

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MURRAY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MURRAY  
COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER – SLAYTON, MINNESOTA  
September 26, 2023 8:30 a.m.

Pursuant to notice, the Murray County Board of Commissioners convened with the following members present; Lori Gunnink, Jackie Meier, Dennis Welgraven, and David Thiner. Also present: General Assistant Emily Ackerman, County Administrator Carolyn McDonald, County Attorney Travis Smith via Zoom. Commissioner Malone was absent.

The Board Vice Chair asked if there were any additions to the agenda, Fair board Appropriation, cancelation of the September 26<sup>th</sup> 2023 work session to bring items in the future.

No Conflicts of interest were identified.

It was moved by Meier, seconded by Gunnink to approve consent agenda. Motion Passed.

Consent Agenda:

1. Approve September 19, 2023 Meeting Minutes

DITCH BILLS

It was moved by Gunnink, seconded by Meier to approve the report of bills for payment of the Murray County Drainage Authority as follows:

*SEE NEXT PAGE FOR LISTING*

**Ankrum Excavating**

21-863-6290	JD 28	<u>329.20</u>	#2023-031	Ok'd by T. Radke - 9/19/2023
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b><u>329.20</u></b>		

**Bolton & Menk**

21-706-6260	CD 41	<u>4,919.00</u>		Engineering Services for Improvement
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b><u>4,919.00</u></b>		

**Cooreman Contracting**

21-839-6290	JD 18	249.60	#2023-015	Ok'd by T. Radke or 9/14/2023
21-851-6290	JD 21	<u>615.30</u>	#2023-014	Ok'd by T. Radke or 9/14/2023
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b><u>864.90</u></b>		

**Gislason & Hunter, LLP**

21-706-6260	CD 41	<u>2,065.94</u>	CD 41 Improvement - Legal for Petitioner Attorney
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b><u>2,065.94</u></b>	

**Rinke Noonan**

21-651-6260	CD 2	22.50	Redetermination of Benefits-Group 2
21-707-6260	CD 42	22.50	Redetermination of Benefits-Group 2
21-715-6260	CD 44	22.50	Redetermination of Benefits-Group 2
21-723-6260	CD 48	22.50	Redetermination of Benefits-Group 2
21-729-6260	CD 51	22.50	Redetermination of Benefits-Group 2
21-735-6260	CD 54	22.50	Redetermination of Benefits-Group 2
21-737-6260	CD 55	22.50	Redetermination of Benefits-Group 2
21-739-6260	CD 56	22.50	Redetermination of Benefits-Group 2
21-751-6260	CD 62	22.50	Redetermination of Benefits-Group 2
21-763-6260	CD 68	22.50	Redetermination of Benefits-Group 2
21-659-6260	CD 11	137.50	CD 11/State Hwy 30 - Legal
21-706-6260	CD 41	<u>5,492.00</u>	CD 41 Improvement - Legal
21-868-6260	Admin	200.00	08-2023 Monthly Retainer
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b><u>6,054.50</u></b>	

**Total Ditch Bills 14,233.54**

**SET PRELIMINARY 2024 LEVY AND BUDGET HEARING DATE/TIME**

- The county must set a preliminary levy by October 2, 2023 to use in Truth in Taxation estimated tax notices
- The county must also hold a hearing at which the budget will be discussed and the public be allowed to speak.
- The meetings must take place between November 24 and December 28 and begin at 6:00 p.m. or later.

Commissioner Thiner offered the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

**Resolution 2023-09-26-01**

**A Resolution Setting the 2024 Preliminary Levy and Budget Hearing**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Murray County Board of Commissioners set the 2024 Preliminary Levy with a 4.0 % increase as follows:

	Gross Levy for 2024	County Program Aid for 2024	Net Levy for 2024
County Revenue	6,380,910	(474,656)	5,906,254
Road & Bridge	1,768,678	(131,566)	1,637,112
Human Services	1,575,216	(117,175)	1,458,041
<b>TOTAL LEVY</b>	<b>9,724,804</b>	<b>(723,397)</b>	<b>9,001,407</b>

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the 2024 Budget Hearing is scheduled as part of the regular meeting on November 28, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the Murray County Board of Commissioners Room at which time the budget and levy will be discussed and the public will be allowed to speak.

The foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Gunnink and thereupon being put to a vote was adopted.

**RESOLUTION TO COMMIT FUNDS FOR BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS**

The Investment Committee met on August 22, 2023 and presented the Board a resolution to commit interest earnings towards Broadband and Capital Expenditures. The Board requested to change the threshold for interest earnings to \$500,000:

Commissioner Gunnink offered the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

**RESOLUTION 2023-09-26-02**

Resolution to Commit Funds for Broadband Infrastructure and Capital Improvement Projects.

