

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF NOBLES COUNTY, MINNESOTA

The Board of Commissioners of Nobles County met in regular session on Tuesday, March 05, 2024, at the Government Center, in the Commissioner’s Board Room, Worthington, Minnesota.

The following Commissioners attended: Robert S. Demuth, Justin Ahlers, Bob Paplow, and Chris Dybevic.
Commissioner Gene Metz attended virtually.

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

All votes were conducted via roll call

1.0 Call To Order	
2.0 Pledge of Allegiance	
3.0 Approval of Agenda	
VOTING It was duly passed to approve the agenda as presented. Motion by: Demuth, Robert S. Seconded by: Paplow, Bob	
4.0 Recognition	
4.1 Visitors and Guests Welcome	
5.0 Consent Agenda	
5.1	February 20, 2024 Regular Board Meeting Minutes Draft Attachments: February 20, 2024 Draft Minutes
5.2	Meetings and Conferences – Travel Expenses Attachments: Expenses paid February 23, 2024
5.3 (A)	Auditor’s & Commissioner’s Warrants Attachments: Accounts Payable Summary Auditor’s Warrants
5.3 (B)	Vendors Paid over \$2,000 Attachments: Paid Invoice Report by Vendor
5.3 (C)	Breakdown of Wells Fargo Payments Attachments: On Behalf of Payment Report
5.4	Temporary Liquor License Attachments: Permits Sheriff Approval
VOTING It was duly passed to approve the consent agenda as presented. Moved by: Paplow, Bob Seconded by: Dybevic, Chris	
6.0 Public Hearing	
6.1 (A)	Public Hearing – Proposed Property Tax Abatement Dean and Lynel Hokeness Parcel 15-0029-000 A. Open Hearing (Action) B. Proposed Abatement – Discussion C. Public Comment D. Close Hearing (Action) E. Decisions : Dean and Lynel Hokeness Parcel 15-0029-000 – Resolution 202413 (Action) Attachments:

	Application information Resolution 202413
<p><u>VOTING</u></p> <p>A. A motion by Gene Metz and seconded by Robert S. Demuth, it was duly passed to open the Proposed Property Tax Abatement Public Hearing for Dean and Lynel Hokeness Parcel 15-0029-000.</p> <p>B. Bruce Heitkamp, Nobles County Administrator, reviewed the Nobles Home Initiative Application.</p> <p>C. No Discussion or public comment was received.</p> <p>D. On a motion by Robert S. Demuth and seconded by Justin Ahlers, it was duly passed to close the Proposed Property Tax Abatement Public Hearing.</p> <p>E. On a motion by Chris Dybevic and seconded by Bob Paplow, it was duly passed to adopt Resolution 202413 approving tax abatement to Dean and Lynel Hokeness Parcel 15-0029-000 pursuant to Minnesota Statute 469.1813.</p>	
6.2 (A)	<p>Public Hearing – Proposed Property Tax Abatement Brett Wittry Parcel 10-0175-500</p> <p>A. Open Hearing (<i>Action</i>)</p> <p>B. Proposed Abatement – Discussion</p> <p>C. Public Comment</p> <p>D. Close Hearing (<i>Action</i>)</p> <p>E. Decisions : Brett Wittry Parcel 10-0175-500 – Resolution 202414 (<i>Action</i>)</p> <p><u>Attachments:</u> Application information Resolution 202414</p>
<p><u>VOTING</u></p> <p>A. A motion by Bob Paplow and seconded by Robert S. Demuth, it was duly passed to open the Proposed Property Tax Abatement Public Hearing for Brett Wittry Parcel 10-0175-500.</p> <p>B. Bruce Heitkamp, Nobles County Administrator, reviewed the Nobles Home Initiative Application.</p> <p>C. No Discussion or public comment was received.</p> <p>D. On a motion by Bob Paplow and seconded by Chris Dybevic, it was duly passed to close the Proposed Property Tax Abatement Public Hearing.</p> <p>E. On a motion by Justin Ahlers and seconded by Gene Metz, it was duly passed to adopt Resolution 202414 approving tax abatement to Brett Wittry Parcel 10-0175-500 pursuant to Minnesota Statute 469.1813.</p>	
<p>7.0 Department Presentations</p>	
7.1 (A)	<p>Nobles County Child Care Grants Approval Request</p> <p><u>Attachments:</u> Application Twenty-Five</p>
<p>In December 2022, The Nobles County Board of Commissioners approved up to \$400,000 in funding to be utilized for three child care grant programs in the county. These funds are intended to accompany funding from the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) Grant. Contracted and county staff developed a framework for two of the grants and opened the programs for applications in April 2023. In April 2023, a review committee was formed to review the applications from child care providers and make recommendations to the Board for the approval of those applications. The review committee met on Monday, February 26, 2024 to evaluate one application for funding that had been received. The committee approved the application for funding. It was requested to approve the funding request from applicant twenty-five which will be funded through DEED Grant Funding / County funds once approved by the Board.</p>	
<p><u>VOTING</u></p> <p>It was duly passed to approve \$4000 of funding from the Nobles County Child Care Grant for applicant twenty-five.</p> <p>Moved by: Demuth, Robert S.</p> <p>Seconded by: Dybevic, Chris</p>	
7.2 (A)	<p>AIS Education – Media Blitz Campaign</p> <p><u>Attachments:</u> E-mail conversation</p>
<p>There is an opportunity to help educate the public and raise awareness on the importance of keeping all our lakes in the County free from invasive species. Mark Koster has requested, the Daily Globe to developed a Clean, Drain, and Dry Summer 2024 Campaign. The campaign will maximize the reach by promoting the message throughout the spring and summer when people will be on the water, especially during holidays and events. The campaign will run from May –</p>	

