

REGULAR SESSION OF THE MOWER COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

September 26, 2023

The Mower County Board of Commissioners in and for the County of Mower, Minnesota, met in Regular Session September 26, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. at the Government Center in Austin, Minnesota.

Members present, viz: Vice-Chair Jerry Reinartz, John Mueller, Dan Sparks and Polly Glynn. Member excused: Chair Mike Ankeny. Also in attendance were County Attorney Kristen Nelsen, County Administrator Trish Harren Gjersvik, Executive Assistant Denise Barthels, and Austin Daily Herald Editor Eric Johnson.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion made by Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Sparks, to approve the agenda with one addition 1) to consider a funding request to support Austin Aspires In-Home Daycare appreciation event. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Mueller, to approve the consent agenda as presented:

1. Approve Minutes of September 12, 2023
2. Resolution approving Root River Antique Historical Power Assn., Inc. lawful gambling application for raffle 7/21/2024

Date: September 26, 2023

Res. #62-23

RESOLUTION

On motion of Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Mueller, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held September 26, 2023 at the Government Center, Austin, Minnesota.

WHEREAS, on September 26, 2023 the Root River Antique Historical Power Assn., Inc. presented a request for a Minnesota Lawful Gambling License for gambling to be conducted at the Root River Antique Historical Power Assn., Inc. on July 21, 2024.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Mower County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve the issuance of a Minnesota Lawful Gambling License to Root River Antique Historical Power Assn., Inc. for gambling at Root River Antique Historical Power Assn., Inc. on July 21, 2024.

Passed and adopted this 26th day of September, 2023.

3. Approve the following list of surplus property for auction and/or disposal

Quantity	Item	Department
8	Old metal cabinets	Recorder
1	2006 Ford Crown Vic VIN #2FAFP71W56X155032	SHERIFF
1	Boat with trailer	Sheriff
2	Wood storage sheds	Sheriff
5+	Obsolete upfit equipment	Sheriff

4. Approve Mower County Extension Committee - Youth Appointments
Reappoint Abby VanPelt and Lydia Drees as youth members on the Extension Committee for a 2nd 1-year term each effective October 1, 2023 - September 30, 2024
5. Approve Resolution adopting \$18,353.14 loan assessment for Septic Loan for Brian T. Miller Revocable Living Trust, Sherri L. Miller Revocable Living Trust (PIN 10.032.0041)

Date: September 26, 2023

Res. #63-23

RESOLUTION ADOPTING ASSESSMENT

On motion of Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Mueller, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held September 26, 2023 at the Government Center, Austin, Minnesota.

WHEREAS, pursuant to the policies of the Mower County Septic Loan program the owner of property has requested a loan from Mower County for replacement of a failing septic system on the below-listed property and has requested to pay back that loan by assessment to the subject property, to Mower County, over a ten-year term.

Property owner(s): Brian T. Miller Revocable Living Trust, Sherri L. Miller Revocable Living Trust

Property address: 10836 690th Avenue Taopi MN 55977

Parcel Identification No: 10.032.0041

Tax parcel legal description: Section 32 Township 101 Range 015 S1170FT N1480FT W865FT NW1/4 CONTRACT

Assessment amount: \$18,353.14, (Eighteen Thousand Three Hundred Fifty-three dollars and 14/100)

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MOWER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, MINNESOTA:

1. Such proposed assessment, made part hereof, is hereby accepted and shall constitute the special assessment against the lands named herein, and each tract of land herein included is hereby found to be benefitted by the proposed improvement and the amount of the assessment levied against it.
2. Such assessment shall be payable in simple decreasing installments extending over ten (10) years. The first of the installments shall be payable along with the first half taxes when due, as reflected on the tax statement payable year 2024, and shall bear interest at the rate of three percent per annum. Each payment including interest thereafter will be paid with taxes payable, until the assessment obligation is satisfied.
3. The owner of any property, so assessed, may pay the entire assessment on such property by December 31, 2023, without interest accrued.

Thereafter the owner of property, so assessed, may pay the annual assessment amount, or any amount exceeding the annual assessed amount so listed on the tax statement, with any unpaid interest accrued to December 31 of the year in which such payment is made.

The County will accept payments up until the close of business day December 31 in the year of payment. If December 31st is a weekend or holiday; payment must be received in advance of closing of the last business day in the year payment is made.

