



**AITKIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

September 26, 2023

9:00 a.m.

Government Center Board Room

Regular Session Minutes

**1.A CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Wedel called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Attendee Name	Title	Status
J. Mark Wedel	District #1	Present
Laurie Westerlund	District #2	Present
Travis Leiviska	District #3	Present
Bret Sample	District #4	Present
Michael Kearney	District #5	Present
Jessica Seibert	County Administrator	Present
Jeff Schmitt	Administrative Assistant	Present

**1.B PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**1.C APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion to: Approve the agenda, as amended.

**RESULT:** APPROVED (5 TO 0)  
**MOVER:** Commissioner Bret Sample  
**SECONDER:** Commissioner Laurie Westerlund  
 Add 7D - Adopt Resolution - TH 65-TH 210 Intersection - TED Application Resolution

**1.D Health & Human Services (see separate HHS Agenda)**

**1.E Citizens Public Comment - None**

**2 CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion to: Approve the Consent Agenda.

**RESULT:** APPROVED (5 TO 0)  
**MOVER:** Commissioner Bret Sample  
**SECONDER:** Commissioner Michael Kearney

**A) Correspondence File-**

September 13, 2023 - September 26, 2023

**B) Approve County Board Minutes-**

September 12, 2023

**C) Approve Electronic Funds Transfers**

<b>Total</b>	\$1,994,588.94
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**D) Approve Commissioner's Vouchers**

Commissioner Warrants 9-15-2023

General	\$104,458.01	State	\$765.00	Townships/Cities/ARDC/Ambulan	\$37,997.89
Reserves	\$7,000.00	Trust	\$6,025.45	Tax&Pnlty	\$2,637.00
R&B	\$113,239.95	Forest Dv.	\$15,273.81	Parks	\$37,049.40
		LLCC	\$7,177.72	<b>Total</b>	\$331,624.23

**E) Approve Auditor Vouchers-**

Sales/Use and Diesel Tax, August 2023

General	\$150.95	Trust	\$4.44	Parks	\$406.36		
R&B	\$1,906.43	LLCC	\$24.49			<b>Total</b>	\$2,492.67

**F) Approve Manual Warrants/Voids/Corrections-  
ELAN 8-31-2023**

General	\$3,795.38	HHS	\$487.66				
Trust	\$64.83					<b>Total</b>	\$4,347.87

**G) Approve Manual Warrants/Voids/Corrections-  
Manual Warrants 9-14-2023**

General	\$777.33	Tax&Pnlty	\$3,732.12	Parks	\$10.00		
State	\$72,338.96	LLCC	\$172.79			<b>Total</b>	\$77,031.20

**H) Approve Auditor Vouchers-  
Auditor Warrants 9-15-2023**

General	\$717.51						
Tax&Pnlty	\$6,304.72					<b>Total</b>	\$7,022.23

**I) Approve Auditor Vouchers-  
Auditor Warrant - Tax Court Settlement**

General	\$129.01						
						<b>Total</b>	\$129.01

**J) Adopt Resolution-  
Donation - SAR - Minnewawa Sportsmen Club**

**K) Adopt Resolution-  
Approve Temp. Liquor Lic. - Hunter's Supper**

**L) Approve-  
Affidavit for Duplicate of Lost Warrant**

**M) Approve-  
Equipment Purchase - Used Backhoe-Loader**

**N) Adopt Resolution-  
Donation - STS - Friends of Hammal Lake**

## Regular Agenda

3A Dennis Thompson – Land Commissioner  
**Informational Only**

Public Hearing - Heur Land Exchange

**RESULT:** **PUBLIC HEARING:**  
10:05 a.m. Open to public comment. No public comments received. Public hearing closed at 10:06 a.m.

