

PROCEEDINGS OF THE
MARTIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, APRIL 6, 2021
@ 9:00 A.M.

The regular meeting of the Martin County Board of Commissioners was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Elliot Belgard via WebEx (videoconferencing due to the COVID-19 Virus pandemic). Commissioners present were Smith, Forshee, Flohrs, Koons, and Belgard. Also present were Scott Higgins, Martin County Coordinator, Leigha Johnson, Human Resources Manager, Terry Viesselman, County Attorney, Jessica Korte, Martin County Auditor/Treasurer, Jason Sorensen, Sentinel Newspaper, Julie Walters, Administrative Assistant, and members of staff and public (via WebEx).

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion by Commissioner Koons, seconded by Commissioner Forshee, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve the agenda for the April 6, 2021 regular Board of Commissioners meeting with the following: Add 9.12 Consider MOA with AFSCME-Library Union, 9.13 Consider Replacement of the Courthouse Rooftop Heating/Cooling Units; and Delete 9.3 Update on Installation of Electronic Signature Solution. Roll Call AYES: Commissioners Smith, Flohrs, Forshee, Koons, and Belgard. NAYS: None. Motion carries.

Motion by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Koons, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve the minutes of the March 16, 2021 regular Board of Commissioners meeting. Roll Call AYES: Commissioners Forshee, Flohrs, Koons, Smith, and Belgard. NAYS: None. Motion carries.

Scott Higgins, County Coordinator, was present and provided a short video presentation of NACo's "Counties Matter" demonstrating how counties help to improve people's lives every day.

Chairman Belgard read aloud Resolution No. 20/'21 proclaiming the month of April 2021 as National County Government Month.

R-#20/'21

National County Government Month – April 2021
“Counties Matter”

WHEREAS, the nation's 3,069 counties serving more than 300 million Americans provide essential services to create healthy, safe and vibrant communities; and

WHEREAS, counties provide health services, administer justice, keep communities safe, foster economic opportunities and much more; and

WHEREAS, the County of Martin, MN and all counties take pride in our responsibility to protect and enhance the health, wellbeing and safety of our residents in efficient and cost-effective ways; and

WHEREAS, under National Association of Counties President Gary Moore’s leadership, NACo is demonstrating how “Counties Matter,” especially in supporting residents and businesses during the coronavirus pandemic; and

WHEREAS, each year since 1991 the National Association of Counties has encouraged counties across the country to elevate awareness of county responsibilities, programs and services; and

WHEREAS, County public servants include, those in public safety (Sheriff Deputies, Corrections and Communications Officers, Emergency Management), Road and Bridge employees, Courthouse staff (Auditing, Land Records, Public Drainage, Administration, Elections, Planning and Zoning, Assessor, Courts, Probation, Veterans Services, 4-H, Computer Technicians, Library, Victim Services, Social Services, Solid Waste, Elected Officials (County Board, County Attorney, County Sheriff, Auditor/Treasurer, County Recorder, Surveyor), and countless other occupations in county government. Day in and day out they provide the diverse services demanded by the American people of their government with efficiency and integrity.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, I, Elliot Belgard, Board Chair for the Martin County Board of Commissioners, do hereby announce and proclaim to all citizens and set seal hereto, declare April 2021 as National County Government Month. All citizens are encouraged to recognize the accomplishments and contributions of county government employees.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MARTIN COUNTY, MN

Elliot Belgard, Board Chair

ATTEST: _____
Scott Higgins, County Coordinator

Motion by Commissioner Koons, seconded by Commissioner Flohrs, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, in conjunction with NACo, which the County of Martin, MN is a member of, hereby approve the Proclamation declaring April 2021 as National County Government Month in recognition of the County staff in providing vital services to the citizens of Martin County. Roll Call AYES: Commissioners Smith, Forshee, Flohrs, Koons, and Belgard. NAYS: None. Resolution duly passed and adopted this 6th day of April, 2021.

Terry Viesselman, County Attorney, was present via WebEx and reviewed a Farm Lease Agreement for County owned tax forfeited property (Center Creek Commons). Viesselman noted Maday Family Farms has been farming the 3.5 tillable acres included in the County owned property and recommends entering into a Farm Lease Agreement for continued farming by Maday Family Farms through December 31, 2021. Viesselman went on to note payment is in the amount of \$700 per year (2020 and 2021) for a total sum of \$1,400 and is due and payable on or before May 1, 2021.

Commissioner Flohrs noted he will abstain from voting on this item due to family ties to Maday Family Farms.

Motion by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Forshee, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve and authorize Board Chair to sign the Farm Lease Agreement between Martin County and Maday Family Farms for 3.5 tillable acres

of County owned tax forfeited property (Parcel No. 23.338.0020, Parcel No. 23.338.0070, and Parcel No. 23.338.0080) for two years (January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2021) in the amount of \$700 per year for a total lease amount of \$1,400.00 payable to the Martin County Auditor/Treasurer's Office on or before May 1, 2021. Roll Call AYES: Commissioners Koons, Forshee, Smith, and Belgard. NAYS: None. Abstain: Commissioner Flohrs. Motion carries.

Robert Long, Larkin/Hoffman, was present via WebEx to review the state bonding request for construction of the proposed Martin County Justice Center. Long has been representing Martin County's \$20 million state bonding request.

Long noted the proposed justice center is meant to provide space for functions related to the multi-county Justice system needs for female offenders, juveniles, and mental health services. Long went on to note after talking with Senator Julie Rosen and Representative Bjorn Olson, we concluded that we should get a bill ready. After seeking out avenues to reduce cost, Senator Rosen was very supportive of introducing the bonding bill (S.F. #2274). Long also noted there are a few additional pieces of language that refers to multi-county serviceability as it relates to housing female prisoners and juveniles. Another key component is referencing mental health services which is something that Senator Rosen felt very strongly about. So, there were a few key word changes in the bill from two years ago and allowed it to be a little broader in content. Long continued noting he thinks we are in a good position. We have very strong supporters in both Senator Rosen and Representative Bjorn Olson. They're very excited to be assisting to get the one half of the funding needed.

After discussion,

Motion by Commissioner Forshee, seconded by Commissioner Smith, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve and ratify the request for state General Obligation Bond funding for the proposed Martin County Justice Center, including Bonding Bill language revisions. Roll Call AYES: Commissioners Flohrs, Koons, Smith, Forshee, and Belgard. NAYS: None. Motion carries.

Pam Flitter, Planning and Zoning Director, was present via WebEx and reviewed a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) request from Todd Steuber, applicant and property owner, within Section 13 of Fraser Township. Flitter noted Todd Steuber is proposing to expand his current feedlot operation with the construction of a new total confinement barn on an existing feedlot site in an "A" Agricultural District. The Martin County Zoning Ordinance requires a Conditional Use Permit in an "A" Agricultural District for any new or expanding animal feedlot containing over 1,000 animal units. Flitter went on to note the Planning Commission/Board of Adjustment approved the CUP request with conditions during their March 23, 2021 meeting and is recommending approval of the Conditional Use Permit.

