

PROCEEDINGS OF THE
MARTIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2014
@ 9:00 A.M.

The regular meeting of the Martin County Board of Commissioners was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Dan Schmidtke.

Commissioners present were Dan Schmidtke, Steve Pierce, Steve Donnelly, Steve Flohrs, and Elliot Belgard. Also present were Scott Higgins, Martin County Coordinator, James Forshee, Martin County Auditor/Treasurer, Jodelle Greiner, Sentinel Newspaper, Rod Halvorsen, KSUM/KFMC, Julie Walters, Administrative Assistant, and members of staff and public.

Motion by Commissioner Belgard, seconded by Commissioner Donnelly, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve the agenda for the October 21, 2014 regular Board of Commissioners meeting with the following addition: 8.9 Consider Review of Safety Leave Policy and Extended Sick Leave Bank list of employee relatives. Carried unanimously.

Motion by Commissioner Pierce, seconded by Commissioner Flohrs, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve the minutes of the October 7, 2014 regular Board of Commissioners meeting. Carried unanimously.

Kathy Smith, Director-Martin Soil and Water Conservation District, along with Rich Perrine, Water Plan/WCA Coordinator, and Ashley Brenke, District Technician, were present to review Martin County's draft Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Plan. Smith noted public meetings were held in September to gather information to formulate, establish and implement guidelines for a countywide Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Prevention Program. This information was then put into a draft AIS Prevention Plan. The next step is to go back into the plan to make sure the proposed actions support the AIS Prevention Plan. Smith went on to note there are three species we are looking to prevent coming into our lakes including invasive carp, Eurasian milfoil/water milfoil, and zebra mussels. Smith also noted the zebra mussels are close...they're in the Iowa Great Lakes as are the invasive carp...so they are close. Smith went on to note that Allison Gamble with the Minnesota DNR will be here in the next couple of weeks to inspect city and county docks and boat lifts for AIS when they are taken out of the water; and we are hoping for a negative report.

Perrine noted one of the strategies is to hire seasonal help to man a decontamination station at Gomsrud Park; and to greet people at the lakes and educate folks about AIS and to examine and wash the boats before putting them in the water. Perrine went on to note law enforcement feel the fishermen aren't where AIS are going to come from. It's the recreational boaters they see as being the problem because they hop from one lake to another without much concern.

Commissioner Schmidtke recommends involving the Park Board.

Kevin Peyman, Martin County Highway Engineer, presented a Highway Department update including an \$11,000 purchase price for the used 1992 packer/roller purchased from the State of Minnesota Surplus Services-MinnBid site; construction on CSAH 27 and CSAH 39 is basically complete and that the extra No Passing and Passing Zone signs on the new construction routes will soon be taken down.

Peyman noted when we first did the 911 rural address signs for fire and emergency crew identification purposes the county opted to pay for those signs. However, since there was no way of saying the signs had to stay up almost 1/3rd of the signs were taken down almost immediately. Peyman also noted there is no clear way to make placement of these signs mandatory unless it be incorporated in the Zoning Ordinance and will need county attorney involvement to see if it can be made mandatory. Peyman went on to note replacement signs for new houses have been paid by the homeowner at a cost of \$13 each; or if you have to have a Gopher One call and pound in a post, the cost is \$25 each. Peyman noted those initial signs are now getting to the end of their life and will need to be replaced. Peyman inquired if the county would pay for costs associated with replacement of the signs; but recommended keeping to past policy of homeowners paying for replacement and/or new rural address signs.

Commissioners commented on how important the signs are for fire and ambulance crews.

Commissioner Belgard these signs are the best thing that ever happened to the ambulance service. For fire service, you almost always can see smoke or fire...but when you're going down the road in an ambulance in a critical situation...there is some comfort level going by those signs and knowing you're getting closer.

Chairman Schmidtke thanked Peyman for the update.

