

**MINUTES
OF THE
PINE COUNTY BOARD MEETING
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, June 6, 2023 - 10:00 a.m.
Pine County Courthouse
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, JJ Waldhalm and Matt Ludwig. Also present was County Administrator David Minke and County Attorney Reese Frederickson.

The meeting was live streamed on YouTube.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

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

County Administrator Minke requested the following revision to the consent agenda

Correct the spelling on Item 3.A Rock Creek Easement. The word “form” should be “from”
Motion by Commissioner Lovgren to adopt the Agenda. Second by Commissioner Ludwig.
Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Commissioner Mohr to approve the Minutes of the May 16, 2023 regular county board meeting and Summary for publication. Second by Commissioner Lovgren. Motion carried 5-0.

Minutes of Boards, Committees and Correspondence

Chemical Health Coalition Minutes – May 2023

Pine County Zoning Board Minutes – April 27, 2023

Pine County Land Surveyor Monthly Report – May 2023

Motion by Commissioner Ludwig to acknowledge the Minutes of Boards, Committees and Correspondence. Seconded by Commissioner Mohr. Motion carried 5-0.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

1. **Applications**

Consider approval of the following:

A. **2023 Pine County Solid Waste Hauler License**

i. Schmidt Lawn and Turf, LLC

B. **Exempt Permit** – authorize County Auditor-Treasurer to sign the applications

- 19201 Woodland Acres to conduct lawful gambling on August 13, 2023 at Sokol Camp, 19201 Woodland Acres So., Pine City (Chengwatana Township)
- Kerrick Firefighters Relief Association to conduct lawful gambling on September 9, 2023 at Wild Horse Tavern, 88159 State Hwy. 23, Kerrick (Kerrick Township)

- Moose Lake Area Chamber of Commerce to conduct lawful gambling on October 19, 2023 at Moose Lake Golf Club, 35311 Parkview Dr., Sturgeon Lake (Windemere Township).
- Ruffed Grouse Society-Rum River Chapter to conduct lawful gambling on August 5, 2023 at Wings North, 19379 Homestead Road, Pine City (Pokegama Township).

C. Temporary Liquor License

- i. Jack Pine Riders ABATE of MN for July 7-9, 2023 at 27079 Lease Road, Finlayson, Minnesota

2. Donations

Approve the following donations:

- A. \$250 donation from the Pine City VFW for the Veterans Outreach Program.

3. Contracts / Agreements

Approve the following contracts/agreements and authorize Board Chair and County Administrator to sign:

A. Easement Agreement with the City of Rock Creek

Easement agreement between the City of Rock Creek and Pine County to allow county access through city property to remove and store material on county property.

B. Brook Park Township Agreement

Prosecution Agreement between the Township of Brook Park and the Pine County Attorney's Office to prosecute misdemeanor ordinances within their jurisdiction for a fee of \$100 per file submitted for review or charging. Agreement is effective June 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023.

4. Final Payments

Approve the following final payments and authorize County Administrator to sign Certificates of Final Contract Acceptance:

A. Contract #2102

Knife River in the amount of \$270,479.32 for Contract #2102 related to:

SAP 058-614-018 Located on CSAH 14 from CSAH 61 to CSAH 10

SAP 058-655-007 Located on CSAH 55 from CSAH 61 to CSAH 67

SAP 058-661-030 Located on CSAH 61 from the N Cty Line to City of Rutledge

SAP 058-667-002 Located on CSAH 67 from CSAH 55 to CSAH 9

CP 058-021-001 Located on Parkview Dr. from Lords Lake Rd

CP 058-127-001 Located on CR 127 from CSAH 61 to CSAH 14

CP 058-143-001 Located on CR 143 from the W Cty Line to CSAH 28

5. New Hires

Approve the hiring of:

- A. Daniel Burch, Assistant County Veterans Service Officer, effective June 12, 2023, Grade 9, non-union position, \$26.50 per hour
- B. Zachary Homan, Property Appraiser, effective June 14, 2023, Grade 8, Step 1, \$23.49 per hour
- C. Jennifer Gossen, full-time Corrections Officer, effective June 7, 2023, Grade 7, Step 1, \$23.16 per hour
- D. Luke Carlson, full-time Corrections Officer, effective June 7, 2023, Grade 7, Step 2, \$24.11 per hour

6. **Training**

Consider approval for:

- A. Participation of five county staff to attend the online National Association of Counties (NACO) High Performance Leadership Academy, and approval to use up to \$5,000 of excess funds from the Snake River Watershed Management Board allocation (01-613-6917) for payment of this training.
- B. Jolene Sievert to attend the following courses: Basic Appraisal Principles course from July 10-13, 2023, in St. Cloud, Minnesota; Basic Appraisal Procedures course from August 7-10, 2023, in St. Cloud, Minnesota; and Mass Appraisal Basics course from September 11-14, 2023, in St. Cloud, Minnesota. No lodging expenses will be incurred. Meals: approx. \$68. Mileage: approx. \$193.88. Total cost: \$1,455.

