

The Aitkin County Board of Commissioners met this 26<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2016 at 9:02 a.m. with the following members present: Board Chair J. Mark Wedel, Commissioners Laurie Westerlund, Don Niemi, and Brian Napstad. Commissioner Anne Marcotte was absent. County Administrator Nathan Burkett and Administrative Assistant Sue Bingham were also present.

Motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Napstad and carried (4-0 Marcotte absent), all members voting to approve the July 26, 2016 amended agenda. Item #D.1 - A storm update with request to amend existing disaster declaration, was added to the regular agenda.

Motion for a resolution by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried (4-0 Marcotte absent), all members voting to adopt resolution – State of Emergency Declaration:

**WHEREAS**, the County of Aitkin, Minnesota has sustained severe losses of a major proportion, brought on by precipitation and flash flooding on the dates of July 11 and 12, 2016, and wind and storm events on July 20 and 21, 2016;

**WHEREAS**, Aitkin County is a public entity within the State of Minnesota, and;

**WHEREAS**, the following conditions exist in Aitkin County as a result of the disaster: significant damage to public infrastructure including roads, bridges, culverts and ATV trails, as well as private property damage.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners, acting on behalf of and for the people of Aitkin County, declare that a state of emergency exists within Aitkin County, with all the powers and responsibilities attending thereto as provided by Chapter 12 of Minnesota Statutes, this resolution supersedes and amends the resolution declaring a disaster in Aitkin County passed on July 12, 2016.

**AITKIN COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
July 26, 2016**

**I. Attendance**

The Aitkin County Board of Commissioners met this 26th day of July, 2016, at 9:36 a.m. as the Aitkin County Health & Human Services Board, with the following members present: Chairperson Commissioner Mark Wedel; Commissioners, Brian Napstad, Don Niemi and Laurie Westerlund; and others present included: County Administrator Nathan Burkett; H&HS Director Tom Burke; H&HS Staff Members Erin Melz, Public Health Supervisor; Kathy Ryan, Fiscal Supervisor; Jessi Schultz & Heather Overn, Social Service Supervisors; Jessi Goble, Financial Assistance Supervisor; Julie Lueck, Clerk to the Health & Human Services Board; and guests; Adam Hoogenakker, Aitkin Independent Age; and Roberta Elvecrog and Holly Bray, H&HS Advisory Committee Members; and Luke Christensen, Aitkin Transportation Advocate for AEOA; Marcia Mehle, Program Director of AEOA; Bill Feye and David Kohanek, Clear Lake Assn.; Gordon Prickett, Nordland Twp.; Bill Haroldson, Farm Island L.I.A.; Bill Pratt, Citizen;

**CALL TO ORDER**

**APPROVED  
AGENDA**

**RESOLUTION  
20160726-050  
STATE OF  
EMERGENCY  
DECLARATION**

**HEALTH &  
HUMAN  
SERVICES  
BOARD**

Rowand & Ruth Fudala, Hamel Lake; John Welle, AC Highway Dept; Sheriff Scott Turner; and Mark Jacobs, AC Land Dept.

**II. Approval of Health & Human Services Board Agenda**

Motion by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Niemi, and carried; the vote was to approve the Agenda.

**III. Review June 28, 2016 Health & Human Service Board Minutes**

Motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Niemi, and carried; the vote was to approve the Minutes of the June 28, 2016 Health & Human Services Board Meeting.

**IV. Review Bills**

Motion by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund, and carried; the vote was to approve the Bills.

**V. General/Miscellaneous Information**

**A. Rural Rides - AEOA - Luke Christensen Aitkin Transportation Advocate, and Marcia Mehle, Program Director**

Luke and Marcia discussed the fact that they were sufficiently funded for the last half of 2015 and the full year of 2016, but they are asking for a letter of support from Aitkin County along with a financial commitment of \$2,000 for the upcoming 2017 grant year of which the application will be submitted in mid August. They explained the program is to assist people with transportation to get to work or to GED classes. The transportation has to be tied to employment and is short-term to assist people in becoming transportation self-sufficient. They have had 28 clients in Aitkin County with 30 drivers which have provided 1,614 one-way rides to work sites.

**B. Non-Emergency Medical Transportation - Kathy Ryan, Jessi Goble, Jessi Schultz**

Kathy Ryan reviewed the reimbursement rate (RUKA Rate) of 0-17 miles @ 27.5 cents/mile, 18-50 miles @ 24.75 cents/mile, and 100+ miles @ 22 cents/mile through Medical Assistance access. Volunteer Rate has been 0-17 miles @ .675 cents/mile and 18-50 miles @ .6075 cents/mile. In 2005, we agreed to pay a per diem rate due to the high cost of gasoline. Ruka rates will be reimbursed by Medical Assistance. Commissioner Napstad asked that we bring this back in the form of a Matrix to our next meeting.