Motion by Commissioner Flohrs, seconded by Commissioner Koons,

R-#16/'21

CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT
TODD STEUBER

EXPAND CURRENT FEEDLOT OPERATION ON AN EXISTING BUILDING SITE
IN AN "A" AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT
WITHIN SECTION 13 OF FRASER TOWNSHIP

Motion by Commissioner Flohrs, seconded by Commissioner Koons,

WHEREAS, a Conditional Use Permit was requested by Todd Steuber, applicant and owner of the property, located within Section 13 of Fraser Township in Martin County, Minnesota, (legally described in applications) for the purpose of Expanding their Current Feedlot Operation on an Existing Building Site located in an "A" Agricultural District.

WHEREAS, the Martin County Planning and Zoning staff has completed a review of the application and made a report pertaining to the request, a copy of said report has been presented to the County Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission of the County on the 23rd day of March, 2021, following proper notice, held a public hearing regarding the request and, following the hearing, adopted a recommendation that the request for a Conditional Use Permit be granted; and

WHEREAS, the Martin County Board of Commissioners finds that Conditional Use Permit is to be issued for the following purpose:

Expansion of a current feedlot operation with over 1,000 animal units; and

WHEREAS, the following conditions have been applied:

- Any additional permits required by the State of Minnesota must be obtained by the applicant
- Failure to comply with conditions may result in revocation of the Conditional Use Permit

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, and upon the recommendation of the Martin County Planning Commission, hereby approves the Conditional Use Permit for the above described property and is hereby issued pursuant to MS 394.301 and Martin County Ordinance #1, Chapter 6.01 and that this permit shall remain in full force and effect provided in the conditions as described above are met and maintained by the applicant and his/or her successors in interest. This permit is binding upon the applicant, the record titleholder to the property, and his/her successors in interest. Notice is hereby given that this permit may be revoked if the conditions set forth above are not maintained as described above. This resolution shall become effective immediately upon its passage and without publication.

Dated this 6th day of April, 2021.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MARTIN COUNTY, MN

Elliot Belgard, Board Chair

ATTEST: _____
Scott Higgins, County Coordinator

Roll Call AYES: Commissioners Smith, Forshee, Koons, Flohrs, and Belgard. NAYS: None. Resolution duly passed and adopted this 6th day of April, 2021.

Jessica Korte, Martin County Auditor/Treasurer, was present via WebEx and noted the Auditor/Treasurer's Office has received an application from Fox Lake Golf Club, Inc., for renewal of its Liquor, Wine, Club or 3.2% License (On-Sale and Off-Sale); and Consumption & Display Permit (Set-up License). Korte went on to note that all required paperwork and fees have been received and recommends approval.

Motion by Commissioner Koons, seconded by Commissioner Flohrs, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve and authorize the renewal of Liquor, Wine, Club, or 3.2% License (On-Sale and Off-Sale), effective April 6, 2021 through April 6, 2022. Roll Call AYES: Commissioners Forshee, Smith, Flohrs, Koons, and Belgard. NAYS: None. Motion carries.

Brian Winter, Survey Crew Chief with the Martin County Highway Department, was present via WebEx and reviewed bid results for Highway Projects S.A.P. 46-622-005 CSAH 22 from T.H. 263 to CSAH 39 – 3" Bituminous Overlay with 3' paved shoulders; and S.A.P. 46-718-001 CSAH 18 from CSAH 37 to CSAH 20 – 3.25" Bituminous Overlay with aggregate shoulders. Bid letting for these projects was held April 2, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. at the Martin County Highway Department – Fairmont, MN. Winter noted the Engineer's Estimate for the project was \$2,726,076.15 and they had five bidders with Duininck Construction of Prinsburg, MN as the low bidder at \$2,045,032.58. Winter recommends award of the Overlay Projects to the low bidder.

MARTIN COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT
April 6, 2021 Martin County Commissioners Meeting

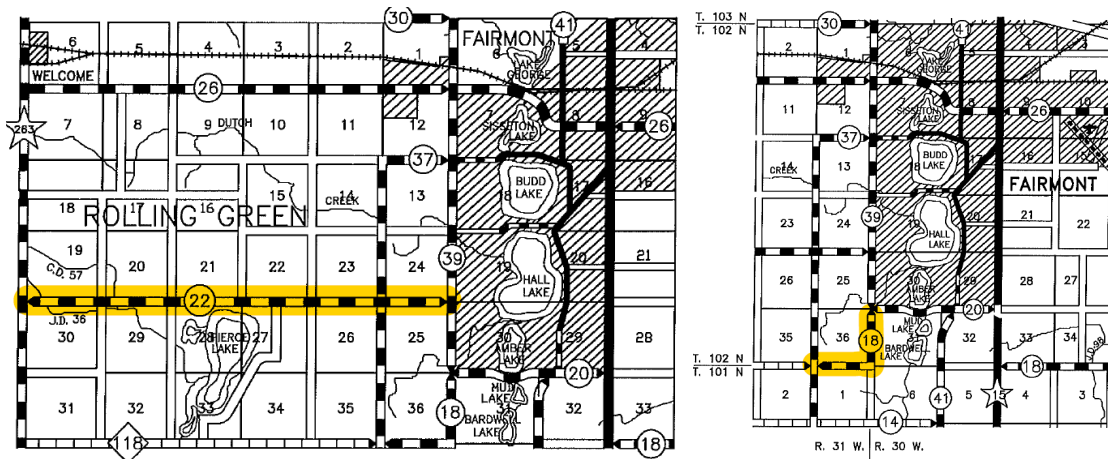
BID RESULTS FOR PROJECTS S.A.P. 046-622-005 (CSAH 22) and S.A.P. 46-718-001 (CSAH 18)

CSAH 22 from T.H. 263 to CSAH 39; 3" bituminous overlay with 3' paved shoulders.

CSAH 18 from CSAH 37 to CSAH 20; 3.25" bituminous overlay with aggregate shoulders.

[S.A.P. 046-622-055 map](#)

[S.A.P. 046-718-001 map](#)



BIDS:

Duininck Construction, Prinsburg, MN	\$2,045,032.58
Knife River, Sauk Rapids, MN	\$2,335,617.30
Central Specialties, Inc., Alexandria, MN	\$2,426,424.19
OMG Midwest Inc. dba Minnesota Paving and Materials, Mankato, MN	\$2,491,733.35
Ulland Brothers Inc., Albert Lea, MN	\$2,530,699.10

Funding: 100% State Aid Construction Allotment (Martin County Allotment from state fuel tax, license fees, motor vehicle sales tax, auto parts sales tax)

Engineers Estimate: \$2,726,076.15

Recommendation: Award construction contract for S.A.P. 046-622-005 and S.A.P. 46-718-001 to Duinick Construction in the amount of \$2,045,032.58.

