

ADJOURNED MEETING OF THE COUNTY BOARD
October 1st, 2024

The Board of Commissioners of Freeborn County met in the Freeborn County Boardroom at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, October 1st, 2024. Members present: Commissioners Forman, Kaasa, Shoff and Eckstrom. Commissioner Edwin was absent.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Eckstrom offered the following motion;

MOVED, approving the agenda as presented with the following additions under Report of County Administrator; to accept the resignation of Kelli Tiegs, Eligibility Worker Specialist, Sr. Lead position effective October 11th, 2024; and to consider a resolution to fill the vacant Eligibility Worker Specialist, Sr. Lead position.

Motion seconded by Commissioner Kaasa.

After discussion, a vote was taken and the Vice-Chair declared the motion approved.

Commissioner Kaasa offered the following resolution;

RESOLUTION No. 24-257
Approval of the Freeborn County Board of Commissioners Consent Agenda as provided
in the Freeborn County Board Rule of Procedure 9(A)

WHEREAS, the Freeborn County Board is the governing body of Freeborn County, and;

WHEREAS, the Freeborn County Board has implemented a Consent agenda to perform the duties of the board in a more effective and efficient manner, and

WHEREAS, the following items have been placed for approval of the Freeborn County Board of Commissioners on the current Board meeting Consent Agenda as provided by the Board rules of procedure, being routine and of a regular action;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, to place the following are hereby approved for appropriate action:

- 1) Approval of the September 17th, 2024 minutes;
- 2) Approval of Regular Full-Time Status Employees;
- 3) Approval of Drainage Repairs

Resolution seconded by Commissioner Shoff.

After discussion a vote was taken and the Vice-Chair declared the resolution adopted.

The Commissioners provided Board Committee updates.

Jacob Gross, U.S. Fish & Wildlife & Jon Beyer, Windom Wetland Management District presented the Certification of the Habitat Easement secured from Philip Hommerding, Alden Township, Section 36

Commissioner Eckstrom offered the following resolution:

RESOLVED AS, Representatives of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service met with the Board of Commissioners of Freeborn County, State of Minnesota, on April 16th, 2024, and informed the Commissioners that a Grant of Easement for Wildlife Habitat Protection has been secured from Philip Hommerding on the following described lands: T102N. R23W. 5th PM Section 36: Part of NE4.

Resolution second by Commissioner Shoff.

After discussion a vote was taken and the Vice-Chair declared the resolution adopted.

Vice-Chairman Forman asked if there was any public comment and there was none.

Commissioner Kaasa offered the following resolution;

Resolution 24-259

Domestic Violence Awareness Month – October 2024 Freeborn County Board of Commissioners

In the County of Freeborn, in recognition of the important work done by survivors, domestic violence programs and victim service providers, I urge all citizens to actively participate in the scheduled activities and programs sponsored by the Crime Victim's Crisis Center and other community organizations to work toward the elimination of domestic violence.

WHEREAS, domestic violence is defined as abusive behaviors in a personal relationship that gives one person power and control over another through physical, emotional, psychological, sexual or economic actions or threats; and

WHEREAS, on average, nearly 20 people per minute are physically assaulted by an intimate partner in the United States; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence is the 3rd leading cause of homelessness in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the impact of domestic violence is wide ranging, directly affecting adults, children, and society here in this community, throughout the United States and the world; and

WHEREAS, in 2023, at least 425 victim survivors of domestic violence and their children sought safety and services from the Freeborn County Crime Victims Crisis Center; and

WHEREAS, approximately 34% of domestic violence victim survivors served by the Freeborn County Crime Victims Crisis Center identified as people of color yet only constitute about 19% of our overall population; and

WHEREAS, racism, homophobia, transphobia, ageism and discrimination based on physical ability, nationality or other factors help to perpetuate domestic violence and make finding safety even more difficult for some victim survivors; and

WHEREAS, all victim survivors deserve access to culturally responsive programs, services, and support within their communities to increase their safety and self-sufficiency; and

WHEREAS, all communities deserve access to culturally responsive prevention programs and initiatives to improve overall community health and safety by challenging the societal norms that perpetuate domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, policymakers and communities must work together to transform the conditions that cause domestic violence and support survivor-centered solutions; and

BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Board of Commissioners of Freeborn County, hereby do proclaim *October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month*.

