

BOARD MEETING AS POSTED

BECKER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

DATE: TUESDAY, September 19, 2023, at 8:15 am

LOCATION: Board Room, Courthouse

1. Meeting was brought to order by Board Chair Nelson. Commissioners in attendance: Nelson, Okeson, Vareberg, Jepson and Meyer, County Administrator Pat Oman, and minute taker Peggy Martin.
2. Pledge of Allegiance

Agenda/Minutes:

1. Agenda – Motion and second to go into closed session after the agenda confirmation (Meyer, Okeson) carried.

Motion and second to close the meeting at 8:16 am pursuant to Minn. Stat. Section 13D.03 subd. 1(b) based on Labor Negotiation Strategy (Okeson, Jepson) carried.

Motion and second to come out of closed session at 9:02 am (Meyer, Jepson) carried.

2. Minutes – Moved and second to approve minutes of September 5, 2023, with the requested changes (Jepson, Meyer) carried.
3. Motion and second to approve the Consent Agenda (Okeson, Jepson) carried.

Commissioners:

1. Open Forum:
  - None
2. Reports and Correspondence: Reports were provided on the following meetings:
  - Commissioner Meyer – Historical Society, RAC, Human Services
    - Becky Mitchell from the Historical Society requested funds to decrease the cost of student tickets to the museum by \$2 per student for those outside of the Detroit Lakes School District for the Davinci Exhibit.
      1. Motion and second to authorize up to \$4,886 to be used to subsidize 2,443 student tickets to be billed to the county after use (Meyer, Vareberg) carried.
  - Commissioner Okeson – RAC, Environmental, AMC Legislative Conference.

- Commissioner Jepson – Human Services, Becker County Opioid Settlement, Senior Council on Aging.
- Commissioner Nelson – MRC, Finance.
- Commissioner Vareberg – Finance.

3. Appointments:

- Motion and second to reappoint Mark Green, Dave Sherbrooke, and John Okeson to the Airport Commission (Okeson, Meyer) carried.
- Cormorant Lakes Watershed District positions will be advertised online, and candidates will be brought back at a future meeting.
- Oath of Office – Temporary Assistant County Veterans Service Officer – Donavon Strandberg.

County Administrator: presented by Pat Oman.

1. Report

- Kick-off for the Community Based Comprehensive Plan.

2. Association of Townships – Fall Township Association Meeting – October 19, 2023, at 6:30 pm in the 3rd floor Jury Room.
3. Joint Governance Meeting – October 3 at 7:00 am – Hosted by Becker County.
4. Budget 2024 Update.
5. Motion and second to approve Resolution 09-23-2E – 2024 Becker County Proposed Tax Levy (Okeson, Vareberg) carried.
6. Motion and second to approve Resolution 09-23-2F – Economic Development Authority (EDA) 2024 Tax Levy (Jepson, Vareberg) carried.

Auditor-Treasurer: presented by Mary Hendrickson.

1. Motion and second to approve the reallocation of \$100,000 from the Special General Fund for the final Museum payment, making the disbursement as follows: \$150,000 from the Special General Fund, \$51,500 from the Recorder Equipment Fund and \$67,000 from the Recorder Enhancement Fund (Vareberg, Meyer) carried.
2. Motion and second to approve Tobacco License Renewals for – Kalberer’s Korner-Tyer Kalberer-Lakeview Township, Richwood Off-Sale-John P Johnson-Richwood Township, Cormorant Bottle Ship-J-Rod Enterprises-Cormorant Township, and Ice Cracking Lodge-Tandra Parsons-Round Lake Township (Okeson, Jepson) carried.

Human Services: presented by Denise Warren.

1. Motion and second to approve Resolution 09-23-2C – Personnel Request – Full-Time Registered Nurse (Meyer, Jepson) carried.

Information Technology: presented by Judy Dodd.

