

**SPECIAL SESSION OF THE MOWER COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

February 27, 2018

The Mower County Board of Commissioners in and for the County of Mower, Minnesota, met in Special Session February 27, 2018 at 8:30 a.m. at the Government Center in Austin, Minnesota.

Members present, viz: Jerry Reinartz, Chair
 Mike Ankeny
 Polly Glynn
 Tim Gabrielson
 Craig Oscarson, County Coordinator
Member absent: Tony Bennett, Vice-Chair

Motion made by Commissioner Gabrielson, seconded by Commissioner Ankeny, to approve the agenda with the addition of 1) modifying/adopting Personnel Policies under Personnel Committee Reports and 2) authorizing a refund of overpayment to the City of Austin due to a billing error. Motion carried.

Terese Amazi, County Sheriff, provided the Board with a departmental update.

Lisa Kocer, Health & Human Services Director, provided the Board with Community Health updates.

Motion made by Commissioner Gabrielson, seconded by Commissioner Glynn, to approve the Health & Human Services accounts payable. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Glynn, to approve the minutes of February 13, 2018. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Gabrielson, seconded by Commissioner Ankeny, to approve the following Commissioner warrants allowing Finance to process the payments on February 28, 2018 to accommodate final 2017 accounts payables with payment to vendors on March 2, 2018:

<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
180 Degrees Inc	9,099.26	Metro Sales Inc	3,053.60
Anoka County Corrections	31,055.23	Midwest Monitoring & Surveillance	6,755.86
Baudoin Oil Company	18,115.13	Mille Lacs Academy	11,463.49
Beckleys	2,223.00	Office Of Mn It Services	3,400.00
Bob Barker Company Inc.	3,447.66	Olmsted County Community Services	18,920.00
Dakota County Financial Services	7,155.00	Prairie Lakes Youth Programs	10,330.71
Department Of Corrections	9,205.00	Sgts Inc	5,188.52
Emergency Automotive Technologies, Inc	4,678.12	Thomson Reuters-West Payment Center	3,740.70
Erickson Engineering Co., LLC	5,380.50	Tiny's Body Shop	3,831.45
Gerard Treatment Program	3,663.27	Ulland Brothers Inc.	12,100.00
Hansen Hauling & Excavating Inc	2,000.00	Village Ranch Inc	19,971.69
Kindred Family Focus	2,772.95	West Central Indexing	15,375.00
Marston Consulting Group,LLC	3,000.00	86 Payments less than 2000	34,002.15
		Final Total:	249,928.29

Motion carried.

Commissioner Gabrielson on behalf of the Personnel Committee informed the Board the Committee, at the request of the Human Resources Director, had reviewed County Policy D140 Health and Life Insurance Benefits. The policy addresses Health and Life Insurance as well as Retiree Health Insurance and the Human Resources Director made a recommendation to create individual policies for the three benefits. In addition the Committee reviewed updating the language in the policies which would remove the 30 hour fulltime definition and replaces it with the minimum standards set by State and Federal laws for being considered full-time for health insurance benefits. Lastly, the Committee reviewed adding an additional qualifier under the Retiree Health Insurance benefits which would permit non-union employees to qualify for the same benefit as is in place for some union employees. The Committee is recommending modifying Personnel Policy D140 to create three separate policies for the benefits with the additional noted changes.

Motion made by Commissioner Gabrielson, seconded by Commissioner Glynn, effective today to amend Personnel Policy Section D140 Health and Life Insurance Benefits by separating out the life insurance language to a new policy D141 and the retiree health insurance benefit language to a new policy D142 and incorporating the changed definition for full-time employee in the Health and Life Insurance policies and adding another qualifier for the retiree insurance benefit. The policy changes are as follows:

SECTION D140
HEALTH AND LIFE INSURANCE BENEFITS

Health Insurance:

Regular **full time** employees, **as defined by Federal and State law for receipt of health insurance, working 30 or more hours per week** will be entitled to receive health coverage under the County's group health insurance plan at a full-time benefit level. Employees working less than **30 hours the minimum hours set by Federal and State law** are not eligible to receive health insurance under the County's group health plan. Employees will be eligible to receive health insurance benefits the first day of the month following their date of hire.

