



BOARD MINUTES
BOARD OF WRIGHT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Tuesday, June 20, 2023
DATE APPROVED: July 11, 2023

Tina Diedrick, District 1
Darek Vetsch, District 2
Jeanne Holland, District 3
Nadine Schoen, District 4
Michael Kaczmarek, District 5

The Wright County Board met in regular session at 9:00 A.M. with Diedrick, Vetsch, Holland, Schoen, and Kaczmarek present.

Present and responding to roll call were the following:

Board of Commissioners:	Tina Diedrick
	Jeanne Holland
	Michael Kaczmarek
	Nadine Schoen
	Darek Vetsch

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

II. MINUTES - DISPENSE WITH READING, APPROVE AS WRITTEN/REVISED

A. Approve Wright County Board Meeting Minutes from June 6, 2023.

Commissioner Michael Kaczmarek moved to approve the Tuesday, June 6 County Board meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Nadine Schoen. The motion passed 5-0.

Aye: 5; Nay: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 0; Recused: 0

B. Approve the Following Committee Meeting Minutes:

1. Committee of the Whole- Government Center Operations (06-06-23)
2. Committee of the Whole- Household Hazardous Waste (06-12-23)
3. County Board Workshop (06-13-23)
4. Committee of the Whole- Auditor/Treasurer (06-14-23)

Kaczmarek moved to approve the minutes from the Committee of the Whole (COTW)- Government Center Operations, the County Board Workshop and the COTW- Auditor/Treasurer. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jeanne Holland. The motion passed 5-0.

Aye: 5; Nay: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 0; Recused: 0

Kaczmarek said that he would like to discuss the recommendations for the COTW- Household Hazardous Waste due to citizen feedback. A resident went to the compost facility and the front-end loader was not being used. The board agreed to amend the recommendations to include cease use of the front-end loader effective July 1, 2023, and to post a notice at the Household Hazardous Waste facility.

Kaczmarek moved to approve the minutes from the COTW- Household Hazardous Waste. The motion was seconded by Schoen. The motion passed 5-0.

Aye: 5; Nay: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 0; Recused: 0

III. REVIEW & APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Darek Vetsch said that the following items would be petitioned onto the agenda:

1. County Road 107 and the current engineering, being added to items for consideration C.
2. Schedule a Transportation Committee of the Whole to discuss detour route compensation, being added to items for consideration D.
3. Set up a committee to review county excess property, being added to items for consideration E.

Kaczmarek moved to approve the agenda with the added items. The motion was seconded by Holland. The motion passed 5-0.

Aye: 5; Nay: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 0; Recused: 0

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

Holland moved to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Kaczmarek. The motion passed 5-0.

Aye: 5; Nay: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 0; Recused: 0

A. ADMINISTRATION

1. Authorize County Board Chair and County Administrator To Sign An Amendment To The Agreement Between Robert J. Hiivala and Wright County

B. FINANCE & TAXPAYER SERVICES

1. Motion to Approve the Reimbursement of the American Rescue Plan Act Funds (ARP) as follows:
County ARP Funds:
Approval of County Reimbursement of \$153.21 from 01-099-493.6910 Transfer Out into 01-100-493.5910 Transfer In as Follows:

\$153.21 for Administrative Expenses-Staff Costs

Approval of Use of ARP funds from 01-099-493.

\$4,057.00 2.34 Aid to Nonprofit Organizations- 4-H

2. Authorize a Transfer of a \$1,000,000 From the Economic Development Authority (EDA) 01-724.6910 Transfer Out to Wright County 01-100.5910 Transfer in From the Sale of the Human Service Center Building (HSC).
3. Approval of Liquor License Renewal for Olson's Truck Stop - Silver Creek Township (License Will be Approved Pending Approval by Attorney, Sheriff and Township)
4. Approval of Temporary Liquor License for Clearwater Legion Post 323 (July 15) Clearwater Rodeo Grounds
5. Acknowledge Warrants Issued Between May 31, 2023 and June 13, 2023.
6. Motion to approve the reimbursement of the American Rescue Plan Act Funds (ARP) as follows:
County ARP Funds:
Approval of use of ARP Funds from 01-099-493.
\$1,500.00 2.34 Aid to Nonprofit Organizations- 4-H

C. HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

1. Appoint Commissioner Holland to the Region 7W Inter-Agency Intervention Committee (IEIC) for 2023

D. HIGHWAY

1. Approve Agreement No. 23-52 with Corinna Township for the 105th St. NW, 100th St. NW, & Hoyt Ave. NW State Park Road Account (SPRA) project. SAP 086-600-010.
2. Acceptance of the 2022 Highway Department Annual Report
3. Authorize Final Acceptance and Final Payment of Contract 19-10 in the Amount of \$24,555.00 to Mathiowetz Construction for the Hwy. 19 and 39 Reconstruction/Expansion Project.
4. Authorize Signatures by the County Administrator and County Board Chair on a Professional Services Agreement with WSB & Associates, Inc. to Provide Engineering Services Associated with the Highway 19 Project in Hanover.
5. Authorize the County Administrator and County Board Chair to Sign a Professional Engineering Services Agreement with SRF Consulting Group, Inc. for Design of Roundabouts at the Intersection of CSAH 19 & CSAH 39; and CSAH 8 & CSAH 35.
6. Authorization of Signatures on a Purchase Agreement to Purchase Parcel A as Depicted on Wright County Highway Right of Way Plat No. 75.
7. Authorization of Signatures on a Purchase Agreement to Purchase Parcel B as Depicted on Wright County Highway Right of Way Plat No. 75.

E. PARKS & RECREATION

1. Approve The Schedule For Receiving Bids For The Robert Ney Regional Park Ski Trail Lighting Project.
Project Schedule
RFP Solicitation Release, June 20, 2023
Bids Due July 11, 2023
Award, July 2023

2. Review Buffer Enforcement Update and Staff Recommendations

F. PROJECT ADMINISTRATION

1. Approve the Following Grant Application: WCPH-02 Certified Well Water Testing.

V. TIMED AGENDA ITEMS

A. 9:02 AM- MARC MATTICE, ADMINISTRATION

1. To Have the County Board Chair Draw a Winner From the Open House Stamp Card Entries.

Assistant County Administrator Marc Mattice said that the county-wide open house was held on June 9 and anyone who visited at least three of the county buildings and turned in a stamp card was eligible to entered into a drawing to receive a \$135 Parks and Recreation gift card. Mattice asked Vetch to draw a card from all that were turned in. Vetch drew Gen Matti as the gift card winner.

B. 9:05 AM- EMILY HANSEN, EXTENSION

1. Adopt A Resolution Proclaiming The Marquardt Family As The Wright County 2023 Farm Family Of The Year.

Extension Educator Emily Hansen said that the Extension office would like to recognize the Marquardt Family for being named the Wright County 2023 Farm Family of the Year, selected by the Wright County Extension Committee. The Farm Family Recognition Program has existed for over 30 years and honors farm families from throughout Minnesota for their contributions to the agriculture industry and their local communities. The Marquardt family has embodied the ideals of the Farm Family Recognition Program since the farm's inception in 1975. Three generations of the family have actively contributed to the farm, and they currently raise dairy steers, corn, soybeans, wheat, and hay for local horse farmers. Dave and Julie Marquardt have taken great care in sharing their passion for agriculture, passing it along to future generations. Having a strong involvement in their community is important to the Marquardts, making it a priority in their everyday lives.

Kaczmarek moved adopt a resolution proclaiming the Marquardt family as the Wright County 2023 Farm Family of The Year. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Tina Diedrick. The motion passed 5-0.

Aye: 5; Nay: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 0; Recused: 0

C. 9:10 AM- HEATHER LEMIEUX, FINANCE & TAXPAYER SERVICES

1. Approval of Performance Management Resolution, and Acceptance of the Performance Management Grant Application.

Finance Director Lindsey Meyer presented to the board a resolution to set performance measures throughout the county for the performance management grant application. Meyer said that this is the fifth year that Wright County is participating in the grant. Finance and Taxpayer Services will work with departments to report all the measurements annually to the board, state and to the citizens of Wright County.

A county or city that elects to participate in the standard measures/performance measurement program is eligible for a reimbursement of \$0.14 per capita and is also exempt from levy limits under sections 275.70 to 275.74 for taxes payable in the following calendar year if levy limits are in effect. Wright County receives approximately \$20,000 annually through the grant.

Schoen moved adopt the Performance Management resolution and accept the Performance Management grant application. The motion was seconded by Holland. The motion passed 5-0.

Aye: 5; Nay: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 0; Recused: 0

D. PARKS & RECREATION

1. 9:15 AM- MATT DETJEN, PARKS & RECREATION

i. Review Petition from a Benefited Landowner on County Ditch #20 Requesting Damages

Agriculture and Drainage Coordinator Matt Detjen said that Tom Segnar, a benefited landowner on County Ditch #20 (CD 20), submitted a requested for damage payments for 2023. Segnar is requesting a onetime payment for damages to the land that he is unable to plant in 2023. The request is seeking damages under statue 103E.515, which is only for temporary construction and not crop damages due to lack of maintenance on the ditch system. Advice given from Assistant County Attorney Greg Kryzer is that there is no mechanism or drainage law to be able to pay damages for this type of situation. Vetsch said even if the board were to unilaterally approve reimbursement, Wright County would end up in litigation as the legal merit is not there to meet the request.

