

CLAY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

8:30 AM, TUESDAY, MAY 14, 2024

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, County Attorney Brian Melton, HR Director/Asst. Administrator Darren Brooke, and Administrative Assistant Sarah Hellem.

Call to Order

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

Approval of Agenda

On motion by Commissioner Gross, seconded by Commissioner Campbell, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the agenda.

Tax Abatement for L Heller, Moorhead, Due to Reduction in Valuation for Payable Year 2023

By consent, the Board approved the tax abatement for L Heller of Moorhead, due to a reduction in valuation for payable year 2023.

Approval of Annual Consumer Price Index (CPI) Cost Adjustment For Food Service - Sheriff's Department, West Central Regional Juvenile Center and the Detox/Withdrawal Management Program

By consent, the Board approved the annual consumer price index (CPI) cost adjustment for food service for the Sheriff's Office, West Central Regional Juvenile Center and the Withdrawal Management/Detox program.

Approval of Contracted Increase for Medical Services for the Clay County Correctional Facility with Advance Correctional Healthcare, Inc.

By consent, the Board approved the contracted increase for medical services for the Clay County Correctional Facility with Advance Correctional Healthcare, Inc.

Citizens to be Heard

There were no citizens to be heard.

Approval of Payment of Bills and Vouchers

On motion by Commissioner Mongeau, seconded by Commissioner Krabbenhoft, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the bills and vouchers totaling \$1,352,296 from 161 vendors. There were 105 warrants issued under \$2,000 (\$48,831) and the following 56 were over \$2,000.

Towmaster	\$ 325,858	ANJAAM HOLDINGS, LLC	\$ 5,837
Internal Revenue Serv	\$ 232,229	Advanced Engineering & Environmental	\$ 5,828
West Central Regional Juvenile Center	\$ 69,796	Road Machinery & Supplies Co.	\$ 5,764
Mortenson Masonry, Inc.	\$ 56,306	LELS	\$ 5,442
Moorhead Public Service	\$ 48,766	Johnson & Schock Excavation LLC	\$ 4,966
Earthwork Services Inc.	\$ 47,500	B&H Photo	\$ 4,912

Gehrtz Construction Services, Inc	\$	46,563	Sabin C Store	\$	4,884
Robert Gibb & Sons, Inc.	\$	33,725	Flaherty & Hood, P.A.	\$	4,767
Mn Dept Of Revenue	\$	32,384	Holcim MWR, Inc.	\$	4,707
Quality Coatings & Tile	\$	30,685	Ramsey County Med Exam	\$	4,580
VEBA Select Account	\$	30,419	Hands Down Flooring and Tile	\$	4,352
Enterprise FM Trust	\$	30,154	Galls, LLC - 5287110	\$	3,888
Trinity Services Group, Inc.	\$	25,944	Kris Engineering, Inc.	\$	3,726
Fergus Drywall	\$	23,750	Farmers Coop Oil Co	\$	3,516
Lutheran Social Service Of Mn	\$	17,714	Pomp's Tire Service, Inc.	\$	3,403
Clay Trail Alliance	\$	16,915	Amazon Capital Services	\$	2,952
Tecta America Dakotas LLC	\$	15,455	Madison National Life	\$	2,783
Fargo Glass & Paint	\$	15,200	Code 4 Services, Inc	\$	2,684
NACO	\$	13,145	Uline	\$	2,635
MCI Carpet One	\$	12,953	Green View Inc.	\$	2,530
Deputy Registrar #15	\$	11,991	City of Pelican Rapids	\$	2,494
Deputy Registrar #15 (A)	\$	11,991	SHI International Corp	\$	2,413
MN-KOTA Concrete, Inc.	\$	11,504	Wex Bank (fleet)	\$	2,337
Scott's Electric, Inc	\$	11,287	Grover/Ralph & Barbara	\$	2,328
TrueNorth Steel	\$	9,047	Valley Mortuary Services	\$	2,258
RDO Truck Centers, LLC	\$	6,864	Fuchs Sanitation Inc	\$	2,213
Ledgestone Inc.	\$	6,818	Fidelity Security Life	\$	2,067
Petro Serve Usa-Hwy	\$	6,205	Legal Services of Northwest Minnesota	\$	2,005

West Central Initiative Update

West Central Initiative (WCI) Director of Business & Economic Development, Greg Wagner, and Director of Development, Rebecca Lynn Petersen, provided the Board with an update on their efforts throughout the community/region and will discuss future opportunities.

Mr. Wagner discussed planning work, delivering state programs, direct business relief grants, lending programs, promise act grant, promise act loan program, and Clay County loan fund.

Ms. Petersen further discussed Clay County loan funds, community funds, 2023 discretionary grants, sponsorships grants, the 2023 annual review, 17-Rooms event, and rural democracy.

