

CLAY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
8:30 AM, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2023
Meeting Room A / B – 3rd Floor – Courthouse
MINUTES

The Clay County Board of Commissioners met in regular session with the following Commissioners present: Paul Krabbenhoft, Frank Gross, Jenny Mongeau, Kevin Campbell, and David Ebinger. Others present: County Administrator Stephen Larson, Assistant County Attorney Michael Leeser (9:42 a.m.), HR Director/Asst. Administrator Darren Brooke, and Communications Coordinator Jacqueline Finck.

Call to Order

Commissioner Gross called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Approval of Agenda

On motion by Commissioner Mongeau, seconded by Commissioner Krabbenhoft, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the agenda.

Updated MFIP Biennial Service Agreement

By consent, the Board approved the updated MFIP Biennial Service Agreement.

State of Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources Natural Resources Block Grant Program Grant Agreement for FY 2024 and 2025

By consent, the Board approved the State of Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources Natural Resources Block Grant Program Grant Agreement for FY 2024 and 2025.

Citizens to be Heard

County Administrator Stephen Larson stated that he has been in communication with a couple of citizens but they were not present at that time and might possibly show up at a later date.

At 9:09 a.m. Chair Gross asked to go back to this topic after seeing a citizen in the audience.

Mr. Jordan Lewandowski addressed the Board regarding a past civil issue between himself and the mother of his daughter and asked for the Board to open a new investigation regarding this topic.

Mr. Larson asked if the divorce decree was made in Cass County. Mr. Lewandowski stated that was correct. Mr. Larson stated the concern from the Clay County Sheriff and Attorney's Office is this is a civil issue not for the state of Minnesota. Both the County Attorney's Office and Moorhead Police Department have looked into this and have not brought new charges forward.

Commissioner Ebinger stated Mr. Lewandowski would benefit from counsel and asked if he had an attorney. Mr. Lewandowski stated he applied for an attorney in Cass County and was denied. Commissioner Ebinger stated as a Commission, they don't have any jurisdiction on this issue or any control over the decisions of the Moorhead Police Department. With this being reviewed at the level of the Clay County Attorney's Office, it would be well advised to get legal counsel to see if they can provide options on what to do next.

Commissioner Mongeau expressed her sincere apologies and stated that she hopes Mr. Lewandowski

will seek legal counsel again, apologize for his past actions and expressed that the situation is an emotional one.

Approval of Payment of Bills and Vouchers

On motion by Commissioner Krabbenhoft, seconded by Commissioner Ebinger, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the bills and vouchers totaling \$2,206,931 from 159 vendors. There were 110 warrants issued under \$2,000 (\$45,830) and the following 49 were over \$2,000.

Redstone Construction LLC	\$ 464,203	Petro Serve Usa-Hwy	\$ 11,158
Mortenson Masonry, Inc.	\$ 367,996	Turnkey Corrections	\$ 9,931
Internal Revenue Serv	\$ 219,477	Turner Sand & Gravel Inc.	\$ 8,542
R J Zavoral & Sons, Inc.	\$ 184,128	SRF Consulting Group Inc	\$ 7,594
NetCenter Technologies	\$ 121,573	LELS	\$ 4,999
Grotberg Electric Inc	\$ 91,648	Jet-Way Multiple Services, Inc.	\$ 4,755
Moorhead Public Service	\$ 64,024	ANJAAM HOLDINGS, LLC	\$ 4,622
West Central Regional Juvenile Center	\$ 62,357	Wegner Psychological & Therapeutic Svc	\$ 3,750
Gehrtz Construction Services, Inc	\$ 48,666	Sanofi Pasteur, Inc.	\$ 3,687
Clay Co Public Health	\$ 45,561	Nancy Hein-Kolo, PsyD, LP	\$ 3,625
Regents Of The Univ Of MN	\$ 45,357	Valley Mortuary Services	\$ 3,394
City Of Fargo	\$ 38,949	Gate City Bank	\$ 3,305
Otter Tail Public Health	\$ 32,749	Bob Barker (Sheriff)	\$ 3,145
Dakota Plains Mechanical, Inc.	\$ 32,100	Petro Serve USA-SW	\$ 3,049
Mn Dept Of Revenue	\$ 31,244	City of Frazee	\$ 2,730
Falk Drilling INC	\$ 30,400	Fuchs Sanitation Inc	\$ 2,660
MinKo Construction, Inc.	\$ 29,320	RnC Consulting P.A.	\$ 2,647
VEBA Select Account	\$ 28,741	Salem Evangelical Free Church	\$ 2,513
Enterprise FM Trust	\$ 24,483	Clay County Sheriff's	\$ 2,500
CoreLogic	\$ 24,439	Sanford Health	\$ 2,452
Trinity Services Group, Inc.	\$ 24,210	Wilkin Co Public Health	\$ 2,440
Road Machinery & Supplies Co.	\$ 19,961	Creating Community Consulting	\$ 2,337
Becker County Public Health	\$ 14,880	Green View Inc.	\$ 2,214
NACO	\$ 12,367	Pomp's Tire Service, Inc.	\$ 2,116
		Express Lane - Hawley	\$ 2,085

