

AITKIN COUNTY BOARD

February 13, 2018

The Aitkin County Board of Commissioners met this 13th day of February, 2018 at 9:02 a.m. with the following members present: Board Chair Anne Marcotte, Commissioners J. Mark Wedel, Laurie Westerlund, Bill Pratt, County Administrator Jessica Seibert and Administrative Assistant Sue Bingham. Commissioner Don Niemi was absent.

CALL TO ORDER

Motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Pratt and carried, all members present voting yes to approve the February 13, 2018 amended agenda. Agenda Item 3A) FSC Certification Presentation, was removed.

APPROVED AGENDA

Motion by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Pratt and carried, all members present voting yes to approve the Consent Agenda as follows: A) Correspondence File: January 23, 2018 to February 12, 2018; B) Approve County Board Minutes: January 23, 2018; C) Approve Commissioner Warrants: General Fund \$121,479.98, Road & Bridge \$27,250.83, Special Revenue \$215.39, Health & Human Services \$1,296.86, State \$58.65, Trust \$6,963.81, Forest Development \$690.96, Agency \$3,031.30, Long Lake Conservation Center \$3,229.29, Parks \$14,452.42 for a total of \$178,669.49; D) Approve January Manual Warrants: General Fund \$23,448.99, Road & Bridge \$15,234.41, Health & Human Services \$1,856.28, Debt Service \$3,543.14, State \$117,159.91, Trust \$55.30, Taxes & Penalties \$1,134.00, Long Lake Conservation Center \$648.27 for a total of \$163,080.30; E) Approve Affidavit for Duplicate of Lost Warrant: Hawkinson Sand and Gravel, Check #72900 dated 11-17-2017 in the amount of \$1602.04; F) Approve 2018 Countywide Fee Schedule; G) Approve Purchase of Two Vehicles – Motor Pool; H) Accept (2) Checks for Financial Support to Sobriety Court: 1. \$100 from City of Tamarack, 2. \$100 from City of Hill City; I) Approve Change in Taxpayer Name Search on Aitkin County GIS; J) Adopt Resolution: Reaffirming Petty Cash Funds; K) Adopt Resolution: Form LG220 – Up North Riders ATV Club Inc.; L) Adopt Resolution: Form LG220 – Lawler Area Community Club

CONSENT AGENDA

Under the consent agenda, motion by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Pratt and carried, all members present voting yes to approve Motor Pool purchase of 2018 AWD Chevrolet Traverse from Brandl Chevrolet for \$28,465 and 2018 Ford Taurus from Aitkin Motors for \$21,251 for a total of \$49,716 plus taxes and fees.

MOTOR POOL VEHICLE PURCHASE

Under the consent agenda, motion by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Pratt and carried, all members present voting yes to approve changing the search options on the Aitkin County GIS to not allow public taxpayer name search, effective immediately.

AITKIN COUNTY GIS SEARCH OPTIONS

Under the consent agenda, motion for a resolution by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Pratt and carried, all members present voting yes to adopt resolution – Reaffirming Petty Cash Funds:

BE IT RESOLVED, the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners reaffirms the following change funds.

RESOLUTION 20180213-010

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| Treasurer | \$800.00 |
| Recorder | \$1000.00 |
| Health | \$50.00 |
| Human Resources | \$500.00 |
| Sheriff | \$400.00 |
| License Center | <u>\$250.00</u> |
| Total General Fund | \$3000.00 |
| | |
| Emergency Revolving fund | \$3000.00 |
| Red Box Fund | <u>\$150.00</u> |
| Total Health and Human Services | \$3150.00 |
| | |
| Long Lake Conservation Center | \$1350.00 |
| | |
| Total for all change funds | \$7500.00 |

**REAFFIRMING
PETTY CASH
FUNDS**

Under the consent agenda, motion for a resolution by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Pratt and carried, all members present voting yes to adopt resolution – Form LG220 – Up North Riders ATV Club Inc.:

BE IT RESOLVED, the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners agrees to approve the Application for Exempt Permit – Form LG220 – of the Up North Riders ATV Club Inc., at the following location – Fisherman's Bay, which has an address of 50933 State Highway 65, McGregor, MN 55760 – Workman Township. (Note: Date of activity for Raffle – October 13th, 2018)

