

CLAY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Tuesday, May 3, 2016

8:30 a.m.

County Board Room – 3rd Floor – Courthouse

M I N U T E S

The Clay County Board of Commissioners met in regular session with all Commissioners present: Campbell, Gross, Ingersoll, Mongeau, and Weyland. County Administrator Brian C. Berg, Chief Assistant County Attorney Jenny Samarzja, and Senior Administrative Assistant Vicki Reek were also present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion by Mongeau, seconded by Weyland, and unanimously carried, the agenda was approved as presented.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

There were no citizens present who wished to address the Board.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

The following employees were recognized for their years of service to the County: Annette Montplaisir, Office & Administrative Specialist, Probation, 15 years; David Overbo, County Highway Engineer, 15 years; Timothy Griffin, Sheriff's Deputy, 20 years.

APPROVE MINUTES OF APRIL 19 & 26, 2016

On motion by Campbell, seconded by Weyland, and unanimously carried, the minutes of the April 19 & 26, 2016 County Board meeting were approved as presented.

APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS AND VOUCHERS

On motion by Ingersoll, seconded by Campbell, and unanimously carried, the bills and vouchers were approved for payment.

HAWLEY SCHOOL NURSING CONTRACT FOR 2016-17

By consent agenda, the Board approved renewal of an agreement to provide school nursing services to the Hawley School District for the 2016-17 school year.

AGREEMENT WITH CONCORDIA COLLEGE FOR SUPERVISED CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

By consent agenda, the Board approved an affiliation agreement with Concordia College to provide supervised clinical experience for dietetic interns in the Clay County WIC program.

APPROVAL OF STATE OF MN AMENDMENT OF LEASE FOR BUREAU OF CRIMINAL APPREHENSION AGENTS IN LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER

By consent agenda, the Board approved an amendment to the State of Minnesota lease for the housing of two Bureau of Criminal Apprehension agents in the Law

Enforcement Center, for a term of two years. As in previous lease agreements, no rent will be charged.

APPROVAL OF LAKES & PRAIRIES COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY, INC., LEASE
IN FAMILY SERVICE CENTER

By consent agenda, the Board approved a lease in the Family Service Center for Lakes & Prairies Community Action Agency for 224 sq.ft., \$13.25 sq.ft., for the period 5/1/16 - 12/31/16.

APPROVAL OF LIQUOR LICENSE FOR BUSINESS BUILDERS, INC., DBA DROCK @ BRRP

By consent agenda, the Board approved a liquor license for Business Builders, Inc., d/b/a DRock @ Buffalo River Race Park.

CONCERNS RE: FLOODPLAIN ISSUES: MR. JERRY TRIEPKE

Planning Director Tim Magnusson informed the Board that the Triepke's purchased property in Spring Prairie Township several years ago. They paid cash for the property and it was not disclosed to them that the property was in the 100 year floodplain. When they tried to sell the property they were informed it was in the floodplain and that flood insurance could be as high as \$7500/year. There are also issues with a permit that the County issued for placement of a modular home (the County did not catch the fact that the property was in the floodplain), as well as an unpermitted room addition that connects the house and the garage built by the previous owner. FEMA has indicated that the County should acquire the property or raise the structure to bring it into compliance with floodplain standards (a letter to this effect is forthcoming). MN DNR and the Buffalo Red River Watershed have been contacted with respect to flood mitigation funds that may be available to help remedy the situation. An appraisal of the property is \$139,000. Removing the addition will cost \$8100. No estimates have been received for raising the house.

Commissioner Ingersoll inquired as to whose responsibility it was to inform the Triepke's of the floodplain status when they purchased the property. Mr. Magnusson indicated that it would have been the seller's or realtor's responsibility.

The Triepke's expressed their frustration that it has been two years since they learned of the floodplain issue, no one is living in the property, and they do not want to move back. They felt the property should never have been available for them to buy.

Commissioner Weyland felt the County must correct the mistake the County made in the most cost effective way. This will require obtaining an estimate for raising the residence to compare to a buyout.

It was mentioned that there are four residences in close proximity, all being in the floodplain. Commissioner Campbell noted that in the Oakport area, a map revision was conducted and a ring dike installed to take properties out of the floodplain.

Commissioner Ingersoll suggested that Mr. Magnusson develop a recommendation before the end of May for the Board's consideration.