After discussion,

Motion by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Forshee, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, after the appropriate advertisement for bids and upon receiving bids for S.A.P. 46-622-005 CSAH 22 Overlay and S.A.P. 46-718-001 CSAH 118 Overlay, and upon the recommendation of the County Engineer, hereby approve and award the low bid for S.A.P. 46-622-005 CSAH 22 from T.H. 263 to CSAH 39 – 3” Bituminous Overlay with 3’ Paved Shoulders, and S.A.P. 46-718-002 CSAH 18 from CSAH 37 to CSAH 20 – 3.25” Bituminous Overlay with Aggregate Shoulders to Duinick Construction of Prinsburg, MN in the amount of \$2,045,032.58; and to authorize the Board Chair and appropriate staff (County Engineer, County Auditor/Treasurer, County Attorney) to sign and execute the necessary documents for the listed projects. Roll Call AYES: Commissioners Koons, Flohrs, Forshee, Smith, and Belgard. NAYS: None. Motion carries.

Mike Sheplee, County Assessor, was present via WebEx and presented an Assessor’s Office Update on the 2021 Assessment for taxes payable in 2022.

What does the Assessor's Office do?

The Martin County Assessor's Office is responsible for equalization of property assessments throughout Martin County. We estimate a property's market value and classify it according to use for property tax purposes.

By law, each and every parcel must be viewed by an assessor at least once every 5 years (known as quintile). Additionally, we must view new construction or alterations. We also view properties upon owner request.

The aim throughout our assessment is to be fair. Fair means we were thorough, accurate and diligent. When we are fair, property owners pay only their fair share and nothing more.

More about Quintile Assessments

Our office is required, by law, to view each property in the county at least once every 5 years. Because of this, the Martin County Assessor's Office views 7-8 sections of each township every year. Last year we reviewed sections 29-36 in each township and this year we will be reviewing sections 1-7.

Before assessing a property with a house, appraisers first knock on the door. If permitted by the property owner, the assessor then completes an interior review of the house and an exterior review of the property. If there is no response when the assessor knocks, a door tag is left with information about who was there, the reason for the visit and a phone number where the assessor can be reached. After the door tag is left the assessor completes the exterior review of the property.

Martin County assessors use marked vehicles when assessing rural residential properties and will always have identification badges with them. As township officials, please let us know if you have concerns about any residents in particular. Safety is our priority.

Sheplee reviewed data graphs including: Ratio Update (sales from 10/2/2019 – 9/30/20); Martin County Tillable Land (Assessor's Estimated Market Value History); Martin County Non-Tillable Land (Assessor's Estimated Market Value History); Martin County Tillable (Total Tillable EMV, Total Tillable Acres, Avg. EMV/Tillable Acre); Martin County Deeded (Total Deeded EMV, Total Deeded Acres, Avg. EMV/Deeded Acre); Martin County House/Garage (Total House/Garage EMV, Total House/Garage Count, Avg. EMV of House/Garage, Avg. EMV of 1st Acre Site, and Avg. EMV House/Garage & 1st Acre); and 2022 Tillable Lane by Grade (Acres as % of Township Total, EMV as % of County Total).

Sheplee continued with a Fairmont Valuation Update for Taxes Payable in 2022 (Based on sales between 10/1/2019-9/30/2020)

On Lake Residential:

For the 2020 sales ratio study, Fairmont had 22 qualified on water residential sales. These sales showed a preliminary median ratio of 79.44% (must be between 90-105%). Due to the consistently high sales prices properties on the lake had to increase for the 2021 assessment to meet the state standard.

According to sales data from multiple years we were able to hone in on many of the neighborhoods around the lakes resulting in some differing neighborhood adjustments. Most of Hall Lake had an increase of 25% with one neighborhood at 31% and another increased by 19%. The majority of Amber Lake increased by 20% while one neighborhood increased by 26%.

The overall value increase to on water homes was due to market pressures in the 2020 Sales Ratio Study.

After the neighborhood adjustments and Market Condition Adjustments were applied the final median ratio was calculated at 92.89% which is within the range set by the Minnesota Department of Revenue (DOR).

Off Lake Residential:

There were 159 qualified off water residential sales between 10/1/2019-9/30/20 in Fairmont. These sales resulted in a preliminary median ratio of 95.94% which is within the 90-105% range calculated by the DOR. Unlike in other years the DOR did not issue a Market Condition Adjustment.

Most off lake neighborhoods had no increase in rates; however some adjustments that were needed after looking at the data for the current sales study and multiple years. These adjustments resulted in a reduction in five neighborhoods by 5-10% and an increase in 6 neighborhoods by 5-12%. The few adjustments that were made resulted in bringing the adjusted neighborhoods within the accepted range individually as well as a whole.

Other statistical measures considered during sales analysis when there are more than 30 sales include the coefficient of dispersion and the price related differential. The coefficient of dispersion (COD) is a measurement of uniformity in the sales ration study; the lower the COD, the greater the uniformity. The maximum allowable COD for Fairmont residential is 15.0. Fairmont's off lake residential COD came in at 11.07, which indicates uniformity in the assessment. The price related differential (PRD) measures inequities in the assessment, which is referred to as regressivity and progressivity. A perfect assessment would have a PRD of 1.00 and the allowable interval is from 98.0 – 103. Fairmont's off lake, residential PRD was calculated by the DOR at 101.2. This PRD indicates vertical equity of the 2020 assessment.

Ag Land:

There were 36 bare land Ag sales in Martin County for the 2021 assessment with a starting ratio of 99.91%. Based on these sales and our sales analysis (10/1/2019-9/30/2020) we decreased our CPI land rates by 3-5%. With these changes our final ratio calculated by the Minnesota Department of Revenue was 96.12% justifying the adjustments made.

Commercial and Industrial:

For the 2021 Assessment, the MN State Board of Equalization required a complete reassessment of Fairmont Commercial Properties. In order to maintain consistency throughout the County, all commercial and industrial properties were reassessed. What was generally discovered in the reassessment was that a land size adjustment was necessary in some areas to value the first 50K sq. ft. at a different rate than the balance of the parcel. Adjusting this helped equalize the larger land heavy parcels as well as the smaller footprint parcel with older buildings.

We also observed that the existing method of determining effective age was too subjective and inconsistent. To rectify this we decided to use actual age as a beginning point, document departures from actual age with notes, lengthen out some depreciation schedules to account for a longer life for buildings still in use, and modify the minimum depreciation point so that more value was held when the older buildings are still in use. This also had the effect of increasing values on the newer buildings which was needed to recognize the increased cost of materials and labor in recent years.

