

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS  
PENNINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019, 9:00 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, February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 9:00 A.M. Members present: Cody Hempel, Bruce Lawrence, Neil Peterson, and Darryl Tveitbakk. Members absent: Donald Jensen.

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

County Sheriff Ray Kuznia made a recommendation that David Casanova be hired as PREA/Transition Coordinator. Moved by Commissioner Tveitbakk, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, to approve hiring David Casanova as PREA/Transition Coordinator effective February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Tveitbakk, to accept the resignation of Kelly Jesme Thygeson as part-time corrections officer, effective February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Motion carried.

County Sheriff, Ray Kuznia, stated they had recently advertised for a part-time corrections officer position and will be interviewing Friday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019 and hopes to now hire two from those applicants.

Moved by Commissioner Tveitbakk, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, to authorize the Sheriff to hire two part-time corrections officers from the applicants to be interviewed on February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Motion carried.

Sheriff Kuznia explained that we need to have, on staff, fifteen full-time corrections officers in order to house forty inmates. We did have the required amount of staff previously, but by hiring corrections officers at a part-time status, two part-time corrections officers are needed to fill the requirement of having one full-time corrections officer. Sheriff Kuznia made a request to post internally for two full-time corrections officers and advertise for two part-time corrections officers to bring the staffing back to a fifteen full-time equivalency.

Moved by Commissioner Tveitbakk, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, to post internally for two full-time corrections officers positions. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Hempel, seconded by Commissioner Tveitbakk, to advertise for two part-time corrections officers. Motion carried

Steve Nordhagen, from Les's Sanitation, met with the County Board to request we purchase the 2012 Harris Grissly 240-T100 Two Ram Baling Press from Mar-Kit to bale recyclables in Pennington County. They are selling the baler for \$300,000.00 and will

take payments for up to three years. The County has approximately \$277,000.00 in SCORE Grant Funds at this time to use for the purchase and no local tax dollars would be needed. The County Board tabled the request to the next County Board meeting.

County Engineer, Mike Flaagan, made a request to put up for bids the house and out buildings on the property purchased for right of way at the address of 607 Mark Boulevard, Thief River Falls, MN.

Commissioner Peterson moved, seconded by Commissioner Tveitbakk, to advertise for sale, the house and out buildings located at 607 Mark Boulevard, Thief River Falls, MN. Motion carried.

County Engineer Flaagan submitted the resignation from Darryl Johnston, permanent part-time highway maintenance worker, effective February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Moved by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Hempel, to approve the resignation of Darryl Johnston, effective February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Hempel, to hold a five year Road & Bridge Plan Hearing at 4:00 p.m. March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Motion carried.

The County Board then considered a salary adjustment for the position of Maintenance Foreman. Moved by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Tveitbakk, to set the salary of the Maintenance Foreman at \$72,488.00 per year, effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019. Motion carried.

Pete Filippi, Contegrity Group, and Bruce Schwartzman, BKV, were present to discuss the Justice Center Project. Pete Filippi reviewed the construction budget calculated to January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019. He noted that the battery lowering units for the elevators were on hold while they calculate the load on the backup generator. They are thinking of staggering the motor start up's so that the generator can handle the load. As of now, they are working on many smaller items. They hope to complete the project by mid March.

Mary Cullen then addressed the County Board asking about the open appointment to the Northwest Regional Library Board. Commissioner Tveitbakk moved, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, to appoint Laura Brickson as Pennington County's Representative on the Northwest Regional Library Board. Motion carried

County Auditor-Treasurer, Ken Olson, read the resignation letter from Dale Stauffenecker from the position of Office Manager Extension Support Specialist. Moved by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Tveitbakk, to accept the resignation of Dale Stauffenecker, effective February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Motion carried.

Motioned by Commissioner Tveitbakk, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, to advertise for applicants for the County Extension Office Manager/Extension Support Specialist position. Motion carried.

Upon recommendation of the County Auditor-Treasurer, Commissioner Hempel moved, seconded by Commissioner Tveitbakk, to hire Kristi Rood as Motor Vehicle Office Manager effective January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Motion carried,

Moved by Commissioner Hempel, seconded by Commissioner Tveitbakk, to authorize the County Auditor-Treasurer to advertise for applicants for the open Motor Vehicle Deputy Registrar position. Motion carried.

The County Auditor-Treasurer and County Attorney reviewed a request for the County to sign a Subordination Agreement with Northern State Bank for a Rehabilitation Loan given to Megan Hall and Richard D. Anderson. Commissioner Hempel moved, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, to approve the Subordination Agreement with Northern State Bank on the property located at 12603 180<sup>th</sup> Street NE, Thief River Falls, MN, owned by Megan Hall and Richard D. Anderson. Motion carried.

