

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MURRAY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MURRAY  
COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER – SLAYTON, MINNESOTA  
February 6, 2024, 8:30 a.m.

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

The Vice Chair asked if there were any conflicts of interest, none were identified.

It was moved by Thiner, seconded by Welgraven, to approve the agenda without additions.  
Motion Passed.

**JANUARY 16, 2024, AND JANUARY 23, 2024, MINUTES**

The Board discussed the minutes presented and felt it did not need to be presented in a transcript format, but rather more of an overall discussion format. The Board discussed various ways to provide more discussion information in the minutes.

It was moved by Thiner, seconded by Gunnink, to table the approval of the minutes from the January 16, 2024, to January 23, 2024 to the February 20, 2024 meeting. Motion Passed.

**COMMISSIONER WARRANTS**

It was moved by Welgraven, seconded by Gunnink, that all claims as presented were approved for payment. The Chairman was authorized to sign the Audit List dated February 6, 2024, with fund totals as follows and warrants numbered 173395 through 173474:

County Revenue Fund	191,868.85
County Road & Bridge Fund	22,533.80
EDA	806.18
Ditch	125.00
Sunrise Terrace	804.23
SAWS	246.20
Total	216,384.26

**4.1.1 DITCH BILLS**

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

***SEE NEXT PAGE FOR LISTING***

**Opdahl Farm Drainage, LLC**

21-763-6290	CD 68	1,669.00	#2023-024	1/29/2024 ok'd by T. Radke
21-819-6290	JD 10	1,026.00	#2023-049	1/29/2024 ok'd by T. Radke
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b><u>2,695.00</u></b>		

**Redwood County Auditor-Treasurer (Cross County Ditch Expense)**

21-863-6312	JD 28	152.28	2023 Shared Expenses	81.000%
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b><u>152.28</u></b>		

**Riley Land Improvement, LLC**

21-777-6290	CD 77	550.00	#2023-051	1/22/2024 ok'd by T. Radke
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b><u>550.00</u></b>		

**Michael Surprenant**

21-777-6290	CD 77	150.00	#2023-051	1/22/2024 ok'd by T. Radke (1of2)
21-777-6290	CD 77	150.00	#2023-051	1/22/2024 ok'd by T. Radke (2of2)
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b><u>300.00</u></b>		

**Total Ditch Bills 3,697.28**

**4.1.2 – 2023 AUDIT ENGAGEMENT LETTER WITH OSA**

This letter is signed annually to engage audit services with the MN Office of the State Auditor. This request is for audit services for the year 2023.

The Board discussed the possibility of being released from the audit with the State Auditor and work with a private audit company. This would not be possible for 2023 as the A/T office is already quite far in the 2023 audit prep. The county would need to request to be released from the State Auditors prior to the current year due to the complexity of the county audit. It was advised that the county stay with the State Auditor’s office.

It was moved by Thiner, seconded by Gunnink, to approve the 2023 Audit Engagement Letter with the Minnesota Office of the State Auditor, further moving to authorize the Vice Chair, County Administrator and Auditor-Treasurer to sign the letter on behalf of the County. Motion Passed.

**4.1.3 – FINAL COSTS – GROUP 1 & 2 REDETERMINATION OF BENEFITS**

The board will review Group costs for 1 and 2 Redetermination of Benefits and discuss special assessment timing.

Discussion was held regarding Group 2, and whether bills can be sent out since some of Group 2 are still pending. Group 2 can be sent out except for the pending ones, and the pending ones can be included in with Group 3 when that is completed. It was asked if damaged or buffers were included in this, and it was stated that they are included, but not paid out.

It was discussed to hold off on everything until Group 3 is done, which is anticipated to be completed in July. It was further discussed to hold off on sending bills out until later fall, when farmers usually pay their bills out for tax purposes.

It was moved by Gunnink, seconded by Thiner, to review and approve the final assessment rolls for the redetermination of benefits on the following ditches in the fall of 2024, or after all final hearings are completed:

- **Group 1:** County Ditches 7, 14, 20, 21, 23, 26, 34, 38, 41, 45, 45A, 46, 47, 49, 50, 53, 58, 64, 66, 81 and Judicial Ditches 9, 9A and 16
- **Group 2:** County Ditches 2, 27, 30, 37, 42, 44, 48, 51, 54, 55, 56, 62, 68, 72, 74, 79, 80 and Judicial Ditches 2S, 2N, 5, 7, 13, 20 and 24
- **Group 3:** County Ditches 4, 13, 19, 24, 28, 29, 32, 52, 59, 60, 65, 77, 86, 87, 89 and Judicial Ditches 22, 23, 27 and 28. Motion Passed.

