

Traverse County Commission
Regular Board Meeting
June 4, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Commission Chair Mark Gail. Other Commissioners present were Jerrel Olson, Dwight Nelson, Chad Metz, and Kayla Schmidt. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. There were no conflicts of interest expressed. Upon a motion by Metz and second by Nelson the agenda was approved unanimously with the addition of the Mallard Duck. The May 21, 2024 meeting minutes were unanimously approved upon a motion by Nelson and seconded by Olson.

Highway Department

County Engineer Chad Gillespie appeared before the Board. Gillespie asked for approval to sign the updated 20-year lease with the US Army Corp of Engineers for the Mustinka River Access. No changes were made, there is a \$500.00 fee to process the new lease along with the yearly inspections. The lease was approved unanimously upon a motion by Nelson and second by Olson. Gillespie informed the Board that they are going out for request for quotes for CP 24-03 which is the culvert replacement on CSAH 16 Mustinka River Channel. Project schedule updates were given, crushing project is starting soon. CSAH 4 is tentatively starting after July 4th. Co Rd 76 Bridge preconstruction meeting will be held in mid-June and the CSAH 15 preconstruction meeting is on June 6.

Public Hearing

The County received an application for the construction of a storage building. Approval requires a Conditional Use Permit to construct a 40' x 50' storage building inside the Conservation District adjacent to Lake Traverse. The project will involve elevating the building on fill to raise the floor to an elevation of at least 983.3. The Planning Committee's recommendation is to approve the CUP. There were no public comments. Metz made a motion to approve the conditional use permit with the conditions and the findings of facts as were recommended by the Planning Commission/Board of Adjustment, seconded by Nelson, and approved unanimously.

Law Enforcement

Sheriff Trevor Wright appeared before the Board with a department update. The Jail occupancy for May was 23.98%. Write discussed staffing and projects that they are currently working on.

Soil & Water Conservation District

District Technical Manager Bruce Johnson appeared before the Board with a department update. The Sewage Treatment System Program had no new permit application. An operating permit was issued for Rosebud RV Park for 3 years. The City of Tintah continues plans for Municipal Wastewater Treatment. The City of Browns Valley had a force main break, there was a temporary impact on the wetland. Widseth Engineering was hired to help with reporting and notifications, no Wetland Conservation Act permit is needed. One Watershed One Plan/Comprehensive Watershed Management update included the Bois de Sioux-Mustinka Plan approval of the 2025 grant application and budget. The 2024 grant implementation funding was approved for the Upper MN River Plan for \$675,322.00.

Wage Study

Mark Goldberg, Principal Consultant appeared before the Board via Zoom. He explained the process and gave an update. He also explained that the budget impact will be around a 3.24% increase in order to bring employees into the proposed structure. The Board will discuss this further at a future meeting.

County Attorney

County Attorney Matt Franzese appeared before the Board, he discussed the Browns Valley property information. The Board asked that Franzese reach out to each City in Traverse County and see if they would be willing to cost share the demolition of dilapidated structures in their respective city.

County Coordinator

Upon motion by Schmidt and a second from Olson the following bills were approved unanimously.

COMMISSIONER OF TRANSPORTATION	\$4,471.73
MOORE ENGINEERING INC	\$4,861.25
WHITE CAP, LP	\$14,977.75
COMPUTERSHARE TRUST COMPANY N.A.	\$2,760.00
HOMETOWN PLANNING	\$2,860.00
TRAVERSE CARE CENTER	\$5,640.00
TRAVERSE COUNTY SOIL & WATER SER	\$95,432.00
BIG STONE COUNTY AUDITOR	\$5,130.17
BOIS DE SIOUX WATERSHED DISTRICT	\$694,675.38
CITY OF BROWNS VALLEY	\$220,916.69
CITY OF WHEATON	\$528,833.76
DOLL-CLERK-TREASURER/ALEXIS	\$28,748.17
DUFFIELD-TREASURER/PEGGY	\$22,903.02
FRIDGEN-TREASURER/KIM	\$39,423.02
HARTER-TREASURER/ANN	\$15,722.92
HEYDA-CLERK/AMANDA	\$10,037.01
IND. SCHOOL DIST. #264	\$42,820.96
IND. SCHOOL DIST. #2888	\$245,398.56
IND. SCHOOL DIST. #801	\$118,733.70
IND. SCHOOL DIST. #852	\$66,210.65
KLEINDL-TREASURER/MATTHEW	\$39,238.57
KRENZ-TREASURER/BRAD	\$16,393.46
KRUMP-TREASURER/JEFF	\$25,620.57
LUPKES-TREASURER/KAREN	\$33,976.09
MCCLERNON-TREASURER/JACOB	\$18,732.76
O'NEILL-TREASURER/MIKE	\$28,641.31
PEYTON-TREASURER/MARY	\$29,914.71
PEYTON-TREASURER/PATRICIA	\$22,670.00
RINKE-TREASURER/BRIAN	\$22,870.51
SANASACK-TREASURER/RICHARD	\$34,374.25
SYVERSON-TREASURER/TINA	\$19,374.22
THIEL-CLERK-TRASURER/GAIL	\$47,633.65
TRAVERSE COUNTY AUDITOR-TREASURER	\$57,220.73
UPPER MN RIVER WATERSHED	\$12,777.80
WHEATON AREA SCHOOLS	\$733,348.63
WILKIN COUNTY	\$9,468.17

Per M.S. §375.12, there were 34 claims of less than \$2,000.00 totaling \$10,973.30.

Our Pictometry contract with Eagleview is in the 3rd year of our 6-year contract. The company has updated their software which comes with a decrease in the next flight cost. They proposed that we cancel the current contract and sign a new 6-year contract with a yearly amount of \$24,867.35 for 6 years which includes 2 flights. Metz made a motion to cancel the current contract and sign the new 6-year contract, seconded by Nelson and approved 4-1 with Schmidt opposed. There was a discussion on the Mallard by the Traverse Care Center, Zahl has received a few phone calls regarding the condition of the Mallard. She is currently doing research to find out whose responsibility the Mallard is. Zahl will bring more information to the Board when it is available. It was also discussed that the Traverse Care Center isn't mowing the whole property, Zahl will reach out to the Care Center and let them know that it is their responsibility to mow the whole property.

Public Comment Period

There were no public comments.

Commissioner Committee Reports

There were no reports.

Gail adjourned the meeting at 10:20 a.m.

Lisa Zahl, County Coordinator

Mark Gail, Chair