

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
PENNINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, MAY 26TH, 2020, 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, May 26th, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. Members Present: Darryl Tveitbakk, Donald Jensen, Bruce Lawrence, Neil Peterson, and Cody Hempel (via Zoom). Absent: None.

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

Julie Sjostrand, Human Services Director, presented the consent agenda from the May 19th, 2020 Human Services Committee meeting. On a motion by Commissioner Jensen, and seconded by Commissioner Peterson, the following recommendations of the Pennington County Human Service Committee for May 19th, 2020 are hereby adopted. Upon roll call vote: Hempel -aye, Lawrence - aye, Jensen - aye, Tveitbakk- aye and Peterson - aye. Motion carried.

SECTION A

- I. To approve the April 21st, 2020 Human Service Committee Meeting minutes.
- II. To approve the agency's personnel action as presented.
- III.
 - A. To approve CY 2020 Family-Based and outpatient services Purchase of Service Agreement with Northwestern Mental Health Center.
 - B. To approve the re-authorize the Pennington County Pre-Petition Screening Team and the list of screeners as presented.
 - C. To approve the "Every Student Succeeds Act" (ESSA) Service Agreement between Thief River Falls Public Schools and Pennington County Human Services as presented.
 - D. Jodi Harpstead Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Human Services sent a letter to commend Staff for a perfect performance in meeting the Department of Human Services financial reporting requirements for calendar year 2019.

SECTION B

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

Julie Sjostrand also read a letter congratulating the staff for perfect performance in meeting the Department of Human Services financial reporting requirements for the calendar year 2019.

Erik Beitel, Emergency Management Director, informed the County Board that we have received \$58,657.71 for reimbursement for damages caused by the 2019 spring flood event. Bray Township should receive \$11,011.34 and the remaining amount of \$47,646.37 should go to the County Highway Department. Moved by Commissioner Lawrence, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, to approve payment of \$11,011.34 to Bray Township and \$47,646.37 to the County Highway Department as their respected shares of the FEMA reimbursement for the 2019 spring

flood event. Upon roll call vote: Hempel -aye, Lawrence - aye, Jensen - aye, Tveitbakk- aye and Peterson - aye. Motion carried.

Kayla Jore, Inter County Nursing Director, noted we now have 14 positive COVID-19 cases and that this is a very fast moving situation. Contact tracing is taking place. The latest positive cases included persons in their late teens and early 20's in age. We need to continually encourage to maintain social distancing.

Erik Beitel noted that there will be testing for the COVID-19 virus at the long-term care facilities. This is a series of three tests within a twenty-one day period. Erik Beitel had spoken to Mary Turner, President of the Minnesota Nurses Association, regarding transferring patients with COVID-19 to and from healthcare facilities. Commissioner Tveitbakk has also sent an email to the Minnesota Department of Health stating his concerns regarding those transfers.

County Engineer Mike Flaagan asked that a revised resolution be approved regarding funding for the addition to the maintenance building. The following resolution was introduced by Commissioner Jensen, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, and upon roll call vote motion was carried. Roll call vote: Hempel -aye, Lawrence - aye, Jensen - aye, Tveitbakk- aye and Peterson - aye.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Pennington County desires to use the Regular County State Aid Highway (CSAH) Maintenance Account for a portion of the Highway Facility Upgrade Project and:

WHEREAS, Pennington County requests a level of funding for this project based on the ratio of CSAH Expenditures to Total Cost.

Percentage of CSAH Expenditures to Total Cost: $\$1,259,365.71/\$2,413,553 = 52\%$

CSAH funding request: $\$130,000 \times 52\% = \$67,600.00$

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the County of Pennington hereby requests Regular CSAH Maintenance Account funds in the amount of \$65,000 for the Highway Facility Upgrade Project.

County Engineer Flaagan gave a report on the Highway #32 Roundabout Project, Bridge Project, and Challenger Roundabout Project.

County Sheriff Ray Kuznia requests to re-advertise for part-time Corrections Officer applicants. Moved by Commissioner Jensen, seconded by Commissioner Lawrence, to advertise for part - time Corrections Officer applicants. Upon roll call vote: Hempel -aye, Lawrence - aye, Jensen - aye, Tveitbakk- aye and Peterson - aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Lawrence, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, to post internally for a Corrections Sergeant. Upon roll call vote: Hempel -aye, Lawrence - aye, Jensen - aye, Tveitbakk- aye and Peterson - aye. Motion carried.

County Sheriff Kuznia requested to purchase 20 jail mattresses for \$2,243.00. Moved by Commissioner Lawrence, seconded by Commissioner Jensen, to approve the purchase of 20 new jail mattresses. Upon roll call vote: Hempel -aye, Lawrence - aye, Jensen - aye, Tveitbakk- aye and Peterson - aye. Motion carried.

Commissioner Lawrence asked the County Sheriff to find out how many Armor radios would be needed to get all fire department personnel on the Armor System.

County Assessor Adeline Olson then presented to the Board a letter announcing her retirement effective July 3rd, 2020. Commissioner Jensen moved, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, to accept the retirement of County Assessor Adeline Olson with regrets, and thanked her for her 40 years of employment with Pennington County, wishing her a long and happy retirement. Upon roll call vote: Hempel -aye, Lawrence - aye, Jensen - aye, Tveitbakk- aye and Peterson - aye. Motion unanimously carried.

The County Board then discussed whether they will open County Buildings to the public, Commissioner Peterson moved, seconded by Commissioner Jensen, to begin conducting business by appointment only for the following offices beginning June 1st, 2020: County Auditor – Treasurer, Motor Vehicle Department, County Attorney, County Recorder, County Assessor, Crime Victim Advocate, Inter – County Nursing Service, and Emergency Management. Upon roll call vote: Hempel -aye, Lawrence - aye, Jensen - aye, Tveitbakk- aye and Peterson - aye. Motion carried. It was noted that the Court Administrators Office would be open and the Court would start having limited hearings starting June 1st, 2020.

Chairman Tveitbakk turned the gavel over to Vice – Chairman Jensen.

Moved by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Lawrence, to approve payment of the Human Service Warrants in the amount of \$57,880.03 and also the following Commissioner warrants. Upon roll call vote: Hempel -aye, Lawrence - aye, Jensen - aye, and Peterson - aye. Motion carried.

WARRANTS

County Revenue	\$ 51,839.03
Road & Bridge	\$ 38,511.82
Ditch Funds	\$ 2,840.18

Per diems and meal reimbursements in the amount of \$843.88 were also approved.

Moved by Commissioner Lawrence, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held May 12th, 2020 and the minutes of the special meeting held May 19th, 2020 as written. Upon roll call vote: Hempel -aye, Lawrence - aye, Jensen - aye, and Peterson - aye. Motion carried.

Chairman Tveitbakk returned and assumed the position of chairman.

Discussion was then held on the Auditor – Treasurer position. Moved by Commissioner Hempel, seconded by Commissioner Lawrence, to take applications to fill the unexpired term of the Auditor – Treasurer. Upon roll call vote: Hempel -aye, Lawrence - aye, Jensen - aye, Tveitbakk- aye and Peterson - aye. Motion carried.

The County Board then discussed the position of County Coordinator. Moved by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Hempel, to draft a job description for Pennington County Coordinator and a rate of pay for the position to review at a future meeting. Upon roll call vote: Hempel -aye, Lawrence - aye, Jensen - aye, Tveitbakk- aye and Peterson - aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Jensen, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, to adjourn to 10:00 a.m., June 9th, 2020. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

Kenneth Olson, Auditor-Treasurer
Pennington County

Darryl Tveitbakk, Chairman
Board of Commissioners