

WATONWAN COUNTY BOARD
MARCH 1, 2022
9:00 A.M.

The Watonwan County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on March 1, 2022 at 9:00 A.M. in the Commissioners' Meeting Room of the Courthouse, City of St. James. The following Board members were present: Jim Branstad, Dillon Melheim, Bill Miller, Jim Pettersen and Bob Rinne. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Bob Rinne presented Dispatcher James Hodge with the commemorative coin that was created by the MN Department of Veterans Affairs in recognition of the 20th Anniversary of the 9/11 attacks. The Board had previously recognized other County employees who served in the military on or after 9/11, but Hodge had been ordered to active duty at that time.

Branstad moved, Melheim seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the Agenda as amended.

County Sheriff Jared Bergeman was present to review quotes for a new squad vehicle and the purchase and installation of the necessary equipment.

Branstad moved, Pettersen seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve accepting the State bid of Dodge of Burnsville in the amount of \$34,385.00 for the purchase of a 2022 Dodge Durango Pursuit Package.

Rinne moved, Pettersen seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve accepting the quote of Mike's LLC in the amount of \$12,596.54 for equipment installation in the Durango.

Miller moved, Melheim seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve accepting the quote of Alpha Wireless Communications in the amount of \$4,427.25 for the purchase and programming of a new Armer Radio.

Pettersen moved, Branstad seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve accepting the quote of WatchGuard Video in the amount of \$5,915.00 for the purchase of an in-car radio and video system.

Sheriff Bergeman reviewed surplus vehicles to be placed on Minnbid for public auction. The Sheriff's Department will get back 70% of the funds.

Melheim moved, Pettersen seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve selling the following vehicles at public auction on Minnbid: 2003 GMC SIE, 2006 Chevy HHR, 2001 Ford FOC, 2008 Chevy Colorado, and a 2014 Ford Explorer.

Melheim moved, Rinne seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the minutes of the February 15 regular meeting.

Pettersen moved, Miller seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve payment of bills as audited and filed in the County Auditor/Treasurer's Office as follows by fund: General Fund—\$35,369.33; Solid Waste Fund—\$504.61; Road and Bridge Fund—\$880.56; Soil & Water Conservation—\$1,965.04; Building/Equipment Fund—\$5,174.61; Ditch Fund—\$655.08; and the Road and Bridge Fund—\$34,544.96.

Public Works Director Teal Spellman was present to request approval to purchase the Brushcat rotary cutter for attachment to the Bobcat, at the State price of \$7,872.80.

Branstad moved, Melheim seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve accepting the quote of Clark Equipment Company dba Bobcat Company in the amount of \$7,872.80 for the purchase of an 80” Brushcat.

Spellman reported that they were approved for Safety funding of \$212,000 for striping and rumble stripes. She also noted that the City of St. James was approved for Safe Routes to School funding of \$250,000 for installation of sidewalk along 10th Street North from the school to 5th Avenue North. She also reported that the building at the fairgrounds was torn down.

Miller moved, Melheim seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve ratifying the Professional Services Agreement between TriMin Systems Inc. and the Minnesota Counties Computer Cooperative for the maintenance and support of the IFS software.

Auditor/Treasurer/Coordinator Kelly Pauling reviewed election equipment quotes for the DS450 and EMS System. She noted that six current machines will be reduced to one faster machine.

Branstad moved, Pettersen seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve accepting the quote of ES&S in the amount of \$59,490 for the purchase DS450 and EMS tabulation system, software and services.

Melheim moved, Branstad seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve scheduling a Redistricting Public Hearing for April 5 at 10:00 A.M.

Miller moved, Pettersen seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the 2021 Audit Engagement with the State Auditor’s Office.

Melheim moved, Rinne seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the appointment of Josh Sturm to the Planning & Zoning Board.

Branstad moved, Pettersen seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the rental of the Fairgrounds on April 23 by the Prairie Lakes Division of NMRA.

Miller moved, Melheim seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve issuing Tobacco Licenses to Darfur Lounge and Butterfield Municipal Liquor Store.

Pettersen moved, Miller seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the appointment of Cole Durham to the position of I.T. Specialist.

Miller moved, Melheim seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve accepting the retirement in good standing of Rae Goltz from the position of Property Appraiser II.

Rinne moved, Branstad seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve advertising for the position of Appraiser Trainee/Property Appraiser II.

Branstad moved, Melheim seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve accepting the resignation in good standing of Tessa Hall from the position of Technical Services Coordinator at the Library.

Branstad moved, Miller seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve advertising for the position of Technical Services Assistant or Coordinator.

It was noted that a construction update meeting regarding JD 18 was scheduled for March 7.

Melheim moved, Pettersen seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to adjourn the meeting at 9:45.

Bob Rinne, Chairman
Watsonwan County Board

Lisa Schumann, Deputy Clerk
Watsonwan County Board

ATTEST: Kelly Pauling
Watsonwan County Auditor/Treasurer