

BENTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
JANUARY 8, 2019

The Benton County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on January 8, 2019 in the Benton County Board Room in Foley, MN with Commissioners Steve Heinen, Ed Popp, Spencer Buerkle, Jake Bauerly and Warren Peschl present. Call to order by Administrator Monty Headley was at 9:00 AM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Peschl nominated Bauerly for 2019 Chair of the Board. Second by Heinen. Nominations were closed and a unanimous ballot was cast for Bauerly for Board Chair for 2019. Chair Bauerly called for nominations for 2019 Board Vice-Chair. Popp nominated Buerkle for 2019 Vice-Chair of the Board. Second by Heinen. Nominations were closed and a unanimous ballot cast for Buerkle for Board Vice-Chair for 2019.

Peschl/Buerkle unanimous to approve the amended agenda (add items: appointments to the Board of Adjustment, Planning Commission, and Extension Committee).

No one was present to speak under Open Forum.

Peschl/Buerkle unanimous to set 2019 County Board meeting dates and times as presented (“first and third” Tuesday of each month at 9:00 AM with the exception of the first Board meeting in December-- the listing reflects a change of time from 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM to combine with the Truth in Taxation meeting.)

Consent Agenda item #5 (appointment to Water Resources Advisory Committee) was “pulled” for further discussion. Buerkle/Heinen unanimous to approve the remaining Consent Agenda: 1) approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of December 18, 2018 as written; 2) accept and file Management Team Meeting Minutes of November 8, 2018 as written; 3) set the 2019 per diem rate for Boards and Commissions at \$60.00 per meeting; 4) approve Engagement Letter with *CliftonLarsonAllen* to complete required 1094-C and 1095-C Forms for 2018, and authorize the Chair to sign; 6) adopt Resolution 2019-#1, accepting donation to the Sheriff’s Office Police Activities League Program from Dennis Woggon, and authorize the Chair to sign; 7) adopt Resolution 2019-#2, authorizing use of alternative method to disseminate bids and requests for proposals, and authorize the Chair to sign; 8) approve Special Road Use Permit—*Foley Fun Days*—June 2019, and authorize the Chair to sign; 9) approve 2019 Tobacco License—*Super America #5032*; 10) approve reappointment of Mark Brenny to the Solid Waste Advisory Committee, Art Buhs to the Planning Commission, Marvin Neubert to the Board of Adjustment, and Gerry Feld to the Planning Commission; 11) approve appointment of Mark Kaschmitter to the Board of Adjustment and Jerry Lang to the Planning Commission; and 12) approve appointment of Julie Johnson to the Extension Committee. With regard to Consent Agenda item #5 (approve Jeff Bemboom from the City of Sartell as the new Municipality Representative on the Water Resources Advisory Committee) , Popp stated his belief that it would be in the best interest of the county to have a Benton County resident as appointee to the Water Resources Advisory Committee. Following brief discussion, Heinen/Buerkle unanimous to table this issue to the next meeting (the County will seek clarification from the Benton SWCD Water Plan Technician).

Nadean Inman, Auditor-Treasurer, reported on the two newspaper bids that were received (Benton County News and Sauk Rapids Herald) for publication of the official proceedings of the County Board

and other publications as required by law. She noted the rates included in the bids, along with a combined rate for publishing in both papers; the 2019 rates will mirror the 2018 rates. Buerkle/Peschl unanimous to designate the Benton County News and Sauk Rapids Herald as the official newspapers for Benton County.

Popp/Heinen unanimous to re-designate the Auditor-Treasurer the authority to designate depository banks and to adopt Resolution 2019-#3, designating depository banks for Benton County, and authorize the Chair to sign.

Monty Headley, County Administrator, requested Board discussion on scheduling employee forums during 2019; in 2018, two forums were held at 8:00 AM prior to a regular County Board meeting. Following brief discussion, Heinen/Popp unanimous to schedule 2019 employee forums prior to the first Board meeting of each quarter, beginning with April (April 2, 2019).

Headley explained that Foley Area CARE would like to locate a storage shed on County property, adjacent to the north side of the old Highway building; it is his opinion, as well as Property Management, that placing a shed at the proposed location would be acceptable and cause no issues for the County. Several Board members proposed that the color scheme of the shed be pleasing aesthetically. Popp/Heinen unanimous to allow Foley Area CARE to place a storage shed on County property adjacent to the old Highway Building.

The Regular County Board meeting was recessed at 9:19 AM to conduct a Human Services Board meeting.

The Regular County Board meeting was reconvened at 9:28 AM.

Chris Byrd, County Engineer, explained that CR 78 from CSAH 2 to the Morrison County Line is to be reconstructed in 2019; to complete the necessary construction, additional right-of-way is needed. He noted that Benton County Road Right of Way Plat No. 13 clearly depicts and describes the limits of permanent right-of-way and parcel boundaries within the project limits. Popp/Heinen unanimous to approve Road Right of Way Plat No. 13 (CR 78) and authorize the Chair to sign the completed plat.

Engineer's Update on CR 78 project: Staff is actively negotiating acquisition of right-of-way with all land owners along this corridor; the county has hired an appraiser for about 13 parcels to assist in determining the value of the land. Byrd commented "...we've offered a total of approximately \$200,000...I originally estimated about half of that for right-of-way costs (\$100,000)...a budget amendment will be required at a future meeting..." He stated that the design is being finalized and the county is currently going through the permitting process—because the project encompasses two public waters, the DNR and Army Corps of Engineers are involved in the permitting process. Byrd stated his hope to open bids in March, finalize contracts in April, and start construction in May or June.

Byrd reported on the recent hiring of two Engineering Technicians, noting that a third Engineering Technician is scheduled to start on January 14<sup>th</sup>.

Popp inquired about the status of the County Ditch #6 project. Byrd stated his hope to schedule a meeting of the County Ditch Authority in the near future.

Peschl/Popp unanimous to adopt the 2019 slate of Boards and Commissions appointments as discussed and indicated.

Board members reported on recent meetings they attended on behalf of the county.

Under Commissioner Concerns, Commissioner Peschl asked that John Uphoff, Executive Director of the Benton Economic Partnership (BEP), appear before the Board to give an update on the BEP and other related economic development activities.

Chair Bauerly welcomed new Commissioner, Steve Heinen, to the Board.

Popp/Heinen unanimous to set Committees of the Whole: January 10, St. Cloud Air Transport Optimization Study Presentation; February 6, Meeting with Mark Sizer from Resource Training & Solutions Regarding Human Services Study/Meeting with County Engineer Regarding Transportation Issues; February 7 and 8, SCSU Winter Institute Conference; and February 13 and 14, AMC Legislative Conference.

Chair Bauerly adjourned the meeting at 10:12 AM.

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A. Jake Bauerly, Chair  
Benton County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

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Montgomery Headley  
Benton County Administrator