

The Aitkin County Board of Commissioners met this 7th day of January, 2020 at 9:02 a.m. at the Aitkin Public Library with the following members present: Commissioners J. Mark Wedel, Laurie Westerlund, Donald Niemi, Bill Pratt, Anne Marcotte, County Administrator Jessica Seibert, and Temporary Administrative Assistant Lynn Cox

CALL TO ORDER

Motion made by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all voting yes to approve the January 7, 2020 amended agenda. Consent Agenda item 5P moved to #5.1 in the Agenda. Addition of #7F – Appointment of Pat Houser to the HHS Board.

Motion made by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Pratt to approve the Consent Agenda:

- A) Correspondence File December 17, 2019 – January 6, 2020.
- B) Approve December 17, 2019 County Board Minutes.
- C) Acknowledge County Administrator’s Year-end Matters
 - 1. Adopt Resolution #20191218-117 – On Sale Wine-Strong Beer License – The Red Door Resort.

Motion made by Commissioner Pratt, seconded by Commissioner Wedel to adjourn this meeting at 9:04 a.m.

County Administrator, Jessica Seibert, called the 2020 Board meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Commissioner Westerlund nominated Commissioner Pratt for Board Chair for the year 2020. Commissioner Wedel nominated Commissioner Marcotte for Board Chair. There were no further nominations. Wedel, Marcotte motion to close nominations. Nominations closed. Discussion by Commissioner Wedel stating after speaking to County Attorney, Jim Ratz, he believed proper procedure was to hold a roll call vote to ensure Open Meeting Laws were being followed. The Board Chair proceeded with the ballot vote as previously discussed. Vote was Commissioner Niemi, Pratt and Westerlund in support of Commissioner Pratt; and Commissioner Marcotte and Wedel in support of Commissioner Marcotte.

NOMINATION OF BOARD CHAIR

Commissioner Westerlund nominated Commissioner Niemi for Board Vice-Chair for the year 2020. Commissioner Wedel made a motion to close nominations with a unanimous vote in support of Commissioner Niemi to fill the Vice-Chair position, seconded by Commissioner Marcotte. Motion passed unanimously.

NOMINATION OF VICE CHAIR

Commissioner Pratt called for a break at 9:12.
Meeting resumed again at 9:15

Motion by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund and carried, all members voting yes to approve the Consent Agenda as follows with the removal of item 5P.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A) Approve Electronic Funds Transfers: \$989,861.33;
- B) Approve Commissioner Warrants: 1. December 23, 2019: General Fund \$253,141.00, Road & Bridge \$202,222.28, Health & Human Services \$46,072.61, State \$90.00, Trust

- \$36,795.60, Forest Development \$45,246.05, Capital Project \$3,088.99, Long Lake Conservation Center \$7,973.35, Parks \$396.80 for a total of \$595,026.68,
- C) Approve Period 2 Overpays
- D) Approve Auditor Warrants – Highway Dept. \$133,263.62,
- E) Approve Auditor Manual Warrants - Elan 12/13/19– General Fund \$3,153.85; Road and Bridge \$375.00; Health and Human Services \$940.78; Trust \$617.99; Capital Project \$644.93; Long Lake Conservation Center \$1,074.66 for a total of \$6,789.21.
- F) Approve Auditor Warrants 12/27/19 – General Fund \$1,005.00; Taxes & Penalties \$153,839.68 for a total of \$154,844.68.
- G. Approve Manual Warrants – December 2019
- H) Approve the LTD Policy Update as Proposed, effective 1/1/20.
- I) Reaffirm Annual Code of Ethics and Travel Policy.
- J) Approve the appointment of Kevin Stromberg, District 3, as an alternate member to the Board of Adjustment and Planning Commission.
- K) Approve Request to fill Committee Appointments - Aitkin County Housing Authority Board, reappoint Ed Anderson to the At Large position.

Under the consent agenda, motion by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund and carried, all members voted to appoint Ed Anderson, as At Large representative for Aitkin County Housing Authority Board (HRA) for a five year term.

HRA COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT

- L) Adopt Resolution: Repurchase Tax-Forfeited Property – Jabas.

Under the consent agenda, motion for a Resolution by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund and carried, all members voting to adopt resolution – Repurchase Tax-Forfeited Property-Jabas:

**RESOLUTION
20200107-001
TAX-FORFEITED
PROPERTY -
JABAS**

WHEREAS, Jeffery J. Jabas and Jennifer L. Jabas, Husband and wife, of 2231 Liberty Street, Mora, MN 55051, the owners at the time of forfeiture, have 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:

W ½ of @1/2 of SE SE of Section Five (5), Township Forty-four (44), Range Twenty-three (23)

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

- a. Hardship and injustice has resulted because of forfeiture of said land, for the following reasons, to-wit:
The Jabas have had ongoing financial and time challenges due to the intestinal medical issue with their daughter, and they have had financial challenges due to an economic downturn in the industry of their family owned business.

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 Jeffery J. Jabas and

Jennifer L. Jabas 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 and directed to permit such repurchase according to the provisions of Minnesota Statutes 1945, Section 282.241, as amended.