**RESOLUTION
20180213-011
FORM LG220 – UP
NORTH RIDERS
ATV CLUB INC.**

Under the consent agenda, motion for a resolution by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Pratt and carried, all members present voting yes to adopt resolution – Form LG220 – Lawler Area Community Club:

BE IT RESOLVED, the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners agrees to approve the Application for Exempt Permit – Form LG220 – of the Lawler Area Community Club, at the following location – Jackson's Hole, which has an address of 36232 Kestrel Avenue, MN 55760 – Salo Township. (Note: Date of activity for Raffle – April 21, 2018)

**RESOLUTION
20180213-012
FORM LG220 –
LAWLER AREA
COMMUNITY CLUB**

Mark Jacobs, Land Commissioner and MN DNR Division of Forestry staff presented proposals to the Board for four separate land acquisitions. Three properties are grouped together in Sections 22, 27 T 51 N R 22W. The current owners are Boonstra, Norman and Riley. They are interested in selling their land to the State. These lands will be purchased with Division of Forestry funds. The fourth property is a Mississippi Headwaters Habitat Corridor Project. The property is owned by the Kromy family and is a proposed 160 acre addition to Savanna State Forest in Section 22 of T 51N R 24W. This property will be purchased by the Trust for Public Lands and then transferred to the DNR Forestry for management. No action was taken at this time.

**MN DNR LAND
ACQUISITION
PROPOSALS**

Ross Wagner, Economic Development Coordinator, John Welle, County Engineer and MN DNR staff updated the Board on the status of the Aitkin Airport property transfer. Motion by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Pratt and carried, all members present voting yes to approve the transfer of land as presented.

**AITKIN AIRPORT
PROPERTY
TRANSFER**

At 10:00 a.m. Ross Wagner, Economic Development Coordinator held a Public Hearing on Small Cities Development Program. Ross Wagner and Nicole Klosner from Lakes & Pines gave a brief overview of the program. No public comment was given. After Board discussion, motion for a resolution by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Pratt and carried, all members present voting yes to adopt resolution – Small Cities Development Project:

**PUBLIC HEARING
SMALL CITIES
DEVELOPMENT
PROGRAM**

BE IT RESOLVED that Aitkin County act as the legal sponsor for the project contained in the Application to be submitted on February 22, 2018 and that Anne Marcotte, Aitkin County Board Chair and Jessica Seibert, Aitkin County Administrator are hereby authorized to apply to the Department of Employment and Economic Development for funding of this project on behalf of Aitkin County.

**RESOLUTION
20180213-013
SMALL CITIES
DEVELOPMENT
PROJECT**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Aitkin County has the legal authority to apply for financial assistance, and the institutional, managerial and financial capability to ensure adequate construction, operation, maintenance and replacement of the proposed project for its design life.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Aitkin County has not violated any Federal, State or local laws pertaining to fraud, bribery, graft, kickbacks, collusion, conflict of interest or other unlawful or corrupt practice.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon approval of its application by the State, Aitkin County may enter into an agreement with the State of Minnesota for the approved project, and that Aitkin County certifies that it will comply with all applicable laws and regulations as stated in all contract agreements.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Anne Marcotte, Aitkin County Board Chair and Jessica Seibert, Aitkin County Administrator, or their successors in office, are hereby authorized to execute such agreements, and amendments thereto, as are necessary to implement the project on behalf of the Applicant.

Liz Dean, Marketing Director at Riverwood Healthcare Center shared Riverwood Healthcare Center’s achievement of making the top 100 list of critical access hospitals in the nation for the fifth time since 2011, and updated the Board on the current expansion project at the hospital.

**RIVERWOOD
HEALTHCARE
CENTER**

John Welle, Aitkin County Engineer was presented the 2017 County Engineer of the Year Award by Lon Aune with the MN County Engineers Association.

**2017 COUNTY
ENGINEER OF THE
YEAR**

Mathew Nix, Aitkin County Historical Society Director introduced himself to the Board and discussed his work with the Historical Society.

**AITKIN COUNTY
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY**

Senator Carrie Ruud discussed the upcoming legislative session with the Board.

