

# AITKIN COUNTY BOARD

November 26, 2019

The Aitkin County Board of Commissioners met this 26<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2019 at 9:00 a.m., at the Aitkin Public Library, with the following members present: Vice Chair J. Mark Wedel, Laurie Westerlund, Don Niemi, Bill Pratt, County Administrator Jessica Seibert and Administrative Assistant Sue Bingham. Board Chair Anne Marcotte was absent.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Vice Chair J. Mark Wedel called for a moment of silence in memory of former Aitkin County Auditor, Alice Dotzler.

**MOMENT OF SILENCE**

Motion by Commissioner Pratt, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members present voting yes to approve the November 26, 2019 agenda.

**APPROVED AGENDA**

The Aitkin County Board of Commissioners met as the Aitkin County Health & Human Services Board at 9:02 a.m. and adjourned at 10:08 a.m. Their next meeting is scheduled December 17, 2019.

**HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES BOARD**

Break: 10:08 a.m. to 10:19 a.m.

**BREAK**

Jessica Seibert, County Administrator introduced Carl Clark, Construction Manager with Contegrity, Inc. to the Board.

**CONSTRUCTION MANAGER**

Motion by Commissioner Pratt, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members present voting yes to approve the Consent Agenda as follows: A) Correspondence File: November 12, 2019 to November 25, 2019; B) Approve County Board Minutes: November 12, 2019; C) Approve Electronic Funds Transfers: \$1,442,530.41; D) Approve Commissioner Warrants: General Fund \$117,281.97, Reserves Fund \$9,191.80, Road & Bridge \$50,818.55, Health & Human Services \$20,991.56, State \$9,112.00, Trust \$15,828.59, Forest Development \$7,176.57, Capital Project \$21,327.07, Long Lake Conservation Center \$12,117.53, Parks \$7,565.64 for a total of \$271,411.28; E) Approve Auditor Warrants – Anderson Brothers: Road & Bridge \$732,152.63; F) Approve Auditor Warrants – Contegrity: Capital Project \$213,936.67; G) Approve Auditor Manual Warrants – 11-14-19: Forest Development \$3,783.66; H) Approve Disbursement Journal – Elan 10-31-19: General Fund \$2,821.61, Road & Bridge \$9.63, Health & Human Services \$1,428.75, Capital Project \$6,347.68, Long Lake Conservation Center \$451.41 for a total of \$11,059.08; I) Approve Auditor Warrants – Sales Tax Payment: General Fund \$592.81, Road & Bridge \$1,209.28, Trust \$28.11, Forest Development \$7.45, Long Lake Conservation Center \$46.12, Parks \$86.12 for a total of \$1,969.89; J) Approve Auditor Warrants – October Settlement: Agency \$3,018,255.13; K) Adopt Resolution: MN Department of Agriculture Invasive Species Grant; L) Adopt Resolution: 2020 All Terrain Vehicle Trail Funding; M) Approve Fire Protection Contract with City of Palisade; N) Adopt Resolution: LG220 Application for Exempt Permit – Up North Riders ATV Club; O) Approve Application for License to Sell Tobacco Products, with Contingency; P) Approve 2020 Countywide Fee Schedule; Q) Approve Affidavit for Duplicate of Lost Warrant – Treasurer's Office: Arrowhead Counties Association, Commissioner Warrant #77315, dated 1-29-19 in the amount of \$2,750.00; R) Adopt Resolution: Mail Balloting

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Under the consent agenda, motion for a resolution by Commissioner Pratt, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members present voting yes to adopt resolution – MN Department of Agriculture Invasive Species Act:

**WHEREAS**, the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners supports the grant application made to the Minnesota Department of Agriculture for the Noxious Weed and Invasive Plant Grant Program. The application is to acquire herbicide chemicals and equipment.

**WHEREAS**, Aitkin County has the financial capability to meet the match of non-state funds or in-kind resources.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, IF** Aitkin County is awarded the grant by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, Aitkin County agrees to accept the grant award, and may enter into an agreement with the State of Minnesota for the above referenced acquisition. Aitkin County will comply with all applicable laws, environmental requirements, and regulations as stated in the grant agreement.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Aitkin County Land Commissioner is hereby authorized to execute such agreements as are necessary to implement the project on behalf of Aitkin County.

Under the consent agenda, motion for a resolution by Commissioner Pratt, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members present voting yes to adopt resolution – 2020 All Terrain Vehicle Trail Funding:

**WHEREAS**, Local units of government can apply for State aide for trail development, maintenance, grooming and administration from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources at the rate of 90% reimbursement of costs of grooming and maintenance, and

**WHEREAS**, Aitkin County does not have the facilities to maintain the entire trail system in Aitkin County, and

**WHEREAS**, Clubs wish to contract with the County for maintaining these trails, and

**WHEREAS**, these trails benefit the recreation, resort, tourism, industry, and economy of Aitkin County.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Aitkin County Trail Administrator be authorized to apply for Grants in Aide assistance funds for All Terrain Vehicle Trail maintenance and grooming for the following trail:

Northwoods Regional ATV trail which consists of the following segments: South Soo Line, North Soo Line, Axtell ATV technical riding area, Rabey Line, Blind Lake, Redtop, Moose River Connector, Lawler, Blind Lake Connector Trail, Hill City Connector trail and Solana ATV trails.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Aitkin County Trail Administrator be authorized to contract for the development, maintenance and grooming of the aforementioned trails with qualified, interested clubs.

