

**MINUTES  
OF THE  
PINE COUNTY BOARD MEETING  
Regular Meeting  
Tuesday, May 3, 2022 - 10:00 a.m.  
Pine County Board Room, 635 Northridge Drive NW  
Pine City, Minnesota**

Chair Hallan called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Present were Commissioners Terry Lovgren, J.J. Waldhalm and Matt Ludwig. Also present was County Administrator David Minke and County Attorney Reese Frederickson. Commissioner Josh Mohr was absent (excused).

The public was invited to join the meeting remotely by phone, Zoom, or watch via live stream on YouTube.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Chair Hallan stated that Isanti County Commissioner George Larson has passed away. Commissioner Larson was an Isanti County commissioner for 20 years.

Chair Hallan called for public comment. There was no public comment.

**Motion** by Commissioner Ludwig to adopt the Agenda. Second by Commissioner Lovgren. Motion carried 4-0.

**Motion** by Commissioner Lovgren to approve the Minutes of the April 19, 2022 County Board Meeting and Summary for publication. Second by Commissioner Waldhalm. Motion carried 4-0.

Minutes of Boards, Reports and Correspondence  
Pine County Surveyor's Monthly Report – April, 2022  
Insurance Committee Minutes of April 18, 2022

**Motion** by Commissioner Ludwig to acknowledge the Minutes of Boards, Reports and Correspondence. Second by Commissioner Lovgren. Motion carried 4-0

**Motion** by Commissioner Lovgren to approve the Consent Agenda. Second by Commissioner Waldhalm. Motion carried 4-0.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

1. **Applications**

Approve the following:

A. **Exempt Permit**

Authorize Auditor-Treasurer to send a letter of approval to the Minnesota Gambling Control Board for the following:

- i. Roxie's Hope to conduct Minnesota lawful gambling on December 31, 2022 at Maverick's Saloon, 29410 Beroun Crossing Rd, Pine City, Minnesota (Chengwatana Township)

B. 3.2 On/Off Sale and Wine License with Strong Beer Endorsement

Authorize Board Chair and County Auditor-Treasurer to sign wine license with strong beer endorsement for the following:

- i. Aufderhar & Aufderhar, LLC (Ray & Marge's Resort), 36700 Lakeland Rd, Sturgeon Lake, Minnesota

C. 3.2 Office Sale License

- i. Duquette General Store, 88235 State Hwy. 23 No., Duquette, Minnesota

D. Abatement

- i. Jimmie & Becky Guligowski, Parcel 25.0292.001, exclusion was incorrectly removed for taxes payable in 2022, but should have been removed for taxes payable 2023 and forward.
- ii. Ferrel & Kara Nelson, Parcel 18.0042.000, property should have been linked to owner's main parcels for homestead purposes for taxes payable in 2022 (this will also increase the agricultural credits on Parcels 35.0009.000 & 35.0002.000).
- iii. Mark & Laura Ferdelman, Parcel 28.0290.000, homestead should have been removed for taxes payable in 2022 and property should have been classified as seasonal.
- iv. Glenn Sobert, Parcel 42.0086.000, homestead was incorrectly removed for taxes payable in 2022 due to post office notification of change of address, but owner did not move.
- v. Daniel Rodecap, Parcel 42.5670.000, exclusion was incorrectly input and did not calculate for taxes payable in 2022.

2. Donations

Accept the following donations:

- A. \$1,000 donation from the Pokegama Lake Association designated to the Pine County Sheriff's Office K-9 Program.
- B. \$5,000 donation from the East Central Energy Operation Round Up designated to the Pine County Sheriff's Office Drone Program.

3. 2022 Equipment Rental

Award the 2022 Equipment Rental Bids. Bids were opened April 28, 2022.

4. Contracts/Agreements

Approve the Cooperative Agreement between Pine County and the State of Minnesota, Minnesota Department of Agriculture, for Waste Pesticide Collection, effective July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2027. Authorize Board Chair and County Administrator to sign.

5. Personnel

Ratify the reassignment of Sergeant James Reiser to Jail Programs Coordinator effective May 2, 2022. This position will be a Grade 9. Employee will be moving from a current Grade 10 position to new position/Grade 9; pay will remain frozen at \$33.69 per hour until the new Grade 9/Year 10 scale becomes greater than his current wage.

