

REGULAR SESSION OF THE MOWER COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

April 12, 2022

The Mower County Board of Commissioners in and for the County of Mower, Minnesota, met in Regular Session April 12, 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 Attorney Kristen Nelsen, County Administrator Trish Harren, Executive Assistant Denise Barthels, and Austin Daily Herald Editor Eric Johnson.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Health & Human Services department updates include a presentation from Kandace Feist regarding county burials and a presentation from Trisha Blaser regarding Medical Assistance Estate Recovery. Both are challenging tasks as each situation is different, staff is working with family that are grieving the loss of a family member, and determining assets and the value of those assets is difficult. To be eligible for county burial the deceased's assets cannot be more than the cost of the burial. In estate recoveries, the County receives twenty-five percent of the funds recovered; the remainder is returned to the state.

**HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES BOARD:**

Motion made by Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, to approve the Health & Human Services accounts payable totaling \$149,964.56. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Mueller, seconded by Commissioner Ankeny, to accept the donation of two plots at Cedar City Cemetery. Motion carried. Commissioner Baldus abstained.

Health & Human Services Director Crystal Peterson introduced Sue Crews, Public Health Nurse. In addition, Ms. Peterson reviewed highlights from the Southeast Regional Crisis Center (SERCC) 2021 report. SERCC crisis hotline received 136 calls and the community mobile response responded to 59 calls from Mower County residents. Seventeen individuals from Mower County were served in the crisis center. Lastly, in Covid updates there are approximately 1 – 7 cases per day and staff will be attending a Karenni event offering vaccinations.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Mueller, to approve Purchase of Service Agreement renewal effective January 12, 2022 to December 31, 2022 with Thrive Behavioral Network II, LLC (Austin Manor) for mental health-Intensive Residential Treatment Services (IRTS). Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, to approve social service actions. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Ankeny, to adjourn the Health & Human Services Board meeting at 9:56 a.m. Motion carried.

**COUNTY BOARD**

The Regular Session of the Board was reconvened at 9:57 a.m. for regular business items.

Motion made by Commissioner Reinartz, seconded by Commissioner Glynn, to approve the minutes of April 5, 2022. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, 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	Marston Consulting Group, LLC	7,750.00
Austin Daily Herald	2,075.95	Mayo Clinic -Rochester	31,195.01
Cedar Valley Services, Inc	3,820.04	Midwest Monitoring & Surveillance	3,600.44
Culligan Of Austin	8,894.30	Minnesota Counties Computer Cooperative	39,042.51
Dave Lucas Consulting	5,004.16	Northwestern Minnesota Juvenile Center	8,322.00
Election Systems & Software, LLC.	148,881.76	Olmsted Co Public Health	2,000.00
Emergency Automotive Technologies, Inc	2,531.53	SeaChange Print Innovations	9,418.28
Freeborn County Co-Operative Oil Co.	13,032.66	Sommerset Investments LLC	5,999.95
Grainger	2,572.28	50 <small>Payments less than 2000</small>	17,734.19
Healthiest You	2,940.00		
		<b>Final Total:</b>	<b>316,943.06</b>

Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Ankeny, to approve the following list of surplus property for disposal:

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Department</u>
1	2013 Ford Explorer VIN 1FM5K8AR6DGA46873	Sheriff
1	2015 Ford Explorer VIN 1FM5K8AR6FGC41701	Sheriff
1	Forfeited vehicle	Sheriff
1	Abandoned vehicle	Sheriff

Motion carried.

Auditor-Treasurer Scott Felten presented the recommended Commissioner District / Redistricting proposal for the Board's final review and approval. The recommendation is not to modify the terms of the commissioners.

**Date: April 12, 2022**

**Res. #33-22**

**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 April 12, 2022 at the Government Center, Austin, Minnesota.

**WHEREAS**, Minnesota Statutes Chapter 375 establishes the procedure and requires a process for redistricting County Commissioner districts based on population figures from the Federal Census; and,

**WHEREAS**, Minnesota Statute section 204B.135, subd. 2 requires that County Commissioner Districts be redistricted within 80 days of when the legislature has been redistricted or at least 15 weeks before the state primary election, whichever comes first; and,

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to these statutes the 2020 Federal Census population figures shall be used to redistrict the Mower County Commissioner Districts by April 26, 2022, and that Commissioner Districts shall be bounded by town, municipal, ward, city district, or precinct lines; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Mower County Board of Commissioners has considered the possibility or potential for maximizing minority representation on the board of commissioners; and,

**WHEREAS**, on February 1, 2022, the Mower County Board of Commissioners established a Redistricting Committee to review possible changes in commissioner districts based on such factors as changes in population density as outlined in the 2020 Census; and

**WHEREAS**, Mower County published a three week notice in the newspaper having the contract for publishing the commissioner's proceedings for the county for 2022; and,

