

PROCEEDINGS OF THE
MARTIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2016
@ 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 Elliot Belgard. Commissioners present were Kathy Smith, Elliot Belgard, Tom Mahoney, Steve Flohrs, and Dan Schmidtke. Also present were Scott Higgins, Martin County Coordinator, James Forshee, Martin County Auditor/Treasurer, Terry Viesselman, Martin County Attorney, Rod Halvorsen, KSUM-KFMC Radio, Desiree Diaz, Fairmont Sentinel Reporter, Julie Walters, Administrative Assistant, and members of staff and public.

Motion by Commissioner Flohrs, seconded by Commissioner Smith, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve the agenda for the January 19, 2016, regular Board of Commissioners meeting. Carried unanimously.

Steve Hawkins, Project 1590 Board Chair, along with Mike Edman, presented a Project 1590 committee update encompassing the top ten survey items for local economic development and enhancing the life and well-being of the citizens of Fairmont and our surrounding communities including:

1. Multi-Purpose Trails
2. Reuse, Reimagine Vacant Buildings
3. Beautify and Maintain our Waterways
4. Destination Downtown Fairmont
5. Regional Wellness Center
- 6.&7. Business Friendly Environment and Retail Business Recruitment
8. Celebrate Fairmont
9. Kids Just Want to Have Fun
10. Enhance Fairmont's Natural Water Park

Chairman Belgard thanked Hawkins and Edman for the Project 1590 update.

Scott McConkey, Law Enforcement Liaison with the MN Dept. of Public Safety, Office of Traffic Safety, was present to award the Martin County Sheriff's Office with the Outstanding Agency Award of a Stalker Lidar XLR to assist them with their traffic enforcement efforts in keeping drivers at safe and legal speeds, having shown a considerable commitment to the Toward Zero Deaths (TZD) traffic safety effort. McConkey noted the Stalker Lidar is a tool that will help make our community safer and enhance our deputies' efforts to identify vehicles driving at illegal and unsafe speeds. McConkey went on to note the Martin County Sheriff's Office is a partner, with hundreds of other departments, that strives Toward Zero Deaths by focusing traffic enforcement efforts. Speed is one of the main contributing factors in crashes and in determining their severity. Higher speed means greater force and less time to react. In Minnesota it is the law that you must travel at the appropriate speed to maintain control of your vehicle in any condition: snow, ice, rain, fog, etc.

McConkey, along with Jeff Markquart, Martin County Sheriff, presented Martin County Deputy Christopher Vasvick with a uniform pin for his leading Toward Zero Death coordinating efforts within the Martin County Sheriff's Office.

McConkey and Markquart next read aloud a Letter of Commendation to Martin County Deputy Clinton Cole for his above and beyond efforts in saving lives, property, and supporting the Toward Zero Death mission.

Vicki Paskey, Minnesota Valley Action Council (MVAC), presented the 2016 Martin County/MVAC Summer Internship Program Agreement. Paskey noted she has already received six applications for the upcoming year and that is exciting. Paskey noted this is the fifth year of the Program and is intended for young adults 18-24 who are residents of Martin County to apply for the internships, most of which qualify for college credit. Internships may be up to 40 hours per week at a wage of \$9.00 per hour. Participants will be on MVAC payroll and MVAC will be responsible for workers compensation coverage and for any unemployment insurance claims at the conclusion of the program. Paskey went on to note MVAC staff will monitor worksites every two weeks and participants will meet with MVAC staff individually and in groups to explore career goals and to discuss how to get and keep a job.

Paskey continued over the past five years we have discussed the option of having some of the businesses make a contribution for having the interns and after meeting with Commissioner Schmidtke, we've come up with a couple of suggestions for the Board to consider. One option is to provide employers an opportunity to contribute \$500 toward the Program with payment from larger companies of \$500 per intern after the first intern. If a company employs three interns, there would be a required Program donation of \$500 each for interns two and three. The second option is to establish a scholarship program for companies with 50 or more employees; and non-profits.

After discussion,

Motion by Commissioner Schmidtke, seconded by Commissioner Mahoney, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve and authorize Board Chair to sign the Agreement between Martin County and the Minnesota Valley Action Council (MVAC) for administration of the 2016 Summer Internship Program Agreement; with the stipulation for mandatory contribution to the Program of \$500 per intern for Martin County businesses utilizing more than one intern in the Summer Youth Internship Program; and that County businesses employing 50+ employees consider contributing to a Program scholarship fund. Carried unanimously.