#### **4.2.1 – DITCH INSPECTION REPORT**

- Petition 2024-002 (CD 11, Leeds Twp. Sec.12, District 2–Gunnink)

There was discussion on why the video is being requested. It was discussed that the updated video is for MNDOT’S counter claim against the county, as MN DOT is claiming that the county failed to maintain the tile. If the state receives a formal estimate, the state could pay half of the cost of the televising. Ditch inspector Radke advised Rinke Noonan that the county has the original video, Rinke Noonan wants an updated video to display the current condition of the road as well as the tile.

A motion was made by Gunnink, seconded by Welgraven, to approve the televising of the CD 11 system, with MN DOT paying half the cost of the televising. Motion Passed.

#### **4.3.1 – HOSPITAL UPDATE**

Luke Schryvers Murray County Medical Center CEO presented an update on

- **Staffing:** there is currently PA Student, two new providers will be starting on Monday February 12, 2024, there is currently an open physical therapy position.
- **Quality:** there is a community collaboration meeting scheduled to work with other healthcare providers and leaders in the community to find better ways to meet the needs of the community.
- **Business Development/Growth:** approval has been given to participate in the USDA/NRHA Technical assistance Program to help enhance hospital systems for improved efficiency and financial performance.
- **Patient Satisfaction:** Surveys are now available for patients to take over the phone or via email.
- **Financials:** price transparency tools that went into effect January 1, 2024. Planning and Transition Grant and Capital improvement grants through the MDH had been submitted should be hearing back by June if they have been approved.
- **Statistics:**
  - Acute - 19 admissions for 52 total patient days. YTD, the hospital ended down only 5 admits but 101 patient days compared to 2022.

- Swing - 1 admit for 2 total patient days. Year to date they have had 2 less admits and 93 less patient days than 2022.
- Observation stays remain higher at 16 patients. they are +18 for the year.
- Surgery procedures were up 3 for the month at 17 total. They were down 3 surgeries YTD. General GI is down 61 and ortho is down 15. Pain is up 59 and Ophthalmology is up 11.
- ER visits increased again in December at 159. 2023 is ahead 58 visits compared to 2022.
- Clinic visits were at 586. The clinic has increased visits by 264 YTD
- **Balance Sheet**
  - The overall cash position increased by **\$340,674**. They currently have a total cash available of **\$8,917,660**.
  - We saw a decrease in patient receivables of **\$369,504** and total receivables is at
    - **\$6,561,333** Net Patient Receivables (Amount we expect to collect) = **57% or \$3,789,169**
    - AR Days decreased 1 day and currently sits at **66.7** days. The goal is to be under **50** days.
- **Income Statement**
  - Gross revenue was \$2,496,822 & ahead of budget by **60,652**
    - Hospital IP revenue below budget by **\$157,994**
    - Hospital OP revenue above budget by **\$106,090**
    - Clinic revenue above budget by **\$112,556**
  - Contractual adjustments lower than budget by **\$34,777**
  - Expenses lower than budget by **\$31,277**
  - EBIDA (Earnings before interest, depreciation, and amortization) = **\$217,243**. YTD = **\$1,297,311**
  - For the month they had a positive net income equal to **\$429,985** and YTD a positive **\$704,833**

#### 4.4.1 – SWCD QUARTERLY ALLOCATION

Shelly Lewis and Craig Christiansen from the Murray County Soil and Water Conservation District were present to provide an update on what their office has been doing. Murray Soil and Water, along with Pipestone Soil and Water, and the Soil Health Coalition put on a field day in January in Lake Wilson. The 2023 fall there were five cost share contracts that were completed consisting of two cover crops, one diversion and two waterway and sediment control basin projects. They are in the process of hiring a Crop Consultant through Centrol as a contract position from a grant provided by BWSR for soil health. There will be another grant for practices. Craig and Shelly have been attending the 1W1P meetings. Craig has been working on the CREP program and designing tree plans for landowners. Devin has been working with WACA, two solar projects, three new sewer projects, new developments at the lake and doing the design work for the waterways and basins.

