

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

The Board of Commissioners of Nobles County met in regular session on Tuesday, April 21, 2020, in the Commissioners Room, at the Nobles County Government Center, Worthington, Minnesota.

The following Commissioners were in attendance via conference call: Justin Ahlers, Gene Metz, Matt Widboom, Robert S. Demuth and Donald Linssen. Tom Johnson, County Administrator was in attendance in the Commissioners Room.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Ahlers at 9:16 A.M. 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 with the addendum. Motion by: Metz, Gene Seconded by: Linssen, Donald Roll Call Vote: Metz, Gene; Widboom Matt; Demuth, Robert S.; Linssen, Donald; Ahlers, Justin	
4.0 Consent Agenda	
4.1	April 07, 2020 Regular Board Meeting Minutes April 10, 2020 Emergency Board Meeting Minutes <u>Attachments:</u> April 07, 2020 Draft Regular Board Meeting Minutes April 10, 2020 Draft Emergency Board Meeting Minutes
4.2	Meetings & Conferences – Travel Expenses <u>Attachments:</u> Travel Expenses paid April 10, 2020
4.3	PCard/Auditor's Warrants <u>Attachments:</u> Accounts Payable Summary Auditor's Warrants
4.4	2019 Annual Feedlot Officer Report & Performance Credit Report <u>Attachments:</u> 2019 County Feedlot Officer (CFO) Annual Report
4.5	Affidavit of Lost Warrant <u>Attachments:</u> Application & Affidavit for Duplicate or Lost Order of Warrant
<u>VOTING</u> It was duly passed to approve the Consent Agenda. Moved by: Demuth, Robert S. Seconded by: Ahlers, Justin Roll Call Vote: Metz, Gene; Widboom Matt; Demuth, Robert S.; Linssen, Donald; Ahlers, Justin	
5.0 Department Presentations	
5.1 (A)	Environmental Assessment (EA) for Community of Reading's Sewer Project <u>Attachments:</u>

	Wenck Associates, Inc Proposal
	<p>Mark Koster presented the board with information regarding the community of Reading's sewer project. Wenck has a proposal for preparing an Environmental Assessment (EV) Report for the community of Reading per Rural Development (RD) requirements. This report would address wastewater collection and treatment needs for the community of Reading. This required document, along with the previously prepared Preliminary Engineering Report (PER), would be used for the purposes of applying for federal funding through the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and Rural Development (RD). Preparation of this document would be executed utilizing existing information gathered and analyzed within the PER.</p>
	<p><u>VOTING</u> It was duly passed to approve Conditional Use permit #01-2020 Moved by: Demuth, Robert S. Seconded by: Metz, Gene Roll Call Vote: Metz, Gene; Widboom, Matt; Demuth, Robert S.; Linssen, Donald; Ahlers, Justin</p>
5.1 (B)	<p>Opt Out of Reading's Sewer System <u>Attachments:</u> Wenck E-Mail Ordinance Dan Rautenkranz Letter Matthew Ulbrich Letter Matthew Ulbrich Land Use Permit</p>
5.1 (B) (1)	<p>Mark Koster presented the board with a request from Dan and Darlene Rautenkranz to opt out of the Reading's community sewer project. Mr. & Mrs. Rautenkranz presented a letter stating their reasons as to why they wished to opt out. Large discussion was held between the commissioners and Mr. Koster on allowing certain residents to opt out and if it was for the greater good of the community. Ultimately, a motion was made to allow the Rautenkranz to opt out of the Reading community sewer project. Reasons were location of their home and time constraints on needing a new sewer system.</p>
	<p><u>VOTING</u> It was duly passed to approve Dan Rautenkranz to opt out of the Reading community sewer project. Moved by: Ahlers, Justin Seconded by: Demuth, Robert S. Roll Call Vote: Metz, Gene; Widboom, Matt; Demuth, Robert S.; Linssen, Donald; Ahlers, Justin</p>
5.2 (B) (2)	<p>Mark Koster presented the board with a request from Matthew Ulbrich to opt out of the Reading community sewer project. Mr. Ulbrich submitted a letter with his reasoning of wanting to opt out of the community sewer for his new home construction. Large discussion was held on whether it was fair to the community as a whole to let a single resident opt out. Ultimately, a motion was made to allow Mr. Ulbrich to opt out.</p>
	<p><u>VOTING</u> It was passed to allow Matthew Ulbrich to opt out of the Reading community sewer project with the stipulation that if his new home is not completed and the Reading sewer project has an end date that Mr. Ulbrich would need to come back to the board for approval of opting out. If his home is completed before the Reading sewer project has begun, he may opt out. Moved by: Ahlers, Justin Seconded by: Widboom, Matt In favor: Ahlers, Justin; Widboom, Matt; Demuth, Robert S. Opposed: Linssen, Donald; Metz, Gene</p>
5.2 (A)	<p>H2Overviewers – Redetermination of County Drainage System <u>Attachments:</u> H2Overviewers Proposal</p>

Brad Harberts presented the board with a proposal from H2Overviewers to re determine benefits of all drainage systems in Nobles County. Having the drainage systems re determined would make sure it is fair to everyone who is draining into a county system.

