

AITKIN COUNTY BOARD

August 24, 2021

The Aitkin County Board of Commissioners met this 24th day of August, 2021 at 9:01 a.m. at the Aitkin Government Center with the following members present: Board Chair J. Mark Wedel, Commissioners Laurie Westerlund, Donald Niemi, Anne Marcotte, Brian Napstad, County Administrator Jessica Seibert, and Administrative Assistant Katie Gonzalez.

Call to Order

Motion made by Commissioner Marcotte, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all voting yes to approve the August 24, 2021 agenda as amended adding item 6) C) Courthouse Exterior Stair Replacement Contract and 6) D) Adopt Resolution - MNDOT Airport Grant Agreement.

Approved Agenda

AITKIN COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING

Health & Human Services

Attendance

The Aitkin County Board of Commissioners met this 24th day of August 2021, at 9:01 a.m. as the Aitkin County Health & Human Services Board, with the following members present: Commissioners Brian Napstad, J. Mark Wedel, Anne Marcotte, Don Niemi, and Laurie Westerlund. Others present included: Accounting Supervisor Carli Goble, Public Health Supervisor Erin Melz, Local Chief Medical Officer Dr David Taylor(via WebEx), Public Health Nurse Brea Hamdorf, HHS Advisory Committee Board Chair, Carole Holten, HHS Advisory Committee Board Co-Chair Joel Hoppe, County Administrator Jessica Seibert, Administrative Assistant Katie Gonzalez, Paul Vold, KKIN (via WebEx), Jennifer Eisenbart, Aitkin Age (via Webex).

Agenda

Motion by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund and carried, all members present voting yes to approve the July 27, 2021 Health & Human Services Board agenda as presented.

Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Napstad and carried, all members present voting yes to approve the July 27, 2021 Health and Human Services Board minutes.

Bills

Carli noted normal monthly bills this month, nothing out of routine.

Motion by Commissioner Marcotte, seconded by Commissioner Napstad, and carried all members present voting yes to approve the bills.

Director Update

Cynthia reported that due to time management, she will present information at the next H&HS board meeting.

COVID – 19 Update

Erin Melz, Public Health Supervisor / Dr David Taylor, Riverwood Healthcare Center
chief Medical Officer

Key Points:

- Aitkin County has seen a recent increase in case counts. In June there were 19 cases assigned, July 13 cases, with a 3-week period between June and July with no cases, and so far in August 54 cases
- The Delta variant has been sequenced and confirmed in Aitkin County COVID cases. It is safe to assume the Delta variant is the cause of nearly all recent infections.
- The #1 way to remain vigilant, mitigate spread and keep case counts down is to protect yourself through immunity by way of vaccination. Currently other protections include wearing a mask and minimizing the time you share air with others.
- RHCC is not currently overwhelmed with COVID patients but has seen a recent increase in hospitalizations, ER visits and same day clinic appointments due to confirmed or probable COVID.
- The COVID-19 vaccination is definitely a vaccine as it creates an immune response.
- Vaccine breakthrough cases remain uncommon and for those who test positive after vaccination, they are much less likely to become seriously ill, hospitalized or spread the virus.

Committee Reports

H&HS Advisory Committee

Updates provided by committee chair Carole Holten and co-chair Joel Hoppe. The board meeting consisted of 2 primary business articles 1) to change the day of the committee meeting from the first Wednesday of the month to the first Thursday of the month. Meetings to be held at the Aitkin Public Library. 2) To review the draft 2022 H&HS budget proposal. All committee members voted to approve the 2022 draft budget proposal.

Carole noted the good work that ANGELS are doing in the McGregor and surrounding areas.

CHS Joint Powers Board

Updates were provided on the strategic plan, routine business and on COVID-19.

CARE Board

Finances are doing well, there have been additional grants received which will be helpful to continue services. CARE is working on the community garden in Hill City, will become a site for the DHS fingerprinting, and has implemented a *Magic and Music* series in which the Chmielewskis played at the Butler building on August 21. There will be more performances occurring at the Butler building in the old opera area.

Commissioner Westerlund noted that there has been an increase in demand for Rides for Health and stated that they were hoping for funds to support this service.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

Next Meeting – September 28, 2021 at the Aitkin County Government Center.

There was no Citizens' Public Comment

**Health & Human
Services Board
Adjourns**

**Citizens' Public
Comment**

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Motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Napstad and carried, all members voting yes to approve the Consent Agenda as follows.

