

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES - SUBJECT TO CORRECTIONS
LYON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
LYON COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER, MARSHALL, MN
November 7, 2000

Meeting called to order by Chairman Fenske. Members present: Buysse, Fenske, Gladis, Goodenow, Vandelanotte, County Attorney Maes, and County Administrator Jorgensen.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Gladis moved, seconded by Vandelanotte to approve the minutes from the regular Commissioner Meetings on October 3rd and 17th. All voted in favor.

Ditch Vouchers were presented. Discussion. Vandelanotte moved, seconded by Buysse to approve the ditch vouchers. All voted in favor.

Hammer – Planning and Zoning will be making a recommendation on the Comprehensive Plan, I will have it for you at the next meeting. MnDot would consider a partnership study with us and contributing funds for it. Discussion.

General Revenue Funds and Special Water Projects were presented. Discussion. Buysse moved, seconded by Gladis to approve the general revenue vouchers and special water projects. All voted in favor.

General Revenue Fund	\$95,958.55
Road & Bridge Fund	\$93,973.14
Landfill Spec. Rev. Funds	\$13,976.46
Water Projects – Spec. Rev.	\$492.00
Ditch Fund	\$695.78
Sinking Ditch IV	\$750.00
Total	\$205,845.93

Beginning Warrant Number: 331549; Ending Warrant Number: 331674.

Road and Bridge Vouchers were presented. Vandelanotte moved, seconded by Gladis to approve the road and bridge vouchers. Discussion. All voted in favor.

Benson – I have the resolution to be signed for the salt shed with the State. Fenske – We have already approved this, so it just needs to be signed.

Benson – About the living snow fence. I talked with Soil and Water and they don't expect to see the funding for this in this area again. The farmer has decided to just go ahead on his own and unless the county decides to fund these in the future, I don't see a need to develop a policy at this point.

Discussion on including landfill with fuel quotes.

Gladis – Storm sewer in Tracy? Benson – We are looking at putting in new grates.

Fenske – What is the status on Skunk Hollow Road? Steve Johnson – It was patched and put back the way it was. It was not in good shape to begin with, but they did the same patching that we would have done. It has been put into the budget to overlay for next year. We only have the first ½ mile off of County Road 33. Benson – We will let the City know what we are going to do.

Discussion on County Road 33 project.

Tom Behm and Benson opened bids for the CSAH#33 project (SP 42-633-09). They are as follows:

McLaughlin & Schulz, Inc., Marshall, MN	\$693,039.59
Duininck Brothers, Prinsburg, MN	\$778,452.52
Central Specialties, Inc., Alexandria, MN	\$751,373.74
Engineer's Estimate	\$856,029.00

Behm – We will review and return with a recommendation.

Jorgensen – I have the first payment request for the remodeling on the third floor for the Adult Education Center. It is to Space Development for \$20,805.00 and the architect has signed off. Discussion. Goodenow moved, seconded by Gladis to approve the first payment of \$20,805.00 to Space Development for construction on the Adult Education Center. All voted in favor.

Discussion on Committee Applications.

Discuss Yellow Medicine River Watershed Board. Goodenow moved, seconded by Buysse to appoint Richard Myhre to the Yellow Medicine River Watershed Board effective immediately. All voted in favor.

Discuss Library Board. Jorgensen – Two openings: Cathie Fenger has opted not to reapply and Stan Sitton had moved into town. Goodenow moved, seconded by Buysse to appoint Sandy Nelson to the

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Library Board effective January 1, 2001 and to appoint Ronald Vermeersch to the Library Board effective immediately to complete the term of Stan Sitton. All voted in favor.

Discuss Public Health Advisory Board. Goodenow moved, seconded by Buysse to reappoint Rebecca Day, Judy McCort, and Frank Moore to the Public Health Advisory Board effective January 1, 2001. All voted in favor.