**VI. Contracts/Agreements**

**A. WIC Agreement - McGregor - between ACH&HS and McGregor Independent School District for the period September 1, 2016 through August 31, 2017 to administer the Aitkin County WIC Program.**

Motion by Commissioner Niemi, seconded by Commissioner Napstad, and carried; the vote was to approve the WIC Agreement - McGregor - between ACH&HS and McGregor Independent School District for the period September 1, 2016 through August 31, 2017 to administer the Aitkin County WIC Program

**VII. Administrative Reports:**

- A. Financial & Transportation Reports** - Kathleen Ryan noted we on budget. July will have a large VCAA grant coming in after the State Fiscal Year ends. The Storm 2016 staff hours and costs are being kept and recorded separately.

**VIII. Committee Reports from Commissioners**

- A. H&HS Advisory Committee** – Commissioners Westerlund and/or Marcotte. Committee Members attending today: Joy Janzen & Holly Bray  
No minutes as there was no meeting held in July
- B. AEOA Committee Update** – Commissioner Westerlund - No Meeting
- C. NEMOJT Committee Update** – Commissioner Napstad - No Meeting
- D. CJI (Children’s Justice Initiative)** – Commissioner Westerlund - No Meeting
- E. Lakes & Pines Update** – Commissioner Niemi - No Meeting

Next Meeting – August 23, 2016

Break: 10:06 a.m. to 10:21 a.m.

**BREAK**

**REGULAR BOARD RECONVENED**

Claudia Dotzler, on behalf of her husband Chris Dotzler, spoke of their objections to the ATV trail along County Road 3, and presented a petition to the Board with signatures of others who also oppose the ATV trail.

**CITIZEN’S PUBLIC COMMENT**

Motion by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund and carried (4-0 Marcotte absent), to approve the Consent Agenda as follows: A) Correspondence File: July 12, 2016 to July 25, 2016; B) Approve County Board Minutes: July 12, 2016; C) Approve County Board Emergency Meeting Minutes: July 14, 2016; D) Approve Commissioner Warrants: General Fund \$109,156.97, Road & Bridge \$33,822.65, Health & Human Services \$1,072.32, Trust \$8,429.14, Forest Development \$3,250.16, Long Lake Conservation Center \$9,152.45, Parks \$4,145.62 for a total of \$169,029.31; E) Approve Auditor Warrants – June Sales & Use Tax: General Fund \$612.26, Road & Bridge \$1,345.64, State \$7,463.50, Trust \$8.04, Forest Development \$0.18, Long Lake Conservation Center \$132.98, Parks \$436.94 for a total of \$9,999.54; F) Adopt Resolution – Federal Awards Policy; G) Approve 2016 Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG); H) Authorize Signatures to Secretary of State Joint Powers Agreements – 2016 Primary and General Elections Recounts

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Under the consent agenda, motion for a resolution by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund and carried (4-0 Marcotte absent), to adopt resolution – Federal Awards Policy:

**WHEREAS**, the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners acknowledges the need to develop a written procurement policy in compliance with the Uniform Administrative Requirement for Federal Awards; and

**RESOLUTION  
20160726-051  
FEDERAL  
AWARDS POLICY**

**WHEREAS**, the new procurement requirements are effective on 2015 Federal Grant Awards; and

**WHEREAS**, Aitkin County chooses to take advantage of a two-year grace period for implementation of the new requirements.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that Aitkin County will develop the written standards in compliance with the uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards beginning in 2017.

Under the consent agenda, motion by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund and carried (4-0 Marcotte absent), to approve 2016 Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) and to authorize signatures.

Under the consent agenda, motion by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund and carried (4-0 Marcotte absent), to authorize signatures to Secretary of State Joint Powers Agreements – 2016 Primary and General Election Recounts.

Nathan Burkett, County Administrator discussed area lake levels with the Board. Terry Neff, Environmental Services Director and area residents also voiced their opinions and concerns.

