

The Wright County Board met in regular session at 9:00 A.M. with Husom, Sawatzke, Daleiden, Potter and Borrell present.

The following corrections were made to the 2-04-14 County Board Minutes: Page 6, 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph, 3<sup>rd</sup> line, change sentence to read, "Borrell said most rural property owners don't care if snowmobilers ride on their property" (Borrell). Daleiden moved to approve the County Board Minutes as corrected. The motion was seconded by Borrell and carried unanimously.

Petitions were accepted to the Agenda as follows: Aud./Treas. Item #3, "Increase In Change Fund For Jail" (Hiivala); 9:10 A.M., Bill Weldele (Sawatzke). Potter moved to approve the Agenda as amended, seconded by Daleiden, carried 5-0.

The Consent Agenda was discussed. Daleiden requested that Item B1, "Extension, Appoint Leonard Wozniak To The Wright County Extension Committee, Three-Year Term, Eff. 1-01-14 To 12-31-16" be removed for discussion. On a motion by Daleiden, second by Sawatzke, all voted to approve the remainder of the Consent Agenda:

- A. ADMINISTRATION
  - 1. Rename The Labor Management/Loss Control Committee As The Safety Committee.
- C. HUMAN SERVICES
  - 1. Position Replacement:
    - A. Office Technician II, Mental Health Unit.

Discussion occurred on Item B1, "Extension, Appoint Leonard Wozniak To The Wright County Extension Committee, Three-Year Term, Eff. 1-01-14 To 12-31-16." Daleiden said the back up documentation references "Commissioner Wozniak" and it should be "Commissioner Borrell". He asked that this correction be noted. On a motion by Daleiden, second by Potter, all voted to approve the appointment as requested.

Bob Hiivala, Auditor/Treasurer, requested Board approval for an increase in the Auditor/Treasurer's change fund from \$600 to \$900. This is due to the types of transactions and the need to replenish the fund more frequently with lower denomination. Borrell moved to approve the increase in the Auditor/Treasurer's change fund from \$600 to \$900, seconded by Daleiden, carried 5-0.

Hiivala requested approval for an increase in the Jail change fund from \$200 to \$500. The Jail needs to have the ability to make change for those who come in for gun permits, etc. They are replenishing the fund more frequently with lower denomination currency. Daleiden moved to approve the increase in the Jail's change fund from \$200 to \$500. The motion carried 5-0 on a second by Sawatzke.

The claims listing was discussed. Daleiden referenced a claim on Page 14, Nelson Auto Center (\$189,364.88) for eight new squad cars for the Sheriff's Office. He recalled a conversation with Human Services at a Committee Meeting relating to vehicle replacement. He asked whether Human Services has been contacted to see whether any of the vehicles being replaced in the Sheriff's Office can replace some high-mileage vehicles in Human Services. Sawatzke said based on action several months ago, he understands that Human Services is supposed to have first priority in selection of the available vehicles. On a motion by Daleiden, second by Borrell, all voted to approve the claims as listed in the abstract, subject to audit, for a total of \$621,811.17 with 183 vendors and 306 transactions.

Bill Weldele, resident on Pelican Lake, voiced concern and frustration with people who have traveled over his property while snowmobiling. He has posted signs, but some of the snowmobilers have traveled past or driven over the signs. He suggested that snowmobile clubs use flyers and advertise in the local newspapers in an effort to reduce this activity. He would also like the trails to be narrower. Weldele said the Sheriff's Office does not have the funding or the manpower to cover the complaints. Husom said quite a few property owners give permission to

snowmobilers to use their property. Weldele thought this number would be small. Daleiden asked whether Weldele gives permission to others to snowmobile on his property. Weldele said he does allow certain individuals to gain access to his property for hunting.

Borrell asked whether a snowmobile trail crosses Weldele's property. Weldele said the closest trail is about a half mile away. However, riders travel the ditches from the trail to his property. Although the trails are 10' to 12' wide, he said snowmobilers expand this area to 50' or more. He said State law indicates they must stay on trails. Husom asked about use of road ditches and how much area is considered legal for snowmobilers. Sawatzke said that can vary depending on the road. In the area of Pelican Lake, he thought it would be 33' from centerline. Husom said it is hard for the Sheriff's Office to respond to a complaint if they are not in the area. By the time they travel to the sight of the complaint, the snowmobiler may be gone. She thought it probably was not the snowmobile club riders that are offending. Sawatzke clarified that some snowmobilers do so with respect and others do not. He said people have the right to use the snowmobile trails and road ditches. The trails are partially funded with license fees.

Sawatzke suggested possibly checking with other counties to see if there are other methods of reducing the trespassing. Weldele suggests taking away the offender's snowmobile. Brian Asleson, Chief Deputy Attorney, said the County is usually limited by State law when it comes to motor vehicles or snowmobiles. Obviously, the laws connected with DWI's and possession of vehicles is not applicable to snowmobiles. He thought County prosecutors would say the trespass laws are sufficient. It clearly relates to whether a snowmobiler has permission to be on a landowner's property. Other counties could be consulted to see what they do. Anything in the way of an ordinance would have to be county wide. Sawatzke does not feel that the rights of those that are following the law should be infringed upon.

