

The Aitkin County Board of Commissioners met this 25th day of September, 2018 at 9:01 a.m., at the Aitkin Library, with the following members present: Board Chair Anne Marcotte, Commissioners J. Mark Wedel, Laurie Westerlund, Don Niemi, Bill Pratt, County Administrator Jessica Seibert and Administrative Assistant Sue Bingham.

Motion by Commissioner Niemi, seconded by Commissioner Wedel and carried, all members voting yes to approve the September 25, 2018 amended agenda. Agenda Item 3C – Approve Personnel Committee Recommendation to hire Rich Courtemanche as the new Land Commissioner, was added to the agenda.

**AITKIN COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
September 25, 2018**

Attendance

The Aitkin County Board of Commissioners met this 25th day of September, 2018, at 9:02 a.m. as the Aitkin County Health & Human Services Board, with the following members present: Board Chair Anne Marcotte, Commissioners Laurie Westerlund, J. Mark Wedel, Don Niemi, and Bill Pratt. Others present included: County Administrator Jessica Seibert, Accounting Supervisor Carli Goble, Public Health Supervisor Erin Melz, Financial Assistant Supervisor Jessi Goble, Financial Assistance Worker Jen Rikila, Assistant to the County Administrator Sue Bingham, and Guests: Robert Marcum/H&HS Advisory Committee Member, Carole Holten and Roberta Elvecrog/H&HS Advisory Committee Members, Brielle Bredsten/Aitkin Independent Age, and Bob Harwarth/Citizen.

Agenda

Motion by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to approve the September 25, 2018 Health & Human Services Board agenda with the addition.

Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Pratt, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund and carried, all members voting yes to approve the August 28, 2018 Health and Human Services Board minutes.

Bills

Carli Goble noted there was nothing unusual or noteworthy in this month's bills.

Commissioner Marcotte asked about an amount to the Dept. of Human Services. Carli noted that was our maintenance of effort, which is our percentage we have to pay to get CCDTF funding.

Commissioner Marcotte also inquired about a payment to Lakes and Pines and whether that was for pay to the family resource specialist who was hired to provide in home services and Carli noted that it was.

Commissioner Marcotte also reiterated that something needs to be done, by the state, about us bearing the burden to pay for people who are in treatment facilities.

CALL TO ORDER

**APPROVED
AGENDA**

**HEALTH & HUMAN
SERVICES BOARD**

Motion by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Pratt and carried, all members voting yes to approve the bills.

Health & Human Services Director Report, Jessi Goble, Financial Assistance Supervisor

In Cynthia's absence Jessi Goble provided the directors report.

1. Cynthia attended the AMC Fall Policy Conference Sept. 12-14.
 - a. Great discussion at the HHS Policy Committee meeting.
 - b. Multitude of issues that Counties are concerned with.
2. AMC will develop platform positions on a variety of topics and will prioritize 3 areas.
3. The platform topics are-
 - a. Child safety and well being
 - b. Chemical use and abuse
 - c. Children and Family health
 - d. Community Health
 - e. Economic self-sufficiency
 - f. Disease prevention and health protection
 - g. Health care financing, access, and quality
 - h. Mental health
 - i. Vulnerable people
4. She hopes to have a document from AMC by the next Board meeting to be able to share more details on all of it.

PDM (Periodic Data Match) Update, Jessi Goble, Financial Assistance Supervisor

Jessi and Jen Rikila went through their handout and spoke about PDM and what it is.

Was approved by the MN Legislature in 2015. Its purpose is to compare data across many different systems for enrollees of MA or Minnesota Care to ensure that all data matches and that people are indeed eligible for public programs or have had a change in their eligibility status. Process runs six months after a person is enrolled in MA or Minnesota Care.

If a discrepancy is found, the system notifies the enrollee about it and instructs them to contact their financial worker to get it corrected. The system does not redetermine eligibility, the financial worker still must process any of the changes.

PDM process is working better throughout the state than was anticipated for the group that was selected to be tested on.

No concrete date, right now, as to when the process will be turned on completely.

There was a question from Commissioner Niemi, unrelated to PDM, about MTM (Medical Transportation Management) Services and Jessi spoke that they have just begun discussions on the subject, within the region, and that when she has more solid information she will bring it to the board.

Committee Reports

H&HS Advisory Committee Update – Carole Holten/Roberta Elvecrog

Met on September 5th.

- Roberta talked about the Suicide Prevention presentation that was given by Brea Hamdorf and Stephanie Downey and how it gave a good

representation of how our area does not recognize that suicide is a concern and that it really needs to be addressed. We are at the denial/resistance level of community readiness.

- H&HS has gathered key stakeholders from Aitkin County and formed CAPS, the Committee for Awareness and Prevention of Suicide.
- Need more community leadership involvement with this issue.
- Roberta commented how disheartening it is how blasé people are about it in our county.