CORRECTIONAL FACILITY/LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER DISCUSSION

Commissioner Weyland requested Board discussion regarding the construction of the Correctional Facility (Jail) and Law Enforcement Center (LEC). He stated that the County has no choice but to build a new Jail, as it is the oldest in the state, is deteriorating,

and is not in compliance with Department of Corrections rules. The condition of the LEC has been reviewed also. Sheriff Bill Bergquist and Moorhead Chief of Police Dave Ebinger spoke to the problems with the current LEC in terms of roof leaks, lack of office space, lack of file storage space, deteriorating building, etc. Ebinger felt it is not a prudent use of taxpayer's dollars to continue to repair the LEC. Bergquist and Ebinger were appreciative of the long term partnership which has existed between the Sheriff's Department and Police Department. In the new LEC, the City will lease from the County the space they occupy, as well as continue to pay operations/maintenance costs. The City will also be credited for funds they invested in the original LEC.

Commissioner Weyland indicated that the Corrections Facility Committee had looked at the options of moving the Correctional Facility and LEC to another location, but consensus was that these facilities should remain in close proximity to the Courthouse. Neighboring properties have been acquired for parking and space for a new LEC. The construction managers and architects have advised that it would be most cost effective for the projects to be jointly built. The Correctional Facility Finance Committee has recommended proceeding as one joint project.

Commissioner Campbell felt the cost to remodel the existing LEC would be 3/4 of what constructing a new LEC will cost. The Correctional Facility Finance Committee has met to review the methods planned to pay for the new facilities: 1/2 cent Sales Tax, wind energy tax revenue, retired bond funds, levy dollars, etc.

Commissioner Mongeau relayed her concerns with the staging of two projects, separating wants from needs, and having appropriate funds to do both if sales tax revenue does not materialize as planned. She felt the Corrections Facility should be built with Sales Tax revenue, and the LEC built at some point in the near future.

Commissioner Weyland stated that the Finance Committee felt completing the projects simultaneously will be cost effective and will benefit the taxpayers.

County Auditor-Treasurer Lori Johnson confirmed that the language in the referendum for 1/2¢ sales tax refers to the project, not a dollar amount.

Commissioner Weyland moved that the Board support the construction of a Corrections Facility and Law Enforcement Center as one project, to be listed as such on the proposed referendum. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ingersoll. The motion carried with Commissioner Mongeau opposed.

REQUEST TO ACCEPT QUOTE FOR HIGHWAY & LANDFILL SHOP SITE WORK

On motion by Mongeau, seconded by Campbell, and unanimously carried, the Board accepted the low quote of \$69,999 from H & S Contracting, Inc. for site work at the future Highway/Landfill shop. Two other quotes were received: Sellin Brothers, Inc, \$96,216, and Fitzgerald Construction, Inc., \$118,625.

REQUEST TO PURCHASE ARCHIVING ENHANCEMENT FOR CASEWORKS

On motion by Campbell, seconded by Mongeau, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the purchase of an archiving enhancement, \$28,500, for the CaseWorks program. This program is used by Social Services, and Clay County hosts 11 other counties which pay an annual hosting fee.

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL STAFF FOR DETOX

On motion by Ingersoll, seconded by Weyland, and unanimously carried, the Board approved filling a 1.0 FTE technician position for Detox.

OUT OF HOME PLACEMENT EXPENDITURE & REVENUE TRENDS

Social Services Director Rhonda Porter reviewed out of home placement expenditures and revenues for the period 2006-2015. She noted that 171 kids were in care this week, and it is getting harder and harder to place children due to their care needs.

MAY IS 'FOSTER CARE APPRECIATION' MONTH PROCLAMATION

On motion by Ingersoll, seconded by Mongeau, and unanimously carried, the Board adopted the following proclamation, declaring May as "Foster Care Appreciation" month:

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the family, serving as the primary source of love, identity, self-esteem and support, is the very foundation of our community; and

WHEREAS, foster parents provide an invaluable service to the children, youth and families of Clay County; and

WHEREAS, foster parents give generously of themselves to provide nurturing, safety, guidance, hope and love in a safe, secure and stable home; and

WHEREAS, foster parents recognize the opportunity to help a child or youth and their family in ways that will influence them and become a supportive and lasting presence for the remainder of their lives; and

WHEREAS, foster, kinship and adoptive families, who open their homes and hearts to children whose families are in crisis, play a vital role helping children and families heal and reconnect thereby launching young people into successful adulthood; and

WHEREAS, dedicated foster families frequently adopt foster children, resulting in a greater need for more foster families; and

WHEREAS, Foster Care Appreciation Month in Clay County is an appropriate time to thank the families who embrace the opportunity of providing a home and family to children in need of affection, love and security.

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the Clay County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim May as Foster Care Month in Clay County, and we call upon all our citizens to recognize the contributions made by our foster families throughout our County. We also urge all citizens to come forward and do something positive that will help change the life of a child and youth in foster care.