Commissioners reviewed the Sheriff's Office recommendation for employee step increases.

Motion by Commissioner Pierce, seconded by Commissioner Belgard, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, upon the recommendation of the Martin County Sheriff's Office, hereby approve and authorize step increase based on satisfactory performance evaluation and according to Union Contract(s) for the following Martin County Sheriff's Office personnel: Chris Vasvick, Deputy Sheriff (LELS #136), from 4 Year Step at \$24.91/hour to 5 Year Step at \$25.56/hour, effective September 11, 2014; and for Ben Johnson, Corrections Officer (LELS #115), from 6 Year Step at \$23.47/hour to 7 Year Step at \$23.84/hour, effective November 1, 2014. Carried unanimously.

Corey Klanderud, Chief Deputy-Martin County Sheriff's Office, noted the Sheriff's Office has received and accepted resignation notices from Charles Poppe, part time Deputy/Court Security, and Emily Swanson, part time Corrections Officer, and asks the Board to do the same. Resignations are both effective October 21, 2014.

Motion by Commissioner Donnelly, seconded by Commissioner Flohrs, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby accept the resignation of Charles Poppe as part time Deputy for the Martin County Sheriff's Office effective October 21, 2014; and hereby

accept the resignation of Emily Swanson as part time Corrections Officer for the Martin County Sheriff's Office effective October 21, 2014. Carried unanimously.

Klanderud noted due to recent resignations the Martin County Sheriff's Office recommends the hire of Jared Schafer as part time corrections officer.

Motion by Commissioner Belgard, seconded by Commissioner Pierce, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve and authorize the hire of Jared Schafer as part time Corrections Officer for the Martin County Sheriff's Office, effective November 2, 2014 at \$15.96/hour, not eligible for benefits; and is contingent upon successful background check. Carried unanimously.

Klanderud presented the out of state travel request for Cory Ballard to attend the Prevention of and Response to Suicide Bombing Incidents course presented by New Mexico Tech/Energetic Materials Research and Testing Center October 19-25, 2014 in Playas, New Mexico. Klanderud noted the request should have been presented at the previous Commissioners meeting; and that grant funds are available to cover the travel and training expenses.

Motion by Commissioner Pierce, seconded by Commissioner Belgard, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve and authorize the out of state travel request for Cory Ballard, Martin County Sheriff's Deputy, to attend the Prevention of and Response to Suicide Bombing Incidents (PRSBI) course to be held October 19-25, 2014 in Playas, New Mexico. Those voting in favor: Commissioners Flohrs, Belgard, Pierce, and Schmidtke. Those voting against: Commissioner Donnelly. Motion carries.

Klanderud presented and reviewed the Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) with the Southwest Minnesota/Northwest Iowa Emergency Response Unit. Klanderud noted the purpose of the JPA is to provide police assistance to governmental units in circumstances where such assistance would enable a governmental unit to more adequately deal with a situation involving public health, safety and welfare, including keeping the peace in major disasters, crimes in progress, exchange of personnel on a temporary short term basis not to exceed one year. Klanderud went on to note this has been an ongoing project for quite some time, revisions have now been made, and the JPA is ready for signatures. Klanderud also noted the county attorney has reviewed the revised JPA and approves it as to form and content.

Motion by Commissioner Belgard, seconded by Commissioner Flohrs, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby ratify approval and authorize the Martin County Sheriff and Board Chair to sign the Southwest Minnesota/Northwest Iowa Emergency Response Unit Joint Powers Agreement; and for the purposes to provide police assistance to governmental units in circumstances where such assistance would enable a government unit to more adequately deal with a situation involving public health, safety and welfare, including keeping the peach in major disasters, crimes in progress, exchange of personnel on a temporary short term basis not to exceed one year; and for all other purposes stated in the Joint Powers Agreement, effective when two or more entities approve and execute the agreement. Carried unanimously.

