

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD

State of Minnesota }
County of Kanabec }
Office of the County Coordinator

January 24, 2007

The Kanabec County Board of Commissioners met at 6:30pm on Wednesday, January 24, 2007 pursuant to adjournment with the following Board Members present: Kim Smith, Kathi Ellis, Jerry Nelson, Kevin Troupe and Les Nielsen.

The Chairperson led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Action #1 - It was moved by Kim Smith, seconded by Jerry Nelson, and carried unanimously to approve the agenda as presented.

Action #2 - It was moved by Jerry Nelson, seconded by Kevin Troupe, and carried unanimously to approve the January 2, 2007 minutes of the Kanabec County Board of Commissioners as corrected:

- a. Action PH83, correct to show the motion made by Jerry Nelson and seconded by Kim Smith.
- b. Action #90, insert the word 'hospital' in the motion before the word 'claims.'

6:25pm - Marty Graham and Environmental Services Director Teresa Bearce met with the County Board to discuss a proposed plat.

Action #3 - It was moved by Kevin Troupe, seconded by Kim Smith, and carried unanimously to approve the following resolution:

Resolution #3 - 01/24/07

WHEREAS the board has been presented with a request to approve a plat titled "Olson's Farm," and

WHEREAS the Kanabec County Planning Commission did approve the plat on January 17, 2007, and

WHEREAS the Knife Lake Town Board has indicated their approval of the plat;

BE IT RESOLVED to approve the plat of "Olson's Farm" described as the SW¹/₄ of the SW¹/₄ of Sec 26, Knife Lake Township excepting a piece of land described as: beginning at the SW Corner of Sec 26, running thence north 10 chains, thence running east 10 chains, thence running south 10 chains, thence running west 10 chains, being a part of SW¹/₄ of the SW¹/₄ of Sec 26, Knife Lake Township, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this approval is subject to first receiving all required signatures on the plat, including that of the County Attorney.

Action #4 - It was moved by Les Nielsen, seconded by Kim Smith, and carried unanimously to approve the following resolution:

Resolution #4 - 01/24/07

WHEREAS the Kanabec County Board of Commissioners has been presented with a rental renewal with Central Minnesota Jobs & Training for space in the second floor of the highway department, and

WHEREAS the rent will continue unchanged at \$9,000.00 per year plus shared costs,

WHEREAS shared cost ratio changed as follows:

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>
Extension	34.96%	31.12%
CMJT	65.04%	68.88%

BE IT RESOLVED to approve a rental agreement with Central Minnesota Jobs & Training for the Mora Workforce Center for the time period January 1, 2007 through December 31, 2007.

Action #5 - It was moved by Les Nielsen, seconded by Kevin Troupe, and carried unanimously to approve the following resolution:

Resolution #5 - 01/24/07

WHEREAS rising inmate medical expenses have a detrimental effect on the Kanabec County Jail budget and Kanabec County taxpayers, and

WHEREAS some of Kanabec County's increasing property tax burden is due a Federal policy wherein a person who is eligible for either Medicare or Medicaid benefits loses eligibility upon being charged with a crime and incarcerated while awaiting trial, and

WHEREAS persons charged with a crime are denied benefits due them whether they are guilty or not, and

WHEREAS the cost of medical care for inmates is thereby shifted to county property tax owners, and

WHEREAS this not only deprives people of their rights contrary to the principle of “innocent until proven guilty,” it is also discriminates against financially disadvantaged people as those who are wealthy enough to post bail and stay out of jail remain eligible for both Medicare or Medicaid benefits;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Kanabec County Board of Commissioners asks that Congress act in good faith to correct these inequities and change Federal policy to allow people who have been charged with a crime to remain eligible for Medicare and Medicaid benefits until such a time as they may be convicted.

7:00pm - PUBLIC HEARING: Water Plan

The Chairperson opened the Public Hearing, at which time the board clerk read aloud the public notice.

The Chairperson then called for public comment. Those that responded included:

- Mike Fetzek
- Paulette Huddle
- Environmental Services Director Teresa Bearce

Action #6 - It was moved by Jerry Nelson, seconded by Les Nielsen, and carried unanimously to close the Public Hearing at 7:17pm.

Action #7 - It was moved by Kim Smith, seconded by Jerry Nelson, and carried unanimously to approve the following resolution:

Resolution #7 - 01/24/07

WHEREAS the Water Plan Committee has completed and recommended for approval an update of the Kanabec County Comprehensive Local Water Plan, and

WHEREAS the county board did hold a Public Hearing for the purpose of receiving public input on this update to the Water Plan;

BE IT RESOLVED to direct the Environmental Services Director to submit the Water Plan to the Board of Water & Soil Resources for approval.

Action #8 - Les Nielsen introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

Resolution #8 - 01/24/07

WHEREAS rising inmate medical expenses have a detrimental effect on Kanabec County taxpayers, and

WHEREAS some of Kanabec County's increasing property tax burden is due to certain medical providers who refuse to bill insurance for eligible jail inmates, and

WHEREAS the sole reason for refusal to submit claims is the incarcerated status of the person; if the same person were out on bail or released on their own recognizance their medical provider would submit claims for insurance, and

WHEREAS at least one medical provider has pointed out Minnesota Statute §641.15 as justification for not billing insurance, and

WHEREAS medical providers typically have a well-established claims handling mechanism; handling inmate insurance billing would be routine and not an unusual burden, and

WHEREAS medical providers who obstinately refuse to bill insurance are denying earned benefits to the inmate and shifting the cost directly to taxpayers;

BE IT RESOLVED to ask the legislature to amend §641.15 to require medical providers to provide service to inmates and bill all eligible insurance providers.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing Resolution was duly seconded by Kevin Troupe and upon a vote being taken thereon, the following voted:

IN FAVOR THEREOF: Kevin Troupe, Jerry Nelson, Les Nielsen, Kim Smith

OPPOSED: Kathi Ellis

ABSTAIN: None

whereupon the resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

7:30pm - Chief Deputy Sheriff Robert Jensen met with the County Board to discuss matters concerning the Sheriff's Office.

