

CLAY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
5:00 P.M., TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2021
Rooms A/B, 3rd Floor, Courthouse
MINUTES

The Clay County Board of Commissioners met in regular session with the following Commissioners present: Kevin Campbell, Jenny Mongeau, Jenna Kahly, Frank Gross, and David Ebinger. Others present: County Administrator Stephen Larson, County Attorney Brian Melton, Human Resource Director Darren Brooke, and Sr. Administrative Asst. Colleen Eck.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Campbell called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

RATIFY PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR MAINTENANCE/SUPPORT OF IFS SOFTWARE

By consent, the Board approved Ratifying the Professional Services Agreement for maintenance/support of IFS Software.

RENEW CLAY COUNTY FLEET POLICY

By consent, the Board approved renewal of the Clay County Fleet Policy for 2022.

RENEW FAMILY SERVICE CENTER LEASES FOR SOLUTIONS, MET, HEAD START, RAAN, AND PUBLIC DEFENDER

By consent, the Board renewed Family Service Center leases, with a 50-cent increase per square foot, for the following: Solutions (2-year), MET (2-year), Head Start (3-year), RAAN (2-year), and Public Defender (2.5-year with additional 620 sf).

RENEW ANNUAL DETOX & WITHDRAWAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES

By consent, the Board renewed the annual Detox & Withdrawal Management Policies for 2022.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

There were no citizens who wished to be heard.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

Leslie Witte was recognized for 20 years with Clay County Public Health Department.

RECOGNITION OF DONATION FROM SCANDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH FOR COUNTY WORK DETAIL

Scandia Lutheran Church was recognized for their donation of \$50 toward Clay County Work Detail.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF BILLS AND VOUCHERS

On motion by Commissioner Gross, seconded by Commissioner Ebinger, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the payment of bills and vouchers totaling \$1,513,714 from 196 vendors. From that total, 135 warrants issued were under \$2,000 (\$61,531) and the following 61 were over \$2,000:

Hawley City	\$276,889	Fuchs Sanitation, Inc.	\$5,250
Buffalo-Red River Watershed	\$269,872	Moorhead Public Service	\$4,649
Clay Co. Public Health	\$200,577	Nancy Hein-Kolo, PsyD, LP	\$4,000
Otter Tail Co. Public Health	\$ 96,072	Anjaam Holdings, LLC	\$3,936
W Central Regional Juvenile Center	\$ 63,549	Psychlogics	\$3,870
Dakota Plains Mechanical, Inc.	\$ 62,356	Sabin C Store	\$3,803
Wild Rice Watershed Dist.	\$ 57,522	River Valley Forensic Services, PA	\$3,500
City of Fargo	\$ 39,671	Dean's Bulk Service	\$3,482
MEND Correctional Care, LLC	\$ 35,259	Town & Country Oil, Inc.	\$3,419
NetCenter Technologies	\$ 29,937	Enterprise FM Trust	\$3,241
High Point Networks, LLC	\$ 27,087	MN IT Services	\$3,211
Becker Co. Public Health	\$ 24,629	Ramsey Co. Medical Examiner	\$3,119
Prairie Lakes Municipal Solid Waste	\$ 23,552	Concordance Healthcare Solutions	\$3,106
The Body Works	\$ 15,978	Kris Engineering, Inc.	\$3,063
Wilkin Co Public Health	\$ 15,644	Allied Fire Protection	\$3,000
Network Center, Inc.	\$ 14,000	WEX Bank	\$2,982
RDO Truck Center Co.	\$ 13,218	Rick Electric, Inc.	\$2,904
Code 4 Services, Inc	\$ 10,822	Lloyd's Auto Body, Inc.	\$2,804
Lakes Country Service Co-op Ins.	\$ 7,879	Axon Enterprises, Inc.	\$2,665
Nitzkowski, Inc.	\$ 7,835	Johnson/Jarred	\$2,434
Petro Serve USA	\$ 7,805	R Travelmart	\$2,401
Stantec Consulting Services, Inc.	\$ 7,634	Ace Hardware	\$2,370
Delta Design & Construction, Inc.	\$ 7,500	Bob Barker (Sheriff)	\$2,364
Verizon	\$ 7,244	Express Lane - Hawley	\$2,326
JT Lawn Service	\$ 7,168	Sanford Health	\$2,298
Forum Communications Printing	\$ 6,324	Valley Mortuary Services	\$2,270
Stellar Services, LLC	\$ 6,081	Wegner Psychological & Therapeutic	\$2,250
Streicher's	\$ 5,785	Rob Bentz Lock & Key, LLC	\$2,247
WatchGuard Video	\$ 5,745	Johnson's Auto Repair	\$2,225
Amazon Capital Services	\$ 5,302	Fevig Oil Co.	\$2,038