James Forshee, Martin County Auditor/Treasurer, noted the Blizzard Snowmobile Club has been awarded \$40,420.89 (\$37,356 for FY2014) that includes a one-time supplement for FY15 in the amount of \$2,616.09 and is effective July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015 to be used for the maintenance grooming of the Prairieland Trail.

Motion by Commissioner Pierce, seconded by Commissioner Flohrs,

R-#53/'14

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING
FY2015 SNOWMOBILE MAINTENANCE GRANT AGREEMENT
FOR PRAIRIELAND TRAIL

WHEREAS, this agreement is made between the State of Minnesota and Martin County as it relates to the establishment of the Prairieland Trail, and

WHEREAS, Martin County desires to establish, construct, and maintain public trails; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Trails Assistance Program provides grants to local units of government for the construction and maintenance of recreational trails pursuant to the Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 84.83; and

WHEREAS, the Blizzard Snowmobile Club on behalf of Martin County, has submitted the application and resolution by the local government authorizing the proposed trails; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Martin County Board of Commissioners approve and authorize the Board Chair and/or Auditor/Treasurer to sign the Minnesota Trail Assistance Program FY2015 Grant Agreement in the amount of \$40,420.89 with an effective date of July 1, 2014 and expiration date of June 30, 2015.

Motion by Commissioner Pierce, seconded by Commissioner Flohrs, and was duly passed and adopted this 21st day of October, 2014.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MARTIN COUNTY, MN

Dan Schmidtke, Board Chair

ATTEST: _____
Scott Higgins, County Coordinator

Roll Call AYES: Commissioners Belgard, Donnelly, Flohrs, Pierce, and Schmidtke. NAYS: None. Resolution duly passed and adopted this 21st day of October, 2014.

Higgins noted the Martin County Drainage Administration Office is recommending the acceptance of a Petition for an Improvement of JD #20; and is also recommending the appointment of Chuck Brandel, Engineer with I&S Group, as engineer for the proposed Improvement Project.

Motion by Commissioner Donnelly, seconded by Commissioner Belgard, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, acting as the Drainage Authority for Martin County, hereby accept the Petition for an Improvement of JD #20; and appoint Chuck Brandel with I&S Group, as engineer for the Improvement Project. Carried unanimously.

Higgins noted the Martin County Drainage Administration Office is looking to set a hearing date to hear the Viewer's Report for CD #73.

After discussion,

Motion by Commissioner Belgard, seconded by Commissioner Pierce, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, acting as the Drainage Authority for Martin County, hereby sets a public hearing date to hear the Viewer's Report for CD #73 for Tuesday, December 2, 2014, at 10:30 a.m. during the regular Board of Commissioners meeting in the Commissioners Board Room – Martin County Courthouse. Carried unanimously.

Jeff Markquart, Martin County Sheriff, opened a brief discussion regarding ongoing radio coverage issues with the ARMER Radio System.

Higgins noted the Board previously approved and adopted Martin County's Safety Leave Policy resulting from the Minnesota Women's Economic Security Act which was passed into law this past legislative session (effective August 1, 2014). Higgins went on to state that the board approved a new Safety Leave Policy, however, after further review, recommended that the board eliminate the limited use of the maximum hours of a 160 hours an employee can use your personal sick leave for certain relatives at 160 hours. Higgins also noted the new policy has not been issued to employees pending this revision. Higgins further stated and recommended that due to changes in legislation effective August 1, 2014, the legislation has extended the use of sick leave" for an employee's family members to include grandchildren, spouses mother and spouses father. Higgins recommends adding grandchildren, spouse's mother and spouse's father for eligible sick leave use.

After discussion,

Motion by Commissioner Flohrs, seconded by Commissioner Pierce, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby revise the newly approved Martin County Safety Leave Policy to delete the provision limiting the use of sick leave use by employees of up to a 160 hours of personal sick leave benefits in any 12 month period; and add the following relatives for sick leave use to include grandchildren and spouses mother and father. Carried unanimously.