Action #9 - It was moved by Jerry Nelson, seconded by Kim Smith, and carried unanimously to approve the following resolution:

Resolution #9 - 01/24/07

WHEREAS the Sheriff's Office did include a Sergeant position in the 2007 budget, and

WHEREAS the Sheriff has prepared a job description and position questionnaire, and

WHEREAS the Sheriff has requested an evaluation of the Sergeant position;

BE IT RESOLVED to direct the Personnel Director to submit the Sergeant position to the Pay Plan Consultant for review.

Action #10 - It was moved by Kevin Troupe, seconded by Les Nielsen, and carried unanimously to approve the following resolution:

Resolution #10 - 01/24/07

WHEREAS state bids for Sheriff's squad cars were received as follows:

Dodge Charger	\$19,404
Chevrolet Impala	\$18,393.51 (\$18,545.51 with remote start)
Ford Crown Victoria	\$20,547.00

BE IT RESOLVED to accept the low bid of \$18,393.51 for the Chevrolet Impala and authorize the purchase of three vehicles at that price, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED to authorize the addition of a remote start addition at a cost of \$152.00 per vehicle.

7:50pm - The Chairperson then called for public comment. Those who responded included:

Bob Swetz	Asked about medical costs for inmates.
-----------	--

7:55pm - The Chairperson closed public comment.

Action #11 - It was moved by Jerry Nelson, seconded by Kevin Troupe, and carried unanimously to approve the following resolution:

Resolution 11 - 01/24/07 **ORDER OF THE BOARD**

WHEREAS the board did by Resolution #46-01/02/07 refer the position of Environmental Services Technical Assistant to the pay plan consultant for re-evaluation, and

WHEREAS the board has been presented with the results of that study;

BE IT RESOLVED to accept the following ranking for the "Technical Assistant," which results in Pay Range 6:

Category	Rank	Points
Qualifications	q33	63
Decisions	d16	36
Problem Solving	p9	31
Relationships	r13	48
Effort A	ea5	4
Effort B	eb10	8
Hazards	h17	13
Environment	N5	8
TOTAL POINTS		211

8:09pm - The board took a 5 minute break.

8:15pm - County Engineer Greg Nikodym met with the County Board to discuss matters concerning the Highway Department.

Action #12 - It was moved by Les Nielsen, seconded by Kim Smith, and carried unanimously to approve payment of a claim totaling \$66,751.36 to Tri-City Paving as partial payment on SAP 33-604-16: the reconstruction of County State Aid Highway 4 from a point 265 feet west of CSAH 12 and then west to T.H. #47.

Action #13 - It was moved by Kim Smith, seconded by Jerry Nelson, and carried unanimously to authorize the County Engineer to enter into a contract with SEH, Inc for design services on CSAH #1 from CSAH #17 to CSAH #11.

Action #14 - It was moved by Les Nielsen, seconded by Kevin Troupe, and carried unanimously to authorize the County Engineer to offer right-of-way purchases for SP 33-602-06: the reconstruction of County State Aid Highway #2 from CSAH #12 to TH #65.

Action #15 - It was moved by Kim Smith, seconded by Jerry Nelson, and carried unanimously to approve the following resolution:

to approve a **Consent Agenda** including all of the following actions:

Resolution 15a – 01/24/07
Resolution of Support from Sponsoring Agency

BE IT RESOLVED that Kanabec County will act as sponsoring agency for a “Transportation Enhancements” project identified as Spring Lake Trail Extension and Bridge Installation and acknowledges herewith that it is willing to be the project sponsor, knowing full well that such sponsorship includes a willingness to secure and guarantee the local share of costs associated with this project and responsibility for seeing this project through to its completion, with compliance of all applicable laws, rules and regulations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kanabec County Engineer is hereby authorized to act as agent on behalf of this applicant.

Resolution 15b – 01/24/07
Agreement to Maintain Facility

WHEREAS: The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) requires that states agree to operate and maintain facilities constructed with federal transportation funds for the useful life of the improvement and not change the use of right of way acquired without prior approval from the FHWA; and

WHEREAS: Transportation enhancement projects receive federal funding from the Surface Transportation Program (STP) of the Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU); and

WHEREAS: Kanabec County is the project sponsor for the transportation Installation Project.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Project Sponsor hereby agrees to assume full responsibility for assuring the operation and maintenance of property and facilities related to the aforementioned transportation enhancement project will be faithfully executed by the appropriate responsible parties.

8:25pm - Hospital Administrator Randy Ulseth met with the County Board to discuss matters concerning hospital planning. The board took the matter under advisement.

It was moved by Kevin Troupe, seconded by Kim Smith, and carried unanimously to adjourn at 8:44pm to meet in regular session on Wednesday, February 14, 2007 at 9:00am.

Signed _____
Chairperson of the Kanabec County Board of Commissioners,
Kanabec County, Minnesota

Attest: _____
Alan B. Peterson, Kanabec County Coordinator