

The meeting was called to order by Chair Reisch with all Commissioners present.

A Joint Rock County/Martin Township Public Hearing was called order by the respective chairs at 9:00AM. Purpose of the hearing was to allow public comment on proposed tax abatement for New Vision Cooperative. The amount requested is \$5,222 per year for ten years for a new grain storage and agronomy facility located in Martin Township; the abatement would be on the grain storage bin only. Gloria Rolfs, Rock County Citizen, opposed the abatement request due to an abatement already granted on the feed mill project in Magnolia Township, which will expire for the 2016 taxes, payable in 2017.

Frank McDowell, New Vision Coop Director, presented an update of the feed mill project in Magnolia stating that the total project cost \$20 million, current employment is at 23 employees (60% more than anticipated) and that overall the project has exceeded their expectations. Construction estimates for the new facility in Martin Township is \$9.2 million and will employ the current employees in Hills with an additional 6-8 employees over the next three years.

Hearing no other public comments, the Public Hearing was closed at 9:50AM.

Motion by Thompson, seconded by Williamson, to approve Resolution No. 11-16, a tax abatement for New Vision Coop on parcel # 08-0092-100 located in Martin Township; a roll call vote was taken and the motion was declared carried on a 3-2 vote with Commissioners Boyenga and Hoime voting nay.

Motion by Thompson, seconded by Hoime, to approve the April 05, 2016 County Board agenda, declared carried on a voice.

Motion by Boyenga, seconded by Williamson, to approve the March 22, 2016 County Board minutes, declared carried on a voice vote.

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

1. Resolution No. 10-16, Joint Rock County/City of Luverne Regional Park or Trail Designation Application in Greater Minnesota

Evan Verbrugge, Sheriff, introduced new employee Aaron Blank, Rock County Dispatcher; Mr. Blank was welcomed by the County Board.

Eric Hartman, Land Management Office Director, requested approval of (6) conditional use permits (CUP); action was taken on the following:

1. Motion by Williamson, seconded by Hoime, to approve a CUP for Central Specialties for the placement and operation of a temporary hot mix asphalt plant located in the W ½ of the SE ¼ of 35-103-45 of Mound Township, declared carried on a voice vote.
2. Motion by Hoime, seconded by Boyenga, to approve a CUP for Central Specialties for the placement and operation of a temporary hot mix asphalt plant located in the E ½ of the NW ¼ of 23-104-45 in Denver Township, declared carried on a voice vote.
3. Motion by Williamson, seconded by Reisch, to approve a CUP for Duininck, Inc. for the placement and operation of a temporary hot mix asphalt plant located in the NW ¼ of Section 04 and part of NE ¼ of the SW ¼ of Section 14-104-45 of Denver Township, declared carried on a voice vote.
4. Motion by Hoime, seconded by Thompson, to approve a CUP for Duininck, Inc. for the placement and operation of a temporary hot mix asphalt plant located in the SW ¼ of 21-104-44 of Battle Plain Township, declared carried on a voice vote.

5. Motion by Boyenga, seconded by Williamson, to approve a CUP for Jansma Farms, Inc. for an expansion of an existing feedlot with ¼ mile of a nearby residence by more than 250 animal units, located in the SE ¼ of 14-101-44 of Kanaranzi Township, declared carried on a voice vote.
6. Motion by Williamson, seconded by Boyenga, to approve a CUP for Brad Van De Berg for an expansion of an existing feedlot within ¼ mile of a nearby residence by more than 250 animal units, located in the NW ¼ of 22-101-45 of Martin Township, declared carried on a voice vote.

Motion by Williamson, seconded by Hoime, authorizing the Land Management Office to purchase the R10 Trembler GPS from the Rock County Highway Department for \$32,255.75, declared carried on a voice vote. The original purchase was paid from the General Fund.

Hartman informed the County Board of a press release from the Southwest Marketing Advisory Center informing residents the 12-County area of the Southwest Regional Solid Waste Commission of a random survey regarding recycling. Hartman estimates 200 households in Rock County will receive the survey.

Hartman stated that Mark Jensen, LMO Engineering Technician has submitted his resignation effective April 15, 2016 and that the hiring process for the vacant position has begun.

Ashley Kurtz, Auditor/Treasurer, presented the claims and per diems of \$900.00; motion by Reisch, seconded by Thompson, to approve the claims and per diems, declared carried on a voice vote. A complete listing of the claims is available upon request at the Auditor/Treasurer's Office.

Claims Listing – April 05, 2016:

City of Luverne	3,459.57
Lyle Signs, Inc.	5,030.29
MN Counties Computer Coop	2,661.00
Morris Electronics	3,940.49
Regents of the U of M	16,673.43
Ziegler Inc	3,159.85
79 payments under \$2,000	29,274.10
	\$64,198.73

Motion by Boyenga, seconded by Hoime, to approve the Fund Balance report as presented by the Auditor/Treasurer, declared carried on a voice vote.

The Administrator informed the County Board that Rock County will proceed with a loan closing with USDA on July 1, 2016 for the rural water improvement and expansion project.

The County Board was in receipt of an invitation to the Southwest Mental Health Annual meeting on April 13 at 6:00PM at their new building facility.

The Administrator presented an update regarding a meeting with representatives from NRCS and FSA agencies regarding a new office location and allowing the Rock County Land Management Office to be part of the new location. One of many options discussed was having Rock County being the building owner and lease space to NRCS and FSA. After a considerable discussion, it was the consensus of the County Board to bid for the upcoming NRCS/FSA building project; the Administrator stated he would discuss land acquisitions with the City of Luverne.

Motion by Williamson, seconded by Thompson, authorizing the signature of an MOU with Alliance Communications and the payment of \$1 million dollars to Alliance Communications for the fiber connect project in Rock County, declared carried on a voice vote.

Commissioner Hoime stated that they had attended a Solid Waste Commission and Rural Energy meetings.

Commissioner Boyenga reported that the cell phone coverage in the southeast part of the county remains substandard.

Commissioner Thompson thanked all organizations that supported the volunteer recognition declaration and acknowledgement; also stated that the pedestrian crossing lights on US Highway 75 are currently being installed.

Commissioner Reisch stated that he will be attending the Alliance pre-construction meeting and a transit meeting in Marshall scheduled for April 7th.

With no further business to come before the County Board, motion by Boyenga, seconded by Thompson, to adjourn the meeting, declared carried on a voice vote.