The Wadena County Board of Commissioners’ Meeting was held on February 12, 2019 in the Small Courtroom, Wadena County Courthouse, 415 South Jefferson Street, Wadena, Minnesota. The meeting was called to order at 9:02 am by Commissioner Stearns and all present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Also present were: Commissioners Jim Hofer, Sheldon Monson, Chuck Horsager, and Jon Kangas, County Coordinator/Engineer Ryan Odden, County Attorney Kyra Ladd, Zoning Director Deana Malone, Tax Specialist Missy Lund, Chief Deputy Joe Schoon, Brian Hagen, Wadena Pioneer Journal reporter Michael Johnson and Sebeka/Menahga Review Messenger reporter Matthew B. Johnson.

**Approve/Amend Day’s Agenda:** Moved by commissioner Monson, seconded by Commissioner Hofer to remove #8 Convene Training, add Commissioner Committee assignments, add at #7.A HRA Advance from Payroll, on Consent Agenda: Approve wording on the minutes for the comprehensive re-entry position motion on the 2-5-19 minutes add Donation of a Barn Quilt at Old Wadena Park. Motion carried unanimously.

**Recognition of Citizens:** Brian Hagen wanted to speak about the overpayment of wages to County Coordinator/County Engineer. He was looking for answers as to why this error went unnoticed by Mr. Odden. He feels that the error should have been realized. Mr. Odden explained that payroll split his check into two different checks when he took on the coordinator’s position and that he trusted payroll to accurately figure his check.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Moved by Commissioner Monson, seconded by Commissioner Horsager to approve the following consent agenda items:

- Approve the minutes for the 2-5-19 meeting.
- Approve the following community members to serve on the Public Health Advisory Committee for a three year term from 2019-2021. District 1: Sara Stone, District 3: Jan Godding, District 4: Janet Mattson, District 5: Robert Allebach, Kari Tomperi
- Approve the re-appointment of Dorothy Kennelly to the Wadena County Parks Board for a three year term through and including October 2021.
- Approve the renewal of the 3.2 Liquor License for Twin Lakes Lodge-N-Resort.
- Approve the donation of a 4 x 4 Barn Quilt that will be placed at Old Wadena Park from the Barn Quilters of Central Minnesota. Recommended to use the Canoe & Orr design.

Motion carried unanimously.

**REGULAR AGENDA:**
Approval of the Teamsters Local 320, 2019 to 2021 Contract: Commissioner Kangas was unhappy with parts of the contract that was voted on by the teamsters Local 320. He questioned whether the 3% that was approved by the budget committee will be enough to allow for the additional salary increases and the cash buy out of those that had longevity coming to them as approved in the last contract. The HR department assured that all payroll costs were considered when giving the budget committee numbers to consider. Moved by Commissioner Hofer, seconded by Commissioner Horsager to approve the Teamsters Local 320 2019-2021 Contract as presented. Motion carried 4-1 Roll call: Horsager-yes, Hofer-yes, Stearns-yes, Monson-yes, Kangas-no.

HRA reimbursement Account fund: Moved by Commissioner Horsager, seconded by Commissioner Kangas to approve the 2018 Health Reimbursement Accounts Fund Reimbursement for a total of $55,000.00 to funds in the amount of: General Fund-$32,500.00; Highway-$2,500.00; Human Service-$18,750.00; Solid Waste-$1,250.00. Motion carried unanimously. Moved by commissioner Horsager, seconded by Commissioner Hofer to fund the 2019 Health Reimbursement Accounts Fund Advance for a total of $51,250.00 – General Fund-$31,250.00; Highway-$3,750.00; Human Services-$16,250.00. Motion carried unanimously.

2019 Tax Forfeiture Property Sale: Missy Lund presented the request to have the land sales of forfeiture property sale moved up to a date in March. Motion by Commissioner Monson, seconded by Commissioner Hofer to recind the motion to hold the tax forfeited land sale on April 20, 2019. Motion carried unanimously. Moved by Commissioner Horsager, seconded by Commissioner Monson to hold the tax forfeited property sale on March 18, 2019 at 1:00 pm with the Auditor/Treasurer office to determine the location of the sale within the courthouse. Motion carried unanimously.

Architectural and Engineering Construction Administration Services For Restroom Project: Ryan Odden asked to hire this service for the bathroom/conference room project. The quote was unclear as to how the billing will be determined. The commissioners asked for clarification on the billing and that this be brought back to next meeting.

Cooperative Construction Agreement #1032859 between MNDOT and Wadena County: Ryan Odden presented the agreement and asked that Kyra Ladd look over the agreement before it is signed. Moved by Commissioner Monson, seconded by Commissioner Hofer to approve this agreement #1032859 between MNDOT and Wadena County conditional on approval given by the County Attorney. Motion carried unanimously.

