

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MURRAY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MURRAY COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER – SLAYTON, MINNESOTA  
September 15, 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 September 1, 2020.

OPEN FORUM / PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no one present for Open Forum.

CONTRACT WITH LAMAR FOR 2 AID BILLBOARDS

It was moved by Jens, seconded by Gunnink and passed to approve contract with Lamar for \$8,450.00 for Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) advertising on both the north and south billboards adjacent to US Highway 59, viewable by southbound traffic and northbound traffic, respectively. And to authorize the County Administrator to sign the contract on behalf of the County.

COMMISSIONER WARRANTS

It was moved by Thiner, seconded by Jens and passed that all claims as presented were approved for payment. The Chairman was authorized to sign the Audit List dated September 10, 2020 with fund totals as follows and warrants numbered 163060 through 163138:

County Revenue Fund	102,752.52
County Road & Bridge Fund	30,728.42
Ditch	43.82
Self-Insurance	1,547.31
Sunrise Terrace	4,513.41
SAWS	166.38
Total	139,751.86

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.

**BCL Televising**

JD2N	1,710.00	#2020-006	Approved T.Radke 9-9-2020	3-Welgraven
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b><u>1,710.00</u></b>			

**Bolton & Menk**

CD43M	1,120.00	#2019-084	Approved T.Radke 9-4-2020	1-Jens
JD 3	198.00	Judicial Ditch 3 Improvement - Engineering		
JD 6	9,914.50	Judicial Ditch 6 Improvement - Engineering		
JD 20A	8,897.00	Judicial Ditch 20A Improvement - Engineering		
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b><u>20,129.50</u></b>			

**HydroKlean**

JD 17/Lake Elsie	29,035.00	#2020-033	Approved T.Radke 9-4-2020	4-Khuis
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b><u>29,035.00</u></b>			

**Johnson Ditching, Inc**

CD 11	948.73	#2019-013	Approved T.Radke 9-4-2020	2-Gunnink
CD 75	585.20	#2020-018	Approved T.Radke 9-4-2020	3-Welgraven
JD 19	347.40	#2019-111	Approved T.Radke 9-4-2020	2-Gunnink
CD 81	1,124.10	#2020-044	Approved T.Radke 9-9-2020	2-Gunnink
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b><u>3,005.43</u></b>			

**Johnson/Steve (Viewing Services)**

JD 17	448.58	Viewing Services - 2020 Redetermination of Benefits		
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b><u>448.58</u></b>			

**Noomen Excavating**

JD 17/Lake Elsie	8,837.50	#2020-033	Approved T.Radke 9-4-2020	4-Khuis
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b><u>8,837.50</u></b>			

**Riley Land Improvement LLC**

CD 38	410.00	#2020-041	Approved T.Radke 9-9-2020	2-Gunnink
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b><u>410.00</u></b>			

**Rinke Noonan**

CD 22	745.50	CD 22 Appeal - Legal		
JD 3	562.50	JD 3 Improvement - Legal		
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b><u>1,308.00</u></b>			

**Total Ditch Bills 64,884.01**

2021 PRELIMINARY LEVY

Discussion on Murray County 2021 preliminary levy.

#### CHANARAMBIE POWER PARTNERS

Discussion on Chanarambie Power Partners decommissioning existing 1.5 MW turbines and replacing them with new turbines with a capacity of approximately 2 to 3 MW.

#### JUDICIAL DITCH 17

It was moved by Thiner, seconded by Kluis and passed to approve accepting the proposal provided by Short Elliott Hendrickson Inc., per the recommendation of Josh Malchow, Slayton City Administrator, for engineering services to review the Judicial Ditch 17 outlet at Beaver Creek.

#### COUNTY WIDE REDETERMINATION DISCUSSION WITH H2OVER VIEWERS

Discussion on county wide ditch benefit redetermination using H2Over viewers.

#### 7 MILE PARK PURCHASE REQUEST

It was moved by Thiner, seconded by Jens and passed to purchase 79 cubic yards of engineered wood fibers from Minnesota Wisconsin Playground, per the recommendation of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. Funds to be paid from O1- 521-525-6302.

#### IT PROJECTS UTILIZING CARE'S FUNDING

It was moved by Jens seconded by Gunnink and passed to authorize Jason Lohrenz, Information Technology Supervisor, to purchase and install all presented IT projects utilizing CARE 's funding.

#### HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE WORKER

It was moved by Thiner, seconded by Jens and passed to approve the recruitment process for a regular, full-time, Highway Maintenance Worker, per the recommendation of Randy Groves, Murray County Engineer.

#### EMPLOYMENT STAFFING LEVELS

Discussion on staffing levels for all employees.

#### ESTABLISH A STAKEHOLDER GROUP

It was moved by Gunnink, seconded by Welgraven and passed to appoint a stakeholder group for the highway building project that would include the following: County Engineer - Randy Groves, Assistant Engineer - Keith Rossow, Maintenance Supervisor - Lonn Jackels, Accounting Technician - Lisa Saner, Lead Mechanic - Darren Saner, County Administrator – Thomas Burke, Auditor/Treasurer – Heidi Winter, Commissioners – David Thiner, and James Jens.

#### JACKSON COUNTY HIGHWAY BUILDING TOUR

Discussion to have the Murry County board tour the Jackson County highway site on September 29, 2020.

#### AMENDMENTS TO SMALL CITIES DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

It was moved by Jens, seconded by Gunnink and passed to approve the first and second amendments to the Murray County Small Cities Development Program.

#### 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.

#### CARE'S ACT

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

It was moved by Gunnink, seconded by Jens and passed to approve authorizing Thomas Burke to approve CARES Act payments.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

James Jens: 8/24 Hospital Finance Meeting, 8/25 Regular Board Meeting, Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission, 9/26 Hospital Board Meeting, 9/1 Regular Board Meeting.

Lori Gunnink: 8/25 Regular Board Meeting, 8/31 Emergency Management Services Cell Phone Coverage Meeting, 9/1 Regular Board Meeting.

James Kluis: 8/25 Regular Board Meeting, 9/1 Regular Board Meeting, 9/2 Ditch 17 Landowner Meeting.

Dennis Welgraven: 8/25 Regular Board Meeting, Economic Development Authority, 9/1 Regular Board Meeting, Economic Development Authority, 9/2 Ditch 17 Landowner Meeting, 9/4 CARE'S Act Meeting, Personnel Committee.

David Thiner: 8/25 Regular Board Meeting, Economic Development Authority, Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission, 8/27 HVAC Meeting, 9/1 Regular Board Meeting, 9/4 Personnel Meeting.

It was moved by Thiner, seconded by Jens and passed to approve the committee reports for August 23 – September 5, 2020.

#### CELL PHONE SERVICE

Continued discussion on lack of cell phone service in areas of Murray County.

The meeting adjured at 11:03 A.M.

ATTEST:

---

Samantha McClellan, General Assistant

---

Dennis Welgraven, Chairman of the Board