Chair Matt Ludwig called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Present were Commissioners Steve Hallan, Josh Mohr, Steve Chaffee and John Mikrot, Jr. Also present were County Attorney Reese Frederickson, Auditor-Treasurer Cathy Clemmer, County Administrator David Minke, Economic Development Coordinator Robert Musgrove, Land and Resources Manager Caleb Anderson, Probation Director Terry Fawcett, Land Services Director Kelly Schroeder and Health & Human Services Director Becky Foss.

The pledge of allegiance was said.

Motion by Commissioner Hallan to approve the agenda. Second by Commissioner Mohr. Motion carried 5-0.

Essentia Health Administrator Michael Hedrix welcomed the board to Essentia Health.

Housing & Economic Development

Economic Development Coordinator Robert Musgrove and Land and Resources Manager Caleb Anderson provide an overview of the status of housing and efforts currently underway in the planning. The following topics were discussed: The East Central Housing Organization (ECHO); status of rental and senior housing and future demand for all housing; an action plan; and the powers of Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) and Economic Development Authority (EDA). Robert will reach out to other HRAs and EDAs in the area to investigate their involvement in housing.

The following goals were identified: to improve existing housing stock, take the lead in high-demand areas, identify education resources to expand expertise, complete a Planned Community Development Project, attract developers to construct affordable units, create a governance structure to implement planning and development; address senior housing needs; stimulate the development of more market-rate and single and multi-family for sale and rental housing.

Caleb provided information on the Pine County Housing Institute Team, with the team consisting of the following members: Caleb Anderson, Pine County staff; Ken Cammelleri, Pine City staff; Kent Bombard, Pine City Planning Commission; Deb Robelia, Pine City HRA; Tim Burkhardt, Hinckley City Council; Val Palmer, Sandstone City Council, and Leah Jackson, Sandstone City staff. The team has discussed the concept of a Community Land Trust as a way to facilitate housing.
Discussion was held as to an action plan and what the county’s goals and priorities for housing should be, for example, engagement of cities and communities for housing projects.

Robert is resigning from his Economic Development Coordinator position in the fall of 2017. The board stated their desire to continue the funding in the budget for this position.

The county board received presentations as to department mid-year budget status and programs from the following departments:

- County-Wide Update: overall, department budgets are on track with the likelihood that the out-of-home placements will exceed the budget for 2017.
- Auditor-Treasurer: budget on track; the vote tabulation machines are nearing end-of-life and will need to be replaced in the next few years.
- Land Fund: budget on track.
- Land Services Department (Land Services Department (AIS, Recorder, Assessor, Planning & Zoning, Solid Waste, SCORE Recycling): budgets on track.

Chair Ludwig called for a recess at 10:56 a.m.

The board meeting reconvened at 11:01 a.m.

The county board continued their review of the following budgets:
- Probation: budget on track.
- Social Services: out-of-home placements will exceed 2017 budget.
- Administration (Commissioners, IT, County Administrator, Contracted Attorney’s, Veteran Services, Medical Examiner, County Extension, Economic Development): budgets on track.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

Matthew W. Ludwig, Chair
Board of Commissioners

David J. Minke, Administrator
Clerk to County Board