



BOARD MINUTES
BOARD OF WRIGHT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Tuesday, February 20, 2024
DATE APPROVED: March 5, 2024

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
	Darek Vetsch
	Nadine Schoen
	Michael Kaczmarek

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Commissioner Michael Kaczmarek moved to collectively approve minutes from the county board meeting, county board workshop and the revisors workgroup, with the two listed additions to the workshop minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jeanne Holland. The motion passed 5-0.

For: 5; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 0; Recused: 0

A. Approve Minutes from the County Board Meeting (2-6-2024)

B. Approve Minutes from the County Board Workshop (2-13-2024)

Kaczmarek said that he would like to make the following additions to the Workshop minutes:

Item 3- Historical Society "Kaczmarek proposed funding for operation of the three busiest days, which would be a reduction of the current appropriation amount. There was not support for this recommendation."
Item 5- Front Desk Position "Kaczmarek proposed moving the front desk position under administration."

C. Approve Minutes from the Revisors Workgroup (2-13-2024)

III. REVIEW & APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Holland moved to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Tina Diedrick. The motion passed 5-0.

For: 5; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 0; Recused: 0

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

Kaczmarek said that he would like to pull claim number 108390 Green Interiors- off the warrant list for further discussion.

Kaczmarek moved to approve the Consent Agenda with the removal of claim number 108390 from the warrant list. The motion was seconded by Holland. The motion passed 5-0.

For: 5; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 0; Recused: 0

A. ADMINISTRATION

1. Approval of Charitable Gambling Application, Form LG220, The Church of St. Mary of Czestochowa, Gambling Premises: 1867 95th St. SE, Delano, MN 55328, Date of Activity July 21, 2024.
2. Approval of Charitable Gambling Application, Form LG220, Ancient Free and Accepted Mason of MN, Gambling Premises: Rockford Township Hall, 3039 Dague Ave. SE, Buffalo, MN 55313, Date of Activity April 6, 2024.
3. Approval of Charitable Gambling Application, Form LG220, DC Trapshooting Booster Club, Gambling Premises: Rainbow Sportsmen's Club, 1500 Oliver Ave SW, Cokato, MN 55321, Date of Activity May 26, 2024.

B. EXTENSION

1. Confirm Renewal of District 4 Member - County Extension Committee Appointment Gary Cobus, Second Term Effective February 6, 2024. Term Ends On December 31, 2026 (Three-Year Term).

C. FINANCE & TAXPAYER SERVICES

1. Motion to Approve the List of Restricted Amounts That Are Required by Law. To Authorize Standard Carryovers from 2023 Budget and the Carryovers Requested by Departments to the 2024 Budget. Approve the Authorization to Designate Fund Balance in the Special Revenue, Debt Service, and Capital Projects Funds According to the County's Fund Balance Policy and Accounting Standards. These Are Based on Estimates and Amounts Could Change.
2. Motion to Approve the Reimbursement of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act Funds as Follows:
Approval of Use of ARP Funds From 01-099-493-000
\$11,315.33 9.2 Surface Transportation Projects- Woodland Township
3. Acknowledge Warrants Issued Between February 1, 2024 and February 13, 2024.

D. HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

1. Accept Opioid Settlement Advisory Council Member Resignation:
1. Thomas Merrick

E. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

1. Approval of 5-Year OnBase Contract Renewal

F. PLANNING & ZONING

1. Accept the Findings and Recommendations of the Planning Commission for the Following Request to Rezone: Jane Shanks - (Silver Creek Twp.). With a Unanimous Vote the Commission Recommends Approval to Rezone the Entire Property from General Agriculture (GA) with a Residential-Recreational Shoreland District Overlay (S-2) to Suburban Residential (R2a) with a Residential-Recreational Shoreland District Overlay (S-2).

Item C3 Pulled from Consent

Acknowledge Warrants Issued Between February 1, 2024 and February 13, 2024

Claim Number 108390, Green Interiors for \$200.

Kaczmarek said that he inquired about the \$200 paid to Green Interiors and was informed that this is a long-standing verbal agreement for the care of five interior planters. The service was utilized significantly more in the old Government Center, but a past board had approved the continued care of the interior planters in the new Government Center. Kaczmarek said that he talked to staff about the care of these planters in-house or replacing the live plants with artificial plants. Commissioner Darek Vetsch suggested gathering more information from staff to have a deeper discussion. Diedrick agreed. Commissioner Nadine Schoen said that the taxpayers of Wright County should not have care of interior planters as an expense and recommended not to bring the topic to another meeting for further discussion.

Kaczmarek moved to end the contract with Green Interiors. The motion was seconded by Holland. The motion passed 5-0.

For: 5; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 0; Recused: 0

V. TIMED AGENDA ITEMS**A. 9:05 AM- MATT DETJEN, PARKS & RECREATION**

1. Review a Repair Request on Joint Ditch #14 Pursuant to Minnesota Statute 103E.715.

Agriculture and Drainage Supervisor Matt Detjen said that a repair request for Joint Ditch #14 (JD 14), which is located in Wright, Meeker and McLeod counties, has been received. The request is required to be heard within 10 days and Wright County, as the host county, is required to have three commissioners present. The other counties will have one commissioner present. Kaczmarek, Diedrick, and Vetsch will be present at the hearing and the proposed dates are February 26, 27, or 28 at 8:00 a.m. Detjen will confirm a date with the other counties. Vetsch confirmed that a motion was not needed.

