

SEPTEMBER 24, 2013
BOARD MINUTES

Pursuant to motion of adjournment the Polk County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 8:00 o'clock a.m., September 24, 2013 in the Commissioners Room, Government Center, Crookston, MN. Members present: Commissioner Craig Bunes, Commissioner Warren Strandell, Commissioner Nick Nicholas, Commissioner Warren Affeldt, Commissioner Don Diedrich. Others present: Linsey Rood, Deputy Clerk of the Board.

AGENDA

A motion was made by Commissioner Strandell seconded by Commissioner Affeldt and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the September 24, 2013 Agenda.

COUNTY BOARD MEMBERS ISSUE FORUM

1. Commissioner Affeldt-Inter-County Meeting, Oklee, MN on September 23, 2013, 19.5% health insurance increase concern; federal shutdown concerns that will have a large effect on heating assistance, and other related assistance such as weatherization within the County; increase in food assistance is expected however with the cut with SNAPS Program; DAC-Fosston dropping out of the Coop and going with MNSure due to costs; Environmental Services meeting yesterday with a number of counties.
2. Commissioner Strandell-reviewed numerous committee meetings that were attended over the week; Marshall County will not issue overweight permits next year; Polk County does issue permits on our roads which started this past summer. Pennington County farmer has been plowing up the Pembina Trail-it is a cart way. MNDOT will concentrate its resources on Hwy 2 and Hwy 59-maintenance of these two roads will have priority. Newsletter will go to the printer on Monday.
3. Commissioner Diedrich- reported nothing at this time.
4. Commissioner Nicholas-attended RSVP meeting in Thief River Falls last Thursday, September 19, 2013; This committee will be in need of board members in 2014; concentrated on performance measurements; 644 volunteers and need to add 20 volunteers every year however the median age is 82 years of age; competitive grant in more recent years and they are hoping to get commitments form counties in December budget meeting.
5. Commissioner Bunes-Local Executive Finance Committee 19% increase in healthcare; \$20,000 healthcare increase-deficit spending. They do have a plan; funding is based on population and we are losing money; January 1, 2014 will be out of work. PNM Public Health meeting last Friday, September 20, 2013 not much information to share. Arc Trail meeting was scheduled to be yesterday in Twin Valley, MN-received agenda on Saturday location says Fertile, MN; no business was conducted due to the mix up on location; meeting rescheduled for next Monday or a month from yesterday-to be determined.

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Barb Erdman, Polk County Sheriff came before the Board with matters pertaining to her department:

1. Sheriff Reports

The August Sheriff Reports were presented to the Board at this time. Serve the Tax Redemption Certificates that are not funded by any other account.

2. Emergency Manager Update

Discussion was held regarding the Emergency Manager Position. Hazard Mitigation has started, the County Board Chair has to sign off explaining that the Board will be participating in this project. First meeting starting the 14th or 15th of October-to be later determined. The committee is reviewing the plan that is produced by a consultant. Language in a MN Statute that the County Board appoints the Emergency Manager; the Emergency Manager Statute 12.25 was distributed; two people are certified within the County as of today-Nancy Shafer-Dispatch Supervisor and Josh Holte-Planning and Zoning Administrator. Training requirements to be certified as an Emergency Manager is lengthy and will be brought to the Board in October. Nancy Shafer is maintaining what is absolutely necessary for this position until a long term person/solution can be appointed.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Richard Sanders, Polk County Highway Engineer came before the Board with matters pertaining to his department:

1. Certificate of Performance

A motion was made by Commissioner Nicholas seconded by Commissioner Strandell and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board that the Certificate of Performance on CP 113-00-00 in the name of Thygeson Construction, Inc., in the amount of \$267,875.00 be and therefore is approved for payment and signature.

2. Purchase AVL

A motion was made by Commissioner Strandell seconded by Commissioner Diedrich and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the purchase of an AVL from Precise in the amount of \$31,565.00 plus \$12,000.00 per year.

Jody Beauchane, Ditch Ag Inspector came before the Board with matters pertaining to various ditches in Polk County:

1. County Ditch Report

Discussion was held regarding the various ditches in Polk County. Handouts were given on the project activity for this past summer. Our county ditches are in excellent shape according to Mr. Beauchane.

Jerry Kovar, Public Works Superintendent came before the Board with matters pertaining to county roads:

1. County Roads Report

Discussion was held regarding the various county roads in Polk County. An update on summer road projects was discussed. A demonstration of the Precise Software that is used for tracking road maintenance workers was shown to the Polk County Board.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Linsey Rood, Human Resources Coordinator came before the Board with matters pertaining to Human Resources:

1. Approval for Appraiser Tax Officer Position

A motion was made by Commissioner Affeldt seconded by Commissioner Diedrich and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve advertising and filling the Appraiser Tax Officer position in the Assessor’s Office.

FINANCE

Ron Denison, Finance Officer came before the Board with matters pertaining to Finance:

1. August Cash Report

Information was presented to the Board regarding the August Cash Report.

BOARD WORK SESSION

A general discussion was held regarding various matters within Polk County.

SHERIFF

Barb Erdman, Polk County Sheriff came before the Board to discuss matters pertaining to her department:

1. Departmental Operations Presentation and related offices pertaining to the Sheriff’s Department (Location – Justice Center)

With no further business the Board adjourned to reconvene at 8:00 o’clock a.m., October 1, 2013.

Craig Bunes, Chairman

ATTEST:

Charles S. Whiting, County Administrator
Clerk of the Board