

**MINUTES
OF THE
PINE COUNTY BOARD MEETING
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, November 5, 2019 - 10:00 a.m.
Pine County Courthouse
Pine City, Minnesota**

Chair Josh Mohr called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Present were Commissioners Steve Hallan, John Mikrot and Matt Ludwig. Also present were County Administrator David Minke and County Attorney Reese Frederickson. Commissioner Steve Chaffee was absent (excused).

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

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

Chair Mohr requested the following revisions to the Agenda:

Revision

Consent Agenda Item #3 – Drug Task Force Joint Powers Agreement

- Addition to Paragraph 4.1: "...The Board shall consist of eight members, the police chief or sheriff and assistant chief or chief deputy of each of the members,...".

Correction

Regular Agenda Item #1 – Railroad Authority Conveyance

- Correction to reflect a quit claim deed to be provided, not a warranty deed.
- Updated Attachment A (legal description)

Commissioner Hallan moved to approve the amended Agenda. Second by Commissioner Mikrot. Motion carried 4-0.

Commissioner Ludwig moved to approve the Minutes of the October 15, 2019 Board Meeting and Summary for publication. Second by Commissioner Mikrot. Motion carried 4-0.

Commissioner Mikrot moved to approve the Minutes of the October 29, 2019 Special Meeting-Committee of the Whole (HHS-Related Topics / County Assessor Update). Second by Commissioner Hallan. Motion carried 4-0.

Commissioner Hallan moved to approve the Minutes of the October 29, 2019 Special Meeting-Committee of the Whole (Local Government Officials). Second by Commissioner Mikrot. Motion carried 4-0.

Minutes of Boards, Reports and Correspondence

Pine County Land Surveyor Monthly Report – October 2019

Pine County Chemical Health Coalition Minutes – October 14, 2019

Pine County Housing and Redevelopment Authority Regular Meeting – August 28, 2019

Pine County Zoning Board Minutes – July 25, 2019 & September 26, 2019

Motion by Commissioner Ludwig to acknowledge the Minutes of Boards, Reports and Correspondence. Second by Commissioner Hallan. Motion carried 4-0.

Commissioner Hallan moved to approve the amended Consent Agenda. Second by Commissioner Mikrot. Motion carried 4-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. **Donations**
 - A. Accept \$300 donation from the Sandstone Area Chamber of Commerce (volunteering during Quarry Days) and \$250 donation from the Hinckley Chamber of Commerce (volunteering during Corn and Clover Days) and designate both to the Pine County Sheriff's Reserve Fund.
 - B. Accept \$200 donation from East Central Energy and designate to the Pine County Sheriff's Office K-9 program.

2. **Resolution for Repurchase of Tax Forfeited Land**

Approve Resolution 2019-49 for Repurchase of Tax Forfeited Land on a 4-year contract for Paul T. Feifarek, by personal representative Heather Mossow, PID 29.5082.000. Authorize Board Chair and County Administrator to sign.

3. **Drug Task Force Joint Powers Agreement**

Approve the East Central Drug and Violent Offender Task Force Joint Powers Agreement and authorize board chair and county administrator to sign. This Joint Powers Agreement will extend the current Joint Powers Agreement through 2023.

4. **Personnel**
 - A. Approve regular employment status for Financial Assistance Supervisor II Michelle Morgan, effective November 14, 2019.
 - B. Approve regular employment status for Social Worker Cassandra Peterson, effective October 18, 2019.

5. **New Hire**
 - A. Authorize the hiring of Jennifer Burlak as a Health & Human Services Office Support Specialist, effective November 12, 2019, Grade 2, Step 1, \$15.05 per hour.
 - B. Authorize the hiring of Nicholas Miller as an IT Support Specialist, effective November 12, 2019, Grade 7, non-union, non-exempt position, \$20.74 per hour.

6. **Training**
 - A. Authorize Probation Director Terry Fawcett to attend the Association of Minnesota Counties Annual Conference, December 9-11, 2019 in St. Cloud. Registration \$375; Lodging \$188, Meal \$15. Total cost: \$578.
 - B. Authorize Probation Supervisor Kevin Glass to attend the 2019 Changemaker Retreat, November 19-21, 2019, Giants Ridge, Biwabik. Lodging, training and meals are provided by the University of Minnesota. Mileage: \$76.56.
 - C. Authorize Planning and Implementation (P&I) Grant Coordinator Jenae Hicks to attend the P&I semi-annual meeting, November 7-8, 2019, Alexandria. This meeting is required for all P&I coordinators. Lodging: \$300; Meals: \$54; Mileage: \$100. Total cost: \$454. All expenses will be covered by the P&I Grant under Public Health.

REGULAR AGENDA

Chair Mohr recessed the regular board meeting at 10:03 a.m. and convened the Regional Railroad Authority meeting.

1. Pine County Regional Railroad Authority

County Auditor-Treasurer Kelly Schroeder explained that property owner Pavel Sakurets, CEO of Real Estate Division, LLC, was interested in an easement across former railroad right-of-way owned by the Regional Railroad Authority in Brook Park Township. This easement would allow access to its property from State Highway 23 and will not limit public use of the former

railroad right-of-way.

