

AITKIN COUNTY BOARD

January 5, 2016

County Administrator Nathan Burkett called the 2016 Board Meeting to order this 5th day of January, 2016 at 9:05 a.m. with the following members present: Commissioners J. Mark Wedel, Laurie Westerlund, Donald Niemi, Brian Napstad, Anne Marcotte, County Administrator Nathan Burkett, and Administrative Assistant Sue Bingham.

CALL TO ORDER

Motion by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund to nominate Commissioner J. Mark Wedel as Chair for the year 2016. Motion carried (4-0-1 Wedel abstained). Commissioner J. Mark Wedel is named 2016 Board Chair.

NOMINATION OF BOARD CHAIR

Motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Niemi to nominate Commissioner Anne M. Marcotte as Vice Chair for the year 2016.

NOMINATION OF VICE CHAIR

Motion by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund and carried, all members voting yes to close the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot in favor of Commissioner Anne M. Marcotte as Vice Chair for the year 2016.

UNANIMOUS BALLOT

Motion by Commissioner Niemi, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund and carried, all members voting yes to approve the Consent Agenda as follows: A) Reaffirm Annual Code of Ethics and Out of State Travel Policy; B) Approve Commissioner Warrants: General Fund \$70,822.87, Road & Bridge \$30,770.75, Health & Human Services \$2,769.89, Trust \$11,644.81, Forest Development \$8,086.03, Long Lake Conservation Center \$10,425.51, Parks \$109,378.90 for a total of \$243,898.76; C) Approve Auditor Warrants – RE Tax Overpays: Taxes & Penalties \$1,618.50; D) Adopt Resolution: In Support of Conducting a Scenic Byway Assessment for the Lake Mille Lacs Area; E) Approve Extension Committee Appointments; F) Adopt Resolution: Form LG214 Mille Lacs Trails Snowmobile Club, Inc.; G) Approve 2016 Fire Protection Contract with City of Aitkin

CONSENT AGENDA

Under the consent agenda, motion for a resolution by Commissioner Niemi, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund and carried, all members voting yes to adopt resolution – In Support of Conducting a Scenic Byway Assessment for Lake Mille Lacs Area:

**RESOLUTION
20160105-001
IN SUPPORT OF
CONDUCTING A
SCENIC BYWAY
ASSESSMENT FOR
LAKE MILLE LACS
AREA**

WHEREAS, Aitkin County is located within the Lake Mille Lacs area, and

WHEREAS, the Lake Mille Lacs area possesses one of the largest, most historic, and most popular recreational lakes in Minnesota, and

WHEREAS, the Lake Mille Lacs area also offers countless other amenities including scenic forests, quaint communities, resorts, two state parks, historic sites, and a casino/resort, and

WHEREAS, acknowledging and promoting the assets in the Lake Mille Lacs area is critical to improving the area economy and enhancing the tourism experience, and

WHEREAS, studies conducted by the University of Minnesota have shown that local economies historically have benefitted through the establishment of Scenic Byway routes, and

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WHEREAS, the Arrowhead Regional Development Commission, the East Central Regional Development Commission, and the Region 5 Development Commission, with the support of interested stakeholders, have proposed to conduct an assessment of the Lake Mille Lacs area to determine the feasibility of, and local support for, pursuing scenic byway designation for the roadways surrounding Mille Lacs Lake.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Aitkin County hereby supports and expresses its commitment to the process for conducting a scenic byway assessment, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Aitkin County understands this commitment is non-financially binding, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Aitkin County will designate a representative to participate in the scenic byway assessment process.

Under the consent agenda, motion by Commissioner Niemi, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund and carried, all members voting yes to reappoint to the Extension Committee: Sharon Dotzler as the District 1 representative, Roberta Elvecrog as the District 3 representative, and Bonnie Mickelson as the At Large representative. Terms are from January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2018.

Under the consent agenda, motion for a resolution by Commissioner Niemi, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund and carried, all members voting yes to adopt resolution – Form LG214 Mille Lacs Trails Snowmobile Club, Inc.

BE IT RESOLVED, the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners agrees to approve the following Premises Permit Application - Form LG214 - of the **Mille Lacs Trails Snowmobile Club, Inc.:**

Farm Island Store, which has an address of 29037 US Hwy 169, Aitkin, MN 56431– Farm Island Township

Tim Terrill, Executive Director Mississippi Headwaters Board provided an update to the Board and gave a power point presentation on acquisition and easement processes.

Motion by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Marcotte and carried, all members voting to set the 2016 County Board meeting schedule for the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month, with the exception of December. In December the Board will meet on the first and third Tuesdays.

The County Board reviewed the bid submitted for the “Official Newspaper.” Motion for a resolution by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund and carried, all members voting yes to approve resolution - 2016 Official County Newspaper:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the *Aitkin Independent Age/Voyageur Press* is hereby

**EXTENSION
COMMITTEE
APPOINTMENTS**

**RESOLUTION
20160105-002
FORM LG214
MILLE LACS
TRAILS
SNOWMOBILE
CLUB, INC.**

**MISSISSIPPI
HEADWATERS
BOARD**

**2016 BOARD
MEETING
SCHEDULE**

RESOLUTION

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designated by the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners as the newspaper in which all official business shall be published. The *Voyageur Press* is named second publication of Financial Statement.

