

AITKIN COUNTY BOARD

January 12, 2016

The Aitkin County Board of Commissioners met this 12th day of January, 2016 at 9:01 a.m. with the following members present: Board Chair J. Mark Wedel, Commissioners Laurie Westerlund, Don Niemi, and Anne Marcotte. Commissioner Brian Napstad was absent. County Administrator Nathan Burkett, and Administrative Assistant Sue Bingham were also present.

CALL TO ORDER

Motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Marcotte and carried (4-0 Napstad absent), all voting yes to approve the January 12, 2016 agenda.

**APPROVED
AGENDA**

Motion by Commissioner Niemi, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund and carried (4-0 Napstad absent), all members voting yes to approve the Consent Agenda as follows: A) Correspondence File: January 5, 2016 to January 11, 2016; B) Approve County Board Minutes: January 5, 2015 (End of 2015 Board, and Beginning of 2016 Board); C) Approve Request to Fill Committee Opening – HRA; D) Accept \$100 Donation to K-9 Unit from Granite Electronics; E) Accept \$2,000 Peace Officer Safety Donation from William Reed; F) Approve Commissioner Warrants: General Fund \$546,799.36, Road & Bridge \$214,846.34, Health & Human Services \$40,668.60, Trust \$69,230.21, Forest Development \$10,094.29, Long Lake Conservation Center \$21,971.81, Parks \$85,746.14 for a total of \$989,356.75; G) Approve December Manual Warrants: General Fund \$311,189.21, Road & Bridge \$486,509.51, Health & Human Services \$5,619.10, State \$53,769.35, Trust \$1,081.36, Long Lake Conservation Center \$769.77 for a total of \$858,938.30; H) Adopt Resolution: Prairie River Retreat Liquor License; I) Adopt Resolution: Final Contract Payment – Contract No. 20141; J) Adopt Resolution: Cooperative Agreement for Installation of 6 Inch Wide Wet Reflective Epoxy Edgeline

**CONSENT
AGENDA**

Under the consent agenda, motion by Commissioner Niemi, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund and carried (4-0 Napstad absent), all members voting to reappoint Galen Tveit to a five year term as Commissioner of the Housing & Redevelopment Authority of Aitkin County.

**HRA
APPOINTMENT**

Under the consent agenda, motion for a resolution by Commissioner Niemi, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund and carried (4-0 Napstad absent), all members voting yes to adopt resolution - Prairie River Retreat Liquor License:

BE IT RESOLVED, the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners agrees to approve the following liquor license for a period from January 20 thru December 31, 2016:

**RESOLUTION
20150112-007
PRAIRIE RIVER
RETREAT LIQUOR
LICENSE**

"ON", "OFF" and "SUNDAY" Sale:

Sheryl Marie Ruhnke, d/b/a **Prairie River Retreat** – Shamrock Township
This establishment has an address of 51272 Lake Ave., McGregor, MN 55760

Under the consent agenda, motion for a resolution by Commissioner Niemi, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund and carried (4-0 Napstad absent), all members voting yes to adopt resolution – Final Contract Payment – Contract No. 20141:

WHEREAS, Contract No. 20141 has in all been completed, and the County Board being fully advised in the premises.

**RESOLUTION
20150112-008**

NOW THEN BE IT RESOLVED, that the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners does hereby accept said completed project for and on behalf of the County of Aitkin and authorize final payment to R.C. Habeck Excavating, LLC in the amount of \$65,416.52.

Under the consent agenda, motion for a resolution by Commissioner Niemi, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund and carried (4-0 Napstad absent), all members voting yes to adopt resolution – Cooperative Agreement for Installation of 6 Inch Wide Wet Reflective Epoxy Edgeline:

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Department of Transportation has secured federal funding for participating counties in the Northeast Minnesota Area Transportation Partnership to complete a highway safety improvement project to install 6-inch set reflective epoxy edgelines on various county highways, and

WHEREAS, participating counties include Aitkin, Carlton, Itasca, Lake, and St. Louis.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Aitkin County Board Chairperson, the Aitkin County Auditor, and the Aitkin County Engineer are hereby authorized and directed to enter into said agreement with the participating counties.

