

Chairman Tellinghuisen called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m., with the following members present: Commissioners Reynolds, Wilhelm, and Peterson. Commissioner Oslin attend via interactive television from 1960 Big Bass Cove, Lake Havasu City, AZ 86404. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Seven (7) requests were added to the agenda:

- 5.13 Approve Payment to Counsel for Legal Services;
- 5.14 Approve Commissioners Mileage and Per Diems – March 2020;
- 5.15 Consider Resolution No. 03-17-2020-03, Establish Public Health Emergency Policy;
- 5.16 Approve Laptop Purchase;
- 5.17 Consider Temporary Public Health Emergency Telework Guidelines;
- 5.18 Approve Agreement for County Highway Engineering Services;
- 5.19 Consider Resolution No. 03-17-2020-04, Appoint an Interim County Highway Engineer.

Cmsr Peterson requested to remove consent agenda item 4.5, Approve Building Permit Fee Increase for discussion.

Cmsr Wilhelm motioned to accept the agenda as amended; Cmsr Peterson seconded. A roll call vote was called; Cmsrs Wilhelm, Reynolds, Oslin, Tellinghuisen, and Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Cmsr Reynolds seconded by Cmsr Wilhelm, to approve the following consent agenda items:

- Approve 3/3/2020 County Board Meeting Minutes;
- Review of Auditor's Warrants;
- Approve Payment to Counsel for Legal Services;
- Consider Resolution No. 03-17-2020-01, Approve Application for Exempt Permit for Ducks Unlimited Raffle at Nitti's Hunters Point;

*Board of County Commissioners
Mille Lacs County, Minnesota
Resolution No.: 03-17-2020-01
Approval of Charitable Gambling*

BE IT RESOLVED, the Mille Lacs County Board of Commissioners hereby approves granting an Exempt Permit for Ducks Unlimited to conduct a raffle event on April 18, 2020 at Nitti's Hunters Point Resort, 5436 479th Street, Isle, MN 56342.

- Approve the Sale of Two (2) Unmarked Fleet Vehicles and Replace with Two (2) Main Fleet Vehicles;
- Consider CY2020/2021 DHS Respite Care Grant Contract;
- Consider 2020 Region 7E AMHI By-Law Revision;
- Approve Alternative Worksite Policy;
- Approve the Renewal of Corporate Mechanical's HVAC Preventative Maintenance Agreement for 2020;
- Approve Republic Services Recycling Services & Materials Agreement;
- Consider Mille Lacs County Sheriff's Office Support Services Plow Purchase;
- Consider Contract with LeadsOnline for Automated Pawn Tracking System;
- Lease 2020 Ford Transit Low Roof Passenger Van XL Jail Transport and Purchase Necessary Equipment Needed to make a Law Enforcement Transport Van;
- Information Only: February 2020 Jail Performance Report.

A roll call vote was called; Cmsrs Wilhelm, Reynolds, Oslin, Tellinghuisen, and Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

APPROVE BUILDING PERMIT FEE INCREASE

Michele McPherson discussed the building permit fee increase and Land Services Office's budget with the Commissioners. Cmsr Peterson motioned to approve the Building Permit Fee Increase with the Maintenance Fees remaining unchanged; Cmsr Wilhelm seconded. A roll call vote was called; Cmsrs Wilhelm, Reynolds, Oslin, Tellinghuisen, and Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

PRESENTATION OF INFORMATION: CONSIDER PROCLAMATION FOR NATIONAL SOCIAL WORK MONTH

County Administrator Pat Oman requested that this item be tabled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Cmsr Wilhelm motioned to table the Proclamation for National Social Work Month; Cmsr Reynolds seconded. A roll call vote was called; Cmsrs Wilhelm, Reynolds, Oslin, Tellinghuisen, and Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

PRESENTATION OF INFORMATION: PRESENTATION ON CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) AND MILLE LACS COUNTY PLAN OF ACTION

Community Health Services Supervisor Kay Nastrom provided a presentation regarding Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). Discussion occurred among the Commissioners regarding the best way to proceed considering the pandemic. Administrator Oman discussed the measures that the County is taking to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Discussion occurred regarding counties that have closed services to the public. Cmsr Wilhelm motioned to close County facilities to the public on Wednesday, March 18, 2020 at 8:00 a.m.; Cmsr Reynolds seconded. Additional discussion ensued.

