REGULAR SESSION OF THE MOWER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

December 14, 2021

The Mower County Board of Commissioners in and for the County of Mower, Minnesota, met in Regular Session December 14, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. at the Government Center in Austin, Minnesota.

All members present, viz: Chair Polly Glynn, Vice-Chair Jerry Reinartz, Mike Ankeny, Jeff Baldus, and John Mueller. Also in attendance were County Attorney Kristen Nelsen, County Administrator Trish Harren, and Executive Assistant Denise Barthels.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion made by Commissioner Baldus, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

County Attorney Kristen Nelsen provided a department update. Ms. Nelsen thanked the Board for the additional staff and noted that the Attorney's Association has legislatively prioritized requesting training dollars. Public safety is a priority when handling the backlog of cases. Ms. Nelsen is still planning to have a warrant amnesty day to encourage new court dates. Staff will need to be trained on the new body camera policy and procedures. "Gap" cases continue to be a challenge. These cases concern individuals that are mentally ill and assessed as not competent for trial but not committable.

Trish Harren noted that The Minnesota County Attorneys Association honored Kristen and presented her with the Johnson Distinguished Service Award for her significant leadership and activities to increase public awareness.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Baldus, to approve the minutes of November 23, 2021, December 2, 2021 and December 2, 2021 work session. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, to approve the following Commissioner warrants for payment:

Vendor Name	Amount	Vendor Name	Amount
180 Degrees, Inc.	6,982.20	KNOW iNK	8,250.00
Above All Cleaning, Inc	4,256.00	Leadership Development Resources	2,480.00
AUSTIN AUTOMOTIVE LLC	3,620.48	Marston Consulting Group,LLC	4,000.00
Austin Daily Herald	3,948.17	Mayo Clinic Ambulance Services	5,282.91
Baudoin Oil Company	37,411.30	Midwest Monitoring & Surveillance	4,160.00
Beckleys	2,300.15	Minnesota Counties Intergov'tal Trust	21,461.00
Cedar Valley Services, Inc	3,636.55	Office Of Mn It Services	4,849.50
CliftonLarsonAllen LLP	2,887.50	Paulson Rock Products	99,340.19
Commissioner Of Transportation	12,641.27	Petroblend Corp.	2,172.29
Compass Minerals	94,374.62	Rick Olson Seminars	3,000.00
Dash Medical Gloves Inc.	2,520.70	Schneider Geospatial, LLC	6,624.00
Digital Defense	7,020.60	Sema Equipment Inc	11,534.33
Douglas C Bathke Const. LLC	4,367.39	Thomson Reuters-West Payment Center	2,248.99
Erickson Engineering Co., LLC	5,935.00	Vanguard Appraisals Inc	2,160.00

Freeborn County Co-Operative Oil Co.	10,757.27	Zahl Equipment Service Inc	6,610.00
Hormel Institute	6,200.00	Ziegler, Inc	203,643.73
Kiker Brothers, Inc.	8,000.00	76 Payments less than 2000	34,876.07
		Final Total:	**639,552.21**

Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Mueller, to approve the monthly investment report for the months ending September, October and November 2021. Motion carried.

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES BOARD:

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, to approve the Health & Human Services accounts payable totaling $312,071.38. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Baldus, seconded by Commissioner Mueller, to approve new Purchase of Service Agreement with Moran Professional Corporation to provide Adult Mental Health Case Management (2022). Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, to approve the 2022 Children's Mental Health Screening Grant Contract with the Minnesota Department of Human Services in the amount of $9,597.00. Motion carried.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES UPDATES:

Health & Human Services Director Crystal Peterson provided the Board with HHS updates. It was noted that the gift-giving program was successful and the donation from the Eagles was greatly appreciated. The Mental Health strategic planning is progressing to having a brain storming session with Tim Hunger and Courtney Lawson. The two new budgeted Community Health Workers are tentatively scheduled to start in January. The department will start distributing the HHS bills to the commissioners ahead of time for their review starting in January. Lastly, Ms. Peterson provided Covid updates indicating there have been 7591 cumulative cases in Mower County with 50 associated deaths. Hospitalizations are up. The public health nurses are finishing vaccinations in the schools.