Terry Viesselman, Martin County Attorney, was present and noted he had nothing new to report.

Scott Higgins, Martin County Coordinator, reviewed openings yet to be filled on Citizen Advisory Boards/Committees for terms beginning January, 2016, including: Water Plan Advisory Committee – One township official is needed to serve on the committee; and Extension Committee – one appointment from Commissioner District #1 is needed to serve on the committee.

Chairman Belgard noted Jody Saxton is interested and willing to serve on the Extension Committee.

Motion by Commissioner Flohrs, seconded by Commissioner Smith, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby appoint Jody Saxton to serve on the Martin County Extension Committee for a three year term beginning January, 2016. Carried unanimously.

Higgins noted the Board tabled Clarification of Pay Rate for Part Time Corrections and Communications Officers during the January 5, 2016, regular Commissioners meeting in order for the Martin County Personnel Committee to review the wage increase for part time Corrections and Communications Officers. Higgins went on to note the requested objective and original recommendation (April 2015) is to increase the part time wages to match the start pay for full time wages (per the union contract). Higgins also noted the current part time wage for the Corrections and Communications Officers is \$17.81/hour. Higgins noted the Personnel Committee has reviewed the matter and is recommending approval to increase the part time wages to match the full time rate start rate, effective the first full pay period in July 2016, at \$19.71/hour (\$1.90/hour increase); and that the wages would adjust accordingly to match the LELS #115 contract, upon approval by the County Board, unless otherwise determined by the County Board.

Motion by Commissioner Schmidtke, seconded by Commissioner Flohrs, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve the wage increase for part time Corrections and Communications Officers from \$17.81/hour to \$19.71/hour, effective the first full pay period in July 2016; and that future wage adjustments for the aforementioned positions be adjusted to match the start pay as stated in the Union Contract for LELS #115, upon approval by the County Board, unless otherwise determined by the County Board. Carried unanimously.

James Forshee, Martin County Auditor/Treasurer, noted due to the retirement of Deb Mosloski, Drainage Specialist, it is recommended that Michael Forstner, Drainage Inspector for Martin County, be reclassified as interim Drainage Specialist while Martin County goes through a restructuring of the Drainage Administration Office and a formal hiring process to fill a vacancy. Forshee went on to note the County Compensation Policy allows for temporary reclassification for employees who are assigned to higher pay grade and pay range for thirty days or more. Forshee also noted the period of reclassification is not expected to exceed six months; and the recommendation during the interim period would include changing Forstner's current Grade 12 Step 6 at \$22.27/hour to Grade 13 Step 4 at \$22.93/hour.

Motion by Commissioner Mahoney, seconded by Commissioner Smith, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve and authorize the reclassification of Michael Forstner as Interim Drainage Specialist for the Martin County Drainage Administration-Auditor/Treasurer's Office, effective the next full pay period (January 25, 2016); and approve and authorize changing Michael Forstner's current wage rate of Grade 12 Step 6 at \$22.27/hour, to Grade 13 Step 4 at \$22.93/hour. Carried unanimously.

Forshee noted the engagement letter signed by Martin County in 2015 for Office of the State Auditor (OSA) audit services to Martin County for each of the years ending December 31, 2015, December 31, 2016, and December 31, 2017, noted that the Letter of Engagement would be amended, as and when needed for additional terms, for any of the individual years. Forshee presented the amended engagement letter which includes updated language for single audit and pension references, for the OSA audit of Martin County for the individual year ending December 31, 2015.

Motion by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Schmidtke, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve and authorize Board Chair, Auditor/Treasurer, and Coordinator, to sign the amended Letter of Understanding of Services Agreement for audit services by the State of Minnesota Office of the State Auditor for the years ending December 31, 2015, December 31, 2016, and December 31, 2017; that includes updated language for single audit and pension references. Carried unanimously.

Pam Flitter, Martin County Zoning Official, presented the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) 2016/2017 Annual County Feedlot Program Delegation Agreement Work Plan. Flitter noted the Delegation Agreement determines anything under a certain animal unit the County will continue permitting and inspecting and providing all the services regarding complaints and any other things that come in with feedlots; and that this Delegation Agreement and Work Plan is for two years. Flitter went on to note the Work Plan basically describes what our services are, and that we meet all of the minimum program requirements in order to be a Delegation County. Flitter also noted it used to always be that under 1,000 animal units was what we permitted and then the state came up with a gap site so anything over 750 animal units or a sow or a finishing site over that is considered state and under County. The gap sites may be going away which is where our concern is, because it could add another 120 to 130 inspections for us.

