

PROCEEDINGS OF THE  
MARTIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
APRIL 4, 2017  
@ 4:00 P.M.

The regular meeting of the Martin County Board of Commissioners was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Vice Chairman Tom Mahoney. Commissioners present were Elliot Belgard, Kathy Smith, Tom Mahoney, and Steve Flohrs. Commissioner Schmidtke was absent. Also present were Scott Higgins, Martin County Coordinator, Jeff Markquart, Martin County Sheriff, Pam Flitter, Zoning Administrator, Kevin Peyman, County Engineer, Diane Sanders, County Recorder, Rod Halvorsen, KSUM-KFMC Radio, Jason Sorensen, Sentinel Newspaper, Julie Walters, Administrative Assistant, and members of staff and public.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion by Commissioner Belgard, seconded by Commissioner Smith, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve the agenda for the April 4, 2017, regular Board of Commissioners meeting with the following addition: 9.11 Consider Disposal of Surplus Equipment – Highway Department. Carried unanimously.

Motion by Commissioner Flohrs, seconded by Commissioner Belgard, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve the minutes of the March 21, 2017, regular Board of Commissioners meeting. Carried unanimously.

Sarah Eischens, Department of Corrections District Supervisor, along with Jon McDonald, Sentencing to Service Crew Leader, were present to review a renewal agreement to continue the Sentencing to Service (STS) Program in Martin County effective July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2019 (FY18-19). Eischens noted the total obligation of the County for all compensation and reimbursements to the state under this contract is \$263,191.49 (6% increase from FY17 to FY18; and an additional 6% increase from FY18 to FY19) as its share of the cost in providing two (2) full time crew leaders, and vehicle and equipment needs for the duration of the agreement. In comparison, the previous two year contract (July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2017) was in the amount of \$241,062.00.

McDonald noted crews have been busy with snow removal, recycling program at Prairieland, cleaning ditches, remodeling projects in Court Administration, MIS, and Human Services, various work in Truman and Trimont, transit bus cleaning, Adopt a Highway, and unloading DAV clothing bins.

Motion by Commissioner Belgard, seconded by Commissioner Smith, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve and authorize Board Vice Chair to sign the contract between the State of Minnesota, acting through its Commissioner of Corrections, Sentencing to Service Program (“State”), and Martin County (“Purchaser”), for two (2) STS crew leaders (includes salaries, fringe benefits, and equipment cost) effective July 1, 2017 and will expire June 30, 2019, in the amount of \$263,191.49. Carried unanimously.

Kevin Peyman, County Engineer, was present to update the Board on the Highway 15 construction project. Peyman noted the House and Senate both passed a bill to authorize that federal money for Hwy 15 last week and the Governor signed it Monday so they've got it out for bid right now and it will be let on April 28<sup>th</sup>. I think they are hopeful that everything will get done this year – most of the work at least. They're a little nervous about some of the work like stop lights and things that take a while to order once you get a contractor so there might be some things like that but I think they are hopeful that the Hwy 15 Project can get mostly done this year.

Peyman went on to provide a Transportation Bill update including anticipated press tours with the message "It's Time for a Compromise" between Metro and outstate counties on finding a solution on how we should fund the roads.

Peyman next presented his recommendation to dispose of a 1968 Massey Ferguson 135 tractor with sickle mower (Unit #34) along with three (3) boxes of miscellaneous tractor/mower parts at the upcoming Ceylon Sale in Ceylon, Minnesota. Peyman noted the tractor/mower has not been used in three (3) years as it became too risky to use as a sickle mower and the boxes of parts are from other sickle mowers that were scavenged to keep this one going. Peyman went on to note there is not enough value to justify placing the tractor/mower on the MinnBid Surplus Auction site and recommends taking the tractor/mower and boxes of miscellaneous parts to the Ceylon Sale.

Motion by Commissioner Flohrs, seconded by Commissioner Smith, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, upon the recommendation of County Engineer, hereby approve and authorize County Engineer to proceed with disposal of a 1968 Massey Ferguson 135 tractor/mower, Highway Unit #34, along with three (3) boxes of miscellaneous tractor/mower parts at the upcoming Ceylon Sale in Ceylon, Minnesota. Carried unanimously.

Peyman concluded noting that roads are in pretty good shape for this time of year; and estimates that road restrictions will be on the full eight (eight) weeks until April 14, 2017.

