

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
PENNINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
JUSTICE CENTER BOARD ROOM
FEBRUARY 22nd, 2022 – 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, February 22nd, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. Members Present: Seth Nelson, Bruce Lawrence, Darryl Tveitbakk, David Sorenson, and Neil Peterson. Members absent: None.

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

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

Recognition of Citizens – No citizens present.

Motioned by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Nelson, to approve the County Board minutes of February 8th, 2022, with one change. Motion carried.

Motioned by Commissioner Nelson, seconded by Commissioner Tveitbakk, to approve the Human Services warrants totaling \$157,921.54, the Auditor and Manual warrants for January, 2022, totaling \$2,604,519.21, and the following Commissioner warrants. Motion carried.

County Revenue	\$36,085.42
Road & Bridge	\$ 5,309.85
Justice Ctr. Jail Bond	\$ 1,000.00
Justice Ctr. Capital Imp.	\$ 1,000.00
Ditch Funds	\$ 1,000.00

Per diems and meal reimbursements in the amount of \$31.78 were also approved.

Human Services Director Julie Sjostrand presented the consent agenda from the February 15th, 2022, Human Services Committee meeting. On a motion by Commissioner Peterson and seconded by Commissioner Sorenson, the following recommendations of the Pennington County Human Service Committee for February 15th, 2022 (detailed minutes on record) are hereby adopted:

SECTION A

- I. To approve the January 18th, 2022, Human Service Committee meeting minutes.
- II. To approve the Agency's personnel action as presented.

- III. A. To approve the Pennington County Child Care Policy which eliminates the licensing fees for initial and renewal licensing for Pennington County as presented.

SECTION B

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

County Sheriff Ray Kuznia presented a Joint Powers Agreement between the State of Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) and Pennington County. Motioned by Commissioner Tveitbakk, seconded by Commissioner Sorenson, to approve a five-year Joint Powers Agreement between the State of Minnesota/BCA and Pennington County that provides for county overtime reimbursement related to investigation of illicit heroin or opioid activity, or opioid-related deaths. Motion carried.

County Engineer Mike Flaagan asked if the Board had questions related to a proposed Title VI (Civil Rights Act of 1964) and Non-Discrimination Plan the Highway Department is required to have as a federal-aid recipient. With no questions being heard, Mr. Flaagan stated he will present the plan at the next Board meeting.

Engineer Flaagan stated that the highway department has been busy with the snow, wind, and blizzards lately. The February 18th, 2022, blizzard resulted in roads drifts up to six feet deep, and the department worked that Saturday to clear roads. Mr. Flaagan stated that wind and drifting has caused more issues this winter than the snowfall amounts. The Board thanked the Engineer and his staff for their good work this harsh winter.

County Auditor-Treasurer Items:

On behalf of Auditor-Treasurer Jennifer Herzberg, Commissioner Lawrence presented a renewal quote for IT firewall protection. It was noted that an upgrade to the firewall will be needed in two years and will cost approximately \$8,000. Motioned by Commissioner Nelson, seconded by Commissioner Sorenson, to approve a quote by ReadITech IT Solutions for a two-year renewal of SonicWall firewall protection in the amount of \$4,160.00. Motion carried.

County Coordinator Items:

Motioned by Commissioner Tveitbakk, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, to approve the hire of Jackie Grindeland as Full-Time Custodian I with an effective start date of March 9th, 2022. Motion carried.

County Attorney:

County Attorney Seamus Duffy reported no changes to the Justice Center masking/face covering requirements, however that may change in the next month.

Committee Reports / Commissioner Updates:

Commissioner Tveitbakk informed the Board that the U.S. Dept. of Transportation has approved Key Lime Air Corp., d/b/a Denver Air Connection, to provide Essential Air Service at the TRF Regional Airport for a five-year term beginning June 1st, 2022.

Commissioner Nelson recently attended a Household Hazardous Waste meeting in Bagley. The 2020 census calculated a .45% population increase in Pennington County and the resulting annual county assessment will remain at approximately \$5,600 beginning 2023.

Commissioner Nelson stated that the Technology Committee has finalized the new county logo and presented the latest design. Following questions and discussion, Commissioner Tveitbakk motioned, seconded by Commissioner Nelson, to approve the new county logo design as presented. Motion carried.

Commissioner Peterson reminded the Board members that the AMC Legislative Conference starts next week.

Motioned by Commissioner Peterson, seconded by Commissioner Tveitbakk, to adjourn the Board meeting to March 8th, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

Kevin Erickson, County Coordinator
Pennington County

Bruce Lawrence, Chairman
Board of Commissioners