

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF NOBLES COUNTY,
MINNESOTA**

The Board of Commissioners of Nobles County met in regular session on Tuesday, June 18, 2019, in the Commissioners Room, at the Nobles County Government Center, Worthington, Minnesota.

The following Commissioners were in attendance: Justin Ahlers, Gene Metz, Matt Widboom, Robert S. Demuth and Donald Linssen.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Widboom at 9:00 AM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.0 Call to Order	
2.0 Pledge of Allegiance	
3.0 Approval of Agenda	
<u>VOTING</u> It was duly passed to approve the agenda as presented. Motion by: Demuth, Robert S. Seconded by: Metz, Gene	
4.0 Recognition	
4.1	Visitors & Guests Welcome
4.2	Awards: Recognition for Years of Service
	Angela Abrahamson, Social Worker, and Kathleen Kusz, County Attorney, were in attendance and Angela was recognized for 15 years of service and Kathleen was recognized for 25 years with a presentation of their anniversary awards.
4.3	Retirement Recognition
	Colette Smythe, Eligibility Worker, was acknowledged for her service to Nobles County and its citizens for over 13 years and was presented with a retirement gift.
5.0 Consent Agenda	
5.1	June 4, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes <u>Attachments:</u> June 4, 2019 Draft Regular Meeting Minutes
5.2	Group Residential Housing Agreements 2019-2020 Renewals <u>Attachments:</u> Client Community Services, Inc. Ecumen Meadows Habilitative Services, Inc. Southwestern Mental Health Center, Inc. (dba Unity House) New Dawn, Inc. Adrian Country Living Cottage Berger Agency, Inc. (dba Prairie House) Pallansch Properties, LLC (dba Sunrise View Assisted Living) KC Companies of Worthington, Inc.
5.3	MDH Grant Project Agreement – Family Home Visiting Grant <u>Attachments:</u> MDH Community Health Board Grant Project Agreement

5.4	Meetings & Conferences – Travel Expenses <u>Attachments:</u> Travel Expenses paid June 7, 2019
5.5	Auditor's Warrants <u>Attachments:</u> Accounts Payable Summary Auditor's Warrants by Fund
<u>VOTING</u> It was duly passed to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Moved by: Ahlers, Justin Seconded by: Linssen, Donald	
6.0 Public Hearing	
6.1	Public Hearing – Proposed Property Tax Abatement Bruce Kempema Parcel 04-0137-000 Jerry and Nancy Krull Parcel 29-0108-000 A. Open Hearing (Action) B. Proposed Abatement – Discussion C. Public Comment D. Close Hearing (Action) E. Decisions 1. Kempema Parcel 04-0137-000 – Resolution 201931 (Action) 2. Krull Parcel 29-0108-000 – Resolution 201932 (Action)
	<u>Attachments:</u> NHI Nobles County Guidelines Kempema Parcel 04-0137-000 Application Information Resolution 201931 Krull Parcel 29-0108-000 Application Information Resolution 201932
	A. On a motion by Justin Ahlers and seconded by Gene Metz, it was duly passed to open the Proposed Property Tax Abatement Public Hearing for Bruce Kempema, Parcel 04-0137-000 and Jerry and Nancy Krull, Parcel 29-0108-000. B. Abraham Algadi, Executive Director of WREDC, reviewed the Nobles Home Initiative Applications and recommended approval. C. No public comments were received. D. On a motion by Gene Metz and seconded by Robert S. Demuth, it was duly passed to close the Proposed Property Tax Abatement Public Hearing. E. 1. On a motion by motion by Gene Metz and seconded by Justin Ahlers, it was duly passed to adopt Resolution 201931 approving tax abatement to Bruce Kempema for Parcel 04-0137-000-000 pursuant to Minnesota Statute 469.1813. 2. On a motion by Donald Linssen and seconded by Robert S. Demuth, it was duly passed to adopt Resolution 201932 approving tax abatement to Jerry and Nancy Krull for Parcel 29-0108-000 pursuant to Minnesota Statute 469.1813.
7.0	Department Presentations
7.1	Public Works – Stephen Schnieder
A.	Leota Twp. Agreement 2019-02
	Stephen Schnieder, Public Works Director/County Engineer, presented the Board with information and a recommendation in the area of the County providing engineering work to townships to assist them with projects.