The County Board will set employer contributions toward health insurance on an annual basis. Any contribution made by the employee toward health insurance will be collected through payroll deduction on a pre-tax basis, unless otherwise specified.

Special considerations for married employees. In the event that two County employees are married to each other and have other eligible dependents, one of the employees will be entitled to carry family coverage. The other employee will be covered under this family policy and will not be authorized to take out a single policy. To compensate for this, Mower County will provide the family plan cost credit equal to one-half (50%) of the employee share for the lowest cost family plan. As an example, if the lowest cost family plan offered by the County is \$300 per month and the family elects a County plan costing \$350 per month, the family is credited with \$150 per month toward their health plan cost. If two (2) County employees are married to each other and do not have eligible dependents, each employee is entitled to carry single coverage.

SECTION D141
LIFE INSURANCE BENEFITS

Life Insurance:

A **term** life insurance policy in the amount of \$50,000 **term life** is provided for all employees **working 30 or more hours who work the minimum hours set by Federal and State law** per week **to be deemed qualified for life insurance from** Mower County. Employees will be eligible to receive life insurance benefits the first day of the month following their date of hire, **unless stated otherwise in union contract. The purchase of additional life insurance is available to employees through payroll deductions.**

SECTION D142
RETIREE HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFITS

Retiree Health Insurance Benefits:

COMMISSIONERS' RECORD MOWER COUNTY, MINNESOTA

To qualify for a retiree health benefit through the county, employees must be hired prior to January 1, 2013 and reach a qualifying age and years of service level as described below. Employees hired on or after January 1, 2013 will not qualify for a retiree health insurance benefit through Mower County.

Age	Years of Service	Notes
55	30	Employees must qualify for a full retirement pension (based on age and years of service) under a PERA plan. In addition, employee must meet minimum years of service with the county and reach minimum age requirement.
56	20	Employees must be hired prior to July 1, 1989 and be eligible under PERA rule of 90.
58	20	
62	15	Not available to employees hired after April 30, 2004.
65	10	Not available to employees hired after April 30, 2004.

Group 3 (hire prior to 11/1/1992)

- a. Retirement dates 11/1/1992 - 8/31/2009: Retirees who qualify will receive the same health insurance benefits as active employees and will be required to accept all future changes to the health insurance plan offerings, plan design, and employer contributions.

Dependents may participate in the group plan following an employee's death for the term required by applicable law or until the dependents are eligible for Medicare/Medicaid benefits, whichever is longer, but the premiums thereof must be paid by the employee's dependents.

- b. Retirement dates on or after 9/1/2009: Retirees who qualify will receive the same health insurance benefits as active employees and will be required to accept all future changes to the health insurance plan offerings, plan design, and employer contributions. Once either the retiree or their spouse becomes eligible for Medicare, this retirement benefit is subject to the terms and conditions of the Medicare Supplement Plan, as described below.

Dependents may participate in the group plan or Medicare Supplement Plan following the employee's death but the full premiums thereof must be paid by the employee's dependents and the length of continuation is subject to applicable law.

Medicare Supplement Plan

Traditional retirees [a retired employee with or without spousal coverage and no other covered dependents] shall be allowed to continue as a member of the health plan available to active employees until Medicare eligibility. Once eligible for Medicare, the affected plan participant, or the affected plan participant's spouse (if applicable), will no longer be eligible for the health plans available to active employees of the County, but may elect to purchase Medicare Part B and continue insurance through the county's Medicare Supplement Plan. *Spousal coverage only*: the remaining plan participant will be placed on a single active plan until he or she reaches Medicare eligibility.

Eligible retired employees shall receive an employer contribution towards the Medicare Supplement Plan offered by the employer not to exceed the employer contribution towards the health plan for active employees. Medicare B premiums and penalties are not eligible for employer reimbursement.

Non-traditional retirees [a retired employee with or without spousal coverage and additional covered dependents] shall be allowed to continue as members of the health plan available to active employees until they experience a status change and meet the definition of traditional retiree. At that point, the retiree receives benefits as described the traditional retiree section above. As long as the retired employee meets the definition of non-traditional retiree, the retired employee shall receive the same employer contribution towards insurance premiums as active employees.