Finally we evaluated all parcels by neighborhood, use, and building model and made table adjustments as needed. A few parcels then needed a second review to ensure table adjustments resulted in an acceptable equalization.

In the one year sales study, 3 very different property sales in Fairmont gave little market direction with significant variability in types of properties and locations as well as the sales prices buyers and sellers agreed upon. The sold property uses ranged from a small garage on E. 8th St., a small shop/office on Lake Ave., and an office building on N. State at E. 1st. Statistically this is very little data to work with so an expanded 5 year sales set was analyzed. After applying the findings from the full reassessment, on five years of data a median of 94.98, COD of 15.25, and PRD of 101.39 suggested confidence in the changes to CAMA tables and parcel specific data updates. After the reassessment changes, five post study sales demonstrate a median ratio of 95.95; COD 5.13; PRD 99.19.

At the time of the current January 2, 2021 assessment, COVID-19 property value impacts have not been demonstrated through property sales. For some property types, market vacancy factors were considered and will be reevaluated again in the next assessment.

Sheplee concluded with a review of a five year summary of Commercial/Industrial Sales Activity; open tax court petitions; and TAX & CAMA software conversion kick-off.

Motion by Commissioner Koons, seconded by Commissioner Flohrs, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby receive and file the County Assessor's Update on 2021 Year Assessment Report. Roll Call AYES: Commissioners Smith, Forshee, Flohrs, Koons, and Belgard. NAYS: None. Motion carries.

Leigha Johnson, Human Resources Manager, was present via WebEx and reviewed a revision to the County COVID Preparedness Plan for Implementation and Extension of Sick and Family related benefits related to COVID per the recent Federal Legislation known as the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Johnson noted the ARPA Emergency Leave provisions will replace

the County's continuation of the emergency sick leave plan per the Family's First Response to Coronavirus Act (FFRCA) passed by Congress over a year ago which expired December 2020. Johnson went on to note the new extension under ARPA takes effect April 1, 2021, and lasts through September 30, 2021 and like the current version remains optional. Key changes to the new federal legislation compared to the previous FFCRA include:

- Employees can take EPSL to get the COVID vaccine and to recover from any related side effects.
- Employees can take EPSL when seeking or waiting for a COVID-19 diagnosis or test result if they've been exposed to COVID-19 or if the employer has asked them to get a diagnosis or test. (Previously, time spent waiting on test results was not necessarily covered, which seemed like an oversight).
- Employees will be eligible for a new bank of leave on April 1. Full time employees are entitled to 80 hours while part time employees are entitled to a prorated amount.

Johnson also noted there is an option called an Emergency FMLA that in 2020 allowed 2/3rds of the employee's rate up to ten weeks to care for children due to school closings or daycare closings due to COVID. With ARPA extending the Emergency Paid Sick Leave Option that includes caring for a child whose school or daycare provider is closed or unavailable because of COVID-19. So, it is the recommendation of the Personnel Committee to approve the American Rescue Plan Act related to extension of Sick and Family Leave and to not extend the Emergency FMLA.

After discussion,

Motion by Commissioner Koons, seconded by Commissioner Forshee, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the expiration of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act Emergency Paid Sick Leave Act on December 31, 2020, and with the recent revision to the County Preparedness Plan Policy (effective January 1, 2021) for the continuation of the paid sick leave related to COVID-19, and upon the recent passage of the new Federal Legislation known as the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) which has reinstated optional extension of sick and family leaves, and after careful review and consideration of the revised policy, hereby approve revision to the County COVID Preparedness Plan to reflect the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) related to extension of Sick and Family Leave related to COVID, effective April 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021; and that the County Emergency Sick Leave benefit expires as of the effective date of the new ARPA extension of the Sick and Family Leave. Roll Call AYES: Commissioners Flohrs, Smith, Forshee, Koons, and Belgard. NAYS: None. Motion carries.

Johnson noted with the recent passage of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), the Plan permits employees to voluntarily increase the annual limit on contributions of the Dependent Care Flexible Spending Accounts (DCFSA) up to \$10,500 (normally \$5,000) for 2021. Johnson went on to note the Personnel Committee has reviewed the increase in allowed contributions and recommends approval allowing the increase for the 2021 plan year. Johnson also noted if the Board were to approve, we would then need to update our FSA Agreement (ThrivePass) and communicate the option for the increase in Dependent Care. This option is only available for people to increase their contributions that are already enrolled in some kind of Dependent Care

deduction for 2021 so it will only be offered to those that are already deducting from Flex for daycare.

After discussion,

Motion by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Koons, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, with the recent passage of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), allowing employees to voluntarily increase the annual limit on contributions to their Dependent Care Flex Spending Account (DCFSA) to \$10,500 (currently \$5,000), hereby approve and open up the option to allow eligible employees to voluntarily increase their annual limit contributions for their DCFSA's for the 2021 plan year; and to authorize staff to make the necessary changes with the FSA Contract (ThrivePass) and communicate to the employees of the allowed increase in contributions to their DCFSA's. Roll Call AYES: Commissioners Flohrs, Forshee, Koons, Smith, and Belgard. NAYS: None. Motion carries.

Johnson presented and reviewed job revisions to the Account Tech II and Accountant job descriptions for the Auditor/Treasurer's Office. Johnson noted due to the recent vacancies of the Account Technician II and Accountant positions in the Auditor/Treasurer's Office, the job descriptions have been reviewed and revisions made to job descriptions and are recommended for approval. Johnson went on to note the Account Tech II position title has been changed to Accounts Payable, with a few minor revisions (as noted in red); and the Accountant position will remain the same with the exception of a very minor change (noted in red). Johnson recommended the changes to the Account Tech II and Accountant job descriptions.

After discussion,

Motion by Commissioner Forshee, seconded by Commissioner Koons, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, due to the recent vacancies for the position of Account Technician II and the Accountant in the Auditor/Treasurer's Office, the respective job descriptions have been reviewed and revised to more closely represent the qualification and essential functions of the job, hereby approve revisions to the Account Technician II to Accounts Payable and the Accountant job descriptions as presented. Roll Call AYES: Commissioners Smith, Flohrs, Koons, Forshee, and Belgard. NAYS: None. Motion carries.

Higgins noted Resolution #2/'06 was done in 2006 when the County required all employees to enroll in a health insurance plan and were not able to opt out (of health insurance coverage). Higgins went on to note due to a recent request and review, Resolution #2/'06 states that due to employees not being able to opt out of the County health insurance, it authorizes Martin County to permit certain individuals who are employed with Martin County and are eligible for Medicare to opt out of County health coverage and to provide payment for the Medicare health insurance coverage. However, since the Board allows employees to not have to take the County's health insurance plan, Resolution #2/'06 is no longer applicable. Higgins also noted to reflect the change in the Board's action related to not requiring employees to take the County's health plan; it is recommended that this resolution be rescinded.

