

PROCEEDINGS OF THE
MARTIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY – MAY 21, 2019
@ 9:00 A.M.

The regular meeting of the Martin County Board of Commissioners was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairwoman Kathy Smith. Commissioners present were Elliot Belgard, Steve Flohrs, Richard Koons, Tom Mahoney, and Kathy Smith. Also present were Scott Higgins, Martin County Coordinator, Terry Viesselman, County Attorney, James Forshee, Martin County Auditor/Treasurer, Jason Sorensen, Sentinel Newspaper, Rod Halvorsen, City of Lakes Media, Julie Walters, Administrative Assistant, and members of staff and public.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion by Commissioner Belgard, seconded by Commissioner Mahoney, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve the agenda for the May 21, 2019, regular Board of Commissioners meeting with the following additions: 7.1 Consider 3.2% Off-Sale Liquor License for Ghost Town Tavern LLC; and 9.9 Accept End of Employment for 2018 Seasonal Water Patrol Deputy personnel. Carried unanimously.

Motion by Commissioner Mahoney, seconded by Commissioner Flohrs, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve the minutes of the May 7, 2019, regular Board of Commissioners meeting. Carried unanimously.

Terry Viesselman, County Attorney, presented a County Attorney Office update noting with the recent vacancy in the Fairmont City Attorney's Office, the County Attorney's Office has picked up doing the prosecution on an interim basis and charge for services at an hourly rate. The City is exploring all possibilities on what they want to do and at some point we will submit a bid to them to do a contract on an annual basis. Viesselman went on to note that his office is negotiating with the City of Truman to handle its prosecution as well due to Jim Wilson recently resigning from that spot and their current city attorney's office doesn't want to do the criminal cases due to eFiling and Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) requirements which our office has adapted to fairly easily.

Discussion ensued regarding the need for additional personnel in the County Attorney's Office due to increased workload.

Viesselman noted if we get a contract with Fairmont then we would request to add support staff and if we pick up Truman, Fairmont, and others in future years, then we would request another attorney.

Mike Whitman and Mike Wolter, members of the East Chain Memorial Association, were present to request Board approval to install a monument at Wolter County Park in East Chain to honor the veterans buried in the five East Chain area cemeteries. Next year the East Chain Memorial Association will be celebrating 125 years of Memorial Day Services in East Chain and to make next year special we request to erect a monument in the Wolter County Park. The

monument will be black granite stone from the Mesabi Range and be engraved and erected by Blue Earth Monument Company. The size of the monument is five feet tall by three feet wide. The monument will display the five service seals and be engraved with words honoring the veterans of the past and future buried in the East Chain cemeteries. The monument will be erected near the flag pole (in Wolter Park) and maintained by the East Chain 4-H Club. This is phase one and we have an anonymous donor to cover the complete cost. With approval this could be placed later this year. Phase two will be the purchase, engraving and placing of paving stones with deceased veteran names from our East Chain area cemeteries. There would be three veteran names on each stone starting with the Civil War. Whitman and Wolter noted we met with the Martin County Parks/Trail Committee and explained to them what we wanted to do and they said that presenting our request before the Commissioners would be the next step.

Commissioner Mahoney noted they came to the Park Board last Wednesday with the pictures and the idea of doing this and as a Park Board recommended allowing them to build the memorial dependent on Board approval.

Kevin Peyman, County Engineer, was present and noted the group had come to the Park Board meeting with their request and Peyman sees no issues with it. The location of the monument is away from the road, there is already parking there. The 4-H group does all the mowing of that park for us and most of the maintenance so I don't see any issues with maintenance and mowing.

After discussion,

Motion by Commissioner Belgard, seconded by Commissioner Koons, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve and authorize installation of a veterans marker at Wolter Park in East Chain, MN; and that the East Chain Memorial Committee will work with the Martin County Parks/Trail Committee for coordination and placement of the marker; and that the marker will be added to the County's Property in the Open insurance coverage with Minnesota Counties Intergovernmental Trust (MCIT). Carried unanimously.

Peyman noted the Board authorized the recruitment of a Heavy Equipment Operator for the Martin County Highway Department out of Dunnell, MN. Peyman went on to note ten applications were received, six were interviewed, and two had second interviews. Peyman recommends the hire of Robert Tiffit as Heavy Equipment Operator out of Dunnell, MN.

