

The Aitkin County Board of Commissioners met this 14th day of November, 2017 at 9:02 a.m. with the following members present: Board Chair J. Mark Wedel, Commissioners Laurie Westerlund, Don Niemi, Bill Pratt, Anne Marcotte, County Administrator Jessica Seibert and Administrative Assistant Sue Bingham.

Motion by Commissioner Pratt, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund and carried, all members voting yes to approve the November 14, 2017 agenda.

Motion by Commissioner Marcotte, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to approve the Consent Agenda as follows: A) Correspondence File: October 24, 2017 to November 13, 2017; B) Approve County Board Minutes: October 24, 2017; C1) Approve Commissioner Warrants – Report 1: General Fund \$93,534.25, Road & Bridge \$23,519.53, Health & Human Services \$1,233.25, Trust \$28,662.13, Forest Development \$3,000.00, Long Lake Conservation Center \$10,464.93, Parks \$5,784.43 for a total of \$166,198.52; C2) Approve Commissioner Warrants – Report 2: General Fund \$97,097.98, Road & Bridge \$73,392.19, Health & Human Services \$4,364.11, Debt Service \$63,124.77, Trust \$20,487.78, Forest Development \$17,377.62, Long Lake Conservation Center \$6,784.37, Parks \$3,408.58 for a total of \$286,037.20; D) Approve Auditor Warrants – October/November School Advance: Agency \$1,279,356.70; E) Approve October Manual Warrants: General Fund \$37,836.80, Road & Bridge \$382,896.16, Health & Human Services \$865.57, State \$1,082,757.01, Trust \$4,345.46, Taxes & Penalties \$4,750.94, Long Lake Conservation Center \$1,511.05, Parks \$35.00 for a total of \$1,514,997.99; F1) Accept \$100 Donation to STS from Evangelical Lutheran Church of Beaver; F2) Accept \$200 Donation to STS from Cedar Lake Norwegian Lutheran Church, and \$200 from Malmo Township ; G) Adopt Resolution: LG230 Off-Site Gambling – Minnewawa Sportsmen’s Club; H) Approve 2018 Fire Protection Contract with Ball Bluff Twp.; I) Adopt Resolution: All-Terrain Vehicle Trail Funding; J) Adopt Resolution: Repurchase of Tax-Forfeited Land – Maudal; K) Approve Amended License Center Rental Agreement; L) Adopt Resolutions (5): Sponsorship of City of Aitkin Projects for LRIP; M) Approve MnCCC Agreement and Board Ratification Statement

Under the consent agenda, motion for a resolution by Commissioner Marcotte, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to adopt resolution – LG230 Off-Site Gambling – Minnewawa Sportsmen’s Club:

BE IT RESOLVED, the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners agrees to approve the Application to Conduct Off-Site Gambling - Form LG230 - of the Minnewawa Sportsmen’s Club at the following location – North of McGregor, MN on Hwy 65 and 5 miles East on Goshawk St. on Lake Minnewawa, McGregor, MN 56431– Shamrock Township. (Note: Date of activity for Raffle – February 10, 2018)

Under the consent agenda, motion for a resolution by Commissioner Marcotte, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to adopt resolution – All-Terrain Vehicle Trail Funding:

WHEREAS, local units of government can apply for State aide for trail development, maintenance, grooming and administration from the Minnesota Department of Natural

CALL TO ORDER

APPROVED AGENDA

CONSENT AGENDA

**RESOLUTION
20171114-080
LG230
MINNEWAWA
SPORTSMEN’S
CLUB**

**RESOLUTION
20171114-081**

Resources at the rate of 90% reimbursement of costs of grooming and maintenance, and

**ALL-TERRAIN
VEHICLE TRAIL
FUNDING**

WHEREAS, Aitkin County does not have the facilities to maintain the entire trail system in Aitkin County, and

WHEREAS, Clubs wish to contract with the County for maintaining these trails, and

WHEREAS, these trails benefit the recreation, resort, tourism, industry, and economy of Aitkin County.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Aitkin County Trail Administrator be authorized to apply for Grants in Aide assistance funds for All Terrain Vehicle Trail maintenance and grooming for the following trail:

Northwoods Regional ATV trail which consists of the following segments:
South Soo Line, North Soo Line, Rabey Line, Blind Lake, Redtop, Moose River Connector, Lawler, Blind Lake Connector Trail, Hill City Connector trail and Solana ATV trails.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Aitkin County Trail Administrator be authorized to contract for the development, maintenance and grooming of the aforementioned trails with qualified, interested clubs.

