

NEON Minutes  
December 14, 2017, Biotechnology Advancement Center

Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance and Nobles County Administrator, Tom Johnson, presided over the meeting.

2018 Legislative Priorities update: Tom Johnson updated; the County Recorder's Office suggests removing the County Recorder position among those being allowed to be appointed.

Urban Lawmaker Tour Update: Nobles County Commissioners will take the lead on organizing the tour; include areas to show off along with areas of need. Daycare issues need to be included.

ISD 518 Referendum: Brad Shaffer gave a presentation on the ISD 518 Referendum that is on the ballot on the special election on February 13, 2018.

Around the Table:

Aaron Hagen/Worthington Public Utilities: Utilities have been pretty quiet; have a nominal increase in budget; Lewis & Clarke is digging away!

Gary Ewert/Heron Lake Watershed: No report.

Brad Shaffer/ISD 518: Referendum presentation.

Julie Foote/MVTV – Access points are working; still trying to find a solution for internet/broadband in Bigelow; 60-90 group – Highway 60 is concreted to Bingham Lake.

Cheryl Janssen/Seward Township – Received gravel. Road signs that are less than 5 years old were completely faded-3M had a bad batch of paint and the company the signs were purchased from are replacing them.

Rod Sankey/Citizen of Worthington – Tele-Health, Smart Home are the future. Smart Homes have sensors in your doorway that will check your health.

Don Linssen/Nobles County – Attended the AMC Fall Conference and Coffee with the Commissioners in Bigelow. Budget sessions are finished and the county will see a 3.2% increase in the Levy.

Doug Knuth/City of Round Lake – A lot of meetings working with New Fashion Pork on the proposed feed mill in Round Lake; meeting on December 19 to update the city council. Café is to be torn down; an environmental assessment is being done before it is torn down. Grant for roads has been submitted; hope to hear in March if it is granted.

Amy Ernst/City of Worthington – Budget is at 7.89% increase. Pavilion, Beach House, Daycare, Housing options are all items being discussed. Worthington High School Fall Play "Charlie Brown Christmas" is at Memorial Auditorium December 14 and 15. Spirit of Worthington Marching Band marched in the Hollywood Holiday Parade which will be aired on the CW on Friday, December 15 and the Hallmark Channel December 22. Computer System at the BAC has had issues for over a year and needs to be fixed, let's fix it. Tom Johnson will check with IT Department at Nobles County to look into repairs.

Robert Demuth Jr./Nobles County – Union negotiations are taking place; three are settled, four are not.

Tom Johnson/Nobles County – Government Center Foundation project is one railing short of completion; next spring the landscaping will be finished. PJC Roof Project is winding down. PJC Garage addition will be enclosed next week. Adrian Garage addition is being sided. CIP projects – working on getting them

complete so they can go out for bids for spring work. Broadband – 80% of fiber is in the ground; towers are ready but had issues with permits that slowed down the construction.

A project is needed for NEON to work on. NEON has been successful with Broadband, now we need to spearhead another project and get more people to attend the meetings. NEON is a great opportunity!

Next Meeting:

January 11, 2018 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm  
BioTechnology Advancement Center  
1527 Prairie Drive, Worthington, MN 56187

The meeting adjourned.