

**TRANSCRIPT OF THE PROCEEDINGS
OF THE BELTRAMI COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
April 5, 2022**

The Beltrami County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on April 5, 2022, at the County Board Room, County Administration Building, Bemidji, Minnesota.

CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Tim Sumner, called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Commissioners Richard Anderson, Jim Lucachick, Reed Olson and Craig Gaasvig were present.

GENERAL COMMENTS - BOARD CHAIR

None.

CITIZENS ADDRESSING THE BOARD

- Glen Bridgeford, resident on Bemidji Road, addressed the Board with two requests: 1)Close the abandoned gravel pit on his road and 2)Help him obtain a restraining order against his neighbors. Mr. Bridgeford was directed to speak directly with his County Commissioner outside of this Board Meeting for further assistance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The following item was added to the Regular Agenda:

- Administrator's Update

GENERAL BUSINESS

Approved Agenda and Amendments

A motion to approve the Agenda and Amendments was made by Commissioner Anderson, seconded by Commissioner Olson, and unanimously carried.

Approved Consent Agenda

A motion to approve the Consent Agenda was made by Commissioner Gaasvig, seconded by Commissioner Lucachick, and unanimously carried.

CONSENT ITEMS

Approved Minutes

The Board, by adoption of its Consent Agenda, approved the Minutes of the Board of Commissioners Work Meeting held March 15, 2022, and the Minutes of the Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting held March 15, 2022, as submitted.

Approved Auditor/Treasurer Warrant Payment Listing

The Board, by adoption of its Consent Agenda, received and approved the warrant payment listing submitted by the Auditor/Treasurer's Office.

Approved Payment of Auditor/Treasurer Bills

The Board, by adoption of its Consent Agenda, approved payment of Auditor/Treasurer bills, as submitted.

Approved Resolution to Add a New Club to the Recreational Trail Sponsorship

The Board, by adoption of its Consent Agenda approved the Resolution for a new club, Recreational Trail Sponsorship:

Whereas, Beltrami County desires to maintain recreational trails for the enjoyment of the public and will serve as sponsor of various recreational trails that are part of the State of Minnesota Grant In Aid System,

Whereas, Beltrami County supports the Minnesota Trails Assistance Program Grant Application of the following new trail:

- Tri-County Dirt Devils ATV Club - Kelliher ATV Trails

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Beltrami County agrees to act as the local sponsor for the application for funding with the State of Minnesota Grant in Aid System,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Beltrami County agrees to sponsor said trails at no cost to the county for the period of July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2022 and the Beltrami County Auditor-Treasurer is authorized to serve as fiscal agent on behalf of the local unit of government.

Approved Resolution for 2023 Sponsorship of Recreational Trail Permits

The Board, by adoption of its Consent Agenda, approved the Resolution for 2023 Recreational Trail Sponsorship:

Whereas, Beltrami County desires to maintain recreational trails for the enjoyment of the public and will serve as sponsor of various recreational trails that are part of the State of Minnesota Grant In Aid System,

Whereas, the 2023 Minnesota Trails Assistance Program Grant Application has been prepared with Beltrami County as sponsor of the following trails:

- Beltrami County Trails - Cross-country Ski

- Blackduck Stumpjumpers - Northland Trail
- Fourtown Grygla Sportsman's Club - Fourtown Grygla OHV
- Fourtown Grygla Sportsman's Club - Fourtown Grygla Snowmobile Trails
- Lost River Trails, Inc. - Lost River Trails
- North Country Snowmobile Club - North Country Trails
- Timber Riders ATV Club - Timber Trails
- Tri County Dirt Devil ATV Club - Tri County Dirt Devil Trails
- Northwoods Riders OHV Club - Wilton Trail NW

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Beltrami County agrees to act as the local sponsor for the application made by each club for funding with the State of Minnesota Grant in Aid System,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Beltrami County agrees to sponsor said trails at no cost to the county for the period of July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023 and the Beltrami County Auditor-Treasurer is authorized to serve as fiscal agent on behalf of the local unit of government.

