

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ROSEAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

January 10, 2006

The Board of Commissioners of Roseau County, Minnesota met in the courthouse in the City of Roseau, Minnesota on Tuesday, January 10, 2006, at 8:30 a.m. Commissioners present were Orris Rasmussen, Alan Johnston, Mark Foldesi, and Russell Walker. Commissioner Jack Stone was excused. Also present were members of the media.

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by County Board Chairman Orris Rasmussen. The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Johnston requested discussion on the Roseau County website and GIS system be added to the agenda. A motion was made by Commissioner Johnston, seconded by Commissioner Foldesi, and carried by unanimous vote to approve the amended agenda.

Trail Administrator Rick Kerner met with the Board to discuss the 2006 Pelan Trail Performance Based Grant. Mr. Kerner informed the Board that due to legislation passed last year that requires snowmobile permits, more funding is now available for grant-in-aid trails. Due to this, the Pelan Trail grant amount has increased by 20% or \$12,400 and is now \$74,400. The State of Minnesota is requesting an amended grant agreement be reviewed and approved by the grantee and its fiscal agent.

Mr. Kerner advised the Board that grooming began later than normal this year due to weather as well as a change in the way the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) authorized grooming in the Beltrami Island State Forrest. This year the DNR put the grooming out to bid and the Roseau County Trail Blazers did not receive notification until December 27, 2005 that they were awarded the bid.

Mr. Kerner also discussed with the Board the need, as per the grant agreement, to have regular trail inspections. The Board discussed the most efficient means to do this and decided that each Commissioner would be responsible for inspecting the trails in his district and reporting that information to the trail captains. Gregg Welin is the east side trail captain and Rick Kerner is the west side trail captain.

A motion was made by Commissioner Johnston, seconded by Commissioner Foldesi, and carried by unanimous vote to adopt the following resolution:

2006-01-13

WHEREAS, the State of Minnesota, Commissioner of Department of Natural Resources Division of Trails and Waterways, has a grant with Pelan Trail/Roseau County Trailblazers for the purpose of establishing, constructing and maintaining public trails; and

WHEREAS, Roseau County serves as the fiscal manager of the Pelan Trail/Roseau County Trail Blazers Performance Based Grant; and

WHEREAS, the 2005 Minnesota Legislature amended Minnesota Statutes 2004, section 84.8205, subdivision 1, to allow for the requirement of a state snowmobile trail sticker to operate a snowmobile on a state or grant-in-aid snowmobile trail; and

WHEREAS, this legislation allows for additional funds to be available for grants to local units of government through the grant-in-aid program; and

WHEREAS, this new legislation qualifies this grant for an additional 20% or \$12,400 in grant funds; and

WHEREAS, all other components of the grant agreement remain unchanged.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Roseau County Board does hereby approve the amended grant agreement between the State of Minnesota and Pelan Trail (Grant A80114), changing the grant amount from \$62,000 to \$74,400.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Roseau County Board does hereby authorize Chairman Rasmussen and Auditor Granitz to sign the amended agreement.

NW Minnesota Mentoring Co-director Brenda Arntzen met with the Board to review mid-year reports. Ms. Arntzen informed the Board that they have still not received word from the Department of Human Service regarding funding for the next fiscal year. Ms. Arntzen told the Board that DHS received 41 applications and will be awarding 16 grants. Ms. Arntzen requested the Board approve the mid-year report. A motion was made by Commissioner Johnston, seconded by Commissioner Foldesi and carried by unanimous vote to and authorize the Board Chair Rasmussen and Deputy Auditor Huss to sign the financial report.

2006-01-14

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board does hereby approve Northwest Minnesota Mentoring Program's mid-year report and authorizes Board Chair Rasmussen and Deputy Auditor John Huss to sign the report.

A motion was made by Commissioner Foldesi, seconded by Commissioner Walker, and carried by unanimous vote to approve the December 13, 2005 and December 27, 2005 Board meeting proceedings.