Motion by Commissioner Mahoney, seconded by Commissioner Belgard, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, upon the recommendation of the County Highway Engineer, hereby approve the hire of Robert Tiffit, Heavy Equipment Operator out of Dunnell, MN at Grade 12 Step 1 at \$20.98/hour for the Martin County Highway Department, effective June 10, 2019; and is contingent upon satisfactory reference and required pre-employment drug test; and is eligible for benefits per the County Personnel Policies as it applies to this position. Carried unanimously.

Peyman noted there was one internal application received for the vacant Highway Technician/Maintenance Worker position and recommends the promotion/hire of Matt Morris from Maintenance Worker to Highway Technician/Maintenance Worker. Peyman also noted

Matt's promotion/hire will open up a Maintenance Worker position and requests authorization to fill the position.

Motion by Commissioner Belgard, seconded by Commissioner Flohrs, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, upon the recommendation of the County Highway Engineer, hereby approve the promotion and hire of Matt Morris, Highway Technician/Maintenance Worker at Grade 13 Step 1 at \$22.73/hour for the Martin County Highway Department, effective May 26, 2019. Carried unanimously.

Motion by Commissioner Flohrs, seconded by Commissioner Koons, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, upon the recommendation of the County Highway Engineer, hereby approve and authorize recruitment to fill a Maintenance Worker position for the Martin County Highway Department. Carried unanimously.

Peyman presented his recommendation to purchase a Road Groom for the Martin County Highway Department. Peyman noted the road groom will never replace a motorgrader but you can put them on the back of a tractor when our roads get really soft. The benefit of it is there are times like this past spring when the roads are so soft we can hardly get our motorgrader on. It won't replace a motorgrader but it will level that material out and spread it over the road so that it dries faster and it will take the ruts out of the road so that the water doesn't sit in there and soak into the road bed. Peyman went on to note this is not a budgeted item for this year and the cost is \$15,400. I talked with our motorgrader operators and we think we can get a lot of use out of a road groom yet this summer. Previously when we purchased our sign truck back in February (2019) we had budgeted \$185,000 and only spent \$142,000 so we were \$40,000 under at that time. So I think we can purchase this even though it is not budgeted and still be inside our equipment budget. I think we can get enough use out of it, for the amount of money it costs, to help our gravels yet this summer that it is worth getting now instead of waiting until next year.

Commissioner Koons noted I would recommend this. A township in my district borrowed one from Jackson County this spring and it really made a difference on their roads.

After further discussion,

Motion by Commissioner Belgard, seconded by Commissioner Koons, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, upon the recommendation of the County Engineer, hereby approve the purchase of a 2019 Road Groom, 11 foot Unit at the state contract price of \$15,400 from Road Groom Manufacturing in Grundy Center, Iowa. Carried unanimously.

Abigail Nesbit, Martin County Emergency Management Director, was present to provide an update pertaining to a preliminary damage assessment for the state from the spring 2019 disasters. Nesbit noted for the state to declare disaster you have to reach \$7 million dollars in damages and we're at \$36 million for the state so we're going through a FEMA declared disaster which will hopefully be state led. Nesbit went on to note in Martin County we're at \$1.59 in damages (public) compared to last year's tornado damage of \$102,000 and the summer floods last year was close at \$1.1 million so this spring was pretty detrimental.

Higgins noted the County Recorder received a retirement/resignation from Nancy Kunkel, Account Technician I for the County Recorder's Office effective June 5, 2019, and asks the Board to accept the resignation.

Motion by Commissioner Mahoney, seconded by Commissioner Belgard, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby accept the retirement/resignation of Nancy Kunkel, Account Technician I for the Martin County Recorder's Office, effective June 5, 2019. Carried unanimously.

The Board discussed advertising for recruitment to fill the Account Technician I vacancy in the Recorder's Office.

Motion by Commissioner Belgard, seconded by Commissioner Flohrs, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve and authorize advertising for recruitment of an Account Technician I position for the Martin County Recorder's Office. Carried unanimously.

Board Chairwoman Smith presented end of employment forms for Eion Denton and Andrew Kuester, 2018 Seasonal Water Patrol Deputies.