**RESOLUTION  
20191126-091  
MN DEPT OF  
AGRICULTURE  
INVASIVE  
SPECIES ACT**

**RESOLUTION  
20191126-092  
2020 ALL  
TERRAIN  
VEHICLE TRAIL  
FUNDING**

Under the consent agenda, motion for a resolution by Commissioner Pratt, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members present voting yes to adopt resolution – LG220 Application for Exempt Permit – 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 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020)

Under the consent agenda, motion by Commissioner Pratt, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members present voting yes to approve the following Application for License to Sell Tobacco Products for the period ending March 31, 2020, contingent upon all delinquent real estate taxes being paid in full.

#29 Village Pump Saloon LLC, d/b/a Village Pump Saloon – Tamarack City

Under the consent agenda, motion for a resolution by Commissioner Pratt, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members present voting yes to adopt resolution – Mail Balloting:

**WHEREAS**, Minnesota Statute 204B.45 requires the designation of local polling places for elections annually; Two additional townships that supported unorganized township elections are no longer available for that support.

Waukenabo Township, which supported the NW P2 Unorganized Towns of (49-27, 50-27, 50-26, 50-25, &51-25) has adopted mail balloting; Hill Lake Township, which supported the NW P1 Unorganized Towns of (52-25 and 52-27) has also adopted mail balloting.

With the majority of unorganized towns moving to mail balloting, it is further recommended that the remainder of unorganized towns be designated mail ballot precincts, those are Unorganized Town 45-24 (Jewett), Unorganized Town 47-24 (Davidson), and Unorganized Town 51-27 (LeMay).

The County Board has the authority to designate mail balloting for these unorganized towns under MN Statute 204B.45 for federal, state, county, and local elections.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners, acting on behalf of the unorganized townships in Aitkin County designate Mail Balloting for the precincts of NW P2 Unorganized Towns of (49-27, 50-27, 50-26, 50-25, &51-25), Hill Lake Township, which supported the NW P1 Unorganized Towns of (52-25; and Unorganized Town 45-24 (Jewett), Unorganized Town 47-24 (Davidson), and Unorganized Town 51-27 (LeMay).

Motion for a resolution by Commissioner Niemi, seconded by Commissioner Pratt and carried, all members present voting yes to adopt resolution – Proposed State Conservation Acquisition:

**RESOLUTION  
20191126-093  
LG220  
APPLICATION  
FOR EXEMPT  
PERMIT – UP  
NORTH RIDERS  
ATV CLUB INC.**

**APPLICATION  
FOR LICENSE TO  
SELL TOBACCO  
PRODUCTS –  
VILLAGE PUMP  
SALOON**

**RESOLUTION  
20191126-094  
MAIL  
BALLOTING**

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with; Minnesota Statutes 84.944, Subd. 3, the Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources on September 30, 2019, provided the county board with a description of lands to be acquired by the State of Minnesota for Aquatic Management Area purposes.

Hill Lake AMA, Tract 2. Those parts of Section 12, Township 52 North, Range 26 West, Aitkin County, Minnesota, described as follows:

Government Lot 3, the Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter and the east 33 feet of the Northwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter,

AND

Government Lot 2 EXCEPT a 2-acre parcel along the shore of Hill Lake. Government Lot 2 is subject to a 33-foot easement lying 16.5 feet on each side of the following described centerline: Commencing at the northeast corner of said Government Lot 2; thence west, bearing assumed, along the north line of said Government Lot 2 a distance of 260 feet, more or less, to the intersection with an in place driveway and the point of beginning; thence southwesterly 500 feet, more or less, to the aforementioned 2-acre EXCEPTION and there terminating.

**IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**, by the Board of County Commissioners of Aitkin County on November 26, 2019 that the State's proposed acquisition of the attached described property be

- Approved
- Disapproved. If so, state reason(s) for disapproval: \_\_\_\_\_

Jessica Seibert, County Administrator updated the Board on the following:

- Facilities – Phase 2 Update
- MACA Pathways Meeting

Motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members present voting yes to approve the purchase of Pictometry Aerial Photography at a cost of \$164,135.50 as presented, using the Recorder's Compliance Funds minus \$20,000 from Aitkin County Soil and Water Conservation District, and to authorize the Board Chair and County Administrator to sign the contract after it has been approved by the County Attorney.

