

WATONWAN COUNTY BOARD  
APRIL 19, 2022  
9:00 A.M.

The Watonwan County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on April 19, 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.

Pettersen moved, Branstad seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the agenda as amended.

Melheim moved, Pettersen seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the minutes of the April 5 regular meeting.

Land Management Director David Haler recommended approval of the conditional use permit for the construction of a new feedlot in Section 1 of Adrian Township.

Melheim moved, Rinne seconded and the motion pass unanimously, to approve the conditional use permit for Dominic Helget with special conditions of pit additives and notification of neighbors within one mile 72 hours prior to the pit being pumped or agitated.

Feedlot Technician Amanda Lang presented the review of the annual feedlot report.

Miller moved, Branstad seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the annual feedlot report.

Ditch Inspector Carrie Schultz was present to discuss implementing a beaver bounty policy for the County. The Commissioners were interested and directed Schultz to draft a policy for approval at a future meeting.

Branstad moved, Melheim 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—\$191,748.75; Building/Equipment Fund \$12,486.93; Ditch Fund—\$54,075.15; Agency Fund—\$360.00 and the Road and Bridge Fund—\$32,196.27.

Miller moved, Pettersen seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve payment of auditor bills as paid in the County Auditor/Treasurer's Office as follows by fund: General Fund—\$95,912.92; Solid Waste Fund—\$19,603.36; Road and Bridge Fund—\$1,809,275.16; Library Fund—\$26,065.72; SWCD Fund—\$33,718.00; Agency Fund—\$3,955.50; and the Motor Vehicle Fund—\$393,412.70.

Branstad moved, Melheim seconded and the motion passed unanimously to ratify advertising for the position of Mechanic and approve advertising for the position of Light Equipment Operator.

Miller moved, Pettersen seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the annual pay step increase for Amanda Sill.

Pettersen moved, Miller seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the appointments of Dan Haala to the position of Appraiser Trainee/Property Appraiser II, and Jayger Dannhoff to the position of temporary Detention Officer.

Miller moved, Melheim seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve accepting the resignation in good standing of Ross Henderson from the position of Light Equipment Operator.

Melheim moved, Branstad seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve a pay step increase for the satisfactory end of probation for Dylan Meine.

Branstad moved, Rinne seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve increasing efficiency in recruiting for job openings by authorizing Human Resources Director Lisa Schumann authority to advertise for open positions that are currently allocated to a department and included in the current budget.

Miller moved, Melheim seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to close the session at 10:00 pursuant to M.S. 13D.03, Subd. 1 to discuss labor negotiations strategy.

Melheim moved, Branstad seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to open at 10:10

Branstad moved, Melheim seconded and the motion passed 4-1 with Miller opposed, to approve the tentative two-year agreement with the AFSCME Highway unit, which included adjustment to call-out time language, callbacks offered to unit employees based on seniority, choice of working through the lunch break, minimum 3 hours for callbacks, \$287.50/month for waiving coverage, up to \$200.00/year for the purchase of safety toe boots, 3% added to the schedule for 2022 with the bottom step removed and one added to the top and renumbered, and 3% added to the schedule for 2023.

Melheim moved, Miller seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to adjourn the meeting at 10:15.

Bob Rinne, Chairman  
Watowan County Board

Kelly Pauling, Board Clerk  
Watowan County Board

ATTEST: Kelly Pauling  
Watowan County Auditor/Treasurer