Discussion ensued pertaining to the need to rescind Resolution #2/'06; seeking out a Medicare expert to address the Board with best options for Medicare eligible County employees while saving the County money; and to review the statute that counties operate under which may be different than private business.

After discussion,

Motion by Commissioner Koons, seconded by Commissioner Flohrs, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, due to the Board's action effective January 1, 2021 to not require employees to take the County's health insurance plan, hereby rescind Resolution #2/'06 which authorizes those employees who have Medicare coverage to opt out of the County's requirement to take a health plan and receive payment of the Medicare premium, as it is no longer applicable. Roll Call AYES: Commissioners Smith, Forshee, Flohrs, Koons, and Belgard. NAYS: None. Motion carries.

Higgins noted the Blizzard Snowmobile Club Trail Administrator is requesting approval to submit an application on behalf of Martin County to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) – Minnesota Snowmobile Trails Assistance Program for maintenance of snowmobile trails in the County. Higgins went on to note this is a preliminary application and once the DNR has reviewed and awards a grant dollar amount it will be brought before the Board for acceptance and approval.

Motion by Commissioner Flohrs, seconded by Commissioner Forshee,

R-#17/'21

RESOLUTION

Application from the Blizzard Snowmobile Club for Maintenance Funding for the Existing GIA Trail System:

WHEREAS, Martin County, Minnesota desires to apply for maintenance funding for an existing GIA Trail System; and

WHEREAS, by Law of 1975, Chapter 204, Sections 51 and 95, there was appropriated to the Commissioner of Natural Resources, as a grants-in-aid to Local units of government, funds for said purposes; and

WHEREAS, said Martin County will contract with the Blizzard Snowmobile Club, Inc. to apply for this funding to maintain said GIA Trail System.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Martin County Board of Commissioners approve of the application for maintenance funding for the existing GIA Trail, and that the Chairperson and/or the County Auditor/Treasurer be authorized to sign all documents relating to the program year.

Motion was made by Commissioner Flohrs, seconded by Commissioner Forshee, and carried this 6th day of April, 2021.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MARTIN COUNTY, MN

Elliot Belgard, Board Chair

ATTEST: _____
Scott Higgins, County Coordinator

Roll Call AYES: Commissioners Koons, Smith, Forshee, Flohrs, and Belgard. NAYS: None. Resolution duly passed and adopted this 6th day of April, 2021.

Higgins presented and reviewed the final GO Bonding Grant Agreement for the Martin County Veterans Memorial Project noting the state of Minnesota has allocated \$350,000 to assist in the design and construction of a memorial to those who have served in the military of the United States of American and for those who have died in the line of duty.

After review and discussion,

Motion by Commissioner Koons, seconded by Commissioner Smith, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby accept and authorize the Board Chair to sign the GO Bonding Grant Agreement in the amount of \$350,000 for the Martin County Veterans Memorial Project, effective April 30, 2021. Roll Call AYES: Commissioners Flohrs, Forshee, Smith, Koons, and Belgard. NAYS: None. Motion carries.

Chairman Belgard opened the public hearing to Consider Proposed Property Tax Abatement for the proposed construction of new single-family homes.

Higgins noted that two applicants have applied for the Housing Tax Abatement Program, and that the Notice of Public Hearing regarding the proposed property tax abatements was published in the official County Newspaper and no comments were received:

John R. and Mary A. Larson have applied for the Housing Abatement Program on their property to be built at 305 Harrison Street in Welcome, MN. Abatement to the Larson's of property taxes to be levied by the County on Parcel ID No. 42.200.0120, in the City of Welcome, for a period of 10 years and proposed to be abated by the County on the property for the years 2022 through 2031 is estimated to be \$12,000.00.

Oliver and Laurie Truesdell have applied for the Housing Abatement Program on their property to be built at 513 Harrison Street in Welcome, MN. Abatement to the Truesdell's of property taxes to be levied by the County on Parcel ID No. 12.200.0170, in the City of Welcome, for a period of 10 years and proposed to be abated by the County on the property for the years 2022 through 2031 is estimated to be \$13,200.00.

Sheplee noted that the Assessor's Office visited the properties this morning and there has been no start of construction.

Chairman Belgard opened the meeting for public comments in consideration of the proposed property tax abatements. No representatives from the public were in attendance nor was public input or comments submitted in writing received concerning the proposed property tax abatements.

Motion by Commissioner Koons, seconded by Commissioner Forshee, to close the public portion of the meeting. Roll Call AYES: Commissioners Smith, Flohrs, Forshee, Koons, and Belgard. NAYS: None. Motion carries.

After discussion,

Motion by Commissioner Koons, seconded by Commissioner Flohrs, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve and authorize Board Chair to sign resolution granting John R. and Mary A. Larson abatement of property taxes to be levied by the County on Parcel No. 42.200.0120 in the City of Welcome, MN for a period of 10 years. The total amount of taxes proposed to be abated by the County on the Property for the years 2022 through 2031 is estimated to be \$12,000.00.

MARTIN COUNTY, MINNESOTA

RESOLUTION NO. R-#18/'21

RESOLUTION APPROVING A PROPERTY TAX ABATEMENT FOR CERTAIN PROPERTY IN THE COUNTY

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners (the "Board") of Martin County, Minnesota (the "County"), as follows:

Section 1. Recitals.

1.01. Pursuant to Section 469.1813, subdivision 1 of the Act, the County may grant an abatement of all or a portion of the taxes imposed by the County on a parcel of property.

1.02. On March 17, 2020, the Board of the County adopted a resolution establishing the Tax Abatement Policy for New Construction of Single and Multi-Family Housing (the "Policy") to provide tax abatement assistance for single and multi-family housing projects in the County. The County has a shortage of decent, safe and sanitary housing for residents and job seekers in the County. Based on a City of Fairmont Housing Study completed in January 2020 by Community Partners Research, Inc., there is a need for future new rental and owner-occupied housing units in the County to keep up with projected housing needs in the County. Through the Policy, the County desires to provide incentives to encourage the construction of new owner occupied and rental residential housing units, and to encourage replacement of dilapidated housing.

1.03. The County has received an application from John R. and Mary A. Larson (the “Owners”), owners of certain real property located at 305 Harrison St., Welcome, MN as described in Exhibit A attached hereto (the “Property”), to grant a property tax abatement (the “Abatement”) pursuant to the Policy and Minnesota Statutes, Sections 469.1812 to 469.1815, as amended (the “Act”), in connection with the construction of a new single-family home on the Property (the “Project”).