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 23, 2021

On motion by Commissioner Gross, seconded by Commissioner Ebinger, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the minutes from November 23, 2021.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 30, 2021

On motion by Commissioner Gross, seconded by Commissioner Mongeau, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the minutes from November 30, 2021.

COVID-19 UPDATE

Kathy McKay, Clay County Public Health (CCPH) Director, presented the weekly COVID-19 update. Active cases in Clay County were at 395 last week and 378 today. The active cases locally as well as in ND and MN tend to fluctuate up and down from week to week. The 10-14 and 30-34 age groups currently have the highest number of cases in the County. There were 175 new cases reported in Clay County last week. A graph was shown with a

broad overview of cases since March 2020. New cases last week were at 175, total cases are at 12,606, and total deaths at 111 in Clay County. All Counties in MN are in high transmission rate, with one exception that is listed as substantial. Local hospital admissions and open beds were listed. Breakthrough cases remain very low at 3.51% and the vaccines appear to be helping. Sixty-six percent of Minnesotans who are five and over have completed their vaccinations. CCPH has administered 18,417 vaccine doses to date. There are cases of the new Omicron variant in MN and many other states. The Board will address masking next week.

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO PURCHASE K-9 AND EXPENSES FOR K-9 HANDLER DEPUTY TRAINING

Sheriff Empting stated the Sheriff's Office received \$16,500 in donations along with a \$7,500 grant toward the purchase of a K-9 and deputy training. Their K-9 handler deputy is leaving the department and the K-9 will go with him.

On motion by Commissioner Gross, seconded by Commissioner Ebinger, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the purchase of a K-9 and K-9 handler deputy training.

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO FILL VACANCIES FOR TWO FULL-TIME DEPUTIES

Sheriff Empting notified the Board that one of his sergeants resigned effective January 3rd, 2022. A second sergeant is retiring effective February 18, 2022. There will be some payouts with the two who are leaving. Two new FTE hires will start at lower rates but there will be costs for uniforms, equipment, and training.

On motion by Commissioner Gross, seconded by Commissioner Ebinger, and unanimously carried, the Board approved filling vacancies for two full-time deputies.

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 2021-51 TO SIGN ONTO MINNESOTA SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT, SUBJECT TO THE NATIONAL OPIOID SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

County Administrator Stephen Larson provided background information, statistics on opioid deaths and costs, and the opioid settlements. The topic was well-covered at the annual Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) Conference last week, too. Lawsuits began in 2017 and Minnesota opted to join the settlement. Minnesota Cities and Counties recently received a letter from Attorney General Keith Ellison alerting all that the State of Minnesota is eligible to receive up to \$298 million dollars as part of the National Opioid Settlement. Counties that wish to opt into the settlement are required to provide notifications by January 2nd, 2022. Mr. Larson requested Board approval of Resolution 2021-51 to sign-on to the Minnesota settlement agreement, subject to the National settlement agreement, which includes signing: A) Minnesota Opioids State-Subdivision Memorandum of Agreement; B) The Distributor Subdivision Settlement Form (e-document); and C) The Janssen Subdivision Settlement Participation Form (e-document). All 87 counties and 33 cities with a population of 30,000 or more, including the City of Moorhead, would be eligible for funds. Clay County would be eligible for up to \$2.89 million and would provide our own legal team. Credit was extended to AMC for 75% of the funds going directly to the Counties.

On motion by Commissioner Ebinger, seconded by Commissioner Kahly, and unanimously carried, the Board executed the following resolution to sign onto MN Settlement Agreement subject to the National Opioid Settlement Agreement:

RESOLUTION 2021-51

Authorizing County staff to execute all necessary documents to ensure County participation in the multi-state settlements relating to opioid distributors and manufacturers, and in the Minnesota Opioids State-Subdivision Memorandum of Agreement and declaring support for an amendment to Minn. Stat. § 256.043, subd. 3(d).

