

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

The Board of Commissioners of Nobles County met in regular session on Tuesday, February 16, 2021, at the Board of Commissioners Room, Government Center, Worthington, Minnesota. The following Commissioners were in attendance in the Board Room: Justin Ahlers, Gene Metz, Donald Linssen, Robert S. Demuth and Bob Paplow.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Metz at 9:00 A.M. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

<b>1.0 Call to Order</b>	
<b>2.0 Pledge of Allegiance</b>	
<b>3.0 Approval of Agenda</b>	
<b><u>VOTING</u></b> It was duly passed to approve the agenda as presented. Motion by: Linssen, Donald Seconded by: Ahlers, Justin	
<b>4.0 Recognition</b>	
Bill "Brock" Brockberg was recognized as he is retiring after 13 years of being the county's Veterans Service Officer.	
<b>5.0 Consent Agenda</b>	
<b>5.1</b>	<b>February 02, 2021 Regular Board Meeting Minutes Draft</b> <b><u>Attachments:</u></b> February 02, 2021 Draft Regular Board Meeting Minutes
<b>5.2</b>	<b>Meetings &amp; Conferences – Travel Expenses</b> <b><u>Attachments:</u></b> Expenses paid – Employees Expenses paid – Board
<b>5.3</b>	<b>Auditor's &amp; Commissioner's Warrants</b> <b><u>Attachments:</u></b> Accounts Payable Summary Auditor's Warrants
<b><u>VOTING</u></b> It was duly passed to approve the Consent Agenda. Moved by: Demuth, Robert S. Seconded by: Paplow, Bob	
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Public Hearing</b>
<b>6.1</b>	<b>Public Hearing – Proposed Property Tax Abatement</b> <b>KJSM Investments, LLC Parcel 31-1240-500</b> <b>A. Open Hearing (<i>Action</i>)</b> <b>B. Proposed Abatement – Discussion</b> <b>C. Public Comment</b> <b>D. Close Hearing (<i>Action</i>)</b> <b>E. Decisions</b> <b>1. KJSM Investments, LLC Parcel 31-1240-500 – Resolution 202107 (<i>Action</i>)</b> <b><u>Attachments:</u></b> NHI Nobles County Guidelines

	Application information Resolution 202107
<p><b>A.</b> A motion by Justin Ahlers and seconded by Robert S. Demuth, it was duly passed to open the Proposed Property Tax Abatement Public Hearing for KJSM Investments, LLC Parcel 31-1240-500</p> <p><b>B.</b> Tom Johnson, Nobles County Administrator, reviewed the Nobles Home Initiative Application.</p> <p><b>C.</b> No public comment was received.</p> <p><b>D.</b> On a motion by Justin Ahlers and seconded by Donald Linssen, it was duly passed to close the Proposed Property Tax Abatement Public Hearing.</p> <p><b>E.</b> On a motion by Robert S. Demuth and seconded by Donald Linssen, it was duly passed to adopt Resolution 202107 approving tax abatement to KJSM Investments, LLC Parcel 31-1240-500 pursuant to Minnesota Statute 469.1813..</p>	
<b>7.0</b>	<b>Department Presentations</b>
<b>7.1 (A)</b>	<p><b>City of Adrian Application for Local Road Improvement Program Funding</b></p> <p><b>Attachments:</b> Resolution 202104 City of Adrian Map</p>
<p>Local Road Improvement Program funding is available to cities under 5,000 population. In order for them to submit an application, the county must agree to sponsor the project and provide contract administrative services. Those services would include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Being the fiscal agent on behalf of the community and accept the funding from the State to the contractor</li> <li>-Set up an project number</li> <li>-Ensure the project meets milestones and dates</li> <li>-Assist the local city in execution of the Grant Agreement</li> <li>-Develop, review and approve the plan</li> <li>-Submit the plan, engineer's estimate and proposal to the State</li> <li>-Advertise, let and award the contract</li> <li>-Submit pay requests to the State</li> <li>-Communicate Progress and updates with the State</li> <li>-Ensure the project receives adequate supervision and inspection</li> <li>-Assist with project close out</li> </ul>	
<p><b><u>VOTING</u></b> It was duly passed to approve resolution 202104 with the understanding that the City of Adrian is responsible for all costs incurred by Nobles County associated with the project. Moved by: Ahlers, Justin Seconded by: Paplow, Bob</p>	
<b>7.1 (B)</b>	<p><b>Larkin Township Bridge Project</b></p> <p><b>Attachments:</b> Resolution 202105</p>
<p>Larkin Township has identified a drainage structure that requires replacement. The current structure is not classified as a bridge, but the new structure will meet the requirements. This makes the structure eligible for Town Bridge Account funding to pay for the cost of the project. To be eligible to receive funding, the bridge must be identified as a priority by the county board.</p>	
<p><b><u>VOTING</u></b> It was duly passed to approve resolution 202105 making the Larkin Township bridge project a priority. Moved by: Linssen, Donald Seconded by: Demuth, Robert S.</p>	
<b>7.2</b>	<b>CD#6 Redetermination of Benefits</b>

