

**SWIFT COUNTY REGULAR BOARD MINUTES
OCTOBER 3, 2023**

Chairman P. Peterson called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

All members were present.

Also present: County Administrator Tesa Tomaschett, Trista Nelson, Human Service Director Catie Lee, Environmental Services Director Scott Collins, Property & Public Services Director Joe Tschida, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Realty Specialist Blake Knisley and Assistant District Manager Mead Klavetter, and members of the public.

For citizen comments, Mark Hughes talked to the board about the intersection of County Road 22 and Highway 9 in Clontarf and how dangerous it is and it is difficult to see if traffic is coming.

Chairman P. Peterson made a change to the regular agent to move item (f) Chimes Operation Committee update with Gary Mills to after item (a) Fish and Wildlife habitat easement certification with Blake Knisley.

Commissioner E. Pederson moved, and Commissioner Rudningen seconded to approve the agenda with the change Chairman P. Peterson made. The motion carried unanimously.

- Consider approving the October 3, 2023, board minutes.
- Consider approval of MFIP Biennial Services Agreement Biennial Plan 1/1/24- 12/31/25.
- Consider approving Resolution No. 23-10-44 Health Insurance Premiums, County Contributions and COBRA rates effective January 1, 2024.

Commissioner Hendrickx moved, and Commissioner Rudningen seconded to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Rudningen moved and Commissioner Mahoney seconded to approve the Commissioner Warrants and review Auditor Warrants. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner warrants are as follows: Revenue: \$45,453.19; Solid Waste Fund: \$43,854.55; County Road and Bridge: \$29,538.07; County Ditch Fund: \$55,657.05; County health insurance: \$999.60; State Fund: \$1,806.00; which includes the following bills over \$2,000; Ashwill Companies: \$26,678.55; Bouwman/Barry: \$2,000.00; Chelsey Bagent & Bonnema Excavating: \$11,605.00; Daniel Gronseth & Thonvold Excavating: \$10,500.00; Ferguson Brothers Excavating, Inc.: \$16,800.00; Geyer Recycling: \$7,002.00; HP, Inc.: \$3,078.82; John Deere Financial: \$7,040.92; MN Dept OF Transportation: \$7,024.20; Rinke Noonan: \$2,103.00; Shrefler/Lawrence: \$6,800.00; Soil Conservation Office: \$22,125.00; TrueNorth Steel: \$5,067.00; Verdin Company/the: \$8,100.00; Waste Management Of WI-MN: \$9,730.28. The motion carried unanimously.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Realty Specialist Blake Knisley and Assistant District Manager Mead Klavetter presented to the board the Stacy Fladeboe easement for County Certification. It is a habitat easement that allows the landowner to maintain the rights to cut hay after July 15. It stays in private ownership but it has to stay in grassland vegetation and the wetlands are protected as well.

Commissioner Hendrickx moved and Commissioner Rudningen seconded to approve the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Habitat Easement Certification. A brief discussion was held. The motion passed unanimously.

Gary Mills with the Chimes Operation Committee provided the board with a brief update on the chime's donation being at \$14,025.00 and received a grant for \$9,000.00 from the Swift County ARPA Funds. Of the \$14,025.00 the donation gifts have been received by 49 individuals, nine businesses, and five social organizations and congregations. Mills requested approval to move forward with signing the proposal contract between the Verdin Chime Company and Swift County for the purchase and installation of the chimes and that the proposal contract be mailed along with the initial payment of \$8,100.00 from the ARPA fund. Trista Nelson presented to the board that the chime project amounts are \$16,200.00 with Verdin Chimes Company proposal and an estimate of \$1,265.00 from DM Electric, LLC. for the installation to run a dedicated circuit for clock speakers and run wire from clock speakers.

Commissioner E. Pederson moved and Commissioner Ma-

honey seconded to approve the proposal with Verdin Company and to send the initial payment of \$8,100.00 from the ARPA funds and add the \$8,100.00 to the approved Commissioners Warrants included in today's meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Environmental Services Director Scott Collins requested approval to extend the Swift County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan.

Commissioner Hendrickx moved and Commissioner Mahoney seconded to approve to extend the Swift County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner E. Pederson requested a brief update on the progress of the Recycling Center after the fire. Environmental Services Director Scott Collins reported they are at a standstill with construction but the general public doesn't see anything different.

Property & Public Services Director Joe Tschida requested approval of Resolution No. 23-10- 42 authorizing the conveyance of tax forfeited land to the City of Benson pursuant to the Minnesota Statute 282.01 for the City of Benson to acquire for free parcel 23-1447-075 for authorized public use. Also, to approve Resolution No. 23-10-43 authorizing the conveyance of tax-forfeited lands to the City of Appleton for parcels 22-0078-000, 22-0080-000, and 22- 0083-000 pursuant to Minnesota Statute 282.01

Commissioner Rudningen moved and Commissioner E. Pederson seconded to approve Resolution 23-10-42 authorizing the conveyance of tax-forfeited land to the City of Benson pursuant to the Minnesota Statute 282.01. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Hendrickx moved and Commissioner Mahoney seconded to approve Resolution No. 23-10-43 authorizing the conveyance of tax-forfeited land to the City of Benson pursuant to the Minnesota Statute 282.01. The motion carried unanimously.

Woodland Centers Chief Executive Officer Ashley Kjos provided the board with an annual update for Woodland Centers.

Commissioner Rudningen reported on the Prairie Lakes Youth Program, CEE-VI Drug Task Force, Health Insurance, and Emergency Service Radio meeting. The KMS Referendum is open and you have to request a ballot to vote if you are not going to vote in person.

Commissioner Hendrickx reported on the AMC Conference, the Health Insurance, Woodland Centers, and AMC Policy meetings. Commissioner Mahoney reported on the ARPA and Woodland Centers meetings. Commissioner E. Pederson reported on DAC and CPT meetings. Thank you to Commissioner Hendrickx for providing a new member Richard Voorhees for the Swift County Historical Society. Chairman P. Peterson reported on the HRA and GraMar passing underwriter approval, Prairie Five, and Countryside Public Health meetings.

Chairman P. Peterson notified that he made an addition to the September 19, 2023 Commissioner Board Minutes on the first page in the last paragraph, the sentence that states "They would like to cap the county tile at the fence and private tile to the open bottom." Chairman asked that the word ditch be added to the end of that sentence. The correction is now, "They would like to cap the county tile at the fence and private tile to the open bottom ditch."

Commissioner Hendrickx moved and Commissioner Rudningen seconded to amend the motion of the Consent Agenda to approve the September 19, 2023 board minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

Administrator Tomaschett reported on the ARPA Committee and Financial Committee meetings and where the balance is in reserves and budget, Building meeting with Wold Architect about the Human Services Building, Finance Assessment, and the Cannabis Concerns.

There was no other business.

Chairman P. Peterson adjourned the meeting at 10:47 AM.

WITNESSED:

Peter Peterson, Chair of the Board

ATTEST:

Tesa Tomaschett, County Administrator

(10-25-1c)