

February 9, 2021
Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners
Work Session
Minutes

The Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners held a work session on Tuesday, February 9, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. at the Law Enforcement Center in Windom, MN. Present in person or via teleconference for all or portions of the meeting were: Commissioners Tom Appel, Donna Gravley, Kevin Stevens, Norm Holmen, Larry Anderson, Auditor/Treasurer Donna Torkelson, Kathy Marsh, Gale Bondhus, Nick Klisch, Kyle Pillatzki, Gretchen Warner, Jason Purrington, and Joel Alvstad.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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Motion by Holmen, second by Gravley, unanimous roll call vote to promote Meridee Paulson, part-time Assessor Technician, to full-time Deputy Auditor/Treasurer effective February 15, 2021 and place on Range 10, Step D (\$20.82) of the 2021 wage matrix.

Motion by Anderson, second by Stevens, unanimous roll call vote to approve the hire of Carolyn Rempel as Chief Deputy Auditor/Treasurer on Range 15, Step D (\$28.10) pending successful completion of all hiring requirements. Tentative start date is February 23, 2021.

Motion by Gravley, second by Anderson, unanimous roll call vote to post and advertise simultaneously for a part-time (24 hours per week) Assessor Technician.

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Kyle Pillatzki, Solid Waste Administrator, provided the board with some rate increases for the board to review. After discussion, motion by Gravley, second by Anderson, unanimous roll call vote to approve the new landfill rates as presented and become effective as of May 3, 2021.

Motion by Holmen, second by Stevens, unanimous roll call vote to approve a 2021 Waste Hauler license for Riverview Sanitation.

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Gale Bondhus, County Assessor, reviewed a draft Commercial/Industrial Abatement Policy and Application with the board. After discussion, Bondhus should have the County Attorney review both the policy and application and then send to the Windom EDA Director for comment.

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Chairman Appel led discussion regarding a petition that was received from Midway and Selma Townships regarding County Road 8 between MN State Highway 60 and MN State Highway 30. Appel also provided a draft response letter from the County Attorney. After discussion, the board agreed to have the County Attorney send the response letter to the Chairpersons of Midway and Selma Township and include that they share the response with those that signed the petition.

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Chairman Appel led discussion regarding the 2020 actual budget. After reviewing 2020 income and expenses, motion by Gravley, second by Stevens,

unanimous roll call vote to transfer \$800,000 from the Revenue General Fund to Fund 6, Department 111 (Courthouse, Grounds and Buildings Long Term).

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Chairman Appel led a short discussion regarding MN Cares Business Relief applications that have been received from businesses and non-profits.

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There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:33 a.m.

Donna Torkelson, Auditor/Treasurer

Thomas D. Appel, Board Chairman

Kelly Thongvivong, County Coordinator