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AUGUST, 2023

Volume 5 • Issue 5

## June Dodge County Commissioners Meeting

The Dodge County Commissioners met in regular session June 13, 2023, in the Board Room at the Dodge County Government Services Building, Mantorville, MN, at 9:30 a.m. Vice Chair John Allen called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. It was noted that Commissioner Peterson was participating remotely from 14218 Anegada Drive, Corpus Christi, TX. Pledge of Allegiance The pledge of allegiance was recited. The Vice Chair acknowledged those present and established there was a quorum. Also present: Jim Elmquist County Administrator Becky Lubahn Deputy Clerk Paul Kiltinen County Attorney

Motion by Tjosaas seconded by Kenworthy to approve and adopt the agenda as presented. Motion Adopted [Unanimous] Consent Agenda Motion by Tjosaas seconded by Kenworthy to approve the following Consent Agenda items: 1.3. Dodge County Ag & Mechanical Society Temporary On-Sale Liquor License Request 1.4. Holy Family Catholic

Church Gambling Permit Request 1.5. Zwingli United Church of Christ 1 Day Temporary On-Sale Liquor License Request

The County Engineer informed the Board that there have been many instances of citizens mowing ditches for forage crop. This has been a permitted practice by the Highway Department in instances where the cropper does not own the underlying property in the R/W. Past Boards have supported this practice for the benefit of area farmers. The sub-

ject is being presented now to get the current Boards opinion on cropping or not cropping county ditches. Mr. Kohlhofer informed the Board he supports more conservation efforts being made in Dodge County, however he understands the need for the cropping. The issue is that although this benefits area farmers and results in less needed ditch maintenance from the Highway Department it comes at the cost of wildlife conservation. Included in the Board packet was a short de-

scription of the benefits of not mowing ditches. Commissioner Allen stated personally, he thinks they should just leave it alone, he also thinks we would be opening a can of worms if we tell people they can't mow the ditches. Mr. Allen pointed out it's been dry out, some of the farmers need this crop to feed their animals. Commission Kenworthy indicated that he agrees with Commissioner Allen, they should leave it as it is since we've had little rain and farmers need the crop. Commissioner Tjosaas reported that like the County Engineer, he too would like to see more conservation, however he's ok with citizens mowing the ditches. Commissioner Peterson stated he is ok with what we've been doing.

Contained within the 2024 equipment Highway budget is the purchase of a tandem plow truck. Purchasing of heavy equipment is most often done through the State of Minnesota bid contract. This is a process the State goes through to secure competitive pricing on everything from computers to heavy equipment. The benefit to counties and cities is that we get to avoid the bidding process and utilize the pricing obtained by the State to select equipment that best fits our needs. Below is a summary of the quotes received from three vendors for a tandem plow truck: · 2024 Freightliner 114SD - Dave Syverson FTL-STL Truck Chassis Cost \$136,218.00 Box & Plow \$180,873.00 Total Cost \$317,091.00 · 2024 Volvo VHD64F300 - Dave Syverson Truck Centers Truck Chassis Cost \$164,009.38 Box & Plow \$180,873.00 Total Cost \$344,882.38 (continued on page 2)

### Dodge County Historical Society Summer Fund Raiser was held Sunday, July 30th



This open air Vintage tractor and garden quilt show took place in Wasioja, on Sunday from 10:30 to 4 pm. There was be live music and entertainment by the Onion Creek Cloggers, and a traditional blacksmithing exhibit with Zach Wilcox at the helm. Demonstrations of a vintage threshing machine and a PTO driven 5-foot chain saw that was manufactured in Claremont, Mn were on display, as well as 100 vintage and contemporary quilts made by local quilters. (additional pictures on page 3)

### Announcements

• The United Methodist Church of Dodge Center at 20 First Street NE offers a dine in and carry out meal from 5:00-6:00pm the third Wednesday of each month.

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# June Dodge County Commissioners Meeting

(continued from page 1)

· No response from Nuss Truck & Equipment.

The current plow truck to be replaced is unit 207 which is a 2007 Mack CV713. The Highway Department recommends the purchase of the 2024 Freightliner 114SD tandem truck and add-ons from Dave Syverson FTL-STL for an approximate cost of \$136,218 and the purchase of box and plow equipment from Towmaster for approximately \$180,873. The final cost of the truck with box and plow will be approximately \$317,091.00. Motion by Tjosaas seconded by Kenworthy to approve and authorize Highway Department to purchase a 2024 Freightliner 114SD tandem truck and add-ons from Dave Syverson FTL-STL at a cost of approximate \$136,218 and the purchase of box and plow equipment from Towmaster at a cost of approximately \$180,873.

Ms. Kramer reviewed bills with the Board. Motion by Tjosaas seconded by Kenworthy to approve the bills as discussed in the following amounts from the appropriate funds as determined by Finance: 01 Revenue Fund \$ 116,932.90 13 Road and Bridge Fund \$ 105,931.06 16 Environmental Quality Fund \$ 151,063.56 Minutes Board of Commissioners June 13, 2023 Dodge County Page 4 Updated 6/15/2023 9:37 AM Total \$ 373,927.52

Mr. Harbaugh reported that as we continue to move towards constructing a new event space at the Fairgrounds, they have explored the State rules and codes for public place of accommodations, statute 326B.108, which calls out several rules for places of gatherings of 100 people or more. This statute requires us to have engineered design and drawings as well as inspections by the Construction Codes and Licensing Division, this is in part due to no building codes in Dodge County. It was noted at the last meeting, during committee of the whole, that we should pursue this project while doing it right the first time and constructing this building per the statute which will require some more design and engineering of the building. The Facilities & Fleet Manager is advertising in the DCI for proposals based on the concept floor plans that were created by CBS Squared. The requested proposals will be for all required design, engineering, and constructing of the building. The proposed advertisement will run for two weeks and they will collect the sealed proposals on June 30th at 12:00 p.m. They will then use statute 471.345 Subd. 3a, for best value and score the proposals received to ensure they are providing the required details. And finally, Mr. Harbaugh will bring the recommendation to the full Board at the July 11th meeting for further action. The Facilities & Fleet Manager stated he is

excited to see what they receive for proposals. Mr. Harbaugh was thanked for the update.