Cmsr Wilhelm motioned to close County facilities to the public on Tuesday, March 17, 2020 at 4:30 p.m.; Cmsr Reynolds seconded. A roll call vote was called; Cmsrs Wilhelm, Reynolds, Oslin, Tellinghuisen, and Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

APPROVE BOARD ROOM MONITOR PURCHASE

Administrator Oman reviewed the Board Room Monitor Purchase request. Cmsr Wilhelm motioned to table the Board Room Monitor; Cmsr Reynolds seconded. A roll call vote was called; Cmsrs Wilhelm, Reynolds, and Oslin voted aye. Cmsrs Tellinghuisen and Peterson voted nay. Motion carried.

APPROVE PROPOSAL FOR CLASSIFICATION/COMPENSATION STUDY

Personnel Director Holly Wilson reviewed the request for the Classification/Compensation Study to be completed County-wide. Wilson noted that the unions had requested that the study be completed, as the County's last study was conducted in 2011. Wilson explained how the study collects and compares market data. Wilson confirmed that there are funds in the budget for this review. Cmsr Reynolds motioned to approve the Classification/Compensation Study; Cmsr Oslin seconded. A roll call vote was called; Cmsrs Oslin, Reynolds, and Tellinghuisen voted aye. Cmsrs Wilhelm and Peterson voted nay. Motion carried.

AUTHORIZE HIRE OF A TEMPORARY CHILD PROTECTION WORKER

Personnel Director Wilson stated that a temporary Child Protection Worker is required due to the current work load, as two staff are on leave from July to August. Cmsr Peterson motioned to authorize Hire of a Temporary Child Protection Worker; Cmsr Wilhelm seconded. A roll call vote was called; Cmsrs Wilhelm, Reynolds, Oslin, Peterson, and Tellinghuisen voted aye. Motion carried.

ACCEPT RESIGNATION OF COUNTY ENGINEER

Personnel Director Wilson received a resignation letter from the previous County Engineer Jessie Dehn for March 6, 2020. Cmsr Wilhelm motioned to hold a confidential meeting to discuss further. Motion failed due to lack of second.

Cmsr Reynolds motioned to accept the resignation of County Engineer Jessie Dehn; Cmsr Peterson seconded. A roll call vote was called; Cmsrs Reynolds, Oslin, Tellinghuisen, and Peterson voted aye. Cmsr Wilhelm voted nay. Motion carried.

ADOPT PWD RESOLUTION 2020-3-17-20-02, SPRING LOAD RESTRICTIONS

Public Works Director Holly Wilson stated that this annual resolution is in consideration of spring load restrictions. Cmsr Wilhelm motioned to adopt PWD Resolution 2020-3-17-20-02, Spring Load Restrictions; Cmsr Reynolds seconded. A roll call vote was called; Cmsrs Wilhelm, Reynolds, Oslin, Tellinghuisen, and Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

*Board of County Commissioners
Mille Lacs County, Minnesota
SPRING LOAD RESTRICTIONS
PWD Resolution No.: 2020-3-17-20-02*

WHEREAS, County Roads and County State Aid Highways within Mille Lacs County may be seriously damaged in the spring unless load weights are restricted:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. All County Roads & County State Aid Highways in Mille Lacs County be restricted to loads so as to limit damages to said roads as determined by the County Engineer, particularly during the spring breakup.
2. The County Engineer shall post said limits as required.
3. Said restrictions will become effective when sign postings are placed without further notice.
4. Residents are reminded that restrictions are anticipated to take effect in late March and will generally follow the Minnesota Department of Transportation's Seasonal Road Restrictions.
5. Residents are further reminded that all roads are restricted by Statute to 5 Ton axle weight upon announcement from MnDOT, unless otherwise posted.
6. That the County Engineer shall determine when seasonal load restrictions are no longer necessary.
7. That the County Engineer shall remove posted seasonal load restrictions.
8. That said restrictions will no longer be in effect when postings are removed.

THIS RESOLUTION is adopted under and pursuant to the provisions of Section 169.87, 2019 Minnesota Statutes.

CONSIDER COUNTY DITCH 14 INSPECTION AND REPAIR RECOMMENDATIONS

Environmental Resources Manager Dillon Hayes presented the County Ditch 14 Inspection and Repair Recommendations. Hayes reviewed the increasing washouts in the ditch and recommended soliciting quotes for the repair. Cmsr Oslin motioned to approve County Ditch 14 Inspection and Repair Recommendations; Cmsr Peterson seconded. A roll call vote was called; Cmsrs Reynolds, Oslin, Tellinghuisen and Peterson voted aye. Cmsr Wilhelm abstained. Motion carried.