Approved Laredo Subscription Addendum Update

The Board, by adoption of its Consent Agenda, approved the update to the Pricing Schedule D of the Laredo subscription Addendum, as submitted.

Approved Final Pay Voucher SP 004-070-032

The Board, by adoption of its Consent Agenda, approved the final Pay Voucher for Project SP 004-070-032 Center and Edge Rumbles, to Surface Preparations Technologies, in the amount of \$1,763.69, as submitted.

Approved Resolution Addressing Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) Center Staffing

The Board, by adoption of its Consent Agenda, approved the Resolution authorizing PSAP Supervisor/Emergency Management Director, Chris Muller, compensation exemptions as listed:

WHEREAS, the Beltrami County Sheriff's Office 911 PSAP Center is experiencing significant staffing shortages that can affect the prompt response of emergency services from persons calling 911.

WHEREAS, when fully staffed, the Beltrami County PSAP (911 Center) is staffed with 12 FTE (HOURLY) employees, with 2 FTE being designated as Team Leads

WHEREAS, the Beltrami County PSAP Center has one designated Supervisor that is funded as a .4 FTE with their remaining time

designated and funded as the Emergency Management Director and is designated as an exempt salary position.

WHEREAS, the Beltrami county PSAP Center is currently experiencing 3 FTE positions unfilled and a fourth FTE that required reducing to part-time work in lieu of resigning the position entirely.

WHEREAS, one FTE Team Lead has remained open and unfillable, which causes additional workload, stress, and additional hours needing to be worked for the remaining Team Lead and PSAP Supervisor, that are beyond their normal working hours.

WHEREAS, the staffing shortage is an extraordinary circumstance, that if not addressed could result in an exacerbation of the staffing shortage and a potential disruption of PSAP services.

WHEREAS, until the staffing shortage is mitigated or by December 31, 2022, with prior approval of the Department Head or their designee, the Beltrami County Board of Commissioners can authorize exempt employee, Chris Muller, to be compensated at 1.5 times his normal hourly rate (overtime) in accordance with Beltrami County Personnel Rules article 8.1 for any work performed outside normal scheduled hours. Furthermore, prior to Chris Muller filling any open overtime shifts, members of the Teamster bargaining unit will have first opportunity.

WHEREAS, until the staffing shortage is mitigated, the Beltrami County Board of Commissioners can authorize exempt employee, Chris Muller, to be allowed to exceed the maximum accumulation of PTO hours (540) to a temporary maximum of 600 PTO hours in accordance with Beltrami County Personnel Rules 10.4.3, but will be required to have a maximum balance of 540 PTO hours or less no later than December 31, 2023.

WHEREAS, until the staffing shortage is mitigated, or by December 31, 2023, the Beltrami County Board of Commissioners can authorize exempt employee, Chris Muller, not be required to use the minimum 100 hours of PTO annually in accordance with Beltrami County Personnel Rules 10.4.5.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Beltrami County Board of Commissioners temporarily authorizes the Beltrami County Sheriff's Office to pay exempt employee, PSAP Supervisor/Emergency Management Director Chris Muller 1.5 times the hourly rate for approved work performed above and beyond the normal scheduled work hours, temporarily exempt Chris Muller from the maximum accumulation of 540 PTO hours, and exempt him from being required to use the minimum 100 hours of PTO annually. All exemptions will

be for a period not exceeding the necessary time to hire and train personnel to fill the vacant FTE positions or by the dates listed above.

Approved Resolution for 2022 Mn DNR Boat & Water Safety Supplemental Equipment Grant

The Board, by adoption of its Consent Agenda, Approved the 2021 MN Department of Natural Resources grant agreement to purchase boat and water equipment:

WHEREAS, Beltrami County Sheriff's Office is responsible for patrolling and enforcing Minnesota state statutes and Beltrami County ordinances on Beltrami County lakes and waterways; and

WHEREAS, grant dollars are available to the Beltrami County Sheriff's Office to purchase equipment to assist in enforcing laws and patrolling the Lake and waterways from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources through the 2022 State of Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Federal Boating Safety Supplemental Equipment Grant; and

WHEREAS, this grant money is available from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources through the grant application process.