Resolution seconded by Commissioner Shoff.

After discussion a vote was taken and the Vice-Chair declared the resolution adopted.

Commissioner Eckstrom offered the following resolution;

RESOLUTION 24-260

Resolution to Approve the Grant Contract Amendment for with Minnesota Department of Health for the Children with Special Health Care Needs Follow-Up

WHEREAS, Freeborn County Community Health Board will contract with Minnesota Department of Health for the Children with Special Health Care Needs Program Follow-Up;

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute 145A.14 states that the community health board shall promote healthy communities and healthy behavior through activities that improve health in a population, such as investing in healthy families; engaging communities to change policies, systems, or environments to promote positive health or prevent adverse health; providing information and education about healthy communities or population health status; and addressing issues of health equity, health disparities, and the social determinants to health;

WHEREAS, this grant contract amendment is effective on January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2026. The grant contract amendment is for Freeborn County Public Health to deliver follow-up services to children with special health care needs and their families identified through Minnesota Department of Health Children with Special Health Care Needs program to identify

specific needs and assist with connection and referral to needed services. The grant amendment now includes the Follow Along Program. The Follow Along Program had been included with another grant contract in the past and is now moved to this grant agreement. The Follow Along Program is a tracking program for children's development that is done by mail, along with connecting the children to resources if there is a concern.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Freeborn County Board of Commissioners/Freeborn County Community Health Board does hereby approve the contract with Minnesota Department of Health for Children with Special Health Care Needs Program Follow-Up.

Resolution seconded by Commissioner Kaasa.

After discussion, a vote was taken and the Vice-Chair declared the resolution approved.

A Continued Public Hearing was held regarding a Petition to Divert Freeborn County Ditch No. 55 Drainage System Waters was at 8:45 a.m. After discussion the Vice-Chair closed the Continued Hearing at approximately 9:02 a.m.

Commissioner Shoff offered the following resolution:

RESOLUTION AS, to adopt the Findings and Order dismissing Petition to Divert Freeborn County Ditch No. 55 Drainage System Waters

Resolution was seconded by Commissioner Eckstrom.

After discussion, a vote was taken and the Vice-Chair declared the resolution approved.

Commissioner Shoff offered the following resolution:

RESOLUTION 24-262

Resolution Authorizing the Replacement Two of Motor Graders

WHEREAS, the Freeborn County Highway Department has the responsibility of maintaining the county road system; and,

WHEREAS, the Freeborn County Highway Department maintains a fleet of motor graders for road maintenance that are also used for critical snow and ice management across the county road system; and

WHEREAS, there are two units within the fleet that have approached the end of their useful service life to the County; and,

WHEREAS, the lead time necessary when ordering the replacement units does not allow such orders to occur within the same year of an approved budget; and,

WHEREAS, to secure current contract pricing and to avoid cost escalation included in future state contracts, the purchases must be authorized by October 20, 2024 and prior to the approval of the 2025 budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the County Highway Engineer is authorized to place orders with RDO Equipment Company for the replacement units at a total approximate cost of approximately \$710,000 including all attachments and after trade in values are considered; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED no bills for the replacement equipment will come due nor will the County take position of the replacement units until 2025.

Resolution was seconded by Commissioner Eckstrom.

After discussion, a vote was taken and the Vice-Chair declared the resolution approved.