WCI Board Member, Yoke-Sim Gunaratne, thanked the Board for their continued support.

Commissioner Gross asked for more information on the rural democracy program. Ms. Petersen stated there are multiple levels of the program. There is a weekend training that allows people to test the waters to see if it's something they're interested in. And then there is a 6-week course for credit. This is a hybrid course of both online and in person work to prepare the individual for running for office. Commissioner Gross asked if there was a cost associated with the program. Ms. Petersen stated there is no cost to the participants of the program, as there was funding provided through the McKnight Foundation. The only cost would be travel costs such as gas, to get to the training. Ms. Gunaratne stated the training is nonpartisan and that it's a good training for volunteers. It provides an opportunity for someone to volunteer in an office, to gain experience and connection, before running for office.

Commissioner Krabbenhoft asked if the Board could receive a report regarding the Clay County recipients and award amounts, after the grant application process has concluded. Mr. Wagner stated he would provide the Board with a role out summary of recipients for both the Main Street Revitalization Program and the Promise Act Funding.

Request Approval to Enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with Minnesota State University Moorhead

Sheriff Mark Empting stated it's National Police Week and publicly honored all who have given the ultimate sacrifice, protecting their communities. Tomorrow, May 15, 2024 at 12:15 p.m. there will be a Law Enforcement Memorial Ceremony with both the Sheriff's Office and Moorhead Police Honor Guard's. This will be held in front of the Law Enforcement Center.

Sheriff Empting requested approval to enter into an Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Minnesota State University Moorhead (MSUM) for a Violence Prevention Program, and stated this was presented last year to the Board, and it was approved at that time. However, the grant was not accepted. MSUM is also partnering with the Rape and Abuse Crisis Center of Fargo-Moorhead and the Moorhead Police Department. With this MOU, MSUM will apply for grant funds to assist with this program.

Commissioner Mongeau discussed her appreciation in finding ways to partner with other entities withing the community.

On motion by Commissioner Mongeau, seconded by Commissioner Campbell , and unanimously carried, the Board approved to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with Minnesota State University Moorhead for a Violence Prevention Program Grant.

Request Approval of Opioid/Suicide Prevention Grants

Public Health Opioid Program Manager, Annabel DuFault, requested approval of the opioid and suicide prevention grants.

Ms. DuFault stated in the last two months, Public Health has been awarded two grant opportunities from the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) totaling \$700,000. Additionally, there is another application currently under review and an application that is currently in progress.

Ms. DuFault gave a brief overview of each grant opportunity.

The first grant that was awarded is the MDH Community-Based Substance Misuse and Suicide Prevention Coalition Grant. This grant intends to serve youth ages 10-24 in Clay County. Suicide and substance use share many risk and protective factors and this grant aims to address both areas through strategies selected by the coalition. This grant will be co-led with PartnerShip4Health, Suicide Prevention Coordinator, Karen Nitzkowski. This grant is for \$500,000 over the course of 4 years and the grant agreement will be June 1, 2024 through May 31, 2028.

The second grant that was awarded was the MDH Drug Overdose Prevention Grant. The purpose of the grant is to provide culturally specific overdose prevention programs to underserved communities. Clay County Public Health will work closely with the local homeless shelter, Churches United, to meet the needs of those they serve through this new opportunity. This grant is for \$200,000 over the course of 4 years and the grant agreement will be June 1, 2024 through June 30, 2028.

The MDH Drug Overdose Prevention – TOWN Grant is currently in progress and due May 17, 2024. Tackling Opioids with Networks (TOWN) is a clinic-based model utilizing a multi-strategy approach, by increasing access to medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD) and increasing community coordination and overdose prevention efforts. Public Health is pursuing this grant with Community

Health Services Inc. of Moorhead. This grant is approximately \$800,000 over the course of 4 years and the grant agreement would be June 30, 2024 through May 31, 2028.

Public Health's application for the FM Area Foundation – Community Building Grant is under review. This application was submitted for funds to support the new pilot project for opioid overdose response. Funds would support peer support time and naloxone supplies. \$15,000 (maximum) was requested for a one-time, one-year period starting roughly July 1, 2024.

County Administrator, Stephen Larson thanked Ms. DuFault for her work on these grant opportunities and asked what impact these grants will have. Ms. DuFault discussed the Community-Based Substance Misuse and Suicide Prevention Coalition Grant being more broad substance use, and not just specific to opioids. Her work in that grant would continue with community based trainings especially targeting college aged students with that opportunity and curriculum that touches on both risk and protective factors for suicide and substance use as well.

