



BOARD MINUTES
BOARD OF WRIGHT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Tuesday, August 6, 2024

DATE APPROVED: August 20, 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, and Schoen present.

Present and responding to roll call were the following:

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

Absent:

Board of Commissioners: Michael Kaczmarek

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MINUTES - DISPENSE WITH READING, APPROVE AS WRITTEN/REVISED

Motion to approve minutes collectively made by Diedrick and seconded by Holland

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

- A. Approve Minutes from the Committee of the Whole- Personnel (7-23-2024)**
- B. Approve Minutes from the County Board Meeting (7-23-2024)**
- C. Approve Minutes from the Revisors Workgroup (7-23-2024)**
- D. Approve Minutes from the Committee of the Whole - Drainage Authority (7-24-2024)**

REVIEW & APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Diedrick and seconded by Holland

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

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Holland and seconded by Schoen

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

A. FINANCE & TAXPAYER SERVICES

1. **Approve the Reimbursement of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act Funds as Follows:**

**Approval of Use of ARP Funds From 01-099-493-000
\$53,614.00 9.2 Surface Transportation Projects- Cokato Township**

2. **Approve the Reimbursement of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act Funds as Follows:**

**Approval of Use of ARP funds From 01-099-493-8467
\$204,000.00 5.19 Last mile projects-Broadband- Meeker
Cooperative-County Road 3**

3. **Acknowledge warrants issued between July 16, 2024 and July 29, 2024.**

B. HIGHWAY

1. **Distribution of the 2023 Wright County Highway Department Annual Report**
2. **Approve Transportation Committee of the Whole Meeting Recommendations From the July 9th, 2024 Meeting.**
3. **Approve Request to Fill Vacant Highway Tech I/II. Position will be Vacant August 9th.**
4. **Approve Request to Fill Two Vacant Highway Maintenance Worker Positions Due to Upcoming Retirements and Any Vacant Positions that Result from Back Filling of the Vacancies During the Internal Recruitment/Posting.**

C. PROJECT ADMINISTRATION

1. **Approve Change to Grant End Date From 11/1/2024 to 12/31/2024 for ARP Grant TOWN-017 Franklin Township Surface Transportation Grant (\$90,854)**

D. RECORDER

1. **Approve Request to Rehire Vacant Deputy Recorder Position.**

TIMED AGENDA ITEMS

A. 9:05 AM- CHAD HAUSMANN, HIGHWAY

- 1. Schedule Public Hearing on Tuesday, September 10th, 2024 to update the list for the Local Option Sales Tax (LOST) for transportation.**

A public hearing was scheduled for 9:45 a.m. Tuesday, September 10, during the scheduled board meeting.

Motion by Holland and seconded by Diedrick

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

B. 9:08 AM- MATT DETJEN, PARKS & RECREATION

- 1. Adopt the Order Initiating Repair Proceedings for County Ditch #38 Under Minnesota Statute 103E.705.**

Agriculture and Drainage Supervisor Matt Detjen said that County Ditch #38 (CD 38) runs underneath the 12-Hi Estates in Montrose and the proposed project is looking to realign the ditch so it is no longer situated underneath the mobile home park.

Motion by Diedrick and seconded by Holland

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

- 2. Schedule a Public Hearing on the Repair Report for County Ditch #38 Pursuant to Minnesota Statute 103E.701, 103E.705, and 103E.715.**

A public hearing was scheduled for 1:00 p.m. Monday, September 16 with the informational portion of the meeting scheduled for 1:00 p.m. and public comment opening at 2:00 p.m.

Motion by Holland and seconded by Schoen

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

- 3. Solicit Sealed Bids for Repairs/Realignment of County Ditch #38:**

Detjen said that he is looking to seek bids to have costs available during the scheduled public hearing.

Motion by Holland and seconded by Schoen

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

4. Appoint H2Over Viewers LLC to Complete a Redetermination of Benefits on County Ditch #17 Pursuant to Minnesota Statute 103E.305

Detjen said that a landowner request for redetermination of benefits and repairs was received and this request is to approve a preliminary quote for work if the Drainage Authority plans to move forward with repairs.