Discuss Planning and Zoning Board. Gladis moved, seconded by Goodenow to reappoint Margaret Barker to the Planning and Zoning Commission effective February 2001. All voted in favor.

Discuss Park Advisory Board. Fenske moved, seconded by Vandelanotte to reappoint Brian Ludeman to the Park Advisory Board effective January 1, 2001. All voted in favor.

Jodi Reng, Plum Creek met with the board to review the agency agreement. Reng gave a background of Plum Creek explaining that they are eligible for State, Federal and Foundation Grant funds and that they operate an automated system that has all 26 libraries on it. She then briefly went over the agency agreement and explained that they have the right to accept grant funds now. She also mentioned that the agreement will be reviewed every five years. Reng – I request that you approve your chairman signing the agreement. Gladis moved, seconded by Vandelanotte to authorize the board chair to sign the agreement with Plum Creek. All voted in favor. Fenske thanked Reng for coming.

Meeting Recessed.
Meeting back to order.

Behm and Benson returned with a recommendation on the CSAH#33 project. Behm – We recommend you accept the low bid from McLaughlin and Schulz. Vandelanotte moved, seconded by Buysse to accept the bid from McLaughlin and Schulz for the CSAH#33 project (SP 42-633-09). All voted in favor.

Jorgensen – Just to let you know, there are two openings on the Extension Committee and we did not receive any applications for it. I will talk with Byrnes about it. Goodenow – Michael Nassif would be a good candidate for that.

Jorgensen – The Prairie Expo sent a fax asking if Lyon County would like to contribute \$100 toward a tree to be decorated for their holiday exhibit. The County can buy a tree to be decorated in the theme the county chooses. Goodenow – It is an artificial tree so it could be used over again. Vandelanotte – I would rather plant a living tree. Discussion on who would decorate it. Goodenow moved, seconded by Vandelanotte to spend up to \$100 for promotional purposes at the Prairie Expo for their Holiday Display and to request that the Marshall Visitors and Convention Bureau participate in decorating. All voted in favor.

Jorgensen – Would you like to discuss the COLA for 2001? I would like to see it approved by the next meeting. Discussion on Consumer Price Index and health insurance. Discussion on percent. Vandelanotte moved, seconded by Goodenow to approve a three- percent cost of living adjustment for all county employees not covered by a bargaining agreement. All voted in favor.

Jorgensen – An employee has approached me about the possibility of exploring the day after Thanksgiving being a holiday. This individual asked a few people around the courthouse and there seems to be an interest. I just wanted to bring it up to the board to see what you thought. Buysse – Is there a lot of traffic here the day after Thanksgiving. Jorgensen – It is pretty quiet. Fenske – I think we need to survey the employees in a more formal manner and find out what the majority want. Because if they get the day after Thanksgiving as a holiday, we would take away one of their floating holidays. Gladis – I would like to see a formal survey done. Jorgensen – I will get a survey out.

Jorgensen – I gave you all a copy of the organization chart. Buysse – The jail administrator is not included. Jorgensen – No, it would probably fall under the sheriff. Fenske – We do want to make it clear that the board will hire the jail administrator. Discussion.

Jorgensen – The AMC voting delegates for Lyon County are the five commissioners, myself and Dean Champine. We can have eight. Goodenow – Wasn't the county engineer included before? Jorgensen – Yes. Gladis – You could ask Benson if she is interested. Jorgensen – She would be a good choice. Fenske – Let's ask her if she is interested.

Discussion on Compression Planning Meeting that Jorgensen had with the Department Heads.

Fenske – That was an interesting article on the Supreme Court.

Jorgensen – I gave you information on insurance claims and an article on county provided vehicles.

Per diems were presented. Gladis moved, seconded by Buysse to approve the per diems for Vandelanotte in the amount of \$80. All voted in favor.

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Landfill Vouchers were presented. Buysse moved, seconded by Gladis to approve the landfill vouchers. Discussion. All voted in favor.

