

# MINUTES OF PINE COUNTY BOARD MEETING

## Special Meeting – Committee of the Whole

**Tuesday, February 24, 2015, 9:00 a.m.**  
**Pine County Courthouse, Pine City, Minnesota**

Chair Hallan called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Present were Commissioners Josh Mohr, Steve Chaffee, Curt Rossow and Matt Ludwig. Also present were County Attorney Reese Frederickson, County Sheriff Jeff Nelson and County Administrator David Minke.

Commissioner Chaffee moved to approve the Agenda. Second by Commissioner Ludwig. Motion carried 5-0.

Commission Rossow moved to acknowledge the resignation of Assistant County Attorney Aimee Cupelli, effective March 3, 2015, and to authorize the backfill of the position. Second by Commissioner Chaffee. Motion carried 5-0.

1. Household Hazardous Waste

Land Services Director Kelly Schroeder reviewed current practices with Household Hazardous Waste and discussed alternatives. Schroeder will continue to research options and report back to the board.

2. Recycling.

Land Services Director Kelly Schroeder reviewed current practices with recycling and discussed alternatives. Schroeder will continue to research options and report back to the board.

3. Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)

Land Services Director Kelly Schroeder reviewed the county's AIS plan. Commissioners directed that she continue to work on the program including:

- A. Local boat inspectors working with law enforcement.
- B. 4-H aquatic robotics program.
- C. Matching grants for lake association to chemically treat and harvest invasive weeds.
- D. Explore purchase of a portable decontamination unit.

4. Subdivision Ordinance (subdivision process)

Land Services Director Kelly Schroeder reviewed the Subdivision Ordinance and some of its challenges relating to the subdivision process. Schroeder will develop a draft to reduce the required lot frontage from 500 feet to 300 feet and to incorporate all of the current amendments into the ordinance.

5. Blight Ordinance

County Attorney Reese Frederickson distributed a draft/sample blight ordinance. Commissioners have received feedback that some of the cities and townships are looking for assistance in combating blight in their jurisdictions. The direction is to circulate a draft of the sample ordinance to the cities and townships and encourage feedback.

6. Nepotism Policy

County Attorney Reese Frederickson distributed a draft/sample nepotism policy. The direction is to bring the draft policy to the Personnel Committee for consideration.

7. Lighted Community Information Sign

The county board discussed the request to allow placement of a lighted community information sign at the Pine Government Center (315 Main Street, Pine City).

8. Goals

The board discussed the goals from the January, 2015 strategic planning meeting:

A. Building/usage plan

Direction: Continue to pursue more detailed cost information.

B. Economic Development (see below)

C. Outdoor Recreation

Direction: Assigned to the Facility Committee. Consider restructure of Land Services department to include land management and recreation management.

Evaluate an additional position in the department and explore what funding may be available from the land fund.

D. Technology

Direction: Continue to pursue current activities.

E. Public Safety Committee

Direction: Commissioners Matt Ludwig and Steve Hallan to take the lead along with Attorney Frederickson, Sheriff Nelson, probation, courts, and others as necessary.

F. Ditch

Direction: Attorney Frederickson to provide future update.

G. Nepotism Policy (see above)

H. Blight Ordinance (see above)

I. County Relationships with Townships and Cities

Direction: Work with the township officer association to develop a better forum for discussion than the spring/fall township officer meetings. Continue to meet with the cities

J. Legislative

Direction: Continue to participate in Arrowhead Association. County board to meet formally with legislators representing Pine County at least once per year.

K. Media Relations

Direction: Continue to develop ideas.

L. MLBO

Direction: Continue to meet with the band at the staff and elected leadership levels.

M. Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD)

Direction: Contact Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) to better understand the mission of the SWCD and the county's role.

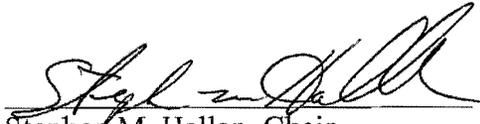
N. East Central Regional Development Commission (ECRDC)

Direction: Continue to develop ideas.

O. Economic Development Plan/Goals

The board discussed its economic development plan and how to accomplish the goals. It was the consensus of the board to form an Economic Development Commission (EDC) consisting of the five (5) commissioners and up to two (2) citizen members. Once formed, the EDC would consider contracting on a part-time basis with an economic development professional to lead the effort.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.



Stephen M. Hallan, Chair  
Board of Commissioners



David J. Minke, Administrator  
Clerk to County Board