

WATONWAN COUNTY BOARD  
MARCH 16, 2021  
9:00 A.M.

The Watonwan County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on March 16, 2021 at 9:00 A.M. in the Community Room of the Human Services Building, City of St. James. The following Board members were present: Dillon Melheim, Bill Miller, Jim Pettersen and Bob Rinne. Absent: Jim Branstad. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Melheim moved, Rinne seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the minutes of the March 2 regular meeting.

Pettersen moved, Melheim seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the Agenda as amended.

Land Management Director David Haler and Assistant Zoning Administrator Kyla Schломann were present to review Conditional Use Permit Applications. The Application of Matt Romsdahl dba BTE Pork, LLC for a feedlot expansion to 4,000 feeder pigs in Fieldon Township was approved by the Planning Commission with the conditions of 48-hour notification to neighbors within 1 mile of barns before pumping and application, and use of pit additives.

Rinne moved, Melheim seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve issuing a Conditional Use Permit to Matt Romsdahl dba BTE Pork LLC for a feedlot expansion on the property described as the SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> of the NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> in Section 19 of Fieldon Township with the conditions recommended by the Planning Commission.

The Application of Tilney Pork LLP for a feedlot expansion to 5,517 swine in Antrim Township was approved by the Planning Commission with the conditions of trees remain on the south side, 48-hour notification to neighbors within 1 mile of barns before pumping and application, and use of pit additives.

Pettersen moved, Miller seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve issuing a Conditional Use Permit to Tilney Pork LLP for a feedlot expansion on the property described as the SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> of the SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> in Section 31 of Antrim Township with the conditions recommended by the Planning Commission.

Miller moved, Rinne seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve payment of bills as audited and filed in the County Auditor/Treasurer's Office as follows by fund: General Fund—\$72,462.42; Solid Waste Fund—\$1,034.50; Ditch Fund—\$16,181.01; and the Road and Bridge Fund—\$19,185.51; to pay the following credit cards: General Fund—\$2,436.08; Solid Waste Fund—\$1,598.85; Road and Bridge Fund—\$190.00; Library Fund—\$732.84; and Soil & Water Conservation—\$54.95; to approve the February Disbursements listing.

County Auditor/Treasurer Kelly Pauling reviewed a one-year lease with Rose Wendinger for rental of the Landfill farmland at \$125/acre for 23 acres.

Pettersen moved, Melheim seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve a one-year lease with Rose Wendinger for rental of the former Landfill farmland.

County Auditor/Treasurer Kelly Pauling reported that the Road Wetland Banking had been opened up, if there was interest in applying for some of the Landfill acres. Applications were due April 8.

Miller moved, Melheim seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve authorizing Auditor/Treasurer Pauling to sign the agreements to apply for the Road Wetland Banking.

Rinne moved, Pettersen seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the Annual Agreement with Avenu Enterprise Solutions, LLC in the amount of \$5,115.03 for hardware and software maintenance for the IBM AS400.

It was noted that an SWCD Liaison Committee meeting would be scheduled to review a position request for Land Management.

The following quotes were received for building remodeling of three offices in the Courthouse, (glass not included):

<u>VENDOR</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Halverson Construction	\$18,150.00
L&B Contracting	\$20,792.00

Pettersen moved, Rinne seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve accepting the quote of Halvorson Construction, LLC for remodeling of the entrances and counters of the Auditor's Office, Assessor's Office and Recorder's Office.

Miller moved, Melheim seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve issuing a County On-Sale Liquor License to South Fork Golf, LLC.

Rinne moved, Melheim seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve a request for Planning Commission members to receive mileage for sight visits to proposed projects, noting that site visits were recommended.

Auditor/Treasurer Pauling and Human Resources Director Lisa Schumann reviewed the Watonwan County Equal Opportunity Guidelines that were required of various federal grants. It reiterated policies already in place with additional language and modified forms.

Miller moved, Rinne seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the Equal Employment Opportunity Guidelines as presented.

Auditor/Treasurer Pauling requested a meeting of the Building Committee, represented by Commissioners Rinne and Miller.

Miller moved, Melheim seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the training request submitted by Jared Bergeman.

Rinne moved, Melheim seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve annual pay step movement for Tessa Hall, and to reclassify her to Technical Services Coordinator.

Miller moved, Rinne seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the appointment of Amanda Sandberg as a Dispatcher for the Sheriff's Department.

H.R. Director Schumann reviewed options available to be added to the Nationwide 457(b) Plans, including withdrawals up to \$5,000 in the case of the birth or adoption of a child, and in-service distribution age, at the earliest of 59½ or whatever higher age is specified.

Miller moved, Melheim seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the Nationwide 457(b) Plan changes to include \$5000 withdrawals for birth or adoption, and in-service withdrawals allowed at age 59½.

It was noted that several Thank You's had been received from recipients of the Small Business/Non-Profit Grants, and also from the Food Shelf.

Public Works Director Teal Spellman was present and reported that the State would be doing the Highway 60 project and would need 1.7 miles of CSAH 3 as a detour. The State would pay \$1,492.16 for the Detour Agreement to use the route for 29 days.

Miller moved, Melheim seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to adopt the following:

#### RESOLUTION

IT IS RESOLVED that Watonwan County enter into MnDOT Agreement No. 1045255 with the State of Minnesota, Department of Transportation for the following purposes:

To provide for payment by the State to the County for the use of County State Aid Highway No. 3 as a detour routed during the construction to be performed upon, along, and adjacent to Trunk Highway No. 60 from the North Junction with Trunk Highway 15 to 0.4 miles west of the West Junction with County State Aid Highway 20, east bound lanes, under State Project No. 0708-42 and No. 8310-18 (T.H. 60=016).

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Board Chair and the County Auditor/Treasurer are authorized to execute the Agreement and any amendments to the Agreement.

Spellman reported that Transportation Alternatives Program funding of \$508,000 was approved for 2025 for the bike trail extension to Ormsby. It would require a \$101,000 match, and she would apply for a DNR recreation grant toward that, as well as in-kind site preparation by County forces.

County Recorder Karla Doll was present to request approval of the 3-year agreement with Fidler Technologies. Fidler provides replication of data so it is preserved forever.

Pettersen moved, Rinne seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the contract with Fidlar Technologies in the amounts of \$2.54 per document in year 1, increasing to \$2.62 and \$2.70 per document in subsequent years.

Doll reviewed the Property Fraud Alert website where property owners can find out if something has been recorded against their property.

Commissioner Pettersen reported on the HRA meeting he attended.

Melheim moved, Pettersen seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to recess at 10:35.

The meeting was reconvened at 8:55 on March 17, 2021 in the Commissioner's Meeting Room of the Courthouse. All members were present except Jim Branstad.

Two bids were received for remodeling at the Human Services building. Additional information was forthcoming, so the meeting was recessed and reconvened at 10:10.

The project included remodel the Nursing Exam Room and vaccine storage area, including moving a door and adding a wall. Electrical work outlets and light switches and some cabinetry were not included. The following bids were received:

<u>VENDOR</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Halverson Construction	\$10,500.00
L&B Contracting	\$13,952.00

Pettersen moved, Rinne seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve accepting the quote of Halverson Construction LLC in the amount of \$10,500.00 for the Human Services remodeling project.

Miller moved, Melheim seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to adjourn the meeting at 10:15.

Bill Miller, Chairman  
Watonwan County Board

Lisa Schumann, Deputy Clerk  
Watonwan County Board

ATTEST: Kelly Pauling  
Watonwan County Auditor/Treasurer