The Board gave committee reports. Commissioner Rasmussen reported on the Workforce Center meetings he attended on January 5, 2006 and January 9, 2006. The NW Private Industry Council that oversees the Workforce Centers in Crookston, East Grand Forks, Thief River Falls and Roseau has decided to close the Roseau site. A final decision will not be made until June of 2006. The Board discussed the importance of the Workforce Center to Roseau County and agreed to appoint Commissioners Rasmussen and Walker to serve on the Workforce Center Workgroup Committee until the matter is resolved.

2006-01-15

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board does hereby appoint Commissioner Rasmussen and Commissioner Walker to serve on the Workforce Center Workgroup.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Committee is eligible for per diem and expense reimbursement.

Commissioner Foldesi reported on the KaMaR meeting he attended on January 9, 2006 in Karlstad. Commissioner Foldesi noted this was his first meeting on this committee and it was essentially an organizational meeting. Commissioner Foldesi also reported on the Soil & Water Conservation District Committee meeting he attended prior to the Board meeting. This was also a reorganization meeting and Mr. Foldesi's first meeting. This is the first year that two commissioners have been appointed to serve on this committee.

Commissioner Walker reported on the Northern Counties Land Use meeting he attended in Northhome on January 5, 2006. At the meeting they discussed the erosion on the south shore of Lake of the Woods. Commissioner Walker noted that it does not look promising that a pipeline is going to be built from Lake of the Woods to North Dakota as had been discussed.

Commissioner Johnston noted that the first meeting of the Beltrami Island State Forrest OHV Trail Planning meeting is scheduled for January 20, 2006 in Warroad. Lake of the Woods Commissioners Ed Arneson and Todd Beckel will also be on the workgroup. Commissioner Johnston noted that it may be appropriate for the Board to designate an advisory Board of community members to provide information as the work of designating trails progresses.

Deputy Auditor John Huss met with the Board. Mr. Huss requested the Board authorize Commissioner Rasmussen to sign the audit agreement with Hoffman, Dale and Swenson, PLLC. A motion was made by Commissioner Johnston, seconded by Commissioner Walker and carried by unanimous vote to adopt the following resolution:

2006-01-16

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board does hereby authorize Chair Rasmussen to sign the agreement with Hoffman, Dale and Swenson, PLLC for the provision of audit services which includes an official audit of Roseau County for fiscal year 2005.

Mr. Huss presented the bills for approval. A motion was made by Commissioner Johnston, seconded by Commissioner Walker, and carried by unanimous vote to approve payment of auditor warrants and commissioner warrants as follows:

WARRANTS APPROVED ON 1/10/2006 FOR PAYMENT 1/13/2006			
AMOUNT	VENDOR NAME	AMOUNT	VENDOR NAME
450.00	NATHAN ADAMS	450.00	JOHN ANDERSON
6978.00	ASSN OF MN COUNTIES	1338.49	BALLARD MOTOR CO
450.00	KEVIN BECKER	415.13	FRED CLASEN
450.00	TOBI EIDSMOE	4102.05	GARTNER REFRIGERATION CO
450.00	STEVE GUST	450.00	KELLY GUSTAFSON
450.00	JULE HANSON	3260.00	HEPPNER CONSULTING INC
9846.33	KLEIN MCCARTHY & CO LTD ARCHIT	7405.50	KRUEGER METAL RECYCLING
701.45	LAB SAFETY SUPPLY, INC	30136.05	MAR-KIT LANDFILL
450.00	CHAD MAURSTAD	400.00	M.B MCGEE M.D.
450.00	MN ASSN OF COUNTY OFFICERS	99900.00	MN COUNTIES INSURANCE TRUST
16947.25	MN DEPT OF CORRECTIONS STS	600.00	MN OFFICE OF ENTERPRISES TECH

618.82	MULTI OFFICE PRODUCTS INC	380.00	NATIONAL ASSN OF COUNTIES
450.00	JEFF NELSON	1023.75	NW CONCRETE PRODUCTS INC
6049.00	NW MN HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS	4822.23	NW MN MULTI COUNTY HRA
318.83	POLARIS INDUSTRIES INC	1200.00	RAMSEY CO MEDICAL EXAMINER
873.24	RATWIK, ROSZAK & MALONEY, PA	450.00	MATT RESTAD
667.52	ROSEAU AUTO VALUE	349.00	ROSEAU DIESEL SERVICE INC
574.04	ROSEAU FARM SERVICE INC	638.33	SANITATION PRODUCTS INC
780.00	JAMIE SOVDE	1950.00	VOYAGEURS COMTRONICS CORPORATI
37 PAYMENTS LESS THAN \$300		5,940.52	
****		FINAL TOTAL.....	\$213,165.53 ****

