

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
PENNINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
JUSTICE CENTER BOARD ROOM
JUNE 13TH, 2023 – 10:00 A.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, June 13th, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. Members Present: Seth Nelson, Bruce Lawrence, Dave Sorenson, Roy Sourdif, and Neil Peterson. Members absent: None.

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

The Chairman asked if there were any amendments to the agenda. Hearing none, there was a motion by Commissioner Sourdif, seconded by Commissioner Lawrence, to approve the Board agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Recognition of Citizens: None.

Motioned by Commissioner Nelson, seconded by Commissioner Sorenson, to approve the Board of minutes of May 23rd, 2023, with one change. Motion carried.

Motioned by Commissioner Lawrence, seconded by Commissioner Sorenson, to approve the Auditor and Manual warrants for May 2023 totaling \$4,182,052.45 and the following Commissioner warrants. Motion carried.

County Revenue	\$168,201.61
Road & Bridge	\$107,837.28
Solid Waste Facility	\$ 728.25
Ditch Funds	\$ 225.00

Per diems and meal reimbursements in the amount of \$2,956.52 were also approved.

County Engineer Mike Flaagan presented the following items:

Motioned by Commissioner Lawrence, seconded by Commissioner Nelson, to authorize the County Engineer to advertise for bids for the reclamation/paving of 3 miles of CSAH#7, and to set a bid opening for July 17th, 2023, at 1:00 p.m. at the County Highway Dept. Motion carried. Mr. Flaagan is hopeful the project will be completed by October 1, 2023.

Motioned by Commissioner Lawrence, seconded by Commissioner Sorenson, to approve the purchase of an online fleet management software from iWorQ at an annual cost of \$2,500 for 3 years and an initial setup fee of \$1,500. Motion carried. Mr. Flaagan noted the system will be used for the inventory of shop equipment, maintenance records, etc.

Motioned by Commissioner Lawrence, seconded by Commissioner Nelson, to approve a petition to clean approximately 3 miles of County Ditch #44, Branch 1, in Kratka

Township. Motion carried. Mr. Flaagan noted that the ditch will need to be surveyed by the Assistant County Engineer and some landowners will be responsible for culverts. He will ensure that all affected landowners have signed the petition.

Engineer Flaagan noted that Thygeson Construction has completed the road shouldering project and he is requesting final payment in the amount of \$60,864.10. The following resolution was introduced by Commissioner Lawrence, seconded by Commissioner Sourdif, and upon vote was unanimously approved.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Contract CP57-23-05 has in all things been completed, and the County Board being fully advised in the premises,

NOW THEN, BE IT RESOLVED, that we do hereby by accept said completed project for and on behalf of the Pennington County Highway Dept. and authorize final payment as specified herein.

RDO Equipment will be delivering the new John Deere motor grader this week and the first lease payment is due. Motioned by Commissioner Nelson, seconded by Commissioner Lawrence, to approve an agreement with RDO Equipment for the lease of a new John Deere motor grader for six years and authorize the first lease payment of \$56,562.18. Motion carried.

County Assessor Carl Bruzek presented the following items:

Motioned by Commissioner Lawrence, seconded by Commissioner Sourdif, to approve the hire of Michael Frericks as Deputy Assessor-Appraiser with an effective start date of June 26th, 2023. Motion carried.

Mr. Bruzek discussed the Application for Abatement for David and Diane Lee that was tabled last meeting. Commissioner Lawrence stated that since the Lee's remained on the property, he believes they should receive the homestead classification for the original home, but not for the newer home. Following discussion, Commissioner Lawrence motioned, seconded by Commissioner Nelson, to abate the tax payable 2022 for David and Diane Lee, parcel #19.01810700, to reflect the residential homestead classification on the land and buildings, excluding the new house and garage. Motion carried.

County Sheriff Seth Vettleon presented the following items:

Motioned by Commissioner Lawrence, seconded by Commissioner Sourdif, to approve the hire of Sadie Michele Bernier as Full-Time Records Clerk at Step 4 of the non-union wage scale, pending final background approval and fingerprinting. Motion carried.

Sheriff Vettleon provided an update on staffing, noting they are short one Part-Time Deputy Sheriff and three Correction Officers. The dispatch department is currently fully staffed.

Emergency Management Director Erik Beitel noted that Hazard Mitigation notices have been sent out and once suggestions and/or changes have been brought forth there will be a public meeting held.

Auditor-Treasurer Items: None.

County Coordinator Items:

Kevin Erickson provided an update on the Government Center 3rd floor project; drywall is nearly complete and tiling of the bathrooms is to begin soon. Discussion was held on the cubicle proposals and layouts for both the social services and income maintenance areas.

Commissioner Nelson questioned the presence of oil filter recycling barrels at the St. Hilaire site; he believes the location is for waste oil only. Mr. Erickson will talk to Solid Waste Coordinator Grant Nelson and arrange for Safety Kleen pick up the oil filter barrels.

County Attorney Items:

CA Seamus Duffy stated that Judge Tamara Yon has asked if the county would again be willing to donate funds for an annual picnic for current and past graduates of the drug court treatment program, which will be held on July 20th, 2023, at Oakland Park. Motioned by Commissioner Lawrence, seconded by Commissioner Sourdif, to approve a donation of \$250.00 to the State MN - 9th Judicial District for the July 20th, 2023, picnic for drug court treatment program graduates. Motion carried.

Mr. Duffy notified the Board that a criminal represented by the public defender's office requested a psychiatric assessment, which was approved by the court and by Statute becomes financially the responsibility of Pennington County. He expects an invoice for approximately \$2,500 to arrive within a few weeks.

Committee Reports:

Commissioner Lawrence noted that an AMC District 3 meeting will be held on Thursday, June 15th, 2023, in Ada, MN. He and the County Coordinator will be in attendance.

Commissioner Peterson noted that he and Commissioner Nelson recently visited the nickel mine in Tamarack, MN.

Motioned by Commissioner Sourdif, seconded by Commissioner Nelson, to adjourn the Board meeting to June 27th, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

Kevin Erickson, County Coordinator

Neil Peterson, Chairman

Pennington County

Board of Commissioners