Motion for a resolution by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried (4-0 Marcotte absent), to adopt resolution – Temporary Aitkin County Lakes Slow-No Wake Restrictions:

**WHEREAS**, due to extraordinary weather conditions, including excessive rainfall during July of 2016, high water elevations prevail on certain Aitkin County lakes, and

**WHEREAS**, wave action from wind and watercraft has and will exacerbate shoreline erosion and cause damage to real and personal property, and

**WHEREAS**, high-water levels coupled with increased wave action have led to the inundation of low-lying yards and structures, and

**WHEREAS**, in an effort to protect property and limit environmental damage to lakes from shoreline erosion where the County can and may exert some control, the County Board of Commissioners enacts this 26<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2016, the following Temporary Special Controls to Section 5 Regulations of the Watercraft Ordinance

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the following lakes shall have a slow-no wake restriction on the entire lake, effective immediately and concluding at 11:59 pm on August 8, 2016:

Dam	Glen
Long	Glen
Gun	Fleming
Hammal – (Bass)	Farm Island
Farm Island	Farm Island /

**2016  
EMERGENCY  
MANAGEMENT  
GRANT**

**ELECTION  
RECOUNTS**

**HIGH LAKE  
LEVELS**

**RESOLUTION  
20160726-052  
TEMPORARY  
SLOW-NO WAKE  
LAKE  
RESTRICTIONS**

	Hazelton
Cedar	Aitkin / Farm Island
Lone	Nordland
Ripple	Nordland
Elm Island	Nordland
Clear	Glen
Little Pine	Farm Island

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, upon agreement of the County Administrator, Environmental Services Director and County Sheriff, the restrictions imposed by this resolution may be removed by administrative decision.

Motion for a resolution by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried (4-0 Marcotte absent), to adopt resolution – Highway 18 Safety Concerns:

**WHEREAS**, the citizens of Aitkin County are concerned about the dangers on Highway 18 on the north side of Lake Mille Lacs, and

**WHEREAS**, there was one fatality and several significant accidents on Highway 18 since January 2016, and

**WHEREAS**, there are four resorts, two restaurants, and a bar within a five mile stretch of Highway 18 with fish house parks that can easily house over 1,000 people, and

**WHEREAS**, on any given weekend there are hundreds of people crossing back and forth along the highway to go to the lake, the restaurant, or the park, and

**WHEREAS**, every weekend there are close calls on Highway 18:

- Vehicles pulling boats make wide turns into parking lots because there is no shoulder on the road
- Kids with towels, bare feet and swimsuits walk back and forth
- Speeding vehicles and semi-trucks often slam their brakes to avoid pedestrians
- All along Highway 18 there are skid marks and tire tracks through the ditches from close calls, and

**WHEREAS**, Highway 18 has a 55 mph speed limit with NO shoulders, heavy tree coverage, and blind corners in a popular tourist and resort area, and

**WHEREAS**, Aitkin County Towards Zero Death (TZD) Coalition unanimously supports the citizens’ movement to take all necessary steps to reduce the speed limit on portions of Minnesota State Highway 18 (between State Highway 169 and State Highway 47).

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners supports the citizens’ movement and the TZD Coalition in reducing the speed limit, adding signage, and any other measures necessary to make Highway 18 safe.

Motion for a resolution by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Niemi

**RESOLUTION  
20160726-053  
HIGHWAY 18  
SAFETY  
CONCERNS**

and carried (4-0 Marcotte absent), to adopt resolution – Annual Financial Audit:

Declaring Aitkin County’s intent to retain a CPA firm to perform its annual financial audit.

**WHEREAS**, Minnesota Statutes, section 6.481, subdivision 2 requires counties to have an annual financial audit; and

**WHEREAS**, Minnesota Statutes, section 6.481, subdivision 2 permits counties to “choose to have the audit performed by the state auditor, or may choose to have the audit performed by a CPA firm”; now, therefore;

**BE IT RESOLVED**, Aitkin County chooses to retain the services of a CPA firm that meets the requirements established in Minnesota Statutes, section 326A.05, for its annual financial audit.

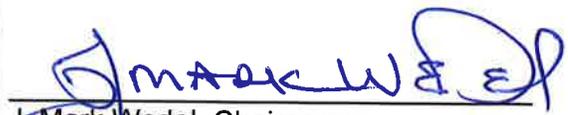
The Board discussed the following: Mille Lacs Watershed, ARDC, Emergency Management Flood Tour with Lt. Governor, MHB, Private Auditor Mtg., Association of Townships Mtg., Facilities, and CARE.

Motion by Commissioner Niemi, seconded by Commissioner Napstad and carried (4-0 Marcotte absent), to adjourn the meeting at 12:18 p.m. until Tuesday, August 9, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.

**RESOLUTION  
20160726-054  
ANNUAL  
FINANCIAL AUDIT**

**BOARD  
DISCUSSION**

**ADJOURN**

  
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J. Mark Wedel, Chairperson  
Aitkin County Board of Commissioners

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Nathan Burkett, County Administrator