

SPECIAL SESSION OF THE MOWER COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

June 1, 2010

The Mower County Board of Commissioners in and for the County of Mower, Minnesota, met in Special Session June 1, 2010 at 1:00 p.m. at the Courthouse in Austin, Minnesota.

All members present, viz:     Raymond Tucker, Chair  
  David Hillier  
  Dick Lang  
  Tim Gabrielson  
  Mike Ankeny  
  Craig Oscarson, County Coordinator

Ellen Chrz, Office Support Specialist, was recognized as Employee of the Month.

A Public Hearing was held in regard to CUP #761 of Root River Energy to install a 60-meter meteorological tower in Bennington Township.

Angie Knish, Environment Services Director, reviewed the permit and Planning Commission recommendations.

Barry Rogne, on behalf of the Petitioner, was present and spoke in favor of CUP #761. No one spoke against CUP #761.

**Date: June 1, 2010**

**Res. #34-10**

**RESOLUTION**

On motion of Commissioner Gabrielson, seconded by Commissioner Lang, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held June 1, 2010 at the Courthouse, Austin, Minnesota.

The Mower County Planning Commission having presented to the Mower County Board of Commissioners, CUP #761 of Root River Energy, LLC, Petitioner, and Michael and Margaret Arndorfer, landowners, to be issued pursuant to the Mower County Zoning Regulations for:

The installation of a 60-meter meteorological tower

Location:     On property located in the SE ¼, Section 27, Bennington Township (T102N-R14W), Mower County; zoned "agricultural"

Notice having been duly given and a hearing held on May 25, 2010 before the Mower County Planning Commission at 7:00 p.m. at the Mower County Courthouse, Commissioner's room, on said petition.

Notice having been duly given and a public hearing held on June 1, 2010 before the Mower County Board of Commissioners, on said petition.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Mower County Board has reviewed, accepts and adopts the findings of fact of the Mower County Planning Commission in the five required areas, which is hereby adopted by reference and kept on file in the office of Environmental Services; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that said petition is hereby approved, as recommended by the Mower County Planning Commission with conditions as follows:

1. Secure the necessary State, Federal or Local Permits.
2. Follow all applicable Federal and State safety and health regulations during construction process.
3. The CUP shall become void two years from the date of approval by the County Board if no construction has begun or the use has not been established.
4. Petitioner must contact the Mower County SWCD regarding the Wetland Conservation Act and provide the County a copy of one of the following:
  - a. A "No Loss Determination" (no wetlands on site).
  - b. A "Wetland Exemption" (the act does not apply).
  - c. A "Wetland Replacement Plan" approval.
5. The permit is based upon representation given by the applicant during the hearing process and any misrepresentation presented in this process may be grounds for revoking the permit.
6. To provide visibility to aircraft, the Petitioner shall be required to paint the top half of the tower alternating red and white in ten foot segments, fit each outside guy wire with a 20 foot long red and white plastic sleeve centered at 164 feet, and equip the top of the tower with a night-time flashing red light.
7. To provide visibility to agricultural equipment operators, a brightly colored plastic sleeve no less than 3 feet in length shall be placed at the bottom of the guy wire/anchor area.

This permit is in accordance with Section 14-51 of the Mower County Zoning Ordinance (effective date 1/1/2003).

Passed and approved this 1<sup>st</sup> day of June, 2010.