Motion by Diedrick and seconded by Holland

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

C. 9:30 AM- APPEAL HEARING

1. Hold Appeal Hearing for Tobacco Ordinance Violation During Health & Human Services Board.

Robert Hinneh, Big Lake

Hinneh stated his reason to appeal saying that he is not new to selling tobacco in a gas station, he has been looked at weird by officers in the past, he always ID's customers, and has not had problems before. The machine that reads the ID is supposed to be accurate, he checked the ID and scanned it and the message was different than normal. He did the math in his head, but it ended up being off by one year and he didn't realize it until later. He has prior trauma from being targeted and said that the officer tried to talk to him and believes that the officer felt guilty.

Vetsch asked if Hinneh was presented an ID and Hinneh confirmed that he was presented an ID that didn't scan correctly. The message on the scanner usually says underage, but didn't this time so he manually reviewed the dates. Vetsch said that he sympathizes with Hinneh but an ID was provided and compliance failed. It is the same standard across the county for all tobacco sales and there is no evidence of wrongdoing or negligence on the county's part.

Vetsch asked for a motion to uphold the violation of a \$100 fine.

Motion to uphold the violation of a \$100 fine made by Schoen and seconded by Holland

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

D. 9:35 AM- HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

1. HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Schoen and seconded by Holland

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

**i. Accept Public Health Task Force Member Resignation:
1. James Schnackenberg, District 3**

- ii. **Approve Tobacco Product Shop License for East 7 Tobacco.**
- iii. **Approve Request to Rehire One Full Time Case Aide Position, in Economic Engagement Coordination Operations Team, Financial Services.**
- iv. **Approve Request to Rehire One Full Time Eligibility Specialist Position in Economic Engagement Coordination Operations Team, Financial Services.**

2. HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES TIMED AGENDA

- i. **Adopt Resolution HHS 24-08 - Accept July 2024 Donation**

Motion by Holland and seconded by Schoen

Aye: 4; Nay: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 1; Recused: 0

Names:

For: Diedrick, Holland, Schoen, Vetsch

Absent: Kaczmarek

- ii. **Adopt Resolution HHS 24-09 - Proclaim August 2024 as Child Support Awareness Month in Wright County**

Motion by Schoen and seconded by Holland

Aye: 4; Nay: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 1; Recused: 0

Names:

For: Diedrick, Holland, Schoen, Vetsch

Absent: Kaczmarek

- iii. **HHS Director's Comments:**
 - 1. Foster Care Picnic on August 14, 2024, 5:00 - 7:30 p.m. at Beebe Lake**
 - 2. County Fair Update**
 - 3. Alcohol Compliance Failures**
 - 4. HHS Advisory Council Recommendation**

Goodrum said that a Foster Care picnic is being held from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, August 14 at Beebe Lake.

Social Services and Public Health were at the Wright County Fair. There was a lot of positive feedback from young families and mothers who appreciate the breastfeeding and changing areas.

Public Health and the Sheriff's Office have been performing alcohol compliance checks. To date, there have been 17 failures in Wright County for alcohol and

12 failures for tobacco. Vetsch said that he would like to see changes to the penalty of an underage alcohol sale to more closely mirror a tobacco violation, which is something that needs to be looked at from the state level.

A letter of recommendation from the Human Services Advisory Council (HSAC) was submitted to the board regarding the hiring of a Housing Coordinator, that is accounted for in HHS's 2025 budget request.

Larry DeMars, former HHS employee of more than 40 years, has passed away.