And that the summary of auditor warrants and forthwith claims be approved as follows:

December 29, 2005	\$ 27,573.19
December 30, 2005	\$ 10,724.26
January 5, 2006	\$ 85,542.52

The Board discussed the Roseau County website. Commissioner Johnston expressed frustration with the length of time it has taken to get the web page up. Ms. Harren noted that the web site is now live and that the county is registered with the key web browser services making the site accessible without the address. Ms. Harren reminded the Board that Will Craig from the University of Minnesota Center for Urban and Regional Affairs will meet with the GIS team on Thursday. Mr. Craig is interested in the process that Roseau County went through to develop GIS.

Ms. Harren requested the Board appoint an at-large member to serve on the Pembina Trail R C & D Committee. A motion was made by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Johnston, and carried by unanimous vote to adopt the following resolution:

2006-01-17

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board does hereby appoint Melvin Wang to serve on the Pembina Trail Research and Development Commission as a member at large for a term expiring December 31, 2006.

A motion was made by Commissioner Johnston, seconded by Commissioner Walker, and carried by unanimous vote to adopt the following resolution:

2006-01-18

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board does hereby approve the 2006 Natural Resources Block Grant Agreement and authorized Chair Rasmussen to sign the agreement on behalf of Roseau County.

The Board discussed the Workforce Center proposed closing and agreed to pass a resolution in support of its continued full time operation in Roseau County. A motion was made by Commissioner Johnston, seconded by Commissioner Foldesi, and carried by unanimous vote to adopt the following resolution:

2006-01-19

WHEREAS, Roseau County area residents and local industry rely upon the vital services provided by the Roseau Workforce Center; and

WHEREAS, area cities, employers, other community representatives have actively supported and participated with Roseau Workforce Center staff through our local Job Service Executive Committee (JSEC) to implement initiatives to improve employment opportunities and industry in our region; and

WHEREAS, Roseau County (including the City of Roseau) is a major population and employment center for the seven Northwest Minnesota Counties; and

WHEREAS, Roseau County is home to the second and fifth largest manufacturing facilities in the State of Minnesota, (Marvin Windows and Polaris Industries Inc. respectively); and

WHEREAS, Roseau County has a population exceeding 16,000 (second largest county in the NW region) and is one of only two counties in the seven county region of Northwest Minnesota with a growing population over the past decade; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota State Demographer projects continued growth for Roseau County, at a rate exceeding all other Northwest Minnesota counties, through 2030; and

WHEREAS, the proposal to shift Workforce Center Services from Roseau to Thief River Falls and to provide itinerant services to Roseau County on an appointment basis is unreasonable;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Roseau County Board of Commissioners supports the continued long-term commitment by the Northwest Private Industry Council to a local Workforce Center in the City of Roseau.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Roseau County Board of Commissioners request the Northwest Private Industry Council analyze Workforce Center staffing in all locations in order to equitably provide staff and resources throughout the region, including the expansion of the Workforce Center in Roseau to be on par with staffing levels in Thief River Falls and Crookston, as the demographics and industrial base indicate they should be allocated.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Roseau County Board supports the full evaluation of all Workforce Center cost cutting options in the NW region by the NW Private Industry Council including staff reductions, consolidation of offices, and all other regional alternatives in lieu of the closing of the Roseau Office.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Roseau County Board offers its assistance to the NW Private Industry Council to develop an equitable service delivery system for the Minnesota Workforce Centers in our region; including, investigating options to reduce costs, as necessary, to maintain vital services to all areas of our region.

The Board discussed the need to have a county policy on the dissemination of public information. A motion was made by Commissioner Johnston, seconded by Commissioner Walker, and carried by unanimous vote to adopt the following resolution:

2006-01-20

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board does hereby direct Coordinator Harren to research and develop a county policy on request for public information.

