

REGULAR MEETING AS POSTED
BECKER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
DATE: TUESDAY, June 2, 2020 at 8:15 a.m.
LOCATION: Third Floor Jury Assembly Room, Courthouse

Agenda/Minutes:

1. Meeting was brought to order by Board Chair Grimsley. Commissioners in attendance: Grimsley, Nelson, Skarie, Okeson, and Knutson; County Administrator, Mike Brethorst (remotely), and Minute Taker, Cindy Courneya (remotely).
2. Pledge of Allegiance.
3. It was moved and seconded to approve the agenda with the following change: Under Finance Committee Minutes: Add: Number 3: Land Use-EDA: Acceptance of West Central Initiative (WCI) Grant Award. (Knutson, Okeson), carried.
4. It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of May 19, 2020 with the requested changes. (Nelson, Knutson), carried.

Commissioners:

1. Open Forum:

Mickey Okeson, Tim Coyne, and Robin Tate voiced opposition and frustration with the Governor's Executive Orders relating to businesses during COVID-19. They stressed the negative impact the order is having on businesses and the community and spoke in support of Resolution 06-20-1E.
2. Reports & Correspondence: The Commissioners reported on the following meetings:
 - a. Commissioner Skarie: Becker County Diversion Committee, Becker County Children's Initiative, and Environmental Affairs Committee.
 - b. Commissioner Grimsley: Becker County Historical Society & Museum, Lake Agassiz Regional Library (LARL), Sunnyside, Transit, and Finance Committee.
 - c. Commissioner Okeson: Becker County/Detroit Lakes Airport Commission, Highway Committee, Becker County Jail Diversion Committee, and Transit Committee.
 - d. Commissioner Knutson: Environmental Affairs Committee, Becker County Law Library, Economic Development Authority (EDA), Natural Resources Management (NRM), and Prairie Lakes Municipal Solid Waste Authority (PLMSWA).
 - e. Commissioner Nelson: Sunnyside, EDA, NRM, Finance Committee, and Buffalo-Red River Watershed District.
3. Appointments: There were none.

4. Upcoming Meetings:

- a. The AMC District 4 Spring meeting will be held virtually on Friday, June 12, 2020 from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
- b. The Becker County Board of Equalization meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 16th, 2020, beginning at 6 p.m. in the 3rd Floor Jury Assembly Room of the courthouse and will be offered virtually as well.

County Administrator: Rental Agreement – MN State Retirement System: HR Director, Nancy Grabanski presented:

- 1. It was moved and seconded to authorize the Finance Committee and the County Administrator and/or his designee(s) to present terms and approve a County Space Lease Agreement with the MN State Retirement System. (Knutson, Okeson), carried.

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

- 1. It was moved and seconded to approve the Regular Claims, Auditor Warrants, and Over-90-Days Claims, as presented:

- a. Auditor’s Warrants (Tuesday Bills):
 - i. 05/19/2020 in the amount of \$ 202,006.11
 - ii. 05/19/2020 in the amount of \$ 24,643.78 (Cost-Effective)
 - iii. 05/21/2020 in the amount of \$ 811.80 (Cost-Effective)
 - iv. 05/26/2020 in the amount of \$ 6,036,586.61
 - v. 05/26/2020 in the amount of \$ 1,800,003.00for a total amount of \$ 8,064,051.30
- b. Over 90-Day Claims:
 - i. David Donehower Funeral Home in the amount of \$8,550.00 (invoice just received);
 - ii. River Valley Forensic Services, PA in the amount of \$1,500.00 (invoice just received);

(Knutson, Skarie), carried.

- 2. It was moved and seconded to approve the Human Services Claims for Human Services, Public Health, and Transit, as presented. (Skarie, Nelson), carried.
- 3. It was moved and seconded to accept the West Central Initiative (WCI) Resiliency Grant Award in the amount of \$6,000.00 for the purchase of Electrostatic Cleaning Equipment as follows: 1 Backpack Unit – Lake Park-Audubon School, 1 Backpack Unit – Detroit

Lakes Community and Cultural Center, 2 Hand-Held Units – Becker County Courthouse and Transit, along with batteries, chargers and cleaning solution. (Nelson, Skarie), carried.

Auditor-Treasurer: Mary Hendrickson presented:

1. Licenses & Permits: There were none.
2. It was moved and seconded to accept the April 2020 Cash Comparison and Investment Summary, as presented. (Knutson, Okeson), carried.

Sheriff: Sheriff Todd Glander presented:

1. It was moved and seconded to approve Resolution 06-20-1A, to approve the renewal of the 2020 MN Annual County Boat and Water Safety Grant Agreement, and to authorize the Board Chair and Becker County Administrator to sign said grant agreement in the amount of \$21,995.00, effective January 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021. (Nelson, Knutson), carried.
2. Sheriff Todd Glander referenced his comments made at the May 19, 2020 Commission meeting relative to the resolutions brought forward regarding the Governor's Executive Order for re-opening of businesses. He mentioned he was mis-quoted in the newspaper and clarified that he was in support of businesses re-opening, then and now, adding that when he puts his badge on that he is sworn to uphold the constitution.

