

REGULAR MEETING AS POSTED  
BECKER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
DATE: TUESDAY, March 5, 2019 at 8:15 a.m.  
LOCATION: Board Room, Courthouse

Agenda/Minutes

1. Meeting was brought to order by Board Chair Okeson. Commissioners in attendance: Okeson, Grimsley, Nelson, Knutson, and Skarie; County Administrator, Michael Brethorst, and Minute Taker, Cindy Courneya.
2. Pledge of Allegiance.
3. It was moved and seconded to approve the agenda with the following changes: Under Commissioners: Add: Number 4. Sheriff – Elevator Discussion; Number 5: Becker County Soil & Water Conservation District (BCSWCD) – Support of Statutory Clarifications to MN Statute Chapter 103C & Continuation of SWCD Capacity Funding: Resolution 03-19-1D; Number 6: Highway – Equipment Purchase Request for Mini Excavator; and Number 7: North Country Food Bank - Capital Campaign Request to Becker County. (Grimsley, Skarie), carried.
4. It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of February 19, 2019, as presented. (Knutson, Grimsley), carried.

Commissioners

1. Open Forum:
  - a. County Attorney, Brian McDonald, introduced new Assistant County Attorney, Lisa Tufts to the Board and she provided a brief summary of her background and experience. The board congratulated and welcomed Ms. Tufts.
2. Reports and Correspondence: The Commissioners reported on the following meetings:
  - a. Commissioner Skarie: Lakeland Mental Health (LMH), Jail Diversion Committee, Becker County Fair Board, University of MN-Extension Committee, and Environmental Affairs.
  - b. Commissioner Grimsley: Becker County Historical Society, Transit Committee, and Finance Committee.
  - c. Commissioner Okeson: Jail Diversion Committee, Transit Committee, Sheriff's Committee, and Highway Committee.
  - d. Commissioner Knutson: Economic Development Authority (EDA), Natural Resources Management (NRM) Committee, Prairie Lakes Municipal Solid Waste Authority (PLMSWA), and Sheriff's Committee.
  - e. Commissioner Nelson: Becker County Soil & Water Conservation District (BCSWCD).

- f. Board Chair Okeson welcomed the new County Administrator, Michael Brethorst. Mr. Brethorst expressed his thanks and appreciation to the board for the opportunity to serve as the County Administrator for Becker County.
3. Appointments:
  - a. It was moved and seconded to appoint Erin Lage, as a member of the 4-H Extension Committee, representing Becker County. (Okeson, Nelson), carried.
  - b. It was moved and seconded to re-appoint Scott Walz, as a member of the Becker County Ordinance Review Committee. (Skarie, Knutson), carried.
4. Sheriff – Elevator Discussion: Sheriff Todd Glander presented:
  - a. Sheriff Todd Glander provided an update on the status of the elevator used to transport inmates within the courthouse and suggested the controls for the elevator be transferred out of the jail and back to the elevator. He also reported on some issues with the internal /electronic parts of the elevator that will need to be addressed as well.
  - b. Following discussion, it was recommended that additional quotes be obtained for the moving of the controls and other work on the elevator, as discussed, and to bring the quotes back to the Sheriff’s Committee for further discussion.
5. Becker County Soil & Water Conservation District – Support of Statutory Clarifications to MN Statute Chapter 103C and Continuation of SWCD Capacity Funding – Commissioner Nelson presented:
  - a. It was moved and seconded to approve Resolution 03-19-1D, that the Board of County Commissioners of Becker County, Minnesota supports the clarifications and duties for services of the Soil & Water Conservation District as defined in SF 1733/HF1706, and continued SWCD Capacity Funding, and that Becker County does not endorse and rejects SF 1443/HF1706 (to seek statutory funding authority for SWCD via ad valorem property tax levy or a soil and water management fee). (Grimsley, Knutson), carried.
6. Highway – Jim Olson presented:
  - a. Jim Olson returned to the Board with his request to purchase a mini-excavator. The item was tabled at the last board meeting of February 19<sup>th</sup>, in order to collect additional information from Environmental Services. The Highway Committee is recommending approval for the purchase.

- b. It was moved and seconded to approve the purchase of a mini-excavator, as presented, at a cost of \$56,490.00. (Knutson, Skarie), carried.

7. North Country Food Bank - Capital Campaign Request to Becker County: Michael Brethorst presented:

- a. County Administrator, Mike Brethorst, reported that Executive Director, Susie Novak, attended the Finance Committee meeting yesterday to present information and a request to Becker County to support the North Country Food Bank Capital Campaign. He also provided a brief update on the status of their building campaign.
- b. Discussion followed, with direction given to the County Administrator, Michael Brethorst, to collect additional information relative to the counties that have been approached and their level of commitment to the building campaign.