Motion by Commissioner Flohrs, seconded by Commissioner Schmidtke, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve and accept the 2016/2017 Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) Feedlot Work Plan/Delegation Agreement; and authorize Board Chair to sign the agreement. Carried unanimously.

Flitter next reviewed the 116 building permits issued in 2015:

Type of Structure or Project	Number Issues
Home	11
Home Additions	7
Patios; Walks; Decks; Pools; Misc.	12
Garage	7
Shop; Office; Addition; Business	5
Grading & Fill	0
Lean-to	1
Animal Barns	13
Grain Bins	14
Grain Dryers; Legs	4
Communication Antennas; Essential Service	5

Sheds; Machine Sheds; Hoop Barns; Barn Additions	35
Solar System	2
Total	116
2015 Septic Permits Issued	43

Flitter noted there will be a meeting on Thursday, March 3, 2016, for real estate agents and appraisers. A representative with the U of M will present a Basic 101 about what a septic system is, and noted that Commissioners are welcome to attend this meeting. Flitter went on to note we also have our Martin County Planning and Zoning Contractors Meeting for contractors that have worked in the County for septic systems. Flitter reviewed septic system statistics on the 47 systems that were installed in 2015 including: 14 Mounds, 14 At Grades, 12 In Ground (trenches), and 7 Tanks, there were 6 Abandonments, 38 Private Inspections (8 Failed), and 15 Loans (9 received Grant Dollars). Flitter noted 75% of all homeowners have a permit on file in our office...so we're making progress.

Autumn Larsen, Youth Intervention and Prevention Coordinator, noted the County's Youth Intervention Program has been approved and awarded a grant from the Minnesota Department of Safety for Youth Intervention programming in the amount of \$90,000 with a required one to one cash/in-kind match (matching funds will come through the Title II-Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (T-JABG)). Larsen went on to note this grant will be providing an ongoing stable funding source to community based early intervention programs for youth; and that the contract period is January 1, 2016, through December 31, 2017.

Motion by Commissioner Schmidtke, seconded by Commissioner Smith, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve resolution authorizing execution of Youth Intervention Program funding through the Commissioner of Public Safety Office of Justice Program; and authorize Board Chair and/or Julie Grunewald, Probation Agent, to execute such agreements and amendments as are necessary to implement the program on behalf of the Martin County Probation Department.

R-#12/'16

RESOLUTION

Authorizing Execution of Grant Agreement for Juvenile Justice Grant

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Martin County Probation Department will enter into a cooperative agreement with the Office of Justice Programs in the Minnesota Department of Safety for Youth Intervention Program Funding in the amount of \$90,000.00 with cash/ in-kind match of \$90,000.00 (the matching funds will come through the Title II- Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (T-JABG), for the purpose of providing an ongoing stable funding source to community-based early intervention programs for youth.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Julie Grunewald is hereby authorized to execute such agreements and amendments, as are necessary to implement the project on behalf of Martin County Probation Department.

I certify that the above resolution was adopted by the Board of Commissioners of Martin County on this 19th day of January, 2016.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MARTIN COUNTY

Elliot Belgard, Board Chair

ATTEST: _____
Scott Higgins, County Coordinator

Roll Call AYES: Commissioners Flohrs, Mahoney, Smith, Schmidtke, and Belgard. NAYS: None. Resolution duly passed and adopted this 19th day of January, 2016.

Chairman Belgard called the ditch hearing to order for the redetermination of benefits for CD #47, JD #35, JD #98, and JD #102.

Ron Ringquist, Viewer, noted this is just the redetermination of benefits. There are no improvements or other complex issue. Ringquist noted the basis for determining benefits and damages is based upon a comparison of the conditions that would have existed prior to the original ditch systems construction and the present drainage system operating in a reasonable state of repair as constructed and/or subsequently improved. This is done through a mass appraisal process with the following aids used during the viewing process: Soil survey manuals and maps of Martin County; GIS photos and data; Minnesota LiDAR; Yield averages and production costs taken from Minnesota State College and University Farm Management Records; Sales data from the Martin County Assessor's Office; and Visual inspection of each 40 acre tract.

