

REGULAR SESSION OF THE MOWER COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

June 14, 2022

The Mower County Board of Commissioners in and for the County of Mower, Minnesota, met in Regular Session June 14, 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 (remotely), Executive Assistant Denise Barthels (remotely), Mary Davidson (with co-workers), Candy Lahann (with co-workers) Austin Daily Herald Editor Eric Johnson.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, to approve the agenda noting that the item listed under Public Works will be held until the June 28, 2022 board meeting. Motion carried.

Program Coordinator Mary Davidson was recognized for retirement from Mower County with 30 years of service. Many well-wishers were present to recognize Mary for her contributions and years of service.

Motion made by Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, to appoint Candice Lahann as the County Assessor for a one-year interim appointment effective June 14, 2022 through June 13, 2023 subject to a one-year probation. Upon completion of her SAMA Certification, the Board will extend the interim appointment to a full four-year appointment. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Reinartz, seconded by Commissioner Ankeny, to approve the minutes of May 24, 2022 and June 7, 2022 regular and work session. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Mueller, 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>
Anoka County Corrections	29,997.45	Midwest Monitoring & Surveillance	3,527.00
AUSTIN AUTOMOTIVE LLC	2,592.41	Northwestern Minnesota Juvenile Center	8,370.00
Bauer Built Tire	4,409.00	Thomson Reuters-West Payment Center	2,726.14
Emergency Automotive Technologies, Inc	3,469.01	Venture Hydraulics, Inc.	4,469.99
Hanson Tire Of Austin Inc	2,536.05	Ziegler, Inc	6,932.16
Insight Direct USA, Inc	9,577.82	59 Payments less than 2000	21,745.82
MATTHEW BENDER & CO., INC.	2,687.14		
		Final Total:	103,039.99

Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Glynn, to amend the Credit Card & Charge Account Policy effective June 14, 2022 by changing references to "Finance Director" to "Finance Manager" and by adding two additional positions authorized to have a County Credit Card: "Land Records and Taxpayer Services Director" and "Finance Department Employees." Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, to approve contract with Elizabeth Harbaugh for septic contracting services effective June 14, 2022 through December 31, 2022 with an adjustment to the contractor's insurance liability limits to be decreased to \$1 million based on exceptional circumstances. Motion carried.

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES BOARD:

Motion made by Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Mueller, to approve payments in the total amount of \$264,624.14 to vendors for Human Services Accounts Payable. Motion carried.

Date: June 14, 2022

Res. #59-22

RESOLUTION

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 June 14, 2022 at the Government Center, Austin, Minnesota.

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Department of Human Services has published a Request For Proposals to provide health care services for Families and Children that are recipients of Medical Assistance and Minnesota Care in the 80 Greater Minnesota counties including Mower; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Department of Human Services has requested County evaluations and recommendations regarding the RFP proposals from each respective county; and

WHEREAS, Blue Plus, Medica, UCare, and United Healthcare submitted proposals to provide managed health care services in Mower for Families and Children; and

WHEREAS, representatives of Mower County Health & Human Services have reviewed and evaluated the proposals; and

WHEREAS, UCare, and Blue Plus have submitted proposals suitable to meet our needs.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mower County Board of Commissioners supports the recommendation of Mower County Health & Human Services approving UCare and Blue Plus as Managed Care Organizations (MCO(s)) providing managed health care services in Mower County for Families and Children.

Passed and approved this 14th day of June, 2022.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Mueller, to approve applying for the Strong Foundations Evidenced Based Home Visiting request for proposals. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, to approve Crystal Peterson serving as the Mower County representative on the United Way of Mower County board. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Mueller, seconded by Commissioner Ankeny, to approve the Children's Mental Health Respite Care Grant Amendment in the amount of \$53,164. Motion carried.

Under Health & Human Services updates, Director Crystal Peterson introduced the two new Community Health Workers Rain Prehsoeklwee and Austere Apolo. Ms. Peterson provided information to the Board of department challenges. One challenge is that some non-medical transport providers will no longer be providing transportation services in Mower County due to inaction on legislation, rising fuel prices and the staffing crisis. Another challenge is that there has been an increase in financial assistance applications. The availability of applications on-line for emergency and expedited SNAP services has resulted in a larger volume in applications. Since January 17, 2022 the department has received 976 new applications and averaging about 25 new applications a day. If the applicant indicates it is an emergency or to expedite the application, the department needs to respond same day or by next business day. The volume of applications to process daily is difficult to handle and unfortunately not all applicants are eligible for benefits. The on-line application does not have a built in stopgap to weed out the ineligible applicants therefor the need to interview all on-line applicants continues. Lastly, workforce shortages continue to affect the staff's ability to find places for clients to stay.

Motion made by Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, to approve the Purchase of Service Agreements renewals effective July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 for the follow:

Housing Support		
Adams Senior Living Solutions	Hanson, Diane	REM Heartland, Inc.
Cardinal of Minnesota, Ltd.	Independent Management Services (IMS)	REM Woodvale, Inc.
Cedars of Austin	Inisfail, Inc.	Sargent, Stephanie & Stacy
Colony Home/Carlson Home	Legacy of Brownsdale, LLC	
Glendalough of Austin, Inc.	Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota	
Transportation		
Austin Public Schools		

Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Mueller, to adjourn the Health & Human Services Board meeting at 10:02 a.m. Motion carried.

