

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS  
PENNINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
TUESDAY, JUNE 23<sup>RD</sup>, 2015, 5:00 P.M.**

Pursuant to adjournment, the Pennington County Board of Commissioners met in the Pennington County Board Room in Thief River Falls, MN, on Tuesday, June 23<sup>RD</sup>, 2015 at 5:00 P.M. Members present: Cody Hempel, Darryl Tveitbakk, Donald Jensen, Neil Peterson, and Oliver “Skip” Swanson. Members absent: None.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Commissioner Tveitbakk and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Ken Yutrzenka, Human Services Director, presented the consent agenda from the June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Human Service Committee meeting. On a motion by Commissioner Hempel, and seconded by Commissioner Jensen, the following recommendations of the Pennington County Human Service Committee for June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015 are hereby adopted. Motion unanimously carried.

SECTION A

- I. To approve the May 19, 2015 Human Service Committee meeting minutes.
- II. To approve the agency’s personnel items as presented.

SECTION B

- I. To approve payment of the agency’s bills

Meeting with the County Board, Larry Kruse – Thief River Falls City Administrator, Mark Borseth – Thief River Falls Community Services Director, Christine Anderson – Economic Development Director and Mike Spears representing the Thief River Falls School Board. They discussed the project to build two 52 unit apartments in Noper’s Fourth Addition. The contractor stated that even with the additional funds allocated by the State of Minnesota legislator, the prevailing wage clause would cost them more to build the apartments with the use of these funds. After negotiations they are now proposing that the City of Thief River Falls, Pennington County and School District # 564 do an abatement of approximately eight years for a total of \$800,000 in abatements instead of the original \$400,000. It was requested that the County Board attend a joint meeting with the City and School District on July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 5:00 P.M. in the City Council Chambers to meet with the developer to hear their concerns. MMCDC would also discuss their single family home plans for the property they are proposing to purchase from Bill Ness. It is proposed that we modify our Residential Abatement Program to allow for seven years of abatements to pay for the special assessments on these homes.

Motioned by Commissioner Hempel, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, to hold a special County Board Meeting as a joint meeting with the Thief River Falls City Council and Thief River Falls School Board on July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 5:00 P.M. at the City Council Chambers to discuss abatements for the Noper's Fourth Addition Apartments and the Residential Abatement Program. Motion unanimously carried.

Christine Anderson gave a report on the other housing projects that are still being worked on.

County Engineer Mike Flaagan gave a progress report on the road and ditch projects currently being worked on. He also discussed the hearing held with River Falls Township residents and Town Board Officials regarding the possible turn back of county roads to the Township. The meeting was held on June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2015 at the City of St. Hilaire Offices.

Howard Person discussed the 10 Year Solid Waste Management Plan being written by Short Elliott Hendrickson, Inc (SEH) for the counties of Lake of the Woods, Kittson, Marshall, Pennington and Roseau. SEH has submitted seven drafts of the Lake of the Woods plan and three drafts of the Roseau County plan to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency staff and it appears they will approve the latest draft of the Roseau County Plan. SEH is requesting additional funds to cover the additional expenses incurred to meet the Minnesota Pollution control Agency's requests.

Motioned by Commissioner Swanson, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, to approve an additional \$3,776 to SEH, Inc to finish the 10 Year Solid Waste Management Plan. Motion unanimously carried.

Howard Person also asked about declaring the dish that is not being used any longer as surplus property and offering it for sale. The County Board took this request under advisement.

Motioned by Commissioner Hempel, seconded by Commissioner Jensen, to approve the Link Software Maintenance and Technical Support Agreement with Pro-West & Associates, Inc for a period of one year ending April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Motion unanimously carried.

Motioned by Commissioner Hempel, seconded by Commissioner Jensen, to approve the Agreement for GIS Professional Parcel Maintenance Services for the period of June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015 to December 30, 2016 with Pro-West & Associates, Inc. Motion unanimously carried.

Motioned by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Swanson, to approve the Safety Training Proposal from Safety Compliance Services providing two training sessions for \$2,500. Motion unanimously carried.