	<u>Attachments:</u> Agreement Number 2019-02
<u>VOTING</u>	It was duly passed to approve Agreement Number 2019-02 between Leota Township and Nobles County for the 111 th Street Improvement. Moved By: Ahlers, Justin Seconded by: Metz, Gene
B.	Contract 17002 Final Payment – Resolution 201933
	Stephen Schnieder, Public Works Director/County Engineer, presented the Board with information and a recommendation in the area of accepting the completion of a project involving five bridges. <u>Attachments:</u> Contract No. 17002 including Resolution 201933
<u>VOTING</u>	It was duly passed to adopt Resolution 201933 as presented: Whereas; Contract No. 17002 has in all things been completed, and the County Board being fully advised in the premises, now then be it resolved; that we do hereby accept said completed project for and in behalf of the Nobles County Public Works and authorize final payment in the amount of \$35,869.89. Moved by: Demuth, Robert S. Seconded by: Linssen, Donald
C.	MN/DOT Agreement 1034434 for TH 264 and 274th St. – Resolution 201934
	Stephen Schnieder, Public Works Director/County Engineer, presented the Board with information and a recommendation in the area of Nobles County providing winter maintenance work for MN/DOT on TH 264 for the next 2 years. Mr. Schnieder advised 274 th Street, a frontage road, is also included until the roadway can be turned back to the County in 2020. <u>Attachments:</u> MN/DOT Contract No. 1034434 – Snow and Ice Removal Maintenance Agreement including Resolution 201934
<u>VOTING</u>	It was duly passed to adopt Resolution 201934 as presented: IT IS RESOLVED that Nobles County enter into MnDOT Agreement No. 1034434 with the State of Minnesota, Department of Transportation for the following purposes: To provide for snow and ice removal by the County upon, along, and adjacent to Trunk Highway No. 264 the limits of which are defined in said Agreement. IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board Chairperson and the County Administrator are authorized to execute the Agreement and any amendments to the Agreement. Moved by: Ahlers, Justin Seconded by: Demuth, Robert S.
	Mr. Schnieder provided an update that the shoulder widening and paving on CSAH 35 and 12 should be completed by June 28 th and the County Road 19 Bridge final plans are under review and hopes he can get the ad out for bids in time to start construction October or November 2019.
7.2	Auditor/Treasurer – Joyce Jacobs
A.	MNLARS Deputy Registrar Reimbursement Grant
	Kathleen Kusz, County Attorney, and Tom Johnson, County Administrator, provided the Board with information on behalf of Joyce Jacobs, Auditor/Treasurer.


	<u>Attachments:</u> MNLARS Deputy Registrar Reimbursement Grant
<u>VOTING</u>	It was duly passed to accept the grant dollars and approve signing of the forms. Moved by: Demuth, Robert S. Seconded by: Linssen, Donald
7.3	County Attorney – Kathleen Kusz
A.	Reclassification
	<p>Kathleen Kusz, County Attorney, presented the Board with information and a recommendation to reclassify the office’s Legal Assistant to Office Manager/Legal Assistant effective January 1, 2020 advising she would be a “bridge” for the new County Attorney. Tom Johnson, County Administrator, advised he does support this but it should go through the budget process which Ms. Kusz would be here for the most important part of.</p> <p>The Board held discussion on if it should be considered making this position effective before January 1, 2020 due to special circumstances. Chairperson Widboom advised he supports no action and handling it through the budget process. When asked, Sue Luing, HR Director, confirmed it would be a budget increase of \$4,700 in 2020.</p> <p>A motion was made by Robert S. Demuth to approve the reclassification effective January 1, 2020. The motion died due to lack of a second.</p> <p>A motion was made by Justin Ahlers to approve the reclassification effective July 1, 2019. The Board held discussion and Sue Luing, HR Director, requested the Board to consider how this change mid-year of 2019 would affect the County Attorney’s Budget. The County Attorney advised that there is more than enough in her budget to cover the extra expense as she did not hire a summer worker as approved in the 2019 budget.</p> <p><u>Attachments:</u> Position Description 1212 Office Manager/Legal Assistant</p>
<u>VOTING</u>	It was passed to approve the reclassification effective July 1, 2019. Moved by: Ahlers, Justin Seconded by: Metz, Gene In Favor: Ahlers, Justin; Metz, Gene; Linssen, Donald Opposed: Widboom, Matt; Demuth, Robert S.
7.4	Human Resources – Sue Luing
A.	County Attorney Appointment Process
	<p>Sue Luing, HR Director, presented the Board with information in deciding the process in which they will fill the vacancy of the County Attorney due to her retirement September 30, 2019.</p> <p>The Board held discussion on potential candidates and promoting from within.</p>
<u>VOTING</u>	It was passed to authorize HR to post the position internally and externally. Moved by: Ahlers, Justin Seconded by: Demuth, Robert S. In Favor: Ahlers, Justin; Demuth, Robert S.; Metz, Gene Opposed: Widboom, Matt; Linssen, Donald
	8.0 Administration Presentation – Tom Johnson

