

Chairman Tellinghuisen called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m., with the following members present: Commissioners Wilhelm, Reynolds, and Peterson. Commissioner Oslin attend via interactive television from 39635 State Highway 47, Isle, MN 56342. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Three (3) add-on agenda items, in addition to three (3) supplemental documents were provided for consideration to the County Board.

- 6.7 Consider Tobacco License for City of Foreston;
- 6.8 Approve Amended DOC Joint Powers Agreement;
- 6.9 Consider Ordinance Change to Combine Board of Adjustment and Planning Commission;
- 5.1 Letter Regarding Second Amendment Sanctuary Resolution Public Hearing;
- 5.1 Letter Regarding Second Amendment Sanctuary Resolution Public Hearing;
- 6.6 Appointment of County Highway Engineer supplemental document;

Cmsr Wilhelm motioned to accept the agenda as amended; Cmsr Peterson seconded. Motion carried.

Cmsr Peterson motioned to remove consent agenda item 4.8, Consider Letter of Support for Lake Mille Lacs Scenic Byway Water Trail Designation Request, for discussion; Cmsr Reynolds seconded. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Cmsr Wilhelm seconded by Cmsr Oslin, to approve the following consent agenda items:

- Approve 7/7/2020 County Board Meeting Minutes;
- Approve 7/15/2020 County Board Meeting Minutes;
- Approve Commissioners' Mileage and Per Diems – July 2020;
- Approve Payment to Counsel for Legal Services;
- Approve Payment to Counsel for Legal Services;
- Approve Payment to Counsel for Legal Services;
- Consider Revised Property and Records Clerk Position Description;
- Consider Letter of Support for Lake Mille Lacs Scenic Byway Water Trail Designation Request;
- Consider DAV Revocable License Agreement;
- Consider Mille Lacs Academy/Nexus Host County Contract;
- Consider Central Minnesota Emergency Medical Services Regions Agreement.

Motion carried.

CONSIDER LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR LAKE MILLE LACS SCENIC BYWAY WATER TRAIL DESIGNATION REQUEST

County Administrator Pat Oman reviewed the request for a letter of support from Mille Lacs County. Oman noted that no expense was involved with signing the letter. Cmsr Oslin motioned to approve the letter of support for Lake Mille Lacs Scenic Byway Water Trail Designation; Cmsr Wilhelm seconded. A roll call vote was called; Cmsr Wilhelm, Reynolds, Oslin, and Tellinghuisen voted aye. Cmsr Peterson voted nay. Motion carried.

HOLD PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER SECOND AMENDMENT SANCTUARY RESOLUTION

County Administrator Oman presented the second amendment sanctuary resolution that was previously reviewed at a work session by the Board. Oman stated although not required by law, it is important to have a public hearing to review all the viewpoints. Cmsr Wilhelm motioned to open the public hearing to consider a Second Amendment Sanctuary Resolution at 9:10 a.m.; Cmsr Reynolds seconded. Motion carried.

Mark Boggs stated his concerns regarding a reduction of Second Amendment rights. Boggs stated that he does not want "our rights whittled away," similar to the State of California. Boggs stated that he believes in some firearm restriction to prevent firearms from falling into the wrong hands, but also believes in standing for the rights of citizens.

Terry Niles of Isle, MN stated that he is an army veteran and a gun owner. Mr. Niles stated that he would like see laws strengthened regarding military grade weapons and firearms, but is comfortable with the ownership of sports-oriented weapons. Niles reviewed each paragraph of the proposed resolution and provided thoughts regarding its interpretation. Niles reviewed gun safety statistics, polls, and legal interpretation. Niles stated his support of the County Sheriff and local law enforcement; Niles thanked the County Board for the opportunity to express his concerns.

Josh Bretzman reviewed prior discussions with the County Attorney and the County Sheriff. Mr. Bretzman reviewed the constitution and resolution's language associated with reallocating resources. Bretzman provided his thoughts on military grade firearms.

Adam Thorsebachen stated that he had previously spoke with Cmsr Peterson regarding his support for the Second Amendment Sanctuary County. Mr. Thorsebachen stated that adopting the resolution makes a statement concerning Second Amendment rights for Mille Lacs County residents.

Chris Pederson stated that he fully supports the Second Amendment resolution and hopes that the County Board of Commissioners passes it.

Kimberly Peterson of Milaca, MN stated that she believes in the right to bear arms and supports the Second Amendment Sanctuary resolution.