1. There shall be no penalty for advance payment or pay-off of the full balance of the assessment.
2. The County Administrator / clerk shall forthwith transmit a certified duplicate of this assessment to the County Auditor to be extended on the property tax list of the County and such assessment shall be collected and paid over the same manner as other municipal taxes.
3. This assessment must be paid in full at the time of property transfer to any other owner, owners, heirs, assigns or entity.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mower County Board Chair is hereby authorized to execute the Promissory Note on behalf of the County for the loan of funds from the Mower County Septic Loan program.

Passed and approved this 26th day of September, 2023.

6. Amend the Credit Card & Charge Account Policy effective September 26, 2023 by amending "Section IV. Approval and Use of Credit Cards and Charge Accounts" to add the positions of "Veteran Service Officer" and "Deputy Administrator" to the list of County officials approved for a County Credit Card.

Motion carried.

Public Works Director Michal Hanson provided the Board with a construction project update. Several county road, culvert and bridge projects were reviewed. A new process of cured-in-place-pipe was tried at fourteen culvert sites for repairs. Since the summer was dry more projects were completed and faster than expected.

Motion made by Commissioner Mueller, seconded by Commissioner Glynn, to set the project letting date to October 26, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. at the office of Public Works and awarded at the County Board of Commissioner's meeting for the following County projects:

SAP 050-599-169 for the replacement of Bridge 2488 in Sargeant Township

SAP 050-599-177 for the replacement of Bridge L5096 in Racine Township

SAP 050-599-173 for the replacement of Bridge L5035 in Nevada Township

Motion carried.

The Board recessed at 9:33 a.m. for the purpose of a public hearing.

The Vice-Chair called the Public Hearing to order at 9:33 a.m. regarding the Stephen & Emily Hubly Housing Tax Abatement Application for a single-family home located in NE 1/4 SE 1/4 Section 36 Austin Township (02.033.0040).

County Administrator Trish Harren reviewed the application and recommended approval.

The applicant was not present. No one spoke for or against the Hubly housing tax abatement application.

The Vice-Chair closed the Public Hearing at 9:35 a.m. regarding the Hubly Housing Tax Abatement application.

The County Board reconvened its regular session at 9:35 a.m.

Date: September 26, 2023

Res. #64-23

**RESOLUTION APPROVING TAX ABATEMENT
FOR CERTAIN PROPERTY PURSUANT TO MINN. STAT. 469.1813**

On motion of Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Sparks, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of

Commissioners at a meeting held September 26, 2023 at the Government Center, Austin, Minnesota.

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute 469.1813 gives authority to the County of Mower to grant an abatement of property taxes imposed by the County if certain criteria are met; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the statutory requirements, Mower County has adopted the Tax Abatement Policy for new construction of Single and Multi-family homes which includes criteria which must be met before an abatement of taxes will be granted; and

WHEREAS, Stephen and Emily Hubly are the owner(s) of certain property within Mower County, legally described as follows:

Section 36, Township 102 Range 018 4.05 AC BLDG SITE NE ¼, SE ¼; DOC#646528, Austin Township, MN (PIN 02.033.0040)

WHEREAS, Stephen and Emily Hubly have made application to Mower County for the abatement of taxes as to the above-described parcel; and

WHEREAS, Notice having been duly given, a public hearing was held on September 26, 2023 before the Mower County Board of Commissioners, on said application.

WHEREAS, Stephen and Emily Hubly have met the statutory requirements outlined under Minnesota Statute 469.1813 Subdivision 1(1) and Subdivision 2(i) as well as Mower County's criteria for tax abatement;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF MOWER COUNTY, MINNESOTA:

1. Mower County does, hereby grant an abatement of Mower County's share of real estate taxes upon the above-described parcel for the construction of the single-family home.
2. The tax abatement will be for no more than five years commencing, in the tax year the property realizes a value increase over original value due to construction of the housing project. Partially constructed housing may result in an abatement in the first abatement year that may be significantly less than the following years. This will still be considered one of the five years of eligible abatement. In the event construction has not commenced within one year of approval, the abatement is eliminated and the property owner will need to reapply in accordance with this policy.
3. The County shall provide the awarded abatement payment following payment of due real estate taxes annually. One single payment shall be made to the owner of record at the time of the payment, by December 30th of that calendar year.
4. The real estate taxes to be abated shall be for up to the full amount of the real estate taxes collected due to the added tax base of the newly constructed housing/home annually. The current value of the property is not eligible for the abatement, will not be abated as part of this program and is further defined as the "original value."