VOTING

It was duly passed to agree to the proposal from H2Overviewers to re determine the counties drainage system and to encourage all joint ditches to be included.

Moved by: Metz, Gene

Seconded by: Widboom, Matt

Roll Call Vote: Metz, Gene; Widboom, Matt; Demuth, Robert S.; Linssen, Donald; Ahlers, Justin

5.3

Surplus Property

Attachments:

List of surplus equipment

Stephen Schnieder presented the board with a list of property that have been replaced, are no longer used or are no longer needed. Declaring the items surplus will allow for them to be sold. The snow blowers will be offered for sale to Nobles County cities and townships first by sealed bid. If there is no interest from the local government entities, the units will be put up for sale to the public by sealed bid. If there is no interest, the units will be list with an on line auction service.

VOTING

It was duly passed to approve the presented list as surplus property.

Moved by: Linssen, Donald

Seconded by: Ahlers, Justin

Roll Call Vote: Metz, Gene; Widboom, Matt; Demuth, Robert S.; Linssen, Donald; Ahlers, Justin

6.0 Administration Presentation

6.1

LPRW Bond Refunding

Attachments:

Notice of Sale

Proposed bond resolution

George Eilertson, Northland Securities, presented the board with the results of the sale of the Lincoln Pipestone Rural Water bond. The sale occurred March 23, 2020. The results of the sale resulted in a total debt savings of \$199,835 over the remaining life of the bond.

VOTING

It was duly passed to approve resolution 202021 and award the sale as presented by Northland Securities.

Moved by: Demuth, Robert S.

Seconded by: Widboom, Matt

Roll Call Vote: Metz, Gene; Widboom, Matt; Demuth, Robert S.; Linssen, Donald; Ahlers, Justin

6.2

Nobles Home Initiative (NHI) Guideline Revision

Attachments:

NHI Guidelines Proposed revision

Documentation checklist for NHI Abatement/Refund Payments

Tom Johnson presented the board with updated guidelines for the Nobles Home Initiative program. The Guidelines currently in place need to be updated. There are some challenges in how the abatements are calculated, the method is not completely clear and the county's software cannot be programmed reasonably to pick up all exceptions experienced. To simplify the process, the Auditor-Treasurer has developed a worksheet for the requestor to ensure all documents and approvals are in place (attached). The guideline document (included) was revised to reflect primarily a one-time calculation simplifying the entire process, and clarifying how the initial amount of the abatement is to be calculated. The first full year amount is the amount that will be carried forward throughout the term of an approved abatement. The City of Worthington administrator, ISD518 Superintendent and county administrator have worked through the changes for this new revision. It has been sent to several other for comment as well.

VOTING

It was duly passed approve the updated NHI guidelines.

Moved by: Metz, Gene

Seconded by: Linssen, Donald

Roll Call Vote: Metz, Gene; Widboom, Matt; Demuth, Robert S.; Linssen, Donald; Ahlers, Justin

6.3 Pandemic Agreements Authorization

The COVID-19 pandemic may require some Special Service Agreements as County Public Health is mandated to provide specific essential services under current circumstances. With the virus being so unpredictable, we may have a need to develop some agreements for services very quickly. Much of the essential service required are expected to be reimbursed through FEMA, but not all guaranteed. Administration is proposing a group of the board chair, county attorney, and administration be authorized to approve these only when time is of the essence. In some cases, we may request a special emergency board meeting if the group deems that necessary.

VOTING

It was duly passed to approve the board chair, County Administrator, Deputy County Administrator and the County Attorney to authorize agreements for services if it is not practical to hold a special board meeting.

Moved by: Demuth, Robert

Seconded by: Metz, Gene

Roll Call Vote: Metz, Gene; Widboom, Matt; Demuth, Robert S.; Linssen, Donald; Ahlers, Justin

7.0 Inter-Agency Reports/Announcements

7.1 Committee and Board Reports

District II - Commissioner Metz – No Report

District III - Commissioner Widboom – No Report

District IV - Commissioner Demuth – No Report.

District V - Commissioner Linssen – No Report

District I - Commissioner Ahlers – Applauded all of the county staff for their work during these times and especially the EOC team.

County Administration – Tom Johnson reported on several meetings per day with the State, Sanford and Incident Command regarding COVID-19.

Attorney – Joe Sanow – No Report

7.2 Correspondence

Attachments:

Recruitment Update

HLWD 2020 Public Drainage Construction Process

HLWD Activity Report

HLWD Regular Meeting Minutes February 19, 2020

HLWD Agenda April 15. 2020

7.3 Calendar

Attachments:

None

8.0 Other / Future Business

9.0 Adjournment

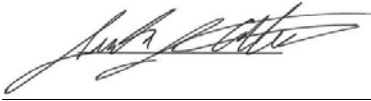
VOTING

It was duly passed to adjourn the meeting at 10:15 A.M.

Moved by: Demuth, Robert S.

Seconded by: Metz, Gene

Roll Call Vote: Metz, Gene; Widboom, Matt; Demuth, Robert S.; Linssen, Donald; Ahlers, Justin



(Chairperson)



(County Administrator)