Ron Westby of Milaca, MN thanked the commissioners for the opportunity to speak. Westby provided his thoughts regarding the previous opposing statement to the Second Amendment resolution. Mr. Westby stated that constitutional rights are continue to be eroded and debated. Westby requested that the County Commissioners help stop the erosion of rights. Westby applauded the County Board for considering the Second Amendment Sanctuary resolution.

Rachel Weidner stated that she fully supports the Second Amendment. Ms. Weidner stated that law-abiding citizens need to stand up for what is right.

Megan O'Leary stated that she supports the Second Amendment. Ms. O'Leary discussed concerns regarding firearm ownership and individuals with mental illness; O'Leary discussed the promotion and maintenance of mental wellness in County residents.

Katie Bryant stated that she believes approve the Second Amendment resolution slows the process of removing citizen's rights. Ms. Bryant stated that stricter gun laws do not promote safety. Bryant stated that elected officials should be making measures to protect responsible gun owners in our County.

Jody John stated that she fully supports the Second Amendment Sanctuary resolution. Ms. John stated that the government should be abiding by the Constitution. John discussed safety concerns regarding wildlife such as wolves and bears in the area.

Nila of Milaca, MN stated discussed safety concerns regarding wildlife in the area. Ms. Nila stated that the resolution should be passed, as written by the people.

Nicole of Milaca, MN discussed her previous fear of firearms, recent changes in society, and the transition of becoming open-minded to firearm ownership. Ms. Nicole stated that residents should be able to protect our communities if necessary. Nicole stated that she supports the resolution, as written by the people.

An unnamed gentleman discussed his thoughts regarding the Second Amendment resolution. This gentleman stated that it is very important to pass the Second Amendment Sanctuary resolution. He thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak.

Don Mitzso stated that he is an advocate for educated firearm self-defense. Mr. Mitzso stated that he has taught many concerning gun safety. Mitzso requested that the resolution be approved to protect the rights of Mille Lacs County residents. Mitzso thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak.

Derrick Queen of Milaca, MN thanked the County Board for the opportunity to speak. Mr. Queen discussed his thoughts regarding the motive behind the current changes in society. Queen stated that residents need to participate in government in order to provide their input. Queen discussed gun control legislation and the Second Amendment.

John Escarga of Bock, MN discussed his views on the Second Amendment and the importance of firearm hunting.

Jeremy Anderson stated that he is a strong support of the Second Amendment.

Scott Lemeck stated that he fully supports the Second Amendment Sanctuary resolution. Lemeck discussed military grade firearms, in addition to the use of firearms for hunting and self-defense. Lemeck stated that he supports the Second Amendment Sanctuary resolution. Lemeck thanked the County Commissioners for the opportunity to speak.

Robert stated that residents need to stand up for their Constitutional rights. Mr. Robert stated that the Second Amendment Sanctuary resolution needs to be supported; he thanked the Commissioners for allowing him to speak.

Richard Farney stated that he is a Marine Corp veteran. Mr. Farney stated that instead of worrying about the Second Amendment, parents need to be taught how to parent their children. Farney discussed his views on the current status of society. Farney stated that he supports the Second Amendment resolution.

Valerie Scacoff stated that she is in favor of the resolution passing.

Elizabeth Carner stated that she supports the Second Amendment Sanctuary resolution.

An unnamed lady stated that she supports the Second Amendment resolution. She thanked the County Board for the opportunity to speak.

Mike Haggel of Onamia, MN stated that he strongly supports the resolution as presented by the people.

Sherry Burley stated that she strongly supports the Second Amendment resolution.

Tim Burley stated that he supports the Second Amendment resolution.

County Sheriff Don Lorge thanked the County Board for the opportunity for residents to speak. Sheriff Lorge stated that he is pro-gun and supports the Second Amendment sanctuary resolution. Lorge stated that residents need to speak on their rights.

Cmsr Wilhelm motioned to close the public hearing at 10:26 a.m.; Cmsr Reynolds seconded. Motion carried.

The Chairman recessed the meeting at 10:26 a.m. The Chairman reconvened the meeting at 10:32 a.m.

CONSIDER LAPTOP PURCHASE

Technology Services Manager Mike Virnig presented the request to purchase laptops for County staff to telework during the COVID-19 pandemic. Administrator Oman noted that the Coronavirus Relief Fund will fund the laptop purchase, as it is COVID-19 related. Cmsr Oslin motioned to approve the laptop purchase; Cmsr Wilhelm seconded. A roll call vote was called; Cmsrs Wilhelm, Reynolds, Oslin, Peterson, and Tellinghuisen voted aye. Motion carried.

