

WATONWAN COUNTY BOARD
NOVEMBER 2, 2021
9:00 A.M.

The Watonwan County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on November 2, 2021 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.

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

Branstad moved, Rinne seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the minutes of the October 19 regular meeting.

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—\$77,003.23; Solid Waste Fund—\$866.61; Soil & Water Conservation—\$190.77; Building/Equipment Fund—\$28,043.34; Ditch Fund—\$275.86; Forfeited Land Fund—\$2,946.85; and the Road and Bridge Fund—\$31,078.32; and to pay the following credit cards: General Fund—\$12,016.76; Solid Waste Fund—\$246.08; Road and Bridge Fund—\$3,610.00; Library Fund—\$493.33; and Soil & Water Conservation—\$136.04.

Land Management Director David Haler and Feedlot Officer Amanda Lang were present to review the MPCA Feedlot Work Plan, Feedlot Grant and NRBG Grant Agreement.

Miller moved, Branstad seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the MPCA County Feedlot Program Delegation Agreement Work Plan as presented.

Melheim moved, Pettersen seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the Delegated County Feedlot Grant Agreement.

Branstad moved, Rinne seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the Chairman's signing of the Board of Water and Soil Resources Natural Resources Block Grant Agreement in the amount of \$71,838 for 2022 and 2023 for Shoreland, Septic Treatment Systems, Wetland Conservation Act, and Local Water Management.

Haler reported that Lang would be transitioning to full-time for Brown County in 2022. He requested approval to advertise for a new position to work half-time as Feedlot Technician and half-time as SWCD District Technician. The position will be funded out of the Feedlot Grant and Soil and Water Capacity Grant.

Branstad moved, Melheim seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve advertising for the position of County Feedlot/District Technician.

Haler reported that they would be losing Planning Commission member Tom Eng from Commissioner Melheim's District. Members serve two 3-year terms.

County Auditor/Treasurer Kelly Pauling reported that she has reached out to Ehlers Public Finance Advisors and Clifton Larson Allen for quotes on their ARPA Consulting Services.

As an update on the recycling sheds in St. James, it was noted that the buildings and dumpsters were being rearranged that day.

Branstad moved, Miller seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve per diem and mileage for Board member attendance at the AMC Annual Conference.

Branstad moved, Pettersen seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the Association of Minnesota Counties Annual Conference voting delegates list to include all County Commissioners, Auditor/Treasurer Kelly Pauling, Human Services Director Naomi Ochsendorf and Public Works Director Teal Spellman.

Public Works Director Teal Spellman was present to review operations.

Branstad moved, Rinne seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the temporary work out of class pay increase for Eric Mundt.

Auditor/Treasurer Pauling presented a PowerPoint presentation about upcoming redistricting.

Pettersen moved, Melheim seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the training requests submitted by David Haler and Jared Bergeman.

Miller moved, Melheim seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the annual pay step increase of Gayle Culbertson.

Branstad moved, Rinne seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the Chairman's signing of the "Joint Powers Agreement for Group Employee Benefits and Other Financial and Risk Management Services" with the South Central Service Cooperative.

By general consensus, the Board authorized Schumann to begin advertising if a pending resignation was received before the next meeting.

Schumann reported that all three bargaining units had filed their intent to negotiate.

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

Bill Miller, Chairman
Watsonwan County Board

Lisa Schumann, Deputy Clerk
Watsonwan County Board

ATTEST: Kelly Pauling
Watsonwan County Auditor/Treasurer