

**MINUTES
OF THE
PINE COUNTY BOARD MEETING
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, October 4, 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 Josh Mohr, Terry Lovgren, J.J. Waldhalm and Matt Ludwig. County Administrator David Minke and County Attorney Reese Frederickson were present.

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 called for public comment. Rock Creek property owner Tony Samuel stated his neighbor's building does not have rain gutters and that allows rain to be diverted onto the county road. Mr. Samuel is concerned it will be a safety concern in the winter.

Chair Hallan requested the following revisions to the agenda:

Addition of Regular Agenda item #4.1: Health Insurance Committee Report-Selection of Dental Insurance Carrier

Addition of Regular Agenda item #1.1: Recognition of 10-year work anniversary of County Administrator David Minke

Motion by Commissioner Ludwig to adopt the amended Agenda. Second by Commissioner Lovgren. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Commissioner Lovgren to approve the Minutes of September 20, 2022 Regular County Board Meeting and Summary for publication. Second by Commissioner Mohr. Motion carried 5-0.

Minutes of Boards, Reports and Correspondence

Pine County Surveyor's Monthly Report – September, 2022

Chemical Health Coalition Minutes - September 12, 2022

Pine County Zoning Board Minutes – August 25, 2022

Motion by Commissioner Mohr to acknowledge the Minutes of Boards, Reports and Correspondence. Second by Commissioner Lovgren. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Commissioner Lovgren to approve the Consent Agenda. Second by Commissioner Ludwig. Motion carried 5-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. **Applications**

Approve the following and approve Board Chair and County Administrator to sign:

- A. Repurchase Application
 - i. Resolution 2022-49 authorizing US Bank Home Mortgage, mortgagee at the time of forfeiture, to repurchase the parcel at 27661 Pine Tree Dr., Pine City (PID 19.5052.000) in full.
 - ii. Resolution 2022-50 authorizing contract reinstatement for Green Mountain Properties, LLC, owner at the time of contract cancellation of the parcel at 73393 Markville Rd, Sandstone (PID 02.0292.003).

- 2. Contracts/Agreements
Approve the following:
 - A. Ratify the professional services agreement between Minnesota Counties Computer Cooperative (MCCC) and Strategic Technologies Incorporated (STI) for the period January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2025 for the maintenance and support of MCAPS. The per attorney cost is \$2,200 for 2023. Authorize the Board Chair and County Administrator to sign the Board Ratification Statement.
 - B. Prosecution Agreement with Pine City Township to prosecute misdemeanor violations of their septic ordinances within their jurisdiction for the period of September 1, 2022 through December 31, 2023. The Township will pay \$100 per case file submitted to the county for review or charging. Authorize Board Chair and County Administrator to sign.

- 3. 2022 Land Auction Results
Acknowledge the 21 tracts offered for sale consisting of 973.51 acres at an appraised value of \$860,400; 17 tracts sold with bids totaling \$742,210.

- 4. New Hire
Authorize the hiring of Children’s Mental Health Social Worker Jenna Furlong, effective October 10, 2022, \$25.88 per hour, Grade 10, Step 1.

- 5. Training
Approve the following training:
 - A. Human Resources Generalist Jessica Blesener to attend the Minnesota Counties Human Resource Management Association Fall Conference, October 5-7, 2022 in Deerwood, Minnesota. Lodging \$400, Mileage \$90. Total cost: \$490.

REGULAR AGENDA

- 1. Probation Recognition in Support of the Guard and Reserve
Probation Career Agent Amber Chase, while employed with the county, was also a member of the Minnesota Air National Guard (MN ANG), 133rd Airlift Wing. Chase recently retired, after 20 years of service, from the MN ANG and stated her appreciation to the Probation Department for their support of her while she was actively serving with the MN ANG. Chase presented each member of the Probation Department with a military coin.

- 1.1 Recognition of Years of Service
Chair Hallan recognized County Administrator David Minke’s 10 years of service with Pine County.

- 2. 2021 Audit and Financial Statements
County Auditor-Treasurer Kelly Schroeder reviewed the 2021 audit and financial statements.

Schroeder stated the Office of the State Auditor issued the following findings to Pine County:

- Financial Statements – Unmodified Opinion
 - One material weakness identified
- Federal Awards – Unmodified/Qualified Opinion
 - Two significant deficiencies
 - One material weakness

Schroeder reviewed the Corrective Action Plans for weakness and deficiency items identified.

Motion by Commissioner Ludwig to accept the 2021 Audit, Financial Statements with Unmodified Opinion and one material weakness, and Federal Awards with Unmodified/Qualified Opinion with two significant deficiencies and one material weakness, and authorize Summary for publication. Second by Commissioner Lovgren. Motion carried 5-0.

