

**MINUTES
OF THE
PINE COUNTY BOARD MEETING
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, May 5, 2020 - 10:00 a.m.
Pine City, Minnesota**

Chair Steve Hallan called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Chair Hallan stated the Governor of the State of Minnesota has issued Executive Order 20-01 Declaring a Peacetime Emergency and Coordinating Minnesota's Strategy to Protect Minnesotans from COVID-19. On March 24, 2020, the Pine County Board of Commissioners declared a local emergency for Pine County.

Based on these conditions, the Chair of the Pine County Board of Commissioners has determined that the requirements of Minnesota Statute 13D.021, Subd. (1) have been met and it is not practical or prudent for members of the county board to meet in person. Members of the county board will join the meeting remotely.

The public was invited to join the meeting remotely by phone, WebEx or watch via live stream on YouTube.

Present via electronic means were Chair Hallan and Commissioners Josh Mohr, Steve Chaffee, John Mikrot, and Matt Ludwig. Also present via electronic means were County Attorney Reese Frederickson and County Administrator David Minke.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Chair Hallan called for public comment. There was no public comment.

Chair Hallan requested the following revision to the agenda:

Addition: Regular Agenda Item 6.1: New Hire - Aaron Gunderson, Assistant County Engineer
Commissioner Mohr moved to adopt the amended Agenda. Second by Commissioner Ludwig. A Roll Call vote was called by Chair Hallan: District 3-Commissioner Chaffee/Aye; District 4-Commissioner Mikrot/Aye; District 5-Commissioner Ludwig/Aye; District 1-Chair Hallan/Aye; District 2-Commissioner Mohr/Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Mikrot moved to approve the Minutes of the April 21, 2020 county board meeting and Summary for publication. Second by Commissioner Mohr. A Roll Call vote was called by Chair Hallan: District 4-Commissioner Mikrot/Aye; District 5-Commissioner Ludwig/Aye; District 1-Chair Hallan/Aye, District 2-Commissioner Mohr/Aye; District 3-Commissioner Chaffee/Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Minutes of Boards, Reports and Correspondence

Pine County Land Surveyor Monthly Report - April 2020

Motion by Commissioner Ludwig to acknowledge the Minutes of Boards, Reports and Correspondence. Second by Commissioner Mikrot. A Roll Call vote was called by Chair Hallan: District 5-Commissioner Ludwig/Aye; District 1-Chair Hallan/Aye; District 2-Commissioner Mohr/Aye; District 3-Commissioner Chaffee/Aye; District 4-Commissioner Mikrot/Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Mikrot moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Second by Commissioner Mohr. A Roll Call vote was called by Chair Hallan: District 1-Chair Hallan/Aye; District 2-Commissioner Mohr/Aye; District 3-Commissioner Chaffee/Aye; District 4- Commissioner Mikrot/Aye; District 5-Commissioner Ludwig/Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. **Liquor License Application**
Approve the application for On/Off Sale and Sunday Liquor License for Wild Horse Tavern (formerly The Tavern in Duquette). Authorize Board Chair and Auditor-Treasurer to sign license.
2. **Withdraw Tract 40 from Land Auction**
Approve Resolution 2020-30 to withdraw Tract 20 from the 2019 Land Auction Listing and pursue corrective measures regarding the encroachment of the neighboring structures and improvements on the parcel. Authorize Board Chair and County Administrator to sign.
3. **Select Committee On Recycling and the Environment (SCORE) Grant Agreement**
Authorize Land and Resources Manager Caleb Anderson to sign the SCORE Grant Agreement with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA). The MPCA is requiring a grant agreement for counties to receive SCORE funding.
4. **New Hire**
Approve the hiring of Eligibility Worker Melanie Christy, effective May 11, 2020, Grade 6, step 1, \$19.56 per hour.

REGULAR AGENDA

1. **Public Hearing - County Zoning Ordinance Amendment 2020-20 – at 10 a.m. or as soon thereafter as practicable**
Land and Resources Manager Caleb Anderson stated the New Dosey Township Board passed a resolution requesting to opt-in to the County Zoning Ordinance, thereby rescinding their Township Land Use Zoning Ordinance. Anderson requested adoption of Ordinance Amendment 2020-20 to include New Dosey Township in the County Zoning Ordinance.
Chair Hallan opened the public hearing at 10:09 a.m. and called for public comment. There being no public comment, Chair Hallan closed the public hearing at 10:10 a.m.. This Ordinance will be effective upon publication.
Motion by Commissioner Ludwig to approve adoption of Pine County Ordinance 2020-20 amending the Pine County Zoning Ordinance and rescinding all existing land use and zoning ordinances and amendments thereto adopted by New Dosey Township. Second by Commissioner Mikrot. A Roll Call vote was called by Chair Hallan: District 2-Commissioner Mohr/Aye; District 3-Commissioner Chaffee/Aye; District 4-Commissioner Mikrot/Aye; District 5-Commissioner Ludwig/Aye; District 1-Chair Hallan/Aye. Motion carried 5-0.
2. **Public Hearing – Concerning Septic Systems – at 10:00 a.m. or as soon thereafter as practicable**
Land and Resources Manager Caleb Anderson stated Dell Grove Township has elected to defer regulation of subsurface sewage treatment systems to Pine County. This Ordinance will take effect May 14, 2020.
Chair Hallan opened the public hearing at 10:12 a.m. and called for public comment. There being no public comment, Chair Hallan closed the public hearing at 10:13 a.m.