Motion by Commissioner Ludwig to approve the quit claim deed to Real Estate Division, LLC allowing for an ingress and egress easement over Railroad Authority property (the old railroad bed that extends into Brook Park from Kanabec County) and authorize Board Chair and County Administrator to sign. Second by Commissioner Hallan. Motion carried 4-0.

Chair Mohr adjourned the Regional Railroad Authority meeting at 10:07 a.m. and reconvened the regular county board meeting.

2. Government Operations Committee

The Government Operations Committee met October 11, 2019; Commissioner Ludwig provided an update at the October 15, 2019 county board meeting. Government Operations Committee Minutes were provided for review only.

3. Health & Human Services Advisory Committee

Commissioner Steve Hallan provided an overview of the Health & Human Services (HHS) Advisory Committee which met October 15, 2019. HHS will implement a one-year Infant at Work pilot program which allows HHS employees to bring their infant (ages: from birth to 240 days, or until the child can crawl) to work. The board discussed a child care center versus the infant at work program. At the end of the one year pilot project, HHS will provide an update to the board on the advantages/disadvantages of the project. Other topics of discussion included HHS-related transportation services and the receipt of a dental care grant.

4. Technology Committee

Commissioner Hallan provided an overview of the October 22, 2019 Technology Committee meeting. Items discussed included email retention, the data security breach, and an update on the tax/CAMA (Computer Aided Mass Appraisal) system. The sound issue in the John Wright/Doug Carlson rooms at the North Pine Government Center, and the project priorities for the Technology Fund were also discussed.

5. East Central Regional Development Commission – Transportation Management

Regional Transportation Coordinating Council (RTCC) Director Karen Onan-Wakefield provided an overview of transportation arrangement services provided by the RTCC. Onan stated the IRS standard mileage rate for charitable driving is 14¢ per mile while the IRS standard mileage rate for business is 58¢ per mile. RTCC is requesting our U.S. elected officials prioritize the passage of the Volunteer Driver Tax Appreciation Act, which would align the charitable rate with the business rate and asked for county board support for this increase. No action was taken by the board.

6. Pine Technical and Community College (PTCC)

Pine Technical and Community College President Joe Mulford provided an overview of the college and technical programs offered at PTCC. PTCC has expanded scholarship programs available to students and Mulford commented on future events scheduled and the major campus expansion and request for state bonding funds.

Commissioner Hallan left the meeting at 11:20 a.m.

7. Central Minnesota Jobs and Training Services Lease

Motion by Commissioner Ludwig to approve a one-year lease with Central Minnesota Jobs and Training Services for space at the South Pine Government Center. This lease is effective

November, 2019 and the county will receive an annual rent payment of \$4,000. Second by Commissioner Mikrot. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Hallan return to the meeting at 11:24 a.m.

8. Appointment to Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) Board

Motion by Commissioner Ludwig to approve the reappointment of Dorothy Stockamp to a five-year term on the Pine County HRA Board. The term is effective October 5, 2019 – October 4, 2024. Second by Commissioner Mikrot. Motion carried 4-0.

9. Board/Commission Per Diem

The board discussed the per diems paid to the various boards and committees maintained by the County. Currently most boards receive \$50 per meeting, with the Zoning Board receiving a \$75 per diem. Commissioner Hallan requested county staff determine the annual financial implications if per diems were increased to \$75 for each board/committee.

10. Commissioner Updates

Meeting with Julie Blaha, Minnesota State Auditor: Commissioner Hallan stated Ms. Blaha stopped by Pine County in their travels to other counties; she was very complimentary to our staff.

AMC District 1 Meeting: County Administrator David Minke attended.

Arrowhead Counties Association: Cancelled

Lakes & Pines Executive Committee: Commissioner Hallan stated grants were presented to the Executive Committee for review, prior to their presentation to the full board.

Labor Negotiations: Active negotiations are ongoing with the Correction Officer/Dispatch group. Next negotiation meeting is November 12th.

NLX: Cancelled

HRA Board meeting: Commissioner Ludwig stated it was a general meeting, and the HRA is still considering some type of housing projects. The HRA Board had inquired as to the amount they are paying for property taxes. It was determined submission of additional paperwork is necessary by the HRA Board to Minnesota Housing to categorize them as low income housing. Once they are placed on the Minnesota Housing list, the county will change the tax classification to reflect a low income apartment building; this will reduce the property tax payable by approximately 40%.

Snake River Watershed: Commissioner Mohr stated the Watershed received a planning grant for One Watershed One Plan (1W1P).

Lower St. Croix 1W1P: Commissioner Hallan stated the Lower St. Croix 1W1P is done with their planning grant money.

East Central Regional Development Commission: Commissioner Mikrot stated the 2020 census was discussed, with the importance of an accurate census count for the region. The Revolving Loan Fund Board approved a loan for the Don Julio restaurant in Pine City.

Other: None.

9. Other

None.

10. Upcoming Meetings

Upcoming meetings were reviewed.

11. **Adjourn**

With no further business, Chair Mohr adjourned the meeting at 11:47 a.m. The next regular meeting of the county board is scheduled for Tuesday, November 19, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. at the North Pine Government Center, 1602 Hwy. 23 No., Sandstone, Minnesota.



Joshua Mohr, Chair
Pine County Board of Commissioners



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