

FARIBAULT COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS  
MAY 5, 2020

The Faribault County Board of Commissioners met in regular session via teleconference in the City of Blue Earth at 9:00 a.m. on May 5, 2020. The following members were present: Bill Groskreutz, Tom Loveall, John Roper, Tom Warmka, and Greg Young Commissioners. County Auditor/Treasurer/Coordinator Darren Esser, County Attorney Kathryn Karjala, Central Services Director Lexi Scholten, and Acting Clerk to the Board Clara Vereide were also present.

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 April 21, 2020 regular meeting and January 7, 2020 CD41 hearing. Commissioners Groskreutz, Loveall, Roper, Warmka, and Young voted yes.

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Loveall/Young motion carried unanimously to approve the agenda of May 5, 2020 . Commissioners Groskreutz, Loveall, Roper, Warmka, and Young voted yes.

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The calendar was updated.

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Central Services Director Lexi Scholten met regarding office business.

Loveall/Groskreutz motion carried unanimously to approve hiring Zachary Coxworth as Maintenance Worker II in the Public Works Department effective June 1, 2020. Commissioners Groskreutz, Loveall, Roper, Warmka, and Young voted yes.

Young/Roper motion failed to postpone the re-appointment of the County Highway Engineer to May 19, 2020 board meeting. Commissioners Young and Roper voted yes; Commissioners Loveall, Groskreutz, and Warmka voted no.

Groskreutz/Loveall motion carried unanimously to re-appoint Mark Daly as County Highway Engineer for a 4-year term ending April 30, 2024. Commissioners Groskreutz, Loveall, Roper, Warmka, and Young voted yes.

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Soil and Water Conservation District Program Administrator Michele Stindtman met regarding Le Sueur River One Watershed, One Plan project.

Loveall/Roper motion carried unanimously to approve the Memorandum of Agreement and Resolution 20-CB-37 to support the Le Sueur River One Watershed One Plan project. Commissioners Groskreutz, Loveall, Roper, Warmka, and Young voted yes.

## **RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS,** the Minnesota Board of Soil and Water Resources has developed policies for coordination and development of comprehensive watershed management plans, also known as One Watershed, One Plan, consistent with Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103B.801, Comprehensive Watershed Management Planning Program; and

**WHEREAS,** Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103B.301, Comprehensive Local Water Management Act, authorizes Minnesota Counties to develop and implement a local water management plan; and

**WHEREAS,** Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103D.401, Watershed Management Plan, authorizes Minnesota Watershed Districts to develop and implement a watershed management plan; and

**WHEREAS,** Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103C.331, subdivision 11, Comprehensive Plan, authorizes Minnesota Soil and Water Conservation Districts to develop and implement a comprehensive plan; and

**WHEREAS,** the counties, soil and water conservation districts, and watershed districts within the Le Sueur River Watershed, HUC 01020011, and watershed number 26 as delineated in the attached One Watershed, One Plan Suggested Boundary Map, have interest in developing a comprehensive watershed management plan for this area.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that Faribault County recognizes and supports watershed-scale planning efforts consistent with Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103B.801, also known as One Watershed, One Plan; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Faribault County welcomes the opportunity to collaborate with the counties, soil and water conservation districts, and watershed districts within the Le Sueur River Watershed for watershed-scale planning efforts in the future; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Faribault County supports an application to the Board of Water and Soil Resources for a planning grant to develop a comprehensive watershed management plan and anticipates entering into a Memorandum of Agreement with the counties, soil and water conservation districts, and watershed districts within the Le Sueur River Watershed, to collaborate on this effort, pending selection as a recipient of a planning grant.

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Groskreutz/Young motion carried unanimously to approve training request from T. Beckman for a 2-day carbon monoxide and combustion analyst certification online.

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Blue Earth City Administrator Kim Moore and Mayor Rick Scholtes met regarding APX Housing project. Discussion was held regarding a tax increment financing district or tax abatement agreement.

Young/Roper motion failed to enter into a tax abatement agreement with the City of Blue Earth for the APX Housing project. Commissioners Young and Roper voted yes. Commissioners Groskreutz, Loveall, and Warmka voted no.

Loveall/Groskreutz motion carried unanimously to direct the Auditor/Treasurer/Coordinator continue discussions with the City of Blue Earth regarding tax abatement on APX Housing project. Commissioners Groskreutz, Loveall, Roper, Warmka, and Young voted yes.

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Public Works Director Mark Daly met regarding office business.

Loveall/Groskreutz motion carried unanimously to accept low bid of \$819,271.90 from Landwehr Construction for 2020 box culverts. One other bid was received from Midwest Contracting for \$839,481.00. Commissioners Groskreutz, Loveall, Roper, Warmka, and Young voted yes.

Discussion was held regarding Dr H Russ Drive in the City of Blue Earth agreement.

Young/Loveall motion carried unanimously to direct the county attorney to review the agreement with the City of Blue Earth on Dr H Russ Drive road. Commissioners Groskreutz, Loveall, Roper, Warmka, and Young voted yes.

Roper/Young motion carried unanimously to approve Resolution 20-RB02-38 for CSAH 13 easement for Union Pacific Railroad. Commissioners Groskreutz, Loveall, Roper, Warmka, and Young voted yes.

## **RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS,** in accordance with state statutes, Faribault County has the authority to grant easements over, through, under, or across any county property; and

**WHEREAS,** the county owns a permanent easement on County State Aid Highway 13 in Section 25, Township 102 North, Range 27 West; and

**WHEREAS,** Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) is in the process of installing a railroad signal mast and crossing gates;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that Faribault County does hereby agree to the terms and conditions of the license agreement (a copy of which is attached to this Resolution). The County Engineer is authorized to execute this agreement.

Construction update was given.

Groskreutz/Loveall motion carried unanimously to allow seasonal campers to perform yard maintenance on their site by appointment through the Public Works department. Commissioners Groskreutz, Loveall, Roper, Warmka, and Young voted yes.

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No member of the public appeared for Drainage Authority public comment

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Sheriff Mike Gormley gave an update on sheriff business during the pandemic.

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

Audit list and auxiliary totaling \$ 421,292.32 as follows:

GENERAL REVENUE FUND	\$ 58,340.69
PUBLIC WORKS FUND	106,386.46
HUMAN SERVICES FUND	238,806.67
DITCH FUND	<u>17,758.50</u>
	\$ 421,292.32

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The meeting was recessed to 9:00 a.m. May 19, 2020.

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Tom Warmka, Chair

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Clara Vereide, Acting Clerk to the Board