Motion made by Commissioner Mueller, seconded by Commissioner Baldus, to approve the following renewals of Purchase of Service Agreements effective January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 (unless otherwise noted):

Case Management	
Independent Management Services	1/1/22 – 6/30/22
Thomas Allen, Incorporated	

Chemical Use Assessments	
Independent Management Services	Extend to 6/30/22
Mayo Clinic Health System	Extend to 6/30/22

CHIPS Attorney	
Lenway, Thomas	1/1/22 – 12/31/23
Spyhalski, Paul	1/1/22 – 12/31/23

Mental Health Services	
Dahle, Teya	
Nexus-Gerard Family Healing, LLC	
Quality Community Services, Inc.	
Quality Case Management, Inc.	1/1/22 – 6/30/22
Retterath, Pamela	

SILS Services	
Cardinal of Minnesota, LTD	1/1/22 -12/31/23
Independent Management Services	1/1/22 -12/31/23

Employment Services
Cedar Valley Services, Inc
Workforce Development, Inc.

Transportation	
Grand Meadow Public School	9/1/21 – 6/30/22
Southland Public School	9/1/21 – 6/30/22

Interpreter Services
Intercultural Mutual Assistance Association

Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Mueller, to adjourn the Health & Human Services Board meeting at 10:06 a.m. Motion carried.

COUNTY BOARD

The Regular Session of the Board was reconvened at 10:07 a.m. for regular business items.

Per Minnesota Statutes 626.8473 PORTABLE RECORDING SYSTEMS ADOPTION Subd. 2 the Board received public comment regarding intent for County Sheriff's Department to use body cameras. County Administrator Trish Harren noted that the County did not receive any written comments. No one appeared during the Board meeting to make comment. Staff will continue to proceed with finalizing the policy and procedures for approval in preparation for the use of body cameras by the Sheriff's department.

Motion made by Commissioner Mueller, seconded by Commissioner Baldus, to reappoint Joy Oudekirk for a third five-year term on the Mower County Housing Authority Board effective January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2026. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Baldus, to approve the Continuation of Preventative Maintenance Service Agreement #1636 with UHL for 2022 ($10,584). Motion carried.

Date: December 14, 2021 **Res. #108-21**

RESOLUTION ADOPTING ASSESSMENT

On motion of Commissioner Baldus, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held December 14, 2021 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): Tristan Schimek

Property address: 59601 240th St, Austin MN 55912

Parcel Identification No: 16.027.0010

Tax parcel abbreviated description: Section 27 Township 103 Range 017 5AC BLDG SITE ALONG N LINE; DOC#657273

Assessment amount: $20,943.95 (Twenty Thousand Nine Hundred Forty-Three dollars and 95/100)

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 2022, 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 whole assessment on such property by December 31, (year of installation) 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.

   Payments will be accepted by the County 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.

4. There shall be no penalty for early payment or pay-off of the full balance of the assessment.

5. The County Administrator / clerk shall forthwith transmit a certified duplicate of this assessment to the County Auditor-Treasurer 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.

6. This assessment must be paid in full at 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 the funds from the Mower County Septic Loan program.

Passed and approved this 14th day of December, 2021.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, to amend the County 2021 budget for economic development with the first withdrawal related to the JCW Loan for the Nu-Tech project and authorize payment with an auditor warrant to the Development Corporation of Austin in the amount of $1,250,000 from Reserves to line item 01-781-000-0000-7810. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Mueller to amend the 2021 budget for Public Works and Recycling related to equipment purchases as follows:

Item & Amount	From:	To:
Public Works TOTAL $832,543.77	13.000.000.0000.2813	13.310.000.0000.6621
2021 Weiler asphalt paver $199,217.02		
2021 CAT motorgrader $379,706.00		
2021 CAT Excavator $253,520.75		
Recycling TOTAL $118,945.00	Reserves	17.393.000.0000.6621
Baler purchase		

Motion carried.

The Board recessed at 10:15 a.m. for the purpose of a public hearing.

The Chair called the Public Hearing to order at 10:15 a.m. in regard to a Housing Tax Abatement Application of Bigelow & Lennon Construction for the construction of a single-family home located Lot 2, Block 2 Nature Ridge 2nd, Austin, MN (PIN 34.467.0070)

County Administrator Trish Harren reviewed the application and recommended approval.