REGULAR AGENDA

1. **Pine County District Court Update**

Pine County District Court Judge Krista Martin provided an update to the board on the district court activities, noting that Jason Steffen has assumed his duties as district court judge in Pine County. Judge Martin noted that the court works well with all Pine County departments.

2. **Retirement Recognition**

Extension Administrative Assistant Roxanne Orvis was recognized for her 30+ years of service to Pine County. Over her career she served in Public Health, the Sheriff's Office, and the University of Minnesota Extension.

3. **Legislative Update by Representative Jeff Dotseth**

Representative Dotseth reviewed outcomes from the recent legislative session and encouraged the county to work with him on its bonding request for the jail for the 2024 legislative session.

4. **Health Insurance Committee Report**

First quarter claims are about where they should be, but it is early in the year.

Motion by Commissioner Lovgren to approve the allocation of up to \$5,000 from the remaining UHC wellness fund for a county employee health fair sponsored by Public Health to be held this fall. Second by Commissioner Ludwig. Motion carried 5-0.

5. **Technology Committee Report**

Information only, no action required.

6. **Property Forfeiture Cancellation**

Motion by Commissioner Ludwig to approve Resolution 2023-30 cancelling the forfeiture of the property described as Lot 60, Block 1, Pathfinder Village, 2nd Addition. Authorize Board Chair and County Administrator to sign. Second by Commissioner Lovgren. Motion carried 5-0.

7. **Jail State Capital Investment (Bonding) Request**

Motion by Commissioner Ludwig to approve Resolution 2023-31, a resolution supporting an application to the state capital investment program for improvements at the Pine County Jail.

Authorize Board Chair and County Administrator to sign. Second by Commissioner Lovgren.
Motion carried 5-0.

8. **Commissioner Updates**

Arrowhead Counties Association: Commissioner Ludwig unable to attend meeting.

Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures (MLCV) Tribal Economy Summit: Commissioner Hallan stated that this was a good day with good speakers and highlighted collaboration with MLCV across the region.

Snake River Watershed Management Board: Commissioner Lovgren stated there is discussion with the management board and some members have a concern that a watershed district may be formed.

Snake River Policy Committee-1W1P: Commissioner Lovgren stated governance structure is still being discussed.

Cancelled: Health & Human Services Advisory Committee (rescheduled to June 12)

NLX: Commissioner Lovgren stated that the project is now fully funded receiving money from the state and federal government. NLX is seeking representation from townships, cities and other areas where the train will go through. There is no subsidy from local districts if there is not enough ridership with the train, which was a concern before.

ICWA Meeting: Commissioner Lovgren stated that the state is reviewing and coming up with new policies.

Managing Difficult Conversations Workshop: Hosted by Braver Angels attended by Commissioner Lovgren and Commissioner Hallan. The workshop focuses on improving communication between diverse groups/individuals and highlights the importance of treating everyone with kindness and respect.

Housing Redevelopment Authority/Economic Development Authority (HRA/EDA):

Commissioner Waldhalm stated there are maintenance items and accessibility concerns with Sandstone Manor. They are reviewing tax forfeited property in Finlayson for potential development.

AMC District 1 meeting: Commissioner Hallan extended a congratulations to Commissioner Lovgren for being named the new district director. In that role, she will be a member of the AMC board of directors representing District 1. Commissioner Hallan stated that the ARMER radios systems are outdated and will need to be replaced within two years and text 911 is compliant but relies on non-county entities.

East Central Regional Juvenile Advisory Committee: Commissioner Ludwig stated risk assessments need to take place, which we are already doing. Mental Health supports are now offered five times a week.

Other:

Commissioner Lovgren gave an update on NACo Technology and Telecommunications TNT Policy Committee, stating there is a concern about removing AM Radios in vehicles as the AM frequencies are used for emergency broadcasts. Commissioner Lovgren gave an update on the Affordable Connectivity Program. A program for households at or below 200% of the federal poverty guideline. The program provides up to \$30 per month and up to \$75 per month on tribal lands. Commissioner Lovgren noted she attended the Essentia Health Community Leadership Breakfast. Top concerns for the community were Mental Health, Chemical Health, Obesity and Transportation. Commissioner Lovgren provided an update on Digital Equity and DEED. New federal mapping has been released and it appears it overstates broadband access.

Commissioner Ludwig stated that at Planning & Zoning Board, 3 VRBO's were approved for interim use permits.

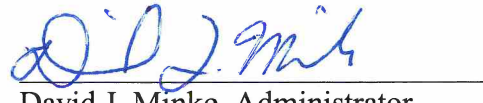
9. **Other**
None.

10. **Upcoming Meetings**
Upcoming meetings were reviewed.

11. **Adjourn**
With no further business, Chair Hallan adjourned the meeting at 12:11 p.m. The next regular meeting of the county board is scheduled for Tuesday, June 20, 2023 at 10:00 a.m., North Pine Government Center, 1602 Highway 23 North, Sandstone, Minnesota.



Stephen M. Hallan, Chair
Pine County Board of Commissions



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