Under the consent agenda, motion for a resolution by Commissioner Marcotte, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to adopt resolution – Repurchase of Tax-Forfeited Land – Maudal:

WHEREAS, Mark Maudal, the former owner has made and filed an application with the County Auditor for the repurchase of the hereinafter described parcel of tax forfeited land, in accordance with the provisions of Minnesota Statutes 1945, Section 282.241, of amended, which land is situated in the County of Aitkin, Minnesota, and described as follows, to-wit:

**RESOLUTION
20171114-082
REPURCHASE OF
TAX-FORFEITED
LAND - MAUDAL**

Rodenberg Plat in Town of McGregor Lots 11 and 12 Blk 4

And WHEREAS, said applicant has set forth in his application, that

- a) *Hardship and injustice has resulted because of forfeiture of said land, for the following reasons, to-wit:* Haven't been able to find anywhere to live. I thought I was paying confession of judgment, but I wasn't.
- b) *That the repurchase of said land by me will promote and best serve the public interest, because:* I am going to get my taxes back up to date within 1 year and I will continue to keep my taxes and utilities current.

And WHEREAS, this board is of the opinion that said application should be granted a contract for repurchase for such reasons with the following conditions,

Total repurchase costs are: \$8,059.74 until November 1, 2017 at which time additional fees and interest will occur. Down payment paid on the repurchase amount was \$2,400.00 leaving a balance of \$5,659.74. The balance of the costs, will be paid with a monthly payment of \$500.00 until paid in full. Each payment will go to interest first and then to principal. Interest will be computed

on the unpaid balance at the state rate of 10% simple interest. First payment will be due on November 30th, 2017. Payments will be due on the 30th of each month until amount is paid in full. Prepayment is allowed on the contract with no penalty.

Mr. Maudal is responsible for paying each year's real estate taxes when they become due. No special assessments (unpaid utilities with the city) can occur during this period. If during the period of this contract, any of the before mentioned items happen or payments are not made when due, the forfeiture will be enforced. Notification of the reinstatement of the forfeiture will happen upon a 30 day notice on the subject property and/or mailed to the landowner. The property will be promptly vacated, but in no case later than 11:59 a.m. on the 31st day after the posting or mailing of the notice.

Mr. Maudal is not entitled to any refund of any amounts paid towards the repurchase costs in the event of a default on the contract to repurchase. The forfeiture will be enforced unless Mr. Maudal pays the entire outstanding repurchase balance before the 30th day.

Mr. Maudal will also be required to carry a liability policy on this property during the term of this contract with Aitkin County listed as an additional insured. This liability policy must be equal or greater than the County's statutory liability caps. The Aitkin County Land Department will be provided with a copy of the binder on the policy along with a copy of the paid receipt. This will be due effective the date of the agreement on this repurchase contract. Coverage verification will be due to the County by November 7th, 2017. If the liability insurance is not received on this property, Mr. Maudal will be considered in violation of the contract to repurchase.

Mr. Maudal will not be receiving the deed in his name until the contract for repurchase is paid in full.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the application of Mark Maudal for the purchase of the above described parcel of tax-forfeited land be and the same is hereby granted and the County Auditor is hereby authorized, and directed to permit such repurchase according to the provisions of Minnesota Statutes 1945, Section 282.241, as amended upon the completion of the contract for repurchase.

Under the consent agenda, motion by Commissioner Marcotte, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to approve amended License Center Rental Agreement which allows for a 90 day early termination notice in the event the license center moves to the new courthouse addition prior to the end of the lease period of December 31, 2021.

Under the consent agenda, motion for a resolution by Commissioner Marcotte, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to adopt resolution – Sponsorship of City of Aitkin Project for LRIP - #1:

WHEREAS, approximately \$25,300,000 of bond funds were appropriated to the Local Road Improvement Program by the Minnesota Legislature during the 2017 legislative session for a statewide solicitation to fund projects in the Routes of Regional Significance Account, the Rural Road Safety Account, or the Trunk Highway Account, and

WHEREAS, grant applications are currently being solicited by the Minnesota

**AMENDED
LICENSE CENTER
RENTAL
AGREEMENT**

**RESOLUTION
20171114-083
SPONSORSHIP OF
CITY OF AITKIN
PROJECT FOR
LRIP - #1**

Department of Transportation for eligible local projects, and

WHEREAS, non state-aid cities and townships are required to have county sponsorship to be eligible for grant funding, and

WHEREAS, the City of Aitkin has requested that Aitkin County sponsor their project on 1st Street NW from 2nd Avenue NW to 4th Avenue NW, and

WHEREAS, the City of Aitkin understands that it will be responsible for all project costs not covered by Local Road Improvement Program funding.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Aitkin County agrees to sponsor the project on 1st Street NW from 2nd Avenue NW to 4th Avenue NW for the purpose of the Local Road Improvement Program application.