For traditional and non-traditional retirees. Eligibility for retirement benefits will end on the date of the retiree's death. The retiree's spouse shall be eligible to continue health insurance in accordance with applicable law, but

said cost shall be the responsibility of the retiree's spouse. In the event the employer changes the Medicare Supplement Plan, said changes to the plan and benefits will apply to retired employees.

Group 4 (hire dates 11/1/1992 – 12/31/2012)

Retirees shall have the employer contribution towards insurance premiums capped at the dollar amount being paid towards insurance premiums for active employees at the date of the employee's retirement. All future increases to the active plan shall be incurred by the retiree. Any changes to the health plan offerings or plan design for active employees, or to the Medicare Supplement Plan, will apply to this retiree group. The employer contribution shall be limited to health insurance plans provided by the county.

Eligibility for employer contributions toward insurance premiums will end on the date the retiree becomes Medicare eligible. At that time, the retiree may elect to purchase the Medicare Supplement Plan offered through the County at full plan cost. *Spousal coverage only:* If a retiree precedes the spouse in Medicare eligibility, the spouse will be placed on a single active plan and required to pay the full plan cost. The spouse will be allowed to continue on the single health plan until he or she reaches Medicare eligibility and then may purchase the Medicare Supplement Plan offered through the County. If the spouse precedes the retiree in Medicare eligibility, the spouse will be given the opportunity to purchase the Medicare Supplement Plan offered through the County at full plan cost. The retiree will then be placed on a single active plan until he or she reaches Medicare eligibility and will receive an employer contribution equal to the single employer contribution in effect at the date of the employee's retirement.

Motion carried.

Jeff Weaver, Solid Waste Officer, was present at the Board to present information pertaining to a proposed Resolution regarding SEMREX and to address questions from the Board. Mower County is required to prepare a solid waste plan every ten years and now is the time to start the process for a new/revised plan. In an effort to save money, apply for any possible funding sources and to benefit smaller counties there is a consideration for a joint effort between counties in preparing a plan. The proposed resolution is for the preparation of a regional plan for solid waste. Individual / differing county solid waste programs would be separately identified in the regional plan.

Date: February 27, 2018

Res. #14-18

RESOLUTION

On motion of Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Glynn, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held February 27, 2018 at the Government Center, Austin, Minnesota.

WHEREAS, the Southeastern Minnesota Recyclers Exchange (SEMREX) is a Joint Powers Board, and has the ability to assist counties and cities in management of solid waste; and

WHEREAS, Mower County is a member of SEMREX Joint Powers Board; and

WHEREAS, all Minnesota counties are required to develop and adopt a Solid Waste Management Plan in accordance with Minnesota Statutes in accordance with Minn. Stat. §§115A.46; 115A.471; 115A.551, subds. 6-7; 115A.552; 115A.557, subds. 2-3; 115A.63; 115A.84; 115A.914; 115.96, subds. 6-7; 115A97; 115A.917; 115A.94; Minn. Rules Part 9215 and all other applicable statutes and rules; and

WHEREAS, on December 1, 2017 the SEMREX Joint Powers Board voted in favor of developing a Regional Solid Waste Management Plan to satisfy each member's statutory

responsibility and to define where cooperative management improves efficiencies and services within the region;

WHEREAS, the SEMREX Technical Committee is tasked with seeking available grant funding to prepare the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that Mower County agrees to participate in developing a Regional Solid Waste Management Plan if SEMREX can secure grant or other funding for at least fifty percent (50%) of the overall expense with total cost to Mower County not to exceed \$10,000;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, if grant funding meeting these conditions is not secured by December 1, 2018, Mower County may opt out of participation in the development of a Regional Solid Waste Management Plan by providing thirty (30) days written notice to the other members of SEMREX. However, opting out of participation in the development of the Plan shall mean that the member remains a member of SEMREX for all other purposes.

Passed and approved this 27th day of February, 2018.

THE MOWER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

By: _____
Chairperson

By: _____
Clerk/Coordinator

The Board discussed the possible change in the formula for the town road account distributions. Currently the County distribution formula requires the townships to have minimum levy for road and bridge expenses. A couple of township officials were present at the Board.

