

Chairman Tellinghuisen called the meeting to order at 12:37 p.m., with the following members present: Commissioners Reynolds, Wilhelm and Peterson. Commissioner Oslin attend via interactive television from 1960 Big Bass Cove, Lake Havasu City, AZ 86404. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

COUNTY BUSINESS

Mille Lacs County hosted a public meeting with Congressman Pete Stauber representing Minnesota's 8th Congressional District. Congressman Stauber thanked the Mille Lacs County Board for the opportunity to meet with the Board and the public.

Cmsr Reynolds discussed the need to increase the reimbursement for volunteer drivers. The current rate of reimbursement for volunteer drivers is 14 cents per mile, which makes it hard to find volunteer drivers. Cmsr Reynolds also discussed the need for broadband infrastructure throughout the county.

Cmsr Oslin welcomed the Congressman and discussed land in trust, loss of regulation, and the tax burden on other landowners.

County Administrator Pat Oman reviewed the 2019 Legislative Platform with Congressman Stauber.

County Attorney Joe Walsh discussed the need for Mille Lacs County to have a Drug Court and the benefits of having one. County Attorney Walsh requested a letter of support from Congressman Stauber to submit with the grant application.

CVS Director Beth Crook discussed Health and Human Services and the unfunded mandates that impact Mille Lacs County. The annual cost of out-of-home placement is estimated to be \$3.9 million. CVS Director Crook also discussed the need for volunteer drivers and the reimbursement rates.

County Sheriff Don Lorge discussed funding mechanisms needed to support future needs within the county.

Economic Development Manager Michael Wimmer discussed a fixed Wireless Broadband Network and working with the USDA for funding. Economic Development Manager Wimmer requested a letter of support from Congressman Stauber to submit with the grant.

County Engineer Bruce Cochran discussed the need for fewer regulations and more funding for roads. The time it takes to work through the agencies needed to start a project can be long and can delay projects. The core of engineers can take up to nine months to approve a permit.

Emergency Manager Julie Peterson discussed the ongoing monitoring of flood risk within Mille Lacs County with snow melt and additional rain.

City Clerk/Treasurer Karrie Roeschlein from the City of Wahkon discussed items that are impacting the City of Wahkon such as aging infrastructure, Broadband, land going into trust and transportation.

Soil and Water Conservation District Board Chair Jake Janski discussed how actions taken today can impact the environment and water quality. SWCD Board Chari Janski also discussed how the cuts to the NRCS District Conservation office has impacted the local SWCD and the workloads they are taking on.

Union Times Reporter Tim Hennagir discussed President Donald Trump Administration was looking to put limits on federal borrowing for student loans and what was Congressman Stauber's opinion on it? Congressman Stauber had not seen the resolution to comment on it.

Land Services Director Michele McPherson discussed the 2020 Census process and how the County is working to educate the public on it.

The Commissioners thanked Congressman Stauber for meeting with them and listening to the concerns Mille Lacs County has.

Congressman Stauber thanked the County Board and public for meeting with him and stated that it is a privilege to serve the 8th Congressional District.

Cmsr Reynolds motioned to adjourn the meeting at 1:46 p.m.; Cmsr Peterson seconded. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

/s/ Pat Oman
Pat Oman
County Administrator

/s/ Roger Tellinghuisen
Roger Tellinghuisen
County Board Chairman