

ADJOURNED MEETING OF THE COUNTY BOARD
October 15th, 2024

The Board of Commissioners of Freeborn County met in the Freeborn County Boardroom at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, October 15th, 2024. Members present: Commissioners Forman, Edwin, Kaasa, Shoff and Eckstrom.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Kaasa enter the following resolution;

RESOLVED AS, to appoint Chelsea Barrett as County Board Clerk

Resolution seconded by Commissioner Shoff.

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

Commissioner Forman offered the following motion;

MOVED, approving the agenda with the following additions under Report of County Administration; to consider a resolution to accept the resignation of Rub Guerrero, Detention Deputy, effective October 24th, 2024; and to consider a resolution to fill the vacant Detention Deputy position.

Motion seconded by Commissioner Eckstrom.

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

Commissioner Kaasa offered the following resolution;

RESOLUTION No. 24–268
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 October 1st, 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 Chair declared the resolution adopted.

The Commissioners provided Board Committee updates.

Commissioner Eckstrom offered the following resolution;

RESOLVED, appointing Michelle O'Connor to a 3-year term on the Turtle Creek Watershed Board of Managers.

Resolution was seconded by Commissioner Shoff.

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

James Fett from the Turtle Creek Watershed District presented the 2023 Annual Report to the Board of Commissioners.

Chairman Edwin asked if there was any public comment. Peggy Olson and Gary Schindler from the Albert Lea Isaiah Rural Organization presented regarding the election process.

Commissioner Forman offered the following resolution;

RESOLUTION 24-270
DITCH ASSESSMENTS FOR 2025

WHEREAS, under the provisions of Subdivision 1, Section 103E.735, M.S.A., is within the authority of this Board to provide funds for contemplated repairs to various drainage systems in the County within the limits of said law; and

WHEREAS, such funds are available in the accounts of several of said systems, and it is necessary to provide such funds in other active ditches to cover the cost of current repairs and to avoid a deficit condition in the funds of those ditches,

NOW THEREFORE, it is hereby ordered that the amounts deemed necessary to provide such repair funds be assessed upon all lands assessed and benefited according to law; that such assessments be payable in equal annual installments, the first of which shall be payable on or before the 15th day of May, 2025, with and as part of the real estate taxes for each year.

It is further ordered that the County Auditor-Treasurer of Freeborn County be and is hereby ordered to make such assessments, and in the instances where the assessments are payable in more than one installment, to file in the Office of the County Recorder of Freeborn County, a summary statement and lien of such assessments against all lands benefited in the original proceedings for construction of said drainage systems in the same proportionate amounts as required by law.

It is further ordered that the amounts of the assessments, as herein ordered, shall be set forth hereafter opposite the name and number of each individual ditch system.

		Approx. Acres			
County Ditch No.	4	1,800	\$	5,000.00	Payable in one installment
County Ditch No.	5	10,700	\$	20,000.00	Payable in one installment
County Ditch No.	8	6,100	\$	50,000.00	Payable in one installment
County Ditch No.	11	4,000	\$	15,000.00	Payable in one installment
County Ditch No.	15	2,100	\$	10,000.00	Payable in one installment
County Ditch No.	16	10,000	\$	20,000.00	Payable in one installment
County Ditch No.	17	5,000	\$	25,000.00	Payable in one installment
County Ditch No.	23	13,000	\$	30,000.00	Payable in one installment
County Ditch No.	28	5,900	\$	20,000.00	Payable in one installment
County Ditch No.	30	5,800	\$	20,000.00	Payable in one installment
County Ditch No.	31	3,700	\$	15,000.00	Payable in one installment
County Ditch No.	32	3,000	\$	15,000.00	Payable in one installment
County Ditch No.	34	3,200	\$	15,000.00	Payable in one installment
County Ditch No.	35	1,100	\$	5,000.00	Payable in one installment
County Ditch No.	36	3,500	\$	10,000.00	Payable in one installment
County Ditch No.	39	3,500	\$	5,000.00	Payable in one installment
County Ditch No.	40	3,700	\$	15,000.00	Payable in one installment
County Ditch No.	43	3,100	\$	20,000.00	Payable in one installment
County Ditch No.	46	10,000	\$	25,000.00	Payable in one installment
County Ditch No.	49	2,800	\$	10,000.00	Payable in one installment
County Ditch No.	53	730	\$	5,000.00	Payable in one installment
County Ditch No.	54	3,100	\$	15,000.00	Payable in one installment

