The Wadena County Board of Commissioners’ Meeting was held on April 23, 2019 in the Small Courtroom, Wadena County Courthouse, 415 South Jefferson Street, Wadena, Minnesota. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am by Commissioner Stearns and all present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Also present were: Commissioners Chuck Horsager, Jim Hofer, Sheldon Monson, Jon Kangas, Auditor/Treasurer Heather Olson, Human Service Administrative Services Supervisor Amie Gendron, Chief Deputy Joe Schoon, Assistant County Engineer Darin Fellbaum, IT Director David Hotchkiss, Zoning Director Deana Malone, Human Services Mike Willie, Human Services Jacqueline Lee, Review Messenger reporter Matthew Johnson, Independent News Herald reporter Trinity Gruenberg.

Amend/Approve Agenda: Heather Olson informed the board the dollar amount on item #10 of the regular agenda has changed. Moved by Commissioner Monson, seconded by Commissioner Hofer to approve the agenda with the one change to #10. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA:

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

- Approve warrants from 3-22-19, 3-29-19, 4-5-19, US Bank 4-5-19, 4-12-19, 4-18-19 for a total of $824,887.75.
- Approve Human Service Warrants from 3-22-19, 3-29-19, 4-5-19, 4-12-19, 4-19-19 for a total of $114,871.84.
- Approve the 2018 State of Minnesota Federal Boating Safety Supplemental Equipment Grant Agreement in the amount of $1,308.00 for the purchase of 2 – 5300 Lumen Portable and Rechargeable Collapsible Flood Lights.
- Approve the hiring of Jonathon Lisson as a returning 2nd year Seasonal Engineering Aid/Intern at $12.50 per hour for the summer work.
- Approve the hiring of Mason Evans as a Seasonal Engineering Aid/Intern at $12.00 per hour for the summer work.
- Approve the Gambling Permit for the Knob Hill Sportsmen's Club for a raffle on November 7, 2019.
- Approve the payment of the 2019 Agricultural Society Allocation for $15,000.00.
- Approve the 2019 Kitchigami Regional Library 1st Half Allocation of $48,868.50.
- Approve the 2019 1st Quarter Allocation for the Wadena County Humane Society of $1,450.00.

Motion carried unanimously.

REGULAR AGENDA:
**County State Aid Highway Funds Advance Resolution:** Darin Fellbaum was asking for a resolution to receive advanced funds from the state to do road construction for this season. Moved by Commissioner Horsager, seconded by Commissioner Hofer to pass the following resolution:

**County State Aid Highway Funds Advance Resolution**

WHEREAS, the County of Wadena is planning to implement County State Aid Street Projects in 2019 which will require State Aid funds in excess of those available in its State Aid Regular/Municipal Construction Account, and

WHEREAS, said County is prepared to proceed with the construction of said project(s) through the use of an advance from the County State Aid Construction Fund to supplement the available funds in their State Aid Regular/Municipal Construction Account, and

WHEREAS, the advance is based on the following determination of estimated expenditures:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Account Balance as of 4/16/19</th>
<th>$3,466,923.70</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less estimated disbursements:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project # SAP 080-612-011</td>
<td>$3,677,447.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project # SAP 080-620-009</td>
<td>$573,109.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project # SAP 080-626-023</td>
<td>$1,041,102.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project # SAP 080-666-002</td>
<td>$543,265.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project # SAP 080-604-012</td>
<td>$470,780.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project # SP 080-617-008</td>
<td>$406,379.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bond Principle (if any)</td>
<td>$____________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Finals (overruns-if any)</td>
<td>$____________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAP 080-602-009</td>
<td>$166,236.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAP 080-602-010</td>
<td>$13,919.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAP 080-629-010</td>
<td>$36,239.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SP 080-070-008</td>
<td>$15,060.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>$____________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Estimated Disbursements</strong></td>
<td><strong>$6,943,539.30</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Advance Amount (amount in excess of acct balance)</strong></td>
<td><strong>$3,476,615.60</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WHEREAS, repayment of the funds so advanced will be made in accordance with the provisions of Minnesota Statutes 162.08, Subd. 5 & 7 and Minnesota Rules, Chapter 8820, and

WHEREAS, the County acknowledges advance funds are released on a first-come-first-serve basis and this resolution does not guarantee the availability of funds.