Under the consent agenda, motion for a resolution by Commissioner Marcotte, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to adopt resolution – Sponsorship of City of Aitkin Project for LRIP - #2:

WHEREAS, approximately \$25,300,000 of bond funds were appropriated to the Local Road Improvement Program by the Minnesota Legislature during the 2017 legislative session for a statewide solicitation to fund projects in the Routes of Regional Significance Account, the Rural Road Safety Account, or the Trunk Highway Account, and

WHEREAS, grant applications are currently being solicited by the Minnesota Department of Transportation for eligible local projects, and

WHEREAS, non state-aid cities and townships are required to have county sponsorship to be eligible for grant funding, and

WHEREAS, the City of Aitkin has requested that Aitkin County sponsor their project on 1st Street NW from 4th Avenue NW to 7th Avenue NW, including 7th Avenue NW from 1st Street NW to 4th Street NW, and

WHEREAS, the City of Aitkin understands that it will be responsible for all project costs not covered by Local Road Improvement Program funding.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Aitkin County agrees to sponsor the project on 1st Street NW from 4th Avenue NW to 7th Avenue NW, including 7th Avenue NW from 1st Street NW to 4th Street NW for the purpose of the Local Road Improvement Program application.

Under the consent agenda, motion for a resolution by Commissioner Marcotte, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to adopt resolution – Sponsorship of City of Aitkin Project for LRIP - #3:

WHEREAS, approximately \$25,300,000 of bond funds were appropriated to the Local Road Improvement Program by the Minnesota Legislature during the 2017 legislative session for a statewide solicitation to fund projects in the Routes of Regional Significance Account, the Rural Road Safety Account, or the Trunk Highway Account,

**RESOLUTION
20171114-084
SPONSORSHIP OF
CITY OF AITKIN
PROJECT FOR
LRIP - #2**

**RESOLUTION
20171114-085
SPONSORSHIP OF
CITY OF AITKIN**

and

WHEREAS, grant applications are currently being solicited by the Minnesota Department of Transportation for eligible local projects, and

WHEREAS, non state-aid cities and townships are required to have county sponsorship to be eligible for grant funding, and

WHEREAS, the City of Aitkin has requested that Aitkin County sponsor their project on 1st Street NW from 7th Avenue NW to 12th Avenue NW, and

WHEREAS, the City of Aitkin understands that it will be responsible for all project costs not covered by Local Road Improvement Program funding.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Aitkin County agrees to sponsor the project on 1st Street NW from 7th Avenue NW to 12th Avenue NW for the purpose of the Local Road Improvement Program application.

Under the consent agenda, motion for a resolution by Commissioner Marcotte, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to adopt resolution – Sponsorship of City of Aitkin Project for LRIP - #4:

WHEREAS, approximately \$25,300,000 of bond funds were appropriated to the Local Road Improvement Program by the Minnesota Legislature during the 2017 legislative session for a statewide solicitation to fund projects in the Routes of Regional Significance Account, the Rural Road Safety Account, or the Trunk Highway Account, and

WHEREAS, grant applications are currently being solicited by the Minnesota Department of Transportation for eligible local projects, and

WHEREAS, non state-aid cities and townships are required to have county sponsorship to be eligible for grant funding, and

WHEREAS, the City of Aitkin has requested that Aitkin County sponsor their project on 1st Street NE from Minnesota Avenue to 1st Avenue NE, and

WHEREAS, the City of Aitkin understands that it will be responsible for all project costs not covered by Local Road Improvement Program funding.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Aitkin County agrees to sponsor the project on 1st Street NE from Minnesota Avenue to 1st Avenue NE for the purpose of the Local Road Improvement Program application.

Under the consent agenda, motion for a resolution by Commissioner Marcotte, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to adopt resolution – Sponsorship of City of Aitkin Project for LRIP - #5:

WHEREAS, approximately \$25,300,000 of bond funds were appropriated to the Local Road Improvement Program by the Minnesota Legislature during the 2017 legislative session for a statewide solicitation to fund projects in the Routes of Regional

**PROJECT FOR
LRIP - #3**

**RESOLUTION
20171114-086
SPONSORSHIP OF
CITY OF AITKIN
PROJECT FOR
LRIP - #4**

**RESOLUTION
20171114-087
SPONSORSHIP OF**

Significance Account, the Rural Road Safety Account, or the Trunk Highway Account, and

**CITY OF AITKIN
PROJECT FOR
LRIP - #5**

WHEREAS, grant applications are currently being solicited by the Minnesota Department of Transportation for eligible local projects, and

WHEREAS, non state-aid cities and townships are required to have county sponsorship to be eligible for grant funding, and

WHEREAS, the City of Aitkin has requested that Aitkin County sponsor their project on Bunker Hill Drive from County State-Aid Highway 12 to Trunk Highway 47, and

WHEREAS, the City of Aitkin understands that it will be responsible for all project costs not covered by Local Road Improvement Program funding.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Aitkin County agrees to sponsor the project on Bunker Hill Drive from County State-Aid Highway 12 to Trunk Highway 47 for the purpose of the Local Road Improvement Program application.