3B Dennis Thompson – Land Commissioner  
**Motion to:**

Adopt Resolution - Heur Land Exchange

**RESULT:** **APPROVED (5 TO 0)**  
**MOVER:** Commissioner Travis Leiviska  
**SECONDER:** Commissioner Laurie Westerlund

3C Dennis Thompson – Land Commissioner  
**Motion to:**

Adopt Resolution - Northwoods ATV Trail Grant Appropriation

**RESULT:** **APPROVED (5 TO 0)**  
**MOVER:** Commissioner Laurie Westerlund  
**SECONDER:** Commissioner Bret Sample

3D Dennis Thompson – Land Commissioner  
**Motion to:**

Approval of Out-of-State Travel for Training - Forestry Conference

**RESULT:** **APPROVED (5 TO 0)**  
**MOVER:** Commissioner Laurie Westerlund  
**SECONDER:** Commissioner Travis Leiviska

3E Dennis Thompson – Land Commissioner  
**Informational Only**  
Invitation for County Board to Attend the NRAC Fall Tour

**RESULT: INFORMATIONAL ONLY**

Quorum will be present, Monday October 9, 2023.

4A Dan Guida – County Sheriff  
**Informational Only**  
Public Hearing - Cannabis Public Use Ordinance

**RESULT: PUBLIC HEARING:**

10:38 a.m. Open for public comment. Patrick Blunt commented on concern about smoke / air quality. Public hearing closed at 10:41 a.m.

4B Dan Guida – County Sheriff  
**Motion to:**  
Adopt Resolution - Cannabis Public Use Ordinance

**RESULT: APPROVED (5 TO 0)**

**MOVER:** Commissioner Michael Kearney

**SECONDER:** Commissioner Bret Sample

5A Kathleen Ryan – Chief Financial Officer  
**Informational Only**  
Discussion Only - CLA Audit Presentation

**RESULT: INFORMATIONAL ONLY**

6A Andrew Carlstrom – Environmental Services Director  
**Informational Only**  
Discussion Only - Amendment to Zoning Ordinance - Solar Energy Systems Ordinance

**RESULT: INFORMATIONAL ONLY**

6B Andrew Carlstrom – Environmental Services Director  
**Informational Only**  
Discussion Only - Planning Commission Denial of Repealing 1945 Restricted Lands Ord.

**RESULT: INFORMATIONAL ONLY**

7A Jessica Seibert – County Administrator  
**Motion to:**  
Approve Appointment of Representative to the Snake River 1W1P JPA

**RESULT: APPROVED (5 TO 0)**

**MOVER:** Commissioner Laurie Westerlund

**SECONDER:** Commissioner Bret Sample

Primary: Commissioner Leiviska; Alternate: Commissioner Sample

7B Jessica Seibert – County Administrator  
**Motion to:**  
Adopt Resolution - 2024 Preliminary Levy

**RESULT: APPROVED (5 TO 0)**

**MOVER:** Commissioner Michael Kearney

**SECONDER:** Commissioner Travis Leiviska

7C Jessica Seibert – County Administrator

**Informational Only**

Administrator Updates

Regular 1:1's, Facilities meeting, Talon Metals Community meeting, APT Anniversary Celebration, Department Heads meeting, Snake River Watershed meeting

7D John Welle – County Engineer

**Motion to:**

Adopt Resolution - TH 65-TH 210 Intersection - TED Application

**RESULT:** APPROVED (5 TO 0)

**MOVER:** Commissioner Bret Sample

**SECONDER:** Commissioner Laurie Westerlund

8A Board of Commissioners

**Informational Only**

Committee Reports

Fisheries, Arrowhead Counties Association, AMC Fall Policy Conference, Planning Commission, MRC, ARDC, CARE, Historical Society, Snake River Watershed, Joint Powers Natural Resource Board, Hill City meeting, Facilities

9A Jessica Seibert – County Administrator

**Motion to close meeting under MN Statute 13D.03 Subd.1(b) Labor Negotiations:**

Motion made at 11:51 a.m.

**MOVER:** Commissioner Bret Sample

**SECONDER:** Commissioner Travis Leiviska

**Motion to Reopen Meeting**

Motion made at 12:23 p.m.

**MOVER:** Commissioner Laurie Westerlund

**SECONDER:** Commissioner Travis Leiviska

**Motion to Adjourn**

Motion made at 12:23 p.m.

**MOVER:** Commissioner Laurie Westerlund

**SECONDER:** Commissioner Bret Sample

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday, October 10, 2023

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

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Jessica Seibert  
County Administrator