

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

The Board of Commissioners of Nobles County met in special session on Wednesday, October 26, 2022, at the Government Center, in the Commissioner’s Board Room, Worthington, Minnesota. The following Commissioners attended: Gene Metz, Robert S. Demuth, Donald Linssen, Justin Ahlers and Bob Paplow.  
 Chairperson Linssen called the meeting to order at 8:31 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: Metz, Gene Seconded by: Ahlers, Justin	
<b>4.0 Recognition</b>	
<b>4.1 Visitors and Guests Welcome</b>	
<b>4.2 Retirement Recognition</b> Nancy Veen, City of Worthington Dispatch employee, was recognized for her 26 years of service. Although Nancy is a City of Worthington employee she has worked closely with Nobles County her entire career.	
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Department Presentations</b>
5.1 (A)	<b>Ditch Update</b> Zach Reker gave an update on the Nobles County ditch system. This was informational only.

5.2 (A)	<b>Tax Abatement Program 2023-2027</b> <b>Attachments:</b> 2023-2027 Guidelines City/School Draft Resolution City/School Participation Resolution
The Nobles County Commissioner’s acted on May 3, 2022 with intent to continue the Nobles Home Initiative Tax-Abatement Program (NHI). Substantive changes were introduced again during the June 29, 2022 Board of Commissioner Work Session. Final details are now being offered prior to releasing the information to schools and cities who choose to participate. Staff started program-renewal efforts as directed by the Board in preparation for the continuance of the Nobles Home Initiative Tax Abatement Program (2023-2027). A City & School Participant Input Meeting was held on August 30, 2022. Input was also obtained during a City, County, School Meeting on September 30, 2022. That most-recent meeting started the course of reviewing program language. Worthington City Administrator Steve Robinson was instrumental in offering recommendations which clarifies the program’s intent, abatement calculation, and timelines. The changes don’t affect any of the procedures. Terminology such as “Original Tax Capacity” and “Captured Tax Capacity” within the Guideline’s “Calculation of the Abatement” section represents the changes. The changes are substantive enough to warrant Board review prior to being released to cities and schools. Discussion was had if rental units should be included as they are listed within the participants resolution. While different opinions were shared it was decided to remove the language on the resolution. Another change was the time frame the building needs to begin. Currently it is 6 months but it was decided to change to 12 months. The City of Worthington, Auditor-Treasurer’s office, Assessors office and Administration all agreed to the proposed changes. Administration will update the documents before sending out to Cities and schools.	
<b>VOTING</b> It was duly passed to approve the amended Nobles Home Initiative Guidelines and template resolutions, as presented. Moved by: Paplow, Bob Seconded by: Metz, Gene	
5.3 (A)	<b>CEDA Update</b> <b>Attachments:</b> Priority Plan

Josh and Angie gave an update on their work through Community Economic Development Associates (CEDA). This was informational only.

5.4 (A) **Deputy County Attorney Classification**

**Attachments:**  
Position Description

Joseph Sanow, County Attorney is in support of creating a new position in his office of a Deputy County Attorney. The County Attorney's office has 4 attorneys when fully staffed. Braden Hoefert has 10 years of experience as an attorney and is a great resource to the office. The job description of Deputy County Attorney was used several years ago but hasn't been a current position in the office for several years. It was determined that Mr. Hoefert could assist the County Attorney with more office responsibilities especially during this time when they have 2 attorney vacancies. The job description was sent to George Gmach for pointing. The job points were set at 526 which puts this position at level 20 on our pay scale.

**VOTING**

It was duly passed to approve the Deputy County Attorney job description and associated point values.

Moved by: Demuth, Robert S.

Seconded by: Ahlers, Justin

It was duly passed to approve the promotion of Braden Hoefert to Deputy County Attorney effective November 1, 2022.

Moved by: Metz, Gene

Seconded by: Paplow, Bob

5.4 (B) **Phased Retirement**

**Attachments:**  
PERA Options

Sue Luig, HR Director, presented the board with information regarding Phased Retirement through PERA. The board was in favor of the option and would like more information to be brought

**6.0 Administration Presentation**

6.1 **AMC Voting Delegates**

The Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) holds their Annual Conference on December 5-7, 2022. Various items are voted upon during that Annual Conference, such as AMC committee leadership for the following year and legislative-agenda items for the upcoming 2023 Legislative Session. Nobles County is asked to list their seven (7) voting delegates. Nobles County is allowed to have three (3) more voting delegates than those serving on the Board of Commissioners. The following were Nobles County's Voting Delegates last year:

Don Linssen, Commissioner, Robert Demuth Jr., Commissioner, Bob Paplow, Commissioner, Justin Ahlers, Commissioner, Gene Metz, Commissioner, Joseph Sanow, County Attorney, Bruce Heitkamp, Administrator, Tawn Hall, EM & Deputy Administrator.

It was discussed to leave the voting members the same as the current year.

**VOTING**

It was duly passed to appoint; Don Linssen, Robert Demuth, Bob Paplow, Justin Ahlers, Gene Metz, Bruce Heitkamp, Joseph Sanow and Tawn Hall as AMC voting delegates.

Moved by: Ahlers, Justin

Seconded by: Demuth, Robert S.

7.0 **Other / Future Business**

**AMC District 8 Fall Meeting** – Thursday October 27, 2022

8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Wabasso Community Center, 1429 Front Street Wabasso, MN

**Southwestern Minnesota Opportunity Council – New Director Meet and Greet** – Friday October 28

3:00 – 6:00 p.m. SMOC 1106 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, Worthington, MN

**Board Meeting** – Tuesday November 08, 2022

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

**8.0 Adjournment**

It was duly passed to adjourn the meeting at 10:12 a.m.

Moved by: Demuth, Robert S.

Seconded by: Ahlers, Justin

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Nobles County Board Chair

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Nobles County Administrator