

**Yellow Medicine County Board Meeting Minutes
January 24, 2023**

Chairman Glen Kack called this regular meeting of the Yellow Medicine County Board to order at 9:00 a.m. with Commissioners Ron Antony, Mitch Kling and John Berends also present. Also present were County Administrator Angie Steinbach, County Attorney Mark Gruenes and HR Manager Ashley Soine. Commissioner Greg Renneke was absent.

Pledge of Allegiance

Approve Agenda 01-24-23-01 Motion by Commissioner Kling and seconded by Commissioner Berends to approve the agenda. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

Consent Agenda 01-24-23-02 Motion by Commissioner Antony and seconded by Commissioner Berends to approve the consent agenda items as follows: January 3, 2023 County Board meeting minutes; withdrawal of acceptance of part-time Restorative Justice position- Ellie Olson; County Fairgrounds Property Management quarterly update and payment request in the amount of \$1,312.50; budgeted Nexsan Assureon upgrade/replacement. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

Citizen Comments None

Brooklyn Nelson, Family Service Center Intern and Brenda Schmitz, Family Service Center part-time Administrative Secretary, were introduced to the board.

Commissioner Renneke joined the meeting.

Approval of Disbursements/Review Auditor's Warrants 01-24-23-03 Motion by Commissioner Antony and seconded by Commissioner Berends to approve the commissioner warrants for the following amounts: \$15,604.11 Ditch Fund, \$375,113.82 Revenue Fund, \$89,721.68 Road & Bridge Fund, \$119,800.45 Human Services Fund; and acknowledged review of the Auditor's warrants. An itemized listing of all warrants over \$2,000 and an aggregate total for warrants under \$2,000 are published on the County website under the Finance & Administration Department. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

Commissioners' Report Commissioner Berends reported on PrimeWest, Countryside Public Health, Prairie Lakes and Yellowstone Trail. Commissioner Kack reported on Western Mental Health Center, Prairie Five, Fair Board, Southwest 18 Adult Mental Health, Area II/RCRCA, Revolving Loan Fund, Personnel Committee and Department Head meeting. Commissioner Renneke reported on Wold Architects meeting and Personnel Committee. Commissioner Kling reported on 6W Community Corrections, Planning Commission and Family Service Center meeting. Commissioner Antony reported on Wold Architects meeting, 6W Community Corrections, Pioneerland Library System, County Ditch 9 meeting, Emergency Communication Board, AMC Public Safety meeting, Chemical Health Coalition and PACT for Families.

Administrator Steinbach's report included meetings attended, current projects being worked on and future meetings to attend. Administrator Steinbach's report is included in the Board packet.

Regular Agenda

Rae Ann Keeler-Aus, Family Services, gave an update.

Mary Lee and Sarah LeBlanc, Family Services, gave a presentation on MnChoices.

Conditional Use Permit Request YM-631-22, Novel Energy Solutions, LLC 01-24-23-04

Jolene Johnson, Planning & Zoning Coordinator, presented a recommendation from the Planning Commission to approve conditional use permit request YM-631-22 for Novel Energy Solutions, LLC, St. Paul, MN, to construct a 1 MW Community Solar Garden on approximately 13 acres of land in the Rural Preservation Management District. The site is in the west one-half of the northwest one-quarter (W½ NW¼) in Section 34 of Wood Lake Township, T-114-N R-39-W. The Yellow Medicine County Land Use and Related Resource Management Ordinance Section 6.0, Subdivision 2.0 requires a Conditional Use permit for Solar Energy Farms.

Motion by Commissioner Antony and seconded by Commissioner Berends to approve Conditional Use Permit YM-631-22 for Novel Energy Solutions, LLC with the following conditions:

1. Prior to construction, the applicant/owner shall provide cash escrow in the amount of \$35,000 (\$35,000 x 1 mw) which shall be submitted to the Yellow Medicine County Land and Resource Management Office to cover the costs of decommissioning and site restoration upon project termination or abandonment.
2. Upon expiration or revocation of this permit, voluntary termination or abandonment of the project, the operator and/or landowner shall dismantle and remove from the site all solar panels, mounted steel posts and beams, inverters, transformers, overhead and underground cables, buildings, foundations and roads, within six months of termination.
3. Must notify the Zoning Coordinator if the system is no longer producing energy. The solar garden shall be considered abandoned if the use is discontinued (no energy production) for a period of 12 consecutive months or more unless a plan has been submitted and approved by the Zoning Coordinator outlining steps and a schedule for returning the solar garden to service.
4. Owner of the project shall notify the Land and Resource Management Office of any change in ownership of the project within 30 days of the transfer of ownership.
5. A minimum of a 6' high woven wire agricultural fence shall be installed and maintained surrounding the entire site.
6. Except for the designated roadways, the project area shall be re-vegetated as a low-growing, pollinator friendly native prairie. The vegetation in the project area shall be maintained to promote the pollinator friendly native prairie and to limit any noxious weeds.
7. The owner/operator shall provide proof of bodily injury, property damage, and public liability insurance in the amount of \$1,000,000 for any occurrence.
8. A sign approved by the Zoning Coordinator shall be erected and maintained at the solar garden entrance listing current contact information for the solar garden.
9. Owner must notify the Zoning Coordinator when the system is energized.

Motion carried with all voting in favor.

The board recessed for break at 10:35 a.m.

The board reconvened at 10:51 a.m.

Mark Gruenes, County Attorney, gave an update.

Bill Flaten, Sheriff, gave an update.

Gambling Permit 01-24-23-05 Motion by Commissioner Berends and seconded by Commissioner Kling to approve Resolution #7-2023 which approves off-site gambling for the Lee-Mar Ranch Equine Center. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

Final Payment 01-24-23-06 Motion by Commissioner Antony and seconded by Commissioner Berends to approve Resolution #5-2023 which authorizes final payment to A & C Excavation LLC in the amount of \$16,892.20 for the final contract amount totaling \$337,844 (Project S.A.P. 087-610-010 and S.A.P. 087-599-143). Motion carried with all voting in favor.

Letter of Support 01-24-23-07 Motion by Commissioner Antony and seconded by Commissioner Berends to approve the Letter of Support for US Highway 212 and County Highway 51 Intersection Freight and Safety Project for consideration of funding in the 2022 Corridors of Commerce Program. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

2022 Donation Resolution #6-2023 01-24-23-08 Motion by Commissioner Antony and seconded by Commissioner Kling to approve Resolution #6-2023 which accepts gifts and grants that were received during 2022. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

AFSCME Courthouse Contract 01-24-23-09 Motion by Commissioner Berends and seconded by Commissioner Renneke to approve the 2023-2025 AFSCME Courthouse Union Contract. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

John McNamara and Jacob Wollensak, Wold Architects, discussed the Phase 1 proposal for the Granite Falls Highway shop.

Regional Park Designation 01-24-23-10 Motion by Commissioner Antony and seconded by Commissioner Kling to approve Resolution #4-2023 which supports the Regional Park and Trail Designation application in Greater Minnesota. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

Other Business None

Informational December Jail Report

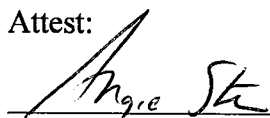
Review of Upcoming Meetings and Events The Board reviewed upcoming meetings and events.

Adjourn 01-24-23-11 Motion by Commissioner Berends and seconded by Commissioner Renneke to adjourn at 12:25 p.m. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

Witness:


Glen Kack, Chair

Attest:


Angie Steinbach, County Administrator