Human Resources: Nancy Grabanski presented:

1. It was moved and seconded to accept and ratify Teamsters Local No. 320 – Clerical Unit Labor Agreement, with the changes as presented, to include a 2.5% wage increase for 2020 and 2.75% increase in 2021. (Skarie, Nelson), carried.

MN State Representative Steve Green – District 2B: Legislative Update:

1. Representative Steve Green noted that it is expected that Governor Walz may extend the Emergency Order once again on June 12th. He stressed the importance of Counties working together to protect the Constitutional rights of the citizens of Becker County and to encourage the Governor to allow individual counties and local government agencies to issue emergency orders and implementation related to the COVID-19 Pandemic, including the re-opening of businesses. He asked that the Board support Resolution 06-20-1E.

Commissioners/County Administrator:

1. Business and Constitutional Friendly County: Resolution 06-20-1E:

- a. Chair Grimsley opened the meeting up for public comment. Lowell Hunt, Pastor Tim Rice, Annie Seaberg, Jane Hokenson, Barry Schroder, and Kristi Swanson expressed their concerns and frustration with the Governor's Order relative to businesses re-opening. They also thanked the Board for bringing this issue forward and offered support of Resolution 06-20-1E.
- b. Board Chair Grimsley ended the public comment period and discussion followed. There was overall support by the Board given for ending the shut-down of businesses; however, Commissioners Nelson and Skarie noted that the Board does not have the authority to over-write the Governor. They stressed the potential liability risks to business owners, as well as for Becker County.
- c. It was recommended to change out language in Resolution 06-20-1E to read "support" rather than "encourage" businesses and to add in "opening up at their own risk".

County Attorney, Brian McDonald, noted that, from a liability standpoint for Becker County, he could support the Board's approval of the resolution, with those changes.

- d. It was moved and seconded to approve Resolution 06-20-1E, that the County Commission of Becker County hereby declares Becker County as a "Constitutional and Business Friendly Community", and approve the changes to the resolution, as discussed; to change out the language of "encourage" to "support" and to add in "opening up at their own risk" to said resolution. (Knutson, Okeson), carried unanimously.

Highway: Jim Olson presented:

1. It was moved and seconded to approve Resolution 06-20-1B, to award the County-wide Weed Spraying contract to L&M Road Services, LLC of Ulen, MN, and to accept the low quote of \$89.50 per hour. (Nelson, Skarie), carried.
2. It was moved and seconded to approve Resolution 06-20-1C, to award the Gravel Crushing Contract to Brown Crushing of Glenwood, MN, and to accept the low quote of \$2.24 per cubic yard. (Okeson, Knutson), carried.
3. Detroit Lakes City Engineer, Jon Pratt, and City Administrator, Kelcey Klemm, were present for the discussion on the Cooperative Agreement with the City of Detroit Lakes relative to the South Washington Project. Mr. Pratt provided a summary from Apex

Engineering on the bids received and an “As-Bid Project Cost Summary” for the South Washington/Forest Street – Street and Utility Improvements.

Two bids were received, one from Sellin Bros. of Hawley, MN at \$3,464,662.75 and the other from C&L Excavating, Inc. of St. Joseph, MN, at the low bid of \$3,429,545.75.

Discussion followed regarding allocation of the \$1 million Local Road Improvement Program (LRIP) grant monies towards the project, and the additional cost of the roundabout at the North Shore Drive intersection, which will cost \$21,000.00 in full, over a standard intersection.

It was moved and seconded to approve Resolution 06-20-1D, for Becker County to enter into a Cooperative Agreement with the City of Detroit Lakes, for the Reconstruction of Washington Avenue/CSAH 22, from Willow Street to West Lake Drive; and to authorize and direct the County Chairperson and County Administrator, on behalf of the County, to execute the agreement and any amendments. (Nelson, Skarie), carried.

It was moved and seconded to review and accept the low bid for the South Washington Construction Project with C&L Excavating of St. Joseph, MN at \$3,429,545.75, with the County to contribute \$186,000.00 of the LRIP Grant money towards Streetscape, to reduce the assessable share to the landowners. (Okeson, Skarie), carried 3-1. A Roll Call Vote was called and taken: Knutson – Nay; Okeson – Yay; Skarie – Yay; Grimsley – Abstained; Nelson – Yay.

4. Highway Engineer, Jim Olson, presented an overview of the 2019 Annual Highway Report. The Board extended their thanks and appreciation to both he and County Highway Accountant, Jodi Oien, for their time and effort in completing the annual report each year.

It was moved and seconded to accept the 2019 Annual Highway Report, as presented. (Knutson, Okeson), carried.

5. Discussion was held on the New Public Works Building, with no action taken today. There will be further discussion at the next Board meeting regarding the purchase of land from the City of Detroit Lakes, with Jim Olson to provide budget numbers.

Being no further business, Board Chair Grimsley adjourned the meeting.

/s/ Michael M. Brethorst
Michael M. Brethorst
County Administrator

/s/ Ben Grimsley
Ben Grimsley
Board Chair