

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ROSEAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

September 10, 2019

The Board of Commissioners of Roseau County, Minnesota met in the Courthouse in the City of Roseau, Minnesota on Tuesday, September 10, 2019.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Board Chair Jack Swanson. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Commissioners present were Roger Falk, John Horner, Jack Swanson, Russell Walker and Daryl Wicklund. Others present were Joleen Kezar, Kristy Kjos, Martie Monsrud, Karla Langaas, Liz Lund, Brian Ketring, Jeff Olsen, Harlan Knight, Gracia Nelson, Jim Trojanowski, Janine Lovold, Emily Bauer, Paul Putzier, and Barb Lusardi.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Coordinator Pelowski requested the addition of a letter from Attorney Scott Anderson regarding the Magnusson Lawsuit, and a discussion concerning a tax-forfeited land exchange proposal to County Board Items. He also requested the deletion of Consent Agenda Item 3 regarding a Letter of Support for the proposed Warroad to Roseau Railbed ATV-OHM Trail due to Roseau County being a sponsor for the Grant. Assessor Lund requested the addition of a discussion regarding our current and future Assessment rates to Department Reports. A motion to approve the amended Agenda was made by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Falk, and carried unanimously.

COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Coordinator Pelowski announced that the AMC Annual Conference Registration is now open. An informational letter, addressed to the Board from the RSVP program, was distributed. It was noted that the Commissioners will be serving at the Employee Recognition lunch to be held on Tuesday, September 24th. Auditor Monsrud will provide a brief overview of the 2020 Budget and information concerning the upcoming tax-forfeited land sale at the next County Board Work Session.

APPROVE BILLS

A motion was made by Commissioner Horner, seconded by Commissioner Wicklund, and carried unanimously to approve the payment of the following warrants:

Warrants Approved For Payment 8/29/2019 (Warrant #141159-141164)

<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
AFLAC	5,236.17
ROSEAU/LOW SPORTSMAN CLUB	8,702.87
4 Payments less than 2,000.00	726.37
Final Total:	14,665.41

Warrants Approved For Payment 9/05/2019 (Warrant #141165-141180)

<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
DEARBORN NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE	3,433.23
GENERAL EQUIP & SUPPLIES INC	146,605.00
JOHNSON/LAURE A	3,526.88
RIVERFRONT STATION	2,073.01
SUN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF CANADA	2,129.12
11 Payments less than 2,000.00	6,240.19
Final Total:	164,007.43

Warrants Approved On 9/10/2019 For Payment 9/13/2019 (Warrant #141181-141256)

<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
AUTO VALUE OF ROSEAU	4,408.13
BLOOMING VALLEY SERVICES	8,365.00
CDW GOVERNMENT INC	5,052.90
COULOMBE CONSULTING	3,640.00
HALVERSON SAND & GRAVEL INC	18,481.40
LARSON HELICOPTERS, LLC	50,777.10
MAR-KIT LANDFILL	42,947.50
NORTHERN RESOURCES COOPERATIVE	14,949.98
NORTHWEST TIRE INC	6,845.30
R & Q TRUCKING INC	54,970.72
REGENTS OF U OF MINNESOTA	5,962.90
ROSEAU CO HWY DEPT	11,695.83
ROSEAU ELECTRIC COOP INC	11,760.00
RUPP ANDERSON SQUIRES & WALDSPURGER	2,087.75
SIMMONS CONTRACTING LLC	29,460.00
SJOBORG'S INC	2,668.25
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA	3,092.65
VANGUARD APPRAISALS, INC	18,587.50
58 Payments less than 2,000.00	29,475.61
Final Total:	325,228.52

DELEGATIONS/BOARD APPOINTMENTS/PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Jim Trojanowski, Northwest Regional Library – 2020 Appropriation

Mr. Trojanowski is the new Director of the Northwest Regional Library, (NWRL). He met with the Board, accompanied by Roseau County's NWRL Representative Gracia Nelson, to provide an Operations Report and to discuss their 2020 request for County funds. They are requesting a 3% increase in funding from all the Counties and Cities in the region. The Board will be approving their final budget in December, 2019, and will consider the request as they go through the budget adoption process.

Barbara Lusardi, MN Geological Survey – Program Overview

Barbara Lusardi, Geologist with the University of Minnesota, and Paul Putzier with the DNR, met with the Board to provide an overview of the County Geologic Atlas Program. In short, they are requesting that the County Board authorize them to complete a Geologic Atlas for the County. A complete Atlas is made up of two parts – geologic (prepared by MN Geologic Survey, and a groundwater component (prepared by the DNR). This process would take three to four years to complete. Board consensus was to meet with the Roseau County SWCD and area Watershed Boards before taking any Board action.