	<b><u>Attachments:</u></b> Ron Ringquist Letter
The viewers for redetermination of benefits for County Ditch #6 are requesting direction on the inclusion of all of the rural properties contributing to the watershed draining thru Okabena Lake. As County Ditch #6 is not a large drainage system, it may take many years of repair assessments before the cost to include these properties is recovered. Ron Ringquist provided a letter stating the issue and asked for direction from the board. It was decided to table the item so that further inquiries could be made.	
<b><u>VOTING</u></b> It was duly passed to table the item for a later date. Moved by: Ahlers, Justin Seconded by: Metz, Gene	
<b>7.3</b>	<b>2021 Nobles County Fee Schedule Change Request</b> <b><u>Attachments:</u></b> 2021 Approved Fee Schedule
Community Services recently learned of an increase in reimbursements that is available for our nurse home visiting services. The maximum reimbursement rate for nurse home visiting services through private insurance and the Managed Care Organizations has increased to \$180.00 per visit, up from our currently listed fee of \$130.00. In order to maximize our reimbursements to support our staff, we need to increase our maximum fee to come in line with the current provider maximums.	
<b><u>VOTING</u></b> It was duly passed to approve the change to the 2021 Fee Schedule for skilled nurse home visit from \$130.00 to \$180.00. Moved by: Ahlers, Justin Seconded by: Paplow, Bob	
<b>7.4</b>	<b>Township Road Allocation</b> <b><u>Attachments:</u></b> 2021 Township Road Allocation
As per MN Statute 162.081 Subd. 4, Money apportioned to a county from the town road account must be distributed to the treasurer of each town within the county, according to a distribution formula adopted by the county board. Distribution of the town road funds to each town treasurer must be made by March 1, annually, or within 30 days after receipt of payment from the commissioner. The proposed spreadsheet of payments was presented to the Commissioners, with no discussion.	
<b><u>VOTING</u></b> It was duly passed to approve payment to the Nobles County Townships based on the presented spreadsheet. Moved by: Demuth, Robert S. Seconded by: Metz, Gene	
<b>8.0 Administration Presentation</b>	
<b>8.1</b>	<b>Opposing MPCA Rule</b> <b><u>Attachments:</u></b> Resolution 202106
MPCA is in the process of making a rule to adopt California car standards in Minnesota. Administrator Johnson presented a resolution to oppose the proposed rule.	
<b><u>VOTING</u></b> It was duly passed to adopt resolution 202106 in opposition of the proposed MPCA rule. Moved by: Ahlers, Justin Seconded by: Linssen, Donald	
<b>8.2</b>	<b>MRC Policy Statement</b>
With recent efforts by the MPCA, the board should consider a policy for MRC (Minnesota Rural Counties), of which, Nobles County is a member. MRC is considering a policy statement	

related to the MPCA Rulemaking effort currently underway to adopt California standards for cars and light to medium duty vehicles. The proposed rule requires only Low-Emission Vehicle (LEV) and Zero-Emission Vehicle (ZEV) can be sold in Minnesota by 2035. The proposed language of the MRC policy is:

*MRC supports legislative review of any and all issues of consequence that would bring harm to the culture and / or economy of rural counties. Further, MRC opposes the attempt by the MPCA to adopt the MN Clean Car rule without consulting the legislature and encourages the Walz administration to withdraw the proposed rule and submit the issue to legislative review.*

**VOTING**

It was duly passed to support the policy and MRC in considering formal adoption of this policy.

Moved by: Ahlers, Justin

Seconded by: Paplow, Bob

**8.3 Covid Relief Update**

Bruce Heitkamp gave a quick update on the Covid Relief program. As of the deadline there were 161 applications received. The sub committee will go over the applications the following week.

**9.0 Inter-Agency Reports/Announcements**

**9.1 Committee and Board Reports**

District I - Commissioner Ahlers – HLWD accepted a retirement announcement from Jan Voit.

District V - Commissioner Linssen – Attended EMPAC where the Mutual Aid study was discussed.

District IV – Commissioner Demuth – Updated Commissioners on the seining Lake Okabena which was postponed due to the weather.

District II - Commissioner Metz – Reported on the Mutual Aid study and the Legislative session.

District III - Commissioner Paplow – No report.

Administration – Tom Johnson / Bruce Heitkamp – Vaccines are a large portion of Covid related meetings these days. The Veterans Service Officer is in the background stage. Talks continue for the Crisis Center.

**9.2 Correspondence**

**Attachments:**

- Recruitment Update
- Worthington-Opoly Flier
- HLWD Meeting Minutes 1/6/21
- HLWD Meeting Minutes 12/16/20
- HLWD Activity Report January 2021
- HLWD Agenda 2/17/21

**9.3 Calendar**

**Attachments:**

- February 2021
- March 2021

**10.0 Other / Future Business**

**Work Session** – Wednesday February 24, 2021

8:30 a.m. Nobles County Board Room

**Board Meeting** – Tuesday March 02, 2021

9:00 a.m. Nobles County Board Room

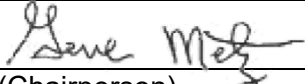
**10.0 Adjournment**

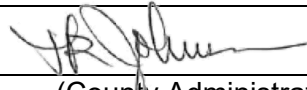
**VOTING**

It was duly passed to adjourn the meeting at 10:10a.m.

Moved by: Demuth, Robert S.

Seconded by: Ahlers, Justin

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Chairperson)

  
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(County Administrator)