SENATOR CARRIE RUUD

Motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Wedel and carried, all members present voting yes to approve a temporary Organizational Structure Task Force consisting of Commissioners Wedel and Pratt, County Administrator, Human Resources Director, and County Auditor.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE TASK FORCE

Paul Steinman, Vice President of Springsted presented (3) bonding options and a bond schedule to the Board. The Board consensus is to move forward with Scenario One.

BONDING OPTIONS

At 11:00 a.m. Mark Jacobs, Land Commissioner conducted a Public Hearing for American Peat Technology Peat Leasing. Mark Jacobs and Vicki Sellner from the DNR gave a brief overview of the request. Harold Harms, Seavey Township and Bob Harwarth, Spencer Township spoke in favor of the lease. After Board discussion, motion for a resolution by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund and carried, all members present voting yes to adopt resolution – APT Peat Leasing:

PUBLIC HEARING AMERICAN PEAT TECHNOLOGY PEAT LEASING

WHEREAS, MN Statute 282.04 subd 1(h) provides for leasing county tax forfeited land for a term not to exceed 25-years, for removal of peat resources, and

RESOLUTION 20180213-014 APT PEAT LEASING

WHEREAS, American Peat Technology, LLC - 36203 350th Avenue Aitkin, Minnesota, 56431, a Minnesota limited liability company has requested to lease the following tax forfeited property in Aitkin County...

East Half of Southwest Quarter (E1/2-SW1/4) and Lot Four (4) in Section Eighteen (18), Southwest Quarter of Northeast Quarter (SW1/4-NE1/4), East Half of Northwest Quarter (E1/2-NW1/4), and Lot Two (2), in Section Nineteen (19), all in Township Forty-seven (47) North, Range Twenty-five (25) West of the Fourth Principal Meridian, containing 292.67 acres, more or less, hereinafter referred to as the "Rossburg bog";

AND

Northeast Quarter (NE1/4), and South Half-section (S1/2) in Section Twelve (12); All of Section Thirteen (13); Northeast Quarter of Southwest Quarter (NE1/4-SW1/4), South Half of Southwest Quarter (S1/2-SW1/4), and Southeast Quarter (SE1/4) in Section Fourteen (14); East Half of Northeast Quarter (E1/2-NE1/4) in Section Twenty-two (22); North Half-section (N1/2), North Half of Southwest Quarter (N1/2-SW1/4), Southeast Quarter of Southwest Quarter (SE1/4-SW1/4), except the Southwest Quarter thereof, North Half of Southeast Quarter (N1/2-SE1/4), and Southwest Quarter of Southeast Quarter (SW1/4-SE1/4) in Section Twenty-three (23); North Half-section (N1/2), North Half of Southwest Quarter (N1/2-SW1/4), North Half of Southeast Quarter (N1/2-SE1/4), and Southeast Quarter of Southeast Quarter (SE1/4-SE1/4) in Section Twenty-four (24); all in Township Forty-four (44) North, Range Twenty-four (24) West of the Fourth

Principal Meridian, containing 2,550.00 acres, more or less, hereinafter referred to as the "Seavey bog"

AND, WHEREAS Aitkin County and the State of MN (DNR) entered into a joint powers agreement on February 4, 2017, as amended on January 5, 2018, to allow MN DNR to lease the tax-forfeited lands on behalf of the County,

AND, WHEREAS a public hearing to receive comments on the proposed lease was held on February 13, 2018 at 11:00 AM at the Aitkin County Court House after posting notice as required by statute.

THEREFORE, the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners resolves to approve the lease of tax forfeited lands in the Seavey and Rossburg bogs per the terms in lease numbers: MLPN200002 and MLPN200003.

The Board discussed: ECRL, Natural Resources Advisory Committee, Big Sandy Lake Association, Shamrock Twp., CHB, HRA, DAC, Mille Lacs Watershed Mgmt., Mille Lacs Fisheries, Extension, Historical Society, Budget Committee, Aitkin Airport, MHB, and NCLUCB.

Motion by Commissioner Wedel seconded by Commissioner Westerlund and carried, all members present voting yes to adjourn the meeting at 12:28 p.m. until Tuesday, February 27, 2018 at 9:00 a.m.

**BOARD
DISCUSSION**

ADJOURN

Anne Marcotte, Board Chair
Aitkin County Board of Commissioners

Jessica Seibert, County Administrator