It was moved Thiner, seconded by Welgraven, to approve Murray Soil and Water Conservation District allocation request in the amount of \$49,069.75. Motion Passed.

#### **4.5.1 – 2024 SQUAD UPFITTING**

The Sheriff has two new squads on order through Enterprise leasing for 2024. The attached quotes are for up fitting the two new squads. The sheriff is planning to re-use as much of the current equipment as possible, such as interior lights, cages, and the deck truck bed. Upfitters have back log and it takes about one year.

It was moved Gunnink, seconded by Thiner, to approve the state bid quote from Emergency Automotive Technologies for the up fitting of the 2024 squads, total purchase price of \$21,185.12 for the two vehicles. Motion Passed.

#### **4.6.1 RESOLUTION FOR PLSS PRESERVATION GRANT PROGRAM**

Murray County has not had a County Surveyor for many decades. This has amplified the need for re-monumentation for much of our Public Land Survey System (PLSS). To benefit from this funding opportunity, Murray County would need to formally assess our current PLSS corner records and submit a grant application. This, along with maintenance of our survey records, and as-needed professional land surveying duties would best be accomplished by appointing a County Surveyor.

The Public Land Survey System (PLSS) is a way of subdividing and describing land within the United States and is an important part of boundary identification and location within Murray County as well as throughout the State of Minnesota.

The MN Legislature has recognized the importance of the PLS system and in the 2023 Minnesota Legislative Session, created a grant program to assist with the updating and improvement of the system.

The monumentation project will be a joint effort between the Highway Department, Environmental Services Department, and the Auditor's Office.

Commissioner Welgraven presented the following resolution and moved for its adoption.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 2024-02-06-01**

**Resolution Authorizing Agreement with Remonumentation Surveyor for Research and Surveying Required under the Public Land Survey System Preservation Grant Program**

**WHEREAS**, the Federal Government surveyed all lands utilizing the Public Land Survey System (PLSS), but the preservation of the monumented corners became a local responsibility and many Minnesota counties have rapidly deteriorating PLSS monuments.

**WHEREAS**, in the state of Minnesota, there are over 312,000 original monuments, and less than half of those are currently certified monuments. Murray County has approximately 2,408 total Public Land Survey (PLS) Corners and only 487 of those are certified (20%), leaving 1,921 PLS comers to be certified (80%).

**WHEREAS**, PLSS Section corners serve as a foundation for boundary data and decision making in Minnesota. The PLS corner positions of the PLSS control the boundaries of every parcel in Murray County and the State of Minnesota. As we move into a world which demands accurate

representation of parcel boundaries, we can only improve our mapping with an accurate PLSS framework; certified monumentation is essential for all property descriptions and location of infrastructure.

**WHEREAS**, Minnesota counties have limited programs and funding available to re-monument and certify the PLS corners in their respective county.

**WHEREAS**, during the 2023 Minnesota Legislative Session, the Finance Bill included \$9.7 million for Public Land Survey System Preservation Grants (Minnesota Statutes \$381.125) that will be administered by the Minnesota Geospatial Information Office (MnGeo). These grants will support the detailed work needed to certify more locations of Minnesota's PLSS monuments.

**WHEREAS**, Murray County has the opportunity to request funding for the project titled "Public Land Survey System Monument Grant Program" and the Highway Department has the capacity to submit an application for up to the amount of \$300,000, and administer the grant if awarded, and the Murray County Auditor's Office is able to act as the Fiscal Agent.

**WHEREAS**, Murray County does not have an elected or appointed County Surveyors Office.

**WHEREAS**, Minnesota Statutes \$389.011, subd. 2(3) allows the Board of County Commissioners to retain a land surveyor to perform the duties of a county surveyor at the compensation set by the county board.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Murray County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Murray County Highway Department to submit a proposal for the project titled "Public Land Survey System Monument Grant Program" (PLSS Grant) up to the amount of \$300,000 for grant funding, and for the Highway Department to act as the Administrator of the PLSS Grant.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Murray County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Murray County Auditor's Office to act as a fiscal agent if funding is awarded for the 2024 project titled "PLSS Monument Grant Program" and will comply with all terms as stated in the fiscal agent agreement.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Murray County Board of Commissioners will contract with Daniel Bueltel of Bueltel-Moseng Land Surveying, Inc. to serve as the County Surveyor Representative for the fulfillment of the "PLSS Monument Grant Program".

The foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Commissioner Gunnink and thereupon being put to a vote all members voted for its adoption.

#### **4.6.1 – REDWOOD RIVER MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT & POLICY COMMITTEE REPRESENTATION**

On May 23, 2023, the Murray County Board of Commissioners adopted a resolution of support for the One Watershed One Plan planning phase of the Redwood River Watershed, along with 10 other governmental entities.

The next step is to adopt the Memorandum of Agreement for the purpose of collectively developing a watershed management plan. The Redwood-Cottonwood Rivers Control Area (RCRCA) has been delegated as both the Grant Administrator as well as the Fiscal Agent for this One Watershed One Plan planning process.

Additionally, each of the participating entities is expected to designate one representative and one alternate to a Policy Committee, who will review recommendations of the Advisory Committee and make final decisions about the content of the application, the plan, and its submittal. Members are also responsible for representing their respective local government in the development of the plan and to report back to their respective boards about the progress and direction of the plan.

Review and adopt the Memorandum of Agreement for the Redwood River One Watershed, One Plan Partnership and Appointment of a Policy Committee Member and Alternate.

It was moved by Gunnink, seconded by Welgraven, to approve and authorize Commissioner Molly Malone, County Administrator Carolyn McDonald, and County Attorney Travis Smith to sign the Memorandum of Agreement for the Redwood River One Watershed One Plan Partnership on behalf of the County. Motion passed.

It was moved by Gunnink, seconded by Thiner, to appoint Commissioner Meier as the Policy Committee Member and Commissioner Gunnink as an Alternate for the Redwood River One Watershed One Plan. Motion Passed.

#### **4.6.2 – SWRDC CONTRACT FOR COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN UPDATE**

The County Board shall review and update the community-based comprehensive plan periodically, but at least every ten years. The County did a major review and update of the Plan in 2016 and there are potential land use activities that may need to be incorporated into the Plan before any ordinance regulations can be added.

Review and approve the contract with Southwest Regional Development Commission for the update of Murray County's Comprehensive Land Use Plan.

It was moved by Gunnink, seconded by Thiner, to approve and authorize Murray County Board of Commissioners Vice Chair and County Administrator Carolyn McDonald to sign the Technical Assistance Contract between the Southwest Regional Development Commission and Murray County to update the Murray County Comprehensive Land Use Plan. Motion Passed.

#### **4.6.3 APPOINTMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Murray County will contract with the Southwest Regional Development Commission to review and update the county's community-based comprehensive plan. Previous Comprehensive Plan Committee Members were asked if they would participate in this year's review. If previous Members chose not to participate this year, County Commissioners were consulted to provide names.

Review and appoint citizen volunteers, State Agency Staff, and County Employees for Murray County's Comprehensive Land Use Plan Update