Vice Chairman Mahoney thanked Peyman for the update.

Jeff Markquart, Martin County Sheriff, was present to review a Security Grant application that was submitted to aid in costs associated with a security assessment of the courthouse. Markquart noted the Court/Courthouse Security Committee has been meeting and talking about some things that we can do and I received an email last week stating that while there was \$1 million grant dollars available for the whole state, only about \$300,000 has been used so far; and so the Sheriff's Association sent out a letter saying if there's anything we want to put in for, we should. Markquart went on to note the County also requested funds for training, metal detectors and lockers.

Vice Chairman Mahoney inquired the cost of the assessment.

Sheriff Markquart answered the assessment is about \$6,000.

Commissioner Smith inquired the total grant amount requested.

Sheriff Markquart answered \$13,940 is the projected total.

After further discussion,

Motion by Commissioner Flohrs, seconded by Commissioner Belgard, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve and ratify Security Grant application funding request for Court/Courthouse Security Assessment and miscellaneous security equipment and training. Carried unanimously.

Markquart presented the current Martin County Jail population including twenty-two (22) in-house, fifteen (15) out of county, and ten (10) on Electronic Home Monitoring.

Pam Flitter, Martin County Zoning Official, presented an office update noting Will Martens with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) came to the Planning and Zoning Office on March 14<sup>th</sup> to conduct our year-end review for 2016. Flitter went on to note the MPCA goes through our files and look at inspections for new construction and the permitting system; and also look at inspections of existing sites we have and we received a 100% rating. Flitter also noted that as far as she knows there is only one other county in the state that received a 100% rating.

Motion by Commissioner Belgard, seconded by Commissioner Smith, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby receive and file the 2016 Year-End County Feedlot Program Review received from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. Carried unanimously.

Diane Sanders, County Recorder, was present to request approval for hotel expenses for two (2) nights (\$84.99 per night discounted rate) and gas/mileage for travel to designated pick up point to attend the Tenth Annual Fidler Technologies Educational Symposium May 22-24, 2017, in Davenport, Iowa. Sanders noted Fidler Technologies will be providing the transportation to and from Minnesota to the Fidler Office in Davenport.

Motion by Commissioner Belgard, seconded by Commissioner Flohrs, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve and authorize the out of state travel request for Diane Sanders, County Recorder, to attend the Fidler Technologies Tenth Annual Educational Symposium to be held May 22-24, 2017, in Davenport, Iowa, with all transportation costs, supplies, and food to be provided by Fidler Technologies, with the exception of hotel costs, gas/mileage for travel to designated pick up point, and is to be expended from the Recorder's Office budget. Carried unanimously.

Scott Higgins, Martin County Coordinator, noted the Personnel Committee has met and is recommending a salary adjustment to the County Recorder's salary for 2017 based on twenty

(20) plus years of experience; and should move from Grade 15 Step 1 at \$25.44/hour to Grade 15 Step 6 at \$29.08/hour, effective March 7, 2017.

Motion by Commissioner Belgard, seconded by Commissioner Smith, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, upon the recommendation of the Personnel Committee, hereby approve the salary adjustment for the County Recorder from Grade 15 Step 1 at \$25.44/hour to Grade 15 Step 6 at \$29.08/hour, effective March 7, 2017. Carried unanimously.

Higgins noted the Board has authorized the recruitment of a Building Maintenance Technician and that interviews, reference, and criminal background checks have been completed and recommends the hire of Jared Klug effective April 5, 2017.

Motion by Commissioner Flohrs, seconded by Commissioner Smith, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, upon the recommendation of Building Maintenance Supervisor, hereby approve the hire of Jared Klug as Building Maintenance Technician at Grade 9 Step 1 at \$16.02/hour for the Martin County Building Maintenance Department effective April 5, 2017; and is eligible for benefits per County Policy as it applies to this position. Carried unanimously.

Higgins noted the Board has also authorized the recruitment of a Victim Witness Assistant for the Victim Witness Coordinator's Office and that interviews, reference, and criminal background checks have been completed and recommends the hire of Emily Ibarra effective April 24, 2017.

Motion by Commissioner Belgard, seconded by Commissioner Flohrs, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, upon the recommendation of Victim Witness Coordinator, hereby approve the hire of Emily Ibarra as Victim Witness Assistant at Grade 12 Step 3 at \$21.11/hour for the Martin County Victim Witness Coordinator's Office effective April 24, 2017; and is eligible for benefits per County Policy as it applies to this position. Carried unanimously.