Jim Martin for the applicant was present and spoke in favor of the application. No one else spoke for or against the Bigelow & Lennon Construction housing tax abatement application (34.457.0070)

The Chair closed the Public Hearing at 10:21 a.m. in regard to a Housing Tax Abatement application of Bigelow & Lennon Construction (34.457.0070)

The County Board reconvened its regular session at 10:21 a.m.

Date: December 14, 2021 **Res. #109-21**

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

On motion of Commissioner Baldus, seconded by Commissioner Mueller, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held December 14, 2021 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, Nature Ridge Properties of Austin, Co. (Seller) is the owner of certain property within Mower County, legally described as follows:

Lot 2, Block 2 Nature Ridge 2nd, Austin, MN *(PIN 34.467.0070)*

WHEREAS, Bigelow & Lennon Construction (Buyer) has 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 December 14, 2021 before the Mower County Board of Commissioners, on said application.

WHEREAS, Nature Ridge Properties of Austin, Co. (Seller) and Bigelow & Lennon Construction (Buyer) 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." Any eligible abatement years are calculated on the tax increase due to a value increase over the original value.

Passed and approved this 14th day of December, 2021.

The Human Resources Director Kris Kohn reported that she had reviewed the job duties and comparative salaries of other elected County Attorneys, County Auditor-Treasurers and County Sheriff's in southeast Minnesota and, in consultation with the Mower County elected officials and based on their work performance and to ensure comparable compensation with other counties, recommended to the Finance and Personnel Committees that the 2022 salaries for the positions of Mower County Attorney, Sheriff and Auditor-Treasurer be set as follows: Attorney at $149,035.07; Sheriff at $136,155.34; and Auditor/Treasurer at $99,261.74. The Finance and Personnel Committees met to review wages and benefits for elected officials and non-union employees and recommends approval.

Date: December 14, 2021 **Res. #110-21**

RESOLUTION

On motion of Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held December 14, 2021 at the Government Center, Austin, Minnesota.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT; the annual salary for the elected officials of County Attorney, County Sheriff, and County Auditor-Treasurer for Mower County payable in bi-weekly installments, be set as follows for 2022 as of January 1, 2022:

County Attorney..$149,035.07
County Sheriff $136,155.34
County Auditor-Treasurer..$99,261.74

Passed and approved this 14th day of December, 2021.

Further, the Finance Committee is recommending that non-union wages and benefits be set consistent with negotiated wages and benefits by the unions for 2022.

Motion made by Commissioner Baldus, seconded by Commissioner Mueller, to set 2022 non-union salaries by increasing non-union 2022 wages by 2.5% above the 2021 rate along with applicable anniversary step increases on the wage scale and benefits in alignment with other county employees and set the 2022 health insurance premiums as follows:

	Employee Contribution towards 2022 Health Insurance		
	Single	**EE+ CH(REN)**	**Family**
VEBA 2600/5200 (**80% Plan**)	$0.00	$336.78/mo	$510.26/mo
CDHP VEBA/HSA 3375/6750 **(100% Plan)**	$12.80/mo	$356.36/mo	$510.34/mo

Motion carried.

The Finance Committee met to discuss the Commissioner salary and per-diems for 2022. The committee recommends no increase to the County Commissioner salary of $24,200. The Commissioner salary was last increased in 2008. The Finance Committee further recommends an annual stipend for the Board Chair of $500.00. The Committee recommends changes in per diems for discussion.

Date: December 14, 2021 **Res. #111-21**

RESOLUTION

On motion of Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held December 14, 2021 at the Government Center, Austin, Minnesota.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the annual salary for the elected official of County Commissioner for Mower County payable in bi-weekly installments, be set as follows for 2022:

County Commissioner
as of 01/01/2022..$24,200.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the 2022 Chair of the Board receive an annual stipend of $500.00 payable at year end.

Passed and approved this 14th day of December, 2021.

Date: December 14, 2021 **Res. #112-21**

RESOLUTION

On motion of Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held December 14, 2021 at the Government Center, Austin, Minnesota.