Ringquist went on to note land classification benefit values are based upon an increase in the potential for agricultural production as a result of constructing the drainage project and reconciled with sales value increases. Existing individual land management practices were not considered. All present land use was evaluated under estimated best land management practice. Special consideration was given to areas which were considered to be in a native/non-converted condition or identified as wetlands under wetlands inventory and restricted from drainage by state or federal regulations. State owned properties were considered for the purpose it is held. No direct consideration was given to structure values within the watershed.

Ringquist noted beginning land use, property value, and economic productivity have been determined with the consideration that the benefited properties within the watershed currently do not have an adequate outlet for artificial drainage and are in four general classes: "A" Standing water or cattails, wetland classification with a market value for agricultural purposes of \$0.00 per acre, economic productivity of \$0.00; "B" Seasonally flooded/pasture ground. Pasture classification with a market value of \$1,200.00 to \$1,600.00 per acre, economic productivity of \$90.00 based on grazing days and/or hay values; "C" Wet subsoil – marginal crop land, low to medium crop land classification with a market value of \$5,000.00 to \$6,000.00 per acre, annual

economic productivity of \$504.00 based upon average annual yield of 80% of optimum with \$347.11 production costs; and “D” Upland areas not needing artificial drainage but irregular in shape and intermixed with wetter soils. Medium to high cropland classification with a market value of \$5,000.00 to \$7,500.00 per acre, annual economic productivity of \$635.35 based upon average annual yield of 95% of optimum with \$347.11 production costs.

Ringquist went on to note potential land use, property value, and an economic productivity, after public and private drainage have been installed as per NRCS design standard as recommended in the Minnesota Drainage Guide, using current crop rotation, income, and expense we go out and look at all the lands and delineate by parcel and by 40 acres to determine the number of acres of A, B, C, and D lands within each of those and then apply the values. “A” Drained slough area, medium classification land with a market value of \$6,000.00 to \$7,000.00 per acre, economic productivity of \$579.60 based upon average production of 92% of optimum \$347.11 production costs; “B” Well drained ground, high land classification with a market value of \$6,500.00 to \$7,500.00 per acre, economic productivity of \$604.80 based upon average annual production of 96% of optimum with \$347.11 production costs; “C” Well drained ground, best land classification with an estimated market value of \$7,500.00 to \$8,500.00 per acre, economic productivity of \$630.00 based upon average annual production of 100% of optimum with \$347.11 production costs; and “D” Well drained ground, high land classification with improved farmability and market value of \$6,000.00 to \$8,500.00 per acre. Economic productivity of \$623.75 based upon average production of 99% of optimum with \$347.11 production costs.

Ringquist noted road benefits were determined with consideration of the reduced construction and maintenance costs that were realized after construction of the drainage system. Tile benefits were given to reflect the additional value added as the ditch system tile provides one of the normal lines of tile for subsurface drainage.

Ringquist also noted utilizing these productive values, potential benefit values were determined for the system based upon a 25 year effective life with proper maintenance, private improvement cost depreciated over the same 25 year period, and an allowance of 0.5% return on the system investment. Adjustment was made to each land class based upon consideration of the change in hydraulic capacity and the subsequent increased productivity that the construction of the drainage system provided. Benefit values were rounded off for ease of computation. This value was then applied to the number of acres determined to be in each class per tract. Adjustments to potential benefit was given for the proximity from the public drainage system. This was done to allow for construction of public or private laterals to provide an adequate outlet to each land tract.

Ringquist noted the drainage system does not have adequate size and capacity to meet the NRCS recommended drainage capacities for agricultural drainage. Adjustment has been made to reflect this restrictive capacity. The net benefit provided by the ditch system is determined by the adjusted benefit class value being applied to the number of acres determined to be in each class per tract, accumulating the sum of these benefit values, and then applying the proximity rate percentage. The proximity rate applied to the potential benefits allows a share of the benefits to remain for the connection of the branches or the petition for a lateral to provide an adequate outlet directly to each 40 acre tract.

Ringquist went on to note damages have been given for the easement acquisition for the are required to establish the one rod seeding area adjacent to the channel required by Minnesota Statute No. 103E.021. The lands taken are considered as a permanent easement only and will be restricted from use for commodity crop production. The damage value in our opinion of the difference between the current land value and the value of the same lands with the easement in place.

