

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
PENNINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8th, 2019, 10:00 A.M.
PENNINGTON COUNTY BOARD ROOM JUSTICE CENTER

Pursuant to adjournment, the Pennington County Board of Commissioners met in the Pennington County Justice Center Board Room in Thief River Falls, MN, on Tuesday, October 8th, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. Members Present: Donald Jensen, Bruce Lawrence, Neil Peterson, and Darryl Tveitbakk. Members absent: Cody Hempel.

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

Myron Jesme, Red Lake Watershed District Administrator, presented the 2018 annual report. Mr. Jesme noted that the West Side Thief River Falls Flood Diversion Ditch Construction will not start this year as all permits have not been received. The Black River Impoundment Project is also waiting for permits, and they are submitting an application for funding for the project. Due to the high amount of rain, they need to start draining the impoundments soon before freeze up. The Watershed will be losing one of their long-term employees as Loren Sanderson is retiring after 38 years. The County Board thanked Mr. Jesme for his report.

Adeline Olson, County Assessor, informed the County Board that Travis Forsberg has resigned from his position as Deputy County Assessor effective October 4th, 2019. Commissioner Peterson moved, seconded by Commissioner Jensen, to approve the resignation from Travis Forsberg as presented. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Jensen, to advertise for applications to fill the vacant position of Deputy County Assessor. Motion carried.

Commissioner Jensen moved, seconded by Commissioner Tveitbakk, to authorize Roger Schmitz to complete the 2020 assessment for seven townships. Motion carried.

Commissioner Lawrence noted he had received a verbal proposal to lease the Dean Foods parking lot for \$500 per month. After discussion it was decided by the County Board to inform Dean Foods that Pennington County is interested in purchasing all or part of the lot.

County Engineer Mike Flaagan then presented a Memorandum of Agreement between Pennington County Soil & Water Conservation District and Pennington County for implementation of the 2016 BWSR Clean Water Fund Grant to stabilize the outlet of County Ditch #96. Moved by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Jensen, to approve the Memorandum of Agreement between Pennington County Soil & Water Conservation District and Pennington County for the Red Lake River Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan County Ditch #96 Outlet Project. Motion carried.

The County Board set October 29th, 2019 at 8:00 a.m. as the time and date for a Road, Bridge, and Culvert Committee Meeting.

Tim Williamson, MNDNR, and Andrew Brown, MNDNR, met with the County Board to present a new route in Pennington County for the Border to Border Touring Route. Also present were Jack Nelson and Troy Schroeder. The route through Pennington County would be on county roads and some county state aid roads. No township roads will be used. Legislation was passed in 2019 that established a maintenance fund dedicated from the off-road vehicle account (\$200,000.00). The purpose would be to allow local road authorities to apply for funds if they see significant increase in ongoing maintenance needs as result of the Border to Border Touring Route. The County Board took the new route under consideration.

County Sheriff Ray Kuznia made a recommendation to hire Cody Bannert for the position of part-time corrections officer. Moved by Commissioner Jensen, seconded by Commissioner Tveitbakk, to hire Cody Bannert to fill the position of part-time corrections officer effective October 9th, 2019. Motion carried.

Ray Kuznia then reviewed cost to install a panic button in the Probation Office and a camera in the County Attorney's Office lobby.

Moved by Commissioner Tveitbakk, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, to accept the resignation of Brody Merrill, corrections officer, effective October 16th, 2019. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Jensen, seconded by Commissioner Tveitbakk, to accept the resignation of Alex Brown, corrections officer, effective November 3rd, 2019. Motion carried.

Sheriff Kuznia then read the resignation letter from Grant Nelson, Dispatch Supervisor, effective October 31st, 2019. Commissioner Peterson moved, seconded by Commissioner Jensen, to accept the resignation of Grant Nelson, Dispatch Supervisor, effective October 31st, 2019 and thank him for his many years of service to Pennington County. Motion carried.

At 11:00 a.m. the County Board went into closed session pursuant to MN Statute 13D.05 Subd. 2 (b) - preliminary consideration of allegations or charges against an individual subject to Board Authority. At 11:48 a.m. the County Board meeting was called back to order in open session.

