

**MINUTES OF THE
OTTER TAIL COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**
Government Services Center, 500 Fir Ave. W.
Commissioners' Room
Tuesday, August 3, 2004
9:30 a.m.

Call to Order

The Otter Tail County Board of Commissioners convened Tuesday, August 3, 2004, at 9:30 a.m. at the Otter Tail County Government Services Center with Commissioners Syd Nelson, Chair; Bob Block, Vice-Chair; Roger Froemming, Dennis Mosher, and Malcolm Lee present.

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Block, second by Mosher, and unanimously carried to approve the County Board agenda of August 3, 2004, with the following additions:

- 9:50 a.m. - Land & Resource Director, Bill Kalar – Final Plat
- 11:10 a.m. – Detention Facility Administrator, Richard Akerman – Committee Request
- 11:15 a.m. – Personnel Committee Meeting

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Lee, second by Froemming, and unanimously carried to approve the County Board minutes of July 27, 2004, as mailed.

Approval to Pay Bills

Motion by Mosher, second by Lee, and unanimously carried to approve payment of the County Board bills per Attachment A of these minutes.

Sustainable Lakes Management Plan

George Taylor, Chair of the OTC Pine Lakes Improvement District Sustainable Lakes Management Board, and other members, presented the Otter Tail County Pine Lakes Improvement District Sustainable Lakes Management Plan dated May 2004. Mr. Taylor reviewed the Lake Management Plan emphasizing the vision and purpose of the Plan, data collection, water quality determined by the TSI, septic system issues, stabilization of erosion/run-off areas, and property owner education. Commissioners expressed deep appreciation for the volunteer commitment put into this comprehensive and useful Pine Lakes Management Plan. Consultant for the planning, Colleen Winter, expressed a hope that the plan could be a model for other lake associations and assist the County in land planning. Sylvia Soeth, Chair of the OTC Pine Lakes Improvement District Board of Directors, thanked the County Board for their cooperation in assisting to secure grants for the planning process of the plan and assistance by many County staff to make the final plan possible.

Final Plat

Motion by Froemming, second by Lee, and unanimously carried to approve the Final Plat of Vince Mullen known as "Mullens Country Court" located in Section 15 of Maine Township on Round Lake (56-476).

Soil & Water Conservation Districts

Citizen, Carl Annalora, presented an idea to consolidate the East & West Otter Tail County Soil & Water Conservation Districts. Consolidation could save money in the areas of

duplicated administration and overhead costs. He provided a handout which explained the idea, presented examples of consolidations that have occurred with other counties, and expected areas of cost savings. Mr. Annalora presented this idea as a new way of thinking with better technologies through the years which make distance less of an issue to obtain and share data/information. County Attorney, David Hauser, stated that there is statutory provision for consolidation.

County Ditch Requests

Motion by Lee, second by Froemming, and unanimously carried to authorize Wesley Halbakken to clean out part of Ditch No. 56 in Trondhjem Township with Mr. Halbakken paying all expenses.

Motion by Froemming, second by Block, and unanimously carried to authorize the Ditch Inspector to remove a beaver dam and to repair the culvert that has been placed on Mr. Norgren's property in Ditch No. 12. The Ditch Inspector estimated cost at \$400 - \$500. Expenses would be charged to the Ditch System.

Motion by Mosher, second by Lee, and unanimously carried to authorize the Ditch Inspector to trap and remove beavers to alleviate flooding in the area of Tom Lake's driveway in Ditch System No. 11. Estimated cost of the beaver removal is \$3,000 - \$4,000 and would be charged to the Ditch System.

Henning Transfer Station Road

Solid Waste Director, Mike Hanan, provided copies of a letter received by Commissioner Froemming from Alan Haugdahl, Chair of Henning Township, regarding the Henning Transfer Station Road. Lengthy discussion followed. Commissioner Froemming will clarify some issues regarding this road and return to the County Board with a recommendation.

Request for Reconsideration of Denial of Preliminary Plat

Scott Seely of Taylor Investment Corporation, requested that the County Board reconsider their motion of last week to deny the Preliminary Plat of "Baileys Beach". He stated that when the Preliminary Plat went before the Planning Commission on July 14, 2004, the Planning Commission approved the Preliminary Plat unanimously because they felt that all County requirements set forth in the Subdivision Controls Ordinance had been met. No one spoke against the project; only against roadways that lead to their proposed development as well as neighboring and adjacent properties. He presented information that existing road access issues for busses and other purposes have been present in the area since 1969. Because of additional road information, Mr. Seely, requested the County Board reconsider the denial and approve the Preliminary Plat of "Bailey's Beach". Mr. Seely stated that Taylor Investment would continue to work with the Town Board and neighbors to discuss the road access issues; however, the process will take time and he did not feel the plat should be delayed. County Attorney, David Hauser, stated that reversing the denial could be an issue because the people who attended the last meeting with their objections would not have notice of continued discussion or possible action. They would not have an opportunity to voice their opinion. Dave Dingman of Taylor Investment, questioned, where in the Ordinance it addressed the issue of existing public roads leading to a proposed plat having to be brought up to specifications. Mr. Hauser noted that the general language of the Ordinance allows for land planning decisions. The issue will be further discussed at the next Town Board meeting where all interested parties will be invited.

Criminal Justice Planning Committee

Detention Facility Administrator, Richard Akerman, requested approval to form a Criminal Justice Planning Advisory Committee to discuss the Planning of New Institutions relative to the detention facility. Motion by Lee, second by Mosher, and unanimously carried to authorize the formation of a Criminal Justice Planning Advisory Committee and to request that the Detention Facility Administrator return to the Board with a recommendation regarding membership of the Committee.

Performance Evaluation Summary

Motion by Lee, second by Block, and unanimously carried to approve a satisfactory performance evaluation summary for MIS Director, Tim Brand, as presented and to direct that the summary be placed in his personnel file.

Property/Casualty & Workers Compensation Premiums

Coordinator, Larry Krohn, presented a comparison handout of premiums from Minnesota Counties Insurance Trust for Otter Tail County's Property/Casualty and Workers Compensation Insurance. The net premium for Property/Casualty insurance for CY2004 is \$261,251 and approximately \$65,102 for Workers Compensation insurance for CY2004, which is a decrease from \$390,385 in 1991.

Adjournment

At 12:03 p.m., Chair Nelson declared the meeting of the Otter Tail County Board of Commissioners adjourned until Tuesday, August 10, 2004.

Dated: _____ OTTER TAIL COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

By: _____
Sydney Nelson, County Board Chair

Attest: _____
Larry Krohn, Clerk