Ms. Cornelius reported the proposed Donation Agreement is made between Two Rivers Habitat for Humanity and Dodge County Environmental Services. The parties desire to donate certain items to each other, and both parties agree to the proposed document. Additionally, there are two attachments, which were included in the Board packet, that address acceptable donation flyers and an acceptable items list. Motion by Kenworthy seconded by Tjosaas to approve and authorize the Director of Environmental Services to sign the Donation Agreement made between Two Rivers Habitat for Humanity and Dodge County as requested.

Ms. Grondin presented for the Board's consideration the June 7, 2023 Planning Commission recommendations. ZA #23-05 LC Trucking The first public hearing is to consider an application for Zoning Amendment #23-05 to consider a request to rezone an Urban Expansion District to a Commercial District on approximately 11.25 acres located in Section 35 of Mantorville Township. The property owner is H4 Enterprises LLC, and the applicant is Clever Pigs Properties LLC. Commissioner Kenworthy offered the following resolution (#2023-25), seconded by Commissioner Peterson: WHEREAS, Property Owner is initiating a rezone from Urban Expansion District to Commercial District and shall submit the request to the Zoning Administrator along with a fee; and WHEREAS, a summary of the rezone request, has been published in the legal newspaper on May 25th, 2023 and posted upon the county website; and WHEREAS, a public hearing on the proposed rezone was held by the Dodge County Planning Commission on June 7th, 2023; and WHEREAS, the Planning Commission recommended approval of the proposed rezone from Urban Expansion District to Commercial District to the Dodge County Board of Commissioners; and WHEREAS, the Dodge County Board of Commissioners adopted the proposed rezone from Urban Expansion District to Commercial District at its June 13th, 2023. THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the County Board of Dodge County hereby adopts the rezone from Urban Expansion District to Commercial District with this resolution. Resolution Adopted

Ms. Grondin noted that pages 120-129 of the board packet need to be removed and replaced with the correct CUP application information. Motion by Kenworthy seconded by Tjosaas to approve of the following action of the Planning and Zoning Commission as reviewed on June 7, 2023 with the reasons, recommendations and conditions as found in the individual permit and the removal/replacement of pages 120-129 in the board packet as requested: CUP #23-01 LC Trucking The second public hearing is to consider an application for Conditional Use Permit #23-01 to allow the establishment of a Transportation Business in the Commercial District on approximately 11.25 acres located in Section 35, Mantorville Township. The property owner is H4 Enterprises LLC, and the applicant is Clever Pigs Properties LLC. REC-

COMMENDATIONS The Zoning Staff recommends approval of the Conditional Use Permit (C.U.P.), as the request meets the ordinance requirements. The following conditions are recommended: 1. The business will be open year-round. The office hours of operation will be 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Mechanics may extend their work hours in the evening or weekends. Truck drivers will run 7 days a week, all hours of the day, year-round. 2. Operation will comply with all local, state, and federal regulation regarding the proposed use of the property. The business shall obtain and maintain all necessary licenses, registrations and/or other approvals for activities taking place at the site. 3. Verification that the site and buildings comply with the Minnesota Accessibility Code, State Building Code and Fire Code shall be provided to be included with a copy of the CUP on file in the Environmental Services Department. 4. Any change involving the addition of new business-related structures or employees beyond that specified in the business plan on file with the CUP, enlargement, intensification of the use or similar changes not specifically permitted by the CUP shall require an amended CUP to be issued. 5. The business shall comply with the conditions of this permit and the information provided in the business plan and details provided in the emails on file. 6. Any sign proposed for the business shall meet the performance standards of the Dodge County Zoning Ordinance. 7. The business shall comply with the Nuisance Standards of the Dodge County Zoning Ordinance. Nuisance complaints shall result in review of the CUP by the Planning Commission. 8. Zoning Permits shall be required prior to any structures subject to permitting under the Dodge County Zoning Ordinance. 9. The new well will need to meet Minnesota Department of Health requirements. 10. All waste generated on site shall be properly disposed of in accordance with the Dodge County Solid Waste Ordinance and MPCA rules. 11. A proof that the business complies with MPCA Hazardous Waste Requirements shall be provided to the Environmental Services Department and filed with the CUP. 12. Floor drains and sediment/flammable waste traps shall be installed and managed according to MPCA regulations and guidance. A description and location of all floor drains and sediment/flammable waste traps shall be submitted to the County. 13. A proof of compliance with MPCA's Construction/Industrial Stormwater Permitting requirements and a copy of the SWPPP shall be provided to the Environmental Services Department to include with the CUP. A Stormwater management and drainage plan shall also be submitted to the Department to address the impact of the facility on the environment. 14. Parking shall comply with the design requirements of Section 17.21 and any County Board requirements. The final parking area plan shall be approved by the Environmental Services Department prior any construction. 15. Lights on the property shall comply with section 17.16 of the Ordinance and installed so as to deflect light away from adjacent properties and public roads. 16. The applicant may be requested to install a privacy fence if complaints are received regard-