Ken Olson, County Auditor-Treasurer, reviewed the Addendum to the Memorandum of Agreement between the University of Minnesota and Pennington County that would provide moving the 4-H Coordinator from an 80 percent time position to a full-time position. Moved by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Jensen, to approve the Addendum to the Memorandum of Agreement between the University of

Minnesota and Pennington County for providing Extension programs locally and employing County Extension staff. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Tveitbakk, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, to approve the lease with the Thief River Falls School District for use of the auditorium gym as written. Motion carried.

The County Board then reviewed the Consent to Transfer of Operating and Facility Space Agreement from Les's Sanitation, Inc. to Waste Masters, LLC. Upon motion by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Tveitbakk, the following Consent to Transfer of Operating and Facility Space Agreement was approved. Motion carried.

**CONSENT TO TRANSFER OF OPERATING AND FACILITY SPACE
AGREEMENT**

WHEREAS, Pennington County did enter into an Operating and Facility Space Agreement between the County of Pennington and Les's Sanitation Inc. effective April 1, 2018; and

WHEREAS, Pennington County did enter into an Operating and Facility Space Agreement Addendum between the County of Pennington and Les's Sanitation Inc. providing for the payment of SCORE funds for an increased tipping fee; and

WHEREAS, Les's Sanitation Inc. has sold their assets and intends to assign their leases to Waste Masters LLC; and

WHEREAS, the Operating and Facility Space Agreement provides that it may not be assigned without the consent of Pennington County; and

WHEREAS, The County of Pennington does consent to the assignment of the Operating and Facility Space Agreement from Les's Sanitation Inc. to Waste Masters LLC.

NOW, THEREFORE, In consideration of the conditions and covenants expressed herein, Pennington County does agree as follows.

1. CONSENT. Pennington County does consent to the assignment of the Operating and Facility Space Agreement and addendum thereto from Les's Sanitation Inc. to Waste Masters LLC.

2. CONTINUATION OF TERMS. The terms of the Operating and Facility Space Agreement and addendum thereto shall remain in effect.

County Auditor - Treasurer Ken Olson then explained the options we are facing on the contract with Avenu Insights and Analytics to develop new Property Tax and CAMA software. Avenu has not met the go live date of February, 2019, and is now requesting a go live date of June 30, 2021. This project completion date has moved previously and has been worked on for several years under four different company names. A negotiating team from the counties involved and the Minnesota Counties Computer Coop (MnCCC) had an amendment approved which will allow counties out of the contract at no additional cost. It was stated that if 21 counties choose to stay with the project it will continue and as of this date that number will be much less than that. It seems that the best option is to end participation in the contract. Avenu has agreed to maintain the Legacy System through 2023. Moved by Commissioner Tveitbakk, seconded by Commissioner Jensen to end Pennington County's participation in the Avenu Tax Project and the Avenu CAMA Project. Motion carried.

MnCCC has issued an RFP for a new tax and CAMA system and will be receiving proposals soon.

A proposal for maintenance of equipment AVI installed in the Justice Center was referred to the Technology Committee for review.

The Solid Waste Committee has received proposals from Peterson Lumber and Builders First Source for materials to construct a roof over the used oil collection tank. The quotes still need to be reviewed. Moved by Commissioner Jensen, seconded by Commissioner Tveitbakk, to authorize the Solid Waste Committee to spend up to \$2000 of SCORE funds for purchase of materials to build a roof over the used oil collection tank. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Tveitbakk, seconded by Commissioner Jensen, to enter into an agreement with Bjorkland Consulting to do a wage study on all county employees to be completed by 2020. Motion carried.

Progress on the signs in the Justice Center was reviewed.

Motioned by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Jensen, to approve the Human Services warrants totaling \$76,070.87, the Auditor and Manual Warrants for July totaling \$1,585,350.82, August totaling \$1,613,539.29, and September totaling \$992,828.47 and the following Commissioner warrants.

WARRANTS	
County Revenue	\$160,729.94
Road & Bridge	\$115,455.25
Solid Waste Facility	\$ 510.00

Per diems and meal reimbursements in the amount of \$3,363.92 were also approved.

Moved by Commissioner Jensen, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, to approve the minutes of September 24th, 2019 as written. Motion carried.

Motioned by Commissioner Tveitbakk, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, to adjourn the Board Meeting to Tuesday, October 22nd, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

Kenneth Olson, Auditor-Treasurer
Pennington County

Bruce Lawrence, Chairman
Board of Commissioners