

The Wright County Board met in regular session at 9:00 A.M. with Husom, Sawatzke, Daleiden, Potter and Borrell present.

MINUTES

Potter moved to approve the 2-09-16 County Board Minutes as presented, seconded by Husom. The motion carried 5-0.

AGENDA

Potter moved to approve the Agenda, seconded by Daleiden. The motion carried 5-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

Daleiden requested removal of Consent Item B, "ADMINISTRATION, Request additional phone line to Administration/Human Resources." On a motion by Daleiden, second by Borrell, all voted to approve the remainder of the Consent Agenda:

- A. ADMINISTRATION
 - 1. Union employee (Teamsters 320 Communications/Corrections) request for vacation donation. Request approval to receive donations from non-union and union employees that have completed the required donation forms.
- C. ADMINISTRATION
 - 1. Schedule Boy/Girl Day For 4-26-16.
- D. ASSESSOR
 - 1. Approve Abatement, PID# 103-062-002170, Alan Seipp.
- E. ASSESSOR
 - 1. Approve Abatement, PID# 205-000-202301, Joel and Sandra Koivisto.
- F. ASSESSOR
 - 1. Approve Abatement, PID# 215-100-041200, Elmer and Carole Abbas.
- G. ASSESSOR
 - 1. Approve Abatement, PID# 203-000-311401, George Tkalec.
- H. ASSESSOR
 - 1. Approve Abatement, PID# 213-200-312105, Robert and Paula Kartak.
- I. HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
 - 1. Position Replacement
 - A. Financial Worker
- J. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
 - 1. Refer to the Technology Committee:
 - A. Highway Permitting System
 - B. Wireless Upgrade
 - C. Information Security Assessment
 - D. Virtual Desktop pilot project
 - E. Public Surplus Update
 - F. Other
- K. LAW LIBRARY
 - 1. Approve Phone and a new phone number for Law Library Conference Room. This is not for a new position

Daleiden referenced Consent Item B, "ADMINISTRATION, Request additional phone line to Administration/Human Resources." He inquired why an additional phone line is requested due to phone tree capabilities. Lee Kelly,

County Coordinator, stated the line will be used to route callers back to the main Administration phone number. Currently, calls may potentially be dead ended and not routed to another line. Daleiden moved to approve the request, seconded by Potter, and carried 5-0.

TIMED AGENDA ITEMS

SHERIFF JOE HAGERTY

Sheriff Hagerty presented Deputy Todd Korbel with a plaque for his 26 years of service to Wright County. Korbel has worked in the areas of Patrol and Court Security. He will retire on 2-19-16. The County Board extended congratulations to Korbel on his outstanding career.

BOB HIIVALA, AUDITOR/TREASURER

Claims

On a motion by Daleiden, second by Borrell, all voted to approve the claims as listed in the abstract, subject to audit, for a total of \$172,815.30 with 179 vendors and 262 transactions.

TONY RASMUSON, COUNTY ASSESSOR

Schedule the 2016 County Board of Appeal and Equalization Meeting

Rasmuson said the meeting must be held any meeting day after the second Friday in June and for up to ten meeting days. One meeting must be held that doesn't recess or adjourn prior to 7:00 P.M. If the Board does not offer a meeting until 7:00 P.M., the Board must meet on a Saturday. Daleiden moved to schedule the 2016 County Board of Appeal and Equalization Meeting for 6-13-16 at 4:00 P.M. with an alternate date of 6-14-16 at 11:00 A.M. if needed. The motion was seconded by Borrell and carried 5-0.

SEAN RILEY, PLANNING & ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

Set Public Hearing on 3-22-16 Concerning Zoning Amendment to Allow Solar Farms on Restricted Parcels

Action taken at a prior Board Meeting gave direction to allow for township comment for 60 days, specifically Buffalo Township. Based on a recommendation by Riley, Borrell moved to schedule a Public Hearing for 9:30 A.M. on 3-22-16. The motion was seconded by Daleiden. Sawatzke said there may be a misconception that if Buffalo Township wants to be more restrictive than the County that they will have to do their own Planning & Zoning. He requested that staff reach out to Buffalo Township, informing them that Statute allows them to be more restrictive. He does not want them to make a decision based on a premise that is inaccurate. The motion carried 5-0.

FEMA Mapping Project

Riley said the County Board discussed the FEMA Mapping Project at the 1-19-16 Board Meeting, and whether to proceed with a revised Preliminary Study or to move forward with the County-wide Appeal Period. The action taken was to request a 30-day extension from FEMA.

Riley said a letter was subsequently sent to all lake associations and cities. Response was received from most cities but not lake associations. Riley was in phone contact with the City of Waverly and it appears this will be presented to their City Council. If approved today by the County Board, he will ask the contractor working with FEMA to contact the City of Waverly directly. Borrell made a motion to approve moving forward with the appeals process of the FEMA Map Modernization Project. The motion was seconded by Husom and carried unanimously.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

2-10-16 PERSONNEL COMMITTEE MINUTES

Husom moved to approve the Minutes, seconded by Potter, and carried 5-0. The Personnel Committee Minutes follow:

- I. Request to Increase .8 FTE Planner Position to Full-Time Position (HHS Board)
- II. Hire Social Worker Above Step 3 (Within 12% Range) (HHS Board)

2-10-16 Personnel Committee Minutes (cont.):III. Wright County Personnel Policy 512 Personal Appearance of Employees (County Board)

Reviewed and discussed the proposed revisions to policy 512 Personal Appearance of Employees.