NOW, THEREFORE, Be It Resolved: That the Commissioner of Transportation be and is hereby requested to approve this advance for financing approved County State Aid Highway Projects of the County of Wadena in an amount up to $3,476,615.60 in accordance with Minnesota Rules 8820.1500, Subp. 9. I hereby authorize repayments from subsequent accruals to the Regular/Municipal Construction Fund to supplement the available funds in their State Aid Regular/Municipal Construction Account.
Account of said County from future year allocations until fully repaid.

I, Heather Olson, duly appointed and qualified Auditor in and for the County of Wadena, do hereby certify that the above is a true and full copy of a resolution duly adopted by the County Board of Wadena County, State of Minnesota, assembled in regular/special session on the 23rd day of April, 2019.

County of Wadena

Heather Olson, County Auditor

Motion carried unanimously.

Award of SAP 080-612-011, SAP 080-620-009, SAP 080-626-023 and SAP 080-666-002: Darin Fellbaum asked for the award of summer road projects. Moved by Commissioner Horsager, seconded by Commissioner Hofer to award to Central Specialties Inc. the bids for SAP 080-612-001, SAP 080-620-009, SAP 080-626-23 and SAP 080-666-002 for a total of $5,075,850.30. Motion carried unanimously.

Architectural Services for Lower Level: Commissioner Stearns and Monson spoke about the proposed changes to the lower level. It was recommended that an architect look at and sign off on the plan. Moved by Commissioner Monson, seconded by Commissioner Kangas to approve for Foss Architecture and Interiors to provide architectural services for the lower level up to $1,000.00 from the non-levied building fund. Motion carried unanimously.

Steel Table Frame Purchase: Deana Malone was present to ask for the purchase of the 20 steel picnic table frames. Moved by Commissioner Monson, seconded by Commissioner Horsager to purchase the 20 steel picnic table frames from St. Croix Recreation for a total combined price with shipping of $3,823.40 to be paid from the Tax Forfeited Land Sales Park Reserve #2771. Motion carried unanimously.

Courthouse Wiring Cleanup: Commissioner Monson asked that all unused wiring be pulled from the ceiling in the lower level of the Courthouse while the ceiling is opened up. Dave Hotchkiss presented the bid from West Central for this. Moved by Commissioner Monson, seconded by Commissioner Hofer to have West Central tone out all cables in the Courthouse. Any abandoned cables will be removed. The fixed bid will not exceed $3,600.00 and will be taken from the non-levied building fund. Motion carried unanimously.

Furniture for the upstairs conference rooms: Commissioner Stearns presented possible furniture options for the newly remodeled conference rooms. They were shown 4 options for the set-up of these rooms. These plans are to be drawn to scale before any purchase is made.

Human Service Statistical Reports: Amie Gendron was present to give the monthly report for human services. There were 2,738 total Maxis and MNsure Cases in March, down from 2018. The fund balance is at $1,808,337.00 currently. Overall spending is at 26% to date for the year.

Resolution to Support Region V and AMHI Comprehensive Re-Entry Project: Mike Willie was present to bring the Region V and AMHI Comprehensive Re-Entry Project. They would like to
pursue grant options associated with Comprehensive Re-Entry project. Moved by Commissioner Hofer, seconded by Commissioner Horsager to pass the following resolution:

A RESOLUTION AFFIRMING WADENA COUNTY’S SUPPORT OF REGION V+ ADULT MENTAL HEALTH INITIATIVES COMPREHENSIVE RE-ENTRY PROGRAM TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WITH MENTAL ILLNESSES IN JAILS

