

REGULAR MEETING OF THE KOOCHICHING COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
Held on Tuesday, May 25, 2021 at 9:30 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT IN BOARDROOM: Commissioners Pavleck, Sjoblom, Murray, Adee  
MEMBER PRESENT VIA TELECONFERENCE: Commissioner Skoe  
MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Kathy LaFrance, Janelle Peterson, Paul Nevanen, Lois Lundeen, Perryn Hedlund, Jaci Nagle, Nathan Heibel, Matt Gouin, Joe Strouse, Patricia Borchert, Trent Nicholson, Dave Reimer, Doug Dault, Mark Lessard, Pete Makowski, KCCTV Reporter Darcy Sullivan

2021/05-20 Motion by Adee, seconded by Murray to approve the agenda with additions and deletions. Voting yes: Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee, Pavleck, Murray. Motion carried.

000 Public Health and Human Service Director provided the latest local COVID-19 data noting that local demand for COVID-19 vaccinations has greatly declined since March and April. No first-dose vaccination clinics have been scheduled because of lack of demand however second dose clinics are scheduled for those who have already received their first dose from the County. LaFrance reported County staff is working with State officials to coordinate the stop of a Johnson & Johnson one-dose vaccination bus which is traveling the State. Essentia Health is offering vaccinations for people ages 12-17. In addition, Moderna reported last week a 96 % effective rate for ages 12-17, so it is likely to be offered locally to teens sometime soon. As of Tuesday, about half of Koochiching County's population people have received at least one dose of the vaccine.

2021/05-21 Motion by Pavleck, seconded by Murray to approve the minutes from the May 11, 2021 regular meeting. Voting yes: Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee, Pavleck, Murray. Motion carried.

2021/05-22 Motion by Adee, seconded by Murray to approve Courthouse claims in the amount of \$48,796.61, approve Highway claims in the amount of \$16,660.95 and approve Public Health and Human Services claims as presented. Voting yes: Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee, Pavleck, Murray. Motion carried.

2021/05-23 Motion by Adee, seconded by Murray to approve the employment separation of Debra Landmark as Public Health Nurse and authorize to fill the vacant position within the assigned wage scale. Voting yes: Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee, Pavleck, Murray. Motion carried.

2021/05-24 Motion by Murray, seconded by Pavleck to schedule a public hearing for June 15, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. to hear public comment for a Business Subsidy Property Tax Abatement request from I. F. Properties LLC. Voting yes: Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee, Pavleck, Murray. Motion carried.

2021/05-25 Motion by Adee, seconded by Skoe to approve a revised Board meeting schedule adding a KDA meeting on June 15, 2021 following the regular County Board meeting. Voting yes: Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee, Pavleck, Murray. Motion carried.

2021/05-26 Motion by Pavleck, seconded by Murray that it is resolved by the Koochiching County Board that the Airport Coronavirus Relief Grant Program Grant Agreement Number 3-27-0043-036-2021 in the amount of \$1,006,028 is ratified and accepted and further that the County Board Chair and County Attorney are authorized to execute this agreement and any amendments on behalf of Koochiching County. Voting yes: Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee, Pavleck, Murray. Motion carried.

2021/05-27 Motion by Adee, seconded by Murray to approve the sale of nonconforming real property to Citizens for Backus/AB described as the West 25 feet of the East 274 feet of Block 43, Plat of International Falls in the amount of \$4,417 which is 90% of its fair market value as determined by the County Assessor and further to authorize the County Attorney to execute land sale documents. Voting yes: Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee, Pavleck, Murray. Motion carried.

2021/05-28 Motion by Pavleck seconded by Adee to appoint Carrie Geiss as the alternate to the Northeast Minnesota Emergency Communications Board Regional Advisory Committee (RAC). Voting yes: Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee, Pavleck, Murray. Motion carried.

2021/05-29 Motion by Murray, seconded by Pavleck to authorize the Complex Superintendent to seek and accept the low quote in an amount not to exceed \$8,000, payable from the sinking building fund for the unbudgeted replacement of the Law Enforcement Center A/C condenser. Voting yes: Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee, Pavleck, Murray. Motion carried.

2021/05-30 Motion by Pavleck, seconded by Adee, to approve a capital outlay expenditure up to \$5,100 from the 2021 IS budget for the purchase of a server backup replacement system and a 36 month commitment for the one year cloud retention backup service. Voting yes: Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee, Pavleck, Murray. Motion carried.

2021/05-31 Motion by Skoe, seconded by Pavleck to authorize the clean up and disposal of abandoned personal property and future demolition of selected structures on the following tax-forfeited properties as allowed by Minnesota Statute 282.04 Subd. 4: West 56 feet of Lots 1-6, Block 3, Plat of Fairview Addition to International Falls; West ¼ of Lot 18, All of Lot 19, and East ½ of Lot 20, Block 79, Plat of International Falls; West 18 ½ feet of Lot 20 and East ½ of Lot 21, Block 71, Plat of International Falls; South 71 feet of Lot 13, Block 74, Plat of International Falls; Lot 23 and South ½ of Lot 24, Block 7, Plat of Fransons Addition to Koochiching; Lots 7-9, Block 12, Plat of Wallace Addition to Koochiching. Voting yes: Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee, Pavleck, Murray. Motion carried.

000 The Land Commissioner informed the Board that at the May 5, 2021 timber auction 36,981 cords were sold for an auction sale grand total value of \$1,205,798.10.

000 Property owners Joseph Strouse and Patricia Borchert informed the Board they plan to create a private family cemetery with 10 burial sites along the Rainy River on a 5 acre lot about 3.5 miles east of Birchdale noting that future care and maintenance of the burial sites will be passed through the family trust. Commissioners inquired who would be responsible for the maintenance if the cemetery is abandoned and were informed by the Environmental Services Director that the

only way it would go back to the county is if the total parcel goes tax forfeited. The Environmental Services Director noted one letter of opposition was submitted.

2021/05-32 Motion by Pavleck, seconded by Skoe to approve the final plat BS BURIAL SITE located in Lot 2, Block 1, MANITOU SHORES, Section 32, Township 160 North, Range 26 West of the 5<sup>th</sup> Principal Meridian. Voting yes: Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee, Pavleck, Murray. Motion carried.

2021/05-33 Motion by Pavleck, seconded by Murray to approve the Low Income Septic Grant guidelines. Voting yes: Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee, Pavleck, Murray. Motion carried.

2021/05-34 Motion by Pavleck, seconded by Adee to authorize the Highway Department to advertise for bids for project SP 036-598-028 CR 99 Rat Root River bridge replacement. Voting yes: Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee, Pavleck, Murray. Motion carried.

2021/05-35 Motion by Skoe, seconded by Murray to award project CP 2021-04 Underground Storage Tank (UST) removal to the bidder of best value to the county, MN Petroleum Service in the amount of \$15,592 and further to authorize the Board Chair's signature to the contract agreement. Voting yes: Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee, Pavleck, Murray. Motion carried.

000 The Board Chair called for public comment and Doug Dault requested the County Board move forward with the opening of the cartway so he can access his property. Veterans Service Officer Mark Lessard informed the Board that Coffee with the Vets will be held on June 9th from 8:00 a.m. until noon at the VFW and encouraged Board member attendance. Pete Makowski, Regional Outreach Director for Senator Tina Smith stopped by the Board meeting to see if there were any needs of the County that he could share with Senator Smith. Board members noted that two funding requests were submitted last week and thanked him for the opportunity.

2021/05-36 Motion by Adee, seconded by Murray to adjourn the meeting at 11:00 a.m. Voting yes: Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee, Pavleck, Murray. Motion carried.