**2024 Comprehensive Land Use Update Membership List**

Agency	Contact	Address	City	State	Zip	Email
MN Department of Natural Resources	Scott Roemhildt	21371 State Highway 15	New Ulm	MN	56073	Scott.roemhildt@state.mn.us
MN Department of Agriculture	Patrice Bailey	625 Robert Street North	St. Paul	MN	55155-2538	Patrice.bailey@state.mn.us
MN DNR Parks and Recreation	Roseann Schauer	163 State Park Road	Currie	MN	56123	Roseann.schauer@state.mn.us
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency	Mark Hanson	504 Fairgrounds Road , Ste 200	Marshall	MN	56258	Mark.hanson@state.mn.us
MN DOT	Tracy Schnell	2505 Transportation Road	Willmar	MN	56201	Tracy.schnell@state.mn.us
Murray County Assessor	Chad Benda	PO Box 57	Slayton	MN	56172-0057	cbenda@co.murray.mn.us
Murray County Ag & Solid Waste Administrator	Jon Bloemendaal	PO Box 57	Slayton	MN	56172-0057	jbloemendaal@co.murray.mn.us
Murray County Environmental Technician	Sarah Soderholm	PO Box 57	Slayton	MN	56172-0057	ssoderholm@co.murray.mn.us
Murray County Zoning Administrator	Jean Christoffels	PO Box 57	Slayton	MN	56172-0057	jchristoffels@co.murray.mn.us
Murray County Emergency Management	Carl Nyquist	PO Box 57	Slayton	MN	56172-0057	cnyquist@co.murray.mn.us
Murray County SWCD	Craig Christensen	2740 22nd Street, Suite 3	Slayton	MN	56172	cchristensen@co.murray.mn.us
Murray County Highway Department	Randy Groves	3051 20th Street	Slayton	MN	56172	rgroves@co.murray.mn.us
Murray County Economic Development	Justine Wetschreck	PO Box 57	Slayton	MN	56172	jwetschreck@co.murray.mn.us
Murray County Historical Museum	Ann Muecke	2480 29th Street	Slayton	MN	56172	amuecke@co.murray.mn.us
MN Department of Health	Amanda Strommer	1400 East Lyon Street	Marshall	MN	56258	Amanda.strommer@state.mn.us
Lincoln-Pipestone Rural Water	Jason Overby	East Highway 14, Box 188	Lake Benton	MN	56149	jasonoverby@lprw.com
Lincoln-Pipestone Rural Water	Lance Wheeler	East Highway 14, Box 188	Lake Benton	MN	56149	lancewheeler@lprw.com
Red Rock Rural Water	Dominic Jones	PO Box 160	Jeffers	MN	56145	dominicredrock@centurytel.net
Minnesota Rural Water Association	Aaron Meyer	217 12th Avenue SE	Elbow Lake	MN	56531	Aaron.meyer@mrwa.com
Southwest Regional Development	Chris Webb	240 I Broadway Avenue , Suite 1	Slayton	MN	56172	chrisw@swrdc.org
Murray County Cattle & Beef	Ryan Verlinde	2262 205th Avenue	Tracy	MN	56175	Ryanverlinde1@gmail.com
Murray County Local Water Plan	Duane Spartz	1471 91st Street	Slayton	MN	56172	
Murray County Township Association	Ron Vortherms	474 131st Street	Lake Wilson	MN	56151	Ronald.vortherms@gmail.com
Murray County District #3	Burend Cuperus	88 150th Avenue	Iona	MN	56141	bcupe@frontiernet.net
Murray County Planning & Zoning	Annette Fiedler	821 1st Street	Currie	MN	56123	Afiedler57@yahoo.com
Murray County Economic Development	Jason Kirchner	1585 I 16th Street	Slayton	MN	56172	jasejenk@gmail.com
Murray County Pork Producers	Jason Schreier	1195 210th Avenue	Currie	MN	56123	Jasonschreier@yahoo.com
Fulda Fish & Game	Keith Hakeneis	2519 31st Street	Fulda	MN	56131	
Murray County District #5	Gary Hogan	21 US Highway 59	Fulda	MN	56131	
Murray County SWCD Board Member	Mona Henkels	330 235th Avenue	Fulda	MN	56131	Mhenkels@centurytel.net
Lake Sarah PALS	Tom Hey	811 Westmar Circle	Marshall	MN	56258	thomashey@iw.net
Murray County District #1	Brian Hamilton	2575 181st Street	Currie	MN	56123	captainredline@msn.com
Shetek Area Lakes Association	Sheila Holland	66 Pioneer Trail	Garvin	MN	56132	Promotionplus10@gmail.com
Murray County District #2	Todd Miller	1825 110th Avenue	Balaton	MN	56115	toddmiller@frontiernet.net
Murray County Soybean Association	Kevin Wynia	1850 121st Street	Slayton	MN	56172	wyniakevin@gmail.com
Murray County Bankers	Josh Onken	2565 King Avenue	Slayton	MN	56172	Josh@minnwestbankgroup.com
Murray County Parks	Leroy Reese	451 Minnesota Avenue	Lake Wilson	MN	56151	llakeman@iw.net
Murray County Realtor	Pam Schreier	3025 Tamarack Avenue	Slayton	MN	56172	pmw@frontiernet.net
Fulda Lakes	Deb Home	14 Lakeview Drive	Fulda	MN	56131	
Murray County District #4	Dustin Carlson	2457 Ironwood Ave	Slayton	MN	56172	dustinleah@gmail.com
Murray County Dairy Association	Bill Post	392 61st Street	Chandler	MN	56122	Billpost1968@gmail.com
Shetek Area Water & Sewer Commission	Trevor Humphrey	76 Pleasant View Road	Slayton	MN	56172	mearselectric@gmail.com

It was moved by Thiner, seconded by Gunnink, to appoint the 2024 Murray County Comprehensive Land Use Plan Committee List of Citizen Volunteers, State Agency Staff, and County Employees charged with reviewing and updating the Murray County Comprehensive Land Use Plan in consultation with the Southwest Regional Development Commission. Motion Passed.