ing the trucks and trailers parking area. 17. Adequate access will be permitted 360' and 870' North of CSAH 34. The existing access near CSAH 34 will need to be removed and the north access near the RR-track is to be preserved for rail maintenance only. No access to CSAH 34 will be permitted. 18. No structures or permanent facilities shall be permitted within a 200' radius from the center of the CSAH 15 and CSAH 34 intersection. 19. The business shall be required to register with Emergency Management Director. 20. An environmental management plan, including a water and waste management plan to address the use of water and treatment of waste on-site shall be provided to be included with a copy of the CUP on file in the Environmental Services Department. 21.

A Septic Permit shall be required prior to issuance of the Zoning Permit. The primary and secondary sites shall be identified, fenced and protected from any disturbances prior to the start of land grading for the parking area or structures and shall remain in its original and natural soil condition. 22. The applicant shall meet the recommendations of the Dodge County SSTS Program manager. 23. The wash bay for trucks and trailers shall only be used for the applicant's business purpose. The wash bay shall comply with MPCA requirements and guidance. No waste from the wash bay shall enter the septic system. The applicant shall submit to the County a detailed description of how the wash bay waste will be collected, stored and disposed of. The detailed description shall include a diagram of the plumbing, collection, containment and a disposal plan acceptable to the MPCA. 24.

(continued on page 3)



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### Dodge County Historical Society Summer Fund Raiser was held Sunday, July 30th



### June Dodge County Commissioners Meeting

*(continued from page 2)*

Wastewater from the wash bay shall be properly disposed of by being hauled to a wastewater treatment facility. Motion Adopted

Ms. Harbaugh informed the Board that Dodge County Environmental Services has applied for and has been selected for a \$500,000 grant from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) through the Minnesota Environmental and Natural Resources Trust Fund for replacing failing septic systems to protect groundwater. This project involves upgrading and replacing failing septic systems for low-income landowners using the County's chosen income thresholds. The project includes setting priority areas using areas of concern for environmental justice, protected water courses with identified E. coli or fecal coliform and areas of community concern. Funds will be able to provide for up to 100% of the cost of the septic system replacement, the amount per project may be based on several factors including priority and public interest. The grant funds will be dispersed to the county as individual approved projects are satisfactorily completed; the county will then disperse the funds to the applicant's septic contractor that completed the septic upgrade. The SSTS Program Manager pointed out these funds are separate and handled separately from our normal MPCA low-income grant. Included in the Board packet was the Grant Agreement for the Board's review. Motion by Kenworthy seconded by Tjosaas to approve and authorize the SSTS Program Manager to sign the proposed Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Septic Upgrade Grant Contract as recommended and proceed with the grant project. Motion Adopted

Ms. Reich informed the Board that during the March 28, 2023 Dodge County Board meeting Karina Schmitz, MnPrairie Housing Resource Specialist, provided details regard-

ing the establishment of a Local Housing Trust Fund (LHTF) in conjunction with a recommendation to appropriate 90% of the member-county's Local Homeless Prevention Aid (LHPA) to seed the LHTF and appropriate the remaining 10% into a fund to be utilized for hotel shelter vouchers. Dodge County Commissioners passed a motion on March 28, 2023 to allocate Local Homeless Prevention Aid dollars as indicated above. The next step entails the County Board's adoption of a Local Housing Trust Fund ordinance, adhering to the procedure established by Dodge County. The Vice Chair opened the public hearing for comment at 10:00 a.m. Ms. Schmitz was available to answer questions regarding the proposal. There were no members of the public that wanted to comment on the proposed ordinance. Motion by Tjosaas seconded by Kenworthy to close the public hearing to discuss adopting an ordinance to establish a Local Housing Trust Fund for affordable housing within Dodge County at 10:04 a.m. Commissioner Peterson stated he thinks it's a good thing to go with MnPrairie as administrator for the trust fund at this time, however he doesn't know if that is the best option long term. Mr. Peterson reported they may want to consider having each of the entities designating their own administrator to administer their own funds sometime in the future. Motion Adopted [Unanimous] Local Housing Trust Fund Established Motion by Tjosaas seconded by Kenworthy to approve and authorize adopting an ordinance to establish a Local Housing Trust Fund for affordable housing within Dodge County in conjunction with a recommendation to appropriate 90% of the member-county's Local Homeless Prevention Aid (LHPA) to seed the LHTF and appropriate the remaining 10% into a fund to be utilized for hotel shelter vouchers. Motion Adopted

Mr. Elmquist presented for the Board's consideration the proposed Dodge-Olmsted (D&OCC) Community Corrections Joint Powers Agreement for 2023-2025 which was included in the Board packet. The County Attorney has reviewed this document. The agreement has been constructed by the JPB over multiple meetings and is being brought forward with the recommendation of the two county commissioners (Commissioner Kenworthy and Commissioner Tjosaas).