County Ditch No.	55	18,300	\$	25,000.00	Payable in one installment
County Ditch No.	62	10,200	\$	25,000.00	Payable in one installment
County Ditch No.	63	4,100	\$	15,000.00	Payable in one installment
County Ditch No.	64	3,100	\$	15,000.00	Payable in one installment
County Ditch No.	65	12,000	\$	25,000.00	Payable in one installment
County Ditch No.	68	4,300	\$	15,000.00	Payable in one installment
County Ditch No.	71	12,300	\$	60,000.00	Payable in one installment
County Ditch No.	75	4,600	\$	20,000.00	Payable in one installment
County Ditch No.	76	1,500	\$	7,500.00	Payable in one installment
County Ditch No.	77	20,400	\$	50,000.00	Payable in one installment
County Ditch No.	79	6,000	\$	25,000.00	Payable in one installment
County Ditch No.	80	2,900	\$	20,000.00	Payable in one installment
County Ditch No.	81	480	\$	2,000.00	Payable in one installment
County Ditch No.	82	4,100	\$	15,000.00	Payable in one installment
Joint Ditch No.	2 F&S	4,600	\$	5,000.00	Payable in one installment
Judicial Ditch No.	5	2,000	\$	15,000.00	Payable in one installment
Judicial Ditch No.	5 M & F	1,600	\$	5,000.00	Payable in one installment
Judicial Ditch No.	6	10,700	\$	30,000.00	Payable in one installment
Joint Ditch No.	6 F&W	560	\$	2,500.00	Payable in one installment
Judicial Ditch No.	8 F&W	3,200	\$	15,000.00	Payable in one installment
Judicial Ditch No.	9	2,400	\$	40,000.00	Payable in one installment
Judicial Ditch No.	12	1,600	\$	20,000.00	Payable in one installment
Judicial Ditch No.	12 S&F	155	\$	1,000.00	Payable in one installment
Judicial Ditch No.	14 F & F	6,800	\$	15,000.00	Payable in one installment
Judicial Ditch No.	17 F & M	800	\$	5,000.00	Payable in one installment
Judicial Ditch No.	18	3,400	\$	10,000.00	Payable in one installment
Judicial Ditch No.	19	160	\$	1,000.00	Payable in one installment
Judicial Ditch No.	20	4,000	\$	20,000.00	Payable in one installment
Judicial Ditch No.	21	2,400	\$	10,000.00	Payable in one installment
Judicial Ditch No.	22	3,600	\$	15,000.00	Payable in one installment
Judicial Ditch No.	23 F & S	270	\$	3,000.00	Payable in one installment
Judicial Ditch No.	25	8,100	\$	35,000.00	Payable in one installment
Judicial Ditch No.	26 F & F	4,500	\$	15,000.00	Payable in one installment
Judicial Ditch No.	26 M & F	490	\$	2,000.00	Payable in one installment
Judicial Ditch No.	27	3,800	\$	5,000.00	Payable in one installment
Judicial Ditch No.	28	1,400	\$	5,000.00	Payable in one installment
Judicial Ditch No.	29	69	\$	500.00	Payable in one installment
Judicial Ditch No.	30	430	\$	2,500.00	Payable in one installment
Judicial Ditch No.	301 F & F	2,100	\$	5,000.00	Payable in one installment
				\$ 972,000.00	TOTAL REPAIRS PAYABLE

Resolution seconded by Commissioner Shoff.

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

Commissioner Shoff offered the following resolution;

Freeborn County Board of Commissioners

RESOLUTION 24-271

Resolution to accept two anonymous cash donations to the Freeborn County CVCC

WHEREAS, the Freeborn County Department of Human Services Crime Victims Crisis Center serves those who have been victims of crime, domestic violence and sexual assault; and

WHEREAS, the Freeborn County Human Department of Services Crime Victims Crisis Center plans events and campaigns bringing community awareness to the issues of crime, domestic violence and sexual assault; and

WHEREAS, the Freeborn County Human Department of Services Crime Victims Crisis Center provides direct and indirect services, including but not limited to support, shelter, advocacy, limited financial assistance for basic needs, transportation and referrals to those who have been victims of crime, domestic violence and sexual assault; and

WHEREAS, the Freeborn County Department of Human Services Crime Victims Crisis Center has received two anonymous cash donations in the amounts of \$20.00 and \$5.00 to be used for services provided by the CVCC; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Freeborn County Department of Human Services Crime Victims Crisis Center accepts the donations totaling \$25.00 to be used in 2024 for services provided by the CVCC.

Resolution seconded by Commissioner Kaasa.

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

Commissioner Kaasa offered the following resolution:

Freeborn County Board of Commissioners

RESOLUTION 24-272

Resolution to accept a donation from Albert Lea Girl Scout Troop #47847

WHEREAS, the Freeborn County Department of Human Services child protection unit serves children who have been victims of abuse and neglect; and

WHEREAS, there are instances when ensuring safety of a child requires temporary placement of the child with a relative or in a non-relative foster home; and

WHEREAS, placement out-of-home is a traumatic event for children and youth of all ages, regardless of the setting; and

WHEREAS, children sometimes enter out-of-home care without basic comfort items such as books, blankets, personal hygiene items, stuffed animals and others miscellaneous items; and

WHEREAS, the Freeborn County Department of Human Services Child Protection Unit has received a donation of six special bags containing comfort items for children entering out-of-home care; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Freeborn County accepts the donations to the Department of Human Services Child Protection Unit to be distributed to children and youth placed in out-of-home settings.