Motion by Commissioner Koons, seconded by Commissioner Flohrs, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby accept end of employment with Eion Denton and Andrew Kuester, 2018 Seasonal Water Patrol Deputies for the Martin County Sheriff's Office, effective May 21, 2019. Carried unanimously.

Higgins presented minor adjustments to the Appraiser job description that more accurately reflect the essential functions of the position and recommends Board consideration and approval.

Motion by Commissioner Flohrs, seconded by Commissioner Mahoney, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve the revised job description for the Appraiser position which more accurately reflects the essential functions of the position. Carried unanimously.

Forshee presented and reviewed for consideration a 3.2% Off-Sale Liquor License for Ghost Town Tavern, LLC in Granada, MN. Forshee noted proper documentation and insurance certificate have been received.

Motion by Commissioner Koons, seconded by Commissioner Belgard, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve and authorize Off-Sale 3.2% Liquor License for Ghost Town Tavern, LLC located at 1203 260th Avenue in Granada, MN. Carried unanimously.

Mike Forstner, Martin County Drainage Administrator, presented his recommendation to order the redetermination of JD #60 and to appoint Ron Ringquist, Chuck Bowers, and Tom Peterson as viewers.

Motion by Commissioner Flohrs, seconded by Commissioner Belgard, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, acting as the Drainage Authority for Martin County, and has the authority to predetermine benefits for county drainage systems, hereby appoints Ron Ringquist, Chuck Bowers, and Tom Peterson as Ditch Viewers for the redetermination of the original construction and subsequent improvements to be assessed for JD #60. Carried unanimously.

Forstner presented his recommendation to order the redetermination of JD #77 and to appoint Ron Ringquist, Chuck Bowers, and Tom Peterson as viewers.

Motion by Commissioner Mahoney, seconded by Commissioner Koons, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, acting as the Drainage Authority for Martin County, and has the authority to predetermine benefits for county drainage systems, hereby appoints Ron Ringquist, Chuck Bowers, and Tom Peterson as Ditch Viewers for the redetermination of the original construction and subsequent improvements to be assessed for JD #77. Carried unanimously.

Forstner presented his recommendation to order the redetermination of JD #103 and to appoint Ron Ringquist, Chuck Bowers, and Tom Peterson as viewers.

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, and has the authority to predetermine benefits for county drainage systems, hereby appoints Ron Ringquist, Chuck Bowers, and Tom Peterson as Ditch Viewers for the redetermination of the original construction and subsequent improvements to be assessed for JD #103. Carried unanimously.

Don Reffer, B & W Control Specialists of Algona, Iowa, presented and update of maximum costs for continued brush maintenance of various County drainage ditch systems in 2019.

After discussion,

Motion by Commissioner Flohrs, seconded by Commissioner Koons, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, acting as the Drainage Authority for Martin County, hereby approve the B & W Control Specialists, Inc., quote for brush control along the listed open drainage ditches in Martin County for 2019; the quotes being a total maximum as follows:

<u>Ditch No.</u>	<u>Maximum Cost</u>
JD #47	\$ 1,000.00
JD #85 M & B	\$ 4,500.00 (brush and weeds)
JD #82 M & B	\$ 4,500.00 (brush and weeds)
JD #116 M & B	\$ 5,000.00 (brush and weeds)
JD #8	\$ 2,500.00
JD #3	\$ 4,500.00 (brush and weeds)
JD #1	\$ 2,500.00
JD #28	\$ 6,500.00 (brush and weeds)

CD #58	\$ 2,500.00
CD #14	\$ 3,500.00
CD #42	\$ 3,500.00 (ns south end, do all treatable trees on n.end)
CD #73	\$ 6,500.00 (brush & weeds)
CD #64	\$ 4,500.00 (do all treatable trees on north end, foliar)
JD #9	\$ 3,500.00
JD #2 M & F	\$ 6,500.00 (brush and weeds)
CD #69	\$ 2,500.00 (brush and weeds)
JD #12 M & F	\$ 2,500.00 (brush and weeds)
JD #214 M & F	\$ 3,500.00
JD #98	\$ 4,500.00
JD #38	\$ 3,500.00
JD #20	No need, monitor
JD #414 M & F	\$ 7,500.00
JD #7 M & F	\$ 3,500.00
JD #115	No need, monitor
Total	\$89,000.00

Carried unanimously.