*(continued on page 4)*



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# June Dodge County Commissioners Meeting

(continued from page 3)

At this point the major changes are: 1. Two entities versus three. 2. Four voting members versus the previous 7. 3. Opt-out notice period of a minimum of 1 year. 4. Alternating Chair from a Dodge Commissioner to an Olmsted Commissioner each year. The formula for the entity remains the same and is reflected in Section 4.4 of the proposed Joint Powers Agreement. The recommendation is to approve the agreement and make it retroactive to January 1st of this year. Commissioner Peterson wanted to know who establishes the budget and who determines the employees. Commissioner Kenworthy reported the D&OCC Director proposes a budget and presents it to Dodge and Olmsted Counties for approval. Mr. Kenworthy informed Commissioner Peterson that the D&O Director makes recommendations regarding employees and the number of employees and the Board is asked to approve those recommendations as well. Motion by Kenworthy seconded by Tjosaas to approve and authorize the Chair and County Administrator to sign the proposed D&O Community Corrections Joint Powers Agreement as recommended. Motion Adopted

Motion by Tjosaas seconded by Kenworthy to approve and authorize the Chair and County Administrator to sign Memorandum's of Understandings with LELS Dispatch, LELS Deputy, 49er's Highway and 49er's Transfer Station to recognize Juneteenth as a holiday beginning Monday, June 19, 2023 and extend this same opportunity to non-union employees. Motion Adopted

Highway A.1 Andrew Aswegan - Equipment Operator Regular status and step increase from B23 step 1 \$25.73 to B23 step 2 \$26.37. Effective Date: 7/1/23 A.2 Jackson Knudson - Assistant County Engineer Regular status and step increase from C52 step 3 \$45.66 to C52 step 2 \$47.03. Effective Date: 5/26/23 B. Sheriff's Office B.1 Faith Dokken - 911 Dispatcher Authorization to employ at B23 step 1 \$23.87 to fill approved vacancy. Effective Date: 6/5/23 B.2 Shawn Dolsen - Deputy Sheriff Authorization to employ at C41 step 1 \$28.29 to fill approved vacancy. Effective Date: 6/5/23 B.3 Ashley Bjornson - Crime Data Analyst Authorization to change status from Records Administrative Assistant B23 step 2 \$26.96 to Crime Data Analyst B32 step 2 \$31.23. Effective Date: 6/5/23 B.4 Shelly Grossman - Records Administrative Assistant Authorization to employ at B23 step 4 \$25.23 to fill approved vacancy. Effective Date: 7/10/23 C. Land Records C.1 Brea Hare - Senior Deputy Recorder Step increase from B24 step 4 \$26.74 to B24 step 3 \$27.54. Effective Date: 6/7/23 C.2 Mona McAndrew - Recorder Office Manager Step increase from C41 step 4 \$33.31 to C41 step 3 \$34.56. Ef-

fective Date: 6/5/23 D. Public Health D.1 Navya Jhavar - Account Technician Authorization to employ at B23 step 7 \$22.96 to fill approved vacancy. Effective Date: 6/20/23 E. Veterans Services E.1 Brandon Servantez - Veterans Services Officer Regular status and step increase from C41 step 5 \$32.34 to C41 step 4 \$33.31. Effective Date: 6/6/23 Motion Adopted

Request K-M Snowdrifters are requesting gambling permits for a pull-tabs to be held on July 12-16, 2023 during the Dodge County Fair and September 7-9, 2023 during the Big Iron Classic. The pull-tabs will take place at Dodge County Fairgrounds, 62922 State Highway 57, Kasson, MN 55944. It was Ms. Marquardt's recommendation that the County Board set forth a motion to approve pull-tabs Gambling Permits for K-M Snowdrifters. Commissioner Tjosaas offered the following resolution (#2023-26), seconded by Commissioner Allen: BE IT RESOLVED that approval for Premises Permit Renewal Application has been given to the following: 1. K-M Snowdrifters, Kasson, Minnesota to conduct gambling (Pull-tabs) at Dodge County Fairgrounds (Dodge County Agricultural and Mechanical, 62922 State Hwy 56, Kasson, Minnesota for the dates of July 12-16, 2023 and September 7-9, 2023. Resolution Adopted

Commissioner Rodney Peterson Commissioner Allen presented a summary of the Administration Committee report and action items. Commissioners provided their agency reports. Commissioner Allen attended a SEMREX meeting. Commissioner Kenworthy attended a D&O Joint Powers meeting, a SEEMS meeting, a SEMREX meeting and a SEMNECB meeting. Commissioner Peterson did not have any meetings to report. Commissioner Tjosaas attended a MnPrairie Work session, a D&O Community Corrections meeting and a Semcac meeting. Commissioner Toquam was not available to report her meeting attendance.

Ms. Cerda reported Dodge County Public Health has been selected to receive a Public Health Corps member for the 2023-2024 year. The Public Health Corps is in its second year in Minnesota and is a subset of the AmeriCorps program. This Corps member will be able to assist public health staff in updating response plans and the community health assessment and improvement plan. Dodge County Public Health is responsible for providing supervision and direction for the Corps member while working in the department. This is a great opportunity for the department to expand its capacity on large projects that need to be completed this next year and encourages Corps members to pursue a career in public health upon their Corps experience. Motion by Kenworthy seconded by Tjosaas to approve and authorize the Public Health Director to sign the proposed Site Agreement with AmeriCorps as recommended.

The Dodge County Commissioners met in regular session June 27, 2023, in the County Board Room at the Dodge County Government Services Building, Mantorville, MN, at 5:00 p.m. It was noted that Commissioner Peterson was attending remotely from 7085 Ninebark Drive NW, Lot 11, Walker, MN.