Finance Committee Minutes: Auditor-Treasurer: Mary Hendrickson presented:

1. It was moved and seconded to approve the Regular Claims, Auditor Warrants, Over-90-Day Claims, and Additional item, as follows:

- a. Auditor's Warrants (Tuesday Bills):
  - i. 02/20/2019 in the amount of \$ 3,447.00
  - ii. 02/26/2019 in the amount of \$ 247,145.32
  - iii. 02/28/2019 in the amount of \$ 26,049.48for a total amount of . . . . . \$ 276,641.80
- b. Over-90-Days:
  - i. Cintas in the amount of \$165.54 from November 12, 2018 (invoice was just received).
- c. Additional Item:
  - i. Towmaster Snowplow Equipment for Mack Truck #1, with the amount increased due to an additional cost of \$779.00 for better cutting edges, for a total cost of \$112,814.00.

(Grimsley, Knutson), carried.

2. It was moved and seconded to approve the Human Services claims for Public Health, Human Services, and Transit, as presented. (Grimsley, Skarie), carried.

Auditor-Treasurer: Mary Hendrickson presented:

1. Licenses & Permits:

- a. It was moved and seconded to approve Resolution 03-19-1A, the Gambling Application for Exempt Permit to conduct a Raffle for the Cormorant Lions Club, on May 11, 2019, at the Cormorant Community Center, 10929 Co. Highway 5, Pelican Rapids, MN, in Cormorant Township. (Nelson, Knutson), carried.
- b. It was moved and seconded to approve the 3.2 On/Off Sale License Renewals, as follows:
  - i. The Hideaway Resort – Allen Chirpich – Shell Lake Township;
  - ii. Two Inlets Country Store – Susan Marie Hosler – Two Inlets Township;
  - iii. Sunlite Bar & Grill, Inc. – Wayne Crawford – Detroit Township. (Knutson, Grimsley), carried.
- c. It was moved and seconded to approve the Wine/Strong Beer License Renewals (Includes Sunday), as follows:
  - i. Two Inlets Country Store – Susan Marie Hosler – Two Inlets Township;
  - ii. Jolly Fisherman Resort – Anne Buelow – Round Lake Township. (Skarie, Knutson), carried.
- d. It was moved and seconded to approve the On-Sale (Includes Sunday Sales) Liquor License Renewals, as follows:
  - i. Sunlite Bar & Grill, Inc. – Wayne Crawford – Detroit Township;
  - ii. The Cormorant Pub, Inc., DBA: The Pub – Patricia J. Maloney – Cormorant Township. (Grimsley, Skarie), carried.

Assessor: Steve Carlson presented:

1. It was moved and seconded to approve the following abatement, as presented:
  - a. PIN #: 49.1682.334 – in the City of Detroit Lakes, in the amount of - \$984.00, due to Tax Court Stipulation. (Knutson, Grimsley), carried.

Land Use – Parks & Recreation: Guy Fischer presented:

1. It was moved and seconded to approve Resolution 03-19-1B, to support the ULTRA Snowmobile Club Grant Application to the MN Department of Natural Resources for the Federal Recreational Trail Program's Equipment Grant, to replace the Club's 2004 Pisten Bully with a new 2019 Pisten Bully Trail Pro, estimated at an amount up to \$249,000.00; and that Becker County and the Club agree to accept the grant, if awarded, and enter into an agreement with the State of MN for the project; and that Becker County

Auditor-Treasurer, Mary Hendrickson, serve as the fiscal agent for the project. (Grimsley, Knutson), carried.

2. It was moved and seconded to approve Resolution 03-19-1C, to support the ULTRA Snowmobile Club Grant Application to the MN Department of Natural Resources for the Federal Recreational Trail Program's Equipment Grant, to replace the Club's aging groomer tracks with new tracks, estimated at an amount up to \$79,900.00; and that Becker County and the Club agree to accept the grant, if awarded, and enter into an agreement with the State of MN for the project; and that Becker County Auditor-Treasurer, Mary Hendrickson, serve as the fiscal agent for the project. (Knutson, Grimsley), carried.
3. It was moved and seconded to approve the Bridge Purchase for the Dunton Locks Dry Docks Project, at a cost of up to \$14,300.00, to include this amount as the County's cost in the MN Department of Natural Resources Expedited Conservation Projects (ECP) Grant application, and to return to the Board if said grant is approved. (Grimsley, Knutson), carried.

Presentation on Potential Diversion Project – Permit B:

1. Cass County Commissioner and Chair of the FM Area Diversion Authority, Mary Scherling, and Clay County Commissioner and Vice-Chair of the FM Area Diversion Authority, Kevin Campbell provided a presentation and an update on the FM Area Diversion Project, along with spokesmen Rocky Schneider and Eric Dodd.
2. It was reported that the MN Department of Natural Resources granted a Dam Safety and Public Waters Work Permit for the project; however, the Buffalo-Red River Watershed District has filed for a Contested Case Hearing, which if proceeds, could last up to a year and add \$50 million in costs to the project, along with litigation costs.
3. Discussion followed and the Board thanked them all for coming and for the information provided.

Being no further business, Chair Okeson adjourned the meeting.

/s/ Michael Brethorst  
Michael Brethorst  
County Administrator

/s/ John Okeson  
John Okeson  
Board Chair

Following adjournment of the Board meeting, the commissioners and County Administrator, Michael Brethorst, met at the Highway Department for a tour of the building and to meet with staff for a Work Session relative to the proposed new Public Works Building.