

**MINUTES  
OF THE  
PINE COUNTY BOARD MEETING  
Regular Meeting**

**Tuesday, June 1, 2021 - 10:00 a.m.  
North Pine Government Center, Sandstone, Minnesota**

Chair Steve Hallan called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Chair Hallan stated 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 all 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, WebEx or watch via live stream on YouTube.

Chair Steve Hallan, Commissioner Terry Lovgren and Commissioner Matt Ludwig were present in the meeting room. Commissioner Josh Mohr and Commissioner J.J. Waldhalm were present via electronic means. Also present in the meeting room were County Administrator David Minke and County Attorney Reese Frederickson.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

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

Chair Hallan requested the following revisions to the agenda:

**Revision:**

1. Consent Item 1.B.iii/Applications for 3.2/Liquor/Wine/Tobacco License  
Revise request to reflect: iii. 3.2 On/Off Sale and Wine License with strong beer endorsement and *Consumption and Display (set-up)*
2. Regular Item 8/Upcoming Meetings  
8.b. – June 2<sup>nd</sup> Facilities Committee meeting cancelled

**Additional Information:**

1. Health Insurance Committee Report, Regular Agenda Item #1  
Minutes provided.
2. Performance Management Program Participation, Regular Agenda Item #4  
Updated 2020 Results provided.

**Motion** by Commissioner Ludwig to adopt the amended Agenda. Second by Commissioner Lovgren. A Roll Call vote was called by Chair Hallan: District 1-Chair Hallan/Aye; District 2-Commissioner Mohr/Aye; District 3-Commissioner Lovgren/Aye; District 4-Commissioner Waldhalm/Aye; District 5-Commissioner Ludwig/Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

**Motion** by Commissioner Lovgren to approve the Minutes of the May 18, 2021 county board meeting and Summary for publication, and Minutes of the May 24, 2021 Special Meeting-Public Hearings for DEED coronavirus Response Program Projects – Broadband and Remodel of A Place for You. Second

by Commissioner Mohr. A Roll Call vote was called by Chair Hallan: District 2-Commissioner Mohr/Aye; District 3-Commissioner Lovgren/Aye; District 4-Commissioner Waldhalm/Aye; District 5-Commissioner Ludwig/Aye; District 1-Chair Hallan/Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

#### Minutes of Boards, Reports and Correspondence

Pine County Land Surveyor Report – May 2021

Pine County Chemical Health Coalition Minutes – May 10, 2021

Initiative Foundation Thank You – May 18, 2021

**Motion** by Commissioner Ludwig to approve the Minutes of Boards, Reports and Correspondence. Second by Commissioner Lovgren. A Roll Call vote was called by Chair Hallan: District 3-Commissioner Lovgren/Aye; District 4-Commissioner Waldhalm/Aye District 5-Commissioner Ludwig/Aye; District 1-Chair Hallan/Aye; District 2-Commissioner Mohr/Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

**Motion** by Commissioner Mohr to approve the amended Consent Agenda. Second by Commissioner Lovgren. A Roll Call vote was called by Chair Hallan: District 4-Commissioner Waldhalm/Aye; District 5-Commissioner Ludwig/Aye; District 1-Chair Hallan/Aye; District 2-Commissioner Mohr/Aye; District 3-Commissioner Lovgren/Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

#### 1. **Applications**

Approve the following:

##### A. Tax Forfeit Property – authorize Board Chair and County Administrator to sign

- i. Resolutions 2021-39 & 2021-40 authorizing Walter Marotz, prior owner, to purchase Pine County Parcels 07.0318.000 (51002 Sand Creek Road, Bruno) and 07.0318.003 (51340 Sand Creek Road, Bruno), in full.
- ii. Resolution 2021-41 authorizing the sale of Pine County Parcel 44.5071.000 (7336 County Hwy. 61, Rutledge) for \$1.00 plus fees to address the blighted conditions on said property.
- iii. Resolution 2021-42 extending a special assessment in the amount of \$2,400 to run for four years against Pine County Parcel 25.0187.000 for a fire call reimbursement.

##### B. 3.2/Liquor/Wine/Tobacco License – authorize County Auditor-Treasurer to sign the licenses/applications for liquor and 3.2 licenses; authorize Board Chair and County Auditor-Treasurer to sign the wine with strong beer endorsement and tobacco licenses

- i. Temporary On-Sale Liquor License: A.B.A.T.E. of MN – Jack Pine Riders Chapter, event to be held July 8-11, 2021 at 27079 Leese Road, Finlayson, MN (Linda Dronen residence).
- ii. Temporary 3.2 License: Sokol Camp, event to be held August 15-16, 2021 at 19201 Woodland Acres SE, Pine City (MN Sokol Camp Association).
- iii. 3.2 On/Off Sale and Wine License with strong beer endorsement and Consumption and Display (set-up): Aufderhar & Aufderhar, LLC (Ray & Marge’s Resort), 36700 Lakeland Road, Sturgeon Lake.
- iv. 3.2 On/Off Sale License: Duxbury Store, 61113 Duxbury Road, Sandstone.
- v. 3.2 Off Sale License: Duquette General Store, 88235 State Hwy. 23 No., Duquette
- vi. Tobacco License: Foamers, LLC 201 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. No, Brook Park, MN (new owner of Off the Road Bar & Grill).

