

WATONWAN COUNTY BOARD  
MAY 17, 2022  
9:00 A.M.

The Watonwan County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on May 17, 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.

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

Branstad moved, Pettersen seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the minutes of the May 3 regular meeting.

Land Management Director David Haler was present with Long Lake Acres representatives Alex White and Charles Roelofs regarding their request to rezone 9 acres from agricultural to rural residential. The Long Lake Acres Plat would then be established for six residential lots for accessory use for existing residents across the street. A Public Hearing was held and the Planning Commission unanimously approved rezoning the 9 acres and approved the plat.

Pettersen moved, Melheim seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the Rezoning Application submitted by Long Lake Acres, LLC to rezone 9 acres in Long Lake Township from Ag to Rural Residential (R1), on the property described as Pt of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$  and Pt of Govt. Lot 5.

Melheim moved, Miller seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the Long Lake Acres Plat as presented.

County Feedlot/District Technician Jacob VanRyswyk was present with Haler to discuss ending the Feedlot agreement with Brown County. Plans were to reduce Amanda Lang's hours from .4 to .2 for a few weeks, then end the arrangement at the end of June.

Miller moved, Melheim seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to authorize Land Management Director David Haler to work with Brown County to amend the Feedlot Technician Agreement.

Pettersen moved, Branstad 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—\$55,291.46; Solid Waste Fund—\$2,856.00; Soil & Water Conservation—\$172.64; Ditch Fund—\$39,649.27; and the Road and Bridge Fund—\$26,670.41.

Branstad moved, Rinne seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the April disbursements listing as presented.

County Sheriff Jared Bergeman was present to review the sale of confiscated vehicles and the proposal to use the funds to purchase new equipment. He reviewed quotes for new Lidar (lazer radar) of \$2,125.00 and \$2,168, two portable breath testers at \$595.00 each, and two Armer radios at \$4,427.25 each.

Mehlheim moved, Pettersen seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve accepting the quotes from Tactical Solutions in the amount of \$2,125.00 plus shipping for the purchase of a DragonEye Lidar System, from Intoximeters in the amount of \$1,190.00 for the purchase of two Alco-Sensor IV portable breath testers, and from Alpha Wireless in the amount of \$8,854.50 for the purchase of two APX6500 Armer Radios.

Melheim moved, Rinne seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to authorize the Sheriff's Department to put an abandoned '94 Chevy van up for auction.

County Ditch Inspector Carrie Schultz was present for discussion on needed drainage repairs. There has been difficulty in getting a contractor to do the smaller jobs. It was recommended to get the affected landowners involved.

Public Works Director Teal Spellman was present to review items for the Board's consideration.

Branstad moved, Rinne seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the training request submitted by Teal Spellman.

Spellman reviewed the State bid for a Bobcat Loader. It is on the equipment list for 2023, but some of the equipment budgeted for 2022 won't be available, so she requested to move it up a year, with the trade in of a 2002 unit. After discussion, Commissioner Melheim requested a second bid, as well as a comparison between wheels and tracks.

Melheim moved, Miller seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve a Drainage Tile/County Road Crossing Agreement with Audrey Unruh to place a 12-inch drainage tile across the right-of-way of CSAH 19, located in Section 25 of Butterfield Township, pending verification of JD 14.

Miller moved, Branstad seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve issuing a County On-Sale, Off-Sale and Sunday Liquor License to South Fork Golf, LLC, Scott Greenseth.

The following quotes were received for office furniture for the Land Management offices:

<u>VENDOR</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
River Bend Business Products	\$4,546.00
Lorell	\$7,520.10

Pettersen moved, Miller seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve accepting the quote of River Bend Business Products in the amount of \$4,546.00 for the purchase of office furniture.

Melheim moved, Rinne seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the training request submitted by Deb Grote.

Branstad moved, Melheim seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the appointment of Greg Hruby as a Light Equipment Operator

Branstad moved, Pettersen seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the appointment of Stephen Ferrazzano III as a Dispatcher.

Rinne moved, Pettersen seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the annual pay step increase of Adelaida Esqueda for satisfactory completion of her probationary period.

Miller moved, Melheim seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve annual pay step increases for Rubi Altamirano, Dawn Junker, Mary Jo Schroeder, Matthew Bowman, Nicholas Kielas and Julie Carr.

Miller moved, Melheim seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to enter closed session at 9:55 pursuant to M.S. § 13D.05 Subd. 3(b) for attorney-client privilege related to a Collateral Disposition Agreement, with County Attorney Stephen Lindee present.

Branstad moved, Pettersen seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to open the meeting at 10:05.

Melheim moved, Branstad seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to adjourn the meeting.

Bob Rinne, Chairman  
Watonwan County Board

Lisa Schumann, Deputy Clerk  
Watonwan County Board

ATTEST: Kelly Pauling  
Watonwan County Auditor/Treasurer