Also present: Jim Elmquist County Administrator Becky Lubahn Deputy Clerk

Amy Evans, Public Health Director Request to Approve Write-Offs Public Health is requesting authorization to approve writing off outstanding balances of previous clients they have served, that are now deceased or have moved away. Public Health staff has been unable to recoup these dollars and have exhausted all avenues to do so. The following is a list of accounts for deceased clients or clients that moved away with co-pay balances and no recovery possible. Account Amount 15912 \$17.05 16030 \$ 6.40 17026 \$ 3.20 17187 \$ 9.90 17438 \$ 3.35 17673-1 \$ 3.20 17673-2 \$ 3.20 17734 \$ 3.20 17988 \$ 3.20 18067 \$ 3.20 18097 \$ 3.20 18283 \$ 3.35 18306 \$ 3.35 18543 \$ 3.35 18769 \$14.19 \$83.34 Motion by Toquam seconded by Tjosaas to approve and authorize Public Health to write-off balances that are 1 year or older for deceased clients or clients that moved away with co-pay balances.

Mr. Hesel reminded the Board that included in the highway budget is money designated specifically for equipment purchases. RMS Rentals currently has a used 2017 Leeboy 8520B Paver in good condition available for purchase at a cost of \$93,000. The Highway Department does not currently have its own paving equipment. In the past, they have borrowed equipment from Steele County, but that is no longer available to them. Having their own equipment would allow them to be more effective and efficient in patching of short sections of distressed roads. The Main-

tenance Superintendent noted this is the only paver in this category that they have been able to find. Motion by Kenworthy seconded by Toquam to approve and authorize the Highway Department to purchase a used 2017 Leeboy Paver from RMS Rentals at a cost of approximately \$93,000. Motion Adopted

Mr. Harbaugh reviewed with the Board the proposed plans and engineer estimate for the installation of below grade water and electric within the Fairgrounds. The proposed area serves the carnival, food vendor, and show barn areas with the Fair Board's desire to add power and water to the area northwest of the grandstand. Brandon Theobald from WHKS was in attendance to answer questions and go over the plans and engineering estimates. Commissioner Peterson wanted to know whether or not the project would affect the tile in the middle of the fairgrounds. The Facilities & Fleet Manager reported the water and electrical lines will be far below the tile line. Mr. Theobald suggested that they provide contractors with a tile line map along with project plans. Commissioner Allen asked for clarification as to whether or not the City of Kasson would be providing a new water meter at the fairgrounds. Mr. Theobald confirmed that the City of Kasson will be providing the water meter. Commissioner Peterson wanted to know what the plan was for the water lines that are shown in the northeast area by the grandstand.

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# June Dodge County Commissioners Meeting

(continued from page 4)

Mr. Harbaugh informed the Board that the water lines were added in this area per the Fair Board's request and would allow them to have more food trucks in this area and allow for future expansion. Commissioner Peterson wanted to know what is on the south side of the property that would need a water line. The Facilities & Fleet Manager clarified there are already water lines in this area. The carnival usually parks their campers in this area and these same hydrants are also used during the Big Iron Classic. Mr. Harbaugh discussed electrical plans. Commissioner Peterson wanted to know if the Facilities & Fleet Manager was happy with the plans. Mr. Harbaugh reported that he is happy with the plans and informed the Board that Mr. Theobald and Ms. Cook are very thorough. The Facilities & Fleet Manager indicated that he felt the project was being done right. Mr. Harbaugh informed the Board that they will begin work on the water and electric project right after the Big Iron Classic in September and will work through the winter and finish in June of 2024. Motion by Tjosaas seconded by Peterson to approve and authorize the Facilities & Fleet

Manager to move forward with the specifications and contract documents as developed by WHKS for watermain and electrical improvements at the Dodge County Fairgrounds. Motion Adopted

The Facilities & Fleet Manager informed the Board that he would like to send the fairgrounds underground work plans out to contractors and accept sealed proposals until July 18th at 10:00 a.m. They will advertise in QuestCDN and act upon the proposals received at the July 25, 2023 Commissioner meeting for further action on these two projects. Included in the Board packet for review was the advertisement that will go to Quest. Motion by Kenworthy seconded by Toquam to approve and authorize the Facilities & Fleet Manager to advertise for proposals for the fairgrounds underground water and electrical work. Motion Adopted

Ms. Hager presented the Personnel Agenda for the Board's consideration. Motion by Tjosaas seconded by Kenworthy to approve the following personnel actions:

A. Highway A.1 Greg Stucky - Equipment Operator No longer employed Effective Date: 6/20/23 A.2 Equipment Operator Authorization to post and fill vacancy. Effective Date: 6/27/23 B. Sheriff's Office B.1 Dawn Frieberg - Dispatch Supervisor Step increase from C41 step 6 \$31.73 to C41 step 5 \$32.61. Effective Date: 5/19/23 C. Public Health C.1 Tania Olson - PHN I Regular status and step increase from C42 step 5 \$36.94 to C42 step 4 \$37.96. Effective Date: 6/27/23 Motion Adopted

The Employee Relations Director presented for the Board's consideration a request from

the Local 320 Teamsters Union to enter into the proposed MOU's based on amendments made to Minnesota Statutes effective July 1, 2023 and August 1, 2023. The D.R.I.V.E. MOU is the political action fund associated with the union that allows payroll deduction for employee's voluntary contribution (through payroll deduction) to their political action fund. Ms. Hager reported the New Employee Orientation MOU is just stating that we agree to follow the new Minnesota Statute as amended. We are required to do this anyway, but the union really pressed for a MOU on it. Commissioner Peterson questioned what value this request serves for us. The Employee Relations Director informed the Board that this action serves no value to us. Ms. Hager reported we are required by MN Statute to do the items they are asking for in these MOU's. Also noted was that the other bargaining units have not asked for similar MOU's. The Employee Relations Director stated it is not statutorily necessary to approve this request and suggested that union bring the request back to the next negotiations meeting if they feel it needs to be approved. No action was taken at this time.

