

CLAY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
8:30 A.M., TUESDAY, MAY 11, 2021
Community Room, 3rd Floor, Courthouse
MINUTES

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

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Campbell called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion by Commissioner Mongeau, seconded by Commissioner Kahly, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the agenda with two additions: 1) Liquor License Renewal for Willow Creek Golf Course; and 2) Proclamation for Law Enforcement Week.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

There were no citizens present who wished to be heard.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF BILLS AND VOUCHERS

On motion by Commissioner Gross, seconded by Commissioner Ebinger, and unanimously carried, the Board approved payment of bills and vouchers totaling \$912,631 from 150 vendors. From that total, 118 warrants issued were under \$2,000 (\$58,149) and the following 32 were over \$2,000:

Lakes Country Service Co-op	\$290,800	Verizon	\$ 8,410
Otter Tail Co. Public Health	\$ 73,293	PDQ.COM Corp.	\$ 8,100
Clay Co. Treasurer	\$ 61,138	Petro Serve USA	\$ 7,456
Soil & Water Conservation Dept.	\$ 56,059	Wilkin Co. Public Health	\$ 7,025
Clay Co. Public Health	\$ 44,732	NetCenter Technologies	\$ 6,610
Becker Co. Public Health	\$ 42,973	Code 4 Services, Inc.	\$ 6,174
MEnD Correctional Care, LLC	\$ 34,567	Amazon Capital Services	\$ 4,771
CoreLogic	\$ 29,002	Sanford Health	\$ 4,054
Dakota Plains Mechanical, Inc.	\$ 25,483	Stellar Services, LLC	\$ 3,838
Otto Bremer Trust	\$ 25,000	Rob Bentz Lock & Key, LLC	\$ 3,378
Prairie Lakes Municipal Solid Waste	\$ 23,552	Keller Diesel Service	\$ 3,266
Polk-Norman-Mahnomen CHB	\$ 21,840	Anjaam Holdings, LLC	\$ 3,210
American Solutions for Business	\$ 14,226	Fargo Freightliner	\$ 2,431
Ulteig Engineers, Inc.	\$ 14,112	Pemberton Law	\$ 2,339
Stantec Consulting Services, Inc.	\$ 12,280	Concordance Healthcare Solutions	\$ 2,169
Bytespeed, LLC	\$ 11,193	Reliance Telephone	\$ 2,000

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM APRIL 27, 2021

On motion by Commissioner Gross, seconded by Commissioner Kahly, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the minutes from April 27, 2021.

COVID-19 UPDATE

Public Health Director Kathy McKay and Nursing Director Jamie Hennen presented the weekly update for COVID-19 cases and vaccines.

	Clay County	Minnesota
Cumulative Cases	8,124	588,952
Cumulative Deaths	92	7,231
Out of Isolation	7,903	570,036
Active Cases	129	11,685
Median Age of Cumulative Cases	33	37
Cumulative Hospitalizations	338	30,942
Cumulative ICU Admissions	84	6,295
14-Day Case Rate per 10,000	40.60	
Ages for highest active cases	10-34	
Total with at least 1 dose of vaccine	19,753	2,660,945
Percentage with at least 1 dose of vaccine	39.9% of population	60.3% of population
Total who completed vaccine series	16,906	2,163,824
Percentage who completed vaccine series	34.2% of population	49.1%
Age group 50-64 with at least 1 vaccine dose	48.4%	64.7%
Age 65+ with at least 1 vaccine dose	74.9%	87.8%
Cumulative # of doses administered by CCPH	14,041	
Vaccines administered previous week - CCPH	291	

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO ADVERTISE FOR THREE BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECTS

County Engineer David Overbo asked the Board to approve advertising for three bridge replacement projects: one County bridge and two Township bridges. They would replace the existing bridges on County Road 106, 120th Ave N (Morken Twp), and 50th St N (Kragnes Twp). The proposed bid letting will be June 8th, 2021.

On motion by Commissioner Gross, seconded by Commissioner Kahly, and unanimously carried, the Board approved advertising for three bridge replacement projects on Co. Rd 106, 120th Ave N, and 50th St N.

ADDITION: REQUEST TO RENEW LIQUOR LICENSE FOR CITY OF BARNESVILLE D/B/A WILLOW CREEK MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE

On motion by Commissioner Mongeau, seconded by Commissioner Ebinger, and unanimously carried, the Board renewed the liquor license for Willow Creek Municipal Golf Course.

COMMITTEE REPORTS/COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE/DISCUSSIONS

Some of the following committee reports are from virtual meetings.

- Commissioner Ebinger attended meetings for Red River Regional Dispatch Center; County Recorder’s Office; Substance Abuse Discussion: Tobacco Ordinances; Press Conference with Senator Tina Smith RE: Infrastructure; and Juvenile Legislation Discussion.