Consent Agenda

A) Correspondence File August 10, 2021 to August 23, 2021; B) Approve August 10, 2021 County Board Minutes; C) Approve Electronic Funds Transfers \$981,322.71; D) Approve Commissioner Vouchers: General Fund \$152,596.98, Reserves \$2,537.46, Road & Bridge \$57,439.88, Health & Human Services \$1,492.99, State \$10,018.39, Trust \$21,243.62, Forest Development \$1,006.29, Long Lake Conservation Center \$2,814.21, Parks \$45,638.74 for a total of \$294,788.56; E) Approve Auditor's Vouchers – Real Estate Assurance: State \$15,889.87; F) Approve Auditor's Vouchers – R&B Contract Payment: Road & Bridge \$182,874.81; G) Approve Auditor's Vouchers – Hwy Dept. Contract Payments 8-13-21: Road & Bridge \$516,301.94 H) Approve Auditor's Vouchers – Sales/Use and Diesel Tax: General Fund \$355.11, Road & Bridge \$696.91, Parks \$415.90 for a total of \$1,467.92; I) Approve Manual Warrants/Voids/Corrections – Camping Refunds: Parks \$130.00; J) Approve Manual Warrants/Voids/Corrections – Mtg Reg and Deed Tax: General Fund \$.04, State \$116,279.20, for a total of \$116,279.24; K) Approve Manual Warrants/Voids/Corrections – ELAN Paid 07/22/2021 Allocated: General Fund \$-5,076.51, Road & Bridge \$100.00, Health & Human Services \$1,878.02, Trust \$71.54, Forest Development \$2,949.99, Long Lake Conservation Center \$76.96 for a total of \$0.00; L) Approve Manual Warrants/Voids/Corrections – FSA Claims 39918402: General Fund \$131.73; M) Approve Kevin Stromberg for District 1 Board of Adjustment; N) Approve CCA Subsidy Increase; O) Approve Use of County Property; P) Approve Affidavit for Duplicate of Lost Warrant; Q) Adopt Resolution: Large License Assembly – White Pine Logging R) Adopt Resolution: Airport Improvement Program Project S) Adopt Resolution: MHFA Grant for Lakes & Pines CAC; T) Adopt Resolution: Set Unorganized Township Levies for 2022; U) Adopt Resolution: ACSWCD Appropriations Transfer

Under the consent agenda, motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Napstad and carried, all members voted to approve – Appoint Kevin Stromberg for District 1 Board of Adjustment.

Appoint Kevin Stromberg for District 1 Board of Adjustment

Under the consent agenda, motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Napstad and carried, all members voted to approve – CCA Subsidy Increase.

Approve CCA Subsidy Increase

Under the consent agenda, motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Napstad and carried, all members voted to approve – Use of County Property.

Use of County Property

Under the consent agenda, motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Napstad and carried, all members voted to approve – Affidavit for Duplicate of Lost Warrant.

Affidavit for Duplicate of Lost Warrant

Under the consent agenda, motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Napstad and carried, all members voted to adopt resolution: Large Assembly License – White Pine Logging.

Resolution #20210824-095 Large Assembly License – White Pine Logging

BE IT RESOLVED, the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners agrees to approve the following Application for Large Assembly:

White Pine Logging & Threshing Show – Williams Township. This is scheduled to take place September 4th, 5th & 6th, 2021 from 7:00 A.M. to 12:00 Midnight.

Under the consent agenda, motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Napstad and carried, all members voted to adopt resolution: Airport Improvement Program Project.

**Resolution:
#20210824-096
Airport
Improvement
Program Project**

WHEREAS, It has been determined that the lighting at the Aitkin Municipal Airport requires upgrading and funds are available through the Federal Aviation Administration for improvement projects;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners does hereby adopt this resolution authorizing application and acceptance of Airport Improvement Program Project funds for the Aitkin Municipal – Steve Kurtz Field Airport.

Under the consent agenda, motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Napstad and carried, all members voted to adopt resolution: MHFA Grant for Lakes & Pines CAC.

**Resolution:
#20210824-097
MHFA Grant for
Lakes & Pines
CAC**

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency, State of Minnesota, has been authorized to undertake a program to provide assistance to low-income families and youth to prevent homeless; and

WHEREAS, Lakes and Pine Community Actional Council, Inc. has developed an application as an Administering Entity for the Minnesota Housing Agency’s Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program; and

WHEREAS, Lakes and Pine Community Action Council, Inc. has demonstrated the ability to perform the required activities of the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency’s Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Lakes and Pines Community Action Council, Inc. is hereby authorized as an entity to be charged with the administration of funds made available through the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency’s Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program, in the County of Aitkin.

Under the consent agenda, motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Napstad and carried, all members voted to adopt resolution: Set Unorganized Township Levies for 2022.

**Resolution
#20210824-098
Set Unorganized
Township Levies
for 2022**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following sum of money be levied against the tax capacity of the Unorganized Townships of Aitkin County, for the year collectible 2022 for Road and Bridge purposes: \$46,000.00

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following sums of money be levied against the tax capacity of the Unorganized Townships of Aitkin County, for the year collectible 2022 for Fire Protection purposes:

Unorg Township	
52-22	\$13000
51-22	\$100

**Resolution
#20210824-099
Set Unorganized
Township Levies
for 2022**

45-24	\$500
47-24	\$1000
52-24	\$1000
50-25	\$1000
51-25	\$100
52-25	\$1200
50-26	\$1000
48-27	\$1000
49-27	\$4000
50-27	\$100
51-27	\$1000
52-27	\$2500

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following sums of money be levied against the tax capacity of the Unorganized Townships of Aitkin County, for the year collectible 2022 for Cemetery (Revenue):

Unorganized Township Cemetery:

Shovel Lake Cemetery

51-27	\$600
52-27	\$600

Hebron Cemetery

50-25	\$1,500
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Under the consent agenda, motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Napstad and carried, all members voted to adopt resolution: ACSWCD Appropriations Transfer.