Approval of Minutes from October 3, 2023

On motion by Commissioner Ebinger, seconded by Commissioner Krabbenhoft, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the minutes from October 3, 2023.

Update from Representative Heather Keeler

Representative Keeler discussed serving as the Vice Chair of Children and Families Policy and Finance Committee, Indian Child Welfare Act, Minnesota Indian Family Preservation Act, Childrens Mental Health, and Shelter Capital for Prevention of Homelessness.

Commissioner Krabbenhoft thanked Representative Keeler for bringing the House Human Services Policy Committee to Clay County and discussed his takeaways from the meeting including reciprocity, reimbursement rates, and the lack of psychiatric residential treatment facilities. Representative Keeler

stated that children/youth with the highest needs sometimes need to travel three hours away and for them to be successful, they need intense family support three times per week, which can lead to added stress for the family and turns out to be unsuccessful. Therefore, it would be a bonding ask to gain a sixteen bed Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility (PRTF) for Clay County and surrounding counties as well, as history has shown that kids who don't have a place to go, end up in the Juvenile Detention Center and that is not where those children need to be.

Commissioner Gross extended his thanks for Representative Keeler and discussed how impressed he was with the committee coming to Clay County and for the people who came forward to testify. Representative Keeler stated her goal is to bring as many of the Chair's to the community so that when they're making decisions at the end of session they can reflect on their time in the community and the relationships they have built while being here.

Commissioner Mongeau thanked Representative Keeler for bringing the meeting to this community and discussed the frustration surrounding the issue of having to sometimes drive two to three hours for a driver's license appointment. Clay County has taken the stance in helping solve regional issues through regional water plans and the West Central Regional Juvenile Center to name a few. Commissioner Mongeau echoed the comments regarding the crisis for PRTF and how it's not only a burden on the family for having to drive several hours, but also a burden on staff and providers who are trying to serve those individuals who need the care. As the bonding discussion moves forward it's important to keep those individuals as close to their support system as possible.

Discussion ensued regarding out of state placement, relationship building, Children and Family Agency, and fingerprinting concerns.

Representative Keeler stated session begins February 12, 2024, and it's a policy year. Therefore, if there are any policy barriers that need to be looked into or adjusted, send those to her by November, December at the latest.

Commissioner Krabbenhoft asked what date the Housing Committee was going to meet. Representative Keeler stated Transportation will be that day, Housing will be on Monday, October 23 and Taxes will be on Tuesday, October 24.

Request Approval to Accept Bids for the Department of Motor Vehicle Department Project

County Administrator Stephen Larson stated on September 12, the Board approved to advertise for bids. On October 10, the bids were open and over the last week, Gehrtz verified the low bidders.

Gehrtz Construction Principal Construction Manager Dan Kleist stated there were several bids that came in and had a good turnout and were within 1% of the estimate that was submitted to the Board for review. The biggest difference between the estimate and what the bids were, was that the estimate didn't include signage.

Mr. Larson stated the request would be to accept the the bid package and noted the package does include all soft costs and the approval of the site and utility work.

Commissioner Mongeau stated there were a lot of bids which is good to see and there were several areas where we saw large savings. Several other locations throughout Moorhead and Clay County were looked at for this project site and while taking into account combining the County and the state into one facility, the vacant locations that were investigated either didn't allow for the needs or were much larger

than necessary. Building the DMV on a site that Clay County already owns and where other Clay County facilities are located, will be a savings to the community. This is an opportunity to meet the needs of the entire County.