3. **Manufacturing Month Resolution**

Economic Development Coordinator Lezlie Sauter stated the month of October has been designated as Manufacturing Month to promote manufacturing jobs and careers. Tours of four local manufacturers have been arranged for area high school students.

Motion by Commissioner Lovgren to approve Resolution 2022-51 proclaiming October as Manufacturing Month in Pine County. Second by Commissioner Mohr. Motion carried 5-0.

4. **Schedule Special Meeting-Committee of the Whole**

It was **the consensus of the board** to schedule a Special Meeting-Committee of the Whole for December 13, 2022, 9:00 a.m., Boardroom, Courthouse, Pine City, for the purpose of updates from the University of Minnesota Extension Program, Community Health, Economic Development, and other topics that may be included on the agenda.

4.1 **Health Insurance Committee Update – 2023 Dental Carrier**

Human Resources Manager Jackie Koivisto stated a dental carrier need to be chosen. Two dental provider options were identified: (1) remain with our current carrier, Guardian, with a 12% premium rate increase and guaranteed for one year, or (2) change to Reliance Standard, with a 7% premium rate increase for 2023, guaranteed for 24 months, with the same benefits as Guardian; however, there would be a loss of four dental providers.

Motion by Commissioner Ludwig to remain with Guardian as the county's dental carrier for 2023. Second by Commissioner Lovgren. Motion carried 5-0.

5. **Commissioner Updates**

Willow River Transfer Station Ribbon Cutting: Chair Hallan stated the Willow River Transfer Station is highly used.

Arrowhead Counties Association: Commissioner Ludwig stated Pine County's 2023 preliminary levy is lower than other member counties of the association. A special session at the state legislature may be scheduled after the November election to address the bonding bill.

NACO FCC Broadband Mapping Effort webinar: Commissioner Lovgren stated the FCC mapping is skewed indicating that some areas have better internet service than what is actually received. It will be necessary to correct the mapping discrepancies.

Snake River Watershed Management Board – Cancelled

Snake River Watershed 1W1P Policy Committee: Commissioner Lovgren stated public hearings have now been held and the Plan should be updated with the public suggestions – most suggestions deal with the Mille Lacs Band inclusion or removal. The full plan will be presented to the county board on October 18th.

Lower St. Croix (LSC) Policy Committee: Chair Hallan stated LSC is moving forward into their second year of doing projects.

Technology Committee – Cancelled

NACo Creating Helpful Incentives to Produce Semiconductors and Science Act of 2022 (CHIPS Act) Implementation Call: Commissioner Lovgren stated semiconductors are made overseas and there is a shortage in the United States. Discussion on how to manufacture them in the United States.

NLX - Cancelled

St. Croix River Education District Forum: Chair Hallan stated the county received an Ambassador of Education award for supporting the college initiative.

Pine County Housing & Redevelopment Authority/Economic Development Authority (HRA/EDA): Commissioner Waldhalm stated the 2023 budget was approved, an energy audit will be conducted on the housing units, and Bylaws were reviewed and no changes were recommended.

Central MN EMS Joint Powers Board: Commissioner Ludwig reviewed new staff recently hired; overview given as to grants available to purchase Naloxone.

Soil & Water Conservation District Special Meeting: Commissioner Waldhalm special meeting was held to discuss the recent resignation of two SWCD employees.

Lakes & Pines Community Action Council Annual Meeting: Chair Hallan stated Chad Sivigny/T-cam Plumbing received a humanitarian award for the work he performs for clients of Lakes and Pines.

Other

Childcare Group: Commissioner Lovgren stated a childcare group has been established to increase daycare providers in our county.

State Community Health Services Advisory Committee (SCHSAC): Commissioner Lovgren stated a Blue Zones team will be coming to Pine County to conduct a community assessment and will provide information as to next steps.

4-H Discussion with Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe: Commissioner Lovgren stated that meeting went very well and there is a lot of enthusiasm for this program.

6. **Other**

None.

7. **Upcoming Meetings**

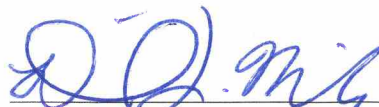
Upcoming meetings were reviewed.

8. **Adjourn**

With no further business, Chair Hallan adjourned the meeting at 11:25 a.m. The next regular meeting of the county board is scheduled for Tuesday, October 18, 2022 at 10:00 a.m., North Pine Government Center, 1602 Hwy. 23 No, Sandstone, Minnesota.



Stephen M. Hallan, Chair
Board of Commissioners



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