

BENTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 3, 2020

The Benton County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on March 3, 2020 in the Benton County Board Room in Foley, MN with Commissioners Steve Heinen, Ed Popp, Spencer Buerkle and Warren Peschl present and Commissioner Jake Bauerly absent (excused). Call to order by Chair Buerkle was at 9:00 AM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Popp/Peschl unanimous to approve the amended agenda (add item: Regional Airport Authority update).

Thomas Haaf (2730 – 15th Street NE, Sauk Rapids) was present to speak under Open Forum, extending his thanks to County Engineer, Chris Byrd, and Commissioner Steve Heinen for their assistance with a drainage problem on his property. Haaf also expressed his concern with a City of Sauk Rapids ordinance amendment, stating “...on their registration for vacant property, they want to charge me \$1,000 for every piece of vacant property that I have on my commercial property if I don’t rent it in a timely manner...it’s my property...I pay the taxes on it...I keep my property clean...I can’t make people rent my property...I don’t think we need the city being so anti-business...it just doesn’t seem good for the county and for the city...”

Peschl/Heinen unanimous to approve the Consent Agenda: 1) approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of February 18, 2020 as written; 2) approve Collective Bargaining Agreement with Teamsters Local 320, Representing Clerical Employees, for the period of January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2022, and authorize the Chair to sign; 3) approve Collective Bargaining Agreement with Teamsters Local 320, representing Sheriff’s Licensed Supervisors, for the period of January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2022, and authorize the Chair to sign; 4) approve Letter of Understanding with Teamsters Public and Law Enforcement Employees’ Union Local No. 320 (representing Sheriff’s Office Licensed Supervisors) to allow voluntary participation in a Fitness Incentive Program, and authorize the Chair to sign; 5) approve contract with *SGTS Inc.* for the installation of a new jail security system, and authorize the Chair to sign; 6) accept grant award for Police Activities League Program from Benton Telecommunications Foundation; 7) approve 2019 Federal Boating Safety Supplemental Equipment Grant Agreement, and authorize the Chair to sign; 8) adopt Resolution 2020-#9, approving agreement to allow exchange of Federal funds for State Aid funds, and authorize the Chair to sign; 9) adopt Resolution 2020-#10, approving Application for Exempt Permit for *Clear Lake Lions* to hold a raffle at Jack & Jim’s Event Center, 11025 Duelm Road NE, Foley, on March 14, 2020, and authorize the Chair to sign; 10) approve Application for Exempt Permit for *INDY Foundation*, a non-profit organization, to hold a raffle at Jack & Jim’s Event Center, 11025 Duelm Road NE, Foley, on March 28, 2020; 11) approve Application for Exempt Permit for *LeSauk Lions* to conduct a raffle, bingo, and tipboards at Molitor’s Quarry, 3571 – 5th Avenue NE, Sauk Rapids, on April 25, 2020; 12) approve Application for Exempt Permit for *Columns Resource Group Foundations, Inc.*, a non-profit organization, to hold a raffle at Wapicada Golf Club, 4498 – 15th Street NE, Sauk Rapids, on June 1, 2020; 13) approve Application for Exempt Permit for *East Central Chapter of MN Deer Hunters Association* to hold a raffle at Jack & Jim’s Event Center, 11025 Duelm Road NE, Foley, on September 26, 2020; 14) approve Special Road Use Permit and waive 60-day notice requirement—*Heritage Day Parade*—March 14, 2020, downtown Rice, and authorize the Chair to sign; 15) approve extension of recording deadline for minor plat entitled “*Blank Addition*” in Gilmanton Township to September 14, 2020; 16) approve 2020 SCORE Grant Applications Round I as recommended by the Solid Waste Advisory Committee; 17) approve 2020 Solid Waste Hauler Licenses Round II—*E-Z*

Disposal, and authorize the Chair to sign; 18) approve 2020 Solid Waste Newspaper Contract/Post Card Advertisement, and authorize the Chair to sign; 19) adopt Resolution 2020-#11, accepting donation from *Graham United Methodist Women* to Police Activities League (PAL) Program, and authorize the Chair to sign; 20) accept and file Management Team Meeting Minutes of January 9, 2020; 21) accept and file Committee of the Whole Minutes of February 19, 2020; and 22) approve Resolution 2020-#12, supporting a "Four-Lane Preferred Route" Study of Trunk Highway 23 from Foley to Milaca, and authorize the Chair to sign.

Roxanne Achman, Department of Development Director, stated that the plat of "The Cove 2nd Addition" is located in Watab Township. She explained that the preliminary plat of "The Cove Replat" was approved by the Planning Commission and the County Board in November 2019; the purpose of the plat was to combine several lots and to plat an outlot within The Cove development. Achman noted that the owner of the outlot, Russel Pikus, is requesting to move forward with the final plat (The Cove 2nd Addition) of his lot; a final plat of the remaining lots within The Cove will come forward once the waste water treatment facility is completed. Popp/Heinen unanimous to approve the minor final plat entitled "The Cove 2nd Addition", submitted by property owner, Russel Pikus, and authorize the Chair to sign the final plat.

Achman provided a Department of Development 2019 Year-End Activity/Revenue Report--53 house permits were issued in 2019 with an average permit value of \$264,700; 23 ag building permits were issued with an average permit value of \$116,500. She noted that 2019 subdivisions included 8 boundary line adjustments, 14 subdivisions with 20 acres or greater, 20 subdivisions under 20 acres, and 10 plats.

Nadean Inman, Auditor-Treasurer, stated the need to appoint two members of the County Board (or their designee) to the Canvassing Board for the presidential nomination primary, which is today. Commissioners Peschl and Heinen volunteered to serve on the Canvassing Board, which will take place on Friday at 10:00 AM.

Administrator Headley reported on a regional airport authority meeting he attended yesterday, along with the Stearns and Sherburne County Administrators, City of St. Cloud Administrator and Public Works Director, and the St. Cloud Airport Director. He stated the next step is to identify individuals who can serve on the Airport Advisory Board, which will then become the Airport Authority; there was discussion about having another ad hoc meeting of administrators and county board members to talk about potential candidates (Benton County will identify two individuals who must be county residents). Headley stated that discussion included the desire to have members with a good blend of different backgrounds and occupations; the FAA also has a "huge checklist" of items, including documentation that the property/leases have been conveyed from the City of St. Cloud to the Authority (the Sherburne County Attorney's Office has agreed to be legal counsel to the Authority at no cost). Popp inquired of having a County Board member from each county serve as ex-officio members on that board due to the Authority having its own taxing authority. Headley confirmed that there was discussion that once the Authority forms and the Authority writes its bylaws, the bylaws can include a provision for ad hoc members from each county.

Administrator Headley inquired if Board members would like to appoint a member or members to a selection panel for the new Human Services Deputy Director position; current members of the selection panel include the Benton County Human Services Director, County Administrator, and HR Director, as well as the Stearns County Human Services Director. There was Board consensus for Commissioners Bauerly and Heinen to serve on the selection panel.

The Regular County Board meeting was recessed at 9:24 AM to conduct a Human Services Board meeting.

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

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

Popp/Peschl unanimous to set Committees of the Whole: March 26, Greater St. Cloud Development Corporation Quarterly Business Report Presentation; April 1-3, AMC Leadership Summit.

Heinen/Popp unanimous to adjourn at 9:51 AM.

Spencer C. Buerkle, Chair
Benton County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Montgomery Headley
Benton County Administrator