

SYNOPSIS OF COUNTY BOARD MEETING

December 1, 2015

Members present: Seeboth, Berg, Windschitl, Simonsen, and Potter, along with County Administrator Enter and County Attorney Hanson.

M/Seeboth, S/Simonsen, to accept the Minutes of 11-24-2015 and authorize publication of the Synopsis of same; carried.

M/Berg, S/Seeboth, to authorize payment of General Government claims as revised in the amount of \$175,280.49 as follows: Revenue \$114,410.21; Public Health \$4,947.39; Road and Bridge \$28,119.22; Family Services \$3,801.46; Park \$895.62; Ditch \$14,074.09; Landfill Fund \$9,000.00; Score \$32.50 ; carried.

M/Seeboth, S/Potter, to approve MPCA County Feedlot Program Delegation Agreement and Work Plan for the 1-1-2016 through 12-31-2017 term, and authorize the Board Chair to sign said agreement and work plan; passed.

M/Seeboth, S/Simonsen, to approve a 4% increase to the 2016 recycling contract rates for River View Sanitation in the total amount of \$230,397 for 2016 as recommended by the Brown County Solid Waste Advisory Committee; carried.

M/Simonsen, S/Potter, to approve a 4% increase to the 2016 recycling contract rates for Braun & Borth Sanitation in the total amount of \$135,358 for 2016 as recommended by the Brown County Solid Waste Advisory Committee; carried.

M/Berg, S/Seeboth, to accept the resignation of Rita Treml effective 1-31-2016, and approve posting for a FT County Assessor according to policy; passed.

M/Simonsen, S/Berg, to appoint Denise Kamm as FT Child Social Services Supervisor effective 12-2-2015 at the hourly rate of \$29.2318, Grade XIX Step 3, and authorize to post for the open FT Social Worker-Licensing/Adoption position according to policy; passed.

M/Potter, S/Berg, to ratify the updated Area II MN River Basin Projects, Inc. Joint & Cooperative Agreement effective through 12-31-2017 and authorize Commissioner Potter (or alternate Brown County Commissioner) to sign said Agreement on behalf of Brown County; passed.

At 4:45 PM, Chairman Windschitl convened the public hearing for the Petition for Partial Abandonment of Brown County Ditch No. 10 dated 11-6-2015 requested by Michael Steffl and Daniel Steffl for the abandonment of approximately 3,800 feet of CD 10 in Section 9-T110N-R32W in Home Township. A/T Prochniak noted that the public hearing notice was sent to landowners in the CD#10 drainage system and was published on the county website; and presented information on said petition. Attorney Shari Fischer reported on the proposed plan that was prepared by Blomeke Construction. After limited discussion, M/Simonsen, S/Potter, and passed unanimously to approve the Order Granting Petition to Abandon a portion of County Ditch No. 10 pursuant to MS 103E.806 as follows, conditional upon permit approval by the US Army Corp of Engineers, whereby: 1) Pursuant to the petition, the Brown County Board of Commissioners, as Drainage Authority, shall conditionally order the abandonment of approximately 3,800 feet of County Ditch 10. 2) Based upon further research, the Drainage Authority shall approve abandonment of the underground tile to the north of the open ditch. 3) The Drainage Authority also grants the request of Davis and Myra Simon, Clifford and JoAnn Lux and James Wooldrik that ensures that drainage tile from their properties will be connected to the newly installed tile on the Steffl property. 4) The abandonment is conditional upon the completion of the private tile diverting the small watershed served by this portion of CD 10.

M/Seeboth, S/Simonsen, to approve the 2016 Departmental Conference Schedules and Association/Membership Dues, excepting the Family Services Dept. Conference Schedule pending additional information; passed.

M/Berg, S/Potter, to accept and order filed the update on 2016 Brown County Committee memberships; passed.

M/Berg, S/Potter, to approve a Certificate of Appreciation for Anna Schoo in recognition of serving as Youth Representative on the Brown County Public Health Advisory Committee; carried.

M/Potter, S/Seeboth, to suspend the rules to consider the 2016 Family Services Dept. Conference Schedule; motion to suspend the rules passed.

After considering additional information about the proposed Family Services conference and training schedule for 2016, M/Berg, S/Simonsen, to approve the 2016 Family Services Dept. Conference Schedule; passed.

Correspondence C-1 thru C-2 were accepted and filed.

Calendars were coordinated for the next two week period.

At 5:25 PM, Chairman Windschitl recessed the Regular meeting noting that the County Board will reconvene at 6:00 PM in the District Courtroom 3rd floor of the Brown County Courthouse to conduct the 2016 Proposed Budget and Levy Public Meeting.

At 6:00 PM, Chairman Windschitl reconvened the Regular Meeting to conduct the 2016 Proposed Budget and Levy Public Meeting in the 3rd floor District Courtroom of the Brown County Courthouse located in New Ulm, Minnesota. Commissioners Seeboth, Berg, Windschitl, Simonsen, and Potter were in attendance,

along with County Administrator Enter, County Attorney Hanson, and Admin./HR Assistant Bode. Also in attendance were fifteen (15) Brown County department heads and staff; two (2) members of the general public; and media representative Fritz Busch of the Journal. Informational handouts were distributed to those in attendance.

At 6:01 PM, Administrator Enter presented Brown County's proposed budget and levy for 2016, reviewing the handouts as provided. The proposed 2016 Brown County levy noted was \$12,370,644 which reflected a 4.5% increase from the 2015 levy in the amount of \$11,839,893. The Brown County Summary Budget Statement noted adopted 2015 and proposed 2016 revenues by fund and department, with the 2016 Brown County Budget Revenues projected at \$30,047,264. The adopted 2015 and proposed 2016 expenditures by fund and department were also presented in chart and graph form, with the proposed 2016 expenditures budgeted at \$30,047,264 which represented a 2.34% increase from 2015. The proposed 2016 Expenditures by category as a percentage of total budget were noted as follows: 15.3% General Government; 5.8% Public Health Nursing; 30.3% Human Services; 28.6% Road and Bridge; 0.7% Conservation/Natural Resources; 1.4% Culture/Recreation; and 17.9% Public Safety.

Administrator Enter addressed additional budget information as follows: Projected Brown County Employer Costs for employee compensation/benefits for 2016 totaling \$16,343,572 or 53.2% of the total proposed budget; Comparison of estimated market values for total agriculture properties and total non-agriculture properties. Administrator Enter also noted that preparation of the budget is a lengthy process and departments continually look for ways to limit the need for property taxes by seeking grants and reviewing departmental activity.

At 6:12 PM, Chairman Windschitl called for testimony from the public regarding the proposed 2016 Brown County Budget and levy. There was no testimony from the general public regarding the proposed 2016 county budget and levy. Chairman Windschitl expressed thanks to those in attendance, and also thanked the department heads and staff for their efforts in preparing the draft 2016 budget and for pursuing non-levy funding in order to keep the property tax levy as low as possible. It was noted that the County Board will consider adoption of the final payable 2016 property tax levy and budget at the regular County Board Meeting at 10:30 AM on Tuesday 12-15-2015 in Room 204 of the Brown County Courthouse.

At 6:13 PM, Chairman Windschitl concluded the 2016 County Budget/Levy Public Meeting.

There being no further business, Chairman Windschitl declared the Meeting adjourned at 6:13 PM.

The Official Minutes of the Regular Meeting of 12-01-2015 are on file in the County Administrator's Office and may be viewed during normal business hours, M-F, 8AM-5PM. Correspondence and requests for additional information may be directed to the County Administrator's E-Mail Address: cntyadm@co.brown.mn.us Home Page Address: www.co.brown.mn.us