COUNTY BOARD

The Regular Session of the Board was reconvened at 10:04 a.m. for regular business items.

The Board recessed at 10:04 a.m. for a public hearing.

The Chair called the Public Hearing to order at 10:05 a.m. regarding a Housing Tax Abatement application of Daryl & Arvilla Boehm to construct a single-family home W $\frac{3}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ in Section 8 of Racine Township, Minnesota (PIN 15.008.0010)

County Administrator Trish Harren reviewed the application and recommended approval.

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

The Chair closed the Public Hearing at 10:07 a.m. regarding the Boehm Housing Tax Abatement application.

The County Board reconvened its regular session at 10:07 a.m.

Date: June 14, 2022

Res. #60-22

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

On motion of Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Mueller, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held June 14, 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, Daryl and Arvilla Boehm are the owner(s) of certain property within Mower County, legally described as follows:

W $\frac{3}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ in Section 8 of Racine Township, Minnesota (PIN 15.008.0010)

WHEREAS, Daryl and Arvilla Boehm 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 June 14, 2022 before the Mower County Board of Commissioners, on said application.

WHEREAS, Daryl and Arvilla Boehm 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 14th day of June, 2022.

Motion made by Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, to approve the monthly investment report for the month ending May 2022. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Reinartz, seconded by Commissioner Glynn, to approve the temporary closures of County Road 19 on July 9 and County Road 4 on July 10 in Rose Creek for the Rose Creek Days parade and car show and authorize Public Works to provide the necessary barriers. Motion carried.

Date: June 14, 2022

Res. #61-22

RESOLUTION

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 June 14, 2022 at the Government Center, Austin, Minnesota.

WHEREAS, on June 14, 2022 Disabled American Veterans Mayo Southeast Chapter 28 presented a request for a Minnesota Lawful Gambling License for gambling to be conducted at Deer Creek Speedway on August 13, 2022.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Mower County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve the issuance of a Minnesota Lawful Gambling License to Disabled American Veterans Mayo Southeast Chapter 28 for gambling at Deer Creek Speedway on August 13, 2022.

Passed and adopted this 14th day of June, 2022.

Motion made by Commissioner Mueller, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, to approve the application of Prime Stein, LLC d/b/a Lansing Corners for a full On Sale and Sunday liquor license effective July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. Motion carried.

Under Committee Reports Commissioner Ankeny reported that the Solid Waste Committee had met the previous week to review the new waste management plan and noted that there is a list of properties that will be coming to the Board for action on ordering clean up and thought that action would be presented today. Commissioner Mueller indicated that he had attend the Fair Board meeting, the Fair Board accepted the property management contract, and they have an employee starting on July 1 for property management with this year prorated. In addition, Commissioner Mueller attended the SE MN Communications Board meeting on 6/13 and noted that he had contacted Marcus Thompson to make sure recycling available at the Freedom Fest activities. Commissioner Reinartz attended a virtual meeting of the Health Advisory Board and will attend a Senior Center Board meeting on Friday and there had been a Building Committee meeting on the 11th. Commissioner Baldus indicated that he had attended the Library Board meeting and new staff is starting and construction is expected to start in the fall.

Scott Felten and Amanda Kiefer presented to the Board of list of Tax Forfeited parcels for the Board to review and set minimum sale prices and an auction date. A discussion followed as the Board reviewed each parcel on the list for determining a reasonable minimum sale price to set on each parcel. Following the discussion the Board set the sale prices and the auction date by adopting the following resolution.

Date: June 14, 2022

Res. #62-22

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 June 14, 2022 at the Government Center, Austin, Minnesota.

WHEREAS, on April 5, 2022 the Mower County Board of Commissioners certified that all parcels of land indicated on the Mower County Auditor-Treasurer's Certified List of Tax-Forfeited Lands #2022-1 dated April 5, 2022, on file in the Auditor-Treasurer's office, are non-conservation land; and

WHEREAS, all parcels, except parcel 23.005.0480, have been released by the cities and townships in which they are located for public sale;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the basic sale price of each parcel included in the Auditor-Treasurer's Certified List of Tax-Forfeited Lands #2022-2 dated June 14, 2022, which is on file in the office of the Mower County Auditor-Treasurer, is hereby approved, and authorization for a public sale of this land is now granted pursuant to M.S. 282.01; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said public sale of all parcels will be held on July 27, 2022, at 1:30 p.m. by the Mower County Auditor-Treasurer in the Ballroom/Vault Conference Room (Room 169) 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 Terms for the Sale of Tax-Forfeited Land in Mower County document on file in the office of the Auditor-Treasurer.

Passed and approved this 14th day of June, 2022.

Commissioner Baldus adjourn at 11:11 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for June 28, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

THE MOWER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

BY: _____
Chairperson

Attest:

By: _____
Clerk/Administrator

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