**20160105-003
2016 OFFICIAL
COUNTY
NEWSPAPER**

Motion for a resolution by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Napstad and carried, all members voting to approve resolution - 2016 Board of Commissioners Meeting Procedures & Rules of Business:

WHEREAS, the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners sees it prudent and necessary to review and adopt rules of procedure governing the conduct of County Board Meetings; and

**RESOLUTION
20160105-004
2016 BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS
MEETING
PROCEDURES &
RULES OF
BUSINESS**

WHEREAS, the Aitkin County Board has adopted and utilized rules of business, board procedures, and Robert's Rules of Order; and

WHEREAS, the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners believes it is important to annually reaffirm the rules; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the attached "Aitkin County Board of Commissioners Meeting Procedures and Rules of Business" is hereby amended and reaffirmed.

Motion for a resolution by Commissioner Marcotte, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund and carried, all members voting yes to approve the following committee appointments:

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners makes the following committee appointments for the year 2016:

**RESOLUTION
20160105-005
COMMITTEE
APPOINTMENTS**

Assessor for Unorganized Twps.
Fairgrounds Custodian
AMC Delegates (8)

Mike Dangers
Kirk Peysar
County Board
Environmental
Services Director
HHS Director
County
Administrator
J. Mark Wedel
Brian Napstad
J. Mark Wedel
John Welle
Brian Napstad
William Bedor
Laurie Westerlund
Don Niemi
Mark Wedel
Don Niemi
Brian Napstad

Facilities Committee

Aitkin Airport Commission (2)

McGregor Airport Commission (2)

Tri-County Community Health Services Board
Arrowhead Regional Development Council
Aitkin County Water Planning Task Force
Snake River Watershed Management Board
NE MN Office Job Training

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Motion for a resolution by Commissioner Marcotte, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund and carried, all members voting yes to approve the following committee appointments:

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that Board Chair J. Mark Wedel make the following committee appointments for the year 2015:

**RESOLUTION
20160105-006
COMMITTEE
APPOINTMENTS**

Aitkin Economic Development Administration	J. Mark Wedel
Arrowhead Counties Association	Don Niemi
	Anne Marcotte
Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency	Laurie Westerlund
Arrowhead Regional Transportation Committee	John Welle
ATV Committee (2)	Brian Napstad
	Anne Marcotte
Big Sandy Lake Management Plan (1 + Alternate)	Brian Napstad
	Anne Marcotte,
	Alternate
Central MN Corrections (2)	J. Mark Wedel
	Laurie Westerlund
Development Achievement Center (liaison) (1 + Alternate)	Laurie Westerlund
	Don Niemi, Alternate
East Central Regional Library Board	Don Niemi
Economic Development (2)	Anne Marcotte
	Don Niemi
Environmental Assessment Worksheet (2)	Anne Marcotte
	Brian Napstad
Emergency Management	J. Mark Wedel
Extension Committee (2)	J. Mark Wedel
	Laurie Westerlund
Forest Advisory Committee (2)	Anne Marcotte
	Brian Napstad
H & HS Advisory Committee (Liaison)	Laurie Westerlund
	Anne Marcotte
Historical Society (Liaison)	J. Mark Wedel
Investment Committee	County Board
Joint Powers Natural Resources Board	Brian Napstad
	Mark Jacobs
Labor Management Committee	J. Mark Wedel
	Laurie Westerlund,
	Alternate
Lakes and Pines (1+ Alternate)	Don Niemi
	Anne Marcotte,
	Alternate
Law Library	Don Niemi
MCIT Representative (1 + Alternate)	Laurie Westerlund
	Kirk Peysar,
	Alternate
Mille Lacs Fisheries Input Group	Laurie Westerlund
Mille Lacs Watershed (2)	Don Niemi
	Laurie Westerlund
Mississippi Headwaters Board (MHB)	Brian Napstad
MN Rural Counties Caucus (1 + Alternate)	Don Niemi

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Northeast MN ATP Steering Committee Northeast MN ATP	Anne Marcotte, Alternate John Welle Don Niemi John Welle	
Northeast MN ATP Township Representative Northeast Waste Advisory Committee (NEWAC) (1+Alternate)	(Vacant) Brian Napstad Laurie Westerlund, Alternate	
Northern Counties Land Use Coordinating Board (NCLUCB) (1 + Alternate)	Brian Napstad Anne Marcotte, Alternate	
Ordinance Committee (2)	Brian Napstad Anne Marcotte	
Park Commission Personnel/Insurance Committee (2)	Laurie Westerlund Anne Marcotte	
Planning Commission	J. Mark Wedel Laurie Westerlund	
Sobriety Court Solid Waste Task Force (2)	J. Mark Wedel Laurie Westerlund	
Toward Zero Deaths (TZD)	Brian Napstad J. Mark Wedel	
Break: 10:21 a.m. to 10:33 a.m.		BREAK
The Board reported on the following: JCNRB, MRCC, AIS, and HRA.		BOARD DISCUSSION
Board Chair J. Mark Wedel closed the meeting at 11:09 a.m. under MN Statute 13D.05 Subd. 3 (a), Annual Performance Evaluation of County Administrator.		CLOSED SESSION
Board Chair J. Mark Wedel reopened the meeting at 12:14 p.m.		OPEN MEETING
Motion by Commissioner Marcotte, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to adjourn the meeting at 12:15 p.m. until Tuesday, January 12, 2015 at 9:00 a.m.		ADJOURN
<hr/> J. Mark Wedel, Chair Aitkin County Board of Commissioners		
<hr/> Nathan Burkett, County Administrator		