Ms. DuFault stated for the Drug Overdose Prevention Grant, she'll be working very closely with Churches United, distributing Naloxone, helping them set up a safer use supply hub within Micah's Mission, providing education and bringing in culturally relevant activity leaders and speakers to work with their guests/clients.

Commissioner Gross asked if others will be brought in to help with these tasks, or if Ms. DuFault will be taking that on herself. Ms. DuFault stated for the Community-Based Substance Misuse and Suicide Prevention Coalition Grant, she'll be co-leading that with PartnerShip4Health, Suicide Prevention Coordinator, Karen Nitzkorsk. And for the Drug Overdose Prevention Grant, she'll be working closely with the staff at Churches Unites, who will be implementing pieces of the grant.

Commissioner Campbell asked what are the Community-Based Substance Misuse and Suicide Prevention Coalition Grant funds actually being spent on. Ms. DuFault stated some of the funds will go towards salary expenses, staff time, other funds will be to support a program called 'Sources of Strength', which addresses the suicide piece of this grant, but with the shared risk and protective factors, that will be something that will address substance use with youth. Other pieces of the funding will go towards advancing other efforts that are happening with suicide prevention work.

Health Promotion Director, Rory Beil, stated 75% of Ms. DuFault's time would be covered by the two awarded grants and that Public Health is aware of the desire to do this opioid work long-term, which was discussed when the Board initially approved this position and funding. Therefore, it's the departments responsibility to help find that funding.

Commissioner Krabbenhoft asked for more information regarding the prevention piece of the Drug Overdose Prevention – TOWN Grant. Ms. DuFault stated the overdose prevention side of this grant is enhancing efforts with overdose trainings and Naloxone distribution. The majority of this grant is clinic based and her role would be to help with relationship building and help increasing referral pathways.

Commissioner Campbell asked if there's the ability to expand our availability of Naloxone to the community. Ms. DuFault stated with the TOWN Grant there is allowable expense for Naloxone, so Naloxone costs could be included in that, which would expand for nasal Naloxone, which is more expensive and less accessible than the intramuscular Naloxone. All the Grant opportunities would help with this with the exception of the Community-Based Substance Misuse and Suicide Prevention Coalition Grant.

Mr. Larson stated when the Public Health Opioid Program Manager position was approved by the Board, it was approved for 18 months' salary. The benefit of these grants will allow for this position to further expand.

Discussion ensued regarding expiration date and parameters of Naloxone.

On motion by Commissioner Campbell, seconded by Commissioner Mongeau, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the Opioid and Suicide Prevention Grants.

Discussion Ensued regarding the budget and funding for Ms. DuFault's position.

Committee Reports/County Administrator Update/Discussions

- Commissioner Mongeau reported on meetings for AMC Legislative issues regarding broadband and prevailing wages with Nathan Zacharias; AMC Tax Forfeiture; Withdrawal Management/Detox Facility Finance Committee; and DMV Finance Committee.
- Commissioner Campbell reported on meetings for FM Diversion Planning Committee; Red River Regional Dispatch Center-Budget & Finance; Red River Regional Dispatch Center-Board of Authority; Lakes Country Service Co-Op; Highway Tracking; Withdrawal Management/Detox Facility Finance meeting; DMV Finance meeting; and Building Committee - PRTF Kick Off meeting.
- Commissioner Gross reported on meetings for Wild Rice Watershed District Advisory Board; Highway Tracking; Goose Prairie Township meeting; Hagen Township meeting; Ulen Township meeting; and Building Committee - PRTF Kick Off meeting.
- Commissioner Krabbenhoft reported on meetings for Cass-Clay Food Commission; Soil & Water Conservation; and Historical & Cultural Society.
- Commissioner Ebinger reported on meetings for Red River Regional Dispatch Center - Board of Authority.
- County Administrator Stephen Larson reported on meetings for staffing openings with Sheriff Empting; came to an agreement with homeowner of 918 9th St. N Moorhead, MN; contact with the homeowner of 914 9th St N and he has indicated that he's still not interested in selling; met with Joe Olson regarding FSC space needs; sent out letters regarding Tax Forfeiture; met with Commissioner Krabbenhoft on a series of issues; MACA Legislative Conference; meeting regarding opioid settlement dollars; Preparation for Department Head Evaluation; met with Rhonda Porter regarding the PRTF; Highway Tracking; Withdrawal Management/Detox Facility Finance Committee; and DMV Finance Committee; Building Committee – PRTF Kick Off meeting; and there was a late invite from the City of Moorhead for the Minnesota Matters – The Future of Media Coverage in Northwest Minnesota which will be held at the River Haven Events Center on May 15, 2024, from 7-8:30 p.m.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

David Ebinger, Chair
County Board of Commissioners

Stephen Larson, County Administrator