BE IT RESOLVED that effective January 1, 2022 a Commissioner per diem for in-county meetings, noticed special events and Board approved meetings be set as follows:

Less than 2 hours:	$50
2 – 4 hours:	$75
Over 4 hours or Two or more meetings on same day:	$100

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that effective January 1, 2022 a Commissioner per diem for Out-of-County meetings, noticed special events and Board approved meetings be set at one hundred dollars ($100) *(if meeting held virtually, per diem in accordance with in-county per diems)*

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that effective January 1, 2022 a per diem of one hundred fifty dollars ($150) be set for the Rural MN Energy Board and Minnesota Rural Counties working committees. *(if meeting held virtually, per diem in accordance with in-county per diems)*

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that effective January 1, 2022 a per diem of one hundred fifty dollars ($150) be set for meetings requiring overnight stays *(day with the overnight)*.

Passed and approved this 14th of December, 2021.

Date: December 14, 2021 **Res. #113-21**

RESOLUTION

On motion of Commissioner Baldus, seconded by Commissioner Mueller, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held December 14, 2021 at the Government Center, Austin, Minnesota.

BE IT RESOLVED that effective January 1, 2022 a per diem for the following non-county board working committees: Extension Committee, Planning Commission, Board of Adjustment, Mower County Community Health Services Advisory Committee, State C.H.S. Advisory Committee, Joint Powers Boards, Personnel Board of Appeals and all regional or state boards, be set as follows:

Less than 2 hours:	$50
2 – 4 hours:	$75
Over 4 hours or Two or more meetings on same day:	$100

Passed and approved this 14th day of December, 2021.

Date: December 14, 2021 **Res. #114-21**

RESOLUTION

On motion of Commissioner Mueller, seconded by Commissioner Ankeny, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held December 14, 2021 at the Government Center, Austin, Minnesota.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT; the **minimum** salaries for elected officials for Mower County be set as follows for 2022:

1) County Auditor-Treasurer..$85,899.72
2) County Sheriff..$110,396.15
3) County Attorney..$110,396.15
4) County Commissioner $24,200.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said salaries are set in a manner to be consistent with other Mower County employees and their pay equity evaluation system.

Passed and approved this 14th day of December, 2021

Date: December 14, 2021 **Res. #115-21**

RESOLUTION

Authorizing county staff to execute all necessary documents to ensure County participation in the multistate settlements relating to opioid distributors and manufacturers, and in the Minnesota Opioids State-Subdivision Memorandum of Agreement, and declaring support for an amendment to Minn. Stat. § 256.043, subd. 3(d).

On motion of Commissioner Baldus, seconded by Commissioner Mueller, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held December 14, 2021 at the Government Center, Austin, Minnesota.

WHEREAS, the State of Minnesota and numerous Minnesota cities and counties are engaged in nationwide civil litigation against manufacturers and distributors of prescription opioids related to the opioid crisis; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Attorney General has signed on to multistate settlement agreements with several pharmaceutical distributors, McKesson, Cardinal Health, and AmerisourceBergen, as well as opioid manufacturer Johnson & Johnson, but those settlement agreements are still subject to sign-on by local governments and final agreement by the companies and approval by the courts; and

WHEREAS, there is a deadline of January 2, 2022, for a sufficient threshold of Minnesota cities and counties to sign on to the above-referenced multistate settlement agreements, and failure to timely sign on may diminish the amount of funds received by not only that city or county but by all Minnesota cities and counties from the settlement funds; and

WHEREAS, representatives of Minnesota's local governments, the Office of the Attorney General, and the State of Minnesota have reached agreement on the intrastate allocation of these settlement funds between the State, and the counties and cities, as well as the permissible uses of these funds, which will be memorialized in the Minnesota Opioids State-Subdivision Memorandum of Agreement (the "State-Subdivision Agreement"); and

WHEREAS, during negotiations of the State-Subdivision Agreement, representatives of Minnesota's counties prioritized flexibility in how local governments may use settlement funds for opioids abatement and remediation and advocated for counties to receive settlement allocations directly rather than using the distribution mechanism detailed in Minn. Stat. § 256.043, subd. 3(d); and