Jim Jensen – Ditch slope

Jim Jensen requested, via phone message, that the information he sent to the Coordinator via e-mail concerning proper ditch slopes, etc, be distributed to the Board during the Public Comment period of today's Board meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion to approve the Consent Agenda was made by Commissioner Wicklund, seconded by Commissioner Walker, and carried unanimously. The Board, by adoption of its Consent Agenda, approved the August 27, 2019, Board Proceedings; approved accepting a \$3,101.50 donation from the Roseau/LOW Sportsman's Club to the Roseau County Veteran's Relief Fund; approved a pay grade change for the three Legal Administrative Assistants (Grade 5G to 6E, effective September 9, 2019); approved a pay grade change for the Assistant County Attorney (Grade 11G to 12E, effective September 9, 2019); and, approved the hire of Nicole Hinson as a Social Worker (Grade 7A, effective September 30, 2019).

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Highway

County Road (CR) 77 Designation Change

Engineer Ketring met with the Board to request approval of a Resolution re-designating a portion of CR 77, (2nd Avenue SE - Roseau). State Aid Highways must either terminate at Trunk Highways, other CSAH's, or they can be terminated at a hospital emergency room. Lifecare Medical Center has relocated the emergency room where CR 77 previously terminated; therefore CR 77 needs to be re-designated accordingly. After discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Falk, and carried unanimously to approve a Resolution re-designating County State Aid Highway 77.

Assessor

Discussion of Assessment Rates

Assessor Lund met with the Board to request a revision to the County assessment rates. She provided a worksheet of the current rates and three proposed rate options, and recommends the following option: \$1/parcel increase for Improved (non-commercial), Bare Land, Personal Property, and Mobile Homes; a \$3/parcel assessment fee for Tax Exempt parcels; and, a \$4/parcel increase for Improved Commercial/Industrial. These changes would be in effect for the 2020 assessment. Following discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Falk, and carried unanimously to revise the assessment rates as recommended by Assessor Lund.

COUNTY BOARD ITEMS

Roseau County 125th Anniversary Committee

As a follow up to discussions that were held at a recent Board Work Session, Commissioner Horner requested establishing a committee to organize activities for Roseau County's 125th Anniversary, (2020). Commissioner Swanson suggested involving the communities in the planning efforts. It was noted that the Board is willing to fund a celebration. A motion was made by Commissioner Horner, seconded by Commissioner Wicklund, and carried unanimously to officially establish this committee and to appoint Commissioners Horner and Swanson as inaugural members, with Commissioners Falk, Walker, and Wicklund as alternate members.

Courthouse Security Assessment Proposal

Attorney Kjos requested the Board approve a proposal provided by the Center for Judicial and Executive Security (CJES) to conduct a security assessment for the Courthouse at a cost not-to-exceed \$4,500.00. Following discussion, a motion to approve the security assessment proposal was made by Commissioner Horner, seconded by Commissioner Walker, and carried unanimously.

Magnusson Case – Letter of Response

The case has been resolved so Attorney Scott Anderson has provided a letter of response for Board consideration. The Board agreed to submit the letter to the Roseau Times-Region as a “Letter to the Editor” in response to the front-page news article that was published in the August 31, 2019 edition of the Roseau Times-Region, as they felt that the County taxpayers should know the actual details of the case.

Tax-forfeited Land Sale

Auditor Monsrud informed the Board regarding a land transaction by the City of Roseau. The County recently sold two parcels of tax-forfeited land to the City of Roseau for \$1.00 each, and the City would like to trade one of the parcels for another parcel located in the City. The net result of this transaction would be the development of three housing units rather than two. The Roseau City Council approved the transaction contingent on the County not objecting to the trade. Board consensus was not to object to the transaction.

Commissioner Committee Reports (August 27 – September 10, 2019)

Commissioner Falk reported on the following committee(s): Red River Basin Commission Meeting; Operations Committee/Board Work Session; Red River Basin Operations Committee Meeting; Northwest Regional Development Commission Transportation Action Committee Meeting.

Commissioner Horner reported on the following committee(s): Operations Committee/Board Work Session; Warroad City Council Meeting.

Commissioner Swanson reported on the following committee(s): University of MN Citizens Advisory Council Meeting; Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) Extension Committee Meeting; AMC Cannabis Committee Meeting; Operations Committee/Board Work Session; Social Services Meeting; Community Justice Coordinating Committee Meeting; Northern Counties Land Use Coordinating Board Meeting; Roseau City Council Meeting.

Commissioner Walker reported on the following committee(s): REA Broadband Presentation; Operations Committee/Board Work Session.

Commissioner Wicklund reported on the following committee(s): REA Broadband Presentation; Roseau River Watershed Board tour of the Ditch 69 system; Operations Committee/Board Work Session; Northwest Regional Development Commission tour of a robotic dairy farm; Two Rivers Watershed Board Meeting; SWCD Meeting.

Upon motion carried, the Board adjourned the meeting at 10:30 a.m. The next Regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for Tuesday, September 24, 2019 at 8:30 a.m.

Attest:

Date: _____

Jeff Pelowski, County Coordinator
Roseau County, Minnesota

Jack Swanson, Chair
Board of County Commissioners
Roseau County, Minnesota