

REGULAR MEETING OF THE KOOCHICHING COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Held on Tuesday, July 14, 2020 9:45 a.m.
Via Teleconference

MEMBERS PRESENT IN BOARDROOM: None

MEMBERS PRESENT VIA TELECONFERENCE: Commissioners Pavleck, Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee

MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioner McBride

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE VIA TELECONFERENCE: Kathy LaFrance, Liz Forsythe, Kyle Morrison, Jim Atkinson, Paul Nevanen, JoAnn Smith, Janelle Peterson, Mark Lessard, Dave Reimer, Trent Nicholson, Nathan Heibel.

2020/07-01 Motion by Sjoblom, seconded by Pavleck to approve the agenda with additions and deletions. Voting yes by roll call: Pavleck, Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee. Motion carried.

000 Public Health and Human Services Director provided a COVID-19 update. Cumulative cases in Koochiching County are at 22 with 1 death. The age range of 20-29 has the highest confirmed cases and age range of 30-39 the second highest. A recent infection study found that a person is able to spread COVID-19 two days before they are symptomatic, and many often have no symptoms. Community spread is the leading cause for infection and the wearing of a face mask and social distancing are key to reduce the risk of spreading COVID.

000 The Board Chair informed the Board he was told by the Association of Minnesota Counties that no Counties in Minnesota have mandated face coverings be worn in public locations although some Counties have made it mandatory to wear a face covering while inside County buildings. The Board Chair has noticed that staff in some local businesses have been wearing masks and some have made this a requirement for everyone who enters. The Board Chair inquired if mandating the public to wear a face covering in indoor locations should be considered. Commissioners commented they feel the County Board can strongly recommend and promote the wearing of face coverings however, making it mandatory may be difficult to enforce but it would be reasonable to strongly encourage the public to wear face mask when unable to social distance and indoors. Liz Forsythe commented that it is every person's responsibility to social distance and wear a face covering to slow down the community spread of COVID-19 and asks the Board to stand up and ask the community to wear a face covering and social distance.

2020/07-02 Motion by Sjoblom, seconded by Pavleck to strongly recommend and encourage all individuals in Koochiching County wear face coverings in indoor areas accessible to the public if they are able in an effort to help slow down the spread of COVID-19. Voting yes by roll call: Pavleck, Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee. Motion carried.

2020/07-03 Motion by Sjoblom, seconded by Skoe to approve the minutes from the June 23, 2020 regular meeting. Voting yes by roll call: Pavleck, Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee. Motion carried.

000 Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) Representatives provided a construction wrap up update and informed the Commissioners the line was energized on June 1, 2020. The project was

very successful due to the good relationships established with their partners and thanked the County for their cooperation. There were no significant injuries and they had a good safety record during the construction project which included more than 485 workers. The Board congratulated GNTL Representatives for the successful completion and for the benefits the project brings to the County.

2020/07-04 Motion by Pavleck, seconded by Sjoblom to authorize the Board Chair's signature to a letter of support for the Alexander Baker Funding Application for their affordable quality rental housing project. Voting yes by roll call: Pavleck, Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee. Motion carried.

2020/07-05 Motion by Sjoblom, seconded by Skoe to approve Minnesota Lawful Gambling LG214 Premises Permit Application for the Voyageur Trail Society Inc for permitted gambling activities at Boondocks Bar & Grill located at 4660 Highway 53, Ray, MN. Voting yes by roll call: Pavleck, Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee. Motion carried.

000 The Administration Director informed the Board the County received \$1,670,240 of Federal CARES Act funding to be used for necessary expenditures incurred during the time period of March 1, 2020 through December 1, 2020 due to the public health emergency – COVID-19. All unspent funds must be returned. Funding for Economic Development Grants are allowable, and Administration recommends a CARES Act Economic Grant Committee be formed and a Commissioner be appointed with the KEDA Office providing administration services. KEDA Director informed the Board they have been looking at various models for an economic development grant program guidelines and SBDC consultant is developing recommendations for the committee. Board Chair appointed Wayne Skoe and Brian McBride as an alternate to the CARES Act Economic Grant Committee. Administration is also requesting a CARES Act Committee be created to oversee the CARES Act grant award. Board Chair Adee was appointed.