**THE MOWER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
**Chairperson**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk/Coordinator

Motion made by Commissioner Hillier, seconded by Commissioner Ankeny to adopt a pilot program for Health and Human Services effective July 1, 2010 to reduce the office window hours to the following schedule subject to review in six months:

Day	Morning	Afternoon
Monday	8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday	8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday	Closed (door open for appts.)	1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Thursday	8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Friday	8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Hillier, seconded by Commissioner Gabrielson to allow a Phased Retirement Option in County Administration for Lavonne Lakin, Office Support Specialist, Sr., for up to 1044 hours and accept retirement effective June 30, 2010. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Hillier, seconded by Commissioner Ankeny to enter into an agreement with Workforce Development to bring temporary office workers into Health and Human Services as part of the Workforce's "Back to Work Training Program" subject to the County Attorney's review of the agreement. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Hillier, seconded by Commissioner Lang to approve the employee's request dated May 28, 2010 for an extension of the leave of absence effective June 30, 2010 through October 31, 2010. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Hillier, seconded by Commissioner Gabrielson to authorize an increase of a .5 FTE family facilitator in Human Services for a staffing level of two full-time family facilitators based on a recommendation of the Family Connections Board and the availability of federal funds for family collaboratives and authorize the Human Resource Director to fill the resulting full-time position according to union contract and personnel policies. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Gabrielson to use budget savings from the Human Resource Director Phased Retirement Option to acquire temporary help either through the use of a temporary intern or contracting with an accounting firm to assist the finance department in meeting audit deadlines. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Gabrielson, seconded by Commissioner Ankeny to approve the minutes of May 25, 2010. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Hillier to approve the following additional Commissioners' warrants for immediate payment:

COMMISSIONERS' RECORD MOWER COUNTY, MINNESOTA

---

KKE Architect \$ 28,468.62  
Verzieg Consulting 7,500.00

Motion carried.

Motion by Commissioner Gabrielson, seconded by Commissioner Lang to approve the following tobacco licenses effective July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011:

Geo Plaza LLC, Dexter, MN  
City Service in Dexter, MN

Motion carried.

Motion by Commissioner Hillier, seconded by Commissioner Lang to approve the Application for Abatement of penalty only in the amount of \$297.79 of Mindy Ellingson in regard to parcel identification number 34.790.0990 for taxes payable in 2008. Motion carried.

Motion by Commissioner Gabrielson, seconded by Commissioner Lang to approve the paint bulker located in the recycling department as surplus property and sell it to Pope/Douglas County.

The Board recessed at 2:10 p.m. and reconvened at 3:00 p.m.

A Public Scoping Meeting was held in regard to RES America's / Pleasant Valley Wind, LLC as part of the environmental assessment process to review the proposed sites of the substations and transmission lines and the alternatives also considered and to allow the public to share concerns and/or support of the project. The public can make comment now through June 9, 2010.

RES America provided a power point presentation detailing the proposed sites for the substations and transmission lines and the alternative sites considered.

Three persons spoke in favor of the location of the proposed substation sites and transmission lines and four persons spoke against one or more of the proposed sites.

The public can continue to comment through June 9, 2010.

Motion by Commissioner Gabrielson, seconded by Commissioner Hillier to adjourn the meeting at 3:33 p.m. until June 8, 2010 at 9:30 a.m. Motion carried.

**THE MOWER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**BY:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Chairperson**

**Attest:**

**By:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Clerk/Coordinator**

**INDEX**

**A**

adjourn, 120

**E**

Employee of the Month  
Ellen Chrz, 117

**H**

hire/staff  
increase .5 FTE family facilitator and staff 2 FTE  
positions, 119

**L**

leave of absence  
to 10-31-10, 119

**M**

minutes  
5-25-10, 119

**P**

Phased Retirement Option  
L. Lakin, 119  
Public Hearing  
CUP #761  
Root River Energy, 117  
Public Scoping Meeting

RES America, 120

**R**

reduce the office window hours H & HS  
pilot program, 119  
**Res. #34-10**  
CUP #761  
Root River Energy, 117

**S**

surplus property  
paint bulker sell to Pope/Douglas County, 120

**T**

tax abatement  
Ellingson, 120  
temporary help finance department, 119  
temporary office workers  
Workforce Development agreement, 119  
tobacco licenses  
City Service in Dexter, 120  
Geo Plaza in Dexter, 120

**W**

warrants  
Commissioner additional, 119  
Workforce Development agreement  
Back to Work Training Program, 119