COMMISSIONERS' RECORD MOWER COUNTY, MINNESOTA

Any eligible abatement years are calculated on the tax increase due to a value increase over the original value.

Passed and approved this 26th day of September, 2023.

Motion made by Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Mueller, to approve the Health & Human Services accounts payable totaling \$310,481.77. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Mueller, seconded by Commissioner Sparks, to approve the following Commissioner warrants for payment:

<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
180 Degrees, Inc.	3,264.82	Kiker Brothers, Inc.	16,575.00
Axon Enterprise Inc	4,625.00	Larson Law Office/Evan	3,240.00
Baudoin Oil Company	27,920.64	Leadership Development Resources	3,390.00
Beckleys	2,396.00	Lenway Law Office	2,100.00
Bound Tree Medical LLC	6,520.97	Midwest Monitoring & Surveillance	7,712.50
Commissioner of Transportation	21,690.78	Minnesota Department Of Corrections	38,480.00
Consolidated Correctional Foodservice	18,262.13	Olympic Fire Protection Corp	6,728.47
Dalco Enterprises, Inc.	5,294.73	Prairie Lakes Youth Programs Secure	10,921.63
Deere & Company	4,294.68	Rave Nutrition	2,297.00
Diamond Drugs, Inc.	2,946.28	Sherwin Williams Company	11,800.00
Donnelly Law Firm, PLLC	6,306.54	TalkPoint Technologies, Inc	2,822.70
Ergotech Controls LLC	2,789.23	Talos Dynamics	2,237.69
Gallagher Benefit Services Inc	4,000.00	Veolia Environmental Services Inc	9,124.70
Hanson Tire Of Austin Inc	5,799.22	Zarnoth Brush Works, Inc.	2,148.00
Healthiest You	3,240.00	Ziegler, Inc	7,130.54
Kenning Ph.D./Mary	2,000.00	80 Payments less than 2000	38,475.99
		Final Total:	286,535.24

Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Sparks, seconded by Commissioner Mueller, to adopt the Justice Center Square Use Policy effective September 26, 2023. The adopted policy is as follows:

JUSTICE CENTER SQUARE USE POLICY

Purpose and Intent

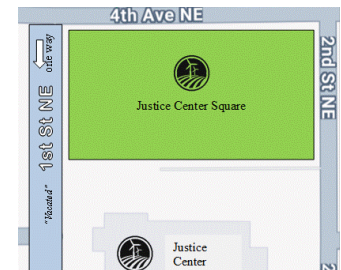
This policy is to establish eligible users and use guidelines for the use of the green space known as the Justice Center Square (JCS) located north of the Mower County Justice Center along 4th Avenue East between 1st and 2nd Streets NE in downtown, Austin, Minnesota.

Eligible Users

- Use of the Justice Center Square (JCS) is limited to community events hosted by other local units of government and non-profit entities.
- No private use is allowed for events such as weddings, birthday parties, reunions, or family gatherings. No exceptions.

Use Guidelines

- Users must provide Mower County with a certificate of insurance and name Mower County as additional insured (*coverage amounts included on the application*).
- The Justice Center Square is an Alcohol, Drug, and Tobacco FREE area.
- All tents/shelters/banners/flags must be secured with weights or sandbags, and similar means. Stakes are not allowed due to underground sprinkler system.
- Road vehicles including RVs and trailers may not be parked or driven in the space. Golf carts and other side-by-side vehicles are permitted.
- Campfires are not permitted.



- Pets are welcome in the Square, but they must always be kept on a leash and any pet waste cleaned up and disposed of properly.
- Food trucks are welcomed by may not park on the grass area. Arrangements can be made to park in paved spaces or in the parking spaces on the west side of the JCS. Food trucks require licensure from the City of Austin.
- Garbage receptacles must be provided by the event organizer and picked up within 48 hours of the event's end date. Mower County encourages recycling and recycling containers can be obtained through your garbage provider.

Use Information

- To obtain permission to use the Mower County Justice Center Square, contact the Mower County Facilities Supervisor at 507.396.8205 or 507.437.9539 during Monday through Fridays 8- 4:30 a minimum of two weeks prior to planned event. County Administration will make a final determination on granting your request.