1.04. The County has determined that is reasonable and necessary to provide certain financial assistance to the Owners in order to facilitate the Owner’s plans for the Project and the Property, and to that end, the Board will consider approving the Abatement for the Owners

1.05. The Property is not located in a tax increment financing district.

1.06. On the date hereof, the Board of Commissioners of the County conducted a duly noticed public hearing on the Abatement proposed to be granted by the County to the Owners pursuant to this resolution. The views of all interested persons were heard at the public hearing.

Section 2. Findings.

2.01. The recitals set forth above are incorporated into this resolution.

2.02. It is hereby found and determined that the benefits to the County from the Abatement will be at least equal to the costs to the County of the Abatement for the following reasons:

(a) The Project will generate additional County tax revenues after the termination of the Abatement, which revenues will exceed the amount of the Abatement itself.

(b) By helping to enhance the Property, the Abatement will help preserve and increase the value of the Property.

2.03. It is hereby found and determined that the Abatement is in the public interest because such action will increase or preserve the tax base. In addition, the Project will help provide employment opportunities by providing construction jobs and will increase the supply of decent, safe and sanitary housing for residents and job seekers in the County. The Abatement will provide additional housing options in the County which helps satisfy a critical housing goal and need in the County as set forth by the Policy.

Section 3. Actions Ratified; Abatement Approved.

3.01. The Board hereby ratifies all actions of the County’s staff in arranging for approval of this resolution in accordance with the Act.

3.02. Subject to the provisions of the Act, the Abatement is hereby approved and adopted subject to the following terms and conditions:

(a) The term “Abatement” means the real property taxes generated in any tax-payable year by extending the County’s total tax rate for that year against the tax capacity of the Project and the Property, excluding the tax capacity of the land and the current value of any existing structures on the Property as outlined in the Policy.

(b) In accordance with Section 469.1813, subdivision 8 of the Act, in no case shall the Abatement, together with all other abatements approved by the County under the Act and paid in any one year exceed the greater of 10% of the County’s net tax capacity for that year or \$200,000 (the “Abatement Cap”). The County may grant any other abatements permitted under the Act after the date of this resolution, provided that to the extent the total abatements in any year exceed the Abatement Cap, the allocation of Abatement Cap to such other abatements is subordinate to the Abatement granted pursuant to this resolution.

(c) The Abatement shall commence the first year following the date of occupancy of the housing project and continue for 10 years, which is anticipated to be 2022 until 2031. The total amount of the taxes proposed to be abated by the County on the Property for the years 2022 through 2031 is estimated to be \$12,000.00.

(d) In no event shall the payment of the Abatement to the Owners be for more than ten (10) years.

(e) The Abatement is subject to modification in accordance with the Act and in accordance with the County’s Policy.

(f) In accordance with Section 469.1815 of the Act, the County will add to its levy in each year during the term of the Abatement the total estimated amount of current year Abatement granted under this resolution.

(g) The County makes no warranties or representations regarding the amount of the Abatement.

(h) The Owners shall comply with all terms of the Policy. In the event of any conflict between this resolution and the Policy, the Policy shall control.

(i) The County shall provide the Abatement payment on a pay as you go basis in accordance with the Policy.

(j) The Abatement shall be null and void if construction of the Project is not commenced within 1 year of the approval of this resolution

Section 4. Implementation. The Board Chair and the County Coordinator are authorized and directed to execute and deliver any agreements, certificates, or other documents that the County determines are necessary to implement this resolution.

Section 5. Effective Date. This resolution is effective upon the adoption of this resolution.

Approved by the Board of Commissioners of Martin County, Minnesota, this 6th day of April, 2021.

MARTIN COUNTY, MINNESOTA

Elliot Belgard, Board Chair

Attest:

Scott Higgins, County Coordinator

EXHIBIT A TO ABATEMENT RESOLUTION

THE PROPERTY

PID Number: 42.200.0120

Roll Call AYES: Commissioners Forshee, Smith, Flohrs, Koons, and Belgard. NAYS: None. Resolution duly passed and adopted this 6th day of April, 2021.

Motion by Commissioner Koons, seconded by Commissioner Flohrs, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve and authorize Board Chair to sign resolution granting Oliver and Laurie Truesdell abatement of property taxes to be levied by the County on Parcel No. 42.200.0170 in the City of Welcome, MN for a period of 10 years. The total amount of taxes proposed to be abated by the County on the Property for the years 2022 through 2031 is estimated to be \$13,200.00.

MARTIN COUNTY, MINNESOTA

RESOLUTION NO. R-#19/'21

**RESOLUTION APPROVING A PROPERTY TAX ABATEMENT
FOR CERTAIN PROPERTY IN THE COUNTY**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners (the "Board") of Martin County, Minnesota (the "County"), as follows:

Section 1. Recitals.

1.01. Pursuant to Section 469.1813, subdivision 1 of the Act, the County may grant an abatement of all or a portion of the taxes imposed by the County on a parcel of property.

1.02. On March 17, 2020, the Board of the County adopted a resolution establishing the Tax Abatement Policy for New Construction of Single and Multi-Family Housing (the "Policy") to provide

tax abatement assistance for single and multi-family housing projects in the County. The County has a shortage of decent, safe and sanitary housing for residents and job seekers in the County. Based on a City of Fairmont Housing Study completed in January 2020 by Community Partners Research, Inc., there is a need for future new rental and owner-occupied housing units in the County to keep up with projected housing needs in the County. Through the Policy, the County desires to provide incentives to encourage the construction of new owner occupied and rental residential housing units, and to encourage replacement of dilapidated housing.

1.03. The County has received an application from Oliver and Laurie Truesdell (the “Owners”), owners of certain real property located at 513 Harrison St., Welcome, MN as described in Exhibit A attached hereto (the “Property”), to grant a property tax abatement (the “Abatement”) pursuant to the Policy and Minnesota Statutes, Sections 469.1812 to 469.1815, as amended (the “Act”), in connection with the construction of a new single-family home on the Property (the “Project”).

1.04. The County has determined that is reasonable and necessary to provide certain financial assistance to the Owners in order to facilitate the Owner’s plans for the Project and the Property, and to that end, the Board will consider approving the Abatement for the Owners

1.05. The Property is not located in a tax increment financing district.

1.06. On the date hereof, the Board of Commissioners of the County conducted a duly noticed public hearing on the Abatement proposed to be granted by the County to the Owners pursuant to this resolution. The views of all interested persons were heard at the public hearing.

Section 2. Findings.

2.01. The recitals set forth above are incorporated into this resolution.

2.02. It is hereby found and determined that the benefits to the County from the Abatement will be at least equal to the costs to the County of the Abatement for the following reasons:

(a) The Project will generate additional County tax revenues after the termination of the Abatement, which revenues will exceed the amount of the Abatement itself.

(b) By helping to enhance the Property, the Abatement will help preserve and increase the value of the Property.