Lt. Hoffman said that it is more of a geographical issue with Weldele's property. The property is located a short distance between the road and Pelican Lake and for some it may be the easiest way for snowmobilers to access or get off the Lake. However, the property is marked. Daleiden asked about fines and whether Weldele has contacted Buffalo Township with his concerns. Weldele said the fines are not enough. Weldele said the Township has indicated that it is up to the County to set the example and law. Sawatzke said it may not do any good to implement more laws/ordinances if there is a problem with catching the person. He suggested finding a more creative solution. Weldele restated the offender should have a stiff fine and have their machine taken away.

At 9:30 A.M., Commissioner Husom recessed the Board Meeting for the Public Hearing on the Dangerous Dog Registration Fee. The advertisement for the Public Hearing reflected a current annual fee of \$100. Asleson has learned that the current fee was set by County Board resolution in 2010 at \$200. The proposed fee is \$250 to cover the costs incurred by Crossroads Animal Shelter. No public comment was received.

At 9:32 A.M., Husom closed the Public Hearing and reconvened the County Board Meeting. Daleiden moved to adopt Resolution #14-07 setting the Dangerous Dog Registration Fee at \$250. The motion was seconded by Sawatzke and carried 5-0 on a roll call vote.

Jason Krebsbach, Community Development Director, Central MN Housing Partnership, Inc. (CMHP), presented a request for the Board to adopt a resolution renewing approval for the CMHP to administer the Rental Rehabilitation Deferred Loan (RRDL) Program. In November, 2011, the County Board approved the CMHP to administer the Program in Wright County. The MN Housing Finance Agency created the pilot program and funded it for two years. The State Legislature has approved an allocation to fund the program for an additional two years. The RRDL Program provides 0%, deferred loans to owners of affordable rental properties to be used to complete needed repairs to their property.

Daleiden asked for more information on providing 0% interest loans to rental property owners so they can make more money off their properties. Krebsbach said these are not market rate properties or those that cash flow well. The properties offer affordable housing and serve a certain income level of tenants (at or below 80% median income in Wright County). There are in-depth selection criteria, and financial statements and budgets of

applicants are reviewed. These loans apply to situations where the property owner is not making very much money. That results in deferred maintenance of the property, as the cash flow may not be available to make the necessary repairs.

Daleiden questioned whether the CMHP has a Board of Directors and who makes the decision on what loans are given. Krebsbach said there is a nine-member Board comprised of representation from all 16 counties. Wright County's representative is Mark Sexton (WCCA Executive Director). Selection criteria are established and applicants are rated by points. Potter moved to adopt Resolution #14-08 approving CMHP to administer the Rental Rehabilitation Deferred Loan Program in Wright County. The motion was seconded by Borrell. Daleiden asked whether the CMHP publishes an annual report. Krebsbach said that is available on the CMHP website. The motion carried 5-0 on a roll call vote.

Advisory Committee/Advisory Board Updates:

1. East Central Juvenile Detention Center. Sawatzke said the group met on 2-06-14. The organization has been in place for 17 years. Wright County contracts 3 beds annually (guaranteed 3 beds) but there are generally more beds available. Wright County's usage was slightly higher than 3 beds in 2013. The organization realized profit of approximately \$40,000-\$60,000 last year. The East Central Juvenile Detention Board decided to roll that into reserves to be used for future maintenance improvements.
2. Bertram Advisory Board. Sawatzke said a meeting was held last week. He referenced Borrell's request for some type of a long-term agreement between the City and the County for Bertram Lakes. The group is in the process of working on the Bylaws and a Joint Powers Agreement. It will reflect who has authority in what areas. A grant was received through the Legacy Fund for about \$1.4 million (out of the approximate \$3.25 million awarded). He thought there were requests for around \$32 million but only 10% of that amount was actually funded. It appears the State prioritized the Bertram Chain of Lakes as the best project in the State. Sawatzke said the bad news is that they did not receive as much as requested.
3. Central MN Council On Aging. Borrell said the group met on 2-06-14. He will continue to learn more on what that group does.
4. CROW. Borrell said a meeting was held on 2-05-14. Part of the meeting was an update on a project in Willmar related to rerouting of stormwater to restore a lake.
5. Safe Schools. Husom attended a meeting last week. She said it is a great organization and group of people involved. There is representation from the School Superintendent and District Principals, Sheriff and Police, City of Buffalo, Central MN Mental Health, United for Youth, MEADA, Criminal Justice System, and Wright County Attorney, Court Services, Human Services, and Public Health. The Police Chief provided information on the Fast Track Diversion Program for youth. This Program tries to place the offender before a judge the day after the offense. Discussion also involved the success of the Wright Choice Program and how other jurisdictions are looking at this success. Potter said he is impressed with how engaged Court Services is with Safe Schools.

(End of Advisory Committee/Advisory Board Updates)

Two meetings are forthcoming regarding Wright County Public Transit and the River Rider. A State sponsored transportation meeting will be held at 10:00 A.M. on 2-18-14 at the Buffalo Community Center (across from the Buffalo Post Office). The River Rider Board will hold a meeting on 2-18-14 at 1:00 P.M. in Big Lake.

The meeting adjourned at 9:58 A.M.