Sarah Hawkins, East Central Regional Library Resource Librarian gave a presentation to the Board about the MN Writes MN Reads program.

**ECRL
PRESENTATION**

Ross Wagner, Economic Development & Forest Industry Coordinator and Penny Simonson, East Central Regional Development Commission discussed the efforts being made to designate State Highways around Mille Lacs Lake as an official "Scenic Byway." No action was taken.

**MILLE LACS
SCENIC BYWAY
PRESENTATION**

Motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Marcotte and carried, all members voting yes to accept the following Iron Range/Blandin Broadband Community grants, and to authorize County Administrator to sign agreements:

**IRON RANGE/
BLANDIN
BROADBAND
COMMUNITY
GRANTS**

- \$ 4,987.00 Aitkin High School – 4 Wi-Fi enabled busses
- \$ 4,530.00 ECRL – 14 mobile Wi-Fi hotspots
- \$ 2,496.00 Long Lake Conservation Center Foundation – Wi-Fi and bandwidth
- \$ 4,600.00 Palisade Wi-Fi Project Berglund Park
- \$ 1,000.00 Aitkin County Administrative - for programming and events
- \$17,613.00 Grant amount
- \$ 5,144.00 Plus local match
- **\$22,757.00 Total project costs**

Sheriff Scott Turner discussed mass notification systems CodeRed and Everbridge with the Board. Motion by Commissioner Marcotte, seconded by Commissioner Pratt and carried, all members voting yes to approve a three year mass notification system contract with Everbridge, which will include automatic national weather alerts. Total cost for the first year is \$7,020.00. Years two and three will cost \$6,500.00 a year.

**MASS
NOTIFICATION
SYSTEM**

Penny Harms, Veterans Service Officer gave the Board an update on the Veterans Services Office.

VETERANS SERVICES UPDATE

The Board recognized Terry Neff, Environmental Services Director for the award he received from the Minnesota Association of County Planning and Zoning Administrators honoring his many years of service and dedication.

AWARD TO TERRY NEFF

The Board honored the following Aitkin County Veteran employees:

HONORING AITKIN COUNTY VETERAN EMPLOYEES

Veteran	Branch Served
Bochow, Aaron	US Army
Courier, Don	Military
Curtis, Dee	Army National Guard
Derksen, Larry	Army National Guard
Flier, Randy	Military
Guida, Dan	US Army, US Air Force, Air National Guard
Harms, Penny	US Army, Army National Guard
Hicks, Jim	US Navy
Hughley, Josh	Army National Guard, US Army
Johnson, Carter	US Army
Kazmerzak, Paul	US Army
Lundquist, Allen	US Army
Malloy, Scott	Army National Guard
Moriarty, Dan	US Marine Corps
Novotny, John	US Army
Olson, "Butch"	US Coast Guard
Speed, Shawn	US Air Force, Air National Guard
Stavish, Ashley	Army National Guard
Sutch, Chris	US Air Force
Thaemert, Carol	US Navy, Navy Ready Reserves
Turnock Kevin	Army National Guard
Wilke, Gary	US Army

Break: 10:44 a.m. to 11:13 a.m.

BREAK

Jessica Seibert, County Administrator updated the Board on the November 7th Budget Committee meeting.

BUDGET COMMITTEE

The Board discussed: AMC Legislative Priorities, Arrowhead Counties, Economic Development, AMC District 1 Mtg., Mille Lacs Fisheries, DAC, HRA, McGregor Airport, BSLWMP, Historical Society, Aitkin Airport, TZD, and Mn Dept. of Health Mtg.

BOARD DISCUSSION

Motion by Commissioner Westerlund seconded by Commissioner Pratt and carried, all members voting to adjourn the meeting at 12:16 p.m. until Tuesday, November 28, 2017 at 9:00 a.m.

ADJOURN



J. MARK WEDEL

J. Mark Wedel, Board Chair
Aitkin County Board of Commissioners



Jessica Seibert

Jessica Seibert, County Administrator