Commissioner Shoff offered the following resolution:

FREEBORN COUNTY MINNESOTA RESOLUTION # 24-263

A RESOLUTION to accept \$20.00 in donations from the Ladies of the Domestic Engineers Extension Group. The donated funds will be put towards the Sheriff's Office K-9 fund (01-202-5752)

WHEREAS, Minnesota State Statute 465.03 allows for counties to accept donations and grants through resolution by the board.

WHEREAS, the Freeborn County Sheriff's Office has a K-9 program.

WHEREAS, the Freeborn County Sheriff's Office received a donation of \$20 from the Domestic Engineers Extension ladies' group, designated for the Sheriff's Office K-9 program in September of 2024.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that Freeborn County, by and through its Board of Commissioners, accepts the donation and approves the deposit of \$20.00 of donated funds into the 01-202-000-0000-5752 line item to be utilized for the Freeborn County Sheriff's Office K-9 program.

Resolution was seconded by Commissioner Kaasa.

After discussion, a vote was taken and the Vice-Chair declared the resolution approved.

Commissioner Eckstrom offered the following resolution:

RESOLUTION 24-264

ACCEPTING THE RESIGNATION OF KELLI TIEGS

WHEREAS, the Freeborn County Department of Human Services has the responsibility for providing a quality service with integrity and accountability to the citizens of Freeborn County;

WHEREAS, the Freeborn County Board is the appointing authority for all county employees;

WHEREAS; Kelli Tiegs has been employed as an Eligibility Worker Specialist, Sr. – Lead since October 31st, 2016 and is resigning her position effective October 11th, 2024,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, to accept the resignation of Kelli Tiegs as an Eligibility Worker Specialist, Sr. - Lead effective on or about October 11th, 2024.

Resolution was seconded by Commissioner Shoff.

After discussion, a vote was taken and the Vice-Chair declared the resolution approved.

Commissioner Kaasa offered the following resolution:

RESOLUTION 24-265

PERMISSION TO FILL THE FREEBORN COUNTY ELIGIBILITY WORKER SPECIALIST, SR. – LEAD POSITION

WHEREAS, the Freeborn County employees have the responsibility for providing quality service with integrity and accountability to the citizens of Freeborn County;

WHEREAS, the Freeborn County Board is the appointing authority for all county employees, and;

WHEREAS, Kelli Tiegs, Freeborn County Eligibility Worker Specialist Sr. - Lead has resigned her position effective October 11th, 2024;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the board approves the filling of the vacant Eligibility Worker Specialist, Sr - Lead position.

Resolution was seconded by Commissioner Eckstrom.

After discussion, a vote was taken and the Vice-Chair declared the resolution approved.

Commissioner Shoff offered the following resolution:

RESOLUTION No. 24-266

Approval of Claims

RESOLVED, that the following claims be allowed and paid on or before October 4th, 2024.

<u>FUND</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
01	General Fund	\$ 654,703.97
03	County Road & Bridge	\$ 1,221,235.45
05	Human Services	\$ 186,940.48
06	Public Health	\$ 74,664.07
31	Capital Improvements	\$ 13,182.56
40	County Ditch	\$ 24,730.27
70	Trust & Agency	\$ 87,054.88
73	Payroll Clearing Fund	\$ 8,550.82
74	Turtle Creek Watershed	\$ 48,008.08
77	Recorder's Clearing	\$ 1,766.00
79	Social Collab	\$ 57.31
80	Tax Collection Fund	\$ 79,958.10
	FUND TOTALS	\$ 2,400,851.99

Number of Claims not exceeding \$300 – 212

Dollar amount of claims not exceeding \$300 – \$20,633.76

Resolution seconded by Commissioner Kaasa.

After discussion, a vote was taken and the Vice-Chair declared the resolution adopted.

Vice-Chair, Commissioner Forman adjourned the meeting at 9:28 a.m. until 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, October 15th, 2024.

By: _____
John Forman
Vice-Chair

Attest: _____
Ryan Rasmusson
County Administrator