WHEREAS, in order to achieve the goals of flexibility and direct allocation, Minn. Stat. § 256.043, subd. 3(d), must be amended to remove a provision which would otherwise appropriate approximately 50 percent of the state's settlement allocation to county social service agencies for statutorily-prescribed use(s); and

WHEREAS, the State-Subdivision Agreement creates an opportunity for local governments and the State to work collaboratively on a unified vision to deliver a robust abatement and remediation plan to address the opioid crisis in Minnesota; now, therefore,
BE IT RESOLVED, Mower County supports and agrees to the State-Subdivision Agreement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Mower County supports and opts in to the multistate settlements with McKesson, Cardinal Health, and AmerisourceBergen, and with Johnson & Johnson; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Mower County authorizes county staff to execute all necessary documents to ensure County participation in the multistate settlements, including the Participation Agreement and accompanying Release, and in the State-Subdivision Agreement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Mower County supports the amending of Minn. Stat. § 256.043, subd. 3(d), to remove a provision which would appropriate approximately 50 percent of the state's settlement allocation to county social service agencies via the existing Opiate Epidemic Response Fund distribution mechanism for statutorily-prescribed use(s).

Passed and approved this 14th day of December, 2021.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, to authorize the chair or county administrator to sign the Opioid Distributor Subdivision settlement participation form. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Baldus, to authorize the chair or county administrator to sign the Opioid Janssen Subdivision Settlement participation form. Motion carried.

Under Miscellaneous correspondence, the Board was notified that the County had received an Award from Minnesota Counties Intergovernmental Trust for Outstanding Excellence in Workers' Compensation.

County Auditor-Treasurer Scott Felten requested approval to apply for an election equipment grant through the Minnesota Secretary of State's Office to upgrade voting machines and devices.

Date: December 14, 2021 **Res. #116-21**

RESOLUTION
County Application for
Voting Equipment Grant

On the motion of Commissioner Ankeny, Seconded by Commissioner Baldus, the following resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at the meeting held December 14, 2021 at the Government Center, Austin, Minnesota.

WHEREAS, Mower County has applied to the State of Minnesota for a grant from the Voting Equipment Grant Account (VEGA) for purchase of new voting/election equipment for the county; and

WHEREAS, the Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State (OSS) is currently soliciting applications from jurisdictions for grants to purchase voting equipment; and

WHEREAS, the amount of the grant request has been determined to be $142,148.50 by reason of the proposed equipment purchase schedule;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that Mower County does hereby agree to the terms and conditions of the grant consistent with the requirements of Minnesota Statutes section 206.95, and will pay any additional amount by which the cost exceeds the estimate, and will return to the Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State any amount appropriated for the equipment but not required. The proper county officers are authorized to execute a grant agreement with the Secretary of State concerning the above-referenced grant.

Passed and approved this 14th day of December, 2021.

Public Works Director Michal Hanson recommended approval for two final payment resolutions.

Date: December 14, 2021 **Res. #117-21**

RESOLUTION

On motion of Commissioner Baldus, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held December 14, 2021 at the Government Center, Austin, Minnesota.

WHEREAS, project number CP 50-21-10 completed by The Joseph Co., has in all things been completed and the County Board being fully advised in the premise.

NOW THEN BE IT RESOLVED that we do hereby accept said completed project for and on behalf of the County of Mower and authorize final payment as specified herein:

Contract Amount: $ 19,900.00
Final Amount: $ 19,900.00 [100%]
Final Payment: $ 19,900.00

Passed and approved this 14th day of December, 2021.

Date: December 14, 2021 **Res. #118-21**

RESOLUTION

On motion of Commissioner Mueller, seconded by Commissioner Ankeny, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held December 14, 2021 at the Government Center, Austin, Minnesota.

WHEREAS, project numbers SAP 50-620-016; SAP 50-607-042; SAP 50-603-020; SAP 50-602-032 completed by Ulland Brothers, Inc., has in all things been completed and the County Board being fully advised in the premise.

NOW THEN BE IT RESOLVED that we do hereby accept said completed project for and on behalf of the County of Mower and authorize final payment as specified herein:

Contract Amount:$ 3,406,547.28
Final Amount: $ 3,225,157.67 [94.68%]
Final Payment: $ 36,733.20

Passed and approved this 14th day of December, 2021.