1. Motion and second to approve the purchase of MFA Security Software in the amount of \$34,048.22 for 2 years using Special General Funds (Jepson, Meyer) carried.
2. Motion and second to approve the purchase of SmartDeploy Software in the amount of \$5,265 for 1 year using Special General Funds (Okeson, Meyer) carried.

Sheriff: presented by Todd Glander and Shane Richards.

1. Resolution 09-23-2B – Personnel Request-Deputy Sheriff is tabled. Will come back to the board after it has gone through the Sheriff Committee.
2. Motion and second to approve Resolution 09-23-2A – Personnel Request - Lieutenant (Okeson, Vareberg) carried.
3. Motion and second to approve Resolution 09-23-2D – Purchase Request – Trailer- from Lakes Area Trailer in the amount of \$6,269 (Okeson, Meyer) carried.

Human Resources: presented by Carrie Smith.

1. Motion and second to approve the Procurement Policy & Appeals Procedures as discussed during the last work session with the requested changes (Okeson, Meyer) carried.
2. Motion and second to approve the Becker County Quote/Bid/Proposal Protest Policy (Okeson, Jepson) carried.
3. Motion and second to approve the Reasonable Accommodations for Pregnant Workers Policy (Vareberg, Meyer) carried.

Highway: presented by Jim Olson.

1. Motion and second to accept the low quote for Limited Site Investigation of the Old Highway Facilities from Metco in the amount of \$12,736 (Okeson, Vareberg) carried.
2. Motion and second to approve the Contract Amendment – CSAH 7 & 80 Design Services with Moore Engineering to increase the amount from \$161,600 to \$197,000 (Vareberg, Meyer) carried.

Land Use/Environmental Services: presented by Steve Skoog.

1. Solid Waste Assessment Review.

Planning & Zoning: presented by Kyle Vareberg.

1. Motion and second to approve the Application by Jill & Kevin Mohn - Request a change of zone from agricultural to residential with a 4/5 vote (Vareberg, Okeson) carried. Roll Call Vote: Okeson-In favor, Jepson-In favor, Meyer-In favor, Nelson-Opposed, Vareberg-In favor.
2. Application by Gehrig Properties LLC – Conditional Use Permit to operate a Convenience Store and Gas Station
  - John Lowry with Lowry Engineering was present to discuss the project.
  - No testimony was given in support of the convenience store and gas station.
  - Testimony opposing the Convenience Store and Gas station.
    - Mike Habrat-consider impact on neighborhood.
    - Mary Maring-can't find evidence for a need for a gas station in her neighborhood. There will be an increase in truck traffic.
    - Joel Olson-Safety concerns with playground nearby.
    - Ron Zeman-City council voted down the gas station. Would like low traffic businesses. There is a need for housing not a gas station.
    - Marsha Congdon-busy street. Would not put a gas station in a residential area.
    - Carolyn Disse-concerned with children's safety and boat parking.
    - Delta Daggett-it is a residential/agriculture area. Opposition is greater than agreement for a gas station.
    - AnnMarie Burgeson-for development but the developer should have asked residents if they wanted a gas station.
    - Amber Abraham-family neighborhood. Dangers with commercial property.
    - Sheila Finneseth-gas station should be in a higher traffic area.
    - Karen Bakken-traffic concerns and concerns with construction vehicles.
  - Motion and second to approve the Conditional Use Permit to operate a Convenience Store and Gas Station with the addition of moving the site 250 feet south, no car wash and the additional conditions discussed during the August 30<sup>th</sup> Planning Commission Meeting (Vareberg, Okeson) carried. Roll Call vote called by Commissioner Nelson: Okeson-In favor, Jepson-In favor, Meyer-Opposed, Nelson-Opposed, Vareberg-In favor.
3. Motion and second to approve the Application by Daniel J Lake – Request a Conditional Use Permit to operate a commercial building with retail sales and service (Jepson, Okeson) carried.
4. Community Based Comprehensive Plan Update.

Being no further business, Chair Nelson adjourned the meeting at 12:07 pm.

/s/

Pat Oman  
County Administrator

/s/

Barry Nelson  
Board Chair