Chair Belgard asked for questions on the process.

Vernon Rosenberg inquired about Ditch #75 out letting to Ditch #367.

Ringquist noted at the time the Ditch #367 redetermination was completed it is my understanding that the amount of benefit was not worth the delay necessary to have them redetermined prior to doing an outlet fee and therefore there was no outlet benefit assessed against Ditch #35 or Ditch #47 because the outlet down there into that Mudd Lake and that slough area are on the bottom so that should have been addressed back when we did Ditch #367 and it was decided not to delay the Ditch #367. That is my recollection anyway.

Rosenberg noted well I don't think it's fair.

Ringquist noted my understanding would be that you would have to look at Ditch #367 and have the outlet charged as a part of Ditch #367. I have numbers that we calculated and they were in that \$500 range...they were relatively small because they are way down at the outlet but we did understand that when we did Ditch #367...that they were not included. It is kind of like that like the Ditch #29 deal but we talked about that at the time the Ditch #367 was done and if I remember right Mr. Kraemer said that wasn't worth worrying about at that time because it was to go forward and so it did not get included.

Motion by Commissioner Schmidtke, seconded by Commissioner Smith, to close the public portion of the hearing.

Ringquist addressed each individual ditch because they are separate ditch systems:

Martin County Judicial Ditch #98 was originally constructed in 1921. A major repair of the open ditch was completed in 1963. The ditch system consists of an open ditch and drainage tile system. The outlet of the drainage system is into Sager Lake. The system provides an outlet for lands in Sections 26, 27, 28, 31, 32, 33, 34, and 35 of Fairmont Township; and Sections 2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9, 10,11,13,14,15,16,23, and 24 in Silver Lake Township, all in Martin County Minnesota. The drainage system has had some maintenance but has never been fully repaired or improved. The recommended benefits are: Land benefits of \$10,163,087.00 and Road benefits of \$254,757.00 for a total benefit of \$10,417,844.45. There are 21 acres of seeding area with an estimated cost to acquire that right of way of \$134,708.00 Total benefitting acres are now 7,324 ½ acres.

Motion by Commissioner Mahoney, seconded by Commissioner Flohrs, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, acting as the Drainage Authority for Martin County,

hereby approve to accept the Final Viewer's Report for the Redetermination of Martin County Judicial Ditch #98 as presented. Carried unanimously.

Martin County Judicial Ditch #102 was originally constructed in 1920. The ditch system consists of a drainage tile system only. The outlet of the drainage system is into a natural creek and then Sager Lake. The system provides an outlet for lands in Sections 1, 2, 11, and 12 of Silver Lake Township in Martin County Minnesota. The drainage system has had some maintenance but has never been fully repaired or improved. The recommended benefits are: Land benefits of \$805,399.00 and Road benefits of \$294.00 for a total benefit of \$805,693.00. There are only 474 total benefited acres within the watershed and there is no seeding area required as this is an all tile system.

Motion by Commissioner Flohrs, seconded by Commissioner Schmidtke, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, acting as the Drainage Authority for Martin County, hereby approve to accept the Final Viewer's Report for the Redetermination of Martin County Judicial Ditch #102 as presented. Carried unanimously.

Martin County Judicial Ditch #35 was originally constructed in 1914. The ditch system consists of a drainage tile system only. The outlet of the drainage system is into Mud Lake. The system provides an outlet for lands in Sections 5, and 6 of Tenhassen Township; and Sections 31, and 32 of Rolling Green Township, all in Martin County Minnesota. The drainage system has had some maintenance but has never been fully repaired or improved. The recommended benefits are: Land benefits of \$1,134,159.48 and Road benefits of \$34,069.60 for a total benefit of \$1,168,229.08. There are 946 total benefited acres within the watershed and there is no seeding area required as this is an all tile system.

Motion by Commissioner Mahoney, seconded by Commissioner Flohrs, to close the public portion of the hearing. Carried unanimously.

Motion by Commissioner Mahoney, seconded by Commissioner Flohrs, acting as the Drainage Authority for Martin County, hereby approve to accept the Final Viewer's Report for the Redetermination of Martin County Judicial Ditch #35 as presented. Carried unanimously.