Motion by Commissioner Mikrot to adopt Pine County Ordinance 2020-29 on behalf of Dell Grove Township, rescinding all prior ordinances and amendments to ordinances regulating subsurface sewage treatment systems within Dell Grove Township. Second by Commissioner Mohr. A Roll Call vote was called by Chair Hallan: District 3-Commissioner Chaffee/Aye; District 4-Commissioner Mikrot/Aye; District 5-Commissioner Ludwig/Aye; District 1-Chair Hallan/Aye; District 2-Commissioner Mohr/Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

3. Pine County District Court Update

Pine County District Court Judge Krista Martin stated Minnesota Supreme Court Chief Justice Gildea has issued an order regarding the continuing operations of state courts during the COVID-19 pandemic. The order continues in-person courthouse restrictions until May 18, 2020. Jury trials continue to be suspended; the courts will continue to conduct most hearings using remote technology. Commissioner Hallan asked if the courts were learning from the use of remote technology. Judge Martin noted that the courts may consider implementing some changes such as handling commitment hearings remotely. She noted that some counties in the district, including Pine, have already been using remote hearings for bail in some cases.

Commissioner Chaffee left the meeting at 10:20 a.m.

4. Essentia EMS Project and Assignment of Ambulance Lease

Essentia Health EMS Senior Director Joe Newton stated Essentia Health EMS (Pine Medical Center) has a lease with Pine County for ambulance service. Essentia Health desires to consolidate its five ambulance services into a single organizational structure within the Essentia Health system and assign its current lease to St. Mary's EMS d/b/a Essentia Health EMS. This assignment and assumption of lease is effective July 1, 2020.

Motion by Commissioner Ludwig to approve the Assignment and Assumption of Lease and Lessor Consent between Pine Medical Center ("Assignor), St. Mary's EMS d/b/a Essentia Health EMS ("Assignee") and Pine County (Lessor). Second by Commissioner Mikrot. A Roll Call vote was called by Chair Hallan: District 4-Commissioner Mikrot/Aye; District 5-Commissioner Ludwig/Aye; District 1-Chair Hallan/Aye; District 2-Commissioner Mohr/Aye; District 3-Commissioner Chaffee/absent. Motion carried 4-0.

5. Letter of Support for Community-Based Mental Health Grant

Health & Human Services Director Becky Foss stated an interest in applying for a community-based mental health grant to improve upon the accessibility and quality of community-based, outpatient mental health services in Pine County. A letter of support is necessary for the grant application.

Motion by Commissioner Mohr to approve a letter of support from the Pine County Board of Commissioners for the community-based mental health grant application. Second by Commissioner Mikrot. A Roll Call vote was called by Chair Hallan: District 5-Commissioner Ludwig/Aye; District 1-Chair Hallan/Aye; District 2-Commissioner Mohr/Aye; District 3-Commissioner Chaffee/absent; District 4-Commissioner Mikrot/Aye. Motion carried 4-0.

6. Reappointment of County Engineer

Minnesota Statute 163.07 requires the appointment of a county engineer. The reappointment must be made in the month of May for a period of four years. The county engineer's current appointment expires May 31, 2020.

Motion by Commissioner Ludwig to approve the reappointment of Public Works Director/County Engineer Mark LeBrun for a 4-year term as County Engineer from May 31, 2020 to May 31, 2024. Second by Commissioner Mohr. A Roll Call vote was called by Chair Hallan: District 1-

Chair Hallan/Aye; District 2-Commissioner Mohr/Aye; District 3-Commissioner Chaffee/absent; District 4-Commissioner Mikrot/Aye; District 5-Commissioner Ludwig/Aye. Motion carried 4-0.

6.1 Assistant County Engineer Hire

County Engineer Mark LeBrun stated the new assistant county engineer position will replace the Right-of-Way Manager position and one vacant Engineer Tech position.

Motion by Commissioner Ludwig to approve the hiring of Aaron Gunderson, Assistant County Engineer, effective May 26, 2020, \$45 per hour, grade 16, contingent upon successful background check. Second by Commissioner Mohr. A Roll Call vote was called by Chair Hallan: District 2-Commissioner Mohr/Aye; District 3-Commissioner Chaffee/absent; District 4-Commissioner Mikrot/Aye; District 5-Commissioner Ludwig/Aye; District 1-Chair Hallan/Aye. Motion carried 4-0.

7. County COVID-19 Updates

Public Health, Emergency Management, Auditor-Treasurer, Administration, Health & Human Services departments provided updates of department concerns and services provided through the COVID-19 pandemic.

8. Commissioner Updates

NLX – Cancelled

Snake River Watershed Management Board – Cancelled

Congressman Stauber video meetings: Chair Hallan attended both video meetings.

Extension Committee: Commissioner Mohr unable to attend.

Other: None

9. Other

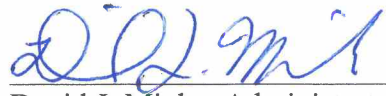
Chair Hallan updated the board that he had been in discussions with city council members from the City of Pine City regarding the city's compost site on the southeast corner of I-35 and CSAH 11. The county operates a recycling center on the site as well. Discussion with the City of Pine City included the potential for the county to take over ownership/operation of the site.

10. Adjourn

With no further business, Chair Hallan adjourned the county board meeting at 11:46 a.m. The next regular meeting of the county board is scheduled for May 19, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.



Stephen M. Hallan, Chair
Board of Commissioners



David J. Minke, Administrator
Clerk to County Board