

Lentz – EDA, safety, policy, NextGen-911, Extension

Hindt – EDA, general government

Bakke – DFO, Extension, One-Watershed/One-Plan

Prestby – DFO

On motion by Bakke and seconded by Hindt, the Board chair adjourned the meeting at 12:29 p.m.