

FARIBAULT COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS  
AUGUST 18, 2020

The Faribault County Board of Commissioners met pursuant to the recess of August 4, 2020 in regular session via teleconference in the City of Blue Earth at 9:00 a.m. on August 18, 2020. The following members were present: Tom Loveall, John Roper, Tom Warmka, and Greg Young Commissioners; Bill Groskreutz, Commissioner met via Zoom. County Auditor/Treasurer/Coordinator Darren Esser and Acting Clerk to the Board Clara Vereide were also present. Also participating in the call were Faribault County employees: County Attorney Kathryn Karjala, Central Services Director Lexi Scholten, K. Anderson, Asmus, Blair, Hauskins, and Scholtes; members of public: Kevin Mertens and Milt Steele.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Warmka.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

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Young/Roper motion carried unanimously to approve the synopsis and official proceedings of the August 4, 2020 regular and drainage authority meetings.

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Groskreutz/Young motion carried unanimously to approve the amended agenda of August 18, 2020.

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The calendar was updated.

\* \* \* \* \*

During public comment Rick Scholtes, Mayor of Blue Earth, spoke regarding the re-purchase of tax forfeited property and their opposition.

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Committee reports were given: Young reported on Highway 16 closure and CD2; Roper reported on MVAC; Groskreutz reported on Human Services exec; and Warmka reported on ditch hearings and extension.

\* \* \* \* \*

Young/Roper motion carried unanimously to set hearing date of September 1, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. via Zoom for a public hearing for the issuance of an intoxicating off-sale liquor license to Steve Ricard and Daniel Ricard of the Derby Inn in Jo Daviess Township.

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Veteran Services Officer Jenna Schmidtke met regarding office business. Discussion was held regarding Purple Heart signage.

Roper/Loveall motion carried unanimously to approve Resolution 20-CB-55 entering into a grant agreement with the MDVA to conduct the County Veterans Service Office Operational Enhancement Grant program. Commissioners Groskreutz, Loveall, Roper, Warmka, and Young voted yes.

## **RESOLUTION**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by Faribault County that the County enter into the attached grant agreement with the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs (MDVA) to conduct the following program: County Veterans Service Office Operational Enhancement Grant Program. The grant must be used to provide outreach to the county's veterans; to assist in the reintegration of combat veterans into society; to collaborate with other social service agencies, educational institutions, and other community organizations for the purposes of enhancing services offered to veterans; to reduce homelessness among veterans; and to enhance the operations of the county veterans service office, as specified in Minnesota Statutes 197.608 and Minnesota Laws 2019, Chapter 10 Article 1, Section 37, Subdivision 2. This grant should not be used to supplant or replace other funding.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by Faribault County that Jenna R. Schmidtke, the County Veterans Service Officer, be authorized to execute the attached grant contract for the above-mentioned program on behalf of the County.

**WHEREUPON** the above resolution was adopted at a regular meeting of the County Board this eighteenth day of August 2020.

Groskreutz/Young motion carried unanimously to approve Resolution 20-CB-56 to approve the donations of \$500 from Elks Club of Mankato, \$1,000 from DAV Chapter #32, and \$500 from Margaret Trenary to the Faribault County Veteran's Service office. Commissioners Groskreutz, Loveall, Roper, Warmka, and Young voted yes.

## **RESOLUTION**

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Faribault County Board of Commissioners accept the following donations to the Veterans Services office: \$500 from Elks Club of Mankato, \$1,000 from DAV Chapter #32, and \$500 from Margaret Trenary.

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Planning and Zoning Administrator Loria Rebuffoni met regarding office business. Junkyard ordinance update was given.

\* \* \* \* \*

Public Works Director Mark Daly met regarding office business.

Loveall/Young motion carried unanimously to award 2020 contract for gasoline and diesel fuel supply to the sole bid from Freeborn County Co-op Oil.

Young/Roper motion failed to enter into a road and drainage agreement with Excel Energy for the 345 KV, Huntley-Wilmarth powerline project. Roper voted yes, Groskreutz, Loveall, and Young voted no.

Groskreutz/Roper motion carried unanimously to authorize the removal of the house at Pihl's Park.

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Young/Loveall motion carried unanimously to approve request from T. Hanevik to attend a 2-day Jail Administrators conference online and C. Vereide to attend a 2-day MnCCC Accessibility series – PDFs via Zoom.

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Roper/Loveall motion carried unanimously to create Soil and Water Conservation District committee and appointed the Chair and Vice Chair to the committee.

\* \* \* \* \*

Extension Educator Michelle Klinkner and Regional Director Craig Taylor, of the Mankato and Worthington regional offices met regarding extension business.

\* \* \* \* \*

Blue Earth City Administrator Mary Kennedy and Faribault County EDA Director Annie Liebel met during the call of public comment.

Young/Roper motion carried to approve Resolution 20-CB-57 denying the repurchase of tax-forfeited Parcels No. 21.325.0510 and 21.325.0520 by prior owner. Young, Roper, Loveall voted yes. Groskreutz and Warmka voted no.