August 2024. Since one of the purposes of the grant is to educate the public about AIS, \$40,000.00 would be used from the AIS grant for this media blitz campaign. The campaign will use newspaper ads, digital advertising, sponsored content on the Globe, geofencing, social media, streaming audio and video, and brochures. The streaming audio/video and brochures will be in both English and Spanish. Geofencing is targeting people with ads on their mobile device when they are in a specific location. In summary, there will be over 800k local premium digital impressions, 400k geofence impressions, 225k audio and video streaming impressions, and 550k takeover impressions. The total program value is \$52,000.00, but we would pay \$40,000.00. Nobles County used \$46,000 of the AIS grant money last year to help purchase the CD3 Cleaning Station located at Sunset Bay on Lake Okabena This media investment will help educate the public on how to use this CD3 Station and other methods to help prevent the spread of AIS to our lakes. There is approximately \$179,000 left in the AIS grant.

VOTING

It was duly passed to approve \$40,000 from the AIS grant be utilized to fund a AIS education media blitz.

Moved by: Paplow, Bob

Seconded by: Dybevick, Chris

7.3 (A) **Joe Brake – Wilmont, MN – CUP #03-2024**

Attachments:

Planning and Zoning Minutes

Joe Brake – Wilmont, MN, a conditional use permit for replacement of an existing hog confinement building. Public Hearing is required under Section 505.2 Conditional Use, any change involving alterations, enlargement, intensification of use, or similar change not specifically permitted by the conditional use permit issued shall require an amended conditional use permit and all procedures shall apply as if a new permit were being issued. This section is part of the Nobles County Planning and Zoning Ordinance. This parcel of land is located on the East 450' of South 766' of E1/2 SW1/4 of Section 28, Township 104, Range 42, Wilmont Township.

VOTING

It was duly passed to approve CUP #03-2024 for Joe Brake as presented.

Moved by: Metz, Gene

Seconded by: Dybevick, Chris

7.4 (A) **Bid Award for Contract 24001 – 2024 County Wide Seal Coat Project**

Attachments:

Project Map

Bid Abstract

Bids for the 2024 Bituminous Seal Coat project (Contract 24001) were opened on Thursday, February 29th, 2024 at 10:00am. The Board needs to approve the award of the contract to the lowest responsible bidder. The contract consists of ~56.65 miles of bituminous seal coat surfacing work. 4 bids were received. The bids ranged from \$1,930,762.15 to \$3,944,229.02 with the low bidder being Morris Sealcoat & Trucking, Inc. The difference in bid from the two lowest bidders was \$36,646.09 or a 1.9% difference. The low bid of \$1,930,762.15 was 14.39% below our engineer's estimate of \$2,255,350.93.

VOTING

It was duly passed to award Contract 24001 to Morris Sealcoat & Trucking, Inc. in the amount of \$1,930,762.15.

Moved by: Ahlers, Justin

Seconded by: Demuth, Robert S.

7.4 (B) **Bid Award for Contract 24002 – 2024 Crack Seal & Joint Leveling Project**

Attachments:

Project Map

Bid Abstract

Bids for the 2024 Bituminous Crack Seal and Joint Leveling project (Contract 24002) were opened on Thursday, February 29th, 2024 at 1:00pm. The Board needs to approve the award of the contract to the lowest responsible bidder. The contract consists of ~40.64 miles of both crack seal and joint leveling work. 3 bids were received. The bids ranged from \$488,834.00 to \$1,175,600.00 with the low bidder being Lot Pros Inc. The low bid of \$488,834.00 was 28.45% below our engineer's estimate of \$683,200.00.