Resolution was seconded by Commissioner Shoff.

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

Commissioner Forman offered the following resolution:

RESOLUTION 24-273

RESOLUTION APPROVING CONTRACT RENEWAL WITH ARCTIC WOLF

WHEREAS, Freeborn County has utilized Arctic Wolf for cyber security and insurance; and

WHEREAS, the current agreement expired in October 27th of 2024; and

WHEREAS, Freeborn County wishes to continue utilizing Arctic Wolf for those software programs;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Freeborn County Board of Commissioners hereby approve the contract renewal with Arctic Wolf through October of 2025.

Resolution was seconded by Commissioner Shoff.

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

Commissioner Shoff offered the following resolution:

RESOLUTION 24-274

RESOLUTION APPROVING CONTRACT RENEWAL WITH SOFTCHOICE

WHEREAS, Freeborn County has utilized Softchoice for Microsoft Office, Windows Enterprise, SharePoint Server, and Sequel Server; and

WHEREAS, the current agreement expired in August of 2024 and Freeborn County is operating on an extension of the agreement; and

WHEREAS, Freeborn County wishes to continue utilizing Softchoice for those software programs;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Freeborn County Board of Commissioners hereby approve the contract renewal with Softchoice through August of 2027.

Resolution was seconded by Commissioner Eckstrom.

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

Commissioner Kaasa offered the following resolution:

FREEBORN COUNTY

RESOLUTION 24-275

WHEREAS Freeborn County is the fiscal agent for the Third Judicial District Veteran's Court, and;

WHEREAS Freeborn County receives funding from the state of Minnesota as a state allocation, which requires the Freeborn County to enter into and maintain a contract for services with the state, and;

WHEREAS Freeborn County wishes to continue to this relationship with the State for the state fiscal year 2025, running through the period of 07/01/2024-06/30/2025, and;

WHEREAS it is agreed this is a mutually beneficial relationship between the state and the county;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Freeborn County Board of Commissioners approve the Cooperative Agreement between the state of Minnesota and Freeborn County covering the services and reimbursement between Freeborn County and the state.

Resolution was seconded by Commissioner Forman.

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

Commissioner Forman offered the following resolution:

FREEBORN COUNTY MINNESOTA RESOLUTION #24-276

A RESOLUTION GRANTING A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT TO DAVID SCHULTZ PURSUANT TO THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF FREEBORN COUNTY, MINNESOTA, CHAPTER 42

WHEREAS, DAVID SCHULTZ applied for a conditional use permit to the Zoning Administrator on 09/17/24 pursuant to the Code of Ordinances of Freeborn County, Minnesota, Chapter 42 (Zoning Ord.) for the establishment of a new 240 animal unit feedlot consisting of (1) 62' x 610' barn and (1) 62' x 640' barn to house a total of 80,000 laying chickens, on the following described property owned by, David A. Schultz;

“See Exhibit A”

WHEREAS, the County Planning Commission held a public hearing on the application on 10/07/24 in accordance with the Zoning Ord., Art. VIII, Sec. 42-612.

WHEREAS, the County Planning Commission made a decision on the application and forwarded its required findings of fact and recommendations to the Freeborn County Board of Commissioners in the attached report.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, the Freeborn County Board of Commissioners approves and adopts the findings of fact and recommendations of the County Planning Commission in the attached report,

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the application for a conditional use permit by David Schultz is hereby granted, subject to the conditions and guarantees required below:

1.Owner/operator shall schedule a pre-construction meeting with the Owner/operator, Engineer(s), Concrete Contractor(s), Perimeter Tile Installer(s) and the Environmental Services Department 3 days prior to the start of the construction.

2.Owner/operator shall register this facility with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency(MPCA). This registration shall be updated every 4 years.

3.There are 936-acres available for manure application through various family farms. Inclement weather shall be the only exception to this manure application method. All manure application setback distances shall be followed.

4.Owner/Operator shall notify Freeborn County Environmental Services Department prior to removing manure from a manure storage area.

5.This facility shall comply with the MPCA Rules 7020, and Chapter 42 of the Freeborn County Code of Ordinance.

6.Feedlot owner shall cooperate with the affected road authority in regards to upkeep and maintenance of roads utilized by the facility.

7.The facility may not be extended or expanded without review and approval of the Freeborn County Board of Commissioners.