- Commissioner Kahly attended meetings for Moorhead Planning Commission; Children’s Mental Health Local Advisory Committee; and attended a Press Conference with Senator Smith and a Drug Court Graduation.
- Commissioner Gross attended meetings for Building Committee, Historical Society; City of Hitterdal RE: Recycling; and attended Tim Dent’s retirement event.
- Commissioner Mongeau attended meetings for MetroCOG Executive Committee; MN Joint Powers for Red River Basin Commission; County Comprehensive Plan Update; Community Action Finance Reporting; MN Rural Caucus; and took calls from several businesses on work force shortage.
- Commissioner Campbell attended meetings for FM Diversion Executive Committee; Red River Regional Dispatch; Clay County Joint Powers; Building Committee; and Juvenile Legislative discussion.
- County Administrator Larson attended meetings for County Comprehensive Plan; Red River Regional Dispatch; Clay County Joint Powers; Strive for Excellence; County Management; Building Committee; Retreat Planning; Highway Issues; Juvenile Legislation Discussion; and attended a Press Conference with Senator Smith and Tim Dent’s retirement event. Updates: US Treasury released their funds guidance; AMC District 4 meeting is scheduled for June 18 in Fergus Falls; DMV has started appointments for Real and Enhanced IDs; Sheriff’s Office’s Awards Ceremony is scheduled for June 11, 2021.

ADDITION: PROCLAMATION FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT WEEK

On motion by Commissioner Mongeau, seconded by Commissioner Ebinger, and unanimously carried, the Board proclaimed this week as Law Enforcement Week with delivery and authorization of the following proclamation:

PROCLAMATION FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT WEEK

WHEREAS; Clay County is represented by law enforcement officers from the Moorhead Police Department, Dilworth Police Department, Glyndon Police Department, Barnesville Police Department, Hawley Police Department, and the Clay County Sheriff’s Office

WHEREAS; members of law enforcement play an important role in safeguarding the rights and freedoms of citizens in our community; and

WHEREAS; every day throughout our nation, men and women in uniform selflessly put their lives on the line, many whom have made the ultimate sacrifice in service to their communities; and

WHEREAS; law enforcement officers bravely and selflessly risk their lives to protect our community from dangerous and uncertain situations through their faithful, loyal and dedicated service; and

WHEREAS; acts of kindness and appreciation from citizens for our officers provide them needed encouragement and support to confront the intense situations they face every day.

Now THEREFORE; be it resolved that we, the Clay County Board of Commissioners do hereby proclaim the week of May 9th – 15th as Law enforcement appreciation Week in Clay County and urge all citizens to join us to honor those men and women who are serving and have served valiantly and courageously to make Clay County a better place to live, work and raise a family.

REQUEST FROM SARAH PETERSON TO WAIVE PENALTIES AND FEES FOR LATE TAXES IN GLYNDON

Sarah Peterson and Darrell Sjothun presented with their children to address the Board. Letters written by Ms. Peterson were included in the packets and the City of Glyndon provided background information on this property as well. Mr. Sjothun commented that they are trying to put their lives and home back together after the pandemic. Ms. Peterson asked the County to accept the \$12,000 check for their taxes that is being held at the Auditor’s Office.

Ken Norman, City Attorney for Glyndon, noted that this was a difficult decision for Glyndon to make; however, a Certificate of Occupancy was never issued for the house, it does not comply with existing codes and inspections were never completed. The house was moved from the northside of Highway 10 to the southside of Highway 10. The City's information was compiled by Wendy Affield, Glyndon City Clerk. The property was first acquired in 2014 and delinquent taxes started in 2015.

Chair Campbell stated that Peterson's letters contain two requests: waiving penalties and fees on taxes and abatement or deferment of taxes. The Board can only address waiving penalties and fees on taxes and they take the past tax history into consideration when doing so. At the Board meeting last week, when the couple was evidently not able to be there, the motion to deny the request carried. Chair Campbell noted he assumes they would need to pay all the taxes they owe and get a certificate of occupancy for the property. The couple provided more history of the house and property and their interactions with the County Auditor's Office and the City of Glyndon. The taxes owed total over \$52,000. County Administrator Larson noted the County can and has allowed two confessions of judgement for taxes, and they have moved past that point. Attorney Melton confirmed that he cannot provide the family with any legal advice and the Commissioners can only address waiving penalties and interest. Action for denial was taken on that request at the last Board meeting.

CLOSED SESSION FOR ONGOING PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS – ATTORNEY/CLIENT PRIVILEGE

County Attorney Melton stated this closed session is pursuant to MN Statute 13D.05 Subdivision 3(C).

On motion by Commissioner Ebinger, seconded by Commissioner Kahly, and unanimously carried, the Board closed the public meeting for a closed session at 9:53 a.m.

On motion by Commissioner Mongeau, seconded by Commissioner Gross, and unanimously carried, the Board reopened the public meeting at 10:41 a.m.

On motion by Commissioner Gross, seconded by Commissioner Kahly, and unanimously carried, the Board issued approval for Facilities Director Joe Olson to move forward with negotiations on property.

Commissioner Campbell commented that he went along with the motion but has some reservations moving forward.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:41 a.m.

Kevin Campbell, Chair
County Board of Commissioners

Stephen Larson, County Administrator