Lakes and Pines Update – Commissioner Niemi

They discussed fuel assistance and weatherization.

- Fuel assistance starts October 1st.
- Income guidelines are that a family of four can only make \$12,490 over three months in gross income to qualify for the program.
- Allowed amount is based on the type of heat.
- If a person has winterization help after September 30, 1994, they cannot request it again. Commissioner Niemi noted that seemed like a long time to go back and will be checking into that date.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:46 a.m.

Next Meeting – October 23, 2018

Break: 9:46 a.m. to 9:54 a.m.

Motion by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Pratt and carried, all members voting yes to approve the Consent Agenda as follows: A) Correspondence File: September 11, 2018 to September 24, 2018; B) Approve County Board Minutes: September 11, 2018; C) Approve Personnel Committee Recommendation; D) Set Unorganized Township Levies for 2019 – 1. Adopt Resolution: 2019 Unorganized Road & Bridge, 2. Adopt Resolution: 2019 Unorganized Fire Protection, 3. Adopt Resolution: 2019 Unorganized Cemetery; E) Approve Electronic Funds Transfers: \$677,574.96; F) Approve Commissioner Warrants: General Fund \$89,345.80, Road & Bridge \$138,261.14, Health & Human Services \$10,868.04, Debt Service \$6,052.90, State \$900.00, Trust \$6,126.79, Forest Development \$6,389.43, Long Lake Conservation Center \$3,273.89, Parks \$36,974.76 for a total of \$298,192.75; G) Approve Auditor Warrants – Sales & Use Tax: General Fund \$701.27, Road & Bridge \$1,404.45, Health & Human Services \$0.58, State \$7,709.50, Trust \$59.90, Long Lake Conservation Center \$19.00, Parks \$260.38 for a total of \$10,155.08

Under the consent agenda, motion by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Pratt and carried, all members voting yes to approve hiring Kristi Kunz as a non-union temporary office assistant in the Environmental Services Department at an hourly rate equivalent to Grade 5, Step D on the County’s uniform wage scale, as recommended by the Personnel Committee.

Under the consent agenda, motion for a resolution by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Pratt and carried, all members voting yes to adopt resolution – 2019 Unorganized Road & Bridge:

**HHS BOARD
ADJOURNS**

BREAK

**CONSENT
AGENDA**

**TEMPORARY
OFFICE ASST.
ENVIRONMENTAL
SERVICES**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following sums of money be levied against the tax capacity of the Unorganized Townships of Aitkin County, for the year collectible 2019 for Road and Bridge purposes:

Unorg Township	
52-22	\$3000
45-24	\$2000
47-24	\$11000
52-24	\$1500
50-25	\$4000
51-25	\$0
52-25	\$4500
50-26	\$2000
48-27	\$5500
49-27	\$9000
50-27	\$0
51-27	\$0
52-27	\$3500

**RESOLUTION
20180925-062
2019
UNORGANIZED
ROAD & BRIDGE**

Under the consent agenda, motion for a resolution by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Pratt and carried, all members voting yes to adopt resolution – 2019 Unorganized Fire Protection:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following sums of money be levied against the tax capacity of the Unorganized Townships of Aitkin County, for the year collectible 2019 for Fire Protection purposes:

Unorg Township	
52-22	\$15000
51-22	\$150
45-25	\$650
47-25	\$2000
52-26	\$1400
50-28	\$1600
51-26	\$300
52-27	\$2700
50-29	\$1600
48-28	\$5000
49-28	\$5500
50-30	\$350
51-27	\$1200
52-27	\$4600

**RESOLUTION
20180925-063
2019
UNORGANIZED
FIRE PROTECTION**

Under the consent agenda, motion for a resolution by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Pratt and carried, all members voting yes to adopt resolution – 2019 Unorganized Cemetery:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following sums of money be levied against the tax capacity of the Unorganized Townships of Aitkin County, for the year collectible 2019 for Cemetery (Revenue):