WHEREAS, the State of Minnesota and numerous Minnesota cities and counties are engaged in nationwide civil litigation against manufacturers and distributors of prescription opioids related to the opioid crisis; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Attorney General has signed on to multistate settlement agreements with several pharmaceutical distributors, McKesson, Cardinal Health, and AmerisourceBergen, as well as opioid manufacturer Johnson & Johnson, but those settlement agreements are still subject to sign-on by local governments and final agreement by the companies and approval by the courts; and

WHEREAS, there is a deadline of January 2, 2022, for a sufficient threshold of Minnesota cities and counties to sign on to the above-referenced multistate settlement agreements, and failure to timely sign on may diminish the amount of funds received by not only that city or county but by all Minnesota cities and counties from the settlement funds; and

WHEREAS, representatives of Minnesota's local governments, the Office of the Attorney General, and the State of Minnesota have reached agreement on the intrastate allocation of these settlement funds between the State, and the counties and cities, as well as the permissible uses of these funds, which will be memorialized in the Minnesota Opioids State-Subdivision Memorandum of Agreement (the "State-Subdivision Agreement"); and

WHEREAS, during negotiations of the State-Subdivision Agreement, representatives of Minnesota's counties prioritized flexibility in how local governments may use settlement funds for opioids abatement and remediation and advocated for counties to receive settlement allocations directly rather than using the distribution mechanism detailed in Minn. Stat. § 256.043, subd. 3(d); and

WHEREAS, in order to achieve the goals of flexibility and direct allocation, Minn. Stat. § 256.043, subd. 3(d), must be amended to remove a provision which would otherwise appropriate approximately 50 percent of the state's settlement allocation to county social service agencies for statutorily-prescribed use(s); and

WHEREAS, the State-Subdivision Agreement creates an opportunity for local governments and the State to work collaboratively on a unified vision to deliver a robust abatement and remediation plan to address the opioid crisis in Minnesota; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, Clay County supports and agrees to the State-Subdivision Agreement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Clay County supports and opts into the multistate settlements with McKesson, Cardinal Health, and AmerisourceBergen, and with Johnson & Johnson; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Clay County authorizes county staff to execute all necessary documents to ensure County participation in the multistate settlements, including the Participation Agreement and accompanying Release, and in the State-Subdivision Agreement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Clay County, supports the amending of Minn. Stat. § 256.043, subd. 3(d), to remove a provision which would appropriate approximately 50 percent of the state's settlement allocation to county social service agencies via the existing Opiate Epidemic Response Fund distribution mechanism for statutorily-prescribed use(s).

REQUEST ADVERTISING FOR BIDS FOR POWER PLANT GENERATOR PROJECT

Facilities Director Joe Olson requested Board approval to advertise for bids for a back-up generator for the Power Plant Generator Project. The project includes replacing the generator at the power plant along with demo of the old generator. Following three weeks of advertising, the bids would be opened on January 11 and the project would be awarded on January 18, 2022. The engineers' estimated cost for the project is \$275,000. The ARPA Committee approved utilizing ARPA funds for the project. The Building Committee was also in agreement with the project.

On motion by Commissioner Gross, seconded by Commissioner Mongeau, and unanimously carried, the Board approved advertising for bids for the Power Plant Generator Project.

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTIONS 2021-52 AND 2021-53 FOR COUNTY AND TOWNSHIP DEFICIENT BRIDGE PRIORITIZATIONS

County Engineer David Overbo stated the County Board is required to approve resolutions prioritizing the removal, replacement, or rehabilitation of County bridge structures and township bridges. The County bridge list was updated, and removal of the North Broadway Bridge was added for 2022. To utilize bond funds this project must be listed on a Board-approved resolution. The updates were budget-neutral at this time with construction being funded using bridge bond funds, township funds, state aid, and local dollars.

