

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF NOBLES COUNTY, MINNESOTA

The Board of Commissioners of Nobles County met in regular session on Tuesday, October 05, 2021, at the Government Center, in the Commissioner’s Board Room, Worthington, Minnesota. The following Commissioners attended: Gene Metz, Donald Linssen, Bob Paplow and Justin Ahlers and Robert S. Demuth.  
Chairperson Metz called the meeting to order at 9:06 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>VOTING</b> It was duly passed to approve the agenda as presented. Motion by: Ahlers, Justin Seconded by: Paplow, Bob	
<b>4.0 Recognition</b> Amairany Barrios, Legal Secretary, was recognized as the September Excellence in Performance recipient.	
<b>5.0 Consent Agenda</b>	
5.1	<b>September 21, 2021 Regular Board Meeting Minutes Draft</b> <b>Attachments:</b> September 21, 2021 Draft Minutes
5.2	<b>Meetings and Conferences – Travel Expenses</b> <b>Attachments:</b> Expenses paid September 24, 2021
5.3	<b>Auditor’s &amp; Commissioner’s Warrants</b> <b>Attachments:</b> Accounts Payable Summary Auditor’s Warrants
5.4	<b>Cost Sharing Agreement for the Transportation of Students in Foster Care Placement – Ellsworth Public Schools District #514</b> <b>Attachments:</b> Agreement
5.5	<b>Renewal for Club on Sale Retail Liquor License Nystrom Orchard Tasting Club</b> <b>Attachments:</b> License
<b>VOTING</b> It was duly passed to approve the consent agenda as presented. Moved by: Demuth, Robert S. Seconded by: Linssen, Donald	
<b>6.0 Public Hearing</b>	
6.1	<b>Public Hearing – Tax-Forfeited Land Classification</b> <b>Attachments:</b> Classifying Tax Forfeited Lands Parcel Listing Resolution 202153 Resolution 201522 Resolution 202154 Resolution 202155
<b>VOTING</b> Motion to open Public Meeting Moved by: Ahlers, Justin Seconded by: Paplow, Bob	

Classify Parcels as Non-Conservation or Conservation

It was duly passed to classify Parcel 07-0113-000 as Non-Conservation and to be sold by Public Auction.

Moved by: Ahlers, Justin

Seconded by: Demuth, Robert S.

It was duly passed to classify Parcel 17-0267-000 as Non-Conservation and to be sold by Public Auction.

Moved by: Demuth, Robert S.

Seconded by: Linssen, Donald

It was duly passed to classify Parcel 23-0275-000 as Non-Conservation and to be sold by Public Auction.

Moved by: Linssen, Donald

Seconded by: Paplow, Bob

It was duly passed to classify Parcel 24-0039-000 and 24-0040-000 as Non-Conservation and conveyed to the City of Dundee for \$1 each.

Moved by: Ahlers, Justin

Seconded by: Demuth, Robert S.

It was duly passed to classify Parcel 24-0114-000 as Non-Conservation and conveyed to the City of Dundee for \$1.

Moved by: Ahlers, Justin

Seconded by: Metz, Gene

It was duly passed to classify Parcel 26-0048-500, 26-0049-000, 26-0055-000 and 26-0055-500 as Conservation and conveyed to the City of Kinbrae for \$1 each.

Moved by: Ahlers, Justin

Seconded by: Demuth, Robert S.

It was duly passed to classify Parcel 29-0024-000 as Non-Conservation and to be sold to the City of Rushmore for \$2,000.

Moved by: Paplow, Bob

Seconded by: Ahlers, Justin

It was duly passed to classify Parcel 29-0131-000 as Non-Conservation and to be sold by Public Auction.

Moved by: Demuth, Robert S.

Seconded by: Linssen, Donald

It was duly passed to authorize Parcel 30-0091-000 to be surveyed.

Moved by: Metz, Gene

Seconded by: Paplow, Bob

It was duly passed to classify Parcel 30-0201-000 as Conservation for roadway purposes and retain to Nobles County.

Moved by: Paplow, Bob

Seconded by: Metz, Gene

It was duly passed to classify Parcel 31-0486-500 as Non-Conservation and to be sold by Public Auction.

Moved by: Ahlers, Justin

Seconded by: Paplow, Bob

It was duly passed to classify Parcel 31-1214-500 as Non-Conservation and to be sold by Sealed Bid to adjoining land owners.

Moved by: Ahlers, Justin

Seconded by: Paplow, Bob

It was duly passed to classify Parcel 31-1218-500 as Non-Conservation and to be sold by Sealed Bid.

Moved by: Linssen, Donald

Seconded by: Demuth, Robert S.

It was duly passed to void Parcel 31-1761-700.

Moved by: Ahlers, Justin

Seconded by: Paplow, Bob

It was duly passed to classify Parcel 31-1873-500 as Non-Conservation and to be sold by Sealed Bid to adjoining land owners.

Moved by: Linssen, Donald

Seconded by: Ahlers, Justin

It was duly passed to classify Parcel 31-3270-000 as Non-Conservation and to be sold by Sealed Bid.

