

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF NOBLES COUNTY, MINNESOTA

The Board of Commissioners of Nobles County met in regular session on Tuesday, June 07, 2022, at the Government Center, in the Commissioner’s Board Room, Worthington, Minnesota. The following Commissioners attended: Gene Metz, Justin Ahlers, Robert S. Demuth and Bob Paplow.

Vice Chairperson Demuth called the meeting to order at 9:00 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 as presented. Motion by: Paplow, Bob Seconded by: Metz, Gene	
4.0 Recognition	
4.1 Visitors and Guests Welcome	
5.0 Consent Agenda	
5.1	May 24, 2022 Regular Board Meeting Minutes Draft <u>Attachments:</u> May 24, 2022 Draft Minutes
5.2	Meetings and Conferences – Travel Expenses <u>Attachments:</u> Expenses paid June 03, 2022
5.3	Auditor’s & Commissioner’s Warrants <u>Attachments:</u> Accounts Payable Summary Auditor’s Warrants
5.4	Minnesota Department of Human Services Children’s Mental Health Respite Care Grant Contract – Amendment No. 3 <u>Attachments:</u> Amendment No. 3 for Grant Contract No. 173156
5.5	Minnesota River Area Agency on Aging, Inc. (MNRAAA) CARES Act Funding Opportunity – MN Extension’s Power of Produce Program <u>Attachments:</u> MNRAAA Proposal
<u>VOTING</u> It was duly passed to approve the consent agenda with an amendment to the May 24, 2022 meeting minutes. Moved by: Ahlers, Justin Seconded by: Paplow, Bob	
6.0	Special Presentations
6.1	Drainage Ditch Project 9, 13 & 24 Bond-Sale Arrangements & Nobles-Jackson Joint Powers Agreement <u>Attachments:</u> DDA Letter Webster Bank Master Cash Flow Jackson County Resolution Joint Powers Agreement Resolution 202239
Nobles and Jackson counties have collectively planned projects for ditches 9, 13, & 24. Financial Advisor Shannon Sweeney from David Drown & Associates is appointed to arrange the project financing. The Nobles-Jackson Joint Powers Agreement has been prepared to formalize joint county efforts to finance the projects and to prepare future assessments to collect funding for bond payments. Jackson County has prepared a resolution authorizing note to Nobles County. Before the Nobles Commissioners is the Joint Powers Agreement and Resolution 202239 which awards the sale of bonds	

utilizing bank placement through RW Baird and then to eventually be purchased by Webster Bank. Mr. Sweeney presented the benefits of the sale.

VOTING

It was duly passed to adopt resolution 202239 including the Joint Powers Agreement with Jackson County.

Moved by: Ahlers, Justin

Seconded by: Metz, Gene

7.0 Department Presentations

7.1 (A) Library as Host Site for SCSEP

Attachments:

SCSEP Flier

The Nobles County Library has the opportunity to serve as a host site for the Senior Community Service Employment Program under the direction of the Southwestern Minnesota Opportunity Council (SMOC). This program allows seniors to develop new skills and talents toward alternate career opportunities and provides the host site with additional help for special projects or day-to-day activities at no cost or liability. The employee would assist both the Adrian and Worthington library sites with programs, special projects and front desk coverage when staffing needs are unexpectedly short. The person would be employed by SMOC but Nobles County would conduct a background check.

VOTING

It was duly passed to participate in the Senior Community Service Employment Program for the Nobles County Library.

Moved by: Metz, Gene

Seconded by: Paplow, Bob

7.2 (A) 2021 Nobles County Feedlot Officer Annual Report

Attachments:

2021 Feedlot Annual Report

Nobles County is required to submit an annual feedlot report to the MPCA. Nobles County has 463 feedlots registered with the County. The majority of the inspections were located within the One Watershed One Plan and DWSAM areas. The other inspections sites focused on runoff issues and MMP related concerns. Chris Prins, Nobles County Feedlot Inspector, discussed the report with the board. 2 items were not achieved to standards and he explained this was largely due to a gap in employment and not enough time to inspect properties. He advised the board his plan going forward so all items on the report would be achieved.

VOTING

It was duly passed to approve the 2021 Nobles County Feedlot Annual Report.

Moved by: Metz, Gene

Seconded by: Demuth, Robert S.

7.3 (A) JD 9 Bid Package #1 Pay Application #1

Attachments

Contractors Application for Payment No. 1

Work on the JD 9 improvement has started, it is the responsibility of the lead county on these projects to pay the contractors for the work that's has been completed. Hodgman Drainage Company has started working on this project they also have materials and granular bedding on site. Hodgman Drainage Company has submitted a pay quest for the work that has been completed on this project as well as the materials and granular bedding that is on site. This pay request was submitted to and reviewed by our engineering firm ISG. Since Nobles County is the lead county on this project it is our responsibility to pay this contractor and all other contractors on this project going forward.