Proposed Detour Agreement #1033133 between MNDOT and Wadena County: Motion by Commissioner Monson, seconded by Commissioner Hofer to approve the agreement #1033133 between MNDOT and Wadena County conditional on approval given by the County Attorney. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution for Wadena County to be the fiscal agent and Project Sponsor for City of Wadena State Transportation Bonds Funds: Ryan Odden explained that the City of Wadena has been granted $5,000,000.00 in state-aid funds for the Highway 10 project that they are not allowed to be the fiscal agent for. Wadena County would become the fiscal agent for this.
money. City Administrator Janette Bower also made her request for the county to become the fiscal agent. It was noted that the meetings between Senator Gazelka, Representative Posten and our county commissioners is the reason this funding was allocated to the project, and we should thank them for the funding. Moved by Commissioner Monson, seconded by Commissioner Horsager to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION FOR WADENA COUNTY TO BE THE FISCAL AGENT AND PROJECT SPONSOR FOR CITY OF WADENA STATE TRANSPORTATION BOND FUNDS

Whereas, $5,000,000.00 in State Transportation Bond Funds have been made available to the City of Wadena for the purpose of right of way acquisition, engineering, environmental analysis and environmental cleanup, construction of a four lane divided roadway, and construction of storm water drainage and other improvements along the Trunk Highway 10 corridor in Wadena; and

Whereas, the City of Wadena is not a state-aid eligible city and cannot access the grant funds. The County who is state-aid eligible can act as a fiscal agent and project sponsor on behalf of the City; and

Whereas, the majority of the environmental analysis and environmental cleanup costs will be a part of Minnesota Department of Transportation State Project 8001-40 which is a reconstruction project on Trunk Highway 10. The construction of storm water drainage improvements will be a part of a proposed County sponsored project along Trunk Highway 10 at the County Fairgrounds; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Wadena County Board of Commissioners that Wadena County will act as a fiscal agent and project sponsor for the City of Wadena State Transportation Bond Funds.
CERTIFICATION

I, Ryan Odden, County Coordinator, Clerk to the Wadena County Board of Commissioners, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Wadena County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held on the 12th day of December, 2019.

Motion carried unanimously.

Wadena County Fairgrounds Storm Water Study: Phil Martin from Bolton & Menk presented the proposal for drainage of water from the Fair Grounds. The plan was presented with options that were looked at. Motion by Commissioner Kangas, seconded by Commissioner Horsager to approve Option 6 – 10,000 GPM Lift Station for the drainage for the fairgrounds property. Motion carried unanimously.

A break was taken at 10:34 am. Meeting reconvened at 10:37 am.

Closed Session for the purpose to develop or consider or counteroffers for the purchase or sale of Real or Personal Property at 400 Ash Ave. NW, Wadena, MN 56482: Meeting closed at 10:37 am.

Open meeting reconvened at 11:25 am

Approval for Soil Testing: Moved by Commissioner Monson, seconded by Commissioner Kangas to give permission for ORB to preform soil and vibration testing at 400 Ash Ave NE from 2-12-19 to 6-01-19 on the condition that Wadena County received a copy of all test results. Motion carried unanimously.

Committee Assignments: Commissioner Hofer asked about the Liaison assignments for the different commissioners that were not determined as of yet. The DDA study recommended that the liaison assignments be dropped. Commissioner Horsager wants to wait until the meeting when they discuss the DDA study to look at this.

Commissioner Reports:

Commissioner Monson: 2/8 Special Board Meeting, 2/11 Todd Wadena Community Corrections, 2/12 Board meeting.

Commissioner Horsager: 2/6 Management Team, 2/7 Central Minnesota Council on Aging, 2/8 Business and Retention Survey, 2/8 Special Board Meeting, 2/11 Personnel Meeting, 2/11 Red Water Shed Project, 2/11 Extension Meeting, 2/12 Board Meeting.

Commissioner Kangas: 2/8 Special Board Meeting, 2/12 Board Meeting.

Commissioner Hofer: 2/7 Met with Law Enforcement, 2/8 Special Board Meeting, 2/11 Extension Meeting, 2/11 Todd Wadena Community Corrections, 2/12 Board Meeting.

Commissioner Stearns: 2/6 Management Meeting, 2/8 Special Board Meeting, 2/11 Personnel Meeting, 2/11 South Country meeting, 2/12 Board Meeting.
Moved by Commissioner Monson, seconded by Commissioner Horsager to adjourn the meeting at 11:44 am. Motion carried unanimously.

Ryan Odden,  
Wadena County Coordinator/Engineer

Bill Stearns, Chairperson  
Wadena County Commissioners