Higgins noted the Department of Natural Resources provides grants to local units of government for maintenance of ATV trails, and the All Seasons Wheelers Club – Elm Creek ATV Trail (on behalf of the County) has been approved to receive \$25,000 for FY2017.

Motion by Commissioner Flohrs, seconded by Commissioner Smith, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve and authorize Board Vice Chair to sign the Minnesota Trails Assistance Program Off Highway Vehicles – FY2017 Traditional Grant Agreement in the amount of \$25,000 for the All Seasons Wheelers Club – Elm Creek Trail; and to approve and authorize the Board Vice Chair (or designee) and/or the Martin County Auditor/Treasurer or Coordinator to sign other required documents as necessary. Carried unanimously.

Higgins presented the 2017 Martin County/MVAC Summer Internship Program Agreement which provides a summer work experience program for youth ages 18-24 residing in Martin County. The effective date of this Agreement is March 1, 2017 through September 30, 2017, with compensation to workers under this program at \$10.00 per hour. The Program will again

this year stipulate 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.

Motion by Commissioner Flohrs, seconded by Commissioner Belgard, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve and authorize participation in the 2017 Martin County Summer Youth Internship Program; and authorize Board Vice Chair to sign the Agreement between Martin County and the Minnesota Valley Action Council (MVAC) for administration of the 2017 Summer Internship Program Agreement. Carried unanimously.

Michael Forstner, Martin County Drainage Administrator, was present to recommend setting a public hearing date and time on Petition received from The Eagles Club to be removed from CD #56. Petition states the petitioners property is not benefited by the drainage system, as 2.45 acres of property was declared as wetland by the City of Fairmont and the remaining 1.69 acres consists of building structure and parking lot and drains into the wetland area. Forstner recommends April 18<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 p.m.

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 sets the date of April 18, 2017, at 1:30 p.m. to hear Petition of Removal of Property from CD #56. Carried unanimously.

Forstner presented and reviewed an Agreement between Martin County JD #10 and Emmet County Drainage District #121 calling for JD #10 pay a common outlet assessment to DD 121 and that JD #10 should share in the expenses to be incurred in the future repair and maintenance.

Forstner noted we had a couple of informational meetings on this and at the first one, landowners wanted to change the agreement and Iowa was not in favor of that. Talking with the supervisor for that area the estimate was around \$34,000 and does not include seeding or repair of pipes if there is any and that Martin County's share would be 41% of the total costs. Forstner went on to note that Kurt Deter, attorney for the Board, has reviewed the agreement and agrees as to form.

Motion by Commissioner Belgard, seconded by Commissioner Flohrs, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, acting as the Drainage Authority for Martin County, hereby approve and authorize Board Vice Chair to sign the Agreement between Martin County JD #10 and Emmet County Drainage District #121 Emmet County Iowa, Whereas, it is the intention of the parties to this Agreement that Martin County JD #10 shall pay an outlet fee to DD 121 based upon the number of acres outletting into DD 121 from JD #10 which is calculated at  $8,287 \text{ JD \#10 acres} \div 20,155.37 \text{ total acres} = 41\%$ ; and that JD #10 shall also pay 41% of the total amount of future outlet fees assessed by DD 121 against those districts draining into DD 121; and that notice of a proposed repair or maintenance to the main ditch in DD 121 shall be given to the Martin County Auditor fifty (50) days in advance of such repair or maintenance, except for emergency repairs; and do not include "Improvements" as defined by the Iowa Code §468.126(4). Carried unanimously.

Forstner next noted if you recall after the final hearing for the JD #20 Improvement a landowner came in and noticed there were some people that were not on the benefit list that were draining in. So we sent them an Order to get a Petition in and cut their outlet off. Petitioners request express authority from the Martin County Drainage Authority to use the JD #20 as an outlet for a private drainage tile system installed to benefit 73.98 acres in the southwest corner of Section 25; and request the Martin County Drainage Authority to appoint a Viewer to view the properties described above and make a recommendation to the drainage authority on an appropriate outlet fee for the beneficial use received through JD #20 outlet and to determine a benefit amount for future assessments.