Motion made by Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Gabrielson, to retain the town road account distribution formula as 60% Miles of Roads, 30% Assessed Tax Rate and 10% Population and remove the requirement for the townships to set a minimum levy for road and bridge expenses. Motion carried.

There was a brief discussion on meetings being held at MnDOT's request due to MnDOT's desire to transfer State Highway 105 to the County.

Date: February 27, 2018

Res. #15-18

RESOLUTION

On motion of Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Ankeny, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held February 27, 2018 at the Government Center, Austin, Minnesota.

COMMISSIONERS' RECORD MOWER COUNTY, MINNESOTA

WHEREAS on September 5, 2017 by Resolution #67-17 the Mower County Board of Commissioners set the basic sales price of certain forfeited properties on the Auditor-Treasurer's List of Tax-Forfeited Lands #2017-1 dated September 5, 2017 and on file with the Auditor-Treasurer to be initially offered for sale on September 29, 2017; and

WHEREAS not all tax forfeited parcels on Auditor-Treasurer's Certified List of Tax-Forfeited Lands #2017-1 dated September 5, 2017 were sold; and

WHEREAS, on December 7, 2017 by Resolution #92-17 the Mower County Board of Commissioners reappraised the basic sale price as of December 7, 2017 on previously unsold tax forfeited parcels and set a public sale by the Auditor-Treasurer's to be held on January 17, 2018 ;

WHEREAS the Auditor-Treasurer has requested that the Mower County Board of Commissioners reappraise and set new minimum basic sales prices on the remaining unsold tax-forfeited lands and set a date for public sale; and

WHEREAS the Auditor-Treasurer requests the following tax forfeited parcels forfeited in years indicated to be included with a basic sales price set; and

Forfeit Year	Parcel ID	Forfeit Year	Parcel ID	Forfeit Year	Parcel ID
2013	11.021.0050	2006	33.002.0240	1962	34.595.0141
2006	21.001.0915	1957	33.002.0251	2009	34.600.0420
2012	25.201.0210	2010	34.095.0090	2014	34.839.0190

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Mower County Board of Commissioners hereby approves and sets the reappraised basic sale price of each of the following tax forfeited parcels with authorization for a public sale of this land pursuant to M.S. 282.01; and

Parcel ID	Address	Legal Description	Appraised Value	Basic Sale Price Set 9/5/17	Reappraised Basic Sale Price Set 12/7/17	Reappraised and/or Basic Sale Price Set 2/27/18	Assessments Subject to Reassessment
02.052.0040	19423 546th Ave	S60FT OUTLOT 2 EXC E33FT ROAD IN OUTLOTS IN N1/2 SE1/4 SEC. 14-102-18 Austin, Township	\$55,200	\$25,000	\$10,000	\$2350	\$0.00
11.021.0050	Vacant Lot	6 AC N SIDE NW1/4 NW1/4 SEC.21-1001-18				\$1000	\$0.00
21.001.0915	110 Main St. W	W8FT N74FT LOT 8 BLOCK 10 ORIGINAL VILLAGE OF ADAMS				\$1	\$0.00
25.003.0240	412 1st St SW	LOT 9 BLOCK 5 PEARCES ADDN, Grand Meadow, MN	\$28,500	\$5,000	\$2,000	\$1000	\$478.50 <i>does not include interest</i> <i>Interest rate is 5.1%</i>
25.201.0210	Vacant Lot	LOT 7 BLOCK 2 PHEASANT RUN ESTATES 2ND ADDN, Grand Meadow				\$400	Pre-Forfeiture Assess: \$9,210.85 Reassess by City: \$6,502.02 Possible Reassess by City: \$15,312.87
26.001.1360	107 W Main St	LOT 16 & NETRLY 46FT RR ADJ BLOCK 12 ORIGINAL VILLAGE, LeRoy, MN	\$22,000	\$7,500	\$5,000	\$2500	\$0.00