Recommendation: Approve proposed policy revisions with the following changes:

- Add “at the discretion of the department head” to second to last paragraph of section 512.02.
- Retain original 512.03 Grooming/Personal Hygiene
- Renumber proposed 512.03 Work Environment to 512.04.

(End of 2-10-16 Personnel Committee Minutes)

TRI-COUNTY REGIONAL FORENSIC LAB (DALEIDEN)

This topic was discussed at the last County Board Meeting. Today, Daleiden provided the data for last year’s analysis and samples at the Tri-County Regional Forensic Lab (Lab):

Anoka County	\$410.34/sample
Sherburne County	\$617.89/sample
Wright County	\$911.48/sample

Daleiden said he previously stated that he would not vote to withdraw from the JPA as he didn’t feel the other member counties cared on what portion Wright County funds. Daleiden does not view the JPA as a true partnership. Daleiden made a motion to rescind the letter sent to Tri-County Regional Forensic Lab on withdrawing from the Joint Powers Agreement (JPA). The motion was seconded by Husom.

Discussion followed on the funding formula. Borrell asked whether Daleiden would consider language in the letter indicating the funding formula is not fair and should be looked at in the near future. Sawatzke referenced past comments made about changing the funding formula. He suggested the letter include that Wright County will not enter into the JPA in 2018 if the funding formula is not corrected. In 2007, he argued that to base the funding on population could end up with inequities. At that time, population was not part of the formula but a few years later it became part of the formula. After that, he was told that review of the funding should wait until after DNA accreditation. Husom said when reviewing the usage data from 2015 for member Counties, it makes sense to base the funding on population and usage. She agrees with Potter that the current JPA should run through 2018. She will continue to approach the funding subject at the Tri-County Lab Meetings. She was told that they are willing to look at it in 2018, but she doesn’t know if discussion needs to wait until 2018. She would consider given to a more equitable breakdown, and will make the request again. Husom would like to remain with the Lab as she views it is a real service to the citizens. Borrell suggested that prior to 2018, Board members from the three member Counties meet to discuss the funding formula.

After discussion, Daleiden and Husom amended the motion to send a letter rescinding the first letter sent to the Tri-County Regional Forensic Lab, reflecting that Wright County would like to remain part of the JPA. The letter should convey that Wright County strongly believes the current funding formula is not an equitable formula. In addition, Wright County respectfully requests the formation of a committee made up of Commissioners from the three member Counties with the goal of coming up with a more equitable formula. In 2015, Wright County’s cost was \$367,324.95. It was suggested that area newspapers, including Anoka Star and News, publish the data and an explanation of Wright County’s view on the funding formula. The motion carried 4-1 with Sawatzke casting the nay vote. Borrell provided Husom with an example of a funding formula from the Cities of Maple Plain and Independence, where funding is broken down based on the number of calls, population, and tax capacity. This example could be used when looking at funding options for the Lab.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**ADVISORY COMMITTEE / ADVISORY BOARD UPDATES**

1. Feedlot Meetings. Daleiden said there will be upcoming meetings on feedlots. Borrell stated this relates to small scale operators only (those with minimal acreage who want a few animals). It will not change the formula for a regular feedlot.
2. Ditch Meetings. Daleiden stated there will be upcoming ditch repair meetings. The DNR will be invited to attend.
3. AFSCME, Human Services Unit. Sawatzke said the Unit is taking a contract proposal to membership for a vote in 3-4 weeks.
4. I-94 West Coalition. Potter said a meeting was held last week on the legislative priorities and a comprehensive 10-year funding bill. The City of Maple Grove is considering becoming a member. They asked that the fee be capped at \$10,000 instead of \$.50/capita.
5. AMC Transportation Policy Committee. A sub-committee has been formed with the purpose of focusing on transportation and the legislative agenda. At the last meeting, discussion surrounded goals and staying on task. AMC has hired a firm to assist in guidance of the legislative process.
6. Clearwater River Watershed District. Husom attended a meeting on 2-10-16. A project is planned for Lake Augusta and involves hiring a company which uses divers and netting to pull aquatic invasive species. It is more expensive than chemicals but does not disturb native plants.

The meeting recessed at 9:58 AM to a Closed Session to discuss the Rebecca Otto vs. Wright County Citizens lawsuit. The meeting reconvened at 10:50 AM.

Brian Asleson, Chief Deputy Attorney, said the purpose of the Closed Session was to discuss strategies in response to the litigation from the Office of the State Auditor. The recommendation is to hire outside counsel to respond to this litigation. He foresees an expedited schedule for this to be heard in March or April. A judge can take this under advisement with a 90-day window. Potter moved to authorize the County Attorney's Office to hire outside counsel to answer the legal complaint against Wright County. The motion was seconded by Husom. Sawatzke said it is unfortunate that the State Auditor has put three counties (Wright, Becker and Ramsey) in this position, and it will take public resources for defense. He thought it would have been better if the State Auditor's Office would have met and discussed the issue with Wright County. Wright County officials are at a loss for why this is occurring. Borrell added that Otto's fight is with the State Legislature. He agreed that spending taxpayer dollars in the three counties to defend the lawsuit is undesirable, and it is unclear why the three counties have been singled out. The motion carried 5-0.

The meeting adjourned at 10:53 A.M.