Motion by Commissioner Belgard, Seconded by Commissioner Flohrs, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, acting as the Drainage Authority for Martin County, hereby sets the date of May 2, 2017, at 3:00 p.m. to hear Petition for Authority to Use JD #20 as an Outlet; and appoint Ron Ringquist as Viewer. Carried unanimously.

Forstner noted we received two (2) Petitions for Improvements on JD #91 which is a joint ditch with Jackson County and in talking with the Jackson County Auditor he thought sometime the week of April 24<sup>th</sup> would work for them to set a Joint Drainage Authority Hearing. Forstner went on to note we will need three commissioners from Martin County at this joint hearing.

After discussion,

Forstner will recommend Tuesday, April 25, 2017, at 1:00 p.m. or 1:30 p.m.; and Commissioners Flohrs, Mahoney, and Smith indicated they would be available.

The Board reviewed warrants to be paid April 4, 2017.

Motion by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Flohrs, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve bills to be paid on April 4, 2017, as presented; and includes the Martin County Highway Department and Drainage bills as presented. Carried unanimously.

Warrants received and paid April 4, 2017, are registered on file in the Auditor/Treasurer's Office as follows:

Revenue Fund – Warrants Approved April 4, 2017	\$ 52,005.99
Enhanced 9-1-1 Fund	\$ 216.90
Martin County Economic Development Authority	\$ 4,916.55
Law Library Fund	\$ -5.33
Human Services Fund	\$282,956.00
Bank Building Fund	\$ 3,308.78
Building – CIP – Fund	\$ 1,623.48
Refunding Fund	\$ 133.07
Miscellaneous Tax Fund	\$ 78,570.23
State Agency Fund	<u>\$ 6,798.50</u>
	\$430,524.17

Road and Bridge Funds Totaled	\$ 21,212.74
Martin County Ditch Funds Totaled	\$ 14,739.11

The Board reviewed Red Rock Rural Water System Informational Meeting information set in Sherburn, Minnesota, on Thursday – April 6<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. through 8 p.m. at the Fox Lake Golf Club Meeting Room.

Commissioners reviewed their calendars of previous and upcoming meetings and activities: March 22, 2017 – Convention & Visitors Bureau and Human Services meeting; March 23, 2017 – SHIP meeting in Truman, Emergency Communications Board meeting in Mankato, Minnesota, at 10:00 a.m. and South Central Emergency Medical Service meeting in Eagle Lake, Minnesota, at 1:00 p.m.; March 27, 2017 – FCA Meet and Greet in Trimont, Minnesota, Rural Minnesota Energy Board meeting, and Special Martin County Commissioners meeting at 5:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Board Room – Martin County Courthouse; March 28, 2017 – Township meeting at Welcome, Minnesota, Corn Dealers Open House, and Planning and Zoning meeting at 5:30 p.m.; March 29, 2017 – Personnel Committee meeting and South Central Minnesota Multi County HRA meeting in North Mankato, Minnesota; March 30, 2017 – Water Plan meeting; April 3, 2017 – Beyond the Yellow Ribbon meeting and regular Martin County EDA meeting at 5:15 p.m.; April 4, 2017 – regular Board of Commissioners meeting at 4:00 p.m.; April 5, 2017 – Human Services Executive meeting, F-M Joint Transit Board meeting, Veterans Memorial meeting, Flohrs and Smith leave for AMC Leadership Summit at Nisswa, Minnesota; April 6-7, 2017 – AMC Leadership Summit at Nisswa, Minnesota; April 10, 2017 – Health Insurance meeting at 9:30 a.m. with USI, Pork Masters Golf Tournament meeting at Jakes Pizza at noon, Personnel Committee meeting at 2:15 p.m.; April 11, 2017 – Library Board meeting and AgriBusiness meeting; April 12, 2017 – ACE Event at the Fairmont High School and Park Board meeting; April 13, 2017 – Building Committee meeting at 1:30 p.m., Court/Courthouse Security Committee meeting at 3:00 p.m. and Soil and Water Conservation District meeting; April 14, 2017 – Prairieland meeting; April 17, 2017 – Trimont City Council meeting; April 18, 2017 – next regular Board of Commissioners meeting at 4:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Meeting Room – Courthouse.

With no further business to wit, Board Chair adjourned the meeting at 4:58 p.m.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MARTIN COUNTY, MN

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Tom Mahoney, Board Vice Chair

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Scott Higgins, County Coordinator