

**STEVENS COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Organizational Meeting
Tuesday, October 3, 2023
9:00 a.m.**

The regular meeting of the Stevens County Board of Commissioners was called to order at 9:00 a.m., Tuesday, October 3, 2023, by Chair Jeanne Ennen. Members in attendance were Wohlers, Ennen, Lesmeister-Nelson and Staples. Absent: Kopitzke.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Commissioner Staples moved to approve the amended agenda. Commissioner Lesmeister-Nelson seconded the motion with all members voting aye, motion carried.

Commissioner Staples moved to approve minutes of the 9/19/23 regular board meeting. Commissioner Wohlers seconded the motion with all members voting aye, motion carried.

The Chair opened the meeting for public comment.

Having none, Ditch Inspector Scott Erickson presented some petitions for ditch cleanings for approval. Commissioner Staples motioned to approve the ditch cleaning for CD2 with Wagner Company, apparent low bidder, in the amount of \$16,403.46. Commissioner Lesmeister-Nelson seconded the motion with all members voting aye, motion carried.

Commissioner Staples motioned to approve the ditch cleaning for CD15 with Joe Riley Construction, apparent low bidder, in the amount of \$ 53,763.90. Commissioner Lesmeister-Nelson seconded the motion with all members voting aye, motion carried.

Commissioner Staples motioned to approve the ditch cleaning for CD31 with Wagner Company, apparent low bidder, in the amount of \$ 10,372.30. Commissioner Lesmeister-Nelson seconded the motion with all members voting aye, motion carried.

Erickson presented for discussion an hourly wage for repair work on CD21. Erickson gave an overview of the repair work. Erickson fielded questions. After some discussion, Commissioner Staples motioned to approve up to \$310 hourly wage for three days for repair work on CD21 to repair sluffing and build bench to service the ditch in the future. Commissioner Wohlers seconded the motion with all members voting aye, motion carried.

Auditor/Treasurer Stephanie Buss presented the Auditor's Warrants for the 9/20/23 and 9/27/23 time periods for review.

Buss presented the Hancock Tax Forfeiture Property for discussion. Buss gave an overview of the status of the property. The Hancock Public School has made a counteroffer of \$4,100 on the tax forfeiture property. The offer is contingent on the release of easements and the City of Hancock waiving the special assessments. After some discussion, the Board declined the counteroffer and requested Buss to offer the property to the City of Hancock for \$7500.

Buss presented Stevens County CD25 Improvement Project Assessment for discussion. After extensive discussion, and questions answered, Buss will bring it back to the board for more discussion as to how this will be paid.

Buss presented 2022 Financial Statements for review. Buss highlighted a few areas of interest.

Todd Larson County Engineer gave a highway update on maintenance, engineering, and administration.

Larson presented a revised policy for approval. Larson gave an overview of mailbox support policy with updated pricing. Commissioner Lesmeister-Nelson motioned to approve the policy as presented. Commissioner Wohlers seconded the motion with all members voting aye, motion carried.

Human Resources Coordinator Jan Gomer requested approval to backfill and advertisement of an intermittent part-time dispatcher. Commissioner Lesmeister-Nelson motioned to authorize advertising and backfill of intermittent part-time dispatcher. Commissioner Wohlers seconded the motion with all members voting aye, motion carried.

Human Services Director Liberty Sleiter requested approval to renew a service agreement. Commissioner Wohlers motioned to approve the MFIP Biennial Service Agreement for 2024/2025 as presented. Commissioner Staples seconded the motion with all members voting aye, motion carried.

County Administrator Rebecca Young requested approval for the 2024 budgeted position in the Highway Department. Young gave an overview of the request. Commissioner Lesmeister-Nelson motioned to approve advertisement of one full time employee for hire in the Highway Department. Commissioner Staples seconded the motion with all members voting aye, motion carried.

Young requested a position extension for discussion. Young gave an overview of position extension in the county attorney's office. After some discussion, Commissioner Lesmeister-Nelson motioned to extend Grace Atkinson's position for six months, from January 1, 2024, to June 30, 2024. Commissioner Staples seconded the motion with all members voting aye, motion carried.


Young presented a new safety program contract for approval. Young gave an overview of the new Safety Assure Contract. Young fielded questions. Commissioner Staples motioned to approve the Safe Assure Contract beginning October 2023 for one year. Commissioner Lesmeister-Nelson seconded the motion with all members voting aye, motion carried.

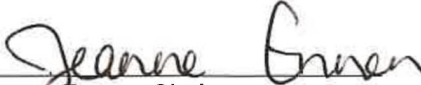
Young presented an addition to the NeoGov Contract for approval. Young gave an overview of the addition to the current contract. Commissioner Wohlers motioned to approve NeoGov contract for 2024-2025 in the amount of \$11,793.00. Commissioner Lesmeister-Nelson seconded the motion with all members voting aye, motion carried.

Young gave an update on activities within her office, including the Childcare PODS.

Commissioners were provided an opportunity to update on assigned committee activities.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m. on a motion by Staples, second by Wohlers and all members voting aye.


Rebecca Young, County Administrator


Jeanne Ennen, Chair