Henriksen handed out the contract with Curry Sanitation for recycling services. Fenske – Will collection days stay the same? Henriksen – They are going to come as close as they can. Fenske – I have had numerous comments about the recycling days. Discussion. Fenske – Maes has reviewed the contracts? Maes – Yes and they look fine. Henriksen – The contract with Curry Sanitation includes Balaton and not Minneota. Jorgensen – Same price with Minneota? Henriksen – Yes. I have been in contact with the Minneota City Administrator and they think it is fine. Discussion. Goodenow moved, seconded by Gladis to approve the contract with Curry Sanitation for recycling services. All voted in favor. Goodenow moved, seconded by Buysse to approve the recycling contract with the City of Minneota. All voted in favor.

Henriksen – I have a resolution to send to BWSR to request a one year extension for completing the Water Use Plan because of the Comprehensive Land Use Plan. Discussion. Buysse moved, seconded by Goodenow to approve the resolution to send to BWSR to request a one-year extension for completing the Water Use Plan. All voted in favor.

Henriksen handed out cost information pertaining to the recycling contract. Goodenow – So we will have to make up about \$42,000. Henriksen – We have enough for next year, but will have to look at doing something.

Fenske – I received a letter from the OEA and we will be getting our SCORE Block Grant. We will receive two payments of \$34,312. Henriksen – Every year we lose about \$1,000.

Fenske – On our list of committees, we have the Solid Waste Advisory Committee, can't that be eliminated? Henriksen – Yes.

Commissioner Reports:

Gladis – At the Public Health meeting, we talked again about home health aids. They are exploring the possibility of local hospitals taking this over and PHS would pay a percentage. This would take a lot off of their budget. Fenske – We also discussed the flu vaccine and the possibility of not getting any.

Discuss Minnesota River Basin.

Fenske – The Southwest Energy Task Force (formerly the Wind Task Force) is now expanding to all nine counties. The two big things they are watching are electric deregulation and utility companies pushing to remove personal property tax off of transmission lines. To let you know the impact of this, the pipeline in Lyon County pays \$873,085 in taxes. We would lose this.

Fenske – I have information here also on percent of land owned by the DNR and Fish and Wildlife in Lyon County and also a comparison of PILT payments.

Buysse – I received a phone call from an upset person about Ditch 15. Maes – I have received a few calls also. Fenske – So have I. Discussion.

Discuss Appropriations.

Memorial Day will stay at \$2,000.

Ag Society. Fenske – Increase justified? Gladis – The board is trying to do new things. They are a good group. I think one thing they are looking to do is to try to get enough money for the Centennial County Fair. They are discussing the possibility of it being a free fair. I know it is a County Fair, but it has a positive economic effect on Marshall and it would be nice to see them pitch in a little. Goodenow – This has come up before. The Visitors and Convention Bureau should be able to help with advertising. Fenske – I hope they don't think that the county would make up the missed revenue from a free fair. Discussion. Fenske – We will appropriate \$16,000.

Marshall Lyon-County Library. Fenske – The increase they are asking for is no more than inflation. Their appropriation will be \$188,520.

Discussion on Community Health being moved to a different category.

SMAHC. Fenske – They requested the same as last year - \$2,000 so we will stay with that.

Western Community Action - \$5,654 and \$5,000 for the bus.

LCEDC. Fenske – They requested the same as last year - \$30,000 and we will stick with that.

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Historical Society. Goodenow – They have had no salary increase in three years. There is traffic in there all the time. Fenske – We will appropriate \$19,000 and \$2,500 for the Historical Society Project Fund.