Kaczmarek moved deny the petition from a benefited landowner on CD 20 requesting damages. The motion was seconded by Holland. The motion passed 5-0.

Aye: 5; Nay: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 0; Recused: 0

- ii. I. Review County Ditch #31 Phase #2 Repair Report Submitted under Minnesota Statute 103E.715 Subd. 2.
II. Approve Staff to Solicit Bids for Phase #2 Repairs of County Ditch #31

Detjen presented the board with a repair report for County Ditch #31 (CD 31). Diedrick asked how it is determined if a ditch needs a repair or an improvement. Detjen said that repairs and improvements are very different in drainage law and a process called reestablishment of records is used to determine if a repair or improvement is needed.

Kaczmarek moved to approve staff to solicit bids for phase #2 repairs of CD 31. The motion was seconded by Schoen. The motion passed 5-0.

Aye: 5; Nay: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 0; Recused: 0

III. Schedule a Public Hearing on the Repair Report for Phase #2 Repairs of County Ditch #31 pursuant to Minnesota Statute 103E.715 Subd. 4.

A public hearing for CD 31 was scheduled for the Tuesday, July 25 County Board meeting at 10:00 am.

Kaczmarek moved to schedule a public hearing for CD 31 on July 25 at 10:00 am. The motion was seconded by Schoen. The motion passed 5-0.

Aye: 5; Nay: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 0; Recused: 0

2. 9:30 AM- ROSS DEMANT, PARKS & RECREATION

- i. Accept the Minnesota Recreation and Parks Association Award of Excellence for Bertram Chain of Lakes Regional Park

The City of Otsego Parks & Recreation Director Nick Jacobs presented Wright County with an Award of Excellence for Bertram Chain of Lakes Regional Park from the Minnesota Recreation and Parks Association (MRPA). Bertram was recognized for outstanding achievement in the park and facility category.

- ii. Take Action on the Parks and Recreation Commission's Recommendation That Staff Use Campground Improvement Funds to Purchase and Implement a New Registration/Reservation Software System.

Parks & Recreation Director Ross Demant said that partly due to the success of Bertram, Wright County's current reservation software system is not able to keep up with the site demand. Public is frequently using

mobile to access the reservation site and the current software does not meet the need. Demant said that the amount of revenue coming in would offset the cost of the new software, which is estimated to cost between \$5,000-\$6,000.

Diedrick moved to approve the use of campground improvement funds to purchase and implement a new registration/reservation software system. The motion was seconded by Holland. The motion passed 5-0.

Aye: 5; Nay: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 0; Recused: 0

VI. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

A. ADMINISTRATION

1. Adopt Resolution Appointing Lindsey M. Meyer As County Auditor-Treasurer And Delegating The Statutory Duties Of The Auditor-Treasurer

Schoen moved to adopt a resolution appointing Lindsey Meyer as county Auditor-Treasurer and delegating the statutory duties of the Auditor-Treasurer. The motion was seconded by Holland. The motion passed 5-0.

Aye: 5; Nay: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 0; Recused: 0

B. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Approve the Following Committee Recommendations:
 1. Committee of the Whole- Government Center Operations (06-06-23)
 2. Committee of the Whole- Household Hazardous Waste (06-12-23)
 3. County Board Workshop (06-13-23)
 4. Committee of the Whole- Auditor/Treasurer (06-14-23)

Schoen moved to approve the recommendations from the Committee of the Whole- Government Center Operations (06-06-23). The motion was seconded by Kaczmarek. The motion passed 5-0.

Aye: 5; Nay: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 0; Recused: 0

Kaczmarek moved to approve the recommendations from the Committee of the Whole- Household Hazardous Waste (06-12-23) with the addition of the recommendation to cease use of loader effective July 1 and reevaluate as of September 1 if a fee for usage of the front-end loader should be applied. The motion was seconded by Schoen. The motion passed 5-0.

Aye: 5; Nay: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 0; Recused: 0

Kaczmarek moved to approve the recommendations from the County Board Workshop (06-13-23). The motion was seconded by Holland. The motion passed 5-0.

Aye: 5; Nay: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 0; Recused: 0

The recommendations from the Committee of the Whole-Auditor/Treasurer (06-14-23) did not need to be approved. Action was taken earlier in the meeting under items for consideration, item A, adopt a resolution appointing Lindsey Meyer as the County Auditor-Treasurer and delegating the statutory duties of the Auditor-Treasurer.