ADULT MENTAL HEALTH LOCAL ADVISORY COUNCIL ANNUAL UPDATE

AND PROCLAMATION

Ben Erie and Alison Wolbeck, Co-Chairs of the Adult Mental Health Local Advisory Council, reviewed unmet needs in the community for individuals with mental health issues. The Council recommends: 1) the County investigate ways for individuals who do not qualify for Medical Assistance to receive similar MA reimbursed services; 2) a voucher based system for receiving income based sliding fee services is researched and implemented; 3) Appropriate incentives are offered to providers who wish to expand.

On motion by Ingersoll, seconded by Weyland, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the Council's Member List: A Place for Hope, Ann Burrell, Barb Bustamante, Clay County Board of Commissioners, Clay County Social Services, Jonathan Gilbert, Beth Gilbertson, David R. Johnson, Lakeland Mental Health Center, Moorhead Police Department,

Muhamad Mozan, Solutions Behavioral Healthcare Professionals, Angela Stewart, Summit Guidance Center, Tran\$Em, Tamara Vance, JoAnn Walker, Alison Wolbeck.

On motion by Mongeau, seconded by Weyland, and unanimously carried, the Board adopted the following proclamation:

PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS, mental health is essential to everyone’s overall health and well-being; and
WHEREAS, all Americans experience times of difficulty and stress in their lives; and
WHEREAS, prevention is an effective way to reduce the burden of mental illnesses; and
WHEREAS, there is a strong body of research that supports specific tools that all individuals in our communities can use to better handle challenges, and protect their health and well-being; and
WHEREAS, mental illnesses are real and prevalent in our nation; and
WHEREAS, with early and effective treatment, those individuals with mental illness can recover and lead full, productive lives; and**

WHEREAS, each business, school, government agency, healthcare provider, organization and citizen shares the burden of mental illnesses and have a responsibility to promote mental wellness and support prevention efforts.

THEREFORE, the Clay County Board of Commissioners hereby proclaims May, 2016 as Mental Health Awareness Month and May 5, 2016 as Children’s Mental Health Awareness Day in Clay County, Minnesota. We call upon the citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses and schools in Clay County to recommit our community to increasing awareness and understanding of mental health, the steps our citizens can take to protect their mental health, and the need for appropriate and accessible services for all children and adults with mental illnesses.

**CHILDREN’S MENTAL HEALTH LOCAL ADVISORY COUNCIL ANNUAL UPDATE
AND PROCLAMATION**

Carolyn Strnad, Chair of the Children’s Mental Health Local Advisory Council, provided an update regarding activities of the Council, their challenges, priorities, etc. She noted that transportation and wait times for services continue to be challenges.

On motion by Ingersoll, seconded by Mongeau, and unanimously carried, the Council’s Membership List was approved as presented.

A PLACE FOR HOPE: RECOVERY AND WELLNESS

Ladonna Korstad, Executive Director of A Place For Hope (formerly Social Connexion), informed the Board that participant numbers are up from last year. She invited the Board members to an Open House to be held May 25.

RE-THINK MENTAL HEALTH INITIATIVE

Rory Beil, Project Manager for the Re-Think Mental Health Initiative, explained that the Initiative is working towards better mental health and health care for citizens through partnerships and community support.

COMMITTEE REPORTS/COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE/DISCUSSION

Commissioner Campbell attended meetings of the Prairie Lakes Municipal Solid Waste Authority, Clay County Solid Waste Advisory, FM Diversion Authority, and Jail Finance Committee.

Commissioner Mongeau attended the Department Head training, and presentation to the Moorhead Business Association.

Commissioner Weyland attended meetings of the Minnesota Rural Counties Caucus, Solid Waste Advisory Committee, Jail Finance, and Moorhead Business Association.

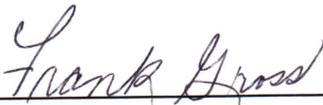
Commissioner Ingersoll attended the Family Healthcare meeting.

Commissioner Gross attended the Department Head Training event, Moorhead Business Association presentation, and the Audit meeting for Partnership For Health.

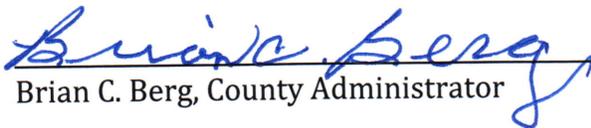
County Administrator Brian C. Berg reported that neither County funding request (Correctional Facility, Transfer Station) is on the Senate's bonding list. Mr. Berg attended many of the meetings mentioned above, as well as FM Diversion, and a meeting with the City of Moorhead regarding rezoning of property acquired north of the Courthouse.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.



Frank Gross, Chair
Clay County Board of Commissioners



Brian C. Berg, County Administrator