

**MINUTES
OF THE
PINE COUNTY BOARD MEETING
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, December 3, 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, Steve Chaffee, John Mikrot and Matt Ludwig. Also present were County Administrator David Minke and County Attorney Reese Frederickson.

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:

Addition

Regular Agenda Item #9A – Consider Letter of Support for H.R. 2072 Revising the IRS Mileage Rate for Volunteer Drivers

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

Commissioner Mikrot moved to approve the Minutes of the November 19, 2019 board meeting and Summary for publication. Second by Commissioner Hallan. Motion carried 5-0.

Minutes of Boards, Reports and Correspondence

Pine County Housing and Redevelopment Authority Regular Meeting – September 25, 2019

Pine County Zoning Board Minutes – October 24, 2019

Pine County Land Surveyor Monthly Report – November 2019

Motion by Commissioner Ludwig to acknowledge the Minutes of Boards, Reports and Correspondence. Second by Commissioner Hallan. Motion carried 5-0.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Approve Resolution 2019-56 for Repurchase of Tax Forfeited Land in full, Finlayson Properties, LLC, PID 38.0007.000, and authorize Board Chair and County Administrator to sign.

2. **Agreement with Kanabec County Family Services**

Approve contract between Pine County Health & Human Services and Kanabec County Family Services for mental health care and authorize the Board Chair and County Administrator to sign same. The term of the agreement is January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020. The cost has increased from \$125 hour to \$127.71 per hour.

3. **State of Minnesota Department of Human Services County Grant Contract**
Approve the State of Minnesota Department of Human Services County Grant Contract with Pine County Health & Human Services in the amount of \$9,195 for 2020. This grant is for children's mental health screening. Authorize Board Chair and County Administrator to sign.
4. **Prosecution Agreement – City of Sandstone**
Approve the Agreement for Prosecution Services between the City of Sandstone and the Pine County Attorney's Office. This agreement provides for \$20,000 over the next two years to the county attorney's budget. The term of the Agreement is January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2021. Authorize Board Chair and County Auditor to sign.
5. **New Hire**
Authorize the hiring of Kari Seebach as a social worker, effective December 9, 2019, Grade 10, Step 2, \$25.01 per hour. Contingent on an approved background check.
6. **Training**
Authorize County Engineer Mark LeBrun to attend the 75th Annual MN County Engineers Conference, January 21-24, 2020, at Cragun's Resort in Brainerd. Registration: \$210; Lodging/Meals: \$666. Total cost: \$876.

REGULAR AGENDA

1. **Transportation Committee Report**
Commissioner Hallan provided an overview of the November 19, 2019 Transportation Committee meeting. MnDOT will conduct a speed study on CSAH 51. County Engineer Mark LeBrun provided an update on the construction status for CSAH 52, CSAH 57 and the CSAH 52 bridge. LeBrun reviewed an updated project list which could be completed if the sales tax is renewed, and reviewed a draft of the 2020-2024 Highway Improvement Plan (separate action at Regular Agenda Item 8).
2. **Health & Human Services Advisory Committee Report**
Commissioner Hallan provided an overview of the December 2, 2019 Health & Human Services Advisory Committee. Space planning for Health & Human Services employees was discussed. Social Services Income Maintenance Supervisor Michelle Morgan explained the child care assistance program and services provided; currently Pine County is overusing this allocation, however other counties are underutilizing and we are able to obtain their credits to balance out. If these credits should become unavailable, the county would be responsible for payment. An update on the Health & Human Services Infant at Work pilot project was given.
3. **Extension Committee Appointment**
Motion by Commissioner Mohr to appoint Barbara Fischer, At Large Member, to the Extension Committee for the term January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2022. Second by Commissioner Chaffee. Motion carried 5-0.
4. **Presentation of SolSmart Award to County Board**
Land and Resources Manager Caleb Anderson presented the Bronze designation of the SolSmart Award to county board. This designation recognizes the county for taking steps to encourage solar energy development and growth in the county.

5. **Roger Trapp Shores Final Plat**

Land and Resources Manager Caleb Anderson stated that, at the November 21, 2019 Pine County Zoning Board meeting, the final plat of Roger Trapp Shores was reviewed and recommended for approval.

Motion by Commissioner Ludwig to approve the final plat of Roger Trapp Shores and authorize Board Chair and County Administrator to sign the plat. Second by Commissioner Hallan. Motion carried 5-0.

6. **East Central Drug Task Force**

Pine County Deputy and Drug Task Force Commander Andrew Abrahamson provided an update on the Drug Task Force and its activities and statistics for the past year. The task force includes Pine, Kanabec, Chisago, and Isanti Counties. Abrahamson commented on drug trends and the Force's upcoming goals and challenges, including funding. County Attorney Reese Frederickson thanked the Task Force for its work. Pine County is the fiscal agent for the East Central Drug and Violent Offender Task Force. The grant for 2020 is \$140,000, with no county match.