Commissioner Campbell stated he served on the committee that determined the outcome of the site location and several places were explored, in and outside of Moorhead. There can be some debate on spending \$6 million on a building versus getting something that already exists. Just because a building is vacant, doesn't mean it's the right fit for the necessary needs. Some locations were six times bigger than what was needed, others were the right size, but they were aged. Citizens have expressed putting the facility in south Moorhead where the growth is, but what people need to understand is that this is a Clay County facility, so it needs to be in a location where it's accessible to all citizens of Clay County. This facility is being built on land that the County already owns. If a different location had been purchased that would have eliminated the potential opportunity for other businesses to come into this community. And it also would take that property off of our tax rolls which would mean additional cost to our citizens.

Discussion ensued regarding favorable bids, architect designs, winter condition costs.

On motion by Commissioner Mongeau, seconded by Commissioner Campbell, and unanimously carried, the Board approved to accept bids for the Department of Motor Vehicle Project totaling \$6,448,880.14.

Ryan Weber, Klein McCarthy Architects, presented the new DMV Design.

Commissioner Campbell discussed how it's important to remember that the County will receive reimbursement from the state for their percentage of square footage, which will help with the bond payments for the facility.

Request Approval to Purchase a Snowblower

County Engineer Justin Sorum requested approval to purchase a snowblower from Macqueen Equipment. This snowblower is a unit that mounts on the front of a payloador and is frequently used throughout the winter. The last time one was purchased was in 2013 and this new one would replace that older unit. This item would be purchased off the state bid with a purchase price of \$210,512.50 and the old unit would be sold on MNBID with a reserve of \$28,000.

Commissioner Gross stated this was discussed at Highway Tracking and it was recommended to replace the unit.

On motion by Commissioner Mongeau, seconded by Commissioner Campbell and unanimously carried, the Board approved to purchase a snowblower from Macqueen Equipment in the amount of \$210,512.50 and to sell Unit 139 on MNBid with a reserve of \$28,000.

Request Approval to Replace Ceiling Tiles and Add a Ceiling Net in the Gym at the WCRJC

West Central Regional Juvenile Center (WCRJC) Facility Director Josh Swanson requested approval to replace ceiling tiles and add a ceiling net in the gym at the WCRJC.

Commissioner Campbell referenced the agenda item sheet and stated this has been discussed with the member counties and that there was \$40,000 reserved from previous revenues over expenditures to cover the floor and ceiling.

Commissioner Gross asked for clarification on the need for replacement. Mr. Swanson stated with the

area in question being the gym, the ceiling gets hit by gym equipment on a regular basis, and over time the grid structure has been compromised and tiles have been falling. At this point it's a safety concern.

On motion by Commissioner Campbell, seconded by Commissioner Ebinger, and unanimously carried, the Board approved to accept Great Plains Ceiling quote in the amount of \$25,241 to replace the ceiling tiles at the WCRJC.

Cybersecurity Awareness Month Presentation

Technology Services Director Rory Schmitz presented and recognized the month of October being Cybersecurity Month and upcoming training opportunities. Protection layers, outbound web threats, inbound threats, and recent cyber attacks were discussed.

Commissioner Krabbenhoft asked what a Wildfire-virus was. Mr. Schmitz stated a wildfire-virus is a virus that can spread rapidly through an organization.

Commissioner Gross extended his appreciation to the Technology Services Department for the work that they do.

Request to Approve MOU With the City of Moorhead in regard to a grant application for the Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program

Mr. Larson stated the City of Moorhead is applying for the Byrne Justice Assistance Grant and part of the grant application is to partner with another law enforcement agency or legal local jurisdiction. This MOU would provide the County roughly \$4,883.75 if the grant is awarded. This is a requirement of the grant process and will strengthen the application if they can show partnership. The County did have to identify an area in where those funds would be allocated and the Clay County Drug Court program was selected, however, there is the option of shifting that elsewhere based on the requests of the Board.

Commissioner Ebinger supports accepting the MOU and that the Drug Court program is a good place for these funds to go.

On motion by Commissioner Ebinger, seconded by Commissioner Krabbenhoft, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the MOU with the City of Moorhead in regard to a grant application for the Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program.

BREAK

The Board took a break from 9:33 to 9:41 a.m.