VOTING

It was duly passed to approve JD 9 bid package #1 pay application #1.

Moved by: Ahlers, Justin

Seconded by: Paplow, Bob

It was duly passed to forego the interest on the advance payment.

Moved by: Metz, Gene

Seconded by: Ahlers, Justin

7.4 (A)	<p>DHS Human Service Performance Management Report Cash Assistance and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) <u>Attachments:</u> Cash Assistance and SNAP Report</p>
<p>The Human Service Performance Management System was established in 2013 in response to counties' desire to be proactive in improving service delivery and outcomes for human services program recipients. The focus of the system is performance improvement across all mandated essential human services in Minnesota. Tammy Fishel and Stacie Golombiecki presented the board with the report and answered any questions. This was an information only item.</p>	
7.4 (B)	<p>Child and Teen Checkup Grant Agreement Amendment No. 2 <u>Attachments:</u> Amendment No. 2 for Grant Contract No. GRK%181329</p>
<p>According to Minnesota Statutes, section 256.01 the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) and Nobles County Community Services are able to enter into a Grant Agreement for the following services: Early and Periodic Screening for the Child and Teen Checkups Program (known as C&TC) to provide Administrative Services for Medical Assistance eligible children birth through 20 years of age. This preventative program allows resource and referrals to appropriate providers for early screening and detection in areas of physical and mental health, immunizations, and dental care for qualified children and teens. The grant dollars also allow required trainings for staff and expansion of Community Services programs. The grant amount is figured based on \$26.50/per medical assistance eligible child within Nobles County annually. Due to changes implemented by the Minnesota Legislature, this funding will be reduced to allow for a portion of it to be allocated to Integrated Health Partnerships across the State. For Nobles County, a portion of this funding is being allocated to Access Family Medical to provide the administrative services to their clients in Nobles County. Because of the change, our grant amount is being reduced by approximately \$35,000 per year.</p>	
<p><u>VOTING</u> It was duly passed to approve the 2022 Child and Teen Check Ups Grant Agreement Amendment as presented. Moved by: Ahlers, Justin Seconded by: Paplow, Bob</p>	
7.4 (C)	<p>Minnesota Department of Health Strong Foundations Evidence-based Family Home Visiting Grant <u>Attachments:</u> Work Plan Summary</p>
<p>On April 18, 2022, the Minnesota Department of Health released a request for proposals for agencies to apply for Evidence-based Family Home Visiting Grant Funds. Although these grant funds have been available for many years, this is the first year in which the funding can be utilized for new start-up programs. Nobles County does not currently utilize an evidenced based curriculum in our home visiting program due to the previously uncompensated cost of becoming accredited as well as some of the stringent requirements needing to be implemented within the available evidence-based programs. Now there is a program named Parents as Teachers (PAT) that is a more flexible model that can be customized to meet community and family needs. Having an evidenced based program for family home visiting services is something that we have aspired to do for many years, but without the new start-up funding coupled with the previously stringent requirements we were unable to pursue it. Now, the Department of Health is specifically naming Nobles County as one of the last two counties in the State who do not currently operate an evidenced program and who are specifically named in this request as a primary geographic service area to receive funding of up to \$250,000 each year for five years. As an evidence-based home visiting program our reimbursements from medical assistance and health plans would increase making it increasingly possible for us to build a sustainable program. Currently, we receive two small grants that support our family home visiting program efforts totaling approximately \$60,000 per year. These current funding streams are most often expended by June or July of each year and the remaining services provided are funded through county dollars. Our hope is that this new funding will allow us to build a much more sustainable program for all those we serve. We are also keenly aware that these preventative type services for new parents and young children have a significant return on investment through decreased premature delivery, decreased child protection issues, healthier outcomes for all involved, higher graduation rates, etc.</p>	
<p><u>VOTING</u> It was duly passed to approve the agency to submit an application for the Family Home Visiting Program Funding grant. Moved by: Paplow, Bob Seconded by: Metz, Gene</p>	
7.5 (A)	<p>CSAH 10 and CSAH 35 Roadway Improvements – Bid Results</p>

