

WATONWAN COUNTY BOARD  
JUNE 21, 2022  
9:00 A.M.

The Watonwan County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on June 21, 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, Miller seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the minutes of the June 7 regular meeting.

County Ditch Inspector Carrie Schultz was present to review a proposed Beaver Control Policy. The cost for removal of dams would go to the ditch systems, and bounties would come from the General Fund.

Miller moved, Rinne seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the Watonwan County Beaver Control Policy as presented.

Schultz reviewed that she did inspections on JD 6, JD 8, and CD 101, checking for blow-outs, intakes and outlets. She also reported on repairs needed on other systems.

Melheim moved, Pettersen 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—\$70,925.37; Solid Waste Fund—\$563.11; Soil & Water Conservation—\$639.79; Ditch Fund—\$55,275.04; and the Road and Bridge Fund—\$173,007.98; and to pay the following credit cards: General Fund—\$8,699.05; Solid Waste Fund—\$50.67; Road and Bridge Fund—\$260.00; Library Fund—\$25.48; and Soil & Water Conservation—\$9.80.

The May financials were reviewed.

Branstad moved, Melheim seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the May Disbursements listing as presented.

The Public Works Fee Schedule was tabled until the July 5 meeting.

County Auditor/Treasurer/Coordinator Kelly Pauling reviewed a resolution that Northland Securities recommended for issuing bonds for the ditch projects on JD #8 W & B and JD #11.

Pettersen moved, Miller seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to adopt the following:

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES  
RELATING TO COMPLIANCE WITH REIMBURSEMENT BOND  
REGULATIONS UNDER THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners (the "Board") of the County of Watonwan, Minnesota (the "County"), as follows:

1. Recitals.

(a) The Internal Revenue Service has issued Treasury Regulations, Section 1.150-2 (as the same may be amended or supplemented, the "Regulations"), dealing with "reimbursement bond" proceeds, being proceeds of bonds used to reimburse the County for any project expenditure paid by the County prior to the time of the issuance of those bonds.

(b) The Regulations generally require that the County (as the issuer of or the primary obligor under the bonds) make a declaration of intent to reimburse itself for such prior expenditures out of the proceeds of subsequently issued bonds, that such declaration be made not later than 60 days after the expenditure is actually paid, and that the bonding occur and the written reimbursement allocation be made from the proceeds of such bonds within 18 months after the later of (1) the date of payment of the expenditure or (2) the date the project is placed in service (but in no event more than 3 years after actual payment).

(c) The County heretofore implemented procedures for compliance with the predecessor versions of the Regulations and desires to amend and supplement those procedures to ensure compliance with the Regulations.

(d) The County's bond counsel has advised the County that the Regulations do not apply, and hence the provisions of this Resolution are intended to have no application, to payments of County project costs first made by the County out of the proceeds of bonds issued prior to the date of such payments.

2. Official Intent Declaration. The Regulations, in the situations in which they apply, require the County to have declared an official intent (the "Declaration") to reimburse itself for previously paid project expenditures out of the proceeds of subsequently issued bonds. The Board hereby authorizes the Auditor to make the County's Declarations or to delegate from time to time that responsibility to other appropriate County employees. Each Declaration shall comply with the requirements of the Regulations, including without limitation the following:

(a) Each Declaration shall be made not later than 60 days after payment of the applicable project cost and shall state that the County reasonably expects to reimburse itself for the expenditure out of the proceeds of a bond issue or similar borrowing. Each Declaration may be made substantially in the form of the Exhibit A which is attached to and made a part of this Resolution, or in any other format which may at the time comply with the Regulations.

(b) Each Declaration shall (1) contain a reasonably accurate description of the "project," as defined in the Regulations (which may include the property or program

to be financed, as applicable), to which the expenditure relates and (2) state the maximum principal amount of bonding expected to be issued for that project.

(c) Care shall be taken so that the County, or its authorized representatives under this Resolution, not make Declarations in cases where the County doesn't reasonably expect that reimbursement bonds will be issued to finance the subject project costs, and the County officials are hereby authorized to consult with bond counsel to the County concerning the requirements of the Regulations and their application in particular circumstances.

(d) The Board shall be advised from time to time on the desirability and timing of the issuance of reimbursement bonds relating to project expenditures for which the County has made Declarations.

3. Reimbursement Allocations. If the County is acting as the issuer of the reimbursement bonds, the designated County officials shall also be responsible for making the "reimbursement allocations" described in the Regulations, being generally written allocations that evidence the County's use of the applicable bond proceeds to reimburse the original expenditures.

4. Effect. This Resolution shall amend and supplement all prior resolutions and/or procedures adopted by the County for compliance with the Regulations (or their predecessor versions), and, henceforth, in the event of any inconsistency, the provisions of this Resolution shall apply and govern.

Budget workshops were scheduled for August 23 and 24 at 8:00.

Melheim moved, Pettersen seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the training requests submitted by Meggie Munsterman and David Haler.

Branstad moved, Miller seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve annual pay step increases for David Haler and Connie Petersen.

Branstad moved, Rinne seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the annual pay step increase and reclassification of Lisa Carlson to Appraiser I for completing and passing the coursework necessary to receive CMA licensure.

Miller moved, Pettersen seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the appointment of Estefany Sotelo-Garcia as a temporary Technical Clerk for the TMT Transit System.

Branstad moved, Melheim seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to accept the resignation in good standing of Renae Wallace from the position of Dispatcher for the Sheriff's Department.

Melheim moved, Rinne seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the appointment of Sandra Engstrom to the position of Dispatcher.

Melheim moved, Pettersen seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve reducing the hours of Michelle Perez to on-call Dispatcher.

Pettersen moved, Miller seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve advertising for a full-time Dispatcher.

Pettersen moved, Melheim seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to accept the resignation in good standing of Emergency Management/Safety Director Mark Nielsen.

Melheim moved, Miller seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve advertising for the position of Emergency Management/Safety Director.

Commissioner Rinne reported that the City of St. James will be including CR 55 along the west edge of St. James on their regular street sweeping schedule. He also noted issues with dust control on the road leading out to the compost site, since it passes the school soccer field. It was discussed to have Public Works Director Teal Spellman come up with possible options.

Commissioner Miller reported on a presentation by MCIT regarding cybersecurity. I.T. Director Jeff Tetzloff would be asked to review the information.

The Board requested that a letter be drafted to the State legislators and MnDOT that State Highway 4 north of St. James should be increased to 10-ton.

The Board reviewed the Assessment Per Parcel Fee Schedule, which is billed to the cities and townships. A 5% increase for 2023 was recommended by County Assessor Meggie Munsterman.

Miller moved, Pettersen seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve increasing the 2023 Assessment Fee Schedule to \$10.71/parcel for the small cities and townships, and \$14.07/parcel for the Cities of St. James and Madelia.

Melheim seconded and the motion passed unanimously, Pettersen seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to adjourn at 10:05.

Bob Rinne, Chairman  
Watonwan County Board

Lisa Schumann, Deputy Clerk  
Watonwan County Board

ATTEST: Kelly Pauling  
Watonwan County Auditor/Treasurer