

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

July 17, 2018

The Mower County Board of Commissioners in and for the County of Mower, Minnesota, met in Special Session July 17, 2018 at 8:30 a.m. at the Government Center in Austin, Minnesota.

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

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Glynn, to approve the agenda with the addition to approve the June Investment Report. Motion carried.

**HUMAN SERVICES BOARD:**

Motion made by Commissioner Bennett, seconded by Commissioner Gabrielson, to approve payment to vendors for Human Services Accounts Payable. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Glynn, to authorize the Director to sign the Group Residential Housing Agreement renewals for the following entities effective July 1, 2018 for a term of one year:

Cedars of Austin	Colony Home
Lang's Board & Lodge	Lutheran Social Services
REM Woodvale, Inc.	Sargent, Stephanie & Stacy
Skinness, Julie	Wildwood Grove

Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Gabrielson, seconded by Commissioner Bennett, to approve the Social Service Actions. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Bennett, to adjourn the Human Services Board meeting at 8:39 a.m. Motion carried.

**COUNTY BOARD**

The Special Session of the Board was reconvened at 8:50 a.m. for regular business items.

Under Committee Reports the Finance Committee reported that the 2019 budget is being study based on the requests made to date.

The Building Committee provided a brief update on the Fairgrounds electrical project.

Under Solid Waste Committee there was a brief discussion concerning host county fees.

Donna Welsh, Finance Manager, provided information pertaining to the June Investment Report.

Motion made by Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Gabrielson, to approve the June 2018 investment report. Motion carried.

**Date: July 17, 2018**

**Res. #70-18**

**RESOLUTION**

On motion of Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Bennett, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held July 17, 2018 at the Government Center, Austin, Minnesota.

WHEREAS, project number CP 50-17-01 completed under contract number 21701 by Rochester Sand & Gravel, 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: \$ 331,646.21  
Final Amount: \$ 391,145.13 [117.94%]  
Final Payment: \$ 19,557.26

Passed and approved this 17<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2018.

**THE MOWER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

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

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

**Date: July 17, 2018**

**Res. #71-18**

**RESOLUTION**

On motion of Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Gabrielson, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held July 17, 2018 at the Government Center, Austin, Minnesota.

WHEREAS, project number CP 50-14-01B completed under contract number 21509 by Fitzgerald Excavating & Trucking, 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: \$ 402,299.00  
Final Amount: \$ 418,915.00 [104.13%]  
Final Payment: \$ 20,945.75

Passed and approved this 17<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2018.

**THE MOWER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

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

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

Motion made by Commissioner Gabrielson, seconded by Commissioner Glynn, to set the project letting date to August 16, 2018 at 1:00 p.m. at the office of Public Works and awarded at the County Board of Commissioner's meeting for the Adams Salt Shed County project. Motion carried.

Mike Hanson, Public Works Director, provided the Board with a few road project updates.

A Public Hearing was held in regard to a Housing Tax Abatement request of Daniel & Acacia Wiechmann, applicant, to construct a single-family home Lot 3, Block 1 Cedar Ridge Subdivision Austin, Minnesota (PIN 34.139.0030)

Craig Oscarson reviewed the application and the recommendation is to approve the application.

The Applicant was not present. No one else spoke for or against the Dan and Acacia Wiechmann housing tax abatement application.

**Date: July 17, 2018**

**Res. #72-18**

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

On motion of Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Bennett, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held July 17, 2018 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, Tom and Patricia Wiechmann are the owners of certain property within Mower County, legally described as follows:

Lot 3, Block 1 Cedar Ridge Subdivision Cd34139 Old #08.047.0030 in the City of Austin, Minnesota (PIN 34.139.0030)

WHEREAS, Tom and Patricia Wiechmann, landowners, and Daniel P. and Acacia R. Wiechmann, future owners, have 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 July 17, 2018 before the Mower County Board of Commissioners, on said application.

WHEREAS, Tom and Patricia Wiechmann, landowners, and Daniel P. and Acacia R. Wiechmann, applicants and future owners, 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.
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 30<sup>th</sup> 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 17<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2018.

**THE MOWER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

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

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

The Board recessed at 9:37 a.m. and reconvened at 9:46 a.m.

Motion made by Commissioner Gabrielson, seconded by Commissioner Bennett, to approve the minutes of July 10, 2018. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Bennett, seconded by Commissioner Gabrielson, to approve the following Commissioner warrants for payment:

<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Bruening Rock Products Inc	3,640.97	SeaChange Print Innovations	13,061.13
Cedar Valley Services, Inc	56,735.45	Ulland Brothers Inc.	15,983.44
Mayo Clinic	40,223.70	Vertiv Services	3,250.00
Mayo Clinic -Rochester	29,003.66	Village Ranch Inc	11,127.30
Midwest Monitoring & Surveillance	4,211.00	Ziegler, Inc	2,829.69
Minnesota Counties Computer Co	5,408.00	46 Payments less than 2000	22,867.34
Mn Department Of Corrections	33,857.16	<b>Final Total:</b>	<b>242,198.84</b>

Motion carried.

