

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD OF NOBLES COUNTY, MINNESOTA

The County Board of Nobles County met for in regular session this 21st day of March, 2017, in the Board of Commissioners Room, at the Nobles County Government Center, Worthington, Minnesota. The following Commissioners were in attendance: Justin Ahlers, Gene Metz, Matt Widboom, Robert Demuth Jr. and Donald Linssen.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was recited.

On a motion by Justin Ahlers and seconded by Matt Widboom, it was duly passed to approve the agenda as presented.

Barb Smith, Legal Secretary in the County Attorney's office, was recognized for 15 years of service.

On a motion by Robert Demuth Jr. and seconded by Gene Metz, it was duly passed to approve the consent agenda as presented.

5.1 March 7, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes

5.2 March 7, 2017 Tax-Forfeited Land Classification Public Meeting Minutes

5.3 Meetings & Conferences – Travel Expenses

5.4 Auditor's and Commissioner's Warrants

Darlene Macklin and Nancy Vaske, Travel Southwest Minnesota, Inc., presented the Board with information regarding the nine counties that invest in Travel Southwest Minnesota, Inc. and thanked the Commissioners for the annual appropriation. Ms. Macklin reviewed highlights of the 2016 financial report, tourism and hunting facts and encouraged the Commissioners to visit their new website.

Kathleen Kusz, County Attorney, presented the Board with information and recommendations in the area of a Joint Powers Agreement between the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) and the Nobles County Attorney's Office.

On a motion by Justin Ahlers and seconded by Matt Widboom, it was duly passed to authorize the County Board Chair to sign, on behalf of Nobles County, a State of Minnesota Joint Powers Agreement, SWIFT Contract # 120728, for the provision of access to the Minnesota Criminal Justice Data Communications Network (CJDN) and those systems and tools which the Agency is authorized by law to access via the CJDN for the purposes outlined in Minn. Stat. § 299C.46. A copy of the Agreement was before the Board and is made a part of this resolution by reference.

Kent Wilkening, Sheriff, presented the Board with information and a recommendation in the area of the 2017 State of Minnesota Annual County Boat and Water Safety Grant Agreement. The Board was advised that the grant was all inclusive of wages and maintenance fees for patrolling the lake.

On a motion by Justin Ahlers and seconded by Robert Demuth Jr., it was duly passed to adopt Resolution 201719 authorizing the County Board Chair and County Administrator to sign, on behalf of Nobles County, the 2017 State of Minnesota Annual County Boat and Water Safety Grant Agreement in the amount of \$1,056.00.

Stephen Schnieder, Public Works Director/County Engineer, presented the Board with information and recommendation in the area of approving final payment for Contract 16001 for bituminous paving and reconstruction.

On a motion by Gene Metz and seconded by Donald Linssen, it was duly passed to adopt Resolution 201718 accepting Contract No. 16001 completed project for and in behalf of the Nobles County Public Works and authorize final payment in the amount of \$133,214.91.

Mr. Schnieder advised the Board that a crosswalk sign was down at CR35 and CR10 due to the wind. The Board held discussion that they would like Mr. Schnieder to bring forward information at a work session on rural intersection lighting and speed signs.

Beth Van Hove, Auditor-Treasurer, and Stephen Schnieder, Public Works Director/County Engineer, presented the Board with a recommendation from legal counsel to set a dollar amount guideline for repair and maintenance work on all drainage systems.

On a motion by Robert Demuth Jr. and seconded by Justin Ahlers, it was duly passed to adopt Resolution 201721 that the Nobles County Board of Commissioners hereby approves setting the guideline to \$5,000 for future repair and maintenance work on all drainage systems.

Beth Van Hove, Auditor-Treasurer, presented the Board with a request to issue duplicate warrants to Lismore Township and Thomson Reuters West.

On a motion by Gene Metz and seconded by Matt Widboom, it was duly passed to approve the issuance of a duplicate warrant to Lismore Township in the amount of \$43,871.33.

On a motion by Justin Ahlers and seconded by Robert Demuth Jr., it was duly passed to approve the issuance of a duplicate warrant to Thomson Reuters West the amount of \$5,301.30.

Jerry Vyskocil, Finance Director, presented the Board with information in the area of renewing the Open-Gov Transparency Module and adding the Open-Gove Intelligence module with a five year commitment.

On a motion by Robert Demuth Jr. and seconded by Gene Metz, it was duly passed to approve the renewal of the Transparency Module and add the Intelligence Module with a five year commitment at the annual rate of \$8,075 for both modules. The Open-Gov Software Agreement was before the Board and is made a part of this resolution by reference.

Tom Johnson, County Administrator, presented the Board with information and recommendations in the area of proclaiming April 4, 2017 as National Service Recognition Day and the County's affirmation to carry out compliance provisions of the water quality buffer initiative.