Permit and Service Contact Information

- The City of Austin requires a special event permit for a Community Festival or Special Event. If your use of the space is open to the community, you most likely need a special event permit.
 - All special event questions should be directed to City of Austin, City Hall at licensing@ci.austin.mn.us or 507.437.9940
 - Arrangements for road closures and barricades, cones, handicap parking ,etc. related to your event are handled through the special event permit
- Food trucks are required to be licensed by the City of Austin. Movable Business license applications can be obtained at licensing@ci.austin.mn.us or at 507.437.9940.
- Arrangements for electrical service can be made through Austin Utilities at 507.433.8886.
- In the event of a technical problem during your event, contact Mower County Maintenance Department at 507.437.9539 or 507.396.8205.

Motion carried.

Land Records and Taxpayer Services Director Joy Kanne advised the Board that taxpayers have been requesting the option to have their value notices and property tax statements emailed rather than mailed. The Masters Touch, the vendor used to mail value notices and property tax statements, can provide eNotices. ENotices would be on a volunteer basis and landowners would have to sign up for e-Notice service. Funding for this would come from the Recorder's office discretionary fund. An agreement was presented for approval.

Motion made by Commissioner Mueller, seconded by Commissioner Sparks, to approve the proposal of The Master Touch for MN Treasurer and Assessor eNotices on-line service option for tax statements and notices. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Sparks, to approve contract agreement with The Master Touch for the mailing of the 2023 property tax proposals. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Sparks, to approve the quote of Harty Mechanical for the purchase of a multistack compressor (\$8,245). Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Mueller, seconded by Commissioner Sparks, to approve funding of up to \$2500 in support of Austin Aspires In Home Daycare appreciation breakfast event scheduled for November 4, 2023. Motion carried.

Human Resource Director Kris Kohn presented for approval the recommendations provided by the Benefits Committee for 2024 Health Insurance for active employees and retirees. The premium renewal for 2024 was 20.93%. The Health Insurance committee worked hard to find options to lower costs for both employees and the employer. After much research and discussion, the Committee unanimously voted to recommend staying with the current Medica plan designs (VEBA 2600-20% and VEBA/H.S.A 3375-0%) with two networks (Open Access- All providers; and Mayo network only). Due to the County's contribution to VEBA and H.S.A plans remaining unchanged, the projected actual increase is approximately 18.3%. For the 65+ Plan for Qualified Retirees health insurance benefit the Benefits Committee recommends a move from the current plan of BCBS Senior Gold to BCBS Medicare Advantage Premium plan. This plan will allow for members to have their part A, B, and their "supplement" all administered by BCBS. This plan is less costly due to one plan administrator and provides added benefits to members.

Motion made by Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Sparks, to accept the recommendation of the Benefits Committee and approves making no changes in the available health insurance plans for 2024 for active employees. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Mueller, to accept the recommendation of the Benefits Committee and approves the plan change from BCBS Senior Gold to BCBS Medicare Advantage Premium plan for 2024 for retirees. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Sparks, seconded by Commissioner Mueller, to amend Personnel Policy D181 On Call Pay. The policy is amended as follows:

On Call Pay

Mower County employees may be required to work an on-call schedule based upon the needs of the county. ~~Union employees are compensated pursuant to their labor agreement. Non-union~~ **Unless stated otherwise in a labor agreement**, hourly employees who are scheduled to provide on-call coverage outside their normally scheduled shift by their supervisor shall receive compensation as follows:

	<u>Monday-Friday</u>	<u>Saturday/Sunday/Holidays</u>
• Effective July 1, 2023	\$37.00 per day	\$52.00 per day
• Effective July 1, 2024	\$39.00 per day	\$54.00 per day
• Effective July 1, 2025	\$40.00 per day	\$55.00 per day

In the event that an employee is required to perform work during the on-call period, the employee shall record their actual hours worked, which is included in total hours worked and subject to the provision under FLSA. On-call staff ~~will have the option to either flex their on-call time during that week or accrue compensatory time to be used at a time that best fits their schedules~~ **will be informed by their supervisor or department head as to whether on call time should be flexed during the week, or may be considered overtime/compensatory time.**

Non-union exempt (salaried) employees are not eligible for any compensation for on call coverage whether the employee is on call pursuant to state statute or County Board action.

Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Mueller, to amend Personnel Policy B225 Telephone. Due to the large number of amendments to this policy the final amended policy is included below rather than a red-line.

Telephone Policy

Policy Statement:

The purpose of this policy is to establish rules and guidelines for telephone and cell phone usage.

The rapidly changing world of wireless communications provides an opportunity for County Departments to ensure efficient, safe, and high-quality customer service to the citizens of Mower County. Based on identified needs in providing service, designated staff will either be provided with a cellular phone (hereinafter referred to as a cell phone) for County business purposes or a cell phone allowance toward the cost of the purchase/lease of an employee's personal cell phone, which will also be used for County business purposes. The users of check out cell phones must follow the same guidelines and responsibilities outlined in this policy. The provision of a cell phone or cell phone allowance serves a public purpose in providing employees the ability to perform job-related duties, which are directly related to the governmental purposes.

Goals:

This policy is intended to cover the use of telephones, telephone lines, long distance services, and cellular phones that are owned by the County.

Definitions:

Cell Phone: The phone, adapter, battery pack, and other equipment specific to the phone used for County business purposes.

Business Use: Work-related communications, which are required due to the nature of an employee's position.

Personal Use:

Personal long-distance calls and personal directory assistance calls should not be made from County telephones as these services generate charges that are billed to the county. Should an employee need to make a personal long-distance call, they should use their personal calling card or cell phone to do so. Personal long-distance calls cannot be made from County telephones and reimbursed to the County by the employee.

County provided cell phones should never be used to make personal calls. All calls made using these services generate charges that are billed to the County. Personal calls cannot be made from County telephones and reimbursed to the County by the employee. The only exceptions to this rule are based on an extended or changed assignment for the County's convenience or personal emergencies. Examples: 1) A Sheriff's deputy that is held past his or her normal work hours due to work related issues may make a call using a cell phone to alert a family member or appointment that he or she will be late. 2) A County staff member who is at a meeting conducting County business and finds that the meeting will be extended may make a call to alert people to expect that he or she will be late. 3) Personal emergencies including unexpected illness, car trouble, inclement weather, etc., for self and others. In all these cases, we expect the staff person to use the most cost-effective means of placing the call and to limit the call to only what is necessary to alert the person they are calling.

Procedures:

Department Heads will determine the business need for a County owned cell phone or cell phone allowance. If an employee opts to utilize the cell phone allowance method the employee will then be required to provide reliable cell phone service for all work-related needs. Some of the work-related needs include, but are not limited to:

1. Safety of self or others that may be at risk.
2. Providing immediate communication with staff in the department and other agencies as required to coordinate programs or to provide customer service.
3. Flexibility when schedule changes occur.
4. Retrieving messages from voice mail while working in the community.
5. Making telephone calls to clients and customers.
6. When the employee's main work location is in the field where landlines and other primary radio/telephone communications are not available.

County Purchased/Leased Cell Phones

Employees whose work requires the use of a cell phone, which is provided by the County, can use the cell phone for County business only. Employees will turn in any County-purchased/leased cell phones in working condition

or technologically capable when they are in an unpaid leave status, when no longer required for their job, and/or whenever requested by the County.

Employee-Owned Phones

Employees whose work requires the use of a cell phone and who have opted to receive a cell phone allowance will receive a monthly allowance in the amount determined by the County Board. Employees receiving an allowance are responsible for:

1. Providing proof of purchase/lease of cell service at intervals to be determined by the County.
2. Providing information in a manner prescribed by the Finance Department to activate and maintain monthly allowance payments.
3. Replacement or repair of the phone will be the responsibility of the employee.

All costs related to the cell phone, including but not limited to, the initial purchase of the cell phone, accessory equipment, monthly phone fees and activation fees will be the responsibility of the employee. The employee will pay any and all costs exceeding the amount of the cell phone allowance. No allowance will be paid when an employee is in an unpaid leave status. The allowance will be prorated for unpaid leaves of less than one month.