Martin County, County Ditch #47, was originally constructed in 1947. The ditch system consists of an open ditch and drainage tile system. The outlet of the drainage system is into Mud Lake. The system provides an outlet for lands in Sections 5, 6, 7, and 8 of Tenhassen Township in Martin County Minnesota. The drainage system has had some maintenance but has never been fully repaired or improved. The recommended benefits are: Land benefits of \$372,829.80 and Road benefits of \$12,062.05 for a total benefit of \$384,891.85. There are 215 total benefited acres within the watershed and .78 hundredths of an acre of seeding area with a value of \$5,800.50.

Motion by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Mahoney, to close the public portion of the hearing.

Motion by Commissioner Schmidtke, seconded by Commissioner Mahoney, acting as the Drainage Authority for Martin County, hereby approve to accept the Final Viewer's Report for the Redetermination of Martin County, County Ditch #47 as presented. Carried unanimously.

Michael Kelley, Fifth Judicial District Administrator, and John Schiro, FMJ Drug Court interim coordinator, to respond to concern over a recent decision to not extend the services of the FMJ Drug Court Coordinator. Kelley noted the contract was set to expire December 31, 2015, and the decision to not renew that contract was not an easy one. Despite the Minnesota Legislature actually giving more money to the Minnesota Judicial Branch drug courts across the state, funds allocated to the existing Fifth district drug courts were reduced by 16 percent for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2016, which left a significant funding gap for the Fifth District drug courts. Kelley went on to note when I assumed my position as district administrator on October 1, 2015, I was informed that the Fifth District drug courts had a funding deficit of approximately \$145,000, and was told there was no other plan than to hope for additional funds...so when this contract came up for expiration, I felt that it was a financial necessity to not renew it. That being said, we did not make this decision and would not allow the contract to expire without having a plan for supporting the FMJ Drug Courts and have arranged for an interim coordinator from existing drug courts, one of which is John Schiro, the coordinator for the Brown, Nicollet, and Watonwan Counties, and has assumed the interim coordinator responsibilities for the FMJ Adult Drug Court. Kevin Mettler who is the coordinator for the Blue Earth County Adult Family Dependency Treatment and the Veterans Courts has assumed coordinator responsibilities for the FMJ Family Dependency Treatment Court. Kelley also noted I am personally committed to seeing this program succeed and I'm going to do what I can to make sure that not only the FMJ program receives the funding it needs and the coordinator services it needs; but also the other courts throughout the district. The Fifth District is unique in the State of Minnesota in that we have drug court services available to citizens in every one of the 15 counties so staffing those drug courts has been and I think is going to continue to be a challenge.

Commissioner Schmidtke inquired with all the different drug courts in this district why is this one, the one that has received National recognition, the one that got cut.

Kelley noted this position was a contract and the contract was due to expire. The other districts are our employees and it was easier to allow a contract to expire than to lay off an employee. The contract goes back to decisions that were made a number of years ago to allow the previous coordinator to take an early retirement buy-out and incentives which then prevented the district from rehiring for a period of time.

Chairman Belgard noted we are really passionate about the FMJ Drug Court here and it has been very successful and it hurts to see anything happen to it. What we found most troubling here is that Judge Walker was a huge proponent of this and there was a position filled in Mankato office with money that they felt could have been used for this position.

Kelley noted it was a decision that was made before I assumed my position. All I can do is make my commitment to you that we're going to continue looking at the resource and proper allocation of the resources. Unfortunately I can't undo what was done before I came to the

District. In the interim basis I'll assure you that it will run as smoothly as possible. Drug Courts are a passion of mine as well.

Commissioner Mahoney inquired will we still have the same amount of scheduled drug courts?

Kelley noted my intent is not to change anything here. We hold the FMJ Drug Court weekly for the adult drug court program and the family dependency court program is every other week.

Michael Forstner, Ditch Inspector – Martin County Drainage Administration, was present to request the Board set the 2016 Beaver Bounty at \$20 (no change from 2015).

Motion by Commissioner Flohrs, seconded by Commissioner Smith, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, acting as the Drainage Authority for Martin County, hereby set the 2016 Beaver Bounty at \$20 per beaver. Carried unanimously.

Forstner requested the Board set the 2016 crop damage amounts for corn and soybeans. Forstner noted the 2015 damages were set at \$640.00 for corn and \$430.00 for soybeans.

