

WATONWAN COUNTY BOARD

MAY 4, 2021

9:00 A.M.

The Watonwan County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on May 4, 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: Jim Branstad, Dillon Melheim, Bill Miller, Jim Pettersen and Bob Rinne. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Rinne moved, Pettersen seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the minutes of the April 20 regular meeting.

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

Public Works Director Teal Spellman was present and reviewed bids received for annual pavement markings. She noted that they have switched to marking one-half of the County each year, striping will be updated to six-inch stripes for safety reasons. The following bids were received:

<u>BIDDER</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
AAA Striping	\$78,784.00
Traffic Marking Service	\$79,973.71
Sir Lines-A-Lot	\$94,777.00

Branstad moved, Miller seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve accepting the bid of AAA Striping in the amount of \$78,784.00 for annual pavement restriping of approximately 90 miles.

Spellman met with the Personnel Committee that morning to discuss having the position of Shop/Equipment Maintenance Supervisor reviewed by the County's pay equity consultant for appropriate placement on the County's pay schedule. The position hadn't been reviewed since 2013. The Committee recommended the review as well as updating the job description.

Branstad moved, Melheim seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve hiring Bjorklund Compensation Consulting to review the position of Shop/Equipment Maintenance Supervisor.

Pettersen moved, Melheim 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—\$41,220.04; Solid Waste Fund—\$4,566.61; Soil & Water Conservation—\$133.21; and the Road and Bridge Fund—\$24,295.16.

The following quotes were received for tile flooring and carpet in the Jail:

<u>VENDOR</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Independent Paint & Flooring, Inc.	\$3,894.77
Multiple Concepts Interiors	\$9,699.00

Miller moved, Rinne seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve accepting the quote of Independent Paint & Flooring, Inc. in the amount of \$3,894.77 for tile flooring and installation in the 90-day cell and booking area, and carpet in the recreation area of the Jail.

Pettersen moved, Melheim seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the installation of miscellaneous technology upgrades in the Resource Center up to \$5,000.00.

Melheim moved, Branstad seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the training requests submitted by Deb Grote, Karla Doll and Kelly Pauling.

Branstad moved, Pettersen seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve annual pay step increases for Melissa Cornelius and Michael True.

Rinne moved, Melheim seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve reclassifying Amanda Steinle to Information Systems Specialist.

Branstad moved, Miller seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the appointment of Adelaida Esqueda to the position of Detention Officer.

Chairman Miller recessed the regular meeting at 9:30 A.M. to convene as the County Ditch Authority regarding a Petition for Improvement of J.D. #11.

Pettersen moved, Branstad seconded the motion passed unanimously to adopt the following resolution:

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION FOR
IMPROVEMENT OF JUDICIAL DITCH NO. 11 FINDINGS AND ORDER

WHEREAS, the above-entitled matter came on duly to be heard before the County Ditch Authority of Watonwan County (“Authority”) at Watonwan County Human Services, 715 Second Ave. South, St. James, Minnesota, on May 4th, at 9:30 a.m., for appointment of an engineer to conduct a preliminary survey and cost analysis and prepare a report on the project after receiving a petition and bond from Andrew Nickel and others to improve Judicial Ditch No. 11 of Watonwan County; and

WHEREAS, Bruce E. Sellers, of the firm of Wendland Sellers Bromeland, P.A., Blue Earth, Minnesota, appeared as attorney for the petitioners; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes §103E.241 requires the Drainage Authority to appoint an engineer to make a preliminary survey based on the project described in the survey; and

WHEREAS, the Authority, having duly considered said matter, as provided by law, finds as follows, to-wit:

1. That the petition for the improvement of said ditch, made and filed by petitioners was authorized and is sufficient, as required by law, said petition being signed by substantially more than (1) at least 26% of the owners of property that the proposed improvement passes over; (2) at least 26% of the owners of the property area affected by the proposed improvement; or (3) at least 26% of the owners of the property area that the proposed improvement passes over;
2. Chuck Brandel, I&S Group, is appointed as engineer for said petition and directs him, or one of its engineers, to prepare a preliminary report under the requirements of Minnesota Statute §103E.245.

THEREFORE, IT IS SO ORDERED.

The regular meeting was reconvened.

County Auditor/Treasurer Kelly Pauling reviewed items to be sold at an auction that Darwin Hall would be having in June.

Melheim moved, Miller seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve items to be sold at public auction, including a 2010 Chevy pickup, 2013 Ford E450 transit bus, 2009 white Chevy Impala, 2009 blue Chevy Impala, 1973 Ford F-100 water truck, 1970 Ford 2000 tractor, as well as miscellaneous wood, parts and cupboards.

Commissioner Melheim reported that the organizer of the Demolition Derby suggested additional bleacher seating would be needed for the event. It was discussed that Blue Earth County Fair would be contacted for additional sets, to be paid for with the Fair Board's allocation.

Discussion was also held regarding the possibility of increasing rental rates for Fairgrounds buildings, and whether to set specific dates for the storage. No action was taken pending further review.

Melheim moved, Pettersen seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to adjourn the meeting.

Bill Miller, Chairman
Watonwan County Board

Lisa Schumann, Deputy Clerk
Watonwan County Board

ATTEST: Kelly Pauling
Watonwan County Auditor/Treasurer