2020/07-06 Motion by Sjoblom, seconded by Pavleck to approve the June summarized vendor payment listing, verifying its review, approve June payroll in the amount of \$850,346.16, approve June payroll ACH payments in the amount of \$260,597.72, approve Courthouse claims in the amount of \$1,094,817.43 and to approve Highway claims in the amount of \$98,081.34. Voting yes by roll call: Pavleck, Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee. Motion carried.

2020/07-07 Motion by Pavleck, seconded by Sjoblom to include the payment of Airport Commission claims in the Weekly Claim Payment Policy so the City of International Falls as fiscal agent for the Airport can be paid in an appropriate time frame. Voting yes by roll call: Pavleck, Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee. Motion carried.

2020/07-08 Motion by Sjoblom, seconded by Pavleck to adopt the following resolution designating depositories and electronic funds transfer authority:

WHEREAS, the Office of the State Auditor stipulates that depositories for monies and collateral shall be designated and approved by the County Board.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Bremer, Bremer Investment Management & Trust, Trustar Federal Credit Union, Deerwood Bank of Northome, Border State Bank of

International Falls, and Multi-Bank Securities of Southfield, Michigan are hereby designated as depositories for the funds of Koochiching County. The County Auditor/Treasurer is authorized to deposit County funds therein to the maximum amount of \$20,000,000.00 to each depository.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the depositories shall furnish collateral in the manner and to the extent permitted by law. All such collateral must be approved by the County Auditor/Treasurer and accompanied by a written assignment providing that, upon default, the financial institution shall release to the County, on demand, free of exchange or any other charges, the collateral pledged.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all collateral must be placed in safekeeping in a restricted account at either a Federal Reserve Bank or in an account at a trust department of a commercial bank or other financial institution that is not owned or controlled by the financial institution that is furnishing the collateral. The selection must be approved by the County Auditor/Treasurer. In case of default upon the part of the depository, the County Auditor/Treasurer shall have full power and authority to sell such collateral or, as much as may be necessary, to realize the full amount due the County over such federal guarantee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the County Auditor/Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer shall have authority to electronically transfer funds, among or between designated depositories as well as the Minnesota Department of Revenue. The Payroll and Benefits Coordinator will have authority to electronically transfer funds for payroll related function such as: John Hancock, the State of Minnesota, Minnesota PERA, and flex plan provider. Voting yes by roll call: Pavleck, Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee. Motion carried.

2020/07-09 Motion by Sjoblom seconded by Pavleck to approve the payment of \$198,514.24 to the Airport Commission for the County share of the June 30, 2020 fund balance deficit the City of International Falls is holding as fiscal agent for the Airport. Voting yes by roll call: Pavleck, Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee. Motion carried.

000 Notice of Hire of Kane Kostiuk as part-time Correction Officer/E911 Dispatcher with a start date of July 7, 2020.

2020/07-10 Motion by Pavleck, seconded by Skoe to approve the employment separation of Scott Wherley as Social Worker effective August 3, 2020 and authorize filling the vacant position. Voting yes by roll call: Pavleck, Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee. Motion carried.

2020/07-11 Motion by Sjoblom, seconded by Pavleck to approve the revised Temporary Hire Policy. Voting yes by roll call: Pavleck, Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee. Motion carried.

2020/07-12 Motion by Pavleck, seconded by Skoe to adopt the following resolution for the Veteran Service Office Operational Enhancement Grant Program:

BE IT RESOLVED by that Koochiching County enter into the Grant Contract with the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs (MDVA) to conduct the following Program: County Veterans Service Office Operational Enhancement Grant Program. The grant must be used to

provide outreach to the county's veterans: to assist in the reintegration of combat veterans into society; to collaborate with other social service agencies, educational institutions, and other community organizations for the purposes of enhancing services offered to veterans: to reduce homelessness among veterans: and to enhance the operations of the county veterans service office, as specified in Minnesota Laws 2019, Chapter 10, Article 1, Section 37, Subdivision 2 This Grant should not be used to supplant or replace other funding.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Koochiching County Board of Commissioners that Mark Lessard the CVSO be authorized to execute the Grant Contract for the above-mentioned Program on behalf of the County. Voting yes by roll call: Pavleck, Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee. Motion carried.

