

**MINUTES
OF THE
PINE COUNTY BOARD MEETING
Special Meeting
Tuesday, April 14, 2020 – 1:00 p.m.
Pine County, Minnesota**

The Governor of the State of Minnesota has issued Executive Order 20-01 Declaring a Peacetime Emergency and Coordinating Minnesota’s Strategy to Protect Minnesotans from COVID-19.

On March 24, 2020, the Pine County Board of Commissioners declared a local emergency for Pine County. Based on these conditions, the Chair of the Pine County Board of Commissioners has determined that the requirements of Minnesota Statute 13D.021, Subd. (1) have been met and it is not practical or prudent for members of the county board to meet in person. Members of the county board will join the meeting remotely.

The public was invited to join the meeting remotely by phone or by WebEx via a link on the county website.

Present via electronic means were Chair Hallan and Commissioners Steve Chaffee, John Mikrot and Matt Ludwig. Commissioner Josh Mohr was absent (excused). Also present via electronic means were County Attorney Reese Frederickson and County Administrator David Minke.

Chair Steve Hallan called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

1. **Situation Update Public Health**

Health & Human Services Director Becky Foss provided an update on the current public health situation including a summary of the current cases and spread of the COVID-19 virus. Foss stated the Public Health COVID-19 hotline for public use is operational at 320-591-1690. The county website has resources and information available relating to COVID-19. Governor Walz has extended the Peacetime Emergency through May 13, 2020 and the Stay at Home Order through May 4, 2020.

2. **Emergency Management (EM) Update**

Emergency Management Coordinator Denise Baran updated the county board on the current emergency management situation. Emergency Management is working with local hospitals for surge planning and continues to work with public health in assisting the homeless population.

3. **County Service Delivery and Deployment/Status of County Staff**

Pine County department heads provided an update on current service delivery, deployment of staff working remotely, and sustainability of operations.

4. **Consideration to Changes to Property Taxes Due May 15, 2020**

To help businesses and homeowners that are experiencing a loss of revenue due to COVID-19, the county board discussed modifying or waiving penalties for late payment of 2020 property taxes, due May 15, 2020. Settlement payment to jurisdictions was discussed.

Motion by Commissioner Mikrot to approve Resolution 2020-26 Requesting the Pine County Auditor-Treasurer Abate the Penalty on Late Payment of Property Taxes for Taxes Payable May 15, 2020. Second by Commissioner Chaffee. A Roll Call vote was called by Chair Hallan: District 5: Commissioner Ludwig/aye; District 1: Chair Hallan/aye; District 2: Commissioner Mohr/absent; District 3: Commissioner Chaffee/aye; District 4: Commissioner Mikrot/aye. Motion carried 4-0.

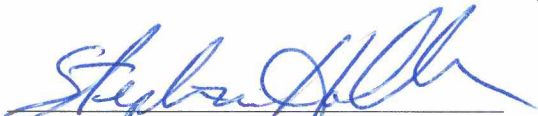
5. **County Board Discussion/Direction on Any Other Matter Related to Responding to the Current Public Health Emergency**

County Administrator David Minke provided an overview of Resolution 2020-27 which directs the county administrator to review the current situation, operations, workloads and the financial condition of the county and make changes to organizational staffing (with the concurrence of the county board chair) to include furloughs, partial furloughs and assignment of alternate work as may be necessary.


Motion by Commissioner Chaffee to approve Resolution 2020-27 Authorizing and Directing the County Administrator to Take Certain Actions in Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Second by Commissioner Ludwig. A Roll Call vote was called by Chair Hallan: District 1: Chair Hallan/aye; District 2: Commissioner Mohr/absent; District 3: Commissioner Chaffee/aye; District 4: Commissioner Mikrot/aye; District 5: Commissioner Ludwig/aye. Motion carried 4-0.

6. **Adjourn**

With no further business, Chair Hallan adjourned the meeting at 1:51 p.m.



Stephen M. Hallan, Chair
Board of Commissioners



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