Animal Impoundment Costs. Goodenow – They talked about how much it costs to keep a dog for five days. Jorgensen – They believe that any animal outside of the Marshall City limits is the County's responsibility. Goodenow – What I got was that they charged the other cities \$43 per animal and then charged the county the same price for the same animal. Fenske – They said they are afraid the other cities will quit paying. But they could just quit picking those animals up if that is the case. Goodenow – I was trying to get across to them that we may drop the appropriation and just have them bill us instead. Extensive discussion. Goodenow – Let's keep it as an appropriation this year, but let them know next year we will probably go to a per animal bill. Fenske – The appropriation will be \$6,000.

Maes updated on landfill issues and billings for Tracy on the ditch assessments. Maes – I tried four times to send a certified letter to D&C dozing and it was never picked up. I have his cell phone number now and will continue to try to contact him. Discussion on how involved the county wants to get.

Meeting recessed until 1:30 PM.
Back to Order.

Gladis and Maes Absent.

Fenske – We are here to discuss concerns and budget with the Soil and Water Conservation District. We as a board have some concerns about the landfill and how reports were filed etc. Otto – We discussed concerns with Jorgensen, Henriksen, and Benson last week and came to the conclusion that there were misunderstandings on both sides. Anderson – After that discussion, we decided that there was enough blame. We feel there is a lot that we can offer the county and vice versa. I will be attending Department Head meetings from now on and would like to meet with the board two to four times per year to update. Fenske – I think that is a good idea and you are more than welcome. We would like to develop a better relationship. Anderson – We can play a big part in planning and zoning etc. I think we have barely tapped the resources that we can offer the county. Goodenow – I am not pleased with the engineer on the landfill project either, but part of my concern with SWCD is that this is not the first time. Maybe if you come in quarterly and talk with us, this will not happen. Discussion on DeVries property and Landfill problems. Anderson explained the mitigation process. Anderson – We accept the responsibility for not sending out the final determination on time. Vandelanotte – We all learned from this and let's go on. Buysse – It's better to talk about things. Will you come to our meetings quarterly? Anderson – Whenever you want us to. I would have Jorgensen send a report out in your packet so you could go over it and have your questions ready. Discussion. Discuss budget. Anderson – We are trying to bring more funds into our office to be as self-supporting as we possibly can. We have been able to do this to a certain extent. Discussion. Fenske – We have gained a lot coming together like this as we have made a lot of progress. Anderson and the Soil and Water Board thanked the Commissioners for the opportunity to meet with them. Fenske thanked them all for coming.

Discussion on Appropriations continued.

SWCD. Fenske – Jorgensen could be an advisor on the budget. Goodenow maybe it would be more naturally through Benson. Discussion. Discuss Wetland Conservation Act. Fenske – We will appropriate \$68,500.

RCRCA. Discussion. Fenske – We will appropriate \$13,068 for RCRCA and \$3,000 for the Cottonwood Clean River Partnership.

Area II. Discussion. Fenske – We will appropriate \$20,287 for Area II and \$2,000 for the MN River Basin Joint Powers Board.

Prairie Bus Ecology. Fenske – We will appropriate the same as last year - \$4,000 and part will be used to reimburse the schools.

County Improvement Fund. Discussion on why increasing. Fenske – We will appropriate \$15,000.

Recreational Facilities Partnership. Fenske – We had previously approved \$50,000.

MAFAC. Fenske – We will appropriate \$2,200.

Travel Southwest. Discussion on why to appropriate and connection to Prairie Expo. Fenske – We will appropriate \$1,400.

Jorgensen – There was a suggestion made to take RCRCA, Area II and MN River Basin out of flood control projects. Goodenow – RCRCA is every year and I wonder if we have a big flood control project we want to do, would we have enough money? I can see the short-term commitments coming out of flood control. Vandelanotte – I think the building of big dams is over. Discussion. Fenske – For now, let's move Area II and the Cottonwood Clean River Partnership into Flood Control. Discussion.

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Buysse moved, Fenske seconded motion to adjourn the meeting until Tuesday, November 21, 2000 at 9:00 A.M.

Robert Fenske, Chairman

Attest: _____
Mark R. Jorgensen
Lyon County Administrator