8.1	2019 Boards, Committees & Commissions – Citizen Appointments
	<p>Tom Johnson, County Administrator, presented the Board with information in the area of citizen appointments.</p> <p>Attachments: 2019 Board & Committee Appointments Library Board Applications</p>
<p><u>VOTING</u> It was duly passed to appoint Katherine Craun to the Library Board for a three year term expiring June 30, 2022. Moved by: Linssen, Donald Seconded by: Metz, Gene</p>	
<p><u>VOTING</u> It was duly passed to appoint Peg Faber to the Library Board for a three year term expiring June 30, 2022. Moved by: Metz, Gene Seconded by: Widboom, Matt</p>	
<p>Marjorie Ferguson, Library Director, thanked the Board of Commissioners on behalf of the Library Board.</p>	
8.2	Union Negotiation Strategy (CLOSED SESSION)
	<p>Chairperson Widboom advised the governing body of a public employer may by a majority vote in a public meeting decide to hold a closed meeting to consider strategy for labor negotiation strategies or developments or discussion and review of labor negotiation proposals, conducted pursuant to sections 179A.01 to 179A.25.</p>
<p><u>VOTING</u> It was duly passed to close the meeting at 9:39 a.m. per Minnesota Statute §13D.03 Subd. 1(b) to discuss Union Negotiation Strategy. Moved by: Demuth, Robert S. Seconded by: Metz, Gene</p>	
<p><u>VOTING</u> It was duly passed to open the meeting at 10:14 a.m. Moved by: Ahlers, Justin Seconded by: Demuth, Robert S.</p>	
<p>Chairperson Widboom stated the Board had discussed County Union Negotiation Strategies and the closed meeting recording was sealed and will be safely stored.</p>	
9.0 Inter-Agency Reports / Announcements	
9.1	Committee and Board Reports
	<p>District I - Commissioner Ahlers reported on the Heron Lake Watershed District meeting.</p> <p>District II - Commissioner Metz reported on the Highway 91 project meeting.</p> <p>District III - Commissioner Widboom reported on the Southwestern Mental Health Seeds of Hope 60th Anniversary banquet and advised of their focus that Ag Industry is the leading cause of suicides in the nation.</p> <p>District IV - Commissioner Demuth reported on the Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District meeting.</p> <p>District V - Commissioner Linssen reported on the Chief Elected Officials meeting and</p>

	<p>advised of their concerns with local nursing homes closing.</p> <p>Management Team - Attorney Kusz had no report</p> <p>County Administration – Tom Johnson reported on completing the submission of the W.E.L.L. bond application, Brewster MN Grain Elevator fire, Sanford rural hospital meeting, the State of Minnesota Housing meeting and the Association of Minnesota Counties District 8 meeting.</p> <p><u>Attachments:</u> HLWD Regular Mtg Minutes April 23, 2019 HLWD Regular Mtg Minutes May 21, 2019 HLWD Special Mtg Minutes May 2, 2019 Nobles SWCD Minutes May 8, 2019 RNCC Executive Board Minutes May 16, 2019 Park Board Minutes June 3, 2019 Nobles County Art Center Board June 4, 2019 KLR Minutes April 18, 2019</p>
9.2	<p>Correspondence</p> <p><u>Attachments:</u> Recruitment Update HLWD District Administrator's Report May 2019 Member Services Happenings @ AMC</p>
9.3	<p>Calendar</p> <p><u>Attachment:</u> Commissioners Calendar - June 2019 Commissioners Calendar - July 2019</p>
<p>10.0 Other / Future Business</p> <p>Board of Equalization Tuesday, June 18, 2019 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Board of Commissioners Rm, Gvt Ctr, 315 Tenth Street, Worthington MN</p> <p>Board Work Session Wednesday, June 26, 2019 8:30 a.m. Executive Conference Room, Gvt Ctr, 318 9th Street, Worthington MN</p> <p>*The July 4th NEON meeting has been cancelled. Next scheduled meeting is Thursday, 8/1.</p>	
<p>11.0 Adjournment</p>	
<p><u>VOTING</u> It was duly passed to adjourn the meeting at 10:24 a.m. Moved by: Linssen, Donald Seconded by: Ahlers, Justin</p>	



(Chairperson)



(County Administrator)