

REGULAR SESSION OF THE MOWER COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

January 11, 2022

The Mower County Board of Commissioners in and for the County of Mower, Minnesota, met in Regular Session January 11, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. at the Government Center in Austin, Minnesota.

All members present, viz: Chair Jeff Baldus, Vice-Chair Mike Ankeny, John Mueller, Jerry Reinartz and Polly Glynn. Also in attendance were County Administrator Trish Harren, Executive Assistant Denise Barthels, Steve King, Amy Lammey, Kris Kohn, Rod Streich, Crystal Peterson, Joy Kanne, Jason Murphy, and Cindy Jensen. Remotely present were Valerie Sheedy, Marcus Thompson, Loni Swenson, Kristen Nelsen and Eric Johnson

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion made by Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Mueller, to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

County Administrator Trish Harren provide a department update that highlighted the challenges to leading in 2021 while living through historical events. At the invitation of the County Administrator, each county leader shared 2021 successes. Ms. Harren noted with appreciation that the Board and the Staff at Mower County works well together as a team.

Amanda Meyeraan, Corrections Sergeant, was recognized for retirement from Mower County with 13 years of service.

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES BOARD:

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, to approve Health & Human Services accounts payable totaling \$181,273.79. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Glynn, to approve the Purchase of Service Agreement with Lawson Companies LLC for contract service for strategic vision towards a more robust effective delivery of mental health service in our community (ARPA funded) effective January 11, 2022 through December 31, 2022. Motion carried.

Ms. Peterson reported that there are staffing challenges area wide in congregate care facilities such as group homes. Some shortages are just general lack of applicants and some are now related to Covid issues. The National Guard may be coming to assist. The staffing challenges also affect the casework load of the Health & Human Services staff as it takes many more calls to acquire needed services for clients.

Ms. Peterson has provided Covid updates indicating there have been 8456 cumulative cases in Mower County with 58 recorded deaths. There has been a sharp increase in the number of persons testing positive.

Motion made by Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, to approve the Purchase of Service Agreements renewals effective 1/1/22 – 12/31/22 (unless noted otherwise) for the following:

<u>Electronic Document Management System</u>	<u>Guardian/Conservatorship</u>	<u>Interpreter</u>
MNPrairie <i>hosting agreement</i> (to 12/31/23)	Independent Management Services Olson, Norma	Parenting Resource Center, Inc
<u>Funeral Assistance</u>	Serenity Services	
Clasen Jordan Mortuary	Tindal, Barb	

Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Mueller, to approve the Social Service Actions. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Mueller, to adjourn the Health & Human Services Board meeting at 10:00 a.m. Motion carried.

COUNTY BOARD

The Regular Session of the Board was reconvened at 10:02 a.m. for regular business items.

The Board recessed at 10:02 a.m. for the purpose of a public hearing.

The Chair called the Public Hearing to order at 10:03 a.m. in regard to a Housing Tax Abatement application of Richard & Debra Groth to construct a single-family home located Section 15, Township 104, Range 015 S 540.91' E 526.30' W 862.90' SE ¼, SE ¼ in Pleasant Valley Township, Minnesota (PIN 14.009.0010)

County Administrator Trish Harren reviewed the application and recommended approval.

The applicant Richard Groth was not present. No one spoke for or against the Richard Groth housing tax abatement application.

The Chair closed the Public Hearing at 10:04 a.m. in regard to a Housing Tax Abatement application of Richard & Debra Groth.

The Chair called the Public Hearing to order at 10:04 a.m. in regard to a Housing Tax Abatement application of William and Linda Boe to construct a single-family home located Block 1 SubdivisionCd 21016 Boe Subdivision Lot 4 & W15FT Lot 5 (PIN 21.016.0040), City of Adams, Minnesota.

County Administrator Trish Harren reviewed the application and noted that the assessor's inspection indicated construction has commenced and that the application was signed in September but not received in Administration until December.

The applicant William Boe was not present. No one spoke for or against the Boe housing tax abatement application.

The Chair closed the Public Hearing at 10:06 a.m. in regard to a Housing Tax Abatement application of William and Linda Boe.