2.03. It is hereby found and determined that the Abatement is in the public interest because such action will increase or preserve the tax base. In addition, the Project will help provide employment opportunities by providing construction jobs and will increase the supply of decent, safe and sanitary housing for residents and job seekers in the County. The Abatement will provide additional housing options in the County which helps satisfy a critical housing goal and need in the County as set forth by the Policy.

Section 3. Actions Ratified; Abatement Approved.

3.01. The Board hereby ratifies all actions of the County's staff in arranging for approval of this resolution in accordance with the Act.

3.02. Subject to the provisions of the Act, the Abatement is hereby approved and adopted subject to the following terms and conditions:

(a) The term "Abatement" means the real property taxes generated in any tax-payable year by extending the County's total tax rate for that year against the tax capacity of the Project and the Property, excluding the tax capacity of the land and the current value of any existing structures on the Property as outlined in the Policy.

(b) In accordance with Section 469.1813, subdivision 8 of the Act, in no case shall the Abatement, together with all other abatements approved by the County under the Act and paid in any one year exceed the greater of 10% of the County's net tax capacity for that year or \$200,000 (the "Abatement Cap"). The County may grant any other abatements permitted under the Act after the date of this resolution, provided that to the extent the total abatements in any year exceed the Abatement Cap, the allocation of Abatement Cap to such other abatements is subordinate to the Abatement granted pursuant to this resolution.

(c) The Abatement shall commence the first year following the date of occupancy of the housing project and continue for 10 years, which is anticipated to be 2022 until 2031. The total amount of the taxes proposed to be abated by the County on the Property for the years 2022 through 2031 is estimated to be \$13,200.00.

(d) In no event shall the payment of the Abatement to the Owners be for more than ten (10) years.

(e) The Abatement is subject to modification in accordance with the Act and in accordance with the County's Policy.

(f) In accordance with Section 469.1815 of the Act, the County will add to its levy in each year during the term of the Abatement the total estimated amount of current year Abatement granted under this resolution.

(g) The County makes no warranties or representations regarding the amount of the Abatement.

(h) The Owners shall comply with all terms of the Policy. In the event of any conflict between this resolution and the Policy, the Policy shall control.

(i) The County shall provide the Abatement payment on a pay as you go basis in accordance with the Policy.

(j) The Abatement shall be null and void if construction of the Project is not commenced within 1 year of the approval of this resolution

Section 4. Implementation. The Board Chair and the County Coordinator are authorized and directed to execute and deliver any agreements, certificates, or other documents that the County determines are necessary to implement this resolution.

Section 5. Effective Date. This resolution is effective upon the adoption of this resolution.

Approved by the Board of Commissioners of Martin County, Minnesota, this 6th day of April, 2021.

MARTIN COUNTY, MINNESOTA

Elliot Belgard, Board Chair

Attest:

Scott Higgins, County Coordinator

EXHIBIT A TO ABATEMENT RESOLUTION

THE PROPERTY

PID Number: 42.200.0170

Roll Call AYES: Commissioners Forshee, Smith, Flohrs, Koons, and Belgard. NAYS: None. Resolution duly passed and adopted this 6th day of April, 2021.

Higgins noted the Board is being asked to consider a Memorandum of Agreement with AFSCME Local 1204-9 Library Union in relation to permitting this bargaining unit to participate in the County's temporary changes under the personnel rules related to employee paid time off in response to the COVID-19 crisis as adopted by the Martin County Board of Commissioners on January 5, 2021, on the same basis and subject to the same restrictions, revisions and requirements, as the general non-union group.

Motion by Commissioner Flohrs, seconded by Commissioner Koons, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve the Memorandum of Agreement

between Martin County and AFSCME Local 1204-9 Library Union, be permitted to participate in the County’s temporary changes related to employee time off in response to the COVID-19 crisis on the same basis and subject to the same restrictions, revisions and requirements, as the general non-union group per the revised County COVID Preparedness Plan Policy. Roll Call AYES: Commissioners Smith, Forshee, Koons, Flohrs, and Belgard. NAYS: None. Motion carries.

Higgins noted ISG Inc. has provided three (3) options to replace the rooftop heating/cooling units as part of the Courthouse Roof Replacement Project for the Board’s consideration and approval. Higgins went on to note there was some inquiry about whether those rooftop units should go back on. The heating/cooling units can be taken off (the roof) and put in the attic enclosed in a constructed housing unit.

Higgins reviewed ISG’s three options:

Option #1: One for one RTU replacement (included in original design bid)

- Equipment \$21,500
 - Removal \$ 2,000
 - Installation \$ 8,000
 - Crane \$ 5,000
- Total \$36,500 plus contingency \$11,000

Option #2: Remove RTU and replace with 5 furnaces with 5 matching condensing units for more zone control

- Equipment \$24,500
 - Removal \$ 2,000
 - Furnace and ductwork Installation \$15,000
 - Condensing Unit and Ref piping Installation \$ 6,000
 - Power \$ 5,000
 - Gas Piping \$ 1,000
- Total \$53,500 + room and/or catwalks plus contingency \$16,000

Option #3: Remove RTU and replace with 5 furnaces with 1 VRV Condenser

- Equipment \$58,800
 - Removal \$ 2,000
 - Furnace and ductwork Installation \$15,000
 - Condensing Unit and Ref piping Installation \$ 8,000
 - Power \$ 4,000
 - Gas Piping \$ 1,000
- Total \$88,800 + room and/or catwalks plus contingency \$27,000

Much discussion ensued including: \$36,000 was budgeted for replacement of the rooftop heating/cooling units; better looking site line of the roof without the units on top; units on inside

will save wear and tear on the new roof; where will the condensing units be located; Option #2 and #3 will have additional costs for constructing a room to house the units inside the attic; options should have been reviewed by the County’s Building and Purchasing Committee before being brought before the Board; and not having enough information to make a decision.

After further discussion,

Motion by Commissioner Flohrs, seconded by Commissioner Koons, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby table Consideration of Options to Replace Courthouse Rooftop Heating/Cooling Units. Roll Call AYES: Commissioners Forshee, Smith, Koons, Flohrs, and Belgard. NAYS: None. Motion carries.

The Board reviewed Warrants, Auditor Warrants, and EFT Transactions to be paid April 6, 2021.

Motion by Commissioner Koons, seconded by Commissioner Flohrs, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve Warrants, Auditor Warrants, and EFT Transactions to be paid on April 6, 2021, and includes the Highway Department bills and Drainage bills as presented. Roll Call AYES: Commissioners Flohrs, Forshee, Smith, Koons, and Belgard. NAYS: None. Motion carries.

