

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
PENNINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, APRIL 8TH, 2014, 10:00 AM

Pursuant to adjournment, the Pennington County Board of Commissioners met in the Pennington County Board Room in Thief River Falls, MN, on Tuesday, April 8th, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.

Members present: Donald Jensen, Neil Peterson, Cody Hempel, Darryl Tveitbakk. Members absent: Oliver “Skip” Swanson

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

County Engineer Mike Flaagan met with the County Board to open bids for CP 57-13-06-31, CP 57-13-07-31, SAP 57-631-007, and SAP 57-614-003.

As duly advertised, the following bids for CP 57-13-06-31 and CP 57-13-07-31 were opened and read aloud:

Knife River Materials	\$263,550.66
Minn-Dak	\$335,347.76

As duly advertised, the following bids for SAP 57-631-007 and SAP 57-614-003 were opened and read aloud:

Knife River Materials	\$1,355,212.56
Minn-Dak	\$1,341,581.56
Central Specialties	\$1,723,405.75

The bids received will be tabulated by the County Engineers Dept. and reviewed later in the meeting.

Engineer Flaagan requested and the County Board approved the Five-Year Road and Bridge Plan hearing being set for May 27th, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.

The County Engineer reported on flood issues, the Towards Zero Death (TZD) Project, Chevron and Rumble Strips, and providing sand for sandbags.

The following resolution was introduced by Commissioner Jensen, seconded by Commissioner Tveitbakk, and upon vote was unanimously carried:

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SPONSORSHIP OF SNOWMOBILE/CROSS
COUNTRY SKI TRAILS OPERATED BY THIEF RIVER FALLS SNO-DRIFTERS**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the County of Pennington act as the legal sponsor for an application for funding to the State of Minnesota Department of Natural Resources for maintenance of snowmobile trails managed by Thief River Falls Sno-Drifters.

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon approval of its application by the state, the County of Pennington may enter into an agreement with the State of Minnesota for the above referenced project and that it will comply with all applicable laws and regulations as stated in the agreement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Kenneth Olson, County Auditor, is hereby authorized to serve as the fiscal agent for the above referenced project.

The following resolution was introduced by Commissioner Jensen, seconded by Commissioner Tveitbakk, and upon vote was unanimously carried:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SPONSORSHIP OF SNOWMOBILE/CROSS COUNTY SKI TRAILS OPERATED BY GOODRIDGE TRAILBLAZERS SNOWMOBILE CLUB

BE IT RESOLVED, that Pennington County act as the legal sponsor for an application for funding to the State of Minnesota Department of Natural Resources for maintenance for Wapiti, 4-G North, and 4-G River Road Snowmobile trails managed by the Goodridge Trailblazers Snowmobile Club.

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon approval of its application by the state, the County of Pennington may enter into an agreement with the State of Minnesota for the above referenced project and that it will comply with all applicable laws and regulations as stated in the agreement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chairman and County Auditor are authorized to sign such an agreement with Department of Natural Resources,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Auditor is hereby authorized to serve as the fiscal agent for the above referenced project.

County Sheriff Ray Kuznia met with the Board requesting a resolution requesting that part-time Deputy Sheriff Dustin Coauette be accepted as a member of the PERA Police & Fire plan. The following resolution was introduced by Commissioner Jensen, seconded by Commissioner Tveitbakk, and upon vote was unanimously carried.

**RESOLUTION APPROVING PERA POLICE AND FIRE COVERAGE
PART-TIME DEPUTY SHERIFF**

WHEREAS, the policy of the State of Minnesota as declared in Minnesota Statutes 353.63 is to give special consideration to employees who perform hazardous work and devote their time and skills to protecting the property and personal safety of others; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes Section 353.64 permits governmental subdivisions to request coverage in the Public Employees Police and Fire plan for eligible employees of police or sheriff departments whose position duties meet the requirements stated therein and listed below.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of Pennington County hereby declares that Part-Time Deputy Sheriff position currently held by Dustin M. Coauette meets all of the following Police and Fire Plan membership requirements:

1. Said position requires a license by the Minnesota peace officer standards and training board under sections 626.84 to 626.863 and this employee is so licensed;
2. Said position's primary (over 50%) duty is to enforce the general criminal laws of the state;
3. Said position charges this employee with the prevention and detection of crime;
4. Said position gives this employee the full power of arrest; and
5. Said position is assigned to a designated police or sheriff's department.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this governing body hereby requests that the named employee be accepted as a member of the Public Employees Police and Fire Plan effective the date of this employee's initial Police and Fire Plan salary deduction by the governmental subdivision.

Sheriff Kuznia and Emergency Manager Erik Beitel discussed overland flooding which is mostly the result of blocked culverts.