On motion by Commissioner Mongeau, seconded by Commissioner Gross, and unanimously carried, the Board executed the following resolution for township bridges:

RESOLUTION 2021-52

TOWNSHIP BRIDGE PRIORITIZATION REPLACEMENT LIST

WHEREAS, Clay County has reviewed the pertinent data on bridges requiring replacement, rehabilitation, or removal supplied by local citizenry and local units of government; and

WHEREAS, Clay County has identified those bridges that are high priority and has previously established a list of those that require replacement, rehabilitation, or removal; and

WHEREAS, the following additional bridges have since been identified as also requiring replacement, rehabilitation, or removal;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the following deficient bridges are added to the list of high priority bridges and Clay County intends to replace, rehabilitate, or remove these bridges as soon as possible when funds are available,

<u>Bridge No.</u>	<u>Road</u>	<u>County Br. No.</u>	<u>Estimated Project Cost</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Local Funds</u>	<u>Town Bridge Funds</u>	<u>Const. Year</u>
L-8348	T-240	EL-35N	90,000			90,000	2022-Eliminate
----	T-117	CR-30N	120,000		10,000	110,000	2022
L-8334	T-310	EK-33W	150,000		10,000	140,000	2022
96964	T-73	GP-12NB	150,000		10,000	140,000	2023
L-8228	T-131	GL-16N	750,000		20,000	730,000	2023
L-8358	T-243	EK-32S	150,000		10,000	140,000	2024
L-8247	T-131	OP-5W	120,000		10,000	110,000	2023
L-8988	T-262	AL-22N	650,000		20,000	630,000	2024
4644	T-25	BA-25W	100,000		10,000	90,000	2024
3863	T-29	BA-12S	140,000		10,000	130,000	2024
L-8359	T-243	BA-4N	100,000		10,000	90,000	2025

L-8275	T-76	KN-15N	50,000		50,000	2025-Eliminate
L-8296	T-215	EL-16W	50,000		50,000	2025-Eliminate
1850	T-183	UL-20W	50,000		50,000	2025-Eliminate
L-8294	T-155	FE-28WC	100,000	10,000	90,000	2025

FURTHERMORE, Clay County does hereby request authorization to replace, rehabilitate, or remove such bridges; and

FURTHERMORE, Clay County does hereby request financial assistance with eligible approach grading and engineering costs on township bridges, as provided by law.

On motion by Commissioner Mongeau, seconded by Commissioner Ebinger, and unanimously carried, the Board executed the following County bridge resolution:

RESOLUTION 2021-53

COUNTY BRIDGE PRIORITIZATION REPLACEMENT LIST

WHEREAS, Clay County has reviewed the pertinent data on bridges requiring replacement, rehabilitation, or removal supplied by local citizenry and local units of government; and

WHEREAS, Clay County has identified those bridges that are high priority and has previously established a list of those that require replacement, rehabilitation, or removal; and

WHEREAS, the following additional bridges have since been identified as also requiring replacement, rehabilitation, or removal;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the following deficient bridges are added to the list of high priority bridges and Clay County intends to replace, rehabilitate, or remove these bridges as soon as possible when funds are available,

<u>Bridge No.</u>	<u>Road No.</u>	<u>Estimated Project Cost</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Local Funds</u>	<u>Bond Funds Needed</u>	<u>Proposed Const. Year</u>
1078	CSAH 1	230,000		10,000	220,000	2022
14524	CSAH 1	300,000			150,000	2022 Eliminate
----	Co.Rd.115	120,000		10,000	110,000	2022
90836	Co.Rd. 68	120,000		10,000	110,000	2022
90887	Co.Rd. 69	120,000		10,000	110,000	2022
90865	CSAH 10	200,000		10,000	190,000	2022
92612	CSAH 51	200,000		10,000	190,000	2022
92440	CSAH 14	1,000,000	736,000	120,000	184,000	2024
94237	CSAH 36	120,000		10,000	110,000	2024
94238	CSAH 36	120,000		10,000	110,000	2024
1897	CSAH 19	120,000		10,000	110,000	2025

90882	Co.Rd. 69	110,000	10,000	100,000	2025
90901	Co.Rd. 51	110,000	10,000	100,000	2025
90913	CSAH 27	110,000	10,000	100,000	2025
90914	CSAH 27	110,000	10,000	100,000	2025
90916	CSAH 37	120,000	10,000	110,000	2026
90869	CSAH 17	150,000	10,000	140,000	2026
90888	Co.Rd. 69	150,000	10,000	140,000	2026
92453	CSAH 15	150,000	10,000	140,000	2026

FURTHERMORE, Clay County does hereby request authorization to replace, rehabilitate, or remove such bridges.

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF FINAL CONTRACT VOUCHER FOR SAP 014-608-013

Mr. Overbo stated the full-depth reclamation project on CSAH 8 cost more than planned but turned out well in the end. The final amount to be approved is \$3,160,847.34 for RJ Zavoral and Sons Inc.

