

AITKIN COUNTY BOARD

October 14, 2014

The Aitkin County Board of Commissioners met this 14th day of October, 2014 at 9:03 a.m. with the following members present: Chairperson J. Mark Wedel, Commissioners Laurie Westerlund, Brian Napstad, Anne Marcotte, County Administrator Nathan Burkett, and Administrative Assistant Sue Bingham. Commissioner Don Niemi arrived at 9:08 a.m.

Motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Marcotte and carried (4-0 Niemi absent), all members voting yes to approve the October 14, 2014 amended agenda. Item 2K – Deny Request to Repurchase Tax-Forfeited Lands, was pulled from the consent agenda and placed on the regular agenda, just before the consent agenda. Item 7B – Request from Historical Society for a Letter of Support, was added.

Motion by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Marcotte and carried (5-0 Niemi present) to deny at this time, the request to repurchase tax-forfeited property - 1st Add Aitkin, Blk 119 Lots 8 & 9 (Rhodes). The applicant may reapply if he is able to procure funding while the window for application is still open.

Motion by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to approve the Consent Agenda as follows: A) Correspondence File: September 23, 2014 – October 13, 2014; B) Approve County Board Minutes: September 23, 2014; C) Approve Not renewing Water Lab Accreditation with Minnesota Department of Health; D) Adopt Updated Countywide Fee Schedule; E) Adopt Resolution – 2014 Federal Boating Safety Supplemental Equipment Grant Agreement; F) Authorize Sale of Vehicles – Sheriff's Office; G) Adopt Resolution – Final Payment Contract No. 20131; H) Approve Commissioner Warrants: General Fund \$204,905.13, Road & Bridge \$48,016.39, Health & Human Services \$105.60, Trust \$9,817.13, Forest Development \$16,364.20, Long Lake Conservation Center \$8,113.86, Parks \$7,564.03 for a total of \$294,886.34; I) Approve September Manual Warrants: General Fund \$33,046.17, Road & Bridge \$284,904.27, Health & Human Services \$1,376.27, State \$46,073.19, Trust \$-2.50, Forest Development \$65.21, Long Lake Conservation Center \$3,134.83, Parks \$265.84 for a total of \$368,863.28; J) Approve Letter of Support for Aitkin County HRA

Under the consent agenda, motion by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting not to renew water lab accreditation with the Minnesota Department of Health, and to lower water lab testing fees from \$30 to test for bacteria and \$30 to test for nitrates to \$25 to test for bacteria and \$25 to test for nitrates. Fees will also be lowered from \$50 to test for both bacteria and nitrates, to \$40 to test for both.

Under the consent agenda, motion by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to adopt updated Aitkin County Fee Schedule, effective October 14, 2014.

Under the consent agenda, motion for a resolution by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to adopt resolution – 2014 Federal Boating Safety Supplemental Equipment Grant Agreement:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners approve the 2014

CALL TO ORDER

**APPROVED
AGENDA**

**REQUEST TO
REPURCHASE
TAX-FORFEITED
PROPERTY**

**CONSENT
AGENDA**

**WATER LAB
ACCREDITATION**

**UPDATED AITKIN
COUNTY FEE
SCHEDULE**

**RESOLUTION
101414-065
2014 FEDERAL
BOATING SAFETY**

Federal Boating Safety Enforcement Supplemental Agreement – Equipment/Supplies Grant file in the Office of the County Auditor and authorize the Aitkin County Sheriff, County Board Chair and County Auditor to sign the agreement in the amount of \$4,680.00 for the term of July 1, 2014, through December 31, 2014.

**SUPPLEMENTAL
EQUIPMENT
GRANT
AGREEMENT**

Under the consent agenda, motion by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to authorize the sale of the following forfeited vehicles: 1998 Dodge Durango, and 2008 Can-Am Outlander 800XT ATV – Sheriff’s Department.

**FORFEITED
VEHICLES –
SHERIFF’S DEPT.**

Under the consent agenda, motion for a resolution by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to adopt resolution – Final Payment Contract No. 20131:

WHEREAS, Contract No. 20131 has in all been completed, and the County Board being fully advised in the premises.

NOW THEN BE IT RESOLVED, that the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners does hereby accept said completed project for and on behalf of the County of Aitkin and authorize final payment to Tri City Paving in the amount of \$62,396.20.

**RESOLUTION
101414-066
FINAL PAYMENT
CONTRACT NO.
20131**

Under the consent agenda, motion by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to approve letter to the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency in support of the Housing & Redevelopment Authority of Aitkin County’s application for funding.

**LETTER OF
SUPPORT FOR
AITKIN COUNTY
HRA**

The Board recognized the following County employees for their years of service:

**EMPLOYEE
RECOGNITION**

- Karen Ladd, 25 years, Assistant County Assessor - Assessor’s Department
- Bill Thompson, 30 years, Building Maintenance Supervisor - Maintenance Department

Sheriff Scott Turner gave a power point presentation to the Board, and provided a final update on the ARMER Radio Project.