Ms. Kramer reviewed bills with the Board. Motion by Kenworthy seconded by Tjosaas to approve the bills as discussed in the following amounts from the appropriate funds as determined by Finance: 01 Revenue Fund \$ 272,448.26 13 Road and Bridge Fund \$ 63,194.07 16 Environmental Quality Fund \$ 9,519.07 Minutes Board of Commissioners June 27, 2023 Dodge County Page 6 Updated 7/5/2023 12:00 PM Total \$ 345,161.40 Motion Adopted

The Finance Director presented for the Board's consideration an updated agreement for how the County's LOST funds will be distributed and the administrative fee structure. Currently the funds are distributed two times each month with an estimate of the collected tax five days after month's end and a clean-up disbursement forty days after month's end. The clean-up disbursement has adjustments for refunds and the pro-rata share of costs deducted. Beginning January 1, 2024, there will be one disbursement of tax forty days after month's end and the fees will be flat 1.35%. Ms. Kramer looked back on the last six months of collections and the pro-rata fees collected were between 1.6% to 2.5%, so this will work in the county's favor most, if not all, of the time. Motion by Kenworthy seconded by Tjosaas to approve and authorize

the Vice Chair and County Administrator to sign the proposed Agreement Between the Minnesota Department of Revenue and Dodge County for the Collection of a Local Transit Sales and Use Tax as recommended. Motion Adopted

Mr. Elmquist deferred the LOS Pathway to Infrastructure item to Commissioner Toquam. Commissioner Toquam serves as their Joint Powers Board representative for Dodge County. WDI is a private, non-profit organization providing employment and training services for the 10-county area in Southeast Minnesota. Recently the United States Department of Labor issued a grant opportunity called Pathways to Infrastructure that will fund projects that support well paying, middle and high skilled jobs in advanced manufacturing, IT and/or professional, scientific, and technical service occupations that support renewable energy, transportation and/or broadband infrastructure sectors. Workforce Development, Inc., serving all of Southeast Minnesota, is submitting an application for this opportunity with focus on Solar Install and Maintenance, Facilities Maintenance, Insulation and Weatherization and Building Performance Optimization. They are seeking local partners who can provide potential referrals of employees, on-the-job training opportunities, registered apprenticeships, grant-funded work experiences and insight into this sector. Workforce Development is reaching out today to solicit support for this project, and ask for both feedback and letters of support identifying the need for additional labor in our area. Grant funds would be used to establish career pathways and provide training for unemployed, under employed and incumbent workers. If the county is willing to advocate for the need in our region Workforce Development would greatly appreciate a letter of support from the County. Included in the Board packet was a draft letter of support. Also included in the Board packet was a 2-page overview of the training programs they plan to provide/fund. Workforce Development sees the employment need in this sector, and indicated they look forward to building partnerships through this opportunity. Motion by Toquam seconded by Peterson to approve and authorize the Vice Chair to sign a letter of support for Workforce Development, Inc. to pursue the Pathways to Infrastructure grant opportunity identifying the need for additional labor in our area. Motion Adopted

(continued on page 10)

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# June Dodge County Commissioners Meeting

(continued from page 10)

Mr. Elmquist provided the Board with a County Administrator update. The County Administrator discussed with the Board setting a retreat date. It was the consensus of the Board to hold the retreat on Friday, July 28th between 9:00 a.m. - noon at Milton Town Hall.

Commissioner Allen presented a summary of the Administration Committee report and action items. Commissioners provided their agency reports. Commissioner Allen attended a Soil & Water meeting. Commissioner Kenworthy attended a SEEMS Executive Board meeting, a Public Safety Communications Planning meeting, a Fairview Care Center meeting and a Public Health meeting. Commissioner Peterson attended a SEMMCHRA meeting, a Public Health SHACK meeting and a MnPrairie meeting. Commissioner Tjosaas attended virtual MnPrairie Joint Powers meeting, a Public Health Committee meeting and a Fairview Care Center. Commissioner Toquam attended a Vernon Township meeting, a virtual SEMMCHRA meeting, a meeting with the Fairview Care Center Administrator, a Fairview Care Center meeting and a County Board meeting.

Commissioner David Kenworthy Commissioner Kenworthy presented a summary of the Public Health Committee report and action items. Commissioner Kenworthy briefly discussed the following: · Update on Tobacco Ordinance and coverage in Kasson · Discussed MN Cannabis legislation related to PH impact and potential ordinance · Update on additional PH funding for foundational capabilities and emergency preparedness based on approved state budget and budget implications · Update on PH concerns related to rodent infestation and mold · Update on Opioid Settlement Funds Commissioner Allen congratulated Commissioner Kenworthy and his wife Wendy on being recognized as Dodge County Citizens of the Year. Mr. Allen informed the Board that he was at the Fairview Care Center and looked at their fence. Commissioner Allen reported the fence is looking pretty tacky and will probably need to be replaced. Mr. Allen provided the Board with an HVAC system update for the Government Services Building.

The Chair recessed the meeting at 6:21 p.m. to convene the Board of Appeal and Equalization meeting. Ryan DeCook, Director of Land Records 2023 County Board of Appeal and Equalization (BoAE) was convened at 6:30 p.m. Mr. DeCook reported that there were no appointments schedule for the meeting.

