

**MINUTES
OF THE
PINE COUNTY BOARD MEETING
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, May 2, 2023 - 10:00 a.m.
Pine County Courthouse Board Room
635 Northridge Drive, Pine City, Minnesota**

Chair Hallan called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Present were Commissioners Josh Mohr, Terry Lovgren, JJ Waldhalm and Matt Ludwig. Also present was County Administrator David Minke. County Attorney Reese Frederickson arrived at 10:40 a.m.

The meeting was live streamed on YouTube.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Chair Hallan called for public comment. Teresa Dawson stated her opposition to a bill in the state legislature related to the revision of Minnesota Statute 2022, Section 363A.03/Sexual Orientation. J.J. Waldhalm stated his opposition to Pine County's contribution to the East Central Regional Library above the required contribution, and his opposition to Narcan being provided at public libraries.

Chair Hallan requested the following revision to the agenda:

1. Consent Agenda Item 4.C. – New Hire
Consider approval of hiring of temporary part-time Hazardous Waste Recycling Attendant, Scott Pearson, non-union, Grade 1, \$16.10 per hour, effective May 2, 2023, pending successful baseline medical examination for working with hazardous waste and background check.
2. Regular Agenda Item 1.A – Central Minnesota Emergency Medical Services
Consider approval of Resolution 2023-29 Designating the Week of May 21-27, 2023 as *Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Week in Pine County*
3. Regular Agenda Item 3.1 – Jail Programs Volunteer Services - Recognition
Recognize all jail programs volunteers – special recognition given to Jim Hanson, Jack Sowers, David Larson and Jim Koppen.

Motion by Commissioner Lovgren to adopt the amended Agenda. Second by Commissioner Waldhalm. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Commissioner Ludwig to approve the Minutes of the April 18, 2023 regular county board meeting and Summary for publication, and April 25, 2023 Special Meeting-Committee of the Whole Minutes. Second by Commissioner Mohr. Motion carried 5-0.

Minutes of Boards, Committees and Correspondence

Pine County Zoning Board Minutes – January 26, 2023

Pine County Land Surveyor Monthly report – April 2023

Notice of Intent to Local Government Units and Workplan (amendment) – Hinckley Wellhead Protection Program – April 11, 2023

Motion by Commissioner Mohr to acknowledge the Minutes of Board, Committees and Correspondence. Second by Commissioner Ludwig. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Commissioner Lovgren to approve the amended Consent Agenda. Second by Commissioner Mohr. Motion carried 5-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Donations

Accept the following donations:

- A. \$600 from the Bruno American Legion Auxiliary for the Veterans Outreach Fund.
- B. \$1,000 from the Pine City Lions for the Pine County Operation Community Connection Event, to be held August 23, 2023 at the Hinckley-Finlayson High School.

2. Contracts / Agreements

Approve the following contracts/agreements:

- A. **Surplus Medical Equipment to Pine Technical & Community College**
Contract between Pine County and the State of Minnesota Colleges and Universities for the benefit of Pine Technical and Community College. Authorize Board Chair and County Administrator to sign.
- B. **Mutual Aid Agreement with St. Louis County Law Enforcement**
Contract between Pine County and the St. Louis County Sheriff's Office for Law Enforcement Mutual Aid. Authorize Board Chair and County Administrator to sign.

3. 2023 Equipment Rental Bids

Approve the 2023 Equipment Rental Bids. Bids were opened April 17, 2023.

4. New Hires

Approve the hiring of:

- A. Brenda Danielson, Social Worker, effective May 8, 2023, Grade 10, Step 6, \$32.05 per hour.
- B. Taylor Gustafson, Senior Corrections Agent, effective May 8, 2023, Grade 10, \$27.18 per hour, contingent upon a negative pre-employment urinalysis.
- C. Scott Pearson, temporary part-time Hazardous Waste Recycling Attendant, effective May 2, 2023, non-union, Grade 1, \$16.10 per hour, pending successful baseline medical examination for working with hazardous waste and background check

5. Training

Approve the following training:

- A. Probation Director Terry Fawcett to attend the Community-Led Juvenile Diversion: Building a New Paradigm in Youth Justice conference, and participate as a panelist for the Government & Law Enforcement Partners Section, in San Diego, California. Probation Director Fawcett will be gone June 2-5, 2023. Probation Director Fawcett will receive a stipend to attend and will apply it to the cost of transportation, lodging and meals. No county dollars will be spent.

REGULAR AGENDA

1. **Central Minnesota Emergency Medical Services (CMEMS)**

Central Minnesota Emergency Medical Services Regional EMS Coordinator Marion Larson provided an update regarding services provided by Central Minnesota Emergency Medical Services to local first responders, fire departments, law enforcement agencies and ambulance services. Larson reported on funding struggles and decreasing funds available and stated without additional funding, CMEMS will be unable to provide EMS coordination and the current programming to stakeholders starting July 1, 2023.

A. **Central Minnesota Emergency Medical Services Week in Pine County / May 21-27, 2023**

Motion by Commissioner Ludwig to approve Resolution 2023-29 designating the week of May 21-27, 2023 as Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Week in Pine County. Second by Commissioner Lovgren. Motion carried 5-0.

2. **Solid Waste Certificate of Need Request**

Chair Hallan stated in 2016 the East Central Solid Waste Commission was granted a Certificate of Need from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency for the existing landfill space. Due to greater use than projected, and the necessity of opening a new cell, another Certificate of Need forecasting garbage disposal needs for the next 10 years is necessary.

