

CLAY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
8:30 A.M., TUESDAY, JUNE 2, 2020
County Board Room, 3rd Floor, Courthouse
MINUTES

The Clay County Board of Commissioners met in regular session with the following Commissioners present: Frank Gross, Jim Haney, Kevin Campbell, and Jenny Mongeau. Absent: Grant Weyland. Others present or joining remotely: County Attorney Brian Melton, County Administrator Stephen Larson, and Senior Administrative Assistant Colleen Eck.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Gross called the meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion by Commissioner Campbell, seconded by Commissioner Mongeau, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the agenda.

AMENDMENT TO HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT RESOLUTION 2020-18

By consent, the Board approved amending Resolution 2020-18 with a revised dollar amount of \$71,799.

APPROVAL TO ACCEPT RESILIENCY FUND GRANT FOR \$5,000 FROM WEST CENTRAL INITIATIVE

By consent, the Board approved the \$5,000 Resiliency Fund Grant from West Central Initiative for School-Based Mental Health Services on behalf of Clay County Collaborative.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

During this pandemic, citizens continue to have the opportunity to share feedback at Board meetings via website link. Mr. Larson noted there were no requests submitted for this meeting.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF BILLS AND VOUCHERS

On motion by Commissioner Haney, seconded by Commissioner Campbell, and unanimously carried, the Board approved payment for bills and vouchers, to include Commissioner Mongeau. The total was \$916,845 from 102 vendors. From that total, 75 warrants issued were under \$2,000 (\$27,116) and the following 27 were over \$2,000:

Sellin Bros Inc	\$270,010	Bison Plains Lodge	\$14,716
I State Truck Center	\$104,635	Department of Corrections	\$12,900
City of Moorhead	\$85,004	Becker Co Public Health	\$12,451
W Central Reg. Juvenile Center	\$78,180	Wells Fargo Business Credit	\$9,467
Dakota Plains Mechanical, Inc.	\$72,000	Verizon-386550144	\$7,671
Northwest Iron Fireman, Inc.	\$49,397	Thomson Reuters - West 590031	\$4,371
Trinity Services Group, Inc.	\$47,752	Burns McDonnell	\$4,298
Clay Co Public Health	\$28,141	Magic Fund	\$3,980
MEnD Correctional Care, LLC	\$24,700	Northland Business Systems	\$3,763
Otter Tail Co. Public Health	\$21,346	Moorhead Public Service	\$3,461
Historical & Cultural Society	\$15,881	Madison National Life	\$3,145

Dacotah Paper-401516	\$2,853	Stellar Services, LLC	\$2,264
Galls, LLC, - DBA Keepers	\$2,780	On Site Body Armor	\$2,163
Potty Shacks	\$2,400		

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MAY 19, 2020

On motion by Commissioner Mongeau, seconded by Commissioner Haney, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the minutes from May 19, 2020.

COVID-19 UPDATE

Public Health Director Kathy McKay was present with weekly handouts for COVID-19. The number of cases were shown to have increased from 243 on May 5 to 430 on June 1. Deaths also increased from 17 on May 5th to 29 on June 1st. In the State of MN there are over 1,000 patients hospitalized and 597 of them on ventilators due to the virus. Locally, Sanford and Essentia have several COVID-19 patients in ICU but are not overloaded. The Family Healthcare Center has a testing site for COVID-19 for those who visit that facility and for the homeless population. There is drive-thru testing at Essentia and Sanford facilities, but individuals need to call ahead to see if the requirements are met. Ms. McKay referred to MDH’s “Is it COVID-19?” for the lists of symptoms. Primarily, cough and fever, and often times body aches, are the main symptoms for COVID-19. Symptoms for flu, cold, and allergies were also listed.

Public Health Nurse Cheryl Sapp stated she is the liaison for long-term care facilities and the National Guard for COVID-19 testing. There are three rounds of tests done at those facilities. Couriers pick up the test samples, place them on ice, and transport them to Mayo Clinic in Rochester. ND is allowing Clay County to send over medical staff, etc., with specific criteria, to be tested over there. Test results from last week’s testing showed only nine positive cases out of 810 who were tested.

Nursing Director Jamie Hennen stated she had an opportunity last week to work with non-English-speaking people in the area. She was able to provide public health videos, translated into other languages, for education on local testing, contact tracing, hygiene, social distancing, etc. A grant provided these resources for the community.

REVIEW OF 2019 BUDGET AND FIRST QUARTER 2020

County Administrator Stephen Larson and Auditor – Treasurer Lori J. Johnson were present with budget updates from 2019, as well as a summary from January 1 to May 27, 2020. They reviewed the Summary of Revenues and Expenditures by Department; Statement of Revenues; and Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances for 2019. Mr. Larson touched upon the departments with percentages that were 10% more or less than estimated. There were some additional revenues as well. The County had an excess of revenues over expenditures of \$8,765,939 for a fund balance total of \$57,997,964 on December 31, 2019.

The Summary of Revenues and Expenditures by Department for January 1 – May 27, 2020 were also presented. Mr. Larson highlighted specific departments based on their percentage of expenses to this point in the year. Overall, the County’s budget is at 36% of expenses for the first 40% of the year.

COMMITTEE REPORTS/COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE/DISCUSSIONS

Many of the following committee reports are from virtual or remote meetings.

- Commissioner Campbell reported on meetings from Highway Tracking; Prairie Lakes Municipal Solid Waste Authority; FM Diversion Authority Public Outreach; FM Diversion Land Management; Solid Waste Advisory Committee; Moorhead Clay County Joint Powers Authority; and FM Diversion Authority.
- Commissioner Mongeau reported on meetings from Buffalo Red River Watershed District “One Watershed One Plan;” FM Diversion Land Management Committee; Lakes and Prairies Community Action Partnership; and Law Library. She encouraged the community to reach out to their commissioners when they have input. Their emails and phone numbers are listed on the County website.
- Commissioner Haney attended an FM Diversion Finance Committee.
- Commissioner Gross reported on meetings from Highway Tracking; MN Rural Counties Caucus; and City of Felton Recycling.
- Stephen Larson attended meetings for Highway Tracking; Public Health Matters; Dispatch Spatial Needs; Solid Waste Advisory Committee; and Moorhead Clay County Joint Powers Authority. He had contact with the Sheriff over the weekend regarding the local protest. A letter that Mr. Larson was asked to write to Governor Walz was presented for approval.

On motion by Commissioner Campbell, seconded by Commissioner Haney, and unanimously carried, the Board authorized sending a letter drafted by the County Administrator to Governor Walz concerning businesses in Clay County being able to fully open.

The meeting adjourned at 9:38 a.m.

Frank Gross, Chair
County Board of Commissioners

Stephen Larson, County Administrator