

Traverse County Commission
Regular Board Meeting
August 20, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Commission Chair Mark Gail. Other Commissioners present were Jerrel Olson, Dwight Nelson, and Kayla Schmidt. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. The agenda was approved unanimously upon a motion by Olson and second by Nelson. There was no conflict of interest expressed. The August 6, 2024, Board minutes were unanimously approved upon a motion by Olson and second by Nelson.

Highway Department

Chad Gillespie, County Engineer, and Brian Koch, Highway Supervisor appeared before the Board with a department update. Gillespie gave updates on the following projects: CSAH 15; CSAH 4; County Road 76 Bridge; and crushing.

Veterans Services

Jared Lamm, Veterans Service Officer, appeared before the Board to ask for approval of the Veterans Services Grant of \$7,500.00. The grant will be used for Rainbow Rider, promotional items, promotional items, upgrades to the office, and for the VSO to attend conferences and trainings. The grant was accepted unanimously, 4-0, upon a motion by Nelson and second by Schmidt.

Auditor/Treasurer

Auditor/Treasurer Kit Johnson appeared before the Board with a department update. Johnson handed out the Traverse County results from the 2024 primary election. He said that there were 621 Traverse County residents who voted, which is down from 989 in 2022. Johnson informed the Board that we received our MCIT dividend in the amount of \$13,660.00, we budgeted for \$25,000.00 so it was lower than expected. Johnson touched on the budget, Social Services decreased its budget. The Board is going to hold a budget work session on September 3 after the regular meeting.

Attorney

County Attorney Matt Franzese brought forward an office-sharing agreement for the use of the old probation office on the 2nd floor of the courthouse. Olson made a motion to approve the office sharing agreement with the State of Minnesota, Eighth Judicial District pending any minor correction needed, second by Schmidt and approved 4-0. Franzese will send the agreement to Judge Wilcox for approval as well. Permit Fees will be discussed at the next Board meeting.

Courthouse Maintenance

Courthouse Maintenance Supervisor Chad Klindworth brought forward three quotes for roof replacement for the Annex building. The Commissioners asked for him to go back and get quotes for a steel roof and bring it back to the Board.

County Coordinator

Upon motion by Olson and second by Nelson the following bills were approved unanimously.

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| ACCESS | \$3,407.04 |
| COUNTIES PROVIDING TECHNOLOGY | \$5,409.72 |
| DEPT OF HUMAN SERVICES ECPN | \$5,656.55 |
| GAZETTE PUBLISHING, INC. | \$2,878.50 |
| HORMANN, MARK | \$2,200.00 |
| MN OFFICE OF ENTERPRISE TECHNOLOGY | \$2,313.41 |
| MN STATE AUDITOR | \$13,975.30 |

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|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| QUADIENT FINANCE USA, INC. | \$3,000.00 |
| REASSURANCE SOLUTIONS | \$12,300.00 |
| TRAVERSE COUNTY SOCIAL SERVICES | \$3,000.00 |
| WEST CENTRAL REGIONAL JUVENILE CT | \$8,021.00 |
| WHEATON EDA | \$2,000.00 |
| CT SIBSON GRAVEL & CRUSHING INC. | \$8,065.60 |
| M-R SIGN CO., INC. | \$2,486.00 |
| OLSON TILE AND EXCAVATING LLC | \$21,245.71 |
| TRI COUNTY COOP OIL ASSOC | \$32,235.14 |
| WESTERN PRAIRIE | \$49,473.65 |
| LSS | \$5,097.47 |
| RURAL MN CEP | \$5,792.60 |
| DHS | \$7,975.57 |
| TRAVERSE COUNTY | \$31,974.20 |
| PLACEMENTS | \$26,141.05 |

Per M.S. 375.12, the number of claims totaling \$2,000.00 or less were 52 in the amount of \$22,064.73.

The date to sign up for the MCIT, Navigating Key Land Use Issue seminar has already passed.

Upon a motion by Olson and second by Nelson the meeting was closed at 10:22 a.m. to discuss strategy for labor negotiations per Minnesota Statute 13D.03. Upon a motion by Nelson and second by Olson the meeting was reopened at 10:48 a.m. The results of the closed session were to move forward with the new wage study for 2025, once approved by the Board. Nelson made a motion to adopt the new pay structure based upon the grades DDA determined were appropriate for each position, second by Olson and approved 4-0.

Public Comment Period

It was mentioned that the Solar and Wind workgroup is continuing to move along.

Committee Reports

Nelson attended the Horizon Public Health Performance Committee, Soil & Water, Personnel Committee and Horizon Public Health.

Gail adjourned the meeting at 11:02 a.m.

Lisa Zahl, County Coordinator

Mark Gail, Chair