The Chair called the Public Hearing to order at 10:06 a.m. in regard to a Housing Tax Abatement application of Coty Kirtz to construct a twin home located Block 1 Lot 4 Subdivision Cd21019 NorthSide 2nd Addn, City of Adams, Minnesota (PIN 21.019.0040).

County Administrator Trish Harren reviewed the application and recommended approval.

The applicant Coty Kirtz was present and spoke on his own behalf. No one else spoke for or against the Kirtz housing tax abatement application.

The Chair closed the Public Hearing at 10:11 a.m. in regard to a Housing Tax Abatement application of Coty Kirtz.

The County Board reconvened its regular session at 10:11 a.m.

Date: January 11, 2022

Res. #09-22

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

On motion of Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held January 11, 2022 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, Richard & Debra Groth are the owner(s) of certain property within Mower County, legally described as follows:

Section 15, Township 104, Range 015 S 540.91' E 526.30' W 862.90' SE ¼, SE ¼
(PIN 14.009.0010)

WHEREAS, Richard & Debra Groth 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 January 11, 2022 before the Mower County Board of Commissioners, on said application.

WHEREAS, Richard & Debra Groth 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 home.
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 30th 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 11th day of January, 2022.

Motion made by Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Mueller, to table the William and Linda Boe housing tax abatement application to January 25, 2022 to allow for additional review. Motion carried.

Date: January 11, 2022

Res. #10-22

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

On motion of Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Mueller, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held January 11, 2022 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, Coty Kirtz is the owner(s) of certain property within Mower County, legally described as follows:

Block 1 Lot 4 Subdivision Cd21019 NorthSide 2nd Addn, City of Adams, MN
(PIN 21.019.0040)

WHEREAS, Coty Kirtz has 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 January 11, 2022 before the Mower County Board of Commissioners, on said application.

WHEREAS, Coty Kirtz has 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 a duplex.
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 30th 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 11th day of January, 2022.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, to approve the minutes of January 4, 2022. Motion carried.

COMMISSIONERS' RECORD MOWER COUNTY, MINNESOTA

Motion made by Commissioner Reinartz, seconded by Commissioner Glynn, to approve the following Commissioner warrants for payment:

<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Above All Cleaning, Inc	2,128.00	Department Of Corrections	37,537.47
Advanced Correctional Healthcare, Inc	29,967.13	Leadership Development Resources	4,300.00
Association Of Minnesota Counties	2,635.00	Minnesota Counties Computer Cooperative	5,188.69
Baudoin Oil Company	19,655.83	Thomson Reuters-West Payment Center	2,000.61
Cedar Valley Services, Inc	3,604.55	Ziegler, Inc	3,275.45
Dell Marketing L P	3,521.34	57 Payments less than 2000	20,734.13
		Final Total:	134,548.20

Motion carried.

The Mower County Board of Commissioners discussed adding an end date to the January 4, 2022 board action that waived zoning permit fees and septic certificate of compliance requirements for 1:1 replacement or repair of structures damaged in the December 15, 2021 storm.

Motion made by Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, to add a time period from now through October 1, 2022 for waived zoning permit fees and septic certificate of compliance requirements for 1:1 replacement or repair of structures damaged in the December 15, 2021 storm. Motion carried.

Under Committee Reports Commissioner Glynn reported attending the SEMCAC meeting on January 10 via zoom. SEMCAC currently is dealing with energy issues. Commissioner Ankeny attended the Impact Austin meeting where the 2021 farmer’s market was recapped and the committee worked on ideas for 2022. Commissioner Baldus attended the MRC meeting on January 10 via Zoom. MRC’s priorities are focused on transportation funding. Commissioner Baldus also attended the Library Board on January 10 with discussions for “Zoom Rooms”. Commissioner Mueller noted that he has been working with a group (Austin Enhancement Group) that is trying to keep Freedom Fest going.

Motion made by Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Mueller, to adjourn the meeting at 10:44 a.m. Motion carried. The next meeting is scheduled for January 25, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

THE MOWER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

BY: _____
Chairperson

Attest:

By: _____
Clerk/Administrator

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