COMMISSIONERS' RECORD MOWER COUNTY, MINNESOTA

Parcel ID	Address	Legal Description	Appraised Value	Basic Sale Price Set 9/5/17	Reappraised Basic Sale Price Set 12/7/17	Reappraised and/or Basic Sale Price Set 2/27/18	Assessments Subject to Reassessment
26.001.1780	314 E Main St	LOTS 5-6 & N25FT STREET ADJ ON SW BLOCK 18 ORIGINAL VILLAGE, LeRoy, MN	\$9,700	\$3,500	\$1,000	\$500	\$23,700
33.002.0240	Vacant Lot	.8 AC IN SW COR NW1/4 SE1/4 BK 166-49, Waltham				\$50	\$0.00
33.002.0251	Vacant Lot	.04AC IN SW COR NW1/4 OF SE1/4 BK 165-596, Waltham				\$1	\$0.00
34.095.0090	204 S Main Vacant Lot	S1/2 LOT 3 & N15.6FT LOT 4				\$1000	Pre-Forfeiture Assess: \$144.89 Reassess by City: \$22,118.04
34.193.0520	1100 24th Ave SW	LOT 31 BLOCK 2 DINSMOOR ACRES, Austin, MN	\$45,800	\$20,000	\$10,000	\$2000	\$4,455.48 <i>does not include interest</i> <i>Interest rate is 6.5%</i>
34.193.0530	Vacant Lot	LOT 32 BLOCK 2 DINSMOOR ACRES, Austin, MN	\$7,200	\$4,500	\$2,000	\$1000	\$4,455.48 <i>does not include interest</i> <i>Interest rate is 6.5%</i>
34.595.0141	1601 6 th Ave NW	E5 1/2 FT LOT 5 BLOCK 2 PLUNKETT SUBD				\$20	\$0.00
34.600.0420	802 7 th PL NE- Vacant Lot	N80FT LOT 10 BLOCK 7 RAILROAD ADDN				\$200	Reassess by City: \$4,583.74
34.725.0080	2014 E Oakland Ave	LOT 8 BLOCK 2 SUNLAND ADDN, Austin, MN	\$60,500	\$30,000	\$15,000	\$5000	\$81.03
34.839.0190	38 th Ave NE- Vacant Lot	.56 AC NE COR OL 9 BK 186-59 OLD #08.059.0190				\$1	Reassess by City: \$19,325.95
34.895.0330	Vacant Lot	.44AC S½ SW¼ E OF OL24 OF NORMAN PARK 2ND ADDN	\$29,000.00	\$10,000	\$1.00	\$1	\$14,804.18

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said public sale will be held on April 5, 2018, at 1:00 p.m. by the Mower County Auditor-Treasurer in the Vault (Room 170) Conference Room of the Mower County Government Center at Austin, Minnesota, and parcels shall be sold to the highest bidder but for not less than the basic sale price – plus any special assessments authorized between date of forfeiture and the actual sale of the property – and that payment for all sales shall be consistent with the Payment Terms in the County Tax-Forfeited Land Policy on file in the office of the Auditor-Treasurer.

Passed and approved this 27th day of February, 2018.

THE MOWER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

By: _____
Chairperson

By: _____
Clerk/Coordinator

Motion made by Commissioner Gabrielson, seconded by Commissioner Glynn, to discontinue the \$500 change fund for the Finance Department. Motion carried.

It was discovered that Mower County inadvertently over billed the City of Austin for charges related to the joint law enforcement center due to a County error in posting the payment received to an incorrect account.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Gabrielson, to approve a refund of \$19,847.99 to the City of Austin for overcharges billed to them for their share of the joint Law Enforcement Center budget. Motion carried.

The Building Committee reported on the board room remodel and the proposed three foot wall audience barrier.

Under Solid Waste Committee business the Board was informed that the Austin Utilities is questioning the solid waste service fee.

The City Administrator contacted Mower County concerning the property the County owns south the fairgrounds and the possibility of the County's willingness to sell the property for economic development.

Motion made by Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Ankeny, to adjourn the meeting at 11:22 p.m. Motion carried. The next meeting is scheduled for March 6, 2018 at 1:00 p.m.

THE MOWER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

BY: _____
Chairperson

Attest:

By: _____
Clerk/Coordinator

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