VOTING

It was duly passed to award Contract 24002 to Lot Pros, Inc. in the amount of \$488,834.00.

Moved by: Demuth, Robert S.

Seconded by: Paplow, Bob

8.0 Administration Presentation

8.1	County "Remonumentation" Effort Board Consent to Acknowledge Efforts to Obtain a Grant and to Authorize the County Surveyor and County Auditor-Treasurer to Act on the County's Behalf to Submit a Proposal and to Act as the Fiscal Agent <u>Attachments:</u> Resolution 202415
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County Staff visited with the County Commissioners on August 8, 2023 about a need to accurately identify land survey corners throughout Nobles County, referred to a Remonumentation. Staff were directed during that meeting to acquire a professional for further discussion. Ben Madsen was subsequently appointed the County Surveyor to act on the County's behalf for survey purposes. The Minnesota Geospatial Information Office (MNGEO) is currently accepting proposals to identify survey corners. County stakeholder departments are identifying that a Remonumentation process would initially be beneficial within Worthington & Indian Lake Townships, respectively, at \$279,700.00 (requested grant award). Administrator Heitkamp submitted a prepared Letter of Intent to participate in a Remonumentation project. Resolution 202415 is prepared so the Commissioners can consent to the proposal application and to authorize the County Surveyor Office and County Auditor- Treasurer to act on the County's behalf to county's behalf.

VOTING

It was duly passed to adopt resolution 202415 authorizing the County Surveyor to submit the Remonumentation Proposal to identify corners within Worthington Township and Indian Lake Township while Authorizing the Auditor-Treasurer's Office to act as Fiscal Agent.

Moved by: Dybevick, Chris

Seconded by: Paplow, Bob

8.2	Nobles County Fair Board Request to Partner with Loan Guarantee for Grandstand and Race Track Lighting <u>Attachments:</u> Fair Request
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The Nobles County Fair Board is requesting assistance. Historically, Nobles County has participated in guaranteeing a Fair Board loan. A new request is proposed where Nobles County would pledge certificate of deposit funds as a guarantee for a new loan. Ron McCarvel, on behalf of the Nobles County Fair Board, is proposing Nobles County pledge \$120,000.00 of certificate of deposit proceeds for the Fair Board's upcoming project loan. The Fair Board is not asking for \$120,000.00 of County funds for this project. They simply want to use the County's \$120,000.00 of certificate of deposit pledges to guarantee the loan. The County does not have to sacrifice any interest income and simply has to keep the funding pledged until the loan is satisfied.

VOTING

It was duly passed to authorize the use of \$120,000.00 of certificates of deposit (CD's) to guarantee the Fair Board Loan

Moved by: Demuth, Robert S.

Seconded by: Metz, Gene

9.0 Inter-Agency Reports / Announcements

9.1	Committee and Board Reports
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Commissioner, District 2; Gene Metz: Reported on the AMC Legislative meeting.

Commissioner, District 5; Chris Dybevick: Reported on the park board meeting.

Administration; Bruce Heitkamp: Reported on the compensation study along with the multiple building projects.

Commissioner, District 4; Robert S. Demuth: Reported on the Planning and Zoning meeting where discussion was had on allowing more than 1 house on a parcel.

Commissioner, District 3; Bob Paplow: Reported on the library board meeting.

Commissioner, District 1; Justin Ahlers: Reported on the AMC Legislative conference.

Attorney, Braden Hoefert: Reported that Eckberg Lammers is holding an active shooting training.	
9.2	Correspondence Attachments: Recruitment Memo HLWD Meeting Agenda/Minutes 2/27/24
9.3	Calendar Attachments: March 2024
10.0 Other / Future Business	
Election Help – Tuesday March 05, 2024 8:00 p.m. - ?? Government Center, Worthington, MN Board Meeting – Tuesday March 19, 2024 9:00 a.m. Government Center Board Room, Worthington, MN Coffee with Commissioners – Tuesday March 19, 2024 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. TC Tavern Brewster, MN	
11.0 Adjournment	
It was duly passed to adjourn the meeting at 9:53 a.m. Moved by: Paplow, Bob Seconded by: Demuth, Robert S.	



Nobles County Board Chair



Nobles County Administrator