AUTHORIZE STAFF TO SOLICIT QUOTES FOR MAINTENANCE OF TAX-FORFEITED PROPERTY

Environmental Resources Manager Hayes discussed the several tax-forfeited properties that would require mowing in order to comply with city ordinances and prevent damage to the structures. Cmsr Wilhelm motioned to Authorize Staff to Solicit Quotes for Maintenance of Tax-Forfeited Properties; Cmsr Reynolds seconded. A roll call vote was called; Cmsrs Wilhelm, Reynolds, Oslin, Tellinghuisen, and Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

EXECUTE PURCHASE AGREEMENT AND APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 03-17-2020-02, ACQUISITION OF ORV PARK PROPERTY

Environmental Resources Manager Hayes requested approval to execute the purchase agreement and approve the resolution to purchase the ORV park property. Hayes stated that if approved, the County would close on the property in approximately one (1) month. Cmsr Wilhelm motioned to execute the Purchase Agreement and Adopt Resolution No. 03-17-2020-02, Acquisition of ORV Park Property; Cmsr Oslin seconded. A roll call vote was called; Cmsrs Wilhelm, Reynolds, Oslin, Tellinghuisen, and Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

*Board of County Commissioners
Mille Lacs County, Minnesota
Resolution No.: 03-17-2020-02*

RESOLUTION REGARDING THE ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY

WHEREAS, Mille Lacs County, a body politic and corporate, may acquire and hold real and personal property for the use of the county pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Chapter 373; and

WHEREAS, Mille Lacs County wishes to acquire real property identified by property identification numbers 14-032-0400 and 14-033-0800 for the development of an Off Road Vehicle (ORV) area; and

WHEREAS, the powers of the County as a body politic and corporate pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Chapter 373 shall only be exercised by the county board or in pursuance of a resolution adopted by the county board, and deeds and other written instruments made by the county shall be executed in its name by the chair of the county board and by the clerk of the board.

THEREFORE; BE IT RESOLVED by the Mille Lacs County Board of Commissioners that all acts taken above by this Resolution are approved, ratified, and adopted; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Mille Lacs County Board of Commissioners that the closing documents in connection therewith shall be executed by the chair of the county board and the county administrator.

APPROVE PAYMENT TO COUNSEL FOR LEGAL SERVICES

Administrator Oman reviewed the legal services and fees. Cmsr Peterson motioned to approve Payment to Counsel for Legal Services; Cmsr Reynolds seconded. A roll call vote was called; Cmsrs Wilhelm, Reynolds, Oslin, Tellinghuisen, and Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

APPROVE COMMISSIONERS MILEAGE AND PER DIEMS – MARCH 2020

Administrator Oman reviewed the Commissioners mileage and per diems. Cmsr Wilhelm motioned to approve Commissioners Mileage and Per Diems for March 2020; Cmsr Peterson seconded. A roll call vote was called; Cmsrs Wilhelm, Reynolds, Oslin, Tellinghuisen, and Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

APPROVE LAPTOP PURCHASE

Administrator Oman introduced the laptop purchase request; Oman stated that the laptops would be used for alternative work sites/schedules. Oman stated that if approved, Dell would provide the laptops within approximately two weeks. Cmsr Oslin motioned to approve the Laptop Purchase; Cmsr Wilhelm seconded. A roll call vote was called; Cmsrs Wilhelm, Reynolds, Oslin, Tellinghuisen, and Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

CONSIDER RESOLUTION NO. 03-17-2020-03, ESTABLISH PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY POLICY

Personnel Director Wilson stated that the Public Health Emergency Policy was developed based off of information received from nearby counties. Wilson stated that this policy would complement the Alternative Work Site Policy and assist newly hired employees who need to care for their children or elderly family members. Cmsr Oslin motioned to adopt Resolution No. 03-17-2020-03, Establish Public Health Emergency Policy; Cmsr Peterson seconded. A roll call vote was called; Cmsrs Wilhelm, Reynolds, Oslin, Tellinghuisen, and Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

*Board of County Commissioners
Mille Lacs County, Minnesota
Resolution No: 03-17-2020-03*

ESTABLISHING THE UTILIZATION OF PAID LEAVE DURING A PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY POLICY

WHEREAS, Conditions may occur where a disease, such as influenza or other contagious respiratory disease, has reached a World Health Organization (WHO), Centers for Disease Control (CDC), or Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) declaration of a public health emergency; and

WHEREAS, Under these circumstances, the County Administrator may invoke the Utilization of Paid Leave during a Public Health Emergency Policy to support employees who find it necessary to stay home.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the County Board adopts the Utilization of Paid Leave during a Public Health Emergency Policy.