Citizen John Ryther stated to the Board that he understood that voting equipment needs to be updated but would like assurances that the integrity of the machines and voting procedures followed are accurate and people's votes are secure. The Auditor-Treasurer's office assured Mr. Ryther that all statutory requirements are followed and the new (and all) voting equipment is tested and retested for accuracy prior to each election and are kept locked away between elections.

Under Committee Reports Commissioner Reinartz reported the Personnel Committee met on December 13 preparing for Board. In addition he had attended the Emergency Radio Board in Rochester on December 13 and will be attending a Senior Center meeting later this week. Commissioner Ankeny reported that the Finance Committee had met last week preparing for Board and the Solid Waste Committee will be meeting on December 15. Commissioner Baldus had attended a Library Board meeting via zoom on December 13. Commissioners Ankeny and Baldus had attend the Association of Minnesota Counties Annual Conference on December 5 – 8. Commissioner Mueller will be attending an extension meeting yet this week. Commissioner Glynn will be attending a law library board meeting this week.

The Board recessed at 11:29 a.m. to be reconvened at 6:30 p.m. for the 2022 Budget & Tax Levy Public Comment.

The Board reconvened at 6:30 p.m.

Additional persons now present, Austin Daily Herald reporter Eric Johnson, County Assessor Joy Kanne, County Auditor-Treasurer Scott Felten, Auditor-Treasurer Manager Laurie Clendenning, Facilities Supervisor Jason Murphy.

County Administrator Trish Harren reviewed the 2022 budget and levy recommendations. The recommendation is to set the budget at $59,398,645 with a levy of $23,258,903 which is a 2.5% increase over the 2021 levy.

Public Comment was requested but none received. Citizens of Mower County did not attend the meeting either in person or virtually.

Date: December 14, 2021 **Res. #119-21**

RESOLUTION

On motion of Commissioner Baldus, seconded by Commissioner Ankeny, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held December 14, 2021 at the Government Center, Austin, Minnesota.

WHEREAS, on September 28, 2021 the Mower County Board of Commissioners adopted a preliminary tax levy;

WHEREAS, on September 28, 2021 the Mower County Board of Commissioners set the public hearing on said levy and County Budget to December 14, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.;

WHEREAS, on December 14, 2021, a public annual budget and levy hearing was held;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2022 net property tax levy be set at $23,258,903 (2.5%); and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the 2022 non-levy revenue and expenditure budgets which were used as the basis for the property tax levy certification as recommended by the County Finance Committee are hereby adopted; and that the 2022 budget for the County is as follows:

EXPENSES

General Government	
Board of Commissioners	286,733
Courts	160,000
Administration	549,021
County Auditor/Treasurer	348,193
Taxpayer Services	168,975
Elections	526,499
Data Processing	1,066,183
Human Resources	478,803
Attorney	1,635,464
Law Library	33,534

SOURCE of Funds

Revenues- General Government	
Tax Levy	14,652,839
State Formula Aid	2,512,565
Del Tax & Penalties, Mortgage Tax	175,000
Wind Production Tax	925,000
PILT & PERA& POWER	95,000
Special Assessments	
License/Permits	63,640
Intergovernmental	945,040
Charges For Services	936,091
Fines & Forfeits	25,000

Recorder	343,456
County Assessor	799,094
Buildings & Plant	886,214
Veterans Service Officer	195,383
Land Records	61,740
Accounting & Auditing	76,750
Total General Government	**7,616,042**

Public Safety	
Sheriff	3,963,076
E-9-1-1	105,081
Sentence to Serve	76,351
Dare	3,000
Coroner	128,700
County Jail	4,064,026
Community Corrections	2,602,026
Civil Defense	139,651
Law Enforcement Center	1,747,273
Canteen	46,000
Bailiffs & Guards	52,719
Total Public Safety	**12,927,903**

Culture & Recreation	
Historical Society	61,866
Senior Citizens	55,000
CHORE	36,000
Regional Library	**301,100**
Other	22,158
Total Culture & Recreation	**476,124**