BE IT RESOLVED, the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners agrees to transfer \$23,900 from County Development Funds to the Aitkin County Soil and Water Conservation District for fiscal years 2017-2021.

Dan Guida, County Sheriff, presented the Sheriff's Office 2022 Preliminary Budget.

Motion by Commissioner Marcotte, seconded by Commissioner Napstad and carried, all members voted to adopt resolution – Great River Energy Land Sale.

WHEREAS, Great River Energy, 12300 Elm Creek Blvd., Maple Grove, MN 55369 has requested to purchase the following lands to build electrical infrastructure adjacent to an existing powerline easement:

County Tax Forfeited Lands – Approximately 15 acres, The North Half of the Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter lying East of 275th Avenue in Section 11, Township 47 North, Range 25 West, Aitkin County, Minnesota (part of parcel 15-0-017700).

**Resolution
#20210824-100
Set Unorganized
Township Levies
for 2022**

**Resolution
#20210824-101
ACSWCD
Appropriations
Transfer**

**Presentation of
Sheriff's Office
2022 Budget**

**Resolution
#20210824-102
Great River
Energy Land Sale**

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WHEREAS, on February 9, 2021 the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners discussed the proposal and recommended approval for the sale of such lands,

WHEREAS, the 2021 Minnesota State Legislature has enacted legislation during the 1st Special Session, Chapter 6, S.F. No 20, Article 2, Section 119 which permits the direct sale of these tax forfeited lands,

WHEREAS, Great River Energy agrees to the proposed to the appraised values and closing fees,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Land Commissioner's Office to proceed with the sale of such lands

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the lands exchanged are subject to zoning ordinances adopted by the County Board and that all lands are subject to highway and utility easements.

Motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voted to adopt resolution – County Surveyor Reappointment.

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute 389 enables a County Board in Minnesota to appoint and employ a County Surveyor, and appointments are for four year terms.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Randy Quale is hereby appointed County Surveyor of Aitkin County for an additional four-year term commencing September 12, 2021, pursuant to the provisions of Minnesota Statute, Section 389.

Rich Courtemanche, Land Commissioner, presented the 2022 Preliminary Land Department Budget.

Motion by Commissioner Niemi, seconded by Commissioner Marcotte and carried, all members voted to approve Facility Improvement – Security Gate.

John Welle, County Engineer, presented on the 2022 Highway Department Budget.

Motion by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voted to approve Personnel Committee Recommendations (HWY Job Reclassifications);

Jessica Seibert, County Administrator updated the Board on the following:

- MCIT
- Motor Pool

**Resolution
#20210824-103
County Surveyor
Reappointment**

**2022 Budget
Presentation**

**Facility
Improvement –
Security Gate**

**2022 Budget
Presentation**

**Personnel
Committee
Recommendations
(HWY Job
Reclassifications)**

**Administrator
Updates**

- DEED Grant Award
- City Clerks Lunch
- Department Head 1:1s
- Fiscal Recovery Funds
- Remote Work Policy Draft
- Fund Balance
- Capital Improvement Plan

Motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Marcotte and carried, all members voted to approve Courthouse Exterior Stair Replacement Contract.

**Courthouse
Exterior Stair
Replacement
Contract**

Motion by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voted to adopt resolution – MNDOT Airport Grant.

**Resolution
#20210824-104
MNDOT Airport
Grant**

It is resolved by the **County of Aitkin** as follows:

1. That the state of Minnesota Agreement No. **1048140**,
"Grant Agreement for Airport Improvement Excluding Land Acquisition," for
State Project No. **A0101-49** at the **Aitkin Municipal-Steve Kurtz Field Airport** is
accepted.

2. That the _____ and _____
are _____ (Title) _____ (Title)
authorized to execute this Agreement and any amendments on behalf of the **County of
Aitkin.**

CERTIFICATION

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF _____

I certify that the above Resolution is a true and correct copy of the Resolution adopted by
the _____

(Name of the Recipient)
at an authorized meeting held on the _____ day of
_____, 20____
as shown by the minutes of the meeting in my possession.

Signature: _____
(Clerk or Equivalent)

CORPORATE SEAL /OR/ NOTARY PUBLIC
My Commission Expires: _____

The Board discussed: Mille Lacs Watershed, Mississippi Headwaters, Community Health,
NWAC, Solid Waste Advisory, ARDC, AIS, Historical Society, Aitkin Airport, AMC.

Board Discussion

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Motion by Commissioner Niemi, seconded by Commissioner Marcotte and carried, all members voting yes to adjourn the meeting at 1:05 p.m. until Tuesday, September 14, 2021 at the Aitkin County Government Center.

Adjourn

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

Jessica Seibert
County Administrator