Lisa Kramer read the oath of the Board of Equalization. The Director of Land Records informed the Board that because they didn't have any new Board members he wouldn't be going through the entire report. Mr. DeCook pointed out that his office has a new Appraiser, Erik Hannigan. Staff members were

listed on page 5 of the report. The Director of Land Records noted sales dipped a little in 2022 due to the fact that there was no inventory in Dodge County, however sales were still high with the number of homes built in 2022. Countywide statistics on page 6 of the BoAE material were reviewed. Mr. DeCook informed the Board that ag property went up significantly. In addition, commercial property is up around 6% county wide too. Also pointed out was that property values were the highest the Director of Land Records has seen in his time at Dodge County, and probably the highest that Dodge County has ever experienced. Mr. DeCook reviewed the new construction information as found on page 7

of the report. The Director of Land Records noted it's good to see apartments listed in the new construction area of the report, however the new apartment complex in Kasson wasn't complete at the beginning of this year so the Board will see the totals for that structure listed on the report next year. Ag sales were briefly discussed as listed on page 9 of the report. Mr. DeCook informed the Board ag sales are the reason we're seeing large value increases. Page 10 of the report was reviewed which compared Dodge County Region 1 agricultural land values to neighboring counties. The Director of Land Records informed the Board he doesn't expect large valuation increases for next year.

### DODGE CENTER SUMMARY COUNCIL MINUTES Monday, July 10, 2023

This published information is a summary of the full minutes of the July 10, 2023 Dodge Center City Council meeting. A copy of the full minutes is available for viewing at City Hall, 35 East Main Street or online at [www.ci.dodgecenter.mn.us](http://www.ci.dodgecenter.mn.us).

Present: Bill Ketchum, Gary Trelstad, Cathy Skogen, Paul Blaisdell, Matt Maas, Lee Mattson, Jeremy Dostal, AJ Gengler, Sheriff Scott Rose, Deputy Darrell Clement, Tim Woessner and Kathy Freeman.

The City Council approved the following items:

- Agenda and consent agenda;
- Support the funding, along with others, of a full-time School Resource Officer for Triton/Hayfield School Districts;
- Commence order to have house at 609 SE 3rd St razed, allowing current owners 60 days to vacate the property;
- A "Findings of Fact, Decision and Order to Abate Nuisance" at 16 NE 1st St;
- Ordinance No. 158, Second Series – An Interim Ordinance Prohibiting the Establishment or Expansion of a Cannabis Business;
- Funding of replacement window at Fire House;
- Course of action taken by staff to repair Airport runway;
- Applying for state technical assistance in researching local records on lead water service lines and the hiring of Widseth as consultant performing the research.

Meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm

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#22152U



2020 FORD EXPLORER XLT

4WD, 30,035 miles, agate black metallic, 2.3L ecoboost  
#23039U



2022 FORD BRONCO SPORT BADLANDS

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#23082U



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**TRITON ISD NO. 2125 – SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MONDAY, JUNE 12, 2023 – 6:00 P.M.**

**TRITON HIGH SCHOOL MEDIA CENTER – DODGE CENTER, MN & ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCING**

-Meeting Proceedings- Chair Lloyd Henslin, Jr. called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Those members present: Wendy Kenworthy, Rebecca Knutson, Duane Bartel, Lloyd Henslin, Jr. and Jim Jensen; absent: Dale Jensen and Brian Ginder. Also present: Superintendent Craig Schlichting, Principal Luke Lutterman, Principal Shane Van Beek, MS Dean of Students Tricia Johnson, A.D. Corey Black, Community Education Director Kristy Faber, Business Manager Aimee Lake, Tina Kozisek, 1 visitor and 0 visitors present via Zoom.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

J. Jensen/Kenworthy motioned to approve the revised agenda with the addition to item 6.7 Approve Extra-Curricular Contract for Beth Hammitt as Head Girls Basketball Coach. Motion carried unanimously.

Andrew Wotherspoon and Marcia Pitzenberger were recognized and congratulated as the Cobra Pride honorees this month.

Knutson/Bartel motioned to approve the consent agenda including the May 15, 2023 regular meeting minutes as presented; budget update; claims and bills; treasurer's report; donations, open enrollment agreements for students #061223A, #061223B, and #061223C; contracts for Katie Nold as TMS Special Education Teacher, Kallen Knott as Elementary School

Counselor, Ellie Siewert as TMS/THS Art Teacher, and Cole Rollins as Elementary Teacher; extra-curricular contract for Beth Hammitt as Head Girls Basketball Coach; resignations for Caitlin Jirele as TMS Special Education Teacher effective June 2, 2023, Jeffrey Runnells as Assistant Grounds & Transportation Supervisor effective June 4, 2023, Haylee Sawyer as Childcare Assistant effective May 31, 2023, Korrena Wyro as Childcare Assistant effective May 23, 2023, Edith Acosta as Bilingual Liaison/Paraprofessional effective June 2, 2023, Jessica Mealy as Title 1 Paraprofessional effective June 1, 2023, Mike Bradford as Custodian effective June 1, 2023, Bradley Spitzack as Bus Driver effective June 2, 2023, Emily Fischenich as Head Softball Coach, and resignation/retirement for David Livingston as Bus Driver effective June 4, 2023. Motion carried unanimously.

Pete Henslin was present to discuss the school insurance policies.

Knutson/Bartel motioned to approve the insurance proposals. Motion carried unanimously.