CONSIDER TEMPORARY PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY TELEWORK GUIDELINES

Personnel Director Wilson reviewed the COVID-19 concerns and the need for the Temporary Public Health Emergency Telework Guidelines. Cmsr Oslin motioned to approve the Temporary Public Health Emergency Telework Guidelines; Cmsr Reynolds seconded. A roll call vote was called; Cmsrs Wilhelm, Reynolds Oslin, Tellinghuisen, and Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

APPROVE AGREEMENT FOR COUNTY HIGHWAY ENGINEERING SERVICES

Public Works Director Wilson reviewed the County Highway Engineering Services option as the ideal transition for the County. Cmsr Peterson motioned to approve Agreement for County Highway Engineering Services; Cmsr Reynolds seconded. A roll call vote was called; Cmsrs Wilhelm, Reynolds, Oslin, Tellinghuisen, and Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

CONSIDER RESOLUTION NO. 03-17-2020-04, APPOINT AN INTERIM COUNTY HIGHWAY ENGINEER

Public Works Director Wilson stated that per State Statute, the Board needs to appoint a County Engineer. Wilson stated that the resolution would appoint Greg Anderson of SCH as the interim County Highway Engineer. Cmsr Wilhelm motioned to adopt Resolution No. 03-17-2020-04, Appoint an Interim County Highway Engineer; Cmsr Reynolds seconded. A roll call vote was called; Cmsrs Wilhelm, Reynolds, Oslin, Tellinghuisen, and Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

*Board of County Commissioners
Mille Lacs County, Minnesota*

APPOINTMENT OF INTERIM COUNTY HIGHWAY ENGINEER
Resolution No. 03-17-2020-04

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute 163.07 provides for each County Board of the State of Minnesota to appoint and employ a County Highway Engineer; and

WHEREAS, the County Engineer, Jessie Dehn, has submitted his resignation to the Administrative Services Office effective March 6, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the County Highway Engineer shall be a registered highway or civil engineer, registered under the laws of the state of Minnesota; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mille Lacs County Board of Commissioners appoints Greg Anderson as the Temporary County Highway Engineer effective March 17, 2020, until such time as a permanent County Highway Engineer is selected.

APPROVE BOARD ROOM MONITOR PURCHASE

Cmsr Oslin motioned to review item 5.3, Approve Board Room Monitor Purchase further; Cmsr Peterson seconded. A roll call vote was called; Cmsrs Oslin, Tellinghuisen, and Peterson voted aye. Cmsrs Wilhelm and Reynolds voted nay. Motion carried.

Discussion occurred among the Commissioners regarding the uses of an additional monitor. Cmsr Oslin motioned to approve Board Room Monitor Purchase; Cmsr Peterson seconded. A roll call vote was called; Cmsrs Reynolds, Oslin, Tellinghuisen, and Peterson voted aye. Cmsrs Wilhelm voted nay. Motion carried.

CLOSED MEETING: LITIGATION STRATEGY DISCUSSION FOR WALMART LAWSUIT

Cmsr Wilhelm motioned to table Closed Meeting: Litigation Strategy Discussion for Walmart Lawsuit; Cmsr Peterson seconded. A roll call vote was called; Cmsrs Wilhelm, Reynolds, Oslin, Tellinghuisen, and Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

The Chairman recessed the meeting at 11:12 a.m. The Chairman reconvened the meeting at 11:20 a.m.

CLOSED SESSION MEETING TO DISCUSS TRIBAL LITIGATION

A motion was made by Cmsr Wilhelm to close the meeting at 11:23 a.m., in accordance with M.S. 13D.05 Minnesota Statute 13D.05, Subdivision 3 (b). the meeting was closed under attorney client privilege to discuss legal issues, legal advice and litigation strategy arising from the federal lawsuit filed by the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe, Sara Rice and Derrick Naumann versus Mille Lacs County in the United States District Court for the District of Minnesota, Court File No. 17-cv-5155. Cmsr Reynolds seconded. A roll call vote was called; Cmsrs Wilhelm, Reynolds, Oslin, Tellinghuisen and Peterson voted aye. Motion carried. Cmsr Wilhelm motioned to reopen the meeting at 12:28 a.m.; Cmsr Reynolds seconded. Motion carried.

Cmsr Wilhelm motioned to adjourn the meeting at 12:29 a.m.; Cmsr Peterson seconded. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

/s/Pat Oman
Pat Oman
County Administrator

/s/Roger Tellinghuisen
Roger Tellinghuisen
County Board Chairperson