**4.6.5 LAKE SARAH OUTLET MODIFICATION BID TABULATION AND AWARD**

On January 16, 2024, ten bids were opened during the County Board Meeting for the Lake Sarah Outlet Modification Project. Houston Engineering Inc. reviewed and tabulated all ten bids and will submit a letter of recommendation for awarding the bid.



It was moved by Gunnink, seconded by Welgraven, to accept and award the Lake Sarah Outlet Modification Project to Rupp Construction Company Inc. for the bid price of \$205,675.00. Motion Passed.

#### **4.7.1 – SUNDQUIST PARK ON WEST LAKE SARAH CAMPGROUND EXPANSION PROJECT**

The Murray County Parks and Recreation committee has been talking about ways to improve our campgrounds and one of the projects is an expansion of Sundquist Park on West Lake Sarah. We would like to add 6 new campsites at the park with gravel pads and electrical hookups. This project was a budgeted item for this year. The parks board voted in favor of this project at our meeting on 1-18-24.

It was moved by Gunnink, seconded by Thiner, to approve the Sundquist Park on West Lake Sarah County Park Campground Expansion Project as recommended by the Murray Parks Advisory Commission, and to authorize County Administrator McDonald to sign the Conditional Use Permit Application for the project, and further, to waive the conditional use permit application fee. Motion Passed.

#### **4.8.1 – CERT GRANT FOR 4-H BUILDING LED UPGRADE**

Murray County 4-H: Lighting Upgrade for Murray County 4-H Building Slayton, Minn. — LED lighting upgrade to save on energy expenses and offer more educational opportunities in quiet learning spaces. (\$5,000, Commerce).

It was moved by Welgraven, seconded by Gunnink, to approve the CERT Grant applied for by Murray County 4-H for Labor costs associated with LED upgrades in the Murray County 4-H Building and possibly in Heritage Hall. Motion Passed.

The meeting was recessed at 9:43 a.m.

The meeting came back into session at 9:46 a.m.

#### **4.9.1 – DECLARE UNIT #48 AS SURPLUS PROPERTY**

It was moved by Welgraven, seconded by Gunnink, to declare unit #48, 2009 Mack dump truck as surplus and sell at public auction. Motion Passed.

#### **4.9.2 EQUIPMENT PURCHASE REQUESTS**

It was moved by Gunnink, seconded by Thiner, to approve purchase of a 2024 JD 644P loader from RDO Equipment Co with the trade in for the price of \$340,244.00. Motion Passed.

It was moved by Welgraven, seconded by Thiner, to approve purchase of a 2024 Midland Model WA shouldering machine attachment from Swanston Equipment Corp for the price of \$137,800.00. Motion Passed.

It was moved by Gunnink, seconded by Thiner, to approve purchase of a Bomag jumper packer from Stan Houston Equipment Co for the price of \$3,300.00. Motion Passed.

It was moved by Gunnink, seconded by Thiner, to approve purchase of a 2023 ACS Industries loader forks from RDO Equipment Co for the price of \$17,400.00. Motion Passed.

It was moved by Thiner, seconded by Welgraven to approve moving the 1980 Dunn shouldering machine surplus and sell at public auction. Motion Passed.

**4.10.1 – MUSEUM DIRECTOR**

Request Board to approve the hiring of Nicholas Demuth as a full-time, 30-40 hours per week, Museum Director, effective February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at a grade 8, step 1 (\$23.70).

It was moved by Gunnink, seconded by Welgraven, to approve the hiring of Nicholas Demuth, per the Personnel Committee, as the Museum Director, effective February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at a grade 8, step 1. Motion Passed.