Motion by Commissioner Ludwig to accept the East Central Drug and Violent Offender Task Force Grant Agreement in the amount of \$140,000 for the period of January 1 – December 31, 2020. Second by Commissioner Chaffee. Motion carried 5-0.

7. **Transportation Alternatives Grant**

County Auditor-Treasurer Kelly Schroeder explained that the county has previously submitted a letter of intent to apply for \$600,000 in grant funds for the 2024 Transportation Alternatives federal grant program (for the 2.85 mile segment of the Oberstar Trail from Rock Creek City Center to the Pine City High School). The county has been invited to submit a full grant application.

Motion by Commissioner Hallan to approve Resolution 2019-54 designating Pine County as the sponsoring agency for the Transportation Alternatives Grant application. Second by Commissioner Chaffee. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Commissioner Hallan to approve Resolution 2019-55 agreeing to ensure the operation and ongoing maintenance of the portion of the Oberstar Trail built under said grant. Second by Commissioner Chaffee. Motion carried 5-0.

8. **Five-Year Highway Improvement Plan**

County Engineer Mark LeBrun reviewed the 2020-2024 proposed highway improvement plan and funding sources. LeBrun stated 13 sales tax projects are included in this plan. Whether to renew the local option sales tax for transportation was discussed; a public hearing will be held during the March 17, 2019 county board meeting. The five-year highway improvement plan will be presented for consideration at that meeting as well.

9. **Cooperative Agreement – Windemere Township**

County Engineer Mark LeBrun requested approval of a cooperative agreement with Windemere Township for the culvert replacement on Birchview Road. The county will manage the project; the township will reimburse the county for items not covered by Township Bridge Funding.

Motion by Commissioner Chaffee to approve the Cooperative Agreement with Windemere Township for culvert replacement on Birchview Road and Rush Blvd. Authorize Board Chair and County Administrator to sign. Second by Commissioner Hallan. Motion carried 5-0.

9A. **Letter of Support for H.R. 2072 Revising the IRS Mileage Rate for Volunteer Drivers**

Karen Onan-Wakefield from the East Central Regional Development Commission presented

information at the November 5, 2019 county board meeting, asking commissioners to consider support for HR 2072, the Volunteer Driver Tax Appreciation Act of 2019. This would change the IRS mileage rate of charitable organizations to at least the same as the business rate.

Motion by Commissioner Chaffee to approve support for H.R. 2072 Revising the IRS Mileage Rate for Volunteer Drivers and endorse the letter of support. Second by Commissioner Hallan. Motion carried 5-0.

10. **Commissioner Updates**

Greater MN Parks & Trails Council: Telephonic meeting – Commissioner Mikrot unable to participate.

Arrowhead Counties Association: Commissioner Mikrot stated 2020 legislative priorities were discussed; 15 priorities, Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) funding was not considered due to last year's large investment in Beltrami County. Also discussed was the reimbursement by the counties to the State of Minnesota due to the Department of Human Services overpayment to counties. Pine County's estimated amount for repayment is for one program, and is over \$47,000. This topic will be discussed at the December 17, 2019 county board meeting.

Extension Committee: Commissioner Mohr stated items discussed were the recap of the farm family of the year, ag educator updated recruitment timeline, and the new Extension Committee member. Meeting dates for 2020 were set. A presentation was given by Pine County 4-H.

Rush Line Corridor: Commissioner Mikrot stated a presentation was given by MnDOT. The draft of the 2020 workplan and budget was reviewed. Still on line for construction to begin in 2024 and up and running in 2026.

Central Regional EMS: Commissioner Ludwig stated Central Regional EMS is out of training money; discussion on funding through SourceWell.

Snake River Watershed: Commissioner Mohr stated getting a policy board going for One Watershed One Plan (1W1P) was discussed, as well as budget discussion for the Snake River Watershed Management Board. Their grant has expired, but they do still have some money to do projects.

NLX: Cancelled

HRA Board meeting: Commissioner Ludwig stated the HRA has applied to the Minnesota Housing Partnership for funding to plan projects. That grant is almost out of money; however they are keeping the application on file in the event funds becomes available in January.

Lower St. Croix 1W1P: Commissioner Hallan stated members are undecided as to becoming a Joint Powers Collaborative or Joint Powers entity. This is challenging due to metro and non-metro funding to the different watersheds in this district.

Other: None.

11. **Other**

Commissioner Ludwig will be attending a meeting at the North Pine Government Center this evening relating to an ATV park in the city of Sandstone.

Commissioner Ludwig commented on the November 26, 2019 Special Meeting regarding county assessing, stating it was good to have public input.

12. **Upcoming Meetings**

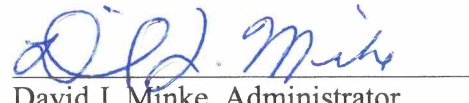
Upcoming meetings were reviewed.

13. **Adjourn**

With no further business, Chair Mohr adjourned the meeting at 11:48 a.m. The next regular meeting of the county board is scheduled for Tuesday, December 17, 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