Moved by: Ahlers, Justin

Seconded by: Paplow, Bob

It was duly passed to classify Parcel 31-3973-500 as Conservation and conveyed to the City of Worthington.

Moved by: Linssen, Donald

Seconded by: Paplow, Bob

It was duly passed to Set Basic Sale Price of \$1.00 for all Parcels being sold by Sealed Bid and an opening bid of \$1.00 for all Parcels being sold by Public Auction.

Moved by: Ahlers, Justin

Seconded by: Demuth, Robert S.

It was duly passed to direct Administrator Heitkamp to visit with the City of Worthington on all Parcels that have special assessments and ask to have them cleared off before the sale of the Parcel.

Moved by: Ahlers, Justin

Seconded by: Paplow, Bob

It was duly passed adopt Resolution 202153 as presented.

Moved by: Ahlers, Justin

Seconded by: Demuth, Robert S.

It was duly passed adopt Resolution 202154 and set the Public Sale date (Auction) for November 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. in the Farmers Room.

Moved by: Ahlers, Justin

Seconded by: Paplow, Bob

It was duly passed adopt Resolution 202155 and set the Non-Public Sale date (Sealed bids) for November 23<sup>rd</sup> at 9:00 a.m. in the Board Room.

Moved by: Paplow, Bob

Seconded by: Metz, Gene

## 7.0 Department Presentations

### 7.1 (A) Emergency Management Planning Advisory Committee Appointments

#### Attachments:

Membership List

Applications

The EMPAC Committee is acknowledging that five of the eight members currently serving on the EMPAC Committee are serving without proper advertisement or board appointment according to policy, procedure, and bylaws. Those five Members and emergency role are: Tawn Hall- Emergency Management, Dave McNab- Emergency Medical Services, Bruce Heitkamp- Administration, Jared Rozeboom-Hazardous Materials, and Sheriff Ryan Kruger- Law Enforcement.

**VOTING**

It was duly passed to appoint Tawn Hall to the EMPAC Board with no term end.

Moved by: Ahlers, Justin

Seconded by: Linssen, Donald

It was duly passed to appoint Bruce Heitkamp to the EMPAC Board with a term ending 12/31/2023.

Moved by: Demuth, Robert S.

Seconded by: Paplow, Bob

It was duly passed to appoint Ryan Kruger to the EMPAC Board with a term ending 12/31/2021.

Moved by: Ahlers, Justin

Seconded by: Linssen, Donald

It was duly passed to appoint Dave McNab to the EMPAC Board with a term ending 12/31/2023.

Moved by: Demuth, Robert S.

Seconded by: Paplow, Bob

It was duly passed to appoint Jared Rozenboom to the EMPAC Board with a term ending 12/31/2021.

Moved by: Ahlers, Justin

Seconded by: Linssen, Donald

It was duly passed to appoint John Garmer and Pat Shorter to the EMPAC Board with a term ending 12/31/2023.

Moved by: Ahlers, Justin

Seconded by: Paplow, Bob

It was duly passed to appoint Aaron Holmbeck to the EMPAC Board with a term ending 12/31/2022.

Moved by: Demuth, Robert S.

Seconded by: Linssen, Donald

7.2

**Emergency Paid Sick Leave**

**Attachments:**

Emergency Paid Sick Leave Request Form

MOA

Resolution 202152

The Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) provided 80 hours of emergency paid sick leave (EPSL) under certain circumstances related to the 2020 public health emergency. This EPSL was extended and then ended when the COVID-19 State of Emergency was cancelled. With COVID-19 cases on the rise some employees have had to use their annual leave or go unpaid when they had COVID. Previously under the State of Emergency an employee could utilize the EPSL. After discussion with the Administrative committee it was recommended to bring the EPSL back retroactively to July 6, 2021 for those employees that have not previously utilized the full 80 hours. The MOU will be sent to each Union for approval.

**VOTING**

It was duly passed to adopt Resolution 202152.

Moved by: Linssen, Donald

Seconded by: Ahlers, Justin

It was duly passed to approve the MOU as presented.

Moved by: Ahlers, Justin

Seconded by: Paplow, Bob

It was duly passed to approve the Emergency Paid Sick Leave request form.

Moved by: Ahlers, Justin

Seconded by: Demuth, Robert S.

