

MINUTES OF PINE COUNTY BOARD MEETING
Special Meeting – Committee of the Whole

Friday, March 16, 2018, 9:30 a.m.
Pine County Courthouse, Pine City, Minnesota

Chair Hallan called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Present were Commissioners Stephen Hallan, Joshua Mohr, John Mikrot, Jr., and Matt Ludwig. Also present were Land Services Director Kelly Schroeder, Land and Resources Manager Caleb Anderson, and County Administrator David Minke. Commissioner Stephen Chaffee was absent (excused).

Others Present: Kurt Nelson, Chair of the Tri Township Disposal District, and representatives from various townships and cities in Pine County.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Motion by Commissioner Ludwig to approve the Agenda. Second by Commissioner Mohr. Motion carried.

1. Presentation of the Tri Township Disposal District model

Tri Township Disposal District Chair Kurt Nelson presented the Joint Powers waste disposal model used by Arna, Clover, Danforth, New Dosey and Wilma Townships. Starting in the 1980's, the Disposal District has been providing solid waste pick up and disposal services to the listed townships on an every-other-week basis. The service is provided at a cost of \$36 per parcel per year. A landowner can request rebates if they own more than one parcel. Tri Township owns a truck and collection is made every two weeks by two part-time employees. Residents provide their own receptacles and can dispose of any material that is accepted at the transfer station.

2. Comprehensive Plan update and implementation

The 2017-2030 Pine County Comprehensive Plan was reviewed in the following areas:

a. Progress on current goals

The list of 42 action items was reviewed by commissioners. The public also provided input. Topics discussed included broadband availability, economic development, freight rail transportation, blighted properties and water quality.

b. Review options for zoning

Land Services Director Kelly Schroeder and Land and Resources Manager Caleb Anderson presented an overview of zoning, county statistics, and zoning options. Commissioner Hallan stressed the need for county zoning coming from various sources looking to invest in Pine County. Currently, an interested party must contact multiple townships and/or cities to gather data. A single zoning ordinance would streamline the process. The consensus of the board is to proceed with considering a county zoning ordinance that townships could opt into if they were interested. The ordinance would include input from the townships, citizens, zoning board and commissioners. Kelly and Caleb were requested to draft a scope of work and project outline for commissioners to review.

3. Wetland Conservation Act Administration

Since 1992, the Wetland Conservation Act (WCA) has been administered for Pine County by the Pine Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD). A staffing change at the SWCD has prompted a discussion on bringing the WCA administration back to the county. The state provides an annual grant of approximately \$34,000 which has a match requirement. The topic will be discussed with the SWCD board at the March 20, 2016 regular county board meeting.

4. Adjourn

With no further business, Chair Hallan adjourned the meeting at 12:34 p.m.


Stephen M. Hallan, Chair
Pine County Board of Commissioners


David J. Minke, County Administrator
Clerk to Pine County Board of Commissioners