Erik Beitel informed the County Board that he received the grant to attend the Community Dam Safety Preparedness and Mitigation training from May 11th, 2014 to May 16th, 2014.

Motioned by Commissioner Tveitbakk, seconded by Commissioner Hempel, to approve Emergency Manager Erik Beitel attending the Emergency Management Institute – Community Dam Safety, Preparedness, and Mitigation Training from May 11th to May 14th, 2014 in Emmetsburg, Maryland. Motion unanimously carried.

Bruce Schwartzman, Mark Bradby, and Bifto Rumicho of BKV Group Inc. presented Concept Plans A & B to the County Board showing additions to the Courthouse on the north side. Option A is an addition going east/west filling the vacant lot between the Courthouse and Auditorium and attached to both buildings. Option B includes demolition of the Auditorium with a north/south addition. After some discussion the County Board requested an Option C that would include an east/west addition with the Auditorium removed and also an Option D, an all-new campus.

Bifto Rumicho and Mark Bradby discussed the electrical and mechanical (heating, cooling, and ventilation) upgrades needed in the Courthouse. The heating system would be built to allow expansion if an addition would be added. The air handling system and air conditioning system would be used only for the existing Courthouse. Estimates for the mechanical and electrical upgrades were \$715,000 and did not include replacing any duct work at this time.

Motioned by Commissioner Jensen, seconded by Commissioner Tveitbakk, to authorize BKV Group Inc. to prepare documents for bidding the mechanical upgrades to the existing Courthouse. Motion unanimously carried.

Tony Dorn Jr, Jim Efteland, and Tom Goddard gave a report on the use of the Old Arena by TRFAHA this season. Nearly 600 hours of ice time was used by the young TRFAHA participants.

County Auditor/Treasurer Ken Olson made a request to be authorized to advertise for a Deputy Recorder/Auditor position. The job description has been reviewed by the Personnel Committee and this will be a full-time position primarily placed in the County Recorder's office. Motioned by Commissioner Jensen, seconded by Commissioner Tveitbakk, to authorize the advertising for a full-time Deputy Recorder/Auditor. Motion unanimously carried.

Commissioner Hempel introduced the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes providing for the compensation of the various elected County Officials require that the minimum amount to paid to any person elected to the following positions shall be established by the County Board for the year prior to the time that the filings open for the elected positions;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the minimum to be paid to Officials for the terms beginning January, 2015 and the Statutes applying thereto is as follows:
Auditor/Treasurer - MSA384.151 & MSA385.373 - \$25,000; Recorder – MSA386.015 - \$25,000; Sheriff – MSA387.20 - \$25,000; Attorney – MSA388.18 - \$25,000.

Upon call for vote the resolution was unanimously carried.

Motioned by Commissioner Hempel, seconded by Commissioner Jensen, to approve the County Board minutes of March 25th, 2014 as written. Motion unanimously carried.

Motioned by Commissioner Tveitbakk, seconded by Commissioner Hempel, to approve payment of the Human Services warrants totaling \$170,652.58 and also the following Commissioner warrants. Motion unanimously carried.

WARRANTS

County Revenue	\$95,908.36
Road & Bridge	\$39,974.17
Solid Waste Facility	\$ 835.00

Per diems and meal reimbursements in the amount of \$2,595.70 were also approved.

County Engineer Mike Flaagan made a recommendation to the County Board to award the bid for CP 57-13-06-31 (Evan's Road) and CP 57-13-07-31 (Dewey Ave.) to Knife River Materials. Both projects are bituminous overlays. Motioned by Commissioner Jensen, seconded by Commissioner Hempel, to award the bid for CP 57-13-06-31 and CP 57-13-07-31 to Knife River Materials for the amount of \$263,560.56 as the lowest and best bid received. Motion unanimously carried.

At this time MnDOT District Engineer Lou Tasa met with the County Board and reviewed the projects planned for this year and in 2015. Repairing the erosion under the Third Street Bridge was scheduled for 2014. Mr. Tasa also reported on the TZD project and noted seat belt usage had improved in the district to 74.6% in 2013. This is still lower than the other districts and needs to be improved further. The County Board thanked Mr. Tasa for the report.

Motioned by Commissioner Jensen, seconded by Commissioner Tveitbakk, to appoint the Pennington County Job's Inc. Representative (currently Commissioner Hempel) to the Economic Development Executive Committee. Motion unanimously carried.

Motioned by Commissioner Hempel, seconded by Commissioner Tveitbakk, to adjourn the Board meeting to April 22nd, 2014 at 5:00 p.m. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

Kenneth Olson, Auditor-Treasurer
Pennington County

Neil Peterson, Chairman
Board of Commissioners