Warrants received and paid April 6, 2021, are registered on file in the Auditor/Treasurer’s Office as follows:

Revenue Fund – Warrants Approved April 6, 2021	\$123,372.04
Enhanced 9-1-1 Fund	\$ 184.95
Martin County Economic Development Fund	\$ 9,071.97
Human Services Fund	\$309,791.33
Recorder’s Technology Fund	\$ 2,324.97
Recorder’s Compliance Fund	\$ 60,000.00
Building-CIP-Fund	\$215,737.11
Human Service Building Fund	\$ 1,328.37
Refunding Fund	\$ 93.05
Total	\$721,903.79

Road and Bridge Funds Totaled \$208,669.92

Martin County Ditch Funds Totaled \$ 51,508.32

Jonathan Loose, Wold Architects and Engineers, was present to provide an update and review of the proposed Martin County Justice Center including:

Agenda

1. Review Guiding Principles/Project Goals
2. Previous Recommendation
3. Current Recommendation
4. Other – (Discussion by the Board)

Guiding Principles

Martin County Justice System

- Anticipate the needs of the County for the next 20 years; further if feasible.
- The facilities should strive to be safe for staff, but also be open and publically welcoming.
- Improve security, privacy, and impartiality of all staff, public, and incarcerated persons.
- Foster collaboration amongst staff with a focus on customer service.
- Maintain services within the County for all stages of the justice system process; limit transportation costs.
- Engage the public to gain insight and maintain transparency.

Space Needs Summary (GSF)	Existing*	Need
Shared (Police/Sheriff)	5,898	12,051
Sheriff	1,947	3,074
Police	1,842	2,447
Jail	8,249	23,113
Courts	6,082	12,132
Corrections	1,884	2,538
DOC	1,400	784
County Assessor	884	N/A
County Attorney	4,800	1,733
<u>Victim Witness</u>	<u>636</u>	<u>599</u>
Subtotal (USF)	33,622	58,472
Facility Total (GSF)	42,030	73,091

*Existing SF shown only represent the Security Building totals.

**Renovation Option assumes the courts level of the courthouse will remain operational.

Previous Recommendation

Summary:

- Construct a new Justice Center off-site to house Jail, Sheriff, Police, Courts, Corrections, DOC, County Attorney, and Victim Witness

Estimated Project Budget \$40,000,000*

*FY2021 – Includes construction and project soft costs and previous inflation estimate.

Loose reviewed preliminary diagrams of how the building might lay out in terms of where some of the jail items would be and how the courts tower would stack next to that to allow for better transfer of inmates. Loose noted we’ve continued to hone in on the right adjacencies and configuration and as we’ve continued to try and determine the right lay out that fits on an existing site.

Loose noted as I said the previous schedule we started that back in 2019 and anticipated that construction would be happening sometime around 2020 and 2021. Obviously we’ve continued to hold off on that to make sure that we’re making good decisions from a financial perspective. At that point the next steps were:

- Pursue State Funding through Bonding bill to support initiative.
- Complete State required Predesign to prepare project for streamlined State Approval.
- Continue pursuit of adequate site location.
- Consider CIP process for project approval process and funding.

Current Recommendation

Committee Efforts; Ongoing:

- Finalizing State Grant Application, contemplate new bonding request.
- Reduction in Jail Beds from 64 to 49, no change in classification opportunities.
- Mental health suite added, i.e. “yellow line project”.
- Further evaluation of court’s needs, scheduling.
- Keep DOC autonomous.
- SF reduction from 73,091 SF to 65,840 SF.
- Even with 2-3 additional years of inflation, reduction in cost of almost \$3,000,000.

After review and discussion,

Chairman Belgard thanked Loose for the update.

The Board discussed the upcoming Courthouse Dome Unveiling Ceremony.

Higgins recommends establishing an internal committee to plan the Courthouse Dome Unveiling Ceremony and asks that two commissioners be involved with the committee along with a representative from the Martin County Historical Society.

After discussion,

Motion by Commissioner Koons, seconded by Commissioner Smith, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve establishing an internal committee to plan the Courthouse Dome Unveiling Event and Ceremony; and approve the appointment of Commissioners Smith and Forshee to serve on the committee; and authorize per diems and expenses for Commissioners Smith and Forshee to attend and participate on the Courthouse Dome Unveiling Event Committee. Roll Call AYES: Commissioners Forshee, Flohrs, Smith, Koons, and Belgard. NAYS: None. Motion carries.

The Board reviewed the Big Bend Wind LLC Permitting Notice referencing wanting to run a transmission line through the Trimont area of Martin County.

Commissioners reviewed their calendars of previous and upcoming meetings and activities: March 16, 2021 – Final Acceptance Hearing for CD #30 at 1:00 p.m. and Final Acceptance Hearing for CD #29/JD #367 at 1:30 p.m.; March 17, 2021 – Human Services; March 18, 2021 – Des Moines River Watershed One Watershed One Plan meeting, Traverse des Sioux Library meeting, and Bonding meeting in the afternoon; March 19, 2021 – Drug Court Steering Committee meeting; March 22, 2021 – Rural Minnesota Energy Board meeting, Kinship of Martin County meeting; March 25, 2021 – South Central EMS virtual meeting; March 26, 2021 – Region 9 Transportation Advisory Committee meeting; March 30, 2021 – Personnel

Committee meeting; March 31, 2021 – Martin County Justice Center Committee meeting; April 5, 2021 – Martin County EDA meeting at 5:15 p.m., Beyond the Yellow Ribbon meeting; April 6, 2021 – regular Board of Commissioners meeting at 9:00 a.m. – Commissioners Meeting Room – Martin County Courthouse, JCD #202 F&M Repair Hearing at 2:00 p.m. – Fairmont Holiday Inn (Commissioners Belgard and Forshee), Building and Purchasing Committee meeting at 3:00 p.m.; April 7, 2021 – Human Services Executive Board meeting, Martin County Veterans Memorial Committee meeting; April 8, 2021 – RCEF meeting, and Soil and Water Committee meeting; April 9, 2021 – F-M Joint County Transit Executive Board meeting, Law Library meeting at 3:30 p.m.; April 13, 2021 – Library Board meeting; April 14, 2021 – Martin County Parks/Trail Committee meeting at East Chain; April 15, 2021 – Traverse des Sioux Library meeting; April 16, 2021 – Prairieland meeting; April 20, 2021 – next regular Board of Commissioners meeting at 9:00 a.m. – Commissioners Meeting Room – Martin County Courthouse.

Bill Fahey, Northland Securities, was present via WebEx and presented a brief update pertaining to Wold Architect and Engineer’s Justice Center Report on the reduction in jail beds from 64 to 49 with no change in classification opportunities.

With no further business to wit, Board Chair adjourned the meeting at 11:04 a.m.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MARTIN COUNTY, MN

Elliot Belgard, Board Chair

ATTEST: _____
Scott Higgins, County Coordinator