On a motion by Donald Linssen and seconded by Justin Ahlers, it was duly passed to adopt the following Resolution number 201720:

Whereas, Nobles County is proud to join in a nationwide salute that will highlight the importance of citizen engagement and recognize the dedication of National Service AmeriCorps State members, Senior Corps Foster Grandparent Program (FGP) members, and Senior Corps Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) volunteers, and inspire more residents to get involved in their communities, and

Whereas, the nation's counties are increasingly turning to National Service and volunteer programs as a cost-effective strategy to meet county needs, and

Whereas, National Service programs expand economic opportunity by creating more sustainable communities and providing education, career skills, and leadership abilities for those who serve, and

Whereas, A.C.E. of SW Minnesota provides a unique public-private partnership that invests in community solutions to strengthen community impact and increase the return on taxpayer dollars, and

Whereas, under the guidance of A.C.E. of SW Minnesota, the Senior Corps RSVP volunteers demonstrate commitment, dedication, and patriotism by making an intensive commitment to service, and

Whereas, nearly 13,000 Minnesota Senior Corps Volunteers provided more than 1.8 million hours of service in 2016. Nobles County was served by 2 AmeriCorps State members, 1 Senior Corps FGP member, and 403 Senior Corps RSVP volunteers in 2016. The Senior Corps RSVP volunteers perform their volunteer service work under the guidance of A.C.E. of SW Minnesota – Nobles County office. These volunteers provide vital support to county residents and improve the quality of life in Nobles County, and

Whereas, as a County Commission, we work hard every day to make life better for our constituents, and strengthening the spirit and commitment of the volunteers who serve our county is just one of our many goals. We are grateful for the dedication and sacrifice of these citizens who are helping make our great county stronger, safer, and healthier, and

Whereas, today we thank National Service AmeriCorps members, Senior Corps FGP members, and Senior Corps RSVP volunteers for their commitment. Let us pledge to do our part to strengthen our county through services and volunteering, and

Therefore, be it resolved, that we, the Nobles County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim April 4, 2017, as National Service Recognition Day, and encourage residents to recognize the positive impact of National Service programs in our county, to thank those who serve; and to find ways to give back to our communities.

The Board discussed that originally Counties were advised that if they do not accept enforcement authority by March 31, 2017, that the enforcement would be under BWSR permanently. Commissioner Metz advised as of late that the County could take back the enforcement authority with a 60 day notice.

On a motion by Gene Metz and seconded by Robert Demuth Jr., it was duly passed to adopt the following Resolution number 201722:

Affirming Nobles County's jurisdiction to carry out the compliance provisions of Minnesota Statutes 103B.101, subdivision 12a and 103F.48

WHEREAS, during the 2015 First Special Session, the 89th Legislature adopted Chapter 4, creating the water quality buffer initiative; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 4 permits a county to opt in as the enforcement authority of the water quality buffer initiative for its jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, improved water quality is a statewide goal, but is best administered by local policymakers, whose familiarity with their home communities will ensure a cooperative and efficient implementation of the initiative; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, Nobles County affirms its jurisdiction to carry out the compliance provisions of Minnesota Statutes 103B.101, subdivision 12a and 103F.48; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, county staff may draft a rule, ordinance, or official controls, to be approved by the Nobles Board of County Commissioners, to carry out the compliance provisions of Minnesota Statutes 103B.101, subdivision 12a and 103F.48.

Mr. Johnson announced the Annual Worthington Bio Conference will be held on Thursday, April 6th and Friday, April 7th at the Worthington Event Center.

Committee and Board reports were received from the following:

District I-Commissioner Ahlers reported on the Heron Lake Watershed District, Summit Lake Township and Nobles County Historical Society meetings.

District II-Commissioner Metz reported on the Buffalo Ridge Regional Rail Authority, Library Board, legislation on energy bills and Township meetings.

District III-Commissioner Widboom reported on the transportation meeting and provided updates on projects for Highway 91, Highway 59, I-90 and Highway 60.

District IV-Commissioner Demuth reported on the County Commissioners at your cafe event in Rushmore.

District V-Commissioner Linssen reported on the Nobles Economic Opportunity Network (NEON), County Commissioners at your café and Chief Elected Officials meetings.

Management Team – Kathleen Kusz had no report

County Administrator-Tom Johnson reported on the Broadband Day at legislature, the Historical Review Board, Rock-Nobles Community Corrections, Worthington Regional Economic Development Corporation (WREDC), City County College School meetings and Assessor accreditation at legislature.

The Board discussed they would like to make it to all the small towns for County Commissioners at your café events and may schedule in conjunction before or after city council meetings to facilitate attendance. The Center for Active Living will be revisited again once the snowbirds have returned. Commissioner Ahlers advised he had talked to Jim Naumann, City of Brewster and Tom Cotter, TC's Tavern, regarding Brewster's coffee crowd. The consensus of the Board was to hold the next County Commissioners at your café event at TC's Tavern prior to the Brewster City Council meeting on Wednesday, April 5th so that both could be attended.

As part of the 2017 American Legion's Nobles County Government Day, Commanders from the Adrian and Ellsworth area brought local students on a tour into the Board meeting for introductions and a summary of County services.

At 10:22 a.m., on a motion by Matt Widboom and seconded by Justin Ahlers, it was duly passed to recess until 10:30 a.m. for the Super Bowl 52 Committee presentation.

On a motion by Robert Demuth Jr. and seconded by Gene Metz, it was duly passed to open the meeting at 10:32 a.m.

Cecilia Bofah, Health Educator, Stacie Golombiecki, Community Services Director, and Dana Nelson, Super Bowl Legacy Committee, announced the award of a \$50,000 grant being invested in Buss Field and spoke of upcoming volunteer opportunities for Super Bowl 52 in February 2018. Throughout Minnesota, the Statewide Health Improvement Partnership (SHIP) and Public Health programs coordinated efforts with the Super Bowl Committee. The Nobles team submitted three proposals to the Super Bowl Legacy Committee that met the criteria and one was selected. Ms. Bofah announced that more information will be released at the 3:00 program at the YMCA. Tomorrow morning, a breakfast will be held in recognition of the Super School Grant Investment in the amount of \$10,000 at the High School. Ms. Bofah thanked the Board and requested support of their programs at legislature.

On a motion by Justin Ahlers and seconded by Gene Metz, it was duly passed to adjourn the meeting at 10:43 a.m.

Attest:


Chairperson


County Administrator