2020/07-13 Motion by Pavleck, seconded by Skoe to adopt the following resolution for agreement to State Transportation Fund Local Bridge Replacement Program grant terms and conditions SAP 036-598-030:

WHEREAS, Koochiching County has applied to the Commissioner of Transportation for a grant from the Minnesota State Transportation Fund for construction of Bridge No. 36J17; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Transportation has given notice that funding for this bridge is available; and

WHEREAS, the amount of the grant has been determined to be \$198,183.00 by reason of the lowest responsible bid;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Koochiching County does hereby agree to the terms and conditions of the grant consistent with Minnesota Statutes, section 174.50, and will pay any additional amount by which the cost exceeds the estimate, and will return to the Minnesota State Transportation Fund any amount appropriated for the project but not required. The proper county officers are authorized to execute a grant agreement and any amendments thereto with the Commissioner of Transportation concerning the above-referenced grant. Voting yes by roll call: Pavleck, Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee. Motion carried.

2020/07-14 Motion by Pavleck, seconded by Sjoblom to approve local project funding participation for the MnDOT Grade Crossing Safety Solicitation 2023-2024. Voting yes by roll call: Pavleck, Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee. Motion carried.

2020/07-15 Motion by Pavleck, seconded by Skoe to accept low bid for CP 2020-03 – CSAH 5 Crack Seal and Mastic Repair to Northwest Asphalt & Maintenance in the amount of \$203,225.48. Voting yes by roll call: Pavleck, Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee. Motion carried.

2020/07-16 Motion by Skoe, seconded by Pavleck to accept low bid for CP 2020-02 – CSAH 45 Keenan Drive Sidewalk to Hawk Construction Inc. in the amount of \$56,983.02. Voting yes by roll call: Pavleck, Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee. Motion carried.

2020/07-17 Motion by Pavleck, seconded by Skoe to authorize the County Engineer to advertise for bids for SAP 036-643-010 and SAP 036-649-007 CSAH 43 and 49 Mill and Overlay. Voting yes by roll call: Pavleck, Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee. Motion carried.

000 Notice and congratulations to Assistant County Engineer for the successful passing of the FE Civil Exam.

2020/07-18 Motion by Pavleck, seconded by Skoe to adopt the following resolution to classify certain tax-forfeited lands as non-conservation land and request the required Minnesota Department of Natural Resource's review of said non-conservation lands prior to being offered for sale as provided in Minnesota Statute 282.01.

Resolution for the review by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and parcel classification for the Sale of certain Tax-Forfeited Lands

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Koochiching County, Minnesota, desires to offer for sale certain parcels of land that have forfeited to the State of Minnesota for non-payment of taxes; and,

WHEREAS, said parcels of land have been reviewed by the Koochiching County Board of Commissioners and classified as non-conservation lands as provided for in Minnesota Statutes 282.01, and all prior land remaining unsold on prior land sale lists are hereby withdrawn from sale for reappraisal,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Koochiching County Board of Commissioners hereby certify that all parcels of land on the list held in the Land Department have been reviewed and comply with the provisions of Minnesota Statutes 85.012; 92.461; 282.01, Subd. 8; and 282.018; and other statutes that require withholding of tax-forfeited lands from sale;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Koochiching County Board of Commissioners hereby request a review from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources for the sale of said lands and, after review, request Special Legislation from the Minnesota State Legislature for parcels that have more than 150 feet of shoreline on public waters or for parcels that may be offered via private sale. Voting yes by roll call: Pavleck, Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee. Motion carried.

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

2020/07-19 Motion by Sjoblom, seconded by Pavleck to adjourn the meeting at 11:55 a.m. Voting yes by roll call: Pavleck, Sjoblom, Skoe, Adee. Motion carried.