#### 2. **2021 State Boat and Water Safety Grant**

Approve the 2021 State Boat and Water Safety Grant in the amount of \$8,055. The grant will be used for enforcement hours and annual maintenance. Grant period is January 1, 2021- through

June 30, 2022. This grant does not require matching funds. Authorize Board Chair and County Administrator to sign.

3. **Training**

Approve the following training:

- A. Commissioner Terry Lovgren to attend the AMC County Government 201: Summer Conference for Recently Elected County Officials, July 14-16, 2021, St. Paul. Registration: \$325; Lodging: \$139 per night plus tax; Parking; \$24 per day.
- B. Property appraisers Molly Benoit, Karen Stumne and Kim Kylander, to the Minnesota Association of Assessing Officers (MAAO) course, 15-Hour Residential Assessing 101, June 28-29, 2021, St. Cloud. Registration: \$225 per person; county vehicle will be used for transportation, therefore no mileage costs will be incurred. Total cost: \$675.

**REGULAR AGENDA**

1. **Health Insurance Committee Report**

Commissioner Lovgren stated the Health Insurance Committee met on May 26, 2021. Updates were given on claims data, plan expenses, and the wellness program. Total plan expenses through the third week of May were \$834,018, total plan income was \$1,562,385, leaving a net accumulated reserve balance of \$728,327.

2. **Farm Family of the Year**

Steve and Estelle Martin and their son, Joshua, were recognized as the 2021 Farm Family of the year.

3. **Legislative Update by State Senator Jason Rarick**

State Senator Jason Rarick provided a legislative update. A Special Session is scheduled for June 14, 2021.

4. **Performance Management Program Participation**

County Auditor-Treasurer Kelly Schroeder stated the county's participation in the Local Results and Innovation Performance Management Program allows annual results to be reviewed and information may be used to help plan, budget, manage and evaluate programs and processes. The county receives approximately \$4,141 for participating in the program.

**Motion** by Commissioner Ludwig to approve Resolution 2021-38 to Participate in the Council on Local Results and Innovation Performance Measurement Program. Authorize Board Chair and County Administrator to sign. Second by Commissioner Waldhalm. A Roll Call vote was called by Chair Hallan: District 5 – Commissioner Ludwig/Aye; District 1-Chair Hallan/Aye; District 2-Commissioner Mohr/Aye; District 3-Commissioner Lovgren/Aye; District 4-Commissioner Waldhalm/Aye. Motion carried 5-0.

5. **American Rescue Plan (ARP) Update**

County Administrator David Minke stated the county has received \$2.8M, which is one-half of the American Rescue Plan funds Pine County will receive. The Economic Development Committee will meet on June 14<sup>th</sup> and will discuss the distribution of the ARP funds. Priority areas include broadband, housing, business assistance, direct assistance to families in need, job training through Pine Technical and Community College, and water and sewer infrastructure. The deadline to spend the funds is December 31, 2024.

6. **Commissioner Updates**

AMC County Government 101: Commissioner Lovgren stated this training focused around the budget process.

Arrowhead Counties Association: Commissioner Ludwig stated less than 20 bills were passed in the legislative session, the rest are sitting in conference committees. Broadband – the state has \$70M committed. Commissioner Ludwig stated every county in the state has a housing problem to some degree.

CBR: Accelerate Program: Commissioner Lovgren stated the upcoming meetings will focus on the plan for broadband that suits our county – what currently exists, what providers are doing now, and what needs to be done.

Snake River Watershed Management Board: Commissioner Mohr stated the differences between the Management Board and the One Watershed One Plan (1W1P) were discussed.

Commissioner Mohr supports a Joint Powers Board and merge so that there is not two entities that basically do the same thing. A letter of support will be presented at the next county board meeting.

MN Rural Counties: Chair Hallan stated legislative updates were given. The biggest concern is the Enbridge settlement and payback of taxes.

Lower St. Croix Policy Committee: Chair Hallan stated they are currently in the working phase.

Technology Committee – Cancelled

NLX – Cancelled

Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA): County Administrator Minke stated conversations have occurred with Accord regarding the purchase of North Court Apartments in Sandstone. Accord is willing to delay the transaction until the deed restriction goes away and the HRA can own the property.

Nemadji Watershed Implementation Policy Committee: Commissioner Ludwig said the focus of meeting was setting up policy to administer the percentage of the funds. Ludwig explained the tier system used for the distribution of the funding.

Other: Chair Hallan asked what the status of the wetland bank for the county was. Commissioner Ludwig stated the land previously submitted for consideration did not meet criteria. The county needs to choose another area for consideration.

7. **Other**

A significant number of Pine County High School seniors will be attending Pine Technical and Community College under scholarships from the Frandsen Foundation.

8. **Other**

None.

9. **Upcoming Meetings**

Upcoming meetings were reviewed.

10. **Adjourn**

With no further business, Chair Hallan adjourned the meeting at 11:04 a.m. The next regular meeting of the county board is scheduled for Tuesday, June 15, 2021 at 10:00 a.m., North Pine Government Center, 1602 Hwy 23. No., Sandstone, Minnesota.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Stephen M. Hallan, Chair  
Board of Commissioners

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