County Sheriff Ray Kuznia met with the County Board with two personnel items. Motioned by Commissioner Jensen, seconded by Commissioner Hempel, to hire Michael Wojciechowski for the position of part-time Corrections Officer effective July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Motion unanimously carried.

Sheriff Kuznia also presented the resignation of Dispatcher/Jailer David Carlson effective September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Motioned by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Jensen to accept the resignation of Dispatcher/Jailer David Carlson and thanked him for his 31 years of service to Pennington County. Motion unanimously carried.

The Technology Committee set July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015 12:00 P.M. as their next meeting.

Bruce Schwartzman and Dwayne Jones representing the BKV Group met with the County Board, Ray Kuznia and Susan Halvorson.

An update was given on the progress of the new mechanical system. The asbestos removal has been completed and the mechanical room is being prepared for the new boilers. Lee Plumbing is expecting delivery of the new boilers next week.

Bruce Schwartzman reviewed the information meeting and noted that most of the County residents in attendance wanted to keep the Auditorium and Old Arena buildings. It was also discussed that a Judicial Center may be an alternative. Bruce went back and reviewed a 2007 option that had a Judicial Center, revising it to include remodeling of the Courthouse, a Judicial Center and increased jail capacity. This would leave the Auditorium and Old Arena as they are. Bruce Schwartzman asked if the County Board was interested in pursuing this option further. Motioned by Commissioner Jensen, seconded by Commissioner Hempel, to authorize BKV Group to provide drafts of how this option would look and an estimate of costs. Motion unanimously carried.

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPLICATION FOR MINNESOTA HOUSING  
AND FINANCE AGENCY FAMILY HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION AND  
ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

**WHEREAS**, the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency, State of Minnesota, has been authorized to undertake a program to provide funds for Family Homeless Prevention & Assistance Projects; and,

**WHEREAS**, Tri-Valley Opportunity Council, Inc. in the nine-county region of northwest Minnesota has developed an application for the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency Family Homelessness Prevention and Assistance Program; and

**WHEREAS**, Tri-Valley Opportunity Council, Inc. have demonstrated the ability to perform the required activities of the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency Family Homelessness Prevention and Assistance Program;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that Tri-Valley Opportunity Council, Inc. is hereby authorized as an entity to be charged with the administration of funds made available through the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency Family

Homelessness Prevention and Assistance Program in the County of Pennington, in Minnesota.

The Auditor/Treasurer was authorized to order new I-Pads for the County Board members.

Motioned by Commissioner Hempel, seconded by Commissioner Jensen, to approve the Board minutes of the June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015 meeting as written. Motion unanimously carried.

Motioned by Commissioner Hempel, seconded by Commissioner Jensen, to approve the minutes of the County Board of Appeal and Equalization meeting held June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015 as written. Motion unanimously carried.

Motioned by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Hempel, to approve payment of the Human Services warrants totaling \$129,284.71, the Auditor and Manual warrants for May, 2015 totaling \$3,035,001.61, and also the following Commissioner warrants. Motion unanimously carried.

WARRANTS

County Revenue	\$149,960.36
Road & Bridge	\$ 41,168.43
Ditch Funds	\$ 24,385.00
Capital Improvement	\$ 10,152.33

Per diems and meal reimbursements in the amount of \$3,486.34 were also approved.

The County Board then discussed the various leases on the Old Arena and Auditorium and the length of time they should be extended for. Motioned by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Swanson, to authorize the County Attorney to offer one year leases for use of the Old Arena and Auditorium to the organizations now leasing these facilities. Motion unanimously carried.

Motioned by Commissioner Hempel, seconded by Commissioner Jensen, to adjourn to a special County Board meeting July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 5:00 P.M. and then to the regular scheduled meeting July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 10:00 A.M. Motion unanimously carried.

ATTEST:

Kenneth Olson, Auditor-Treasurer  
Pennington County

Darryl Tveitbakk, Chairman  
Board of Commissioners