

This is a preliminary draft of the September 14, 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 14th day in September, 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. John DeGeorge, Sherriff; Brett Corson, Attorney; Ron Gregg, Highway Engineer; Cristal Adkins, Zoning Administrator; Lindsie Engle, Human Resources Officer; Tabitha House, Jailer; Dan Dornink, Sergeant/Investigator; Renae Zackman, Representative for LELS; Jessie Grabau, Narcotics Officer; Bobbie Hillery, Administrator/Clerk; Nancy Ohnstad; Fausto Cabral, District State Aid Engineer, MNDOT District 6; Ann Flynn; Susan Ritter; Jerry Ritter; Jon B. Devries; Bonita Underbakke and Karen Reisner, Fillmore County Journal.

Also, present via WebEx: Tara Kraling, Accounting Technician; Julia McCaslin, Accounting Technician; Lori Affeldt, Finance Director; Kristi Ruesink, Accounting Technician, Chris Hahn, CEDA; Kurt Wayne, District's Principal Planner, MNDOT District 6; Tracy Schnell, MNDOT Senior Planner MNDOT District 6; Lisa Dierks, Representative of the University of Minnesota; Heather Luke's, Planning Director MNDOT District 6, Tom Kaase; Jon Zahnmillier.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

On motion by Lentz and seconded by Hindt, the Board unanimously approved the Amended Agenda, which added line item 5 to Bobbie Hillery, Administrators agenda: Negotiations with LELS for the 2022 Contract.

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

- 1. Approve September 7th, 2021 County Board minutes
- 2. Approve Liquor License for Preston Servicemen's Club

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

The Finance Department warrants were reviewed.

Kurt Wayne, District's Principal Planner; MNDOT District 6 was present Via WebEx.

A review of MNDOT 10 year Capital Highway Investment Plan (CHIP) was presented.

Citizens input opened and closed at 9:39 a.m. as no one was present to speak.

Jail Needs Assessment Committee members were present.

Sheriff DeGeorge noted that the committee members were present to answer any questions regarding the Jails Needs Assessment report that was presented a few meetings ago.

Lentz stated he has no questions and received no questions regarding the Jail Needs Assessment Report. Dahl received questions from anonymous callers and the results have been to move forward with the

recommendation with the 365 day Jail. Hindt received positive calls regarding the Jail Needs Assessment. Each Commissioner spoke on their current position regarding the report and how they felt about moving forward with the next step of the process. All members appreciated the community outreach, the time and the effort that the committee has put forward. Commissioner Bakke noted that he feels the same as the other Commissioners and moving forward at this time seems to be the right option. He did note that he had specific questions that he would like answered sometime in the near future regarding average number of inmates other than state inmates, kitchen and laundry service, cost estimates for transfer including a breakdown of those cost comparisons and other questions. Sheriff DeGeorge noted that he took notes about the questions and will respond as promptly as possible with the answers.

On motion by Bakke and seconded by Lentz, the Board unanimously approved a RFP for architectural services for the cost and design options for the future of the Fillmore County Jail.

Discussion ensued regarding setting up a tour of the Howard County correctional facility. Hillery and DeGeorge will continue to work to find a time that works for both Howard County and Fillmore County.

The chair recessed the meeting at 10:50 a.m. and resumed back in session at 10:57 a.m.

Ron Gregg, Highway Engineer was present.

On motion by Bakke and seconded by Prestby, the Board unanimously approved the recommendation on the spending of the County Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) funds in the amount of \$251,500 received in the Highway Department on the two Tandem Plow Trucks to be received in 2021.

Cristal Adkins, Zoning Administrator was present.

On motion by Prestby and seconded by Bakke, the Board unanimously approved the access permit for Jacob Hyke, section 28, City of Canton. Board requested that the Highway Department monitor to ensure instruction was done properly.

On motion by Bakke and seconded by Hindt, the Board unanimously approved the access permit for Antonio Stemp, section 27 of Carimona Township.

On motion by Bakke and seconded by Hindt, the Board unanimously approved the **RESOLUTION 2021- 047:** for SSTS Ordinance amendment, section 405.

Lindsi Engle, Human Resources Officer was present.

On motion by Bakke and seconded by Prestby, the Board unanimously approved the request to hire Andrew Drake for the position of Highway Maintenance Specialist at Grade 8/ Step 1 effective 9/29/2021 as recommended by the hiring committee.

Bobbie Hillery, Administrator was present.

On motion by Bakke and seconded by Lentz, the Board unanimously approved the agreement for the Lanesboro Abatement upon Attorney review.

Lisa Dierks, Representative for University of Minnesota Extension was present via WebEx to speak.

Ms. Dierks explained the costs for an Ag Educator has gone down in the new agreement, which reflects the lower contract cost for the University of Minnesota Extension. She also noted that the Addendum A provides the options of a 4-H intern and an Ag Education intern and the County can choose not to have

interns. She also noted that the new hourly rate for interns will be \$15/hour with mileage included starting in 2022.

On motion by Bakke and seconded by Lentz, the Board unanimously approved University of Minnesota's Extension agreement for 2022-2024.

Ms. Dierks will return with an updated University of Minnesota Extension Addendum A with just the 4-H intern cost.

Discussion ensued regarding the levy with the current levy needing to be at 8.91% after insurance decreases have been made. Hillery asked the Commissioners what percentage they wanted her to work to for the next meeting. The consensus of the Board was to shoot for 3.5% but must absolutely be under 4%. It was noted to review dollars that have been received by the County in the past two years that could be pulled from Fund Balance to help with this option.

Hillery noted that the American Recovery Act Dollars budget would be required to be submitted in October. She asked if the Board wanted to form a committee to start working on possible projects. It was noted that Chris Hahn, EDA Director was asked to bring together the companies that provide Broadband for Fillmore County to see what projects may be in the near future. Discussion ensued regarding the implementation of a pre-trial program or a daycare. It was noted by Hillery that the Economic Development and Workforce Development areas for COVID, Broadband and its loss revenue are the areas that Fillmore County can take a look at. Lentz and Bakke will try to bring back information from the policy committee meetings for AMC.

LELS Union negotiation committee was present – Renee Zachman, LELS and the representatives from the Union – Daniel Dornink, Jessie Grabau and Tabitha House.

LELS provided their counter proposal to Fillmore County's proposal dated on July 27, 2021. The counter proposal was emailed to Hillery the evening before and the Board members were just seeing the offer at this time.

LELS is maintaining their original proposal of a 3.5% general wage increase for two years; along with Grade 12 receiving an additional 6.2 % increase; the Union agrees with moving the Captain to Grade 14; and provided language changes for the Injury on Duty.

The Board will provide a counter proposal to the LELS Union at a later date due to needing time to review the proposal.

A review of the calendar was made with the following committee reports and announcements given: Bakke- DFO discussed budget increases and approved an agreement with Three Rivers. Hindt- Safety meeting talked about working on finishing inspections and working on trainings for next year. Lentz: DAC; Hillery- Reminder for tomorrow night Township meeting; Lentz/Bakke- Policy Committee meetings for AMC in Alexandria.

On motion by Prestby and seconded by Hindt, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 12:47 p.m.