The Board recognized the following employees for their years of service:

- Janet Hatfield, 25 years, Eligibility Worker – Health & Human Services Dept.
- Robert Kangas, 30 years, Forester – Land Dept.
- Joe Voller, 35 years, Recreation Specialist – Land Dept.

Steve Hughes, District Manager Aitkin County SWCD updated the Board on the Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) accomplishments in 2015 and discussed the upcoming 2016 season.

Motion for a resolution by Commissioner Marcotte, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried (4-0 Napstad absent), all members voting yes to adopt resolution – Tax-Forfeit Repurchase Application – McLains Addition to Hill City Lot 11, Block 4:

WHEREAS, Travis David Nielsen of 211 Stoner Ave Hill City, Mn 55748, the former owner has made and filed an application with the County Auditor for the repurchase of the hereinafter described parcel of tax forfeited land, in accordance with the provisions of Minnesota Statutes 1945, Section 282.241, of amended, which land is situated in the County of Aitkin, Minnesota and described as follows, to-wit:

McLains Addition to Hill City Lot 11 Block 4

and, WHEREAS, said applicant has set forth in his application that:

- a) a hardship and injustice has resulted because of forfeiture of said land, for the following reasons, to-wit:
 - I am a single father with two children who have lived in this house for the entirety of their lives – 20 years. This is the only home they have known, we

**FINAL CONTRACT
PAYMENT –
CONTRACT
NO. 20141**

**RESOLUTION
20150112-009
COOPERATIVE
AGREEMENT FOR
INSTALLATION OF
6 INCH WIDE WET
REFLECTIVE
EPOXY EDGELINE**

**EMPLOYEE
RECOGNITION**

AIS UPDATE

**RESOLUTION
20150112-010
TAX-FORFEIT
REPURCHASE
APPLICATION –
MCLAINS
ADDITION TO HILL
CITY LOT 11,
BLOCK 4**

have nowhere else to go. I plan to move my fiancé and her two small children into this house to complete our family.

- b) that the repurchase of said land by me will promote and best serve the public interest, because

It will allow us to continue raising our family in a well-loved old house and in a town we all have roots in. It will provide a safe and stable environment for our four children to mature in and hopefully someday raise a family of their own in. Nothing means more to us than this house, it is our home.

I feel that we, as a family, are an asset to our community. I am a local business owner and provide jobs to local members of the community. Also, our four children, attend the local elementary and high school and the nearby college. They plan on entering the workforce when finished with school. Together we maintain a clean and respectable yard and home and now that we are current on the property taxes, we foresee no problems keeping up to date on all taxes.

and WHEREAS, this board is of the opinion that said application should be granted for such reasons.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the application of Travis David Nielsen for the purchase of the above described parcel of tax forfeited land be and the same is hereby granted and the County Auditor is hereby authorized to permit such repurchase according to the provisions of Minnesota Statutes 1945, Section 282.241 as amended.

The Board reported on the following: CARE funding, NCLUCB, BOA, State General Tax, Community Corrections, and Aitkin Airport.

Break: 9:54 a.m. to 10:01 a.m.

Board Chair J. Mark Wedel closed the meeting at 10:01 a.m. under MN Statute 13D.05 Subd. 3 (d), Courthouse Security.

Board Chair J. Mark Wedel reopened the meeting at 11:21 a.m.

Motion by Commissioner Marcotte, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund and carried (4-0 Napstad absent), all members voting yes to adjourn the meeting at 11:21 a.m. until Tuesday, January 26, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.

J. Mark Wedel, Chairperson
Aitkin County Board of Commissioners

Nathan Burkett, County Administrator

**COMMITTEE
UPDATES**

BREAK

CLOSED SESSION

OPEN MEETING

ADJOURN