Motion by Commissioner Pratt, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members present voting yes to approve distribution of Blandin Iron Range Community Broadband Grants as follows:

- \$ 3,600.00 Wi-Fi Hotspot, Jacobson Community Center
- \$15,000.00 Long Lake Conservation Center Fiber Build
- \$20,000.00 My Chart, Riverwood Healthcare Center
- \$ 5,910.00 Enhancements to Remote Learning Center
- \$44,510.00

**RESOLUTION  
20191126-095  
PROPOSED  
STATE  
CONSERVATION  
ACQUISITION**

**COUNTY  
ADMINISTRATOR  
UPDATES**

**PICTOMETRY  
AERIAL  
PHOTOGRAPHY**

**BLANDIN IRON  
RANGE  
COMMUNITY  
BROADBAND  
GRANTS**

Motion by Commissioner Niemi, seconded by Commissioner Pratt and carried, all members present voting yes to approve Aitkin County membership to ARDC Brownfield Coalition and to submit Letter of Support, as recommended by the Economic Development Committee.

**ARDC  
BROWNFIELD  
COALITION**

Motion for a resolution by Commissioner Niemi, seconded by Commissioner Pratt and carried, all members present voting yes to adopt resolution – Award Contract No. 20198:

**WHEREAS**, Contract No. 20198 is for construction of S.A.P 001-625-001, and

**WHEREAS**, sealed bids were opened for this project at 2:00 p.m. on Monday, October 28, 2019 with a total of eight bids received, and

**WHEREAS**, Kern & Tabery, Inc., Wadena, MN was the lowest responsible bidder in the amount of \$1,855,752.80.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that Kern & Tabery, Inc. is awarded Contract No. 20198.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the chairperson of the Aitkin County Board and the Aitkin County Administrator are hereby authorized and directed to enter into a contract on behalf of Aitkin County with said low bidder upon presentation of proper contract documents.

**RESOLUTION  
20191126-096  
AWARD  
CONTRACT  
NO. 20198**

Motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members present voting yes to accept AIA Agreement from Widseth Smith Nolting & Associates for Aitkin County Highway Department Office Addition/Renovation in the amount of \$66,000.00, and to authorize signatures, as recommended by the Facilities Committee.

**AIA AGREEMENT  
AITKIN COUNTY  
HIGHWAY DEPT.**

John Welle, County Engineer reviewed the 2019 Highway Construction Project Summary and the anticipated 2020 Highway Construction Projects with the Board.

**2019 & 2020  
HIGHWAY  
CONSTRUCTION  
UPDATES**

Motion for a resolution by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Pratt and carried, all members present voting yes to adopt resolution – Bridge Priority:

**WHEREAS**, Aitkin County has reviewed the pertinent data on bridges requiring replacement, rehabilitation, or removal, and

**WHEREAS**, Aitkin County has identified those bridges that are high priority and that require replacement, rehabilitation, or removal within the next five years;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the following deficient bridges are high priority and Aitkin County intends to replace, rehabilitate, or remove these bridges as soon as possible when funds are available,

**RESOLUTION  
20191126-097  
BRIDGE  
PRIORITY**

Existing Bridge Number	Road Number	Section/ Township/ Range	Project Cost	State-Aid Funds	Town Bridge Funds	Local Funds	Local Bridge Replacement Program Funds	Program Year
NA	CSAH 5	23-48N-25W	\$170,000	\$100,000			\$70,000	2020
01503	CSAH 14	19-50N-22W	\$284,000	\$184,000			\$100,000	2020

L2357	490 <sup>th</sup> Lane Waukenabo Twp	15-49N-26W	\$160,000		\$150,000	\$10,000		2020
NA	420 <sup>th</sup> Avenue Farm Island Twp	26-46N-27W	\$105,000		\$95,000	\$10,000		2021
1507	CSAH 12	16-46N-26W	\$600,000	\$365,000			\$235,000	2021
88100	CSAH 11	6-45N-27W	\$150,000	\$75,000			\$75,000	2022
01505	CSAH 18	7-50N-24W	\$975,000	\$565,000			\$410,000	2022
01510	CR 62	13-48N-24W	\$650,000			\$150,000	\$500,000	2022
01508	CSAH 5	14-47N-25W	\$735,000	\$415,000			\$320,000	2023
7375	CR 54	17-47N-26W	\$450,000			\$100,000	\$350,000	2023

**FURTHERMORE**, Aitkin County does hereby request authorization to replace, rehabilitate, or remove such bridges; and

**FURTHERMORE**, Aitkin County does hereby request financial assistance with eligible approach grading and engineering costs on township bridges, as provided by law.

The Board discussed: CARE Board, P&Z, Mille Lacs Watershed, ACA, Community Meal, ARDC, Economic Development, Snake River Watershed, TZD, ACWPTF, Historical Society, and Facilities.

Motion by Commissioner Westerlund seconded by Commissioner Pratt and carried, all members present voting yes to adjourn the meeting at 12:37 p.m. until Tuesday, December 3, 2019 at Aitkin City Hall.

**BOARD  
DISCUSSION**

**ADJOURN**

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 J. Mark Wedel, Vice Chair  
 Aitkin County Board of Commissioners

  
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 Jessica Seibert, County Administrator