

The Board of County Commissioners of Fillmore County, Minnesota met in regular session this 12th day of May, 2020, at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Board Room, Fillmore County Courthouse, in the City of Preston.

The following member was present: Commissioner Marc Prestby

The following members were present by Webex: Commissioners Larry Hindt, Randy Dahl, Mitch Lentz and Duane Bakke. Also present by Webex were: Bobbie Hillery, Administrator/Clerk; Lori Affeldt, Finance Director; Kristina Kohn, Human Resources; Ron Gregg, Highway Engineer; Andrew Hatzembihler, Sanitation; Jessica Erickson, Public Health Director; Kevin Olson, Social Services Manager; Brett Corson, County Attorney; Heidi Jones, Auditor/Treasurer; Bonita Underbakke; Gerald Wolf; Gary Harter, Harter Quick Cleanup; and Karen Reisner, Fillmore County Journal.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

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

1. May 5, 2020 County Board minutes

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

The Finance Department Warrants were reviewed.

Ron Gregg, Highway & Airport was present.

On motion by Bakke and seconded by Lentz, the Board unanimously approved RESOLUTION 2020-017: Carimona Township Bridge Replacement Project SAP 23-599-197.

On motion by Dahl and seconded by Bakke, the Board unanimously approved signature for the Request for FAA Approval of Agreement for Transfer of Entitlements, which approves the sum of \$75,000 for fiscal years 2017 and 2018 from Fillmore County Airport to the City of Blue Earth, Minnesota, as requested by the County Engineer.

On motion by Dahl and seconded by Hindt, the Board unanimously approved signature for the Agreement for Waiver, Transfer, and Repayment of Federal Airport Entitlement Funds as requested by the County Engineer.

Heidi Jones, Auditor/Treasurer was present.

On motion by Bakke and seconded by Lentz, the Board unanimously approved RESOLUTION 2020-018: Snowmobile Funding for the 2020-2021 snowmobile season.

Heidi Jones, Auditor/Treasurer explained the Northern Natural Gas Tax Court Refund Agreement, noting that at this time the total amount needing to be reimbursed is \$141,306.04. Jones also noted that Northern Natural Gas agreed to allow repayment by subtracting from their 2020 tax payment.

On motion by Dahl and seconded by Bakke, the Board unanimously approved the Agreement to Offset Ad Valorem Tax with Northern Natural Gas Company which reduces the 2019 tax year as a result of the 2015-2016 tax year litigation, in the amount of \$141,306, as recommended by the Auditor/Treasurer.

On motion by Dahl and seconded by Hindt, the Board unanimously approved RESOLUTION 2020-019: Absentee Ballot Board for Primary and General Election, as recommended by the Auditor/Treasurer.

Jones updated the Board regarding the Presidential Nomination Primary Reimbursement submission, noting that \$49,623.87 was submitted for reimbursement from the Secretary of State.

The citizens input portion of the meeting was opened and closed at 9:30 a.m.

Andrew Hatzenbihler, Solid Waste Manager was present.

Hatzenbihler reviewed the proposed 8% rate increase for hauling fees by Harter's Quick Clean-up that he had presented at the April 28th meeting. He discussed four payment options of the requested increase from Harter's Quick Cleanup. The Solid Waste committee met and is recommending the added increase to be approved at 4% this year, followed by a 2% increase the next 2 years.

On motion by Dahl and seconded by Hindt, the Board unanimously approved the 4% increase for the first year, effective June 1st, 2020 and 2% for the following two years as of January 1st above the annual CPI increase, as recommended by the Solid Waste Administrator.

Kristina Kohn, Human Resources was present.

On motion by Bakke and seconded by Lentz, the Board unanimously approved hiring Donald Hanson as replacement Custodian at Grade 5/Step 1 at a rate of \$16.98/hour effective May 9, 2020 as requested by the Building Maintenance Supervisor and recommended by the Hiring Committee.

Bobbie Hillery, Administrator was present.

Hillery drafted a letter to Senator Miller and Representative Davids requesting extension of waivers and modifications for providing human services. Kevin Olson, Social Service Manager noted that other counties are sending similar letters to their legislators as well to encourage them to continue to allow the options that do not require a face to face meeting with their clients, noting that there are safety concerns for the clients and the employees.

On motion by Bakke and seconded by Dahl, the Board unanimously approved a Letter for Extending Waivers and Modifications to provide Human Services, as recommended by the Administrator.

Hillery presented a plan for the County to reopen after the Executive Orders are lifted. The Board approved the plan as presented.

On motion by Hindt and seconded by Bakke, the Board unanimously approved the purchase of glass and sneeze guards, not to exceed \$6,320, as recommended by the Administrator.

Hillery noted that they had received a request to allow access and right of way options for the former Preston Oil Company building located in Preston, MN which is a current forfeiture property. There has been a committee that has been working with the City of Preston to clean up this property. Attorney Corson gave a summary of what stage the group is at with this clean up and noted that he is comfortable with the agreements as presented.

On motion by Bakke and seconded by Dahl, the Board unanimously approved the Site Access Agreement for MPCA to investigate underground storage tank release of forfeiture property.

On motion by Bakke and seconded by Lentz, the Board unanimously approved the Site Right Of Way Agreement for MPCA.

A review of the calendar was done with the following committee reports and announcements given:
Bakke – Interviewed Consultants for Airport; Environment/Natural Resources conference call; Planning Commission will be via Webex next week
Dahl – Airport Consultant Interviews; SEMCAC
Lentz – SE EMS / Bluff County HRA
Hindt – Solid Waste discussing the rate increase and Winneshiek Landfill
Prestby – Solid Waste

It was the consensus of the Board to have Hillery send a thank you note to the Winona County Board for the assistance they provided by allowing the contractual agreement to share the Winona County Assessor Steve Hacken. Also, making note of the guidance that Steve Hacken gave Fillmore County and for his work finding us a full-time Assessor.

On motion by Hindt and seconded by Lentz, the Board chair adjourned at 10:31 a.m.

Attest: _____
Administrator and ex-officio
Clerk of County Board

Signed: _____
Chair of the Fillmore County
Board of Commissioner