

BENTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 18, 2020

The Benton County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on February 18, 2020 in the Benton County Board Room in Foley, MN with Commissioners Warren Peschl, Steve Heinen, Ed Popp, Jake Bauerly and Spencer Buerkle present. Call to order by Chair Buerkle was at 9:00 AM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Peschl/Heinen unanimous to approve the amended agenda (add item: Engineering Services Agreement with *Erickson Engineering*).

No one was present to speak under Open Forum.

Popp/Bauerly unanimous to approve the Consent Agenda: 1) approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of February 4, 2020 as written; 2) increase Benton County District Court Law Library Fee from \$12 to \$15; 3) approve revisions to the *Central MN Emergency Medical Services Region* Joint Powers Agreement as presented, and authorize the Chair to sign; 4) accept annual Emergency Management Performance Grant--\$24,804—for the time period January 1, 2019-February 29, 2020, and authorize the Chair to sign; 5) approve 2020 Solid Waste Hauler Licenses Round I--*Tom Kraemer Inc.; Jim's Mille-Lacs Disposal, Inc.; West Central Sanitation, Inc.; Pierz Sanitation, Inc.; Rapid Container Service Inc.; Advanced Disposal Services Inc.; Republic Services Sauk Rapids; Veit Container Corp dba Veit Disposal Systems; City of St. Cloud; Waste Management of MN Inc.; Gary's Trucking & More LLC dba Bumble Bee Express R.O.; Vanderpoel Disposal and Granite City Rolloff LLC*--and authorize the Chair to sign; and 6) approve Application for Exempt Permit for *Metro Lions of St. Cloud* to conduct a raffle, paddlewheels and tipboards to be held at Jack & Jim's Event Center, 11025 Duelm Road NE, Foley, on April 4, 2020.

Jim McDermott, Emergency Management Director, provided an update on the number of illnesses/fatalities in the United States related to the Coronavirus and influenza.

McDermott updated Board members on the spring flood outlook, noting that current conditions suggest spring flooding will be more likely than in a typical year throughout the Upper Midwest, but significant flooding is not certain. He noted that major factors to flood potential will be determined over the next six weeks; outlooks continue to favor near to above normal precipitation for the spring months. McDermott stated that widespread flooding affecting infrastructure is possible, including land adjacent to lakes and wetlands, lowlands, agriculture and overland flooding. He pointed out that flooding along the Mississippi River and Little Rock Lake is always a concern because of the number of structures within the flood plains of these two areas. McDermott indicated that updated flood information has been relayed to the townships and flyers will be distributed to houses within the flood plain around Little Rock Lake; only residents who have registered their phone numbers/addresses in the County Emergency Notification System will receive calls as to any current threats due to flooding. He stated that a Committee of the Whole will be scheduled in the future for a demonstration of the new EOC equipment.

Bauerly/Peschl unanimous to continue with the Special Board of Appeal and Equalization for the 2020 assessment year and to continue with the current per diem of \$135; also to set the

date and time for convening the Special Board of Appeal and Equalization for Tuesday, June 16th at 7:00 PM in the County Board Room.

The Regular County Board meeting was recessed at 9:22 AM to conduct a Human Services Board meeting.

The Regular County Board meeting was reconvened at 9:24 AM.

Chris Byrd, County Engineer, explained that to be eligible for Local Bridge Replacement Program Grants, the County needs to prioritize the worst bridges and adopt a resolution. He noted that the State Bridge Office uses a tool called Bridge Replacement and Improvement Management (BRIM) for locals; this tool considers the bridge condition, load capacity and other factors to help local road authorities prioritize which bridges get replaced. Byrd explained that the Local Bridge Replacement program is funded through General Obligation bonds approved by the State legislature; in 2020, Governor Walz proposed \$112 million of GO bonds be obligated for local bridges. He pointed out that the last bridge prioritization was adopted in 2017; due to lack of sufficient bridge replacement funding, some of the same bridges remain on this list. Peschl/Bauerly unanimous to adopt Resolution 2020-#8, prioritizing replacement of bridges, and authorize the Chair to sign (bridges include: 35th Avenue, Minden Township; CR 51, Gilmanton Township; CR 50, St. George Township; 3rd Avenue, City of Foley; CR 67, Maywood Township; and 115th, Maywood Township).

Byrd explained that before completing construction plans for bridge replacement, a hydraulic flood-risk analysis must be performed; three quotes from various engineering consulting firms were received. He stated his recommendation for *Erickson Engineering* due to the lowest costs-not-to-exceed fee of \$9,750 for performing hydraulic risk analysis for three bridges. Byrd added that *Erickson Engineering* has provided identical services for Benton County in the past and the county received excellent service. Heinen/Popp unanimous to approve an Engineering Services Agreement with *Erickson Engineering* and authorize the Chair to sign.

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

Popp/Bauerly unanimous to set Committees of the Whole: March 13, One Watershed One Plan Planning Meeting; March 16, Human Services; March 16, County Board Annual "Goal Setting"; and March 17, Human Services Open House at New Eastgate Location.

Heinen/Popp unanimous to adjourn at 10:00 AM.

Spencer C. Buerkle, Chair
Benton County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Montgomery Headley
Benton County Administrator

