

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
PENNINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25th, 2020, 8:00 A.M.**

Pursuant to adjournment, the Pennington County Board of Commissioners met in the Pennington County Board Room in Thief River Falls, MN, on Tuesday, February 25th, 2020 at 8:00 a.m. Members Present: Cody Hempel, Donald Jensen, Bruce Lawrence, Darryl Tveitbakk, and Neil Peterson. Members Absent: None.

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

Human Service Director Julie Sjostrand presented the Humans Service Committee consent agenda from the February 18th, 2020 meeting. On a motion by Commissioner Hempel, and seconded by Commissioner Peterson, the following recommendations of the Pennington County Human Service Committee for February 18th, 2020 are hereby approved. Motion carried.

SECTION A

- I. To approve the January 21, 2020 Human Service Committee Meeting minutes.
- II. To approve the agency's personnel action as presented.
- III. A. To approve the CY 2020 Chemical Dependency and Temporary Confinement Services Purchase of Service agreement between Sanford Behavioral Health and Pennington County Human Services as presented.

SECTION B

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

At this time members of the Pennington County Second Amendment Coalition met with the County Board. Doug Williams and Bill Barthold presented a petition that requests the Pennington County Board of Commissioners to pass a resolution naming Pennington County as a Second Amendment Dedicated County. The Coalition pointed out that legislation is being introduced in the Minnesota Legislature and the United States Congress that could infringe on the rights of law-abiding citizens to keep and bear arms as guaranteed by the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution.

The County Board stated they understood the purpose of their request and did not disagree with the petition. Today they did not have a draft resolution in front of them to consider and they would like to have any resolution reviewed by the County Attorney. It was also noted that the MN County Attorney's Association was reviewing this issue and intends to issue their recommendation. The County Board stated that immediately after this meeting some of the County Board members will be going to St. Paul and will be meeting with our legislators, and they will be discussing these concerns with them.

Todd Jesme said the County Commissioner will see demonstrations promoting changes to the Second Amendment at the Capitol.

The County Board will bring a draft resolution to a future County Board Meeting, so no action was taken at this meeting.

County Engineer Mike Flaagan presented a State of Minnesota, Department of Transportation and Pennington County Detour Agreement for a Trunk Highway No.1 detour. The detour would be on C.S.A.H. #18 north for 3.48 miles for a duration of sixty-two days. The estimated reimbursement to the county is \$1,215.32. The following resolution was introduced by Commissioner Jensen, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, and upon vote was unanimously carried.

PENNINGTON COUNTY
RESOLUTION

IT IS RESOLVED that Pennington County enter into MnDOT Agreement No. 1036079 with the State of Minnesota, Department of Transportation for the following purposes:

To provide for payment by the State to the County for the use of County State Aid Highway No. 18 as a detour route during the construction to be performed upon, along, and adjacent to Trunk Highway No. 1 from Pennington County State Aid Highway No.18 to Minnesota State Highway No. 219 under State Project No. 5702-47 (T.H. 1= 170).

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that County Board Commissioner Darryl Tveitbakk and County Engineer Mike Flaagan are authorized to execute the Agreement and any amendments to the Agreement.

CERTIFICATION

I certify the above Resolution is an accurate copy of the Resolution adopted by the Board of Commissioners of Pennington County at an authorized meeting held on the 25th Day of February, 2020, as shown by the minutes of the meeting in my possession.

County Engineer Mike Flaagan made a request to advertise for crack sealing and shouldering bids. Moved by Commissioner Jensen, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, to authorize the County Engineer and County Auditor-Treasurer to advertise for bids for crack sealing and shouldering bids to be opening 9:00 a.m., April 14th, 2020. Motion carried.

The County Engineer discussed purchasing a 2013 Freightliner Semi-tractor for \$38,500.00 for the County Highway Department. Moved by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Jensen, to purchase the 2013 Freightliner semi-tractor for \$38,500.00 for the County Highway Department. Motion carried.

It was noted that the seller decided not to sell the 1986 belly dump trailer that was approved at the February 11th, 2020 County Board Meeting.

The County Engineer reported on the bridge project. They are now working on the second piling.

County Sheriff Ray Kuznia presented the resignation of Tiffany Tureson as full-time Dispatcher/Jailer effective February 23rd, 2020. Moved by Commissioner Jensen, seconded by Commissioner Hempel, to accept the resignation of Tiffany Tureson. Motion carried.

Eric Beitel, Emergency Management Director, informed the County Board there would be a pre-flood preparedness meeting on Thursday, March 5th, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. at the Thief River Falls Fire Hall.

Commissioner Jensen moved, seconded by Commissioner Hempel, to approve overtime pay for County Auditor-Treasurer office personnel for election purposes in 2020. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Hempel, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, to approve the minutes of February 11th, 2020 as written. Motion carried.

Motioned by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Lawrence, to approve payment of the Human Services warrants totaling \$ 95,474.09, and the following Commissioner warrants. Motion carried.

WARRANTS

County Revenue	\$ 23,286.70
Road & Bridge	\$ 1,439.71
Solid Waste Facility	\$ 240.00

Per diems and meal reimbursements in the amount of \$44.65 were also approved.

It was reported that the County Attorney and Personnel Committee interviewed two candidates for the position of Assistant County Attorney. The County Attorney recommends we hire Max LaCoursiere for the position of Assistant County Attorney to start March 3rd, 2020. Moved by Commissioner Jensen, seconded by Commissioner Hempel, to approve hiring Max LaCoursiere for the position of Assistant County Attorney. Motion carried.

County Attorney Seamus Duffy then informed the County Board that Gretchen Weinrich will be leaving her position as Crime Victim Advocate and would like someone hired to job shadow for her the month of May. The position is paid for by grant funds and there will be funds available for this position.

Moved by Commissioner Hempel, seconded by Commissioner Jensen, to authorize advertising for applicants for the Crime Victim Advocate position. Motion carried.

Luke Kaushagen then asked the County Board about the sides of the road eroding into the Joint Ditch #30. Commissioner Jensen said that they are working to get funds through the One Watershed One Plan to fix some of these areas.

Motioned by Commissioner Lawrence, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, to adjourn the Board meeting to Tuesday, March 10th, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

Kenneth Olson, Auditor-Treasurer
Pennington County

Darryl Tveitbakk, Chairman
Board of Commissioners