2. Permission to Apply for the Conservation Partner Legacy Grant Program Through the Outdoor Heritage Fund for 2024

Schoen moved to approve application of the Conservation Partner Legacy Grant Program through the Outdoor Heritage Fund for 2024. The motion was seconded by Deidrick. The motion passed 5-0.

For: 5; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 0; Recused: 0

3. Permission to Apply for the Water Quality and Storage Grant Through the Board of Water and Soil Resources for 2024.

Kaczmarek moved to approve application of the Water Quality and Storage Grant through the Board of Water and Soil Resources. The motion was seconded by Holland. The motion passed 5-0.

For: 5; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 0; Recused: 0

4. Permission to Apply for the Cooperative Weed Management Grant Through the Board of Water and Soil Resources for 2024

Kaczmarek asked if this grant can work with the Highway Department and right-of-way weed management. Detjen confirmed that this grant could reimburse any department.

Kaczmarek moved to approve application of the Cooperative Weed Management Grant through the Board of Water and Soil Resources for 2024. The motion was seconded by Diedrick. The motion passed 5-0.

For: 5; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 0; Recused: 0

5. Permission to Apply for the Noxious and Invasive Plant Grant Through the Minnesota Department of Agriculture

Holland moved to approve application of the Noxious and Invasive Plant Grant through the Minnesota Department of Agriculture. The motion was seconded by Kaczmarek. The motion passed 5-0.

For: 5; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 0; Recused: 0

6. Permission to Apply for the Multipurpose Drainage Management Grant Through the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources for 2024

Diedrick moved to approve application of the Multipurpose Drainage Management Grant through the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources for 2024. The motion was seconded by Holland. The motion passed 5-0.

For: 5; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 0; Recused: 0

B. 9:18 AM- ROSS DEMANT, PARKS & RECREATION

1. Adopt a Resolution Related to a Grant Application Through the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Outdoor Recreation Grant - Improvements to Montissippi County Park.

Parks & Recreation Director Ross Demant said that the grant would be for \$350,000 and would be in addition to the project that has already been approved. The grant funding would provide means to make the playground more accessible including a shelter, poured-in-place surfacing in the playground area, and additional bituminous for the parking lot.

Diedrick moved to adopt a resolution related to a grant application through the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Outdoor Recreation Grant to make improvements to Montissippi County Park. The motion was seconded by Holland. The motion passed 5-0.

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

2. Approve Two Resolutions Related to the Active Transportation (AT) Grant Application for the Construction of Segment "B" of the Crow River Regional Trail.

Demant said that the Parks & Recreation Department has already received funding from the Transportation Alternative Grant, which will be leveraged as a match for the AT Grant. Funds are also set aside in the 2026 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).

Diedrick moved to approve two resolutions related to the AT Grant application for the construction of segment B of the Crow River Regional Trail. 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. Schedule a Committee of the Whole to Discuss Sheriff's Office Conference Room

A Committee of the Whole (COTW) was set for 9:00 a.m. Wednesday, March 6.

Kaczmarek moved to set a COTW for 9:00 a.m. Wednesday, March 6. The motion was seconded by Holland. The motion passed 5-0.

For: 5; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 0; Recused: 0

2. Schedule a Committee of the Whole to Discuss Legislative Updates

Legislative Updates will be added as a secondary item to the COTW scheduled for 9:00 a.m. Wednesday, March 6.

Holland moved to add Legislative Updates to the COTW set for 9:00 a.m. Wednesday, March 6. The motion was seconded by Schoen. The motion passed 5-0.

For: 5; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 0; Recused: 0

3. Authorize a Letter to the Department of Revenue Regarding Its Proposal of a Gross Operating Revenues Tax for Utilities, Pipelines and Railroad Properties

Vetsch said that this letter would be regarding how the State of Minnesota assessed properties are valued. Currently, properties are assessed based on the value of the building and personal property. There is a proposed change and it would tax based on the gross revenue. Vetsch said that there are many concerns, including exemptions. This change would exempt solar and wind power and that revenue would be taken out of the gross revenue. Any power line running solar or wild would not pay tax on any power lines. Vetsch said that he would like to make sure that the Department of Revenue (DOR) and Wright County legislators are aware of the board's concerns.

Diedrick moved to authorize a letter to the DOR regarding its proposal of a Gross Operating Revenues Tax for utilities, pipelines, and railroad properties. The motion was seconded by Holland. The motion passed 5-0.

For: 5; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 0; Recused: 0

B. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Approve and Adopt Recommendations from the County Board Workshop (2-13-2024)

Kaczmarek moved to approve and adopt recommendations from the County Board Workshop, excluding recommendation number three. The motion was seconded by Holland. The motion passed 5-0.

For: 5; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 0; Recused: 0

Diedrick moved to approve and adopt recommendation number three, issue one-third of the appropriated amount budgeted for 2024 to the

Wright County Historical Society. The motion was seconded by Holland. The motion passed 4-1 with Kaczmarek opposing.

For: 4; Against: 1; Abstain: 0; Absent: 0; Recused: 0

2. Approve and Adopt Recommendations from the Revisors Workgroup (2-13-2024)

Kaczmarek moved to approve and adopt the recommendations from the Revisors Workgroup. The motion was seconded by Holland. The motion passed 5-0.

For: 5; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 0; Recused: 0

VII. BOARD UPDATES

Diedrick said that she wanted to acknowledge the lives of the Burnsville Police Officers and Firefighter that were lost, shared her condolences, and requested a moment of silence.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:48 a.m.

VIII. WARRANTS ISSUED

A. Warrants Issued

County Board meeting minutes submitted by Caitlin Chovan, Administration Office Manager