On motion by Commissioner Gross, seconded by Commissioner Ebinger, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the final contract voucher for \$3,160,847.34 for the full-depth CSAH 8 Reclamation Project.

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO ADVERTISE CSAH 1 GRADING & BRIDGE REPLACEMENT SAP 014-601-007

Mr. Sorum, Assistant County Engineer, requesting approval to advertise for the CSAH 1 Grading and Bridge Replacement Project from CSAH 20 to CSAH 26. The bid letting date will be January 11, 2022. The projected will be funded with bridge bond funds and wheelage taxes.

On motion by Commissioner Gross, seconded by Commissioner Kahly, and unanimously carried, the Board approved advertising for CSAH 1 Grading and Bridge Replacement (SAP 014-601-007).

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 2021-54 FOR SUBMITTAL OF 2021 VOTING EQUIPMENT GRANT APPLICATION

County Auditor Lori J. Johnson requested approval of a resolution to submit a Voting Equipment Grant Application (VEGA-3). Twelve more Assistive Voting Devices need to be purchased before the 2022 elections with a total cost is \$49,500. The VEGA-3 grant, if received, would cover 50% of the cost and the remaining 50% would either be covered by a Help America Vote Act (HAVA) grant.

On motion by Commissioner Kahly, seconded by Commissioner Ebinger, and unanimously carried, the Board approved Resolution 2021-54 for submittal of a voting equipment grant application:

RESOLUTION 2021-54

Application for Funding from 2021 Voting Equipment Grant Application (VEGA-3)

WHEREAS, Minnesota counties are responsible for administering elections, which includes the purchase and maintenance of supplies and election equipment, including accessible voting equipment; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota last updated much of its voting equipment between 2002 and 2006 meaning that the equipment is at the end of its 10 to 15-year lifespan; and

WHEREAS, it's essential for precincts to have functioning voting equipment so that voters are able to cast their ballot on equipment that is secure, accessible, accurate, and reliable; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota's Legislature authorized approximately \$2 million for the Voting Equipment Grant Account to assist counties, cities, towns, and school districts with the purchase of voting equipment; and

WHEREAS, to receive funding from the Voting Equipment Grant Account, counties must submit an application to the Minnesota Secretary of State before December 17, 2021; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, Clay County approves its application for funding from the 2021 Voting Equipment Grant; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the County certifies that any funds awarded from the Voting Equipment Grant will be used only to purchase assistive voting technology, an electronic roster system, an electronic voting system, any individual component of an electronic voting system, or any other equipment or technology approved by the Secretary of State.

REVIEW STS PROGRAM VIABILITY WITH UPCOMING RETIREMENT OF CREW LEADER

District Supervisor Janelle Cheney, County Probation, noted that Mark Dibble will be retiring effective 1/6/22. He has been the Sentence to Serve (STS) Crew Leader for a number of years. The request at this time is to review the viability of the STS Program. The program needs referrals and participants from the community as well as those in custody at the Correctional Center. The program has been voluntary, most often in lieu of paying a fine. Since the onset of COVID-19 the program has been very limited. The County portion of the STS Contract is \$37,537.47, due on 1/1/22 if the program continues. No funds would be assessed while the crew leader position is open. The STS work service summary reports were provided. Ms. Cheney suggested perhaps suspending the program and revisiting it again in the spring. The Commissioners commended Mark Dibble for the excellent work he did and congratulated him on his retirement. They may have the Personnel Issues Committee address this further. The contract amount is still in the 2022 budget.

On motion by Ebinger, seconded by Commissioner Mongeau, and unanimously carried, the Board approved suspending the STS program for now with the retirement of the STS Crew Leader.

COMMITTEE REPORTS/COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE/DISCUSSIONS

- Commissioner Kahly reported on meetings for Moorhead Planning Commission and AMC Annual Conference.
- Commissioner Gross reported on meetings for Detox; Building Committee; Partnership for Health; Mn Rural Caucus; Beyond the Yellow Ribbon; Personnel Issues Committee; Highway Tracking; and attended the Governor's visit to Dilworth.
- Commissioner Mongeau reported on meetings for Mn Rural Counties Caucus; Extension/AMC; MetroCOG Executive Committee; Detox Planning; Resource Recovery Facility Construction update; AMC Annual Conference; and Red River Basin.
- Commissioner Ebinger reported on Criminal Justice Advisory Board; Greater Fargo Moorhead Economic Development Council (GFMEDC); FM Diversion Authority Finance luncheon; EDC Executive Committee; Public Safety Policy Committee; strategic planning for Detox; and attended the AMC Annual Conference.
- Commissioner Campbell reported on meetings for Building Committee; GFMEDC; AMC Annual Conference; Joint Powers Board; FM Diversion Authority Finance luncheon; Transportation and

Structure Policy Committee; MCIT Committee; Lakes Country Services Co-op; Resource Recovery Facility Construction update; Personnel Issues Committee; and Highway Tracking.