Last Written Offers Use and Use of Eminent Domain for the Acquisition of Necessary Property Rights in Clay County for the Fargo-Moorhead Metro Area Flood Risk Reduction Project

Metro Flood Diversion Authority Executive Director Joel Paulsen discussed the need of the Board to exercise the power of eminent domain for the good of the public. It's difficult to take land from private citizens and turn that over into public good and significant work has been done to find a compromise with landowners. However, there are still a number of properties/landowners that have not come to an agreement. In order to keep the project on schedule for permanent flood protection in 2027, action needs to be taken now to ensure all necessary property rights can be obtained. There are a number of permit conditions that require full acquisition of all the impacted project elements before the project can be operated. That means everything needs to be acquired by the spring of 2027 in order for the project to be operational and ready for a flood event.

Mr. Paulsen introduced Attorney Chris McShane from Ohnstad Twichell Law and AE2S Program Manager Eric Dodds to explain the process in more detail.

Mr. Dodds stated Moorhead and Clay County entered into a Joint Powers Authority (MCCJPA) and that group has been tackling the effort of buying property rights for the project for several years now. On September 28, 2023, MCCJPA Board passed a resolution asking for the help of Clay County and the City of Moorhead. A brief explanation of what's been done to date will be discussed during the closed session.

CLOSED SESSION pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 13D.05 subd. 3(b) for consultation with litigation counsel regarding litigation strategy for anticipated eminent domain actions to be undertaken by the member entities, and Minn. Stat. § 13D.05 subd. 3(c)(3) for consultation regarding the purchase price for property interests for the properties identified in the attached Exhibit A.

On motion by Commissioner Campbell, seconded by Commissioner Ebinger, and unanimously carried, the Board closed the public meeting for a closed session at 9:45 a.m.

On motion by Commissioner Campbell, seconded by Commissioner Ebinger, and unanimously carried, the Board reopened the public meeting at 10:21 a.m.

Resolution 2023-20 Requesting Clay County, MN to Utilize Court Action to Acquire Right of Way

Commissioner Campbell asked for there to be update given on the processes that has taken place to date, with these landowners.

Mr. Dodds referenced the packet and the table that was outlined on the information sheet regarding the status and timeline of the project and discussed the process in which a property is acquired.

Commissioner Campbell asked if by moving forward with this resolution it would allow the Corps of Engineers to complete the project and have it operational within the timeframe that has been discussed. Mr. Dodds stated that was correct and the Corps of Engineers are actively working to finalize designs and intend to advertise and award construction bids next spring.

Commissioner Campbell stated the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) permit requires everything to be completed before it can be operational. Mr. Dodds confirmed that was correct.

Commissioner Campbell asked if negotiations still continue with the landowners if the next step of eminent domain takes place. Mr. Dodds stated negotiations will still occur and provided similar examples on the North Dakota side.

Commissioner Mongeau stated as someone who represents this area of Clay County, this is not a great position to be in. Her hope is that through continued conversation a fair agreement can be negotiated and reached.

Commissioner Campbell recognized Commissioner Mongeau's statement and stated how the project has come a long way and that we do fully respect the history of the properties and the sacrifices that the landowners have or will make and unfortunately, this project is the best way to protect the area.

On motion by Commissioner Campbell, seconded by Commissioner Ebinger, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the Resolution 2023-20 requesting Clay County, MN to utilize court action to acquire right of way and real property interest for SE-4 and SE-5 and upstream mitigation area.

RESOLUTION 2023-20

**RESOLUTION TO UTILIZE COURT ACTION TO ACQUIRE RIGHT OF WAY
AND REAL PROPERTY INTERESTS FOR SE-4, SE-5,
AND UPSTREAM MITIGATION AREA**

October 17, 2023

WHEREAS, the United States Army Corps of Engineers ("USACE"), the Metro Flood Diversion Authority (the "Diversion Authority"), the City of Fargo, North Dakota, and the City of Moorhead, Minnesota, are the federal and non-federal sponsors of the Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Area Flood Risk Management Project (the "Comprehensive Project"); and

WHEREAS, Clay County, Minnesota (the "County"), is a political subdivision of the State of Minnesota and a member entity of the Diversion Authority; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the County, the other member entities of the Diversion Authority are the City of Fargo, North Dakota; the City of Moorhead, Minnesota; Cass County, North Dakota; and the Cass County Joint Water Resource District; and