**WHEREAS**, notice having been duly given, a public hearing was held on April 5, 2022 before the Mower County Board of Commissioners at 1:30 p.m. at the Mower County Government Center in the Commissioners' board room regarding the preliminary redistricting plan for the commissioner districts; and

**WHEREAS**, no additional public comment was received regarding the preliminary redistricting plan for the commissioner districts prior to April 12, 2022;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mower County Board of Commissioners hereby adopts the redistricting plan for commissioner districts and redistricts the County of Mower, following town, municipal, ward, city district, or precinct lines as reestablished in April 2022, and reestablishes the length of terms as follows:

**COUNTY COMMISSIONER**

**COMMISSIONER DISTRICT #1**

Lansing Township	Brownsdale City
Red Rock Township	Mapleview City
Udolpho Township	Waltham City
Waltham Township	City of Austin: 1 <sup>st</sup> Ward 1 <sup>st</sup> Precinct

That the present term of office for Commissioner District #1 shall expire at the end of the day before the first Monday in January of 2023, and the new term of office shall commence the first Monday in January of 2023, and shall be for a period of 2 years (2-year term, 2022 election). Subsequent terms shall be for 4-year periods.

**COMMISSIONER DISTRICT #2**

Adams Township	Lodi Township	Elkton City
Bennington Township	Marshall Township	Grand Meadow
Clayton Township	Pleasant Valley	City
Dexter Township	Township	LeRoy City
Frankford Township	Racine Township	Racine City
Grand Meadow Township	Sargeant Township	Sargeant City
LeRoy Township	Adams City	Taopi City
	Dexter City	

That the present term of office for Commissioner District #2 shall expire at the end of the day before the first Monday in January of 2025, and the new term of office shall commence the first Monday in January of 2025, and shall be for a period of 4 years (continuation of current term, 2024 election). Subsequent terms shall be for a 4-year periods.

**COMMISSIONER DISTRICT #3**

Austin Township	Lyle City
Lyle Township	Rose Creek City
Nevada Township	City of Austin: 2 <sup>nd</sup> Ward 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Windom Township	Precinct

That the present term of office for Commissioner District #3 shall expire at the end of the day before the first Monday in January of 2023, and the new term of office shall commence the first Monday in January of 2023, and shall be for a period of 4 years (4-year term, 2022 election). Subsequent terms shall be for a 4-year periods.

**COMMISSIONER DISTRICT #4**

City of Austin:  
3<sup>rd</sup> Ward 1<sup>st</sup> Precinct  
3<sup>rd</sup> Ward 2<sup>nd</sup> Precinct

That the present term of office for Commissioner District #4 shall expire at the end of the day before the first Monday in January of 2023, and the new term of office shall commence the first Monday in January of 2023, and shall be for a period of 4 years (4-year term, 2022 election). Subsequent terms shall be for a 4-year periods.

**COMMISSIONER DISTRICT #5**

City of Austin:  
1<sup>st</sup> Ward 2<sup>nd</sup> Precinct  
2<sup>nd</sup> Ward 1<sup>st</sup> Precinct

That the present term of office for Commissioner District #5 shall expire at the end of the day before the first Monday in January of 2023, and the new term of office shall commence the first Monday in January of 2023, and shall be for a period of 4 years (4-year term, 2022 election). Subsequent terms shall be for a 4-year periods.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the County Administrator is directed to file the redistricting plan with the County Auditor by or before May 3, 2022, to be effective on June 3, 2022 (or on the 31<sup>st</sup> day after filing), for the 2022 primary and general elections and publish in the Austin Daily Herald newspaper.

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that the districts are, for illustrative purposes, identified in a map of the county on file in the office of the County Auditor-Treasurer and identified as "Exhibit A – Mower County Commissioner Districts Map – 2022" and "Exhibit B – Mower County Districts Boundaries – 2022" which by reference are hereby made a part hereof.

Passed and approved this 12<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2022.

Jon Erichson & Steve Lawler provided the Board with an annual update of the activities in the Turtle Creek Watershed. The focus is to administer watershed and ditch maintenance for water quality and flood reduction.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Glynn, to approve a late claim for payment of \$161.41 for employee #404. Motion carried.

Under Committee Reports Commissioner Mueller reported on attending the Fair Board meeting and discussion topics included a gravel bed nursery project and an electrical project. It was noted a new bookkeeper was hired. Commissioner Glynn reported on attending the SEMCAC meeting on April 11 and will be attending interviews this week. Commissioner Baldus will be attending the interviews also. Commissioner Baldus attended the Library Board meeting and 2021 patron statistics were shared. There are over 10,000 registered borrower's. Lastly, Commissioner Reinartz indicated he will be attending another Senior Center meeting as work continues to find a new director.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 10:43 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for April 26, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

**THE MOWER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

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

**Attest:**

**By:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Clerk/Administrator**

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