WHEREAS, The Wadena County Board continues to see the impacts of ongoing reductions in state and federal funding for serious mental illness in our community and the resulting increased rates of serious mental illness in child protection cases and in incarcerations in the county jail at rates three to six times higher than the general population;

WHEREAS, The net effect of these changes is the increasing criminalization of serious mental illness, which reflects an actual change from one kind of institutionally-based care for serious mental illness in which appropriate psychiatric treatment and programming elements were provided in a residential setting to an institutionalized residential setting that is ill-equipped to do the same, which we believe to be a worse system that what we had with the state hospitals;

WHEREAS, without the appropriate treatment and services, people with mental illnesses continue to cycle through the criminal justice system, often resulting in tragic outcomes for these individuals and their families;

WHEREAS, Region V+ Adult Mental Health Initiative (Cass, Crow Wing, Morrison, Aitkin, Todd and Wadena Counties) takes pride in its responsibility to protect and enhance the health, welfare, and safety of its residents in efficient and cost-effective ways;

WHEREAS, Region V+ Adult Mental Health Initiative has launched a regional Comprehensive Re-Entry Program in partnership with other key stakeholders that will safely reduce the number of adults with mental illnesses in jails by connecting them to community-based treatment and services.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, THAT WADENA COUNTY, THROUGH BILL STEARNS, WADENA COUNTY CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, does hereby sign on to the continued development of our Comprehensive Re-Entry Program as a regional project of the Adult Mental Health Initiative to reduce the number of people with mental illnesses in our county jails. We resolve to:

- Apply for funding through the Sourcewell to begin our regional efforts around safely reducing the number of people with mental illnesses in jails; and
- Collect and review prevalence numbers and assess individuals’ needs to better identify adults entering jails with mental illnesses and their recidivism risk, and use that baseline information to guide decision making at the system, program, and case levels; and
- Examine treatment and service capacity to determine which programs and services are available in the county for people with mental illnesses and co-occurring substance use disorders, and identify state and local policy and funding barriers to minimizing contact with the justice system and providing treatment and supports in the community; and
• Develop a plan with measurable outcomes that draws on the jail assessment and prevalence data and the examination of available treatment and service capacity, while considering identified barriers; and
• Create a process to track progress using data and information systems, and to report on barriers and successes.

Motion carried unanimously.

A break was taken at 10:01 am. Meeting reconvened at 10:11 am.

**Human Service Competency Restoration Update:** Mike Willie spoke about the Competency Restoration changes that have been made at the state level. The County is looking for options as to placement for persons that are released and may not have a place to go or may not have had their competency restored as of yet.

**Human Service Rule 5 IV-E Update:** Mike Willie spoke about Rule 5 facilities. These are in house placement for children with mental health problems. The State of Minnesota is working on making changes so the children needing mental health help will be funded for their stays.

**Commissioner Reports:**

Commissioner Hofer: 4/10 Friendly Rider TAC, 4/17 Kitchagami Regional Library Executive Director Interviews, 4/22 CPT Meeting, 4/23 Board Meeting.

Commissioner Kangas: 4/10 Sourcewell Representative Assembly Annual Meeting, 4/17 MTW County Health Board Annual Meeting, 4/18 West Central Regional Juvenile Meeting, 4/23 Board Meeting.


Commissioner Monson: 4/15 President Trumps Round Table, 4/17 Morrison Todd Wadena Annual Health Board Meeting, 4/18 Fair Board, 4/22 Tri-County Hospital Joint Meeting, 4/23 Board Meeting.


The county board will meet at 1:00 pm on Thursday April 25, 2019 in a closed session concerning the sale of the fair grounds to Tri-County Hospital.
Moved by Commissioner Monson, seconded by Commissioner Horsager to adjourn the meeting at 10:54 am. Motion carried unanimously.

Heather Olson,  
Wadena County Auditor/Treasurer

Bill Stearns, Chairperson  
Wadena County Commissioners