WHEREAS, USACE, in conjunction with the local sponsors, will be constructing Southern Embankment Reach No. 4 ("SE-4") and Southern Embankment Reach No. 5 ("SE-5"), which are necessary components of the Comprehensive Project; and

WHEREAS, another necessary component of the Comprehensive Project is the Upstream Mitigation Area (the "UMA"); and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to acquire certain real property interests for the construction, operation, and maintenance of SE-4, SE-5, and the UMA, and the real properties included in Exhibit A (the "Properties") have been identified as necessary; and

WHEREAS, the Moorhead-Clay County Joint Powers Authority ("MCCJPA") is the Minnesota entity formed for the purpose of seeking and obtaining the right of way to real property and real property interests to parcels in Minnesota necessary for purposes of constructing, operating, and maintaining the Comprehensive Project; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Land Acquisition Joint Powers Agreement ("JPA") indicates MCCJPA will notify the Diversion Authority if negotiations are unsuccessful, and the member entities of the MCCJPA – the County and the City of Moorhead – will be responsible for acquiring the necessary property interests, through court action if necessary; and

WHEREAS, on September 28, 2023, MCCJPA passed Resolution 23-02 (the "Resolution") to notify the Diversion Authority that negotiations had not yet been successful to acquire the necessary right of way and real property interests for the Properties; and

WHEREAS, the Resolution additionally requested that the County utilize court action to acquire certain property rights, as set forth in Exhibit A; and

WHEREAS, the County adopted an updated Local Water Management Plan in 2017 (the "Plan"), the Plan was approved by the Board of Water and Soil Resources, and one of the four priority concerns articulated in

the Plan is flood damage reduction; and

WHEREAS, the County hereby specifically concludes it is necessary to acquire the right of way to real property and real property interests necessary for the Comprehensive Project in, across, and through the Properties identified in Exhibit A for the implementation of the Plan; and

WHEREAS, all of the Properties are located within Clay County, Minnesota, and the record title holders of each of the Properties are identified in Exhibit A; and

WHEREAS, MCCJPA commissioned and approved appraisals for the Properties for which the value of the acquisition would be in excess of \$25,000 and provided a copy of such appraisals to the landowners, pursuant to Section 117.036 of the Minnesota Statutes; and

WHEREAS, MCCJPA obtained minimum damage acquisition reports for the Properties for which the value of the acquisition would be less than \$25,000 and provided a copy of such reports to the landowners, pursuant to Section 117.036 of the Minnesota Statutes; and

WHEREAS, an offer has been sent to each of the landowners seeking to purchase the property rights identified in Exhibit A for the appraised amount; and

WHEREAS, land agents have attempted to negotiate with all of the landowners of the Properties based upon the MCCJPA approved appraisals; and

WHEREAS, as of today's date, landowners of the Properties have not signed the Purchase Agreements transferring the right of way to real property and real property interests necessary for purposes of construction, operation, and maintenance of the SE-4, SE-5, and UMA components of the Comprehensive Project; and

WHEREAS, attached as Exhibit A is a complete description of the Properties for which no Purchase Agreement has been obtained to acquire the right of way to real property and real property interests necessary for purposes of construction, operation, and maintenance of SE-4, SE-5, and UMA components of the Comprehensive Project; and

WHEREAS, title and possession of the right of way to real property and real property interest rights identified in Exhibit A must be acquired before commencement of construction of the SE-4 and SE-5 components of the Comprehensive Project; and

WHEREAS, the County must provide notice to the landowners of its intent to take possession of the right of way to real property and real property interests identified in Exhibit A, pursuant to Section 117.042 of the Minnesota Statutes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Clay County Board of Commissioners as follows:

1. Necessity. That in accordance with Chapter 117 of the Minnesota Statutes, Clay County declares it is necessary to acquire certain property rights in the Properties, as identified in Exhibit A, for completion of the Comprehensive Project.
2. Negotiation. Clay County hereby authorizes last written offers of just compensation to be made to the landowners in the amounts set forth in Exhibit A. The landowner shall be provided two (2) weeks to accept the last written offers being made.
3. Notice. If the property owners refuse to convey the property rights necessary for the construction, operation, and maintenance of the SE-4, SE-5, and UMA components of the Comprehensive Project in accordance with the terms of the last written offer, Ohnstad Twichell, P.C., or Larkin Hoffman Daly & Lindgren, Ltd., on behalf of Clay County, is instructed to serve the landowner with a Notice of Intent to Possess the Property identified in Exhibit A, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 117.042.