J. Jensen/Henslin motioned to approve the FFA Officer Overnight Retreat July 25-27, 2023. Motion carried unanimously.

Business Manager Aimee Lake reviewed the preliminary budget for 2023-2024.

Bartel/Knutson motioned to approve the preliminary budget for 2023-2024. Motion carried unanimously.

Kenworthy/Knutson motioned to approve Resolution Certifying the Population Estimate for the 2023 Payable 2024 Levy. Voting in favor: J. Jensen, Henslin, Bartel, Knutson, and Kenworthy. Voting against: none. Motion

carried unanimously.

Kenworthy/J. Jensen motioned to approve the 2023-2024 Resolution for Membership in the MN State High School League. Voting in favor: Bartel, Kenworthy, J. Jensen, Henslin and Knutson. Voting against: none. Motion carried unanimously.

J. Jensen/Kenworthy motioned to approve the MSBA Association Dues and Policy Services Renewal Dues for 2023-2024. Motion carried unanimously.

J. Jensen/Bartel motioned to approve the MREA Membership Renewal for fiscal year 2023-2024. Motion carried unanimously.

Enrollments were presented for 4th quarter.

Policy updates were discussed.

Chair Henslin gave a ZED report on contract negotiations and the progress on the joint powers agreement.

A.D. Corey Black reported on sports year end, State Track, fall sports eligibility, and Homecoming planning.

Principal Shane Van Beek reported on the Wax Museum, Air Insanity-sponsored by TEAM, gaga pits, and a local librarian visit to promote summer reading programs.

MS Dean of Students Tricia Johnson reported on 8th grade recognition, TEAM ice cream social, WEB orientation 9/5, and changes to homeroom for 2023-2024.

Principal Luke Lutterman reported on ending the school year, senior playground picture, principal's award recipient, graduation, proposed changes to flex Fridays, and parent surveys for graduation changes.

Superintendent Schlichting reported the principals have been working with the District Achievement Team planning goal setting options for professional development

during the late start days.

Superintendent Schlichting reported that both certified and non-certified groups were ready to begin negotiations and confirmed the August 2 study session.

Bartel/Knutson motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

School District Clerk

**ORDINANCE NO. 158, SECOND SERIES AN INTERIM ORDINANCE PROHIBITING THE ESTABLISHMENT OR EXPANSION OF A CANNABIS BUSINESS THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DODGE CENTER ORDAINS:**

Section 1. Background

• By enacting 2023 Session Law Chapter 63, Article 1, the Minnesota Legislature created MN Statute 342 and permitted the operation of Cannabis Businesses withing the state.

• The new law does enact a state registration system but provides no parameters regulating the time, place, and manner of operations of a Cannabis Business.

• Pursuant to MN Statute 342.13(e) the City is authorized to enact by interim ordinance a moratorium on the operation of a Cannabis Business to protect the planning process and the health, safety, and welfare of its citizens. Specifically, the City is authorized to enact a moratorium ordinance to allow it to undertake a study to determine whether or not to adopt reasonable restrictions on the time, place and manner of the operation of a cannabis business.

Section 2. Findings

• The City Council finds the operation of a cannabis busi-

ness has the potential to impact the public health and safety.

• The City Council finds that there is a need to study reasonable restrictions on the time, place, and manner of the operation of a Cannabis Business as provided for in MN Statute 342.13.

• The City Council, therefore, finds that there is a need to adopt a City-wide moratorium on the operation of a Cannabis Businesses within the City while the issue is studied.

Section 3. Moratorium

• No individual, establishment, organization, or business may operate a Cannabis Business as defined by MN Statute 342.01, subd. 14 within the corporate limits of Dodge Center prior to January 1, 2025.

• The City shall not register any Cannabis Business or permit staff to begin to process any requests to register a Cannabis Business during the term of the moratorium.

• Planning or zoning applications related to the operation of a Cannabis Business shall not be accepted or considered during the term of the moratorium.

Section 4. Study

• The City Council directs City Staff to study the need for local regulation regarding the time, place and manner of the operation of a Cannabis Business.

Section 5. Enforcement

• The City may enforce this Ordinance by mandamus, injunctive relief, or other appropriate civil remedy in any court of competent jurisdiction. The City Council hereby authorizes the City Administrator, in consultation with the City Attorney, to initiate any legal action deemed necessary to secure compliance with this Ordinance. A violation of this Or-

dinance is also subject to the penalties in City Code 4.98 and 4.99.

Section 6. Term

• Unless earlier rescinded by the City Council, the moratorium established under this Ordinance shall remain in effect until January 1, 2025, at which point it will automatically expire.

Section 7. This ordinance shall take effect upon publication.

Adopted this 10th day of July, 2023.

Bill Ketchum, Mayor  
ATTEST:  
Lee A. Mattson, City Administrator  
Published:

**Public Notice of Request for Proposal for Triton Public Schools.** Triton Public Schools requests proposals for group insurance coverage for the school district's group health plan year beginning January 1, 2024. Sealed proposals will be accepted in paper form until 1:00 pm central time on Friday, August 25, 2023 and should be mailed to:

Deb Groll  
Payroll Clerk  
Triton Public Schools #2125  
813 West Hwy Street  
Dodge Center, MN 55927  
Copies of the Request for Proposal and exhibits may be requested from Deb Groll at the above address or via email: debgroll@triton.k12.mn.us and will be sent electronically at no charge. Triton Public Schools reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive informalities. Triton Public Schools reserves the right to select the proposal which it determines to be in the best interest of the District.

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