

**MINUTES  
OF  
PINE COUNTY BOARD MEETING  
SPECIAL MEETING  
and  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

**October 29, 2019, 1:00 p.m.  
Pine County Courthouse  
Pine City, Minnesota**

Chair Josh Mohr called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Present were Commissioners Steve Hallan, Steve Chaffee, John Mikrot, Jr., and Matt Ludwig. Also present were County Administrator David Minke, Pine County Financial Assistance Supervisor Michelle Morgan, Pine County Director of Health & Human Services Becky Foss, Central Minnesota Jobs and Training Services (CMJTS) Public Assistance Programs Supervisor Christina Kruger, CMJTS Chief Executive Officer Barbara Chaffee, Arrowhead Transit Manager Julia Dupla, and MTM Program Director Davin Miller.

The pledge of allegiance was said.

Chair Mohr welcomed everyone and those present introduced themselves.

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

**1. Health & Human Services**

**A. Introduction of Supervisor**

Health & Human Services Director Becky Foss introduced Financial Assistance Supervisor Michelle Morgan.

**B. Non-Emergency Medical Transportation - MTM, Inc.**

MTM Program Director Davin Miller provided an overview of the transportation services provided to eligible members, different modes of transportation, gas mileage reimbursement, and transportation for medical appointments.

**C. Arrowhead Transit/Sandstone Dial-A-Ride**

Arrowhead Transit Manager Julia Dupla provided a status update on the implementation of Arrowhead Transit/Dial-A-Ride program in the Sandstone area.

**D. Update on Job Training Services**

Central Minnesota Jobs and Training Services (CMJTS) CEO Barbara Chaffee provided an update on the job training services and switch from Pine Technical Community College to CMJTS, effective November 1, 2019. Barbara Chaffee noted that CMJTS would be leasing space from the county in the South Pine Government Center in Pine City and was looking for space in Sandstone to operate an office out of.

**Motion** by Commissioner Hallan to approve the Central Minnesota Jobs & Training Services contract to provide jobs and training services to eligible Pine County clients. Second by Commissioner Ludwig. Motion carried 5-0.

Chair Mohr called a recess at 2:08 p.m.

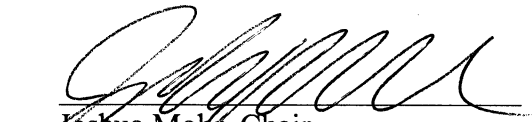
The board reconvened at 2:17 p.m.

**2. County Property Assessment Process**

County Assessor-Recorder Lorri Houtsma provided information on the two processes available for property assessing in Minnesota: (1) the true county assessor system, or (2) the local assessor system. Pine County currently operates under the local assessor system, which allows townships/cities to contract with either an assessor employed by the county, or contract with a private local assessor. Seventeen of the 47 townships/cities contract with private, local assessors. In all cases, the county assesses the commercial properties. Houtsma stated that effective July 1, 2022, all assessors will need to reach the Accredited Minnesota Assessor (AMA) license level. Two of the local assessors have indicated they will not be pursuing that level of accreditation and will not be continuing to provide assessor services.

To move to a true county assessing system, the county board must adopt a resolution. The change is effective in the year after the resolution is adopted, 90 days prior to January 2. In other words, for the change to be effective in 2020, the board would need to adopt a resolution prior to the end of 2019 and it would become effective October 4, 2020. The **consensus of the board** was to schedule a public meeting for November 26, 2019, 7:00 p.m., at the North Pine Government Center, 1602 Hwy. 23 North, for the purpose of discussing the transition to the true county system.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:48 p.m.

  
Joshua Mohr, Chair  
Board of Commissioners

  
David J. Minke, Administrator  
Clerk to County Board