- County Administrator Larson reported on meetings for Personnel Issues Committee; Highway Tracking; Resource Recovery Facility Construction Update; AMC Annual Conference; Detox Planning; County Management; Budget; Building Committee; Joint Powers Board; Economic Development Issues in Clay County; Dilworth Community Center Bonding Conference; Mn Association of County Administrators; Fargo-Moorhead Administrators; Truth in Taxation Preparations; and Opioid Settlement Preparations.

TRUTH IN TAXATION

Clay County Budget and Tax Levy Highlights for 2022 Operating Budget Public Comment and Questions

County Administrator Mr. Larson stated that the budget process started back in June with the department heads presenting their proposed budgets to the Administrator and Auditor and then to the County Board. Following directives and adjustments, the Board signed Resolution 2021-43 on September 21, 2021, setting the preliminary levy. Truth in Taxation documents were available as handouts for citizens.

Mr. Larson covered the contents of the public information document with Clay County revenues, expenditures, budget, and market values. The proposed 2022 spread levy is \$38,713,927. The General Revenue fund consists of 62.39% of the budget; Social Services 27.37%; Road and Bridge 9.33%; Debt Retirement .80%; and Building Improvements 0.11%. The projected expenditures for 2022 are split into seven categories and total \$101,995,826. The majority of the costs are fixed costs with a large portion of them for employees. A 10-year levy history was provided with a low of 3.53% in 2014 and a high of 7.09% in 2020. New construction at 1.23% lowers the 5.53% spread levy to 4.3%. Increases or decreases for 2022. Commissioner Campbell provided further explanation on the Clay County budget history, noting that the County is not deficit spending.

The examples for real estate tax projections are based on Moorhead homes assuming there was no change in market value. For a taxpayer in Moorhead with a \$150,000 home, the County tax increase would be \$16.49 for 2022; \$23.61 for a \$200,000 home; \$30.73 for a \$250,000 home; and \$54.20 for a \$415,000 home. The other taxes are for Schools (decrease of 8.61%), City/Township (%), Economic Development Authority (18.56%, and Watershed (3.4%). Overall, there is a decrease of 16.26% for residents of Moorhead in a \$150,000 home, with no change in market value. Commissioner Mongeau noted that the City of Moorhead is always used for these projections, but that is not necessarily the norm for the rest of the County.

A Summary of Estimated Market Values and Tax Capacity was provided for 2021 and 17 previous years. The estimated market value of Clay County for 2021 is just over \$7.2 billion. Tillable land and residential land remain fairly steady. Commissioner Mongeau noted it is important to see where the growth and added value comes in. She added that the levy has gone up higher than the growth or new construction.

Mr. Larson commented that the number one goal of this Board has been responsible spending and making sure the County is establishing a fair and equitable levy. The State Auditor's office has Clay County ranked as

71 of 86 Counties for their net tax levy; 86 of 86 (lowest) for charges for service; and 84 of 86 for total expenditures. Clay County ranks 3 of 81 in public safety due to the cost of the new Correctional Facility.

At this time, Mr. Larson provided another handout with a few adjustments since setting the preliminary levy. The increases are for a position in the Assessor's office and an increase in the Correctional Officers' pay grid. The decreases include \$44,300 in payroll costs; \$56,050 for retirements in Sheriff's Office; \$25,000 for IGNITE funding (moved to ARPA funding); \$8,880 in insurance for the Veteran's office; and the County received additional 911 fees in the amount of \$74,362. Overall, the decrease would be \$123,599 and the net levy increase would be lowered from 4.30% to 3.82%. Further discussion will take place at the next Board meeting.

There were no citizens present to address the Board.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Kevin Campbell, Chair
County Board of Commissioners

Stephen Larson, County Administrator