CONSIDER FY 2021 LOW INCOME SSTS FIX-UP GRANTS

Environmental Resources Manager Dillon Hayes reviewed the septic system low-income grants. Cmsr Wilhelm motioned to approve FY 2021 Low Income SSTS Fix-Up Grants; Cmsr Peterson seconded. A roll call vote was called; Cmsrs Wilhelm, Reynolds, Oslin, Peterson, and Tellinghuisen voted aye. Motion carried.

CONSIDER MILLE LACS COUNTY COVID-19 ECONOMIC RELIEF GRANT PROGRAM

Economic Development Manager Mike Wimmer reviewed the proposed grant program previously discussed at the County Board work session. Wimmer stated that the grants would be within \$1,000 to \$10,000 and available to both businesses and individuals impacted by COVID-19. Cmsr Wilhelm motioned to approve the Mille Lacs County COVID-19 Economic Relief Grant Program; Cmsr Reynolds seconded. A roll call vote was called; Cmsrs Wilhelm, Reynolds, Oslin, Peterson, and Tellinghuisen voted aye. Motion carried.

CONSIDER PROBATION DEPARTMENT POSITION DESCRIPTIONS

Personnel Director Holly Wilson reviewed the revised Probation Department position descriptions. Cmsr Reynolds motioned to approve the Probation Department position descriptions; Cmsr Peterson seconded. A roll call vote was called; Cmsrs Wilhelm, Reynolds, Oslin, Peterson, and Tellinghuisen voted aye. Motion carried.

APPROVE LABOR AGREEMENT WITH INTERNATIONAL UNION OF ENGINEERS, LOCAL NO. 49

Personnel Director Wilson reviewed the adjustments made to the Local No. 49 agreement. Cmsr Reynolds motioned to approve the labor agreement with International Union of Engineers, Local No. 49; Cmsr Wilhelm seconded. A roll call vote was called; Cmsrs Wilhelm, Reynolds, Oslin, Peterson, and Tellinghuisen voted aye. Motion carried.

CONSIDER RESOLUTION NO. 07-21-2020-01, APPOINTMENT OF COUNTY ENGINEER

Personnel Director Wilson presented the appointment of the County Engineer Resolution. Wilson noted that the initial appointment is for a period of one (1) year. Cmsr Wilhelm motioned to adopt Resolution No. 07-21-2020-01, Appointment of County Engineer; Cmsr Reynolds seconded. A roll call vote was called; Cmsrs Wilhelm, Reynolds, Oslin, Peterson, and Tellinghuisen voted aye. Motion carried.

APPROVE TOBACCO LICENSE FOR CITY OF FORESTON

Administrator Oman presented the tobacco license request for the City of Foreston. Cmsr Wilhelm motioned to approve the tobacco license for the City of Foreston; Cmsr Peterson seconded. A roll call vote was called; Cmsrs Wilhelm, Reynolds, Oslin, Peterson, and Tellinghuisen voted aye. Motion carried.

APPROVE AMENDED DOC JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT

Jail Administrator Bradley Hunt reviewed the addendum to the current DOC Joint Powers Agreement, extending the contract to June 30, 2021. Cmsr Wilhelm motioned to approve the amended DOC Joint Powers Agreement; Cmsr Peterson seconded. A roll call vote was called; Cmsrs Wilhelm, Reynolds, Oslin, Peterson, and Tellinghuisen voted aye. Motion carried.

CONSIDER ORDINANCE CHANGE TO COMBINE BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Land Services Director Michele McPherson presented the request to combine the Board of Adjustment and the Planning Commission, due to difficulties filling board vacancies. Cmsr Wilhelm motioned to recruit applicants to fill vacancies on the Board of Adjustment and the Planning Commission; Cmsr Peterson seconded. A roll call vote was called; Cmsrs Wilhelm, Reynolds, Oslin, Peterson, and Tellinghuisen voted aye. Motion carried.

Cmsr Wilhelm motioned to adjourn the meeting at 11:07 a.m.; Cmsr Reynolds seconded. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

/s/Pat Oman
Pat Oman
County Administrator

/s/Roger Tellinghuisen
Roger Tellinghuisen
County Board Chairperson