

OATH OF OFFICE WAS ADMINISTERED BY THE REGIONAL COURT ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS STARTING A NEW TERM OF OFFICE AS A RESULT OF THE 2022 ELECTION. OATH OF OFFICE WAS ALSO ADMINISTERED BY THE REGIONAL COURT ADMINISTRATOR FOR COUNTY AUDITOR/TREASURER, SHERIFF, ATTORNEY AND RECORDER.

2023 Election of County Board Chair and Vice Chair was conducted by the Clerk to the County Board on Tuesday, January 3, 2023: 9:40 a.m. By unanimous vote Commissioner Jason Sjoblom was elected as Board Chair and by unanimous vote Commissioner Destry Hell was elected as Vice Chair.

REGULAR MEETING OF THE KOOCHICHING COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
Held on Tuesday, January 3, 2023 10:00 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Commissioners Sjoblom, Skoe, Hell, and Roche  
MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Jaci Nagle and KCCTV reporter Darcy Sullivan

2023/01-01 Motion by Skoe, seconded by Hell to approve the agenda with additions and deletions. Voting yes: Sjoblom, Skoe, Roche and Hell. Motion carried.

2023/01-02 Motion by Skoe, seconded by Hell to approve the minutes from the December 20, 2022 regular meeting. Voting yes: Sjoblom, Skoe, Roche and Hell. Motion carried.

2023/01-03 Motion by Roche seconded by Hell to ratify the 2022-year end Courthouse warrants in the amount of \$84,706.29 and Highway warrants in the amount of \$48,440.87. Voting yes: Sjoblom, Skoe, Roche and Hell. Motion carried.

2023/01-04 Motion by Roche seconded by Hell to approve the payment of the first half 2023 Budget allocations as follows: Arrowhead Regional Library - \$26,849; Borderland Humane Society - \$3,750; Citizens for Backus/AB - \$15,500; Northome County Fair - \$9,750; Littlefork District Fair - \$9,750; Falls Hunger Coalition - \$2,500; Koochiching Historical Museum - \$39,250; International Falls Library - \$13,424.50; KCCTV - \$2,500 and the Koochiching Soil and Water Conservation District - \$22,500. Voting yes: Sjoblom, Skoe, Roche and Hell. Motion carried.

2023/01-05 Motion by Roche, seconded by Hell that under the County Vehicle Policy to approve the 2022 County mileage reimbursement rate at the 2023 IRS rate of 65.50 cents per mile for personal vehicle mileage when county vehicles are not available and 85% of the rate which is 55.68 cents per mile for car pool usage charge to departments and for use of a personal vehicle when County vehicles are available at the employee's worksite and further that should the IRS adjust the rate in 2023, the County Board will adjust the mileage reimbursement rate accordingly and will be effective the date of County Board approval. Voting yes: Sjoblom, Skoe, Roche and Hell. Motion carried.

2023/01-06 Motion by Skoe, seconded by Roche to award the 2023 legal publication bid to the Rainy Lake Gazette as the County's legal newspaper. Further to authorize the publishing of the minute summaries, an insert of the first printing of the delinquent tax list, a summary of the County financial statement and a summary of the annual County Budget in a Northome newspaper due to this area being outside the distribution area of the awarded legal newspaper. Voting yes: Sjoblom, Skoe, Roche and Hell. Motion carried.

2023/01-07 Motion by Hell, seconded by Roche to adopt the following resolution for enrollment of part-time deputies in the PERA Police and Fire Plan:

**WHEREAS**, the policy of the State of Minnesota as declared in Minnesota Statutes Section 353.63 is to give special consideration to employees who perform hazardous work and devote their time and skills to protecting the property and personal safety of others; and

**WHEREAS**, Minnesota Statutes Section 353.64 permits governmental subdivisions to request coverage in the Public Employees Police and Fire Plan for eligible employees of police departments whose position duties meet the requirements stated therein and listed below

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Commissioners of Koochiching County hereby declares that the position of part time Sheriff deputy meets all of the following Police and Fire membership requirements: (1) said position requires a license by the Minnesota peace officer standards and training board under sections 626.84 to 626.863 and that the employee hired in the position is so licensed; (2) said position's primary (over 50%) duty is to enforce the general criminal laws of the state; (3) said position charges this employee with the prevention and detection of crime; (4) said position gives this employee the full power of arrest; (5) said position is assigned to the Koochiching County Sheriff's Department

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Koochiching County hereby requests that the employees hired as part time Sheriff deputies and submitted to PERA by the County be accepted as a member of the Public Employees Police and Fire Plan effective the date of the employee's initial Police and Fire wage deduction by the County. Voting yes: Sjoblom, Skoe, Roche and Hell. Motion carried.

2023/01-08 Motion Skoe, seconded by Hell to authorize Jaci Nagle, AmeriCorps Fellow serving Koochiching County; Lead for America | American Connection Project to apply for the Affordable Connectivity Outreach Grant Program which provides eligible partners grant funds to conduct outreach in support of the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP). The grant will be written for \$50,000 with no local match requirement. As an AmeriCorps member, Ms. Nagle cannot submit a federal grant application, so she is also seeking approval for the application to be submitted by a county staff member. If an award is granted through this application, the funding would be used to support a future AmeriCorps/LFA fellowship and outreach activity costs for two years. Voting yes: Sjoblom, Skoe, Roche and Hell. Motion carried.

2023/01-09 Motion by Skoe, seconded by Roche to approve employment separation of a full time E911 Dispatcher/Corrections Officer with an effective date of December 27, 2022 and authorize filling the vacant position. Voting yes: Sjoblom, Skoe, Roche and Hell. Motion carried.

2023/01-10 Motion by Hell, seconded by Roche to approve the following financial institutions as depositories of County Funds: Bremer Bank, Bremer Investment and Management & Trust, Trustar Federal Credit Union, Deerwood Bank of Northome, Border Bank of International Falls and Multi-Bank Securities of Southfield, Michigan, Park State Bank of Grand Rapids and the MAGIC Fund. Further to authorize the Auditor/Treasurer to make investments under Minnesota Statute 118A.01 to 118A.06. Voting yes: Sjoblom, Skoe, Roche and Hell. Motion carried.

000 The Board Chair called for public comment and there was none.

2023/01-11 Motion by Roche, seconded by Hell to adjourn the meeting at 10:32 a.m. Voting yes: Sjoblom, Skoe, Roche and Hell. Motion carried.