

WATONWAN COUNTY BOARD
JUNE 7, 2022
9:00 A.M.

The Watonwan County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on June 7, 2022 at 9:00 A.M. in the Commissioners' Meeting Room of the Courthouse, 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.

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

Miller moved, Melheim seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the minutes of the May 17 regular meeting.

Jason Kuester, the new owner of the St. James Golf Course, was present to introduce himself and request approval of his application for new liquor licenses for the club house. He reviewed some future plans for the property.

Melheim moved, Branstad seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve issuing a County On-Sale, Off-Sale and Sunday Liquor License to St. James Golf Course, Jason Kuester.

Pettersen moved, Miller 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—\$25,355.30; Solid Waste Fund—\$3,319.05; Soil & Water Conservation—\$100.00; Ditch Fund—\$26.36; and the Road and Bridge Fund—\$26,949.1; and to pay the following credit cards: General Fund—\$2,271.62; Solid Waste Fund—\$185.97; Road and Bridge Fund—\$579.28; Library Fund—\$926.59; Soil & Water Conservation—\$241.15; and the Forfeited Land Fund—\$110.70.

Branstad moved, Melheim seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve issuing a Tobacco License to the Village Inn.

Miller moved, Rinne seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve a temporary On-Sale Liquor License for the Watonwan County Ag Association for the period of the County Fair, from July 14 to 17, 2022.

Melheim moved, Miller seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the applications to conduct charitable gambling/bingo for Watonwan County Ag Association at the Fairgrounds from July 14 to 17, 2022, and Butterfield Summer Sizzler at Voss Park on July 2, 2022.

Melheim moved, Pettersen seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the Amendment to Order Form Dated October 21, 2021 Between Pictometry International Corp, MN Counties Computer Cooperative and Watonwan County.

Branstad moved, Miller seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to appoint Commissioners Pettersen and Melheim to the Primary Canvassing Board for August 11 at 9:00 A.M.

Branstad moved, Rinne seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to adopt the following:

WATONWAN COUNTY RESOLUTION
ESTABLISHING A COUNTY ABSENTEE BALLOT BOARD

WHEREAS, Watonwan County is permitted by Minnesota Statutes 203B.121, Subd. 1 to establish an Absentee Ballot Board effective for election year of 2022; and

WHEREAS, this board will bring uniformity in the processing of accepting or rejecting returned absentee ballots to Watonwan County Auditor/Treasurer's Office; and

WHEREAS, the Absentee Ballot Board would consist of a sufficient number of election judges as provided in Sections 204B.19 to 204B.22 or deputy county auditors trained in the processing and counting of absentee ballots.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Watonwan County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes Watonwan County Auditor/Treasurer Kelly Pauling to establish an Absentee Ballot Board that would consist of a sufficient number of election judges as provided in Sections 204B.19 to 204B.22 or deputy auditors to perform the task.

Miller moved, Pettersen seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the training requests submitted by Stephen Lindee and Karla Doll.

Melheim moved, Rinne seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve selling the following items at a public auction: 8 desks, 1 table with 6 padded chairs, 2 tables with wheels, 1 TV stand with wheels, 1 refrigerator, 2 roll-up cabinets, 16 metal bookshelves, and 30 file cabinets.

Melheim moved, Pettersen seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the annual pay step increase for Michael True.

Miller moved, Melheim seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to accept the resignations in good standing of Light Equipment Operator Dylan Meine and Heavy Equipment Operator Daniel Rotert.

Branstad moved, Miller seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve advertising in house for the Heavy Equipment Operator position, and advertise publicly for Light and Heavy dependent upon whether it is filled internally.

Pettersen moved, Miller seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the retirement in good standing of Transit Bus Driver Dean Swenstad.

Branstad moved, Melheim seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the appointment of David Mead as a Mechanic for Public Works.

Branstad moved, Miller seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve a Memorandum of Agreement (11.5-Hour Shifts for Full-time 911 Dispatchers) with LELS Local No.130 to enter a 26-week trial 1040 agreement allowing for over-time after 80 hours in a two-week period, provided it doesn't create additional premium pay hours.

Branstad moved, Pettersen seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve hiring Bjorklund Compensation Consulting to review the positions of Detention Administrator and Dispatch Supervisor for placement on the pay classification system.

Land Management Director Dave Haler and Public Works Director Teal Spellman were present to update the Board on Nuway-K&H Cooperative in Ormsby's need for a new anhydrous tank, which is causing setback issues because of proximity to the County's future trail property through Ormsby. They are working on various options, including a possible land swap or repositioning of the tanks.

Spellman reviewed the following bids for projects on CSAH 12 and CSAH 13:

<u>BIDDER</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Knife River	\$1,148,719.53
Minnesota Paving & Materials	\$1,345,930.26
Duininck, Inc.	\$1,381,639.35
Central Specialties, Inc.	\$1,390,745.87

Branstad moved, Miller seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve accepting the bid of Knife River in the amount of \$1,148,719.53 for SAP 83-612-020 and SAP 83-613-019, stabilized full depth reclamation with bituminous overlay on CSAH 12 and CSAH 13.

Only one bid was received from Gallagher Asphalt Corp. projects on CSAH 5, 7, 52 and 13.

Melheim moved, Pettersen seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve accepting the bid of Gallagher Asphalt Corp. in the amount of \$1,105,031.88 for SAP 83-605-043, SAP 83-607-016, SAP 83-652-002; SAP 83-613-021, hot in-place bituminous recycling on CSAH 5, CSAH 7, CSAH 52 and CSAH 13.

A public hearing was convened at 10:05 to review the Public Works Fee Schedule. No members of the public were present, but a letter was received from Stinson LLP on behalf of CenterPoint Energy. Public Works Director Spellman reviewed the utility permit fees for gas line installations, which was previously \$50.00/foot. The fee must be justified based on the County's costs, and Spellman recommended a decrease to \$12.00/foot. Discussion was held whether there should be a maximum allowable charge. No action was taken pending further review.

Commissioner Melheim reviewed Fairgrounds issues. When the shed was torn down, a power box was removed that supplied power to the food trucks in the past. He checked into installation of temporary power boxes. He also reviewed plans to update the entrance and exit for the grand stand area.

Commissioner Pettersen noted that South Central EMS has grants available for fire departments and ambulance services, so he wanted to get the word out. It was suggested to have Emergency Management Director Mark Nielsen promote it.

It was noted that the next regional AMC meeting was scheduled for June 8 in LeCenter.

Melheim moved, Pettersen seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to adjourn at 10:45.

Bob Rinne, Chairman
Watonwan County Board

Lisa Schumann, Deputy Clerk
Watonwan County Board

ATTEST: Kelly Pauling
Watonwan County Auditor/Treasurer