Forstner reviewed a map of and recommends the proposed re-route of approximately 1,500 feet of 12 inch dual wall tile to a portion of Branch F on JD #73 Main 2. The current line runs through an area of trees and is plugged full with washouts throughout that whole stretch. The proposal is to reroute that main away from the trees to get more into a hillside. The approximate cost for the 1,500 foot re-route is at \$20 per foot (\$30,000). Forstner recommends the re-route. After discussion,

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 the proposed re-route of a portion of Branch F on JD #73 Main #2. Carried unanimously.

Forstner updated the Board on a petition filed for an improvement to the mainline subsurface tile of JD #4 F&M (Faribault County Judicial Ditch No. 4) located in Section 7 of Jo Davies Township, with the intention of improving the system by increasing the drainage capacity. Faribault County is the majority county on the system so they accepted the petition and appointed ISG as the engineer.

The Board reviewed Warrants, Auditor Warrants, and EFT Transactions to be paid May 21, 2019.

Motion by Commissioner Belgard, seconded by Commissioner Koons, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve Warrants, Auditor Warrants, and EFT Transactions to be paid on May 21, 2019, and includes the Martin County Highway Department and Drainage bills as presented. Carried unanimously.

Warrants received and paid May 21, 2019, are registered on file in the Auditor/Treasurer's Office as follows:

Revenue Fund – Warrants Approved May 21, 2019	\$127,063.61
Martin County Economic Development Fund	\$ 7,578.44
Solid Waste Management Fund	\$ 37,180.86
Law Library Fund	\$ 959.96
Recorder's Compliance Fund	\$ 6,858.40
Ind. Sewage Treatment Sys. Loan Fund	\$ 11,141.54
Building-CIP-Fund	\$ 5,244.85
Bank Building Fund	\$ 6,263.07
Refunding Fund	\$ 17,167.00
Taxes and Penalties Odd Years	<u>\$ 6,730.57</u>
Total	\$226,188.30
Road and Bridge Funds Totaled	\$158,328.43
Martin County Ditch Funds Totaled	\$238,989.15

The Board reviewed reports and announcements including Minutes from the May 1, 2019, South Central Service Cooperative Board of Directors meeting; and 2019 Martin County Fair Booth Information.

Commissioners reviewed their calendars of previous and upcoming meetings and activities: May 7, 2019 – Personnel Committee meeting, Hog Lot Permit Information meeting out by Rose Lake Golf Course, City of Fairmont Comprehensive Plan meeting; May 8, 2019 – Human Services Executive Board meeting, Bureau 14 meeting, MnDOT Open House up at South Central before a Region 9 meeting; May 9, 2019 – Soil and Water meeting, City of Fairmont meeting regarding intersection of Lake Avenue; May 10, 2019 – GBERBA, F-M Joint County Transit Executive Board meeting, Region 9 TAC meeting in Mankato, MN, and Retirement Open House for Rich Perrine; May 14, 2019 – Library Board meeting; May 15, 2019 – Martin County Parks/Trail Committee meeting at Cedar-Hanson Park; May 17, 2019 – Prairieland meeting, SHIP meeting; May 20, 2019 – Minnesota Valley Action Council; May 21, 2019 – Public Service Appreciation Employee Luncheon, Interviews for Human Resources Manager position; May 22, 2019 – Human Services meeting; May 23, 2019 – South Central Emergency Communications meeting and South Central Emergency Medical Services meeting in Eagle Lake, MN; May 27, 2019 – Memorial Day Holiday observed – Courthouse Closed; May 28, 2019 – Planning and Zoning meeting at 5:30 p.m.; May 29, 2019 – South Central Minnesota Multicounty HRA meeting in North Mankato, MN; June 3, 2019 – EDA meeting at 5:15 p.m. and Rural Minnesota Energy Board meeting; June 4, 2019 – regular Board of Commissioners meeting.

With no further business to wit,

Motion by Commissioner Flohrs, seconded by Commissioner Belgard, to adjourn the meeting. Carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 10:09 a.m.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MARTIN COUNTY, MN

Kathy Smith, Board Chair

ATTEST: _____
Scott Higgins, County Coordinator