7.2 (B)	<b>Personnel Policy P-216 Non Pension Policy</b> <u>Attachments</u> P-216 Draft Policy P-216 Final Policy
Policy P-216 Non Pension Policy has language that requires all full time employees to take the core benefits which comes with the county contribution. At the September 29, 2021 Board work session there was discussion on this requirement. Direction was given to update personnel policy P-216 for discussion at the board meeting. From the work session discussion the language was added to receive the county contribution you need to take the core benefits. Other language was also updated. Proposed changes were discussed.	
<b><u>VOTING</u></b> It was duly passed to approve P-216 Non Pension policy as presented. Moved by: Ahlers, Justin Seconded by: Linssen, Donald	
7.2 (C)	<b>2022 County Contribution</b>
The County Board sets the annual county employee cafeteria contribution. This was discussed at the work session on September 29th. In preparation for the 2022 benefit enrollment period the annual county insurance contribution needs to be set by the board. The following FTE contributions were discussed: 1. Single coverage: \$1,002/month FTE 2. Single plus Spouse: \$1,600/month FTE 3. Single plus Child(ren): \$1,550/month FTE 4. Family: \$1,900/month FTE	
<b><u>VOTING</u></b> It was duly passed to set the 2022 County Contribution for 2022 open enrollment as: 1. Single coverage: \$1,002/month FTE 2. Single plus Spouse: \$1,600/month FTE 3. Single plus Child(ren): \$1,550/month FTE 4. Family: \$1,900/month FTE. Moved by: Demuth, Robert S. Seconded by: Paplow, Bob	
<b>8.0 Administration Presentation</b>	
8.1	<b>Commercial Tax Abatement – Cooperative Farmers Elevator (CFE) Agricultural Storage</b>
Auditor/Treasurer Joyce Jacobs reintroduced (9/21/21 Board Meeting) the Cooperative Farmers Elevator (CFE) tax-abatement project and the fact that weather-related delays altered plans and the abatement schedule. The year-end values creates a need for Board intervention relating to the tax abatement and any pending abatement amount. CFE representatives were contacted and asked to attend to answer questions relating to the tax-abatement request.	
<b><u>VOTING</u></b> It was duly passed to approve the abatement of property taxes beginning in 2022 based on the 2020 and 2021 new construction value added of \$1,225,400 for the five year abatement period as presented. Moved by: Paplow, Bob Seconded by: Ahlers, Justin	
8.2	<b>Impound Vehicle/Evidence Storage</b>
Storing impounded vehicles at the Prairie Justice Center has become an unsightly practice. There is a need to store these vehicles, and perhaps other evidence, in a more appropriate manner. The Law Enforcement Committee recommended the Board investigate this. Prior conversation revolved around two variable concepts revolving around, 1) construction on County-owned land within Worthington and purchasing land outside of Worthington, and 2) constructing a structure to house evidence or a fenced-in structure to house evidence. The land within Worthington is already zoned to allow vehicle storage. The land outside of Worthington’s city limits is zoned Agricultural. Discussion was had on the price of building a building versus putting a fence up around the area. It was decided to table to item and bring it to the LEC Committee for further discussion.	
8.3	<b>Maintenance Equipment Request – Snow Pusher</b> <u>Attachments:</u> Jaycox Quote

Plans are being made for County staff to remove snow at the Prairie Justice Center during the 2020-2021 snow-removal season. Staff are eager to help and Heitkamp believes internal control will help reduce costs related to snow removal. Having County staff remove the snow will also assist with inter-county communication with the Highway Department; for final snowtransfer procedures away from the Prairie Justice Center.

#### **VOTING**

It was duly passed to approve the purchase of a snow pusher with additional accessories not to exceed \$7,500.00.

Moved by: Demuth, Robert S.

Seconded by: Paplow, Bob

#### **8.4 Project Update – Data Center**

Construction-related stakeholders have met and all contractors are informed that data servers will need cooling services and fire-suppression protection to be installed. Those items will need to be connected by an electrician and much of that work is progressing now. IT Director Angelo Torres is scheduling the equipment to operate the Data Center. Delays have occurred but everyone hopes that this Data Center is operational by 2022. No quote was ready to bring to the board as of 10/05 but discussion was had on options for the cooling system and staff was directed to move forward in receiving quotes.

#### **9.0 Inter-Agency Reports / Announcements**

##### **9.1 Committee and Board Reports**

Attorney – Joe Sanow – No Report.

District I – Commissioner Ahlers – No Report.

District III – Commissioner Paplow – No Report.

District II – Commissioner Metz – No Report.

District V – Commissioner Linssen – No Report.

District IV – Commissioner Demuth – No Report.

Administration – Tawn Hall was appointed to the SW MN EMS Corporation as the Emergency Manager.

Moved by: Linssen, Donald

Seconded by: Paplow, Bob

##### **9.2 Correspondence**

###### **Attachments:**

Recruitment Update

##### **9.3 Calendar**

###### **Attachments:**

October 2021

#### **10.0 Other / Future Business**

**Board Meeting – Tuesday October 19, 2021**

9:00 a.m. Nobles County Board Room

**Work Session – Wednesday October 27, 2021**

8:30 a.m. Nobles County Board Room

**Bond Tour – Wednesday October 20, 2021**

11:40 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Minnesota West, Worthington, MN

**AMC District 8 Fall Meeting – Thursday October 28, 2021**

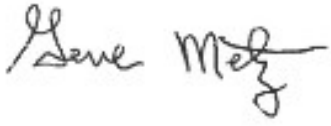
8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Worthington Event Center, Worthington, MN

#### **11.0 Adjournment**

It was duly passed to adjourn the meeting at 11:50 a.m.

Moved by: Paplow, Bob

Seconded by: Ahlers, Justin

Handwritten signature of Gene Meyer in black ink.

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(Chairperson)

Handwritten signature of James H. Harkins in blue ink.

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(County Administrator)