**WHEREAS**, Murray County recognizes the need to dedicate funds to guide budgetary decisions; and

**WHEREAS**, the Murray County Board of Commissioners recognize the current internet capability throughout much of the County does not correspond with the requisite download and upload speeds necessary to support many business, education, and health care applications that promote economic and community prosperity; and

**WHEREAS**, the County Board also recognizes the need to adequately fund new capital projects and improvements on the County’s aging infrastructure and buildings; and

**WHEREAS**, the County is receiving interest income from various local depositories and the M.A.G.I.C. Fund (Minnesota Association of Governments Investing for Counties); and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the County shall ensure that seven months of county obligation funding is set aside to meet the fiscal requirements of the County; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the County at year end will commit interest earnings in excess of \$500,000 dollars from the aforementioned accounts to support the expansion of broadband in Murray County and establish a dedicated funding stream for capital improvement projects; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the interest earnings will be dedicated to broadband until at least 95% of the county has comprehensive fiber optic, or other higher speed technology coverage; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that when the broadband goal is achieved or in progress, the investment income in excess of \$500,000 will be dedicated to capital improvement projects.  
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Auditor-Treasurer shall, at minimum, make an annual report to the Board with the interest amounts earned and a report of the available funds.

The foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Meier and thereupon being put to a vote was adopted.

**APPROVAL OF EDA LOAN**

The Economic Development Authority board has approved a \$100,000 loan from the Murray County EDA Revolving Loan Fund to Trevor Holm of TVO Ventures, LLC for gap financing in the purchase of the Slayton Pizza Ranch. Terms are 4 percent interest for 25 years, 3-month deferral of interest and principal, with a balloon payment at 10 years that can be refinanced. Payment will be made directly to title company on the October 2 closing date.

It was moved by Gunnink, seconded by Meier to approve a loan in the amount of \$100,000 from the EDA Revolving Loan Fund to TVO Ventures, LLC for purchase of the Slayton Pizza Ranch. Motion Passed.

**DECLARE SURPLUS EQUIPMENT**

The Murray County Highway Department would like to declare the following items as surplus equipment:

- Unit 18 – 2012 Chevrolet 2500 pickup
- Unit 19 – 2016 GMC 1500 pickup
- Unit 46 – 2002 Chevrolet 2500 pickup
- Atlas metal turning lathe
- Shop built hydraulic press

It was moved by Thiner, seconded by Meier to declare unit 18, 19, 46, atlas metal turning lathe and a shop built hydraulic press as surplus equipment and to sell via auction or online. Motion Passed.

**LIME LAKE DAM – PAY REQUEST #1**

1. Original Contract	\$ 219,250.00
2. Change Orders	\$
3. Contract Sum to Date	<u>\$ 219,250.00</u>
4. Total Completed and Stored to Date	\$ 219,250.00
5. Retainage - 5%	<u>\$ (10,962.50)</u>
6. Total earned less retainage	<u>\$ 208,287.50</u>
7. Previous Pay Applications	\$
<b>8. Current Payment Due</b>	<u><b>\$ 208,287.50</b></u>

This pay application has been reviewed by Houston Engineering, project engineer and is recommended for approval.

This project is funded by a Conservation Partners Legacy Grant. The county will submit a request for these funds once paid by the county.

It was moved by Gunnink, seconded by Thiner to approve the Lime Lake Dam Pay Request No. 1 to Henning Construction, Inc for \$208,287.50. Motion Passed.

#### FAIRGROUNDS GRAVEL ROADS

At the southern end of the fairgrounds the grass area is used for parking during several events like weekly races, draft horse show, county fair and other events. Whenever there is rain during these events, it turns into a muddy mess in this area with all the traffic. Staff Desires to build roads in this grass area for. It is estimated it will take about 1500 ton of gravel to build these roads approximately 18' wide and 5" deep. The racing association said they can take the dirt around the track and spread it out. Justin has received gravel quotes from Muecke Sand and Gravel and Sweetman Sand and Gravel.

<b>Muecke Sand &amp; Gravel</b>	<b>\$10.00 per ton x 1500 ton = \$15,000</b>
<b>Sweetman Sand &amp; Gravel</b>	<b>\$13.50 per ton x 1500 ton = \$20,250</b>

It was moved by Gunnink, seconded by Meier to approve building gravel roads on the south end of the fairgrounds and purchasing approximately 1500 ton of gravel from Muecke Sand & Gravel in the amount of \$15,000.00. Motion Passed.

#### FACILITIES MANAGER JOB DESCRIPTION

The Facilities Manager position was approved during the budget meetings for 2024 and in the staffing levels for 2024. The job description has been sent to David Drown & Associates to be pointed, the position points at a grade 11.

It was moved by Thiner, seconded by Gunnink to approve the Facilities Manager job description. Motion Passed.

#### FAIRBOARD APPROPRIATION

Justin Hoffmann and Fair Board Vice President Dean Ackerman were present to ask for the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the county aid appropriation provided to the Fair Board in the amount of \$17,000. The Fair Board started with \$11,044.47 and now the balance is \$7,498.62 with bills still coming in and checks still needing to be sent out still. The Fair Board has not asked for the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the appropriations in the last four to five years.

It was moved by Thiner, seconded by Gunnink to approve the second half of the Fair Board appropriation for 2023. Motion Passed.

The Meeting Adjourned at 9:14 a.m.

ATTEST:

---

Carolyn McDonald, County Administrator

---

Dennis Welgraven Board Vice Chair