WHEREAS, the Beltrami County Sheriff's office has successfully participated in this grant for several years in the past.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that County Board Chair Tim Sumner and County Administrator, Thomas Barry, or their successors, are hereby authorized to execute such agreements and amendments thereto, as are necessary to implement the project(s).

Approved PrimeWest 2022 Procurement Resolution

The Board, by adoption of its Consent Agenda, approved the 2022 PrimeWest Procurement Resolution:

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) has published a Request For Proposals (RFPs) to provide health care services to recipients of MSHO/MSC+ (Senior Population) and MinnesotaCare in eighty (80) Minnesota counties including Beltrami County, and

WHEREAS, DHS has requested County evaluations and recommendations regarding the RFP proposals from each respective county; and

WHEREAS, PrimeWest Health submitted proposals to provide managed health care services in Beltrami County, and

WHEREAS, representatives of Beltrami County, Health & Human Services, have reviewed and evaluated the proposals; and

WHEREAS, PrimeWest Health have submitted proposals suitable to meet our needs.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Beltrami County Board of Commissioners supports the recommendation of Beltrami County Health & Human Services, approving PrimeWest Health as Managed Care Organization(s) (MCO(s)) providing managed health care services in Beltrami County.

Approved Father Project Contract

The Board, by adoption of its Consent Agenda, approved the continuance of The Father Project Contract with St. Joseph's Hospital of Park Rapids, as submitted.

Approved Health & Human Services Warrant Payment List

The Board, by adoption of its Consent Agenda, received and approved the warrant payment listing submitted by Health & Human Services Department.

REGULAR AGENDA

Public Hearing: Redistricting of Commissioner Districts

Commissioner Sumner opened the Public Hearing at 5:07 pm.

Auditor/Treasurer, JoDee Treat opened with a PowerPoint summary of the process to date, followed by citizen addressing the Board.

- Margie Iraci, resident on Wildwood Road advised the Board of public concern that the redistricting process adhere to the rules and guidelines and not to political ambitions or special interest groups.
- Emily Rivera, resident in the City of Bemidji raised concerns about dividing the City Wards into multiple Districts. She is not in favor of this idea and suggested sticking to making as few changes as possible.

Commissioner Sumner closed the Public Hearing at 5:21 pm.

Administrator's Update

- Currently working on several tenant leases
- OSHA voluntary inspection complete. Only a few minor items to be addressed. They will do a follow up. It has been 6 years since the last voluntary inspection.

- Working with Christina Regas, City of Blackduck on developing law enforcement communications partnership.
- Gearing up for the Budget process and union negotiations. Personnel Committee first meeting will be April 12.
- Various Departments will be meeting with Representative Fischbach on various issues. If the Board has any items, submit as soon as possible.

Redistricting of Commissioner Districts

Commissioners agreed to re-open this topic to discuss various redistricting map options.

Auditor/Treasurer, JoDee Treat presented and reviewed the Original 3 options along with the additional 3 options created after receiving questions and comments.

During discussions, another option was suggested, that was a modification to Proposal 6; by moving Liberty Township to District 5 and Alaska Township to District 4. The Board directed staff to develop a map to show this option and call it Proposal 7.

Commissioners agreed to continue the discussion at the Special Work Session scheduled for April 12, 2022 at 3:00 pm.

COMMISSIONERS' BUSINESS

Legislative/Lobbying Issues and Commissioners' Reports

- Commissioner Gaasvig reported on the Fair Board meeting.
- Commissioner Sumner noted National County Appreciation Day and also suggested a future Work Meeting update on County wide staffing issues.

Review Upcoming Meeting Schedule

Next regular meeting of the County Board will be April 19, 2022, in the Board Room of the County Administration Building.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the Board meeting at 6:06 p.m. was made by Commissioner Lucachick, seconded by Commissioner Anderson, and unanimously carried.

Tim Sumner, Chair

Thomas H. Barry, County Administrator