Morgan Brown, Run 2 Repair organizer, and Wayne Madson, Veteran Services Officer, appeared before the Board. Ms. Brown provided the Board with a report concerning the event she organized and to present a check for funds raised to be donated to Veteran Services.

Motion made by Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Bennett, to accept a \$4633 donation received from Morgan Brown / Run 2 Repair event organized for Post-Traumatic Stress Syndrome awareness for Veteran Services to aid veterans. Motion carried.

Tim Ruzek, provided the Board with information concerning an application for Mower County / Austin to host the 2019 Governor's Pheasant Hunting Opener and to request a Letter of Support from Mower County to submit with the application.

Motion made by Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Ankeny, to authorize a Letter of Support to be submitted with the application to compete for the opportunity to host the 2019 Governor's Pheasant Hunting Opener in Mower County/Austin. Motion carried.

Justin Hanson, Soil & Water Conservation District, provided the Board with an update on the wastewater initiative program which has already benefited several small communities in the County with a request for the County to adopt a resolution showing its continued support for the program.

**Date: July 17, 2018**

**Res. #73-18**

**RESOLUTION  
SOUTHEAST MINNESOTA WASTEWATER INITIATIVE PROGRAM**

On motion of Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Bennett, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held July 17, 2018 at the Government Center, Austin, Minnesota.

**Whereas**, the Lower Mississippi River Basin Fecal Coliform Implementation Plan reports that many of the rivers and streams in the Lower Mississippi River and Cedar River basins have fecal coliform impairments and providing a facilitator to assist communities was a recommended reduction strategy to address contributions related to wastewater, and

**Whereas**, unsewered and under-sewered communities with failing residential septic systems are a direct source of E. coli pollution to surface and ground waters, and

**Whereas**, a complex group process is usually necessary for a community to achieve a resolution to their wastewater problem, and

**Whereas**, most small communities do not have the resources to solve wastewater problems without outside help, and

**Whereas**, it has been demonstrated that a Wastewater Facilitator working with a community on an on-going basis can provide effective assistance to a community seeking solutions to their wastewater problems, and

**Whereas**, the Southeast Minnesota Wastewater Initiative has successfully assisted 29 small communities address their wastewater concerns, saving an estimated 360,040 gallons of sewage per day from entering surface or ground water, and

**Whereas**, there is a documented number of small communities that will need to address their wastewater systems in the near future and could benefit from this service, and

**Now, therefore, be it resolved** that Mower County supports the goals of the Southeast Minnesota Wastewater Initiative program and is willing to provide in-kind assistance for the continuation of the program to show support and a need for the service in the county.

Passed and approved this 17<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2018.

**THE MOWER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

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

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

Justin Hanson, further requested the adoption of a resolution to approve an amendment to the SEMNWRB joint powers agreement.

**Date: July 17, 2018**

**Res. #74-18**

**RESOLUTION**

On motion of Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Gabrielson, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held July 17, 2018 at the Government Center, Austin, Minnesota.

**WHEREAS**, Mower County is a member in good standing of the Southeast Minnesota Water Resources Board, and

**WHEREAS**, the Southeast Minnesota Water Resources Board operates under an agreement effective May 5, 1987, and

**WHEREAS**, the Southeast Minnesota Water Resources Board reviewed and approved the proposed amendment to the agreement, and

**WHEREAS**, a copy of the amendment to the Agreement is on file in the office of the County Coordinator and is attached to an original signed Resolution as Exhibit A,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Mower County Board of Commissioners approves the following changes to the agreement of the Southeast Minnesota Water Resources Board:

1. Under Roman Numeral I, Part A. Composition, strike "**Two**" and replace with "**One**" and insert "**and one alternate**" after representative.
2. Under Roman Numeral I, Part B. Powers (1), insert "**Local**" after Comprehensive and insert "**or Comprehensive Watershed Management Planning**" after planning.
3. Under Roman Numeral I, Part B. Powers (3), insert "**Local**" after Comprehensive and insert "**or Comprehensive Watershed Management Planning**" after planning.
4. Under Roman Numeral I, Part B. Powers (4), insert "**(103B.301-355) and the Comprehensive Watershed Management Planning Program (103B.801).**" after Act.
5. Under Roman Numeral I, Part B. Powers (last paragraph), insert "**local county and watershed-based plans**" after implement the.

Passed and approved this 17<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2018.

**THE MOWER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

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

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

Under miscellaneous correspondence, there were brief discussion in response to requests for funding by the fair board for money to subsidize events such as the barrow show, an anticipated request for a resolution of support for a State Veteran Home in Fillmore County, and a request for county contribution to financially contribute to the construction of an in-door playground at the REC center.

Motion made by Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Ankeny, to adjourn the meeting at 10:54 a.m. Motion carried. The next meeting is scheduled for July 31, 2018 at 8:30 a.m.

**THE MOWER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

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

Attest:

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



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