

June 1, 2021
Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting
Minutes

The Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, June 1, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. at the Cottonwood County 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, Norm Holmen, Larry Anderson, Kevin Stevens; County Attorney Nick Anderson, County Coordinator Kelly Thongvong, Auditor/Treasurer Donna Torkelson, Kathy Marsh, Gale Bondhus, Drew Hage, Crystal Reith, Alex Schultz, Lee Tapper, Nick Klisch, and Joel Alvstad.

Chairman Appel called the meeting to order. Motion by Steven, second by Anderson, unanimous roll call vote to approve the agenda. Motion by Gravley, second by Holmen, unanimous roll call vote to approve the minutes of the May 18, 2021, regular meeting.

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Crystal Reith, Extension Educator, 4-H Youth Development, met with the board to give an update on Cottonwood County's 4-H Programming during 2020. Reith also gave an update on the activities that have taken place in 2021 and those scheduled for the summer.

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Drew Hage, Windom EDA Director, informed the board that a Home Initiative – New Construction application has been received from Preferred Choice Homes, LLC for a new, single family home (1958 Bud Road). Hage stated that all requirements to date have been met so a public hearing date needs to be set. Motion by Gravley, second by Stevens, unanimous roll call vote to adopt resolution 21-06-01 "Resolution Calling for a Public Hearing on Proposed Tax Abatement for new Residential Project." (Resolution is on file in the County Coordinator's office.)

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Alex Schultz, Planning and Zoning Technician, met with the board to get approval for a Conditional Use Permit applied for by Davin Amara for a RV pad and electrical shed within shoreland in Mountain Lake Township. Motion by Holmen, second by Anderson, unanimous roll call vote to approve the Conditional Use Permit from Davin Amara for a RV pad and electrical shed within shoreland in Mountain Lake Township, Section 32 with the following conditions: (1) shall be in compliance with the Cottonwood County Zoning Ordinance #28; (2) shall obtain all necessary Federal, State, and Local Permits and Fees; (3) keep a waste receptacle on site during construction, and (4) erosion control measures taken.

Schultz also asked the board to approve a \$5,000 donation of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) funds to help pay for a commercial played on KARE 11 regarding angler and boater awareness of AIS and the prevention of spreading AIS within the state. Motion by Gravley, second by Holmen, unanimous roll call vote to approve the donation of \$5,000 towards an Aquatic Invasive Species promotional commercial on KARE 11.

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Commissioner Stevens led discussion regarding a Heron Lake Watershed District Drainage Agreement. After much discussion, consensus of the board is to have the County Attorney work with the HLWD Attorney to clarify and draft an

agreement suitable for Cottonwood County.

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Kelly Thongvivong, County Coordinator, met with the board to discuss several items. Motion by Stevens, second by Holmen, unanimous roll call vote to move Tatum Paulson, part-time Jailer/Dispatcher, to permanent part-time status effective June 1, 2021.

Motion by Gravley, second by Anderson, unanimous roll call vote to hire seasonal employees: Tiffany Vande Kieft – landfill, Trenton Renquist – parks, and Austin Doorenbos – highway, pending successful completion of all hiring requirements.

Motion by Anderson, second by Holmen, unanimous roll call vote to approve the Joint Powers Agreement between the counties served by Red Rock Rural Water System to guarantee the payment of General Obligation Bonds.

Motion by Holmen, second by Stevens, unanimous roll call vote to approve the Apprize Services Agreement effective October 1, 2021 as presented.

Motion by Anderson, second by Stevens, unanimous roll call vote to allow Board Chair and County Coordinator to sign the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with each of the three unions (AFSCME Local Union 578, LELS Local No. 144, and LELS Local No. 346) contingent upon all three unions agreeing to the MOA as well.

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Motion by Gravley, second by Stevens, unanimous vote to approve June warrants as follows:

County Revenue Fund	\$ 12,449.34
Long Term Capital Outlay	\$ 8,048.00
Ditch Fund	\$ 42,889.90
Road and Bridge Fund	\$ 17,939.23
Waste Abatement/SCORE	\$ 1,993.04
Landfill Enterprise Fund	<u>\$ 63,419.59</u>
	\$146,739.10

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Commissioner Gravley led discussion on the Public Health Building and the need for repainting of the exterior.

Commissioner Holmen gave an update on the SWMN Emergency Communications Board meeting he attended.

Commissioner Appel informed the board that there could possibly be tax abatement applications for shed/houses (shouses) in the near future and the board should be thinking about how they want to handle. Appel also led discussion regarding one of the tax forfeiture parcels and the clean up that needs to be done.

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There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:27 a.m.

Donna Torkelson, Auditor/Treasurer

Thomas D. Appel, Board Chair

Kelly Thongvivong, County Coordinator