

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
PENNINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22ND, 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, September 22nd, 2015 at 5:00 P.M. Members present: Darryl Tveitbakk, Donald Jensen, Cody Hempel. Members absent: Neil Peterson and Oliver “Skip” Swanson.

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

Ken Yutzenka, Human Services Director, presented the consent agenda from the September 15th, 2015 Human Service Committee meeting and recommends it be approved. On a motion by Commissioner Hempel, and seconded by Commissioner Jensen, the following recommendations of the Pennington County Human Service Committee for September 15th, 2015 are hereby adopted. Motion unanimously carried.

SECTION A

- I. To approve the August 18th, 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.

Christine Anderson, Economic Development Director, gave a Director’s Report on the past years activities. She is working with housing developers, business owners and County, City, State and Federal leaders from around the state regarding economic development. With the support of the County, City, School, Job’s Inc. and Northland Community and Technical College, we were successful in having Arctic Cat expand their facility in Thief River Falls and have construction started on two multi-family buildings with a total of 129 units. The County Board thanked Christine for the report.

The County Board then reviewed the bids received for County provided employee life insurance. Bids were received from MN Life - \$0.16 per thousand, Madison National - \$0.193 per thousand, The Hartford - \$0.242 per thousand and MetLife - \$0.24 per thousand. The County’s current rate from US Able is \$0.20 per thousand. Motioned by Commissioner Jensen, seconded by Commissioner Hempel to approve the bid of MN Life as the lowest and best bid received to provide term life insurance to and to set the life insurance amount provided to the employees at \$40,000. Motion unanimously carried.

County Engineer Mike Flaagan made a recommendation to the County Board to purchase attachments for the skid steer, an 84” Diamond Brush Cutter mower, pallet forks and a

bucket for a total cost of \$14,979.00. Motioned by Commissioner Jensen, seconded by Commissioner Hempel to approve the purchase of the skid steer attachments. Motion unanimously carried.

Motioned by Commissioner Hempel, seconded by Commissioner Jensen to approve the Letter of Agreement for Wellness Institute Services adopting the Wellness Pilot Program. Adding the program as an addendum to the personnel policy and requesting a Memorandum Agreement for the program from the union representatives. Motion unanimously carried.

It was noted that the Association of Minnesota Counties Conference is to be held on December 7th and 8th, 2015 in St. Cloud.

The County Board then reviewed information received from the North Country Food Bank, Inc. and their request for Pennington County to support them in their efforts to secure capital funding from the state legislature for a new facility.

The following resolution was introduced by Commissioner Hempel, seconded by Commissioner Jensen and upon vote was unanimously carried.

RESOLUTION OF THE PENNINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, North Country Food Bank, Inc. (North Country) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization located in the City of Crookston, County of Polk, State of Minnesota. North Country has a profound regional impact on hunger issues – serving 21 counties in northwest and west central Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, North Country provides over 7 million pounds of surplus, quality food and nonfood products to 220 charitable organizations for distribution to people in need. The charitable food programs served by North Country include soup kitchens, food shelves, homeless shelters, low-income individuals in need of supplemental assistance, senior community centers, after-school programs, domestic abuse programs, and addiction treatment centers; and

WHEREAS, North Country provides an important service that impacts the lives of many in northwest and west central Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, North Country's current facility provides space, storage, access and compliance challenges. North Country must move its operations to a new facility to better and more efficiently serve the population in northwest and west central Minnesota, and to comply with the contractual obligations and safety requirements of Feeding America, state and federal regulations, and the requirements of other governing agencies; and

WHEREAS, North Country is in a position to pursue a new facility building construction project and capital fundraising campaign, including a proposition to partner with Polk County to pursue a \$3 million State of Minnesota Bonding Request in the 2015 and 2016 Bonding Bill.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Pennington County Board of Commissioners hereby support North Country in its efforts to secure capital funding from the State legislature, so it may continue to provide this very important community service to northwest and west central Minnesota.

Bryan Malone, Pennington County Soil and Water Conservation District Administrator, discussed the application made under the Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act by the City of Thief River Falls proposing to realign Greenwood Street where it intersects with State Highway #59. It is proposed that 21,037 sq. ft. of wetland will be filled and will result in the City of Thief River Falls purchasing 42,078 sq. ft. of wetland from Wetland Bank – Account Number 1147. Motioned by Commissioner Jensen, seconded by Commissioner Hempel to approve the Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act Notice of Decision for the City of Thief River Falls Greenwood Street realignment project. Motion unanimously carried.

Motioned by Commissioner Jensen, seconded by Commissioner Hempel to approve the Board and Water Resources MPCA County Feedlot Performance Grant Agreement and authorize the Chairman to sign the same. Motion unanimously carried.

Bryan Malone stated that the Certificate of Survey has been completed on the Wetland Bank.

Motioned by Commissioner Hempel, seconded by Commissioner Jensen, to approve the minutes of the September 8th, 2015 Board meeting as written. Motion unanimously carried.

Motioned by Commissioner Hempel, seconded by Commissioner Jensen, to approve payment of the Human Services warrants totaling \$116,315.50, and also the following Commissioner warrants. Motion unanimously carried.

WARRANTS

County Revenue	\$117,115.37
Road & Bridge	\$ 40,233.20
Solid Waste Facility	\$ 935.00
Ditch Funds	\$ 29,880.00
Capital Improvement	\$ 11,888.00

Per diems and meal reimbursements in the amount of \$2,503.85 were also approved.

The County Board discussed skate boarding in front of the Old Arena. This will be discussed with the County Attorney.

Motioned by Commissioner Jensen, seconded by Commissioner Hempel to adjourn to 10:00 A.M. October 13th, 2015. Motion unanimously carried.

ATTEST:

Kenneth Olson, Auditor-Treasurer
Pennington County

Darryl Tveitbakk, Chairman
Board of Commissioners