8.The permit may be revoked by the Freeborn County Board of Commissioners at a public hearing to be held after 30 days notice is given for failure to comply with the provisions of this permit.

Resolution was seconded by Commissioner Kaasa.

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

Commissioner Shoff offered the following resolution:

RESOLUTION 24-277

ACCEPTING THE RESIGNATION OF CANDICE LAHANN

WHEREAS, the Freeborn County Assessor’s Office 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; Candice Lahann has been employed as the County Assessor since February 12th, 2024 and is resigning her position effective October 16th, 2024,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, to accept the resignation of Candice Lahann as a Freeborn County Assessor effective on or about October 16th, 2024.

Resolution was seconded by Commissioner Eckstrom.

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

Commissioner Kaasa offered the following resolution:

RESOLUTION 24-278

PERMISSION TO FILL THE FREEBORN COUNTY ASSESSOR 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, Candice Lahann, Freeborn County Assessor has resigned her position effective October 16th, 2024;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the board approves the filling of the vacant Freeborn County Assessor position.

Resolution was seconded by Commissioner Shoff.

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

Commissioner Kaasa offered the following resolution:

RESOLUTION 24-279

PERMISSION TO FILL THE FREEBORN COUNTY HIGHWAY TECH I 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;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the board approves the filling of the vacant Freeborn County Highway Tech I position.

Resolution was seconded by Commissioner Eckstrom.

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

Commissioner Forman offered the following resolution:

RESOLUTION 24-280

ACCEPTING THE RESIGNATION OF RUBY GUERRERO

WHEREAS, the Freeborn County Detention Center 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; Ruby Guerrero has been employed as a Detention Deputy since June 5th, 2023 and is resigning her position effective October 24th, 2024,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, to accept the resignation of Ruby Guerrero as a Freeborn County Detention Deputy effective on or about October 24th, 2024.

Resolution was seconded by Commissioner Shoff.

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

Commissioner Kaasa offered the following resolution:

RESOLUTION 24-281

PERMISSION TO FILL A FREEBORN COUNTY DETENTION DEPUTY 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, Ruby Guerrero, Freeborn County Detention Deputy has resigned her position effective October 24th, 2024;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the board approves the filling of the vacant Freeborn County Detention Deputy position.

Resolution was seconded by Commissioner Shoff.

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

Commissioner Kaasa offered the following resolution:

RESOLVED AS, to advertise for the County Administrator position.

Resolution was seconded by Commissioner Shoff.

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

Commissioner Shoff offered the following resolution:

RESOLVED AS, to appoint Pat Paquin as Interim County Administrator.

Resolution was not seconded.

After discussion, the Chair declared resolution became null and void.

Commissioner Eckstrom offered the following resolution:

RESOLVED AS, to appoint Darrell Pettis as Interim County Administrator.

Resolution was seconded by Commissioner Forman.

After discussion, a vote was taken with Commissioners Shoff and Kaasa voting nay and Commissioners Eckstrom, Forman and Edwin voting yay, the Chair declared the resolution approved.

Commissioner Shoff offered the following:

RESOLVED AS, to assign Commissioner Kaasa to be a member of the Personnel Committee

Resolution was seconded by Commissioner Forman.

After discussion, a vote was taken with Commissioner Kaasa abstaining, Chair declared the resolution approved.

Commissioner Eckstrom offered the following resolution:

RESOLVED AS, to remove Vice-Chair Forman from the Personnel Committee due to his term being up at the end of 2024.

Resolution was seconded by Commissioner Shoff.

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

Commissioner Eckstrom offered the following resolution:

RESOLVED AS, to have the Personnel Committee attend and be part of labor negotiations going forward.

Resolution was seconded by Commissioner Shoff.

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

Commissioner Shoff offered the following resolution:

RESOLUTION No. 24-288
Approval of Claims

RESOLVED, that the following claims be allowed and paid on or before October 18th, 2024.

<u>FUND</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
01	General Fund	\$ 651,585.14
03	County Road & Bridge	\$ 693,560.56
05	Human Services	\$ 180,052.82
06	Public Health	\$ 75,652.28
31	Capital Improvements	\$ 85,523.09
40	County Ditch	\$ 68,639.00
70	Trust & Agency	\$ 5.83
73	Payroll Clearing Fund	\$ 5,047.28
	FUND TOTALS	\$ 1,760,066.00

Number of Claims not exceeding \$300 – 52

Dollar amount of claims not exceeding \$300 – \$5,760.99

Resolution seconded by Commissioner Eckstrom.

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

Chair, Commissioner Edwin adjourned the meeting at 9:48 a.m. until 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, November 5th, 2024.

By: _____
Brad Edwin
Chair

Attest: _____
Chelsea Barrett
County Clerk