Motion by Commissioner Lovgren to authorize a letter be submitted to the East Central Solid Waste Commission requesting the following landfill tonnage for the next 10 years:

2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032
22,412	22,861	23,318	23,784	24,260	24,745	25,240	25,745	26,260	26,785

Second by Commissioner Mohr. Motion carried 5-0.

3. **National Corrections Officers Week**

Jail Administrator Rod Williamson stated his appreciation to the professionalism and dedication of Pine County Correctional Officers and Correctional Employees and requested recognition of them during National Corrections Officers' Week, May 7-13, 2023.

Motion by Commissioner Ludwig to approve Resolution 2023-28 recognizing correctional officers and correctional employees in Pine County. Second by Commissioner Mohr. Motion carried 5-0.

3.1 **Jail Programs Volunteer Services Recognition**

Jail Administrator Rod Williamson recognized the dedication of the 80 jail programs volunteers, with special recognition to volunteers Jim Hanson, Jack Sowers, David Larson and Jim Koppen who have collectively given 83+ years of service to jail programs. Jim Hanson was present to receive a certificate of appreciation and years-of-service challenge coin, which will also be presented to Sowers, Larson & Koppen.

4. **National Center for Public Land Counties**

Chair Hallan stated the National Association of Counties and the Western Interstate Region have formed the National Center for Public Lands for the purpose of demonstrating how prosperous public lands counties create a prosperous America. National Center for Public Lands has requested a contribution equivalent to one percent of the Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund (LATCF) allocation, which for Pine County would total \$1,000. Chair Hallan stated Lake County Commissioner Rich Sve is a board member of the Western Interstate Region and can provide additional information relating to this request. Board discussion took place, and it was requested this item be placed on the AMC District 1 Spring Meeting agenda, meeting June 1, 2023, for additional discussion.

5. **Schedule Special Meeting-Committee of the Whole (Strategic Planning)**

A Special Meeting-Committee of the Whole for strategic planning is scheduled for June 13, 2023, commencing at 9:00 a.m., at the Courthouse Board Room, Pine City.

7. **Commissioner Updates**

Arrowhead Counties Association: Commissioner Ludwig unable to attend meeting.

Pine County Education Leadership Network: Commissioner Mohr stated school district attendance/participation was good. Blues Zones and the State Student Survey were discussed. Sheriff Nelson provided a Narcan presentation.

Aligning Zoning Workshop: Commissioner Lovgren stated discussion of providing water/sewer further out of the city limits was discussed. A request was made for a slaughter facility in the county to aid in providing fresh local meat--three applications have recently been turned down at the township level.

Cancelled: Snake River Watershed Management Board & 1W1P

Cancelled: Snake River Policy Committee

Commissioner Lovgren stated Kanabec County called a special meeting the Friday prior to the Monday meeting, including the full Kanabec County board of commissioners and other counties were invited to the meeting; Commissioner Lovgren & Administrator Minke attended. Commissioner Lovgren stated governance structure for the Snake River 1W1P was discussed.

Lower St. Croix Watershed Partnership: Chair Hallan stated projects are going proceeding in the watershed. The group will revisit the entity versus collaborative governance this fall.

East Central Regional Development Commission: Commissioner Waldhalm stated MnDOT gave a presentation on electric vehicles/charging stations. Annual audit will be happening soon.

Cancelled: NLX

Commissioner Lovgren stated a request was received from NLX requesting a letter of support from the county to the legislative conference committee members in support for NLX funding.

Housing Redevelopment Authority/Economic Development Authority (HRA/EDA):

Commissioner Ludwig stated a presentation was given on a proposal to convert the Old Rock school in Sandstone to housing. Also discussed was the possible future purchase of the North Court apartments.

Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe meeting: Chair Hallan stated a meeting schedule was established.

Opioid Forum: Commissioner Mohr stated this was a very informative meeting with great presentations.

Zoning Board: Commissioner Ludwig reviewed items presented before the zoning board, and shoreland ordinance review and performance. Commissioner Ludwig requested that Vacation Rental by Owner be added to a Committee of the Whole meeting for discussion.

Other

Commissioner Ludwig stated if funding doesn't come through for Emergency Medical Services from the state, there will be a request for county funding.

Chair Hallan stated many legislative updates were given at the AMC meeting.

Chair Hallan attended the Northeast Minnesota Emergency Communications Board meeting. Dispatch consoles, handheld radios and car radios will soon need to be updated and replaced.

NACO Telecommunications and Technology Committee: Commissioner Lovgren stated inexpensive digital equity was discussed; she informed the committee that universal broadband availability should be the priority.

State of Minnesota Indian Children Welfare Act Policy Committee: Commissioner Lovgren attended.

State Community Health Services Advisory Committee (SCHSAC): Commissioner Lovgren stated discussion of legislative county concerns were discussed; a local childcare meeting was held.

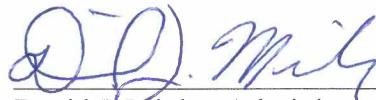
8. **Other**
None.

9. **Upcoming Meetings**
Upcoming meetings were reviewed.

10. **Adjourn**
With no further business, Chair Hallan adjourned the meeting at 11:35 a.m. The next regular meeting of the county board is scheduled for Tuesday, May 16, 2023 at 10:00 a.m., North Pine Government Center, 1602 Hwy. 23 No., Sandstone, Minnesota.



Stephen M. Hallan, Chair
Pine County Board of Commissions



David J. Minke, Administrator
Clerk to County Board of Commissioners