Conservation of Natural Resources	
Cooperative Extension	210,713
Soil & Water Conservation	162,000
Agricultural Society	26,250
Total Conservation of Natural Resources	**398,963**
Economic Development	
Development Corporation	305,000
Total Economic Development	**305,000**
Unallocated	
Insurance	491,820
Contingency	68,906
Other	119,250
Total Unallocated	**679,976**
Net Use of Reserves	
Total General Revenue Fund	**22,404,008**

Public Works	
Administration	767,707
Maintenance	3,767,503
Construction	11,029,141
Equipment Maintenance & Shop	1,075,606
Building & Grounds	211,388
Planning & Zoning	122,079
Environmental Health	275,965
Water Planning	30,918
Agricultural Inspector	4,566
Feedlot	113,392
Addition to Reserves	105,775
Total Highways & Streets	**17,504,040**

Investment Income	667,500
Miscellaneous	1,397,244
Sales	19,200
Net Use of Reserves	-10,111
Total General Government	**22,404,008**

Public Works	
Tax Levy	2,887,981
Wheelage Tax	375,000
Local Transit Tax	1,650,000
Wind Tax	670,000
Intergovernmental	11,390,559
Permits	89,500
Charges For Services	173,000
Miscellaneous	241,000
Sales	27,000
Total Highway & Streets	**17,504,040**

Human Services & Public Health	
Tax Levy	5,718,083
Intergovernmental	9,540,463
Charges For Services	1,386,475
Miscellaneous	803,801
Total Human Services	**17,448,822**

Sanitation	
Special Assessments	910,000
Intergovernmental	130,000
Charges For Services & License	80,775
Sales	80,000
Total Sanitation	**1,200,775**

Ditch	
Special Assessments	191,000
Total Ditch Funds	**191,000**

Capital Projects Fund	
Use of Reserves	50,000
Wind Tax	
Total Building Maintenance	**50,000**

Sewer Loan	
Revenue	
Interest on Specials	23,000
Special Assessments - Princ	152,000
Use of Reserves	425,000
Total Revenue	**600,000**

Total County Revenues/Sources	**59,398,645**

Human Services	
Income Maintenance	5,567,819
Social Services	9,183,369
Unallocated	
Total Human Services	**14,751,188**
Health	
Community Health Services	650,735
State Health Improvement Plan	165,751
MSHO	930,919
Womens,Infant & Children	303,895
Disease Prevention	300,137
Family Health	346,197
Total Health	**2,697,634**
Sanitation	
Recycling	1,123,076
Addition to Reserves	77,699
Total Sanitation	**1,200,775**
Capital Projects Fund	
Countywide Projects/Maintenance	50,000
Total Capital Projects Fund	**50,000**
Ditch	
Repairs & expenses	176,392
Reserves Added	14,608
Total	**191,000**
Sewer Loan	
Contracted Services	**365,000**
Return of Principal	**235,000**
Total County Expenses	**59,398,645**

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED:

1. Departmental expenditures, except Personnel items, shall not exceed the approved budget. To provide flexibility to the department, the County Administrator is authorized to approve department budget amendments up to $10,000 with an annual maximum of $50,000. All other budget amendments shall require County Board approval.

2. Personnel line items are based on position authorization listings and estimates of staffing needs developed during the budget preparation process. Any changes in payroll shall be subject to County Board approval through one of the following actions:
    i. General salary adjustments authorized by the County Board;
    ii. Salary adjustments pursuant to union contract provisions or statutory requirements;
    iii. Specific authorization to fill a vacancy, add a new position or change a position classification.

3. Expenditure of funds budgeted shall be subject to applicable statutory procedures requiring proposals or bidding and any proposed expenditure in excess of $25,000 shall be subject to prior approval of the County Board.

4. Department heads shall be responsible for maintaining sufficient internal departmental expenditure and receipt records to conform to requirements of this budget policy.

Passed and approved this 14th day of December, 2021.

Motion made by Commissioner Baldus, seconded by Commissioner Mueller, to adjourn the meeting at 7:02 p.m. Motion carried. The next meeting is scheduled for December 28, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.

THE MOWER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

BY:____
Chairperson

Attest:

By:__________________________________
Clerk/Administrator

INDEX