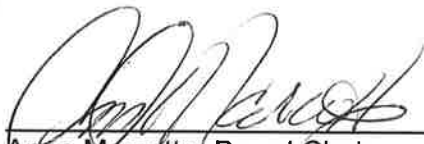
**RESOLUTION
20180925-064
2019**

<p>Unorganized Township Cemetery:</p> <p>Shovel Lake Cemetery 51-27 \$600 52-27 \$600</p> <p>Hebron Cemetery 50-25 \$1,500</p>	<p>UNORGANIZED CEMETERY</p>
<p>Motion for a resolution by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Pratt and carried, all members voting yes to adopt resolution – 2019 Preliminary Levy:</p> <p>BE IT RESOLVED, that the preliminary Aitkin County tax levy for payable 2019 be set at \$14,737,749.</p>	<p>RESOLUTION 20180925-065 2019 PRELIMINARY LEVY</p>
<p>Jessica Seibert, County Administrator reviewed the 2018 newspaper bid specifications with the Board. The following changes will be made to the 2019 bid specifications: 1. No joint bids will be allowed, and 2. Bidders will be required to provide weekly newspaper circulation by zip code within the boundaries of Aitkin County.</p>	<p>CHANGES TO NEWSPAPER BID SPECIFICATIONS</p>
<p>Motion by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to hire Assistant Land Commissioner Rich Courtemanche as the new Land Commissioner at Grade 14, Step A, salary \$67,807, effective October 1, 2018, as recommended by the Personnel Committee.</p>	<p>LAND COMMISSIONER HIRED</p>
<p>The Board discussed: AMC, MRC, Arrowhead Counties, ARDC, TZD, Aitkin County Water Planning Task Force, Budget Committee, Personnel Committee, Mille Lacs Watershed, P&Z, Transportation Coordination Meeting at Work Force Center, BEACON, JCNRB, Aitkin County Soil & Water District, and NCLUCB.</p>	<p>BOARD DISCUSSION</p>
<p>At 11:00 a.m. Rich Courtemanche, Assistant Land Commissioner held a Public Hearing for Land Exchange in Seavey Township. Rich read an email from Rodger Bodin expressing concern about access through his land for logging. Rich then responded to the concerns. Commissioner Marcotte read an email from Mark Jacobs supporting the land exchange. Dennis Ihamaki asked how much land was involved. Peggy Jones, with American Peat Technology responded to Dennis Ihmaki's question. Scott Anderson, Seavey Township Supervisor voiced his support, and Ross Wagner, Economic Development & Forest Industry Coordinator also voiced his support. Motion for a resolution by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to adopt resolution – American Peat Technology Land Exchange:</p>	<p>PUBLIC HEARING LAND EXCHANGE SEAVEY TWP</p>
<p>WHEREAS, on August 28, 2018 the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners set a public hearing for September 25, 2018 at 11:00 AM to consider a land exchange of property in Seavey Township described as follows:</p>	<p>RESOLUTION 20180925-066 AMERICAN PEAT TECHNOLOGY</p>

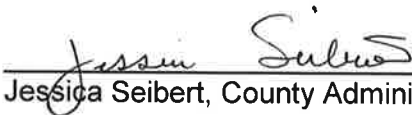
<p>County Fee Land – SW ¼ of SW ¼ Section 23 T 44 R 24</p> <p>Private Land – SW ¼ of NW ¼ Section 20 T 44 R 24</p> <p>WHEREAS, the necessary appraisals and public hearing notice as required by M.S 373.01 have been complied with, and</p> <p>WHEREAS, American Peat Technology has agreed to pay the difference in appraised values, and</p> <p>WHEREAS, the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners held a public hearing on September 25th, 2018 at 11:00 AM for the purpose of hearing public comments regarding the proposed land exchange.</p> <p>THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Land Commissioner’s Office to proceed with the title opinion on the privately owned parcels, and with the land exchange of the lands listed above.</p> <p>BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the lands exchanged are subject to zoning ordinances adopted by the County Board and that all lands are subject to highway and utility easements.</p>	<p>LAND EXCHANGE</p>
<p>Motion for a resolution by Commissioner Pratt, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund and carried, all members voting yes to adopt resolution – Declaring a State of Emergency:</p> <p>WHEREAS, severe storms impacted the population of Aitkin County and its cities; and</p> <p>WHEREAS, the August 31, 2018 through September 2, 2018 severe storm event caused a significant amount of public property damage; and</p> <p>WHEREAS, the Aitkin County Department of Emergency Management requests the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners to declare Aitkin County in a State of Emergency for the severe storm event of 2018.</p> <p>NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners declares a State of Emergency for Aitkin County in response to the conditions resulting from the severe storm event of August 31, 2018, through September 2, 2018.</p>	<p>RESOLUTION 20180925-067 DECLARING A STATE OF EMERGENCY</p>
<p>Break: 11:27 a.m. to 11:32 a.m.</p>	<p>BREAK</p>
<p>Motion by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Pratt and carried, all members voting to close the meeting at 11:32 a.m. under MN Statute 13D.05, subd. 3 (d) Security Response Procedures.</p>	<p>CLOSED SESSION</p>
<p>Motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Pratt and carried, all members voting to reopen the meeting at 12:19 p.m.</p>	<p>REOPEN MEETING</p>

Motion by Commissioner Wedel seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to adjourn the meeting at 12:19 p.m. until Tuesday, October 9, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. at the Aitkin Public Library.

ADJOURN



Anne Marcotte, Board Chair
Aitkin County Board of Commissioners



Jessica Seibert, County Administrator