C. HIGHWAY

1. County Road 107- Current Engineering

Highway Engineer Virgil Hawkins said that county engineering staff evaluated six intersections in a seven-mile span of County Road 107 (CR 107) and two intersections were determined to be warranted to lower their grade through the pavement preservation project. There is a current resurfacing project on CR 107 and the grade of these intersections was lowered, but do not meet current reconstruction design standards, which Hawkins said was never the intent of the project. It would cost approximately 12 million dollars to reconstruct the seven-mile span of CR 107 that was evaluated.

Kaczmarek suggested a COTW to go out to CR 107 and view the sightline. Kaczmarek said that he has received calls from people who live in the area of the current CR 107 resurfacing project who believe that Wright County started a project but didn't finish it. Hawkins agreed that public expectation was not met on this project and said that it would be possible to delay the paving of CR 107 to reevaluate the flagged intersections if the board desired.

Vetsch said that there are intersections of concern all over the county and if funds were unlimited, all intersections could be redesigned to reconstruction standards. Utilizing funds on redesigning these two intersections would pull funds from other already allocated projects. Vetsch asked if there have been any fatalities at these intersections. Hawkins said that there has not. Diedrick said that having crash data on the intersection versus perception would be important. Vetsch suggested adding a flashing intersection sign, as the county has done on various other intersections, to allow for data driven decisions to continue to be made.

Kaczmarek moved to pause resurfacing of CR 107 and ask staff to look further into the cost, timeline and effort needed to adjust the sight line of Emerson Avenue and Clementa Avenue. The motion was seconded by Holland. The motion failed 2-3 with Kaczmarek and Holland voting in favor.

Aye: 2; Nay: 3; Abstain: 0; Absent: 0; Recused: 0

D. ADMINISTRATION

1. Schedule a Transportation COTW to discuss detour route compensation

A COTW has been scheduled for Tuesday, July 25 at 11:00 a.m.

Kaczmarek moved to schedule a Transportation COTW on July 25 at 11:00 a.m. The motion was seconded by Holland. The motion passed 5-0.

Aye: 5; Nay: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 0; Recused: 0

E. ADMINISTRATION

1. Set Up a Committee to Review Excess County Property

Kaczmarek and Holland volunteered to join the committee to review excess county property.

Kaczmarek moved to set up a committee to review excess county property. The motion was seconded by Schoen. The motion passed 5-0.

Aye: 5; Nay: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 0; Recused: 0

VII. ADVISORY COMMITTEE / ADVISORY BOARD UPDATES

Lee Kelly

There were several meetings attended: Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) District 5, Board of Equalization and Economic Development Authority (EDA) Annual Evening Meeting.

Michael Kaczmarek

The fair board has been meeting and will provide material for Wright County to post on social media with the events for this year's fair. The Minnesota Rural Counties (MRC) drainage ditch registry proposed in this legislative session did not pass. Attended Woodland and Cokato Township meetings. A MnDOT engineer from Baxter came to look at Highway 12 and viewed several intersections of concern.

Nadine Schoen

Attended Transportation Alliance meeting and provided a copy of the Transportation Alliance omnibus bill and transportation bill to the other board members. There were 5 legislators at the meeting, and all gave updates.

Derek Vetsch

Trailblazer had a meeting on May 18 and had a long discussion of mobility management. Other counties are interested in metro mobility software type systems for an attempt to divert Health and Human Services (HHS) funds into public transportation funds. Initial onset of the discussion sounds good, but when looked at from practically, and how systems work, the risk versus reward is not very good. Trailblazer Transit operates in Wright, Sibley and McLeod counties using waiver dollars with trips going to St. Cloud or Minneapolis. Even if time, money and effort were spent, only 20-30% of those rides could be transferred to Trailblazer because a vast majority of people seeking rides to medical appointments are not staying within the county for care.

The Wright County Economic Development Partnership (WCEDP) submitted a large ask to the County Board for the upcoming budget season. The ask is double the allocation they have sought in the past.

Jeanne Holland

The City of Albertville had successful Friendly City Days. The Public Health and Mental Health Committees are working to create a Homeless Committee in Wright County. Central MN Jobs and Training looked at unemployment numbers post COVID. There are 22% of people that the unemployment department does not have record of. They have either retired or left state. It is a large reason for staff shortages, 22% is the highest percentage the State of Minnesota has seen for unemployment.

Tina Diedrick

WCEDP hosted a luncheon with presenters that spoke on programs to help facilitate economic development including loans and a mentorship program.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

IX. WARRANTS ISSUED

A. Warrants Issued