M) Adopt Resolution: Set Minimum Salaries for Elected Officials.

Under the consent agenda, motion for a resolution by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund, and carried, all members voting to adopt resolution – Set Minimum Salaries for Elected Officials.

N) Accept Request for Corridor Access Permit for ATV's on County Roads.

O) Adopt Resolution – Liquor License for Round Lake Resort and Bar.

BE IT RESOLVED, the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners agrees to approve the following liquor license for a period from February 1, 2020 thru December 31, 2020:

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

Round Lake Resort and Bar LLC, d/b/a **Round Lake Resort and Bar** – Shamrock Township

This establishment has an address of 16469 Goshawk Street, McGregor, MN.

5.1 Award Bid & Approve Snow Plowing Contract.- Jessica Seibert shared information related to current practice and recent discussions regarding options available. Only one bid was received by the County for this contract. Motion was approved by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Niemi to approve the Snow Plowing Contract for the Courthouse.

6A) Adopt Resolution: Proposed State Conservation Acquisition.

Presentation done on Mississippi Headwaters Habitat Corridor Project by Tim Terrill and Will Cooksey. Motion made by Commissioner Marcotte in support of the resolution, seconded by Commissioner Pratt. Motion passed 3-2 with Commissioners Wedel and Westerlund voting no. Motion carried.

WHEREAS, The Trust for Public Land and the Mississippi River Headwaters Board requests County Board approval to purchase a 440 acres of hardwood forest in Turner Township to transfer to DNR management. The Land acquisition is an in-holding within the Savanna State Forest and is described as follows:

Southwest ¼ of the Southeast ¼ of Section 4, Township 50 North, Range 23 West

Southeast ¼ of the Southeast ¼ of Section 4, Township 50 North, Range 23 West

Northeast ¼ of Section 9, Township 50 North, Range 23 West and the Northeast ¼ of the Southwest ¼ and the Northwest ¼ of the Southeast ¼ of Section 9, Township 50 North, Range 23 West

Northwest and Southeast ¼ 's of the Southwest ¼ and the Southwest ¼ of the

**RESOLUTION
20200107-002
SET MIN
SALARIES FOR
ELECTED
OFFICIALS**

**RESOLUTION
20200107-003
LIQUOR LICENSE
– ROUND LAKE
RESORT & BAR**

**MOTION TO
APPROVE SNOW-
FLOW BID**

**RESOLUTION
20200107-004
PROPOSED
STATE
CONSERVATION
ACQUISITION**

AITKIN COUNTY BOARD

January 7, 2020

Southeast ¼ of Section 9, Township 50 North, Range 23 West

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, by the Board of County Commissioners of Aitkin County on January 7, 2020 that the proposed acquisition of the described property be:

Approved

Disapproved. If so, state reason(s) for disapproval:

7A) Motion by Commissioner Marcotte, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund and carried, all members voting to set the 2020 County Board meeting schedule for the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month, with the exception of December. In December the Board will meet on the first and third Tuesdays.

7B) The County Board reviewed the bids submitted for the "Official Newspaper." Motion for a resolution by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund and carried, all members voting to adopt resolution – 2020 Official County Newspaper:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the *Aitkin Independent Age* is hereby designated by the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners as the official county newspaper in which all official business shall be published.

7C) Motion for a Resolution by Commissioner Marcotte, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting to approve resolution - 2020 Board of Commissioners Meeting Procedures & Rules of Business:

WHEREAS, the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners sees it prudent and necessary to review and adopt rules of procedure governing the conduct of County Board Meetings; and

WHEREAS, the Aitkin County Board has adopted and utilized rules of business, board procedures, and Robert's Rules of Order; and

WHEREAS, the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners believes it is important to annually reaffirm the rules; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the "Aitkin County Board of Commissioners Meeting Procedures and Rules of Business" is hereby amended and reaffirmed.

7D) Motion for a resolution by Commissioner Niemi, seconded by Commissioner Wedel and carried, all members voting yes to adopt resolution – 2020 Committee Appointments:

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners makes the following committee appointments for the year 2020:

Aitkin Airport Commission (2)

J. Mark Wedel
John Welle

**2020 BOARD
MEETING
SCHEDULE**

**RESOLUTION
20200107-005
2020 OFFICIAL
COUNTY
NEWSPAPER**

**RESOLUTION
20200107-006
2020 BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS
MEETING
PROCEDURES &
RULES OF
BUSINESS**

