

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MURRAY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MURRAY COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER – SLAYTON, MINNESOTA  
August 25, 2020 8:30 a.m.

Pursuant to notice, the Murray County Board of Commissioners convened with the following members present in person: Commissioners Dennis Welgraven, Lori Gunnink, James Jens, James Kluis, and David Thiner. Also present in person was County Administrator Thomas Burke, General Assistant Samantha McClellan. County Attorney Travis Smith via phone.

The Chairman asked if there were any additions to the agenda. Several were added.

It was moved by Gunnink, seconded by Jens to approve the agenda with additions.

No conflicts of interest were identified.

It was moved by Thiner, seconded by Kluis to approve the minutes from August 18, 2020 meeting with changes.

**OPEN FORUM / PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no one present for Open Forum.

**RETIREMENT AWARD TO EVEY LARSON**

**DITCH BILLS**

It was moved by Jens, seconded by Gunnink and passed to approve accepting the report of the petitions for payment, having been inspected for determining what repairs, if any, are necessary, the extent and nature of such repairs and a list of bills presented for payment that will enable said ditches to answer their purposes and to pay all bills contained within the report.

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<b><u>Rinke Noonan</u></b>		
CD 22	<u>505.50</u>	CD 22 Appeal - Legal
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b><u>505.50</u></b>	
<b>Total Ditch Bills</b>	<b><u>505.50</u></b>	

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**JUDICIAL DITCH 6/20A IMPROVEMENT – PAY APPLICATION 4**

It was moved by Jens, seconded by Gunnink and passed to approve Pay Application 4 to Cooreman Contracting for the Judicial Ditch No. 6/20A Improvement Project for \$322,197.31.

**RECORDER BUDGET**

Discussion on the budget for recorder’s office.

**INTERMITTENT HOUSEKEEPER**

It was moved by Thiner, seconded by Kluis and passed to approve hiring Kim Carlson as an intermittent Housekeeper at Sunrise Terrace effective September 2, 2020 at grade 1, step 3.

Contingent upon satisfactory results of a criminal background check and a pre-employment drug test.

#### DEPUTY SHERIFF PERA RESOLUTION

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

RESOLUTION 2020-08-25-00  
RESOLUTION FOR PEACE OFFICER  
REQUESTING COVERAGE IN THE PUBLIC EMPLOYEES  
POLICE AND FIRE FUND

WHEREAS, the policy of the State of Minnesota declared in Minnesota Statutes 353.63 is to give special consideration to employees who perform hazardous work and devote their time and skills to protecting the property and personal safety of others; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes Section 353.64 permits governmental subdivision to request coverage in the Public Employees Police and Fire Plan for eligible employees of police or Sheriff departments whose position duties meet the requirements stated there in and listed below. BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners, of Murray County hereby declares that the position title Deputy Sheriff currently held by Emerson Winter, meets all of the following Police and Fire membership requirements:

1. Said position requires a license by the Minnesota peace officer standards and training board under sections 626.84 to 626.863 and this employee is so licensed;
2. Said position's primary (over 50%) duty is to enforce the general criminal laws of the state;
3. Said position charges this employee with the prevention and detection of crime;
4. Said position gives this employee the full power of arrest, and
5. Said position is assigned to a designated police or sheriff's department.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this governing body hereby requests that the named employee be accepted as a member of the Public Employees Police and Fire Plan effective the date of this employee's initial Police and Fire salary deduction by the governmental subdivision.

The foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Commissioner Kluis, and thereupon being put to a vote all members of the Board voted for its adoption.

#### LIGHTNING STRIKE CLAIM UPDATE

Jason Lohrenz gave an update on the equipment damaged as a result of the lightning strike that occurred on Sunday, July 26, 2020.

#### COUNTY WEBSITE

Jason Lorenz lead a discussion on updating the Murray County Website.

#### BOARD ROOM VIRTUAL MEETING UPDATE

Discussion on improving the sound system used for call-in meetings in the board room.

## COVID-19 UPDATE

County Administrator Thomas Burke and Emergency Management/Safety Director Carl Nyquist led a discussion on Murray County's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

## CARES ACT

County Administrator Thomas Burke and Emergency Management/Safety Director Carl Nyquist led a discussion on the CARES Act.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

James Jens: 8/13 Highway Department Open House, Covid-19 Report, 8/18 Regular Board 8/19 Southwest Health and Human Services, Planning and Zoning Committee.

Lori Gunnink: 8/13 Highway Department Open House, 8/18 Regular Board Meeting.

James Kluis: 8/13 Highway Department Open House, 8/14 Canvas Board, 8/18 Regular Board Meeting.

Dennis Welgraven: 8/10 Southwest Regional Development Commission, 8/13 Personnel Committee, 8/13 CARES Act Meeting, Highway Department Open House, 8/14 Fair Board, Election Canvas, 8/18 Regular Board Meeting, 8/19 Southwest Health and Human Services, 8/21 Cares Act Meeting.

David Thiner: 8/13 ISG Webinar, Highway Department Open House, 8/17 Southwest Minnesota Opportunity Council, 8/18 Regular Board Meeting, 8/20 ISG Drainage Webinar.

It was moved by Gunnink, seconded by Jens and passed to approve the committee reports for August 9 – August 22, 2020.

## HIGHWAY STATE AID BONDS DISCUSSION

Discussion on timeline to issue State Aid Bonds.

## PURCHASE AGREEMENT FOR LAND

It was moved by Thiner, and seconded by Kluis to approve a purchase agreement between Murray County and the Kevin K. Nelson Living Trust and Linda L. Nelson Living Trust for a 25-acre parcel of land described as follows: The east 660' of the North 1650' of the NW1/4 of Section 16, Township 106, Range 41, Murray County, Minnesota (purchase price: \$800,000), further moving that the County Board reserves the right to reimburse itself with bond proceeds in the future if necessary. The motion passed with a roll call vote as follows:

- James Jens: No
- Lori Gunnink: No
- James Kluis: Yes
- Dennis Welgraven: Yes
- David Thiner: Yes

The meeting recessed at 10:07 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 12:53 p.m.

**LISMORE, IONA, BROADBAND GRANT**

It was moved by Thiner, seconded by Gunnink and passed to approve support of \$100,000 towards the Lismore Cooperative Telephone Company, Iona, Broadband Grant.

The meeting adjured at 12:56 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Samantha McClellan, General Assistant

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Dennis Welgraven, Chairman of the Board