Motion by Commissioner Flohrs, seconded by Commissioner Mahoney, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, acting as the Drainage Authority for Martin County, hereby set the 2016 Crop Damage Amounts at \$640.00 per acre for corn and \$430.00 per acre for soybeans. Carried unanimously.

Higgins opened discussion with regard to a request to purchase historic fainting couch that has been housed in the courthouse for many, many years.

Motion by Commissioner Schmidtke, seconded by Commissioner Flohrs, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, after consideration of the requires to sell the fainting couch (Judges Chamber), hereby approve that the historic fainting couch be kept at the Martin County Courthouse; and not to be sold. Carried unanimously.

Commissioners reviewed information including the Monthly Financial Report for December, 2015; Southern Minnesota Tourism Association 2016 Funding Request; Drainage and Wetland Conference to be held February 11, 2016, at the St. Cloud River's Edge Convention Center; and AMC's 2016 Legislative Conference to be held March 10-11, 2016.

Motion by Commissioner Schmidtke, seconded by Commissioner Mahoney, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve bills to be paid on January 19, 2016, as presented; and includes the Martin County Highway Department and Drainage bills as presented. Carried unanimously.

Warrants received and paid January 19, 2016, are registered on file in the Auditor/Treasurer's Office as follows:

Revenue Fund – Warrants Approved January 19, 2016	\$520,096.09
Recreation and Safety Fund	\$ 16.00

Martin Co. Economic Development Authority	\$ 5,869.43
Solid Waste Management Fund	\$ 26,201.50
Law Library Fund	\$ 9,704.06
Martin County Transit Fund	\$125,897.03
County Attorney's Forfeiture	\$ 1,100.00
Recorder's Compliance	\$ 3,115.00
Ind. Sewage Treatment Sys. Loans	\$ 2,681.07
Bank Building Fund	\$ 3,261.93
Forfeited Tax Fund	\$ 726.18
Total	\$698,668.29

Road and Bridge Funds Totaled	\$ 35,301.40
Martin County Ditch Funds Totaled	\$177,715.72

Commissioners presented their individual board member reports.

Commissioner Schmidtke noted he attended a Personnel Committee meeting on January 5, 2016; Prairieland meeting, retirement open house for Deb Mosloski, and Judge Trushenski's Investiture on January 15, 2016.

Commissioner Smith noted she attended a Bureau 14 meeting on January 13, 2016; and Prairieland meeting on January 15, 2016.

Commissioner Mahoney noted he attended Human Services Executive Committee meeting on January 6, 2016; Park Board meeting and Bureau 14 meeting; and Fairmont Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition meeting on January 18, 2016.

Commissioner Flohrs noted he attended a GBERBA meeting on January 8, 2016; Library Board meeting on January 12, 2016; Department Directors meeting at 8:30 a.m. and Trimont SHIP Grant meeting on January 13, 2016; and SWCD meeting on January 14, 2016.

Commissioner Belgard noted he attended the F-M Joint Transit Executive Board meeting on January 6, 2016; and Region 9 meeting on January 13, 2016.

Commissioners reviewed their calendars of upcoming meetings and activities: January 19, 2016 – Personnel Committee meeting immediately following Board pictures, Building Committee meeting immediately following the Personnel Committee meeting, and Agri-Business meeting this evening; January 20, 2016 – Human Services meeting and F-M Joint Transit Board meeting; January 21, 2016 – Traverse de Sioux Library meeting in Mankato, MN, and MCIT Coverage Review webinar at 2:00 p.m.; January 22, 2016 – Administrative Assistant II – U of M Extension/4-H Program interviews; January 25, 2016 – Rural Minnesota Energy Board and Minnesota Valley Action Council meetings; January 26, 2016 – Planning & Zoning meeting at 5:30 p.m., January 27, 2016 – Multi County HRA Board meeting; January 28, 2016 – Regional Radio Board and South Central EMS meeting; February 1, 2016 – EDA meeting at 5:15 p.m. and Beyond the Yellow Ribbon meeting.

The discussed and set a Board Work Session meeting for Tuesday, January 26, 2016, at 3:30 p.m. in the Commissioners Meeting Room – Martin County Courthouse.

With no further business to wit, Board Chair adjourned the meeting at 11:04 a.m.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MARTIN COUNTY, MN

Elliot Belgard, Board Chair

ATTEST: _____
Scott Higgins, County Coordinator