**ARMER RADIO
PROJECT – FINAL
UPDATE**

Sheriff Scott Turner updated the Board on the progress of the Aitkin County All Hazard Mitigation Plan.

**ALL HAZARD
MITIGATION PLAN**

Kirk Peysar, County Auditor held a second continuation of the July 22, 2014 Public Hearing for Petition for Partial Abandonment of a Drainage System within Sections 27, 28, 32, 33 and 34 of Workman Township (T.49N.-R.24W.) Aitkin County, MN. United States Steel Corporation (U.S. Steel) submitted this petition for ditch abandonment pursuant to Minnesota Statute 103E.806. On September 15, 2014 United States Steel Corporation presented revisions to the original request. No public comment was given at today’s Public Hearing. The written public comment period ends today, October 14, 2014 at 4:30 p.m. Board deliberations with possible action are scheduled for October 28, 2014.

**CONTINUATION
OF JULY 22ND
PUBLIC HEARING
FOR PETITION
FOR PARTIAL
ABANDONMENT
OF A DRAINAGE
SYSTEM – UNITED
STATES STEEL**

CORPORATION

Steve Hughes, SWCD Manager presented the proposed Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Prevention Plan and proposed AIS budget to the Board. Motion for a resolution by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to approve resolution – Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Aid:

WHEREAS, 2014 Session Law Chapter 308 enacted by the Legislature provides Minnesota counties a County Program Aid grant for Aquatic Species (AIS) prevention. The amount designated for each county is based on the number of watercraft trailer launches as well as the number of watercraft trailer parking spaces within each county. Aitkin County was allocated \$125,061 for 2014 and \$277,913 for 2015 and years following, and

WHEREAS, the legislation requires that Aitkin County must establish, by resolution or through adoption of a plan, guidelines for the use of the proceeds which are to prevent the introduction or limit the spread of aquatic invasive species at all access sites within the county, and

WHEREAS, the county may appropriate the proceeds directly or may use any portion of the proceeds to provide funding for a joint powers board or cooperative agreement with another political subdivision, a soil and water conservation district in the county, a watershed district in the county, or a lake association located in the county. Any money appropriated by the county to a different entity or political subdivision must be used as required under this section, and

WHEREAS, the county must submit a copy of its guidelines for use of the proceeds to the Department of Natural Resources by December 31 of the year the payments are received, and

WHEREAS, Aquatic Invasive Species is a priority concern identified in the 2009 Water Plan. A stated goal in the Water Plan is to provide leadership in the fight against Aquatic Invasive Species by developing proactive solutions aimed at educating and empowering local citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Board of Commissioners of Aitkin County, Minnesota, designates oversight of Aitkin County’s AIS prevention efforts to the Aitkin County Soil and Water Conservation District and delegates to them the responsibility to implement the Plan, report annually and allocate the funding in accordance with the Plan and approved grant requests. Grant requests and Plan updates are to be approved by the Aitkin County AIS Committee. For 2014, the plan is on file in the Aitkin County Environmental Services Department and Aitkin County Soil and Water Conservation District Office.

Nathan Burkett, County Administrator and the Board discussed the remaining 2014 County Board meeting dates and determined the following: The November 11th, November 25th, and December 23rd Board meetings will meet as scheduled. The December 9th Board meeting will meet later in the day, time yet to be determined. Motion by Commissioner Marcotte, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to change the Budget Hearing date from November 25th to December 9th at 6:05 p.m. in the Aitkin County Boardroom, located at the Aitkin County Courthouse - 217 2nd Street NW, Aitkin, MN.

**RESOLUTION
101414-067
AQUATIC
INVASIVE
SPECIES
PREVENTION AID**

**REMAINING 2014
COUNTY BOARD
MEETING DATES
& BUDGET
HEARING DATE**

Motion by Commissioner Marcotte, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to authorize Chairperson J. Mark Wedel write a letter of support for Aitkin County Historical Society's grant application. There is no cost to the County.

AITKIN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Board reported on the following: Wetland Mitigation, McGregor Airport, NCLUCB, NEMOJET, Class One Tribal Air Designations, Lakes & Pines, ECRL, MCIT Mgmt. Workshop, Arrowhead Counties, MRCC, MACCAC, Aitkin Airport, EDA, Historical Society, TZD.

BOARD DISCUSSION

Break: 11:52 a.m. to 11:59 a.m.

BREAK

Motion by Commissioner Marcotte, seconded by Commissioner Napstad and carried, all members voting to close the meeting at 11:59 a.m. under MN Statute 13D.03 Subd. 1(b) Labor Negotiations.

CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Marcotte and carried, all members voting to reopen the meeting at 12:22 p.m.


REOPEN MEETING

Motion by Commissioner Marcotte, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to adjourn the meeting at 12:22 p.m. until Tuesday, October 28, 2014 at 9:00 a.m.

ADJOURN



J. Mark Wedel, Chairperson
Aitkin County Board of Commissioners



Nathan Burkett, County Administrator