

REGULAR MEETING OF THE KOOCHICHING COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
Held on Tuesday, February 22, 2022 9:30 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Commissioners Pavleck, Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee, and Murray  
MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Dean Tveit, Tom West, Matt Gouin, Dave Reimer, Mark Lessard, Brian Kabat, KCCTV reporter Darcy Sullivan

2022/02-15 Motion by Murray, seconded by Skoe to approve the agenda with additions and deletions. Voting yes: Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee, Pavleck, Murray. Motion carried.

2022/02-16 Motion by Sjoblom, seconded by Murray to approve the minutes from the February 8, 2022 regular meeting. Voting yes: Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee, Pavleck, Murray. Motion carried.

2022/02-17 Motion by Adee, seconded by Murray to approve Courthouse claims in the amount of \$78,736.56, and approve Highway claims in the amount of \$70,529.09, approve Public Health and Human Services claims as presented, approve Burial payments #762674 in the amount of \$1,282.56 and #1686954 in the amount of \$758.62. Voting yes: Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee, Pavleck, Murray. Motion carried.

2022/02-18 Motion by Adee, seconded by Murray to approve the promotion of Tonya Carlson to Eligibility Worker with effective start date to be determined and authorize filling the vacant Accounting Technician 1 position within the assigned wage scale. Voting yes: Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee, Pavleck, Murray. Motion carried.

2022/02-19 Motion by Sjoblom, seconded by Skoe to approve the LG220 Application for Exempt Permit to Falls Memorial Hospital Foundation dba as Rainy Lake Medical Center Foundation for a raffle to be conducted June 30, 2022 at The River Golf Course. Voting yes: Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee, Pavleck, Murray. Motion carried.

2022/02-20 Motion by Skoe, seconded by Sjoblom to approve a letter of support of KEDA's request to the Northland Foundation to apply for the DEED Main Street Economic Revitalization Program. KEDA has pre-applications from interested businesses in the County totaling an estimated \$7.4 million and they would be requesting grant funding for approximately \$2.2 million. Voting yes: Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee, Pavleck, Murray. Motion carried.

2022/02-21 Motion by Adee, seconded by Sjoblom to approve the Carpool's request to seek bids for the replacement of two carpool vehicles as budgeted in 2022. The replacement includes vehicle #11, a 2006 Chevrolet Silverado assigned to Assessor's office and vehicle #116, a 2015 Ford Taurus assigned to Public Health and Human Services. There was discussion around selling the vehicles outright as used vehicles are in short supply and we could get more for them selling via sealed bid. It was noted the Highway department is interested in the 2006 Chevrolet Silverado. Voting yes: Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee, Pavleck, Murray. Motion carried.

2022/02-22 Motion by Adee, seconded by Skoe to table the City of International Falls's request for support of their proposal to create the International Falls Primary Service Area Emergency Medical Services Special Taxing District until after Ranier and St. Louis County have met. Voting yes: Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee, Pavleck, Murray. Motion carried.

2022/02-23 Motion by Sjoblom, seconded by Adee to adopt the following resolution approving the application for the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) grant in the amount of \$22,821.50:

**WHEREAS**, the HAVA provides grants for counties in the United States to improve election security and voter access; and

**WHEREAS**, Koochiching County qualifies to apply for a grant of \$22,851.50 based on HAVA grant guidelines.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Koochiching County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Koochiching County Auditor/Treasurer to apply for said grant.

Voting yes: Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee, Pavleck, Murray. Motion carried.

2022/02-24 Motion by Adee, seconded by Skoe to approve the Veterans Service Officer request to seek bids for the budgeted replacement of the Veterans Transportation Program Van. The 2014 Dodge Grand Caravan has 240,000 miles and is starting to have multiple issues. The CVSO has successfully raised the estimated purchase price of the vehicle. Voting yes: Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee, Pavleck, Murray. Motion carried.

2022/02-25 Motion by Adee, seconded by Sjoblom to approve the Conditional Use Permit on Parcel ID# 36-011-41000 as described in the application submitted by Buell Consulting, Inc.(representing: Tillman Infrastructure LLC) in order to erect a 325ft cell tower (total height with 8-foot lightning rod 333ft) on a 100' x 100' leased area on property owned by Daniel Robinson with a condition that the tower be up and running within a two-year time frame. The subject parcel is described as the Northeast Quarter of the Southeast Quarter, Section 11, Township 63 North, Range 27 West, Koochiching County, Minnesota. Commissioner asked if Emergency Services could use the cell tower and the response was yes. Voting yes: Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee, Pavleck, Murray. Motion carried

2022/02-26 Motion by Skoe, seconded by Sjoblom authorizing the Highway Department to advertise for bids for SAP 036-615-013 tied to 036-640-006. The project is located in Northome and just outside of Northome on CSAH 15 and 40. Voting yes: Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee, Pavleck, Murray. Motion carried.

2022/02-27 Motion by Adee, seconded by Murray authorizing the Highway Department to advertise for bids for SAP 036-624-019 CSAH 24 (Van Lynn Road) Grade Separation. Voting yes: Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee, Pavleck, Murray. Motion carried.

2022/02-28 Motion by Skoe, seconded by Sjoblom to award low bid for Zero Turn Lawnmower to All Season Equipment, Inc. in the amount of \$4,399.00 and Mobile Tack Skid to Laursen Asphalt Repair and Equipment in the amount of \$10,122.00. Voting yes: Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee, Pavleck, Murray. Motion carried.

2022/02-29 Motion by Skoe, seconded by Sjoblom authorizing the Highway Department to advertise for the vacant Highway Engineering Technician position. This year's construction projects will have the largest expenditures in the history of the County Highway Department and 2023 – 2024 is expected to be similar. Additionally, with the Local Option Sales Tax we will have additional expenditures of almost \$1 million a year on local county and township roadways and these projects will mostly be designed inhouse. Voting yes: Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee, Pavleck, Murray. Motion carried.

000 The Board Chair called for public comment and Joann Smith from KEDA informed the Board KOOTASCA and KEDA are asking the County to consider committing \$45,000 of ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds to help support the AARP program that helps low-income and elderly residents in Koochiching County file their tax returns. To be a certified AARP site, you must have a coordinator and register the site to get the free software for filing tax returns. When the AARP coordinator retired, advertising attempts made by KOOTASCA to obtain a coordinator failed and the deadline for the site certification and software passed.

2022/02-30 Motion by Sjoblom, seconded by Skoe to adjourn the meeting at 10:36 a.m. Voting yes: Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee, Pavleck, Murray. Motion carried.