	<p><u>Attachments:</u> Engineers Estimate Duininck, Inc. Bid</p>
<p>Bids for the roadway improvements relating to the new intermediate school (CSAH 10) and existing middle school (CSAH 35) were opened on Wednesday, May 2, 2022. The County Board needs to consider the bid received and decide whether to award the contract or reject the bid. Only one bid was received. The bid was from Duinick, Inc. for the amount of \$696,045.12. An abstract of the bid is attached along with the Engineer's Estimate prepared by our consultant WSN for reference. There was a lack of interest in the project due to most contractor's schedules being full for this construction season and the one bid received is extremely high based on the scope of work. The bid was \$296,914.62 (74.4%) over the estimated cost. It was recommended to the board by Aaron Holmbeck to reject the bid. He will consult with the County, City and School to determine a new plan for the roadway. A special meeting was proposed for June 14th and 4:30 p.m.</p>	
<p><u>VOTING</u> It was duly passed to reject the Duinick bid and direct Aaron Holmbeck to explore options for a new plan to discuss at a meeting with the City and School on June 14th at 4:30 p.m.. Moved by: Ahlers, Justin Seconded by: Metz, Gene</p>	
7.5 (B)	<p>Public Works Update</p>
<p>Aaron Holmbeck gave the board a public works update. This was an information only item.</p>	
7.6 (A)	<p>Eckberg Lammers, P.C. Contract <u>Attachments:</u> Eckberg Lammers Information</p>
<p>The County Attorney's Office will have two vacant assistant county attorney positions as of June 20, 2022. Zero applications have been received as of June 2, 2022. County Attorney Joe Sanow reached out to Eckberg Lammers to help prosecute felony, gross misdemeanor, and misdemeanor cases in Nobles County for the remainder of 2022. The contract's general terms are six-months at a flat fee of \$25,000 per month to cover 100% of our misdemeanor level cases and 66% of our gross misdemeanor and felony cases. The flat fee includes any necessary travel or overnight stays, and will not be a separate expense to the county.</p>	
<p><u>VOTING</u> It was duly passed to approve the contract with Eckberg Lammers, P.C. as presented. Moved by: Metz, Gene Seconded by: Ahlers, Justin</p>	
<p>8.0 Administration Presentation</p>	
8.1	<p>Committee Appointment FORWARD Worthington (WREDC) <u>Attachments:</u> FORWARD By-laws</p>
<p>The Worthington Chamber of Commerce, the Worthington Visitors and Convention Bureau, and the Worthington Regional Economic Development Corporation are all mutually-exclusive organizations that have similar goals, to improve the Worthington, MN area and economic development within Nobles County. Separate Boards once presided over these afore-mentioned organizations. An umbrella non-profit, FORWARD Worthington (FORWARD-an acronym explained within the title), is now created to oversee and align the goals of these three-existing organizations. The County Administrator formerly held a stakeholder-voting Board position and Commissioner Robert Demuth Jr. formerly served in an ex-officio capacity on the WREDC board, respectively. The Forward Worthington Board of Directors shall be composed of 9 Regular Directors and 3 Ex-officio Directors. The City Council for the City of Worthington, the Nobles County Commissioners, and Water and Light Commission of the City of Worthington shall each be entitled to appoint one (1) Ex-officio Director. Each Regular Director and each Ex-officio Director are entitled to one vote. After discussion, Commissioner Demuth is willing as the Nobles County Ex-officio Director on behalf of Nobles County, if appointed. Administrator Heitkamp is willing to act as Demuth's non-voting Alternate, if also appointed.</p>	
<p><u>VOTING</u> It was duly passed to appoint Commissioner Demuth to the FORWARD Worthington board as a voting delegate. Moved by: Paplow, Bob Seconded by: Metz, Gene</p>	
8.2	<p>University of Minnesota Extension Office Proposed Agreement Addendum II <u>Attachments:</u> U of M and Nobles County Agreement</p>

The Extension Office provides staffing support during the Nobles County Fair. It was recently identified that funding was not allocated in recent Extension budgets. The Extension Office is requesting Addendum II be adopted to acknowledge and authorize funding for Nobles County Fair-preparation activities.

VOTING

It was duly passed to approve the addendum to the U of M Extension office agreement as presented.

Moved by: Ahlers, Justin

Seconded by: Paplow, Bob

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 – Reported on the beginning of budget planning.

9.2 Correspondence

Attachments:

Recruitment Update

9.3 Calendar

Attachments:

June 2022

10.0 Other / Future Business

AMC Spring District Meeting – Thursday June 9, 2022

8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Pipestone Country Club, Pipestone, MN

Coffee with Commissioners – Tuesday June 14, 2022

9:00 a.m. Ecumen Meadows, Worthington, MN

County Board of Review – Tuesday June 14, 2022

6:00 p.m. Government Center, Worthington, MN

Board Meeting – Tuesday June 21, 2022

9:00 a.m. Government Center, Worthington, MN

Work Session – Wednesday June 29, 2022

9:00 a.m. Government Center, Worthington, MN

11.0 Adjournment

It was duly passed to adjourn the meeting at 10:32 a.m.

Moved by: Ahlers, Justin

Seconded by: Metz, Gene



Nobles County Board Chair



Nobles County Administrator