6. New Hire

Authorize the hiring of Amanda Torgerson, Daren Brackenbury, Adam McClure, Kay Wimmer, Missy Quisberg, and Hunter Kelash as part-time corrections officers, effective May 9, 2022, Grade 7, Step 1, \$21.77 per hour.

7. Training

Approve Social Workers Nicole Vork and Angela Ripley to attend the MN Child Welfare Training Academy, May 10-12, May 24-25, June 7-9, June 28-30, and July 26-28, 2022, in

Duluth. Registration: \$0; Lodging for both: \$1,501; Meals for both: approx. \$950; Mileage for both: \$554. Total cost: Approx. \$3,005.

## **REGULAR AGENDA**

1. **Public Hearing: Ordinance 2022-26 On Behalf of Arlone Township Regulating Subsurface Sewage Treatment Systems (to commence at 10:00 a.m. or as soon thereafter as practicable)**

Land and Resources Manager Caleb Anderson stated Arlone Township has elected to defer regulation of subsurface sewage treatment systems (SSTS) to Pine County.

Chair Hallan opened the public hearing at 10:06 a.m. and called for public comment. Arlone township resident Terry Croup, inquired if existing septic systems would be grandfathered in or if inspections would be necessary. Mr. Croup stated he felt if there was a need for new systems with this change, it would be a financial burden to the residents. Anderson explained that typically an inspection is only required at the time of sale or if an addition is constructed. Arlone township resident, Ailene Croup, inquired as to mound system requirements. Anderson reviewed the process for determination of septic system requirements. There being no additional public comment, Chair Hallan closed the public hearing at 10:18 a.m.

**Motion** by Commissioner Lovgren to approve Pine County Ordinance 2022-26 on behalf of Arlone Township, rescinding all prior ordinances and amendments to ordinances regulating subsurface sewage treatment systems within these townships. Second by Commissioner Ludwig. Motion carried 4-0.

2. **Recognition of Jail Programmer Brent Jahnz**

The county board recognized and thanked Brent for his 38 years of service with Pine County. Probation Director Terry Fawcett acknowledged and thanked Brent for his many years of involvement with the Pine County Probation Advisory Committee.

3. **University of Minnesota Extension**

U of M Extension Regional Director Susanne Hinrichs presented an overview of current events in Extension and announced the hiring of SNAP Educator Kristen Riley and 4-H Educator Sarah Odendahl. Extension Educator Jan Derdowski provided an overview of a proposed youth engagement project in Pine County.

**Motion** by Commissioner Lovgren to authorize County Administrator David Minke to enter into an Agreement with the University of Minnesota-Extension to provide up to \$160,000 of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds for the youth engagement project. Second by Commissioner Waldhalm. Motion carried 4-0.

4. **Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) Update**

Association of Minnesota Counties Executive Director Julie Ring presented an overview of services, legislative updates, and reviewed legislative policy priorities.

5. **Voting Equipment Grant Account Grant Agreement**

County Auditor-Treasurer Kelly Schroeder reviewed the county has been awarded \$128,680.13 from the Voting Equipment Grant Account (VEGA) to purchase election equipment. The cost of the equipment is \$337,435. This grant requires a 50% match which is met with the \$26,596.98 received from the Help American Vote Act Grant and ARPA funds previously approved by the county board.

**Motion** by Commissioner Lovgren to approve the Voting Equipment Grant Account Grant Agreement and authorize Board Chair and County Administrator to sign. Second by Commissioner Ludwig. Motion carried 4-0.

6. **Aerial Photography Purchase**

County Auditor-Treasurer Kelly Schroeder stated the photos currently used on the Beacon site are from 2018; with the recent construction activity, it is recommended new aerial photos be taken in 2023. The total cost is \$193,490 which will be paid from the Recorder's Compliance Fund.

**Motion** by Commissioner Lovgren to authorize the Board Chair to sign the Order Form with Pictometry International Corp. for aerial photos to be flown in the Spring 2023 under the Minnesota Counties Computer Cooperative purchasing agreement. Second by Commissioner Ludwig. Motion carried 4-0.

