

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
PENNINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, APRIL 27TH, 2021, 5:00 P.M.**

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, April 27th, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. Members Present: Darryl Tveitbakk, Seth Nelson, Bruce Lawrence, and Neil Peterson. Members present via Zoom: David Sorenson (5:08 p.m.). Members Absent: None.

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

Chairman Peterson asked if there were any amendments to the agenda. Hearing none, Commissioner Darryl motioned, seconded by Commissioner Tveitbakk, to approve the Board agenda as written. Motion carried.

Recognition of Citizens: None present.

Motioned by Commissioner Lawrence, seconded by Commissioner Nelson, to approve the County Board minutes of April 13th, 2021 as written. Motion carried.

Motioned by Commissioner Nelson, seconded by Commissioner Lawrence, to approve the Human Services warrants totaling \$93,808.94, the Auditor and Manual warrants for March totaling \$1,253,802.07, and the following Commissioner warrants; to include a payment to AVI Systems Inc. in the amount of \$4,455.55. Motion carried.

County Revenue	\$60,360.10
Road & Bridge	\$52,806.35
Solid Waste Facility	\$ 3,995.90
Ditch Funds	\$ 3,485.67

Per diems and meal reimbursements in the amount of \$62.83 were also approved.

Human Services Director Julie Sjostrand presented the consent agenda from the April 20th, 2021 Human Service Committee meeting. On a motion by Commissioner Tveitbakk and seconded by Commissioner Lawrence, the following recommendations of the Pennington County Human Service Committee for April 20th, 2021 (detailed minutes on record) are hereby adopted:

SECTION A

- I. To approve the March 16th, 2021 Human Service Committee meeting minutes.
- II. To approve the agency's personnel action as presented.
- III. A. To approve and reauthorize the Pennington County Pre-Petition Screening Team and the list of screeners as presented.

SECTION B

- I. To approve payment of the Agency's bills.

Pennington County SWCD District Manager Peter Nelson presented a wetland permit application from the TRF Regional Airport. They are looking to purchase .1698 acres of wetland credit; there are currently 24 credits available at a cost of approximately \$18,000 per credit. Motioned by Commissioner Lawrence, seconded by Commissioner Nelson, to approve the sale of .1698 acres of wetland credit to the Thief River Falls Regional Airport. Motion carried.

Mr. Nelson stated that the Clearwater One Watershed One Plan needs to appoint an advisory committee member and Commissioner Tveitbakk has expressed interest. Motioned by Commissioner Lawrence, seconded by Commissioner Nelson, to approve the appointment of Commissioner Tveitbakk to the Clearwater One Watershed One Plan Advisory Committee. Motion carried.

Inter-County Nursing Director Kayla Jore was unable to attend the Board meeting.

County Engineer Mike Flaagan stated that the 5-year Road and Bridge Plan hearing was held today at 4:00 p.m. and is ready to be approved. Motioned by Commissioner Lawrence, seconded by Commissioner Nelson, to adopt the 5-year Road and Bridge Construction Plan as presented. Upon roll call vote: Nelson – Aye, Lawrence – Aye, Peterson – Aye, Sorenson – Aye, Tveitbakk – Aye. Motion carried.

Mr. Flaagan stated that proposals for design of the new Kratka Township bridge were sent out to three consultants and two were returned:

Houston Engineering	\$35,857.01
Widseth, Smith & Nolting	\$43,605.00

Mr. Flaagan recommended approval of the proposal submitted by Houston Engineering and noted that funding for the design will come from State Aid. Motioned by Commissioner Tveitbakk, seconded by Commissioner Lawrence, to approve the proposal by Houston Engineering in the amount of \$35,857.01 for design of the new Kratka Township bridge. Upon roll call vote: Nelson – Aye, Lawrence – Aye, Peterson – Aye, Sorenson – Aye, Tveitbakk – Aye. Motion carried.

Engineer Flaagan stated that a petition has been received to remove a parcel from the County Ditch #96 system and a public hearing must be scheduled. Motioned by Commissioner Nelson, seconded by Commissioner Lawrence, to schedule a Public Hearing in the County Board room on June 8th, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. regarding a petition to remove a parcel from the County Ditch #96 system. Upon roll call vote: Nelson – Aye, Lawrence – Aye, Peterson – Aye, Sorenson – Aye, Tveitbakk – Aye. Motion carried.

Mr. Flaagan stated that interviews were recently conducted for the position of Highway Equipment Operator and he recommended the hire of Joshua Iverson. Motioned by Commissioner Lawrence, seconded by Commissioner Nelson, to approve the hire of Josh Iverson as Highway Equipment Operator effective May 24th, 2021. Upon roll call vote: Nelson – Aye, Lawrence – Aye, Peterson – Aye, Sorenson – Aye, Tveitbakk – Aye. Motion carried.

County Sheriff Ray Kuznia was unable to attend the Board meeting due to work obligations.

Committee reports / Commissioner updates: None

County Auditor-Treasurer items: None

County Coordinator Items:

Kevin Erickson presented two proposals regarding the install of air conditioning in the server room of the Government Center. The room isn't sufficiently cooled by the building's HVAC system and additional cooling is needed to protect the servers and other electronic equipment in the room. Brodin Comfort Systems has provided a quote in the amount of \$8,500 for the purchase/install of a 3-ton air conditioning unit and related components, and Bergstrom Electric has provided a \$4,400 quote to install dedicated power for the unit and one 120v server outlet. The technology budget will be used to fund the project. Motioned by Commissioner Lawrence, seconded by Commissioner Nelson, to approve the quotes of Brodin Comfort Systems and Bergstrom Electric to furnish and install A/C and related power in the server room of the Government Center as stated above. Upon roll call vote: Nelson – Aye, Lawrence – Aye, Peterson – Aye, Sorenson – Aye, Tveitbakk – Aye. Motion carried.

Motioned by Commissioner Lawrence, seconded by Commissioner Nelson, to approve renewal of the GIS services and tech support contract with Pro-West & Associates effective 05/01/21 to 04/30/22 at a cost of \$3,185. Upon roll call vote: Nelson – Aye, Lawrence – Aye, Peterson – Aye, Sorenson – Aye, Tveitbakk – Aye. Motion carried.

Chairman Peterson opened discussion on the Enbridge tax appeal and the estimated refund portion for the affected counties. Pennington County's portion is estimated at \$2.4M with additional accrued interest estimated at \$480,000. AMC and MRC are working to get legislation so that the state will pay for the refunds as they overstated the values on the pipeline property.

Motioned by Commissioner Tveitbakk, seconded by Commissioner Lawrence, to adjourn the Board meeting to May 11th, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

Kevin Erickson, County Coordinator
Pennington County

Neil Peterson, Chairman
Board of Commissioner