4. Court Action. If the property owners do not agree on or before November 14, 2023, to convey the property rights necessary for the construction, operation, and maintenance of the SE-4, SE-5, and UMA components of the Comprehensive Project in accordance with the terms of the last written offer, Ohnstad Twichell, P.C., or Larkin Hoffman Daly & Lindgren, Ltd., on behalf of Clay County, is hereby authorized to begin eminent domain proceedings to acquire the right of way to real property and real property interests identified in Exhibit A for purposes of constructing, operating, and maintaining the SE-4, SE-5, and UMA components of the Comprehensive Project.

The motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution was introduced by Commissioner Campbell and its adoption was duly seconded by Commissioner Ebinger, and upon roll call vote, the following voted in favor thereof: Commissioner Campbell, Commissioner Ebinger, Commissioner Gross, Commissioner Krabbenhoft, and Commissioner Mongeau. The following were absent and not voting: None. The following voted against the same: None.

The majority having voted aye, the Resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

PASSED: October 17, 2023, by the Clay County, Minnesota, Board of Commissioners.

CLOSED SESSION for Ongoing Contract Negotiations – Attorney/Client Privilege: County Attorney Brian Melton

On motion by Commissioner Mongeau, seconded by Commissioner Ebinger, and unanimously carried, the Board closed the public meeting for a closed session at 10:36 a.m.

On motion by Commissioner Campbell, seconded by Commissioner Ebinger, and unanimously carried, the Board reopened the public meeting at 11:00 a.m.

County Engineer Justin Sorum stated he is seeking approval to enter into negotiations with MnDOT to purchase a site for the Highway Department.

On motion by Commissioner Mongeau, Seconded by Commissioner Ebinger, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the negotiations set forth by the discussion in closed session for purchase of the MnDOT property and allowing the County Engineer and County Administrator the authority to work through the purchase.

Committee Reports/County Administrator Update/Discussions

- Commissioner Ebinger reported on meetings for Beyond the Yellow Ribbon; and Red River Regional Dispatch Center Board of Authority.
- Commissioner Krabbenhoft reported on meetings for Historical & Cultural Society; University MN Extension; and Community Conversation & Committee Hearing with Representative Keeler and the Minnesota House Human Services Policy Committee.
- Commissioner Mongeau reported on meetings for bid opening for DMV Finance Committee and discussion with a landowner and rural business owner regarding a possible ring dike levee and the process with the Planning Commission, the County Engineer and the Watershed District.
- Commissioner Campbell reported on meetings for Highway Tracking; FM Diversion Authority Planning Committee; Bid opening for DMV Finance Committee; and Red River Regional Dispatch Center Board of Authority.
- Commissioner Gross reported on meetings for Highway Tracking; Wild Rice Watershed District;

Beyond the Yellow Ribbon; Committee Hearing with Representative Keeler and the Minnesota House Human Services Policy Committee; reminder Heart of Clay is tonight at 7 p.m. at the Marriott; and remember to fill out the United Way Campaign pledge forms.

- County Administrator Stephen Larson reported on meetings for Highway Tracking; Bid opening for DMV Finance Committee; Management meeting; met with Brian Melton with a series of County issues; met with Sheriff Empting on a series of issues; met with Nancy Hanson from the FM Extra and discussed the DMV project; Community Conversation & Committee Hearing with Representative Keeler and the Minnesota House Human Services Policy Committee; reminder the County Rural Cities meeting will be held on Thursday, October 19, 2023 from 4-6 p.m. at the Hawley Fire Hall; and the District #4 meeting will be held in Fergus Falls on Friday, October 20, 2023 from 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.

The Board of Commissioners briefly discussed the policy platforms/legislative priority items that were put forth by AMC. Some of the areas that were discussed included Environment and Natural Resources Policy, SCORE funding, Tax Forfeiture Workgroup, Cyber Security, Public Health and Human Services, Mental Health, Modernization of Human System Services, Public Safety, Emergency Communication Network & 911 fees, and Transportation & Infrastructure Bonding Projects.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 11:31 a.m.

Frank Gross, Chair
County Board of Commissioners

Stephen Larson, County Administrator