

The meeting was called order by Administrator Oldre with Commissioners Williamson, Boyenga, Hoime, Thompson and Reisch present.

The Administrator requested nominations for the County Board Chair; Commissioner Hoime nominated Commissioner Boyenga. The Administrator called three times for nomination for County Board Chair; motion by Williamson, seconded by Reisch to have nominations cease and cast a unanimous ballot for Commissioner Boyenga, declared carried on a voice vote.

The meeting was turned over to Chair Boyenga.

The Chair requested nominations for Vice Chair of the County Board; Commissioner Williamson nominated Commissioner Reisch. The Chair called three times for nominations for Vice Chair; motion by Williamson, seconded by Hoime to have nominations cease and cast a unanimous ballot for Commissioner Reisch, declared carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Reisch, seconded by Boyenga, to approve the January 06, 2015 County Board agenda, declared carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Hoime, seconded by Thompson, to approve the December 16, 2015 County Board minutes, declared carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Reisch, seconded by Hoime, to approve the consent agenda, declared carried on a voice vote.

1. Resolution No. 01-15, Housekeeping
2. Resolution No. 02-15, Prioritized Bridge Replacement List
3. Luverne Area Chamber & CVB membership dues - \$736.00

Chris Engebretsen, Blue Mound State Park Manager, discussed the repair status of dam structure, damaged by the June 2014 flood; specific damage is to the one hundred foot spillway on the south side of the dam structure. Initial reports indicate FEMA will deny the repair claim; DNR/State Park will appeal; if there is no FEMA funding for the repair, the DNR/State Park will have to go to the legislature. Mark Sehr, Highway Engineer has indicated that if no repair is made, this will impact the status of a bridge east of the dam as the current bridge is not big enough to handle any rain event that normally would have been held back by the dam structure. Engebretsen also stated that the State Park also had water quality issues which currently have been resolved. With those (2) incidents, the State Park had a 50% decrease on occupancy resulting in a decrease in revenue of \$94,000. After discussion, motion by Williamson, seconded by Hoime, to send a letter to state and federal officials supporting the DNR/State Park's request to make the necessary repairs the dam structure, declared carried on a voice vote.

Commissioner Boyenga welcomed new Commissioner Sherri Thompson.

The County Board discussed scheduling a County Board Retreat; by order of the Chair that date was set for February 3rd following the regular County Board meeting.

The County Board was informed of (3) employee resignations: Richard DeGroot, Equipment Operator @ Highway, Joyce DeGroot, Assistant County Recorder @ Land Records, and Betty Sherwood, PT Staff Assistant II @ Highway. Motion by Thompson, seconded by Boyenga, to authorize filling the Equipment Operator and PT Staff Assistant II positions at the Highway Department, declared carried on a voice vote. The Assistant County Recorder position at Land Records has been filled by a department re-structure.

The County Board was in receipt of a letter from MnDOT District 7 Transportation Engineer Greg Ous following up on the status of pedestrian crossings on US Highway 75; the letter reiterates MnDOT's decision to place only (1) HAWK Pedestrian light. It was determined to schedule a County/Luverne School Liaison meeting to discuss the status of the pedestrian light.

The Administrator presented a follow up of the 9-county legislative meeting stating that it was well attended; topics discussed were transportation, broadband, trails and assessing credentials.

Motion by Reisch, seconded by Hoime, to pay the AMC membership dues for 2015 of \$6,831.00, declared carried on a voice vote.

Brent and Cathy Pollenchek, Minnesota Southern Railway operators, presented a status of the BRRRA rail line; ninety-percent of the repairs are complete and the line is open and operational. Additional tamping, ditch grading and railroad tie cleanup will be conducted in the spring/summer. The Administrator also informed the County Board that the recent bridge repair needs additional drainage and that he is working with FEMA and DNR representative for a solution.

Ashley Kurtz, Auditor/Treasurer, presented the claims and \$750.00 in per diems; motion by Reisch, seconded by Thompson, to pay the claims and per diems, declared carried on a unanimous voice vote.

December 31, 2014 Claims

General	\$53,844.89
General Reserves	\$3,298.36
Library	\$3,214.03
Road & Bridge	\$25,929.04
Transfer Station	\$10,146.14
Land Management	\$7,539.52
TOTAL	\$103,971.98

January 6, 2015

General	\$30,393.62
General Reserves	\$1,107.80
Library	\$28.50
Road & Bridge	\$3,352.04
TOTAL	\$34,881.96

Claims over \$2,000

American Communications Inc	\$3,030.55
Assn of MN Counties	2,250.00
Cabinets & More Inc	3,476.56
Centerpoint Energy	2,195.06
Fleet Services Division – Adm	5,690.14
Henry Carlson Co.	3,575.00
Regents of the U of MN	16,632.51
City of Beaver Creek	8,437.73
Commissioner of Transportation	4,122.59
City of Hills	2,595.50
Ketterling Services	7,927.51
Lyon County HHW	2,483.20

Nobles Co. Environmental Services	2,161.00
HEAT Tactical Team	2,195.00
Nobles County Aud/Treas	4,980.00
Tollefson Publishing	4,416.00

Motion by Hoime, seconded by Boyenga, to approve the Fund Balance report, declared carried on a voice vote.

The Auditor/Treasurer introduced newest employee Norma Van Wyhe, Staff Assistant II in the Auditor/Treasurer's office, the County Board wished her well.

The Administrator informed the County Board that he continues to work with FEMA for reimbursement of claims and that the railroad bridge needs additional drainage.

The County Board was in receipt of a letter from the City of Luverne to negotiate the contract for law enforcement services; it was the consensus of the County Board to designate the Budget Committee and the Sheriff to negotiate all law enforcement contracts that are due to expire December 31,2015.

The County Board was in receipt of the publishing rates from Tollefson Publishing and that they remained the same as the rates on 2014; motion by Thompson, seconded by Hoime, to accept the 2015 legal rates, declared carried on a voice vote.

The County Board reviewed and developed a new listing of Boards and Committee appointments for 2015; a new draft identifying the corrections will be presented at the next meeting.

Commissioner Thompson thanked everyone for their support in the 2014 election and looks forward in serving her first term as County Commissioner.

Commissioner Boyenga stated that the Southwest Mental Health Center is in the process of receiving bids for the Luverne building remodel.

With no further business to come before the County Board, the meeting was declared adjourned.