**RESOLUTION
20200107-007
2020 COMMITTEE
APPOINTMENTS**

AITKIN COUNTY BOARD

January 7, 2020

Aitkin County Care Board	Laurie Westerlund
Aitkin County Community Corrections Advisory Board (2)	J. Mark Wedel Anne Marcotte
Aitkin County Water Planning Task Force	J. Mark Wedel
Aitkin Economic Development Administration (AEDA)	J. Mark Wedel Commissioner District 2 Commissioner District 3 Commissioner District 4 Commissioner District 5 County Administrator County Engineer Environmental Svcs. Dir. HHS Director
AMC Delegates (8)	J. Mark Wedel Bill Pratt
Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)	Don Niemi Laurie Westerlund
Arrowhead Counties Association (2)	Laurie Westerlund Don Niemi, Alt.
Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency	Don Niemi Laurie Westerlund, Alt.
Arrowhead Regional Development Center (ARDC)	Mike Dangers
Assessor for Unorganized Townships	Bill Pratt Laurie Westerlund
ATV Committee (2)	Bill Pratt Anne Marcotte, Alt.
Big Sandy Lake Management Plan (1+Alternate)	J. Mark Wedel Bill Pratt
Budget Committee 2020 (2)	Laurie Westerlund Don Niemi, Alt.
Development Achievement Center (Liaison) (1+Alternate)	Don Niemi Bill Pratt, Alt.
East Central Regional Library Board	Bill Pratt Don Niemi
Economic Development (2)	J. Mark Wedel
Emergency Management	Anne Marcotte Bill Pratt
Environmental Assessment Worksheet (2)	Anne Marcotte Laurie Westerlund, Alt.
Extension Committee (1 + Alternate)	

AITKIN COUNTY BOARD

January 7, 2020

Facilities/Technology Committee (2)	J. Mark Wedel Laurie Westerlund	
Fairgrounds Custodian	Kirk Peysar	
H&HS Advisory Committee (Liaison) (2)	J. Mark Wedel Laurie Westerlund	
Historical Society (Liaison)	J. Mark Wedel	
Housing & Redevelopment Authority of Aitkin County (HRA) (Liaison)	Laurie Westerlund	
Investment Committee	County Board	
Joint Powers Natural Resources Board (2)	Bill Pratt /Ann Marcotte,Alt Rich Courtemanche	
Labor Management Committee (1+Alternate)	J. Mark Wedel Laurie Westerlund, Alt.	
Lakes & Pines (1+Alternate)	Don Niemi Anne Marcotte, Alt.	
Law Library	Ann Marcotte, Don Niemi, Alt	
McGregor Airport Commission (2)	Bill Pratt William Bedor	
MCIT Representative (1 + Alternate)	Laurie Westerlund Jessica Seibert, Alt.	
Mille Lacs Fisheries Input Group	Laurie Westerlund	
Mille Lacs Watershed (1 + Alternate)	Laurie Westerlund Don Niemi, Alt.	
Mississippi Headwaters Board (1+Alternate)	Anne Marcotte Bill Pratt, Alt.	
MN Rural Counties (1+Alternate)	Don Niemi Laurie Westerlund	
Natural Resources Advisory Committee (2)	Anne Marcotte Bill Pratt	
NE MN Office Job Training	Don Niemi	
Northeast MN ATP (2)	Bill Pratt John Welle Don Niemi, Alt.	
Northeast MN Emergency Communications Board (ECB)	Bill Pratt Dan Guida, Alt.	
Northeast MN Regional Advisory Committee (RAC)	Patrice Erickson Dan Guida, Alt.	

AITKIN COUNTY BOARD

January 7, 2020

Northeast Waste Advisory Committee (NEWAC) (1+Alternate)	Bill Pratt Laurie Westerlund, Alt.
Northern Counties Land Use Coordinating Board (NCLUCB) (1+Alternate)	Anne Marcotte Bill Pratt, Alt.
Ordinance Committee (2)	Bill Pratt Anne Marcotte
Personnel/Insurance Committee (2)	J. Mark Wedel Anne Marcotte
Planning Commission	Laurie Westerlund Anne Marcotte, Alt
Rum 1W1P Policy Committee	Laurie Westerlund Don Niemi, Alt.
Snake River Watershed Management Board	Bill Pratt
Sobriety Court	J. Mark Wedel
Solid Waste Task Force (2)	Laurie Westerlund Bill Pratt
Toward Zero Deaths	J. Mark Wedel
Tri-County Community Health Services Board	Laurie Westerlund

Break called at 10:15.
Meeting resumed at 10:23

- 7E. County Administrator, Jessica Seibert, updated the Board on Courthouse construction.
 - 7F. H&HS recommends appointing Pastor Dawn Houser as the District 1 representative on the Health and Human Services Advisory Board.
 - 8. Discussion on MOA between US Army Corps and State Historic Preservation Office – John Welle, County Engineer presented the draft agreement. A Resolution will be brought back to a future Board meeting for approval.
 - 9. The Board discussed the following: the HRA Committee, the DAC Committee, the Arrowhead Commissions Association, the Census Committee, the Airport Commission, the NCLUCB Committee, the Community Corrections Committee, the MRC Committee, and the Transportation Committee.
- Motion by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund and carried, all members voting yes to adjourn the meeting at 11:11 a.m. until Tuesday January 28th 2020 at the Aitkin Public Library.

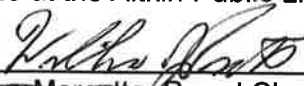
CONSTRUCTION UPDATE


HHS DISTRICT 1 ADVISORY BOARD APPOINTMENT

US ARMY CORPS MOA

BOARD DISCUSSION

ADJOURN


 Anne Marcotte, Board Chair
 Aitkin County Board of Commissioners


 Jessica Seibert
 County Administrat