The Board discussed its obligation to protect employees from harassing behavior. In August of 2005, the Board passed a Respectful Workplace policy in which it states that Roseau County will not tolerate disrespectful behavior towards its employees including discrimination, harassment and violence or other offensive or degrading remarks or conduct. The Board directed Ms. Harren to remind department heads of the protocol for responding to incidents of disrespectful behavior.

Chair Rasmussen recessed the meeting at 10:15 am. The meeting reconvened at 10:30 a.m.

Jim Jenson met with the Board regarding an open letter he had written to the Board regarding a number of questions and concerns he has about the county budget. Mr. Jenson had requested a response from the Board regarding his concerns. During his appointment, Mr. Jenson re-iterated concerns expressed in the letter. The Board offered to set up a committee to meet with Mr. Jenson to further discuss his concerns. Commissioner Foldesi and Commissioner Walker were selected to meet with Mr. Jenson should he make that request.

Arnold Pederson met with the Board. Mr. Pederson has agreed to be the owner representative on the Jail Facility and Social Service Building construction projects. The Board introduced Mr. Jenson to the project architect, Rich McCarthy. It was agreed that biweekly meetings will be held during the construction process and that Mr. Pederson will serve as Mr. McCarthy's "eyes" in the field and have a direct link to his office through the Klein McCarthy point person, John Howell.

County Engineer Brian Ketring met with the Board. Mr. Ketring did not have an action agenda but requested Board input on proposed construction projects. Mr. Ketring noted that construction costs, specifically asphalt costs, have increased 75% since the five-year plan was developed. This means that previously planned projects may not be feasible. Mr. Ketring requested direction from the Board as to whether he should re-organize the five-year construction schedule or advance funds to cover the increased cost. A motion was made by Commissioner Johnston, seconded by Commissioner Walker, and carried by unanimous vote to adopt the following resolution:

2006-01-21

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board does hereby authorize Engineer Ketring to request an advance from the State of Minnesota and encumber funds in order to complete the 2006 construction plan as scheduled.

Assistant County Attorney Lisa Hanson met with the Board. Ms. Hanson informed the Board that she has thoroughly research county records on the

establishment of roads in unorganized Juneberry Township and discovered that the matter was never completed. Commissioner Foldesi will refer Mr. Gryskiewicz to Ms. Hanson for further direction.

Ms. Hanson told the Board that the Department of Natural Resources did not have any negative feedback on the proposed ATV Ordinance so she will proceed with preparations for the public hearing, including making the ordinance and map of proposed roads to be open for ATV use available to the public. Ms. Hanson requested the Board approve a public hearing on the proposed AVT Ordinance and Methamphetamine Ordinance on February 28, 2006. A motion was made by Commissioner Johnston, seconded by Commissioner Walker and carried by unanimous vote to approve a public hearing on February 28, 2006 at 10:30 a.m.

Chair Rasmussen recessed the meeting at 12:30 pm. The meeting reconvened at 1:00 pm.

The Board met with Rich McCarthy of Klein-McCarthy & Company. Mr. McCarthy convened a pre-construction conference and invited Industrial Contract Service (ICS) representative Al Seydel to meet the Board. Mr. Seydel will serve as the project manager on the Roseau County Jail and Roseau County Social Services building projects. Also attending were two representatives from Bergstrom Electric - Chad Bottom, Project Superintendent and Russ Penn, Branch Manager. Mr. Seydel told the Board that ICS is in the final stages of selecting a site manager and will announce that name soon. County Attorney Michelle Moren was invited to meet with the group to finalize contract details. Ms. Moren requested several minor changes in the contract language. Mr. McCarthy agreed to make the changes and forward the revised contract to ICS who will then forward the contract to Roseau County for final approval. The 577 construction day completion schedule will begin once the contract has been signed by all parties. Because of the unseasonably warm winter, ICS may begin construction as soon as February.

Upon motion carried, Chairman Orris Rasmussen adjourned the meeting at 1:45 p.m. The Board will convene its next regular meeting at 8:30 a.m. on January 24, 2006.

Attest:

Date: _____

Teresa Harren
County Coordinator

Orris Rasmussen
Board Chairman