At 10:00 a.m. Commissioner Peterson moved, seconded by Commissioner Hempel, to recess the County Board meeting and call the Hearing on Economic Development Tax Abatement Program to order as duly advertised. Motion carried.

The County Auditor-Treasurer reviewed The Economic Development Tax Abatement Policy and submitted those parcels that the City of Thief River Falls has determined as qualifying parcels. There are six new parcels and ten parcels from the previous year. The City of Thief River Falls has approved these parcels for abatements. No comments were heard on the abatements.

Moved by Commissioner Hempel, seconded by Commissioner Tveitbakk, to approve payment of the Human Services warrants totaling \$ , the Auditor and Manual warrants for December, 2018 totaling \$1,159,731.88, and also the following Commissioner warrants. This includes the reluctant payment to the State Auditor for time spent redoing the 2015 County Audit. Motion carried.

WARRANTS

County Revenue	\$319,268.97
Road & Bridge	\$ 62,744.91
Solid Waste Facility	\$ 879.75

Per diems and meal reimbursements in the amount of \$3,116.45 were also approved.

Moved by Commissioner Hempel, seconded by Commissioner Tveitbakk, to close the hearing at 10:05 a.m. and call the County Board meeting back into session. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Hempel, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, to approve the abatement of the County's portion of real estate tax as per the abatement policy and recommended by the City of Thief River Falls and authorize the County Auditor-Treasurer to issue payment accordingly. Motion carried.

MMCDC's Greenwood Neighborhood Addition Lot-011 Block-001. Parcel number 25.12101110 - Christina Pribyl. Total estimated abatement is \$465.66.

South Eastwood Addition, Lot-005, Block-001. Parcel number 25.11100510 - Duane & Wendy Horras. Total estimated abatement is \$1,422.83.

South Eastwood Addition, Lot-001, Block-002. Parcel number 25.11100920 - Margaret Kaste. Total estimated abatement is \$1,299.43.

Lot 3, Pine Wood Estates. Parcel number 25.11400300 - Marcellene Franson. Total estimated abatement is \$1,120.17.

Lot-011, Block-004, Noreen's First Addition. Parcel number 25.06204100 - Karen Berggren. Total estimated abatement is \$184.21.

Lot 1, Pine Wood Estates. Parcel number 25.11400100 - Alexander Schmidt. Total estimated abatement is \$1050.97

Lot 2, Pine Wood Estates. Parcel Number 25.11400200 – Shannon McCloskey. Total estimated abatement is \$1050.86.

Lot 4, Pine Wood Estates. Parcel Number 25.11400400 – Kevin Brown. Total estimated abatement is \$1,011.17.

Lot 5, Pine Wood Estates. Parcel Number 25.11400500 – Kathryn A. Renwick. Total estimated abatement is \$926.74.

Lot 6, Pine Wood Estates. Parcel Number 25.11400600 – James & Ruthann Svir. Total estimated abatement is \$1,245.28.

Lot 7, Pine Wood Estates. Parcel Number 25.11400700 – Lois Bergland. Total estimated abatement is \$1,224.05.

Lot 4, Block 1 South Eastwood Addition. Parcel Number 25.11100410 – Mark & Denise Borseth. Total estimated abatement is \$1,281.86.

Lots 10 thru 12, Block 53, Original Townsite of Thief River Falls. Parcel Number 25.00337030 – Aaron & Deanna Jopru. Total estimated abatement is \$1,096.51.

N 150' of Lot 51 and E 20' of N 150' of Lot 50, Rustads Addition. Parcel Number 25.04702900 – Thomas Zingsheim. Total estimated abatement is \$1,233.43.

Lot 10, Block 6, Noreen's First Addition. Parcel Number 25.06208300 – Tammy Jacka. Total estimated abatement is \$762.24.

Moved by Commissioner Hempel, seconded by Commissioner Tveitbakk, to approve the minutes of January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019 as written. Motion carried.

Commissioner Peterson reviewed a letter from County Commissioners stating their disappointment with Governor Walz and his Administration to continue the Enbridge Line 3 appeal process. This process that has been ongoing for four years and received an unanimous decision by the PUC. Commissioner Peterson will be asking Commissioners to sign on to this letter.

County Attorney, Seamus Duffy, presented the Minnesota Law Library Agreement and recommends we continue at the Tier I Level. Move by Commissioner Hempel, seconded by Commissioner Tveitbakk, to approve the MN Law Library Agreement at the Tier 1 Level. Motion carried.

Motioned by Commissioner Tveitbakk, seconded by Commissioner Hempel, to adjourn the Board meeting to Tuesday, February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 5:00 P.M. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

Kenneth Olson, Auditor-Treasurer  
Pennington County

Bruce Lawrence, Chairman  
Board of Commissioners