## **RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS,** Parcels 21.325.0510 and 21.325.0520 were forfeited to the State of Minnesota in favor of the Taxing Districts and

**WHEREAS,** the prior owner, Bruce Stensland, has applied to repurchase the parcels pursuant to Minn. Stat. 282.241 to 282.324, and

**WHEREAS,** the Faribault County Board of Commissioners has considered the application to repurchase the parcels and finds that it would not be in the public's best interest to allow repurchase,

**BE IT RESOLVED** that Bruce Stensland, the former owner of parcels #21.325.0510 and 21.325.0520 described as Lot One (1) except the South 25 feet, in Block Six (6), as designated upon the recorded Plat of Garretson's Addition to Blue Earth City (now the City of Blue Earth), Faribault County, Minnesota on file in the Office of the Register of Deeds (now County Recorder) of said County and The South 25 feet of Lot One (1) and the North Half (N ½) of Lot Two (2) in Block Six (6) of Garretson's Addition to Blue Earth City (now the City of Blue Earth) according to the plat of said addition on file and of record in the office of the Register of Deeds (now County Recorder) of said Faribault County, Minnesota is denied the privilege to repurchase said parcels.

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Loveall motion died for lack of second to consider a resolution allocating a portion of the CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Funds removing the \$200,000 to Non-Profit Relief Grant Program due to lack of information.

Young/Roper motion carried to approve Resolution 20-CB-58 allocating a portion of the CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Funds: \$600,000 to the Faribault County Economic Development Authority to implement and administer the Business Relief Grant Program and Non-Profit Relief Grant Program, \$5,000 to the Faribault County Economic Development Authority to implement a broadband internet grant to BEVCOMM, Inc., and \$205,000 to Faribault & Martin County Human Services for qualified expenditures incurred between March 1, 2020 and December 1, 2020. Commissioners Young, Roper, and Groskreutz voted yes. Commissioners Loveall and Warmka voted no.

## **RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS,** the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) is a respiratory disease that was declared a global pandemic by the World Health Organization on March 11, 2020 and;

**WHEREAS,** the Federal CARES Act was signed into law on March 27, 2020, and was in part available to qualifying local, state, and federal agencies to cover expenses unaccounted for in the current budget incurred between March 1, 2020 and December 1, 2020, due to the public health emergency caused by the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) and;

**WHEREAS,** Governor Tim Walz on June 26, 2020 formally allocated funding for counties, cities, and townships in the State of Minnesota, and that local governments have discretion regarding expenditures for economic support of businesses, governmental entities, and non-profit organizations and;

**WHEREAS,** Faribault County was awarded \$1,655,319 and formally accepted CARES Act funding on August 4, 2020 and;

**WHEREAS,** Faribault County is developing a plan to utilize the CARES Act funding in accordance with Federal and State guidelines to address community needs resulting from the pandemic;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Faribault County Board of Commissioners approves the below partial allocation and distribution of CARES Act funds allocated to Faribault County according to the following breakdown and use:

1. \$600,000 to the Faribault County Economic Development Authority to implement and administer the Business Relief Grant Program and Non-Profit Relief Grant Program.
2. \$5,000 to the Faribault County Economic Development Authority to implement a broadband internet grant to BEVCOMM, Inc.
3. \$205,000 to Faribault & Martin County Human Services for qualified expenditures incurred between March 1, 2020 and December 1, 2020.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the County Auditor/Treasurer/Coordinator is directed to draft a letter of support from the Faribault County Board of Commissioners for the BEVCOMM broadband internet expansion project within the borders of Faribault County.

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Set budget work session to August 28, 2020 following CARES work session.

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Roper/Young motion carried unanimously to pay the following bills:

Auditor warrants for July 1 to July 31, 2020 totaling \$725,477.66 as follows:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Description</u>
07/02/2020	126,024.00	Auditor warrants
07/09/2020	235,125.86	Auditor warrants
07/16/2020	132,672.98	Auditor warrants
07/23/2020	143,427.42	Auditor warrants
07/30/2020	88,227.40	Auditor warrants

ACH-EFT warrants for July 1 to July 31, 2020 totaling \$769,756.78 as follows:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Description</u>
07/02/2020	1,388.63	Auditor warrants
07/07/2020	356,150.28	Commissioner warrants
07/09/2020	154,233.78	Auditor warrants
07/16/2020	2,003.31	Auditor warrants
07/21/2020	166,841.34	Commissioner warrants
07/23/2020	89,139.44	Auditor warrants

Audit list and auxiliary totaling \$425,827.16 as follows:

GENERAL REVENUE FUND	\$ 115,473.18
PUBLIC WORKS FUND	297,839.22
NON REV/DISB A	4,597.00
DITCH FUND	<u>7,917.76</u>
	\$ 425,827.16

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The meeting was adjourned for August 2020.

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Tom Warmka, Chair

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Clara Vereide, Acting Clerk to the Board