**4.10.2 – 2024 SEASONAL EMPLOYEE WAGE SCALE**

Request Board to approve an increase of \$0.25 per hour to the 2024 Seasonal Employee Wage Scale and add steps 6-10 to correspond with the County standard of 10 steps for each grade. Annual seasonal wage increases have traditionally been \$0.25 per hour. It is the recommendation to increase the 2023 seasonal wage schedule by \$0.25 per hour for the 2024 seasonal wage schedule.

Furthermore, as it is the desire to retain exceptional seasonal employees for the entire season to provide a continuous high level of service to the public, and in an effort to remain competitive within the temporary job market, it is additionally recommended to extend the seasonal wage schedule from 5/6 steps (as applicable) to correspond with the County standard of 10 steps for both grades 1 and 2 which will allow returning seasonal employees a greater opportunity for wage advances.

It was discussed to do a 5% increase to seasonal as well.

**2023 Seasonal Wage Scale**

Grade	A(1)	B(2)	C(3)	D(4)	E(5)	F(6)
1	\$13.75	\$14.25	\$14.75	\$15.25	\$15.75	\$16.00
2	\$15.75	\$16.25	\$16.75	\$17.25	\$17.75	–

**Proposed 2024 Seasonal Wage Scale**

Grade	A(1)	B(2)	C(3)	D(4)	E(5)	F(6)	G(7)	H(8)	I(9)	J(10)
1	\$14.00	\$14.50	\$15.00	\$15.50	\$16.00	\$16.50	\$17.00	\$17.50	\$18.00	\$18.50
2	\$16.00	\$16.50	\$17.00	\$17.50	\$18.00	\$18.50	\$19.00	\$19.50	\$20.00	\$20.50

**Grade 1: Parks Maintenance (4), Museum Assistant (4)**

**Grade 2: Highway Surveying Tech (1)**

It was moved by Welgraven, seconded by Malone, to approve the 2024 Seasonal Employee Wage Scale with additional steps up to 10 for each grade. Motion Passed.

**4.11.1 – CHILD SUPPORT AGREEMENT**

It was moved by Gunnink, seconded by Thiner, to approve the 2024 – 2025 Murray County Child Support Agreement and authorize County Sheriff Heath Landsman, County Administrator Carolyn McDonald, and County Attorney Travis Smith to sign the agreement. Motion Passed.

**4.11.2 – DISCUSSION REGARDING MARCH 19, 2024, MEETING**

It was discussed that on Tuesday March 19, 2024, three Commissioner will not be present, and County Administrator McDonald will also not be present.

It was discussed that it works best to keep a meeting on the 26<sup>th</sup>.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS FOR THE PERIOD OF JANUARY 7 – 20, 2024**

**Malone**

1/10/2024 District 8 Land Use, SAWS online

1/15/2024

1/16/2024 Commissioner meeting

1/18/2024 EDA

**Gunnink**

1/9/2024 Historical Society

1/10/2024 SAWS Meeting

1/16/2024 Commissioner meeting

1/17/2024 Plum Creek Library Governing Board/Cottonwood 1W1P

**Welgraven**

1/11/2024 SRDC

1/16/2024 Commissioner meeting

1/17/2024 SWHHS, Lyon Murray col, Mutual Aid

1/18/2024 EDA, Building Committee

**Thiner**

1/11/2024 SMOC

1/16/2024 Commissioner meeting

1/17/2024 Transit Committee

1/18/2024 Des Moines Watershed, Parks Meeting, Building Meeting

**COMMITTEE REPORTS FOR THE PERIOD OF JANUARY 21 – FEBRUARY 3, 2024**

**Malone**

1/22/24 Hospital Finance &  
Personnel  
1/23/24 Commissioner Meeting  
1/24/24 MCMC Board Meeting  
1/26/24 Investment Committee

**Gunnink**

1/23/24 Commissioner Meeting  
  
2/1/24 RCRCA Area II

**Welgraven**

1/22/24 Solid Waste, MREB  
1/23/24 Commissioner Meeting  
  
1/29/24 Supporting Hands  
1/31/24 Personnel  
2/1/24 Building Committee

**Thiner**

1/22/24 SMOC  
1/23/24 Commissioner Meeting  
1/24/24 RACECB Radio Board  
  
2/1/24 Building Committee

The meeting adjourned at 10:26 a.m.

ATTEST:

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Carolyn McDonald, County Administrator

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Molly Malone, Board Vice Chair