7. **American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) – Broadband Grant Program**

Economic Development Coordinator Lezlie Sauter reviewed that the county board has allocated \$750,000 of its ARPA funding for broadband. A grant program has been developed that will use ARPA funds to be granted to providers for the construction and expansion of broadband to serve residents and businesses in the county. Applications are due June 17, 2022. The applications will be reviewed by the Broadband Committee and their recommendation will be brought before the county board for award consideration. The committee recommends allocating \$250,000 for this first round.

**Motion** by Commissioner Lovgren to approve the American Rescue Plan Act Broadband Grant Program and timeline which includes an allocation of \$250,000 for the first round, opening on May 3, 2022 and closing June 17, 2022. Second by Commissioner Hallan. Motion carried 4-0.

8. **Commissioner Updates**

**Broadband Meeting:** Commissioner Lovgren stated the community project/broadband project included in the federal 2022 Omnibus Appropriations bill and endorsed by Congressman Stauber, will be distributed through the USDA ReConnect Program and likely require an application process. Due to the complexity of the application, the county may need to hire a consultant to complete the application.

**Arrowhead Counties Association:** Commissioner Ludwig unable to attend.

**Extension Committee:** Commissioner Lovgren stated the meeting was held at Osprey Wilds in Sandstone. Osprey Wilds is offering a program for kids to attend day camp on a "pay as you can" status. Farm Family of the Year was discussed.

**Rush Line Corridor Task Force:** Cancelled

**Snake River Watershed Management Board & Snake River 1W1P Policy:** Commissioner Lovgren stated an open house will be held on May 4<sup>th</sup> to answer questions relating to the management determination process.

**Lower St. Croix Partnership (1W1P):** Commissioner Hallan stated he was unable to attend the meeting, however, stated the county will receive a proposed work plan which each jurisdiction involved in the LSC 1W1P will have to bring to their boards for approval individually.

**East Central Regional Development Commission:** Commissioner Waldhalm stated ECRDC signed a contract with MnDOT for the local human services transportation coordination plan, approved a five-year comprehensive economic development strategy, and the North Branch mayor stated some legislation is being proposed that will preempt some zoning authority from local governments.

**NLX Meeting:** Commissioner Ludwig unable to attend.

Pine County TAC (Arrowhead Transit): Chair Hallan stated they are experiencing a driver shortage; dial-a-ride hours have been reduced.

Commercial Recycling RFP Review: Chair Hallan stated the recycling RFP will be reviewed with the new assistant manager at the ECSWC as he has experience on this type of project.

Housing & Redevelopment Authority/Economic Development Authority: Commissioner Ludwig stated this was a general meeting. Joleen Pfau, SMR Management, was introduced to the committee. The \$30,000 invoice for the 2019/2020 audits was paid.

Pine County Wanderers: Commissioner Lovgren attended this meeting. Broadband was discussed.

Central Regional EMS: Commissioner Ludwig stated officers were reelected. An opioid funding update was given. The medical director is retiring but has offered to stay on and help with recruitment of a new director.

Mille Lacs Band / Courts / County Meeting: Commissioner Lovgren stated MLBO District III Representative Wally St. John thanked the stakeholders in attendance for the fair treatment that the Mille Lacs Band children receive. It was noted that the hotel by the movie theater in Hinckley will not be reopening as a hotel. MLBO indicated it has some land that tribal elders reside on they would like to be transferred into trust land.

Other

Commissioner Lovgren is participating in the National Association of Counties High Performance Leadership Academy. She stated her appreciation of the leadership within the county.

9. **Other**

None.

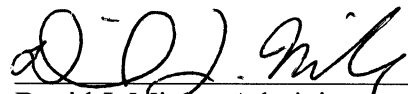
10. **Upcoming Meetings**

Upcoming meetings were reviewed.

11. **Adjourn**

With no further business, Chair Hallan adjourned the meeting at 12:16 p.m. The next regular meeting of the county board is scheduled for Tuesday, May 17, 2022 at 10:00 a.m., North Pine Government Center, 1602 Hwy. 23 No., Sandstone, Minnesota.

  
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Stephen M. Hallan, Chair  
Board of Commissioners

  
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David J. Minke, Administrator  
Clerk to County Board of Commissioners