Higgins presented the bills to be paid.

Motion by Commissioner Flohrs, seconded by Commissioner Donnelly, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve payment of claims for the month of October, 2014 as presented; and includes the Martin County Highway Department bills as presented and Drainage Administration bills as presented. Carried unanimously.

Warrants received and paid October, 2014 are registered on file in the Auditor/Treasurer's Office as follows:

Revenue Fund – Warrants Approved October, 2014	\$397,128.90
Enhanced 9-1-1 Fund	\$ 9,615.00
Recreation and Safety Fund	\$ 562.30
Martin Co. Economic Development Authority	\$ 1,173.57
Solid Waste Management Fund	\$ 29,303.21
Law Library Fund	\$ 1,356.67
Martin County Transit Fund	\$ 49,138.63
Recorder's Compliance	\$ 2,162.53
Bank Building Fund	\$ 5,112.51
Forfeited Tax Fund	\$ 15.00
Total	\$495,568.32

Road and Bridge Funds Totaled	\$106,031.03
Martin County Ditch Funds Totaled	\$ 44,721.01

Commissioners reviewed the YTD Financial Statement; and AMC District 7 Fall Meeting date and agenda. It was determined that at this time Commissioners Pierce, Flohrs, and Belgard are planning to attend AMC's District 7 Fall Meeting.

Commissioners presented their individual board member reports.

Commissioner Flohrs noted he attended the Human Services Executive meeting and Park Board meeting at Perch Lake Park on October 8, 2014; Mentoring Coordinator applicant interviews on October 10, 2014; Library Board meeting on October 14, 2014; Prairieland meeting on October 17, 2014; met with Judy Beckman, the Martin County Library Board and Soil and Water Conservation District Board for a luncheon meeting; and Library Board presentation at the Trimont City Council meeting on October 20, 2014.

Commissioner Belgard noted in addition to those already mentioned he attended the Region 9 Development full commission meeting in Mankato on October 8, 2014; and Region 9 Community Economic Development meeting on October 16, 2014.

Commissioner Pierce noted in addition to those mentioned there have been numerous meetings regarding the radios and communication between Alpha Wireless; and several broadband meetings to see if we can improve things for businesses and people in the area.

Commissioner Donnelly noted he had nothing new to add.

Commissioner Schmidtke noted he had nothing new to add.

Commissioners reviewed their calendars of upcoming meetings and activities: October 21, 2014 – Martin County EDA Strategic Planning Session beginning at 11:00 a.m. at the Human Resource Building, and Personnel Committee meeting at 3:00 p.m.; October 22, 2014 – Human Services Full Board meeting in Blue Earth, MN; October 24, 2014 – Open Enrollment meetings at Highway and Courthouse; October 27, 2014 – Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition meeting at the High School at noon (Commissioner Pierce will be unable to attend this meeting); October 28, 2014 – Regional Transit Meeting from 9:00 a.m. until noon at Faribault County; November 3, 2014 – regular Martin County EDA meeting at 5:15 p.m., Interviews for Veteran Services Specialist (8-5 p.m.), and Beyond the Yellow Ribbon meeting at 7:00 p.m.; November 4, 2014 – Joint breakfast meeting with Martin Soil and Water Conservation District at 7:00 a.m. at The Ranch Restaurant in Fairmont, MN, regular Board of Commissioners meeting at 9:00 a.m. – Board Room, and Election Day – Vote Today.

The Board recessed at 9:52 a.m.

The Board reconvened at 11:00 a.m. to attend the Martin County EDA Strategic Planning Session at the Human Resource Building basement meeting room.

No action taken with regard to the Martin County EDA Strategic Planning Session.

With no further business to wit, the meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MARTIN COUNTY, MN

Dan Schmidtke, Board Chair

ATTEST: _____
Scott Higgins, County Coordinator