Responsibilities

Employees receiving a County-purchased/leased cell phone or a cell phone allowance will be responsible for the following:

1. Retrieving messages on voice mail if telephone calls are missed on the cell phone.
2. Having the cell phone available for use during all hours of work and when the employee is subject to call.
3. Ensuring that use of the phone does not provide a distraction to the employee during work hours. This includes limiting the use to work related activities except emergencies as previously stated and setting the cell phone to a "silent alert" mode during meetings and other times that an interruption is undesirable.
4. Mower County does not endorse the practice of County employees using hand-held cell phones while driving for work related purposes. Therefore, all employees are required to use the cell phone in an appropriate and safe manner, especially while driving.
5. Caring for the phone in a responsible manner, minimizing the chance of loss or damage.
6. Safeguarding any County information or conversations discussed on his or her cell phone and maintaining any County data stored or accessible on the cell phone according to its classification under the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act (MGDPA). This includes providing adequate security for the phone to prevent unauthorized users from finding client/work-related telephone numbers stored in the cell phone memory. Confidential or non-published numbers should not be stored in any "speed dial" function of the cell phone.

Allowance Activation

For an employee to receive a cell phone allowance, the allowance amount must be authorized by the Department Head. A completed Cell Phone Allowance Agreement must be sent to Human Resources and Payroll for allowance activation. Employees receiving a cell phone allowance must notify their Department Head and the Human Resources Department immediately if they terminate their phone service. Likewise, if a Department Head determines that an employee no longer needs a cell phone, he/she must immediately notify the Human Resources Department to make the necessary change.

Law:

It is illegal under Minnesota Law for County personnel or the public to make personal use of County funds. Therefore, it is illegal to make personal use of County long distance services. The following applies to all County employees.

Privacy: The County makes no guarantee that personal cell phone numbers and statements of employees who receive a cell phone allowance are private or public data. Billings and phone numbers associated with a County-purchased/leased cell phone is considered public data.

Taxability: The cell phone allowance will be paid through the County payroll system as taxable income. For determination of individual taxability, employees should check with their tax advisor.

COMMISSIONERS' RECORD MOWER COUNTY, MINNESOTA

I agree to the following regulations regarding the payment of a cell phone allowance to me:

1. I understand that I will be authorized a cell phone allowance to be used toward the cost of purchase/lease of a personal cell phone for Mower County business purposes.
2. I understand that this allowance will be paid to me through payroll as taxable income.
3. I understand that I will be required to provide reliable cell phone service for all work-related needs.
4. I agree to provide required documentation to my department head and/or Finance Department as required to initiate and continue my entitlement to the cell phone allowance.
5. I understand my entitlement to the cell phone allowance ceases if I am in unpaid leave status.
6. I understand the cell phone allowance will cease immediately upon my termination of employment, whether for retirement, voluntary, or involuntary reasons. Should I terminate employment midmonth, I understand the allowance will be prorated.
7. I understand that any current or future obligation with the cell phone service provider is exclusively my responsibility without any liability to Mower County.
8. Mower County does not endorse the practice of County employees using hand-held cell phones while driving for work related purposes. Therefore, all employees are required to use the cell phone in an appropriate and safe manner, especially while driving.
9. The employee is responsible for safeguarding any County information or conversations discussed on his or her cell phone and maintaining any County data stored or accessible on the cell phone according to its classification under the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act (MGDPA). This includes providing adequate security for the phone to prevent unauthorized users from finding client/work-related telephone numbers stored in the cell phone memory. Confidential or non-published numbers should not be stored in any "speed dial" function of the cell phone.
10. I have read and will follow the Mower County Telephone Policy. Failure to comply with this Agreement may result in cancellation of my entitlement to receipt of the cell phone allowance.

Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Sparks, to set the cell phone allowance at \$40 per month effective 10/1/23. Motion carried.

Under Committee Reports Commissioner Glynn reported attending the SWCD meeting on 9/13 and the SMART trails committee meeting on 9/21. Commissioner Glynn also reported that she and Commissioner Mueller attended the Township Association meeting on 9/21. Commissioner Mueller reported that he and Commissioner Ankeny attended the Joint City/County meeting on 9/13. Commissioner Mueller also attended the AMC Fall Policy conference on 9/14 and 15. Commissioner Sparks reported that he had attended the Rural MN Energy Board meeting on 9/25. Commissioner Reinartz reported attending the Safety Committee meeting on 9/20 and the Senior Center meeting on 9/21.

The Vice-Chair adjourned the meeting at 10:52 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for October 3, 2023 at 1:00 p.m.

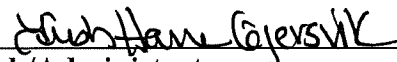
THE MOWER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

BY: _____



Chairperson

Attest:

By: 
Clerk/Administrator