

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
PENNINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24TH, 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, November 24th, 2015 at 5:00 P.M. Members present: Darryl Tveitbakk, Oliver “Skip” Swanson, Donald Jensen and Neil Peterson. Members absent: Cody Hempel.

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 recommendations from the November 17th, 2015 Human Service Committee meeting. Motioned by Commissioner Jensen, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, the following recommendations of the Pennington County Human Service Committee for November 17th, 2015 are hereby adopted. Motion unanimously carried.

SECTION A

- I. To approve the October 20th, 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.

Pam Murphy met with the County Board to discuss the condition of County Ditch #96 along 110th Avenue NE after the cleaning was done. Pam Murphy stated that the ditch was now much deeper and that the slope was too steep. This makes for a dangerous situation if someone should go into the ditch and is a liability risk for the County. This may also result in the road slumping in future years. County Engineer Mike Flaagan said that there is a 5 to 1 slope for the first five feet and at that point it drops sharply possibly at a slope of 2 to 1. Putting soil back into the ditch will only result in it washing away in the spring. The County Board asked that the Highway Committee review this area to see if a solution could be found.

County Sheriff Ray Kuznia met with the County Board to discuss the Law Enforcement Technology Group’s (LETG) Maintenance and Support Agreement and the Master Software License Agreement. Sheriff Kuznia indicated that he had received confirmation that the grant application that would provide \$30,000 each to Pennington County and the City of Thief River Falls to be used as payment for LETG has been approved. The grant agreements should be coming in the near future. Motioned by Commissioner Jensen, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, to approve the Master Software License Agreement and Maintenance and Support Agreement between Pennington County and the Law Enforcement Technology Group LLC (LETG). Motion unanimously carried.

Motioned by Commissioner Jensen, seconded by Commissioner Swanson, to hire Shadron Cooper for the full-time position of Dispatcher/Jailer effective November 25th, 2015 as per recommendation of the County Sheriff. Motion unanimously carried.

Motioned by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Jensen, to assign the duties of the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) to Betty Couette. Motion unanimously carried.

There was a meeting today with representatives from the Department of Corrections and they are supporting our Jail and Justice Center Project. Discussion was also being held with School Board members and the Superintendent regarding parking at the Judicial Center. Currently the jail has 40+ inmates.

County Engineer Mike Flaagan presented the Agreements for Railroad Highway Grade Crossing Closure on C.R. #7 and C.R. #81.

Motioned by Commissioner Jensen, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, to approve the agreement with the Soo Line Railroad Company d/b/a Canadian Pacific for Railroad Highway Grade Crossing Closure, Grade Crossing USDOT No. 695836N, railroad mile post 295.10 in Wyandotte Township (C.R. #81). Motion unanimously carried.

Motioned by Commissioner Swanson, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, to approve the agreement with the Soo Line Railroad Company d/b/a Canadian Pacific for Railroad Highway Grade Crossing Closure, Grade Crossing USDOT No. 695844F, railroad mile post 301.29 in Rocksbury Township (C.R. #79). Motion unanimously carried.

The County Engineer would like to take bids for gravel crushing in the Peters Pit and Weberg Pit in 2016. Motioned by Commissioner Jensen, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, to authorize the County Engineer and County Auditor-Treasurer to advertise for bids for gravel crushing to be let January 26th, 2016. Motion unanimously carried.

The County Auditor-Treasurer Kenneth Olson presented the 3.2 Off-Sale license for Petro Pumper and 3.2 On-Sale license for Falls Stay & Play for approval. Motioned by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Swanson, to approve the following licenses for 2016. Motion unanimously carried.

Petro Pumper	Off-Sale 3.2
Falls Stay & Play	On-Sale 3.2

Motioned by Commissioner Swanson, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, to hold an Economic Development Tax Abatement Hearing at 6:00 P.M. on December 29th, 2015 on the following properties approved by the Thief River Falls City Council: Marvin Smoot - parcel #25.11300600, Sharon Piche - parcel #25.11300100, Steven and Beth Wilson - parcel #25.11100810, and Amanda Sjaheim - parcel #25.00506290. Motion unanimously carried.

The County Board's appointment to the Red Lake Watershed District Board of Managers will expire January 10th, 2016. The County Auditor-Treasurer will advertise the position in the official newspaper with those interested to submit their names on or before December 22nd, 2015.

The County Board then discussed the three-year appointment to the Northwest Regional Library Board of Directors. John W. Johnson has indicated he does not wish to be reappointed. The County Board thanks John Johnson for past service representing Pennington County on the Northwest Regional Library Board. Motioned by Commissioner Swanson, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, to appoint Elvera Cullen to represent Pennington County on the Northwest Regional Library Board of Directors for a three-year term beginning January 2016. Motion unanimously carried.

The County Attorney had reviewed the Contract for Services from Contegrity Group, Inc. and the contract has been signed and forwarded to them.

At 5:45 P.M. Kristi Hasting, Pemberton Sorlie Rufer PLLP, joined the meeting via the phone as Pennington County's Employment and Labor Attorney. Motioned by Commissioner Swanson, seconded by Commissioner Jensen, that the County Board would meet in closed session pursuant to MN Statute § 13D.05 for preliminary consideration of allegations against an individual subject to the Board's authority. Motion unanimously carried.

Motioned by Commissioner Jensen, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, to re-open the County Board meeting at 6:11 P.M. Motion unanimously carried.

Motioned by Commissioner Jensen to approve the discipline of an employee subject to the Board's authority identified in the attached confidential exhibit as Employee A. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Swanson and upon vote was carried unanimously.

Motioned by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Jensen, to approve payment of the Human Services warrants totaling \$112,054.41, the Auditor and Manual warrants for October, 2015 totaling \$2,185,847.15, and also the following Commissioner warrants. Motion unanimously carried.

WARRANTS

County Revenue	\$37,956.60
Road & Bridge	\$21,020.56
Ditch Funds	\$37,733.50

Per diems and meal reimbursements in the amount of \$39.36 were also approved.

Motioned by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Jensen, to approve the minutes of the November 10th, 2015 Board meeting as written. Motion unanimously carried.

Motioned by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Swanson, to adjourn to 5:00 P.M. Wednesday, December 9th, 2015. Motion unanimously carried.

ATTEST:

Kenneth Olson, Auditor-Treasurer
Pennington County

Darryl Tveitbakk, Chairman
Board of Commissioners