E. 9:45 AM- JACOB WAGAMAN, PLANNING & ZONING

- 1. Adopt Resolution to Enter Into The Minnesota Clean Water Partnership Project Implementation Loan Agreement Along With The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency To Conduct The Implementation of The Wright County Low Interest Septic Loan Project.**

Environmental Health Supervisor Jacob Wagaman said that previous agreements have been a 10-year loan with a 3 percent interest rate. The new agreement would have a 1 percent interest rate, but Wright County would be unable to recoup expenses charging that rate. Staff suggests charging an interest rate of 5.5 percent over seven years to maintain the current revenue rate to recoup staff expenses.

Motion by Holland and seconded by Schoen

Aye: 4; Nay: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 1; Recused: 0

Names:

For: Diedrick, Holland, Schoen, Vetsch

Absent: Kaczmarek

F. 9:50 AM- LINDSEY MEYER, FINANCE

- 1. Review of the 2023 County Audit with CliftonLarsonAllen and Authorization to Publish the County's 2023 Summary Financial Statements and Vendor List.**

Kristen Houle, Signing Director from CliftonLarsonAllen, presented the 2023 county audit results. Houle summarized the required communications, internal control, single audit, legal compliance and financial results.

Motion by Holland and seconded by Schoen

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

G. 10:05 AM- CLAY WILFAHRT, ADMINISTRATION

1. Adopt Resolution and Authorize Signatures Approving Updated Tax Abatement and Business Subsidy Agreement for SJB Holdings, LLC.

Assistant County Administrator Clay Wilfahrt said that staff reworked the agreement with SJB Holdings, LLC at the direction of the county board. The abatement agreement now has a maximum of \$115,000.

Motion by Schoen and seconded by Holland

Aye: 4; Nay: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 1; Recused: 0

Names:

For: Diedrick, Holland, Schoen, Vetsch

Absent: Kaczmarek

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

A. ADMINISTRATION

1. Schedule Public Hearing to Consider Property Tax Abatement, Monticello Hospitality Group, LLC. Proposed Meeting Date/Time is August 20, 2024 at 9:30 AM.

A public hearing was scheduled for 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, August 20, during the scheduled board meeting.

Motion by Schoen and seconded by Holland

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

2. Set Agenda For August 13, 2024, County Board of Commissioners Workshop

Motion by Diedrick and seconded by Holland

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

3. Adopt a Resolution Appointing Greg T. Kryzer as the Interim Wright County Administrator

Motion by Holland and seconded by Schoen

Aye: 4; Nay: 0; Abstain: 0; Absent: 1; Recused: 0

Names:

For: Diedrick, Holland, Schoen, Vetsch

Absent: Kaczmarek

- 4. Approve a deviation from County rules, policies, and procedures for the County Attorney's Office to obtain County Administrator authorizations through either Assistant County Administrator, who will act independently from the Interim County Administrator, during the employment of Greg Kryzer in the Interim County Administration position.**

County Attorney Brian Lutes said this request is to avoid any conflict of interest while Civil Division Chief Greg Kryzer is designated as the Interim County Administrator.

Motion by Schoen and seconded by Holland

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

B. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. Approve and Adopt Recommendations from the Revisors Workgroup (7-23-2024)**

A public hearing for ordinance amendment 24-5, solid waste, was scheduled for 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, September 10, during the scheduled board meeting.

Motion by Holland and seconded by Schoen

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

- 2. Approve and Adopt Recommendations from the Committee of the Whole - Drainage Authority (7-24-2024)**

Diedrick said by using the general fund to pay for work done on ditches and then assessing back to the land owner over a 15-year period, it is difficult to see that the county is taxing for ditch projects that may not be impacting all taxpayers. Vetsch said that during the first year, the county is not recouping any interest payments. In years after, the interest would closely match what would have been earned on investment income. It would have been more cost ineffective to do an additional mailing to assess for the first year.

Motion by Holland and seconded by Schoen

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

ADVISORY COMMITTEE / ADVISORY BOARD UPDATES

Holland thanked the License Center operations for the extra work put in to get the software up and running after the state went down with technology issues. Holland also thanked IT for quickly acting when the network momentarily went down.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:14 a.m.

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

WARRANTS ISSUED

A. Warrants Issued

