

**Yellow Medicine County Board Meeting Minutes  
March 22, 2022**

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

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Approve Agenda 03-22-22-01** Motion by Commissioner Johnson and seconded by Commissioner Berends to approve the agenda. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

**Consent Agenda 03-22-22-02** Motion by Commissioner Johnson and seconded by Commissioner Kack to approve the consent agenda items as follows: March 8, 2022 County Board meeting minutes; 2021 County Feedlot Officer Annual Report; Family Service Budget Amendment; resignation of Charles Bucholz, Eligibility Worker; replace Eligibility Worker; approval to advertise for County Engineer position; approval to replace Chief Deputy position; appoint Deputy Travis Peterson to Chief Deputy effective April 29, 2022, his salary will be grade 17, step 12; replacement of Deputy Sheriff position. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

**Citizen Comments** None

**Approval of Disbursements/Review Auditor's Warrants 03-22-22-03** Motion by Commissioner Berends and seconded by Commissioner Johnson to approve the commissioner warrants for the following amounts: \$8,495.50 Ditch Fund, \$59,491.58 Revenue Fund, \$14,717.91 Road & Bridge Fund, \$26,716.36 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 Countryside Public Health, Yellowstone Trail and Historical Society. Commissioner Antony reported on JD 91 meeting, Workforce Council, Pioneerland Library System, Chemical Health Coalition, Planning Commission and CD 9. Commissioner Renneke had no reports. Commissioner Johnson reported on CD 9, Department Head meeting, 6W Community Corrections, Prairie Lakes and Revolving Loan Fund. Commissioner Kack reported on Southwest 18 Adult Mental Health and Revolving Loan Fund.

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**

Chris Balfany and Jolene Johnson, Land and Resource Management Department, gave an update.

**Conditional Use Permit Request YM-627-22, Novel Energy Solutions, LLC 03-22-22-04**

Jolene Johnson, Planning & Zoning Coordinator, presented a recommendation from the Planning Commission to amend conditional use permit YM-616-21 issued on July 21, 2021, to allow the construction of a 1 MW solar garden utilizing dual axis tracking instead of single axis tracking. The maximum height of the panels at full tilt will not exceed 35 feet in height. The site is in the southwest one-quarter of the southwest one-quarter (SW¼ SW¼) in Section 2 of Friendship Township T-115-N R-41-W in the Rural Preservation Management District. The Yellow Medicine County Land Use and Related Resource Management Ordinance, Section VI, Subdivision 2.0, requires a Conditional Use permit for Solar Energy Farms.

Motion by Commissioner Berends and seconded by Commissioner Kack to approve Conditional Use Permit YM-627-22 for Novel Energy Solutions, LLC. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

The board briefly discussed the Notice of Intervention that was received by the Land and Resource Management Office. More information will be discussed at a future meeting.

**Open Public Hearing 03-22-22-05** Motion by Commissioner Berends and seconded by Commissioner Renneke to open the public hearing at 10:00 a.m. to discuss the Highway Department's Five-Year Construction Plan. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

County Engineer Andy Sander discussed the Highway Department's Five-Year Construction Plan.

**Close Public Hearing 03-22-22-06** Motion by Commissioner Berends and seconded by Commissioner Kack to close the public hearing at 10:51 a.m. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

**Five-Year Construction Plan 03-22-22-07** Motion by Commissioner Johnson and seconded by Commissioner Kack to approve the Highway Department's Five-Year Construction Plan with the changes discussed. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

**Box Culvert Replacements Bids 03-22-22-08** Motion by Commissioner Berends and seconded by Commissioner Renneke to approve the low bid from A & C Excavating, LLC in the amount of \$349,435 for S.A.P. 087-610-101 and S.A.P. 087-599-143. Six other bids were received. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

The board recessed for break at 10:56 a.m.

The board reconvened at 11:08 a.m.

**Building Assessment 03-22-22-09** Motion by Commissioner Renneke and seconded by Commissioner Johnson to continue the County facilities phased process and approve the proposal from Wold Architects and Engineers for a Facility Space Needs Assessment in the amount of \$8,000 for the Granite Falls Highway Shop location. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

**Public Hearing Date and Notice 03-22-22-10** Motion by Commissioner Berends and seconded by Commissioner Kack to set the public hearing date as April 26, 2022 at 10:15 a.m. for the proposed Ordinance for the Regulation of Food and Beverage Establishments within Yellow Medicine County. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

**Public Hearing Date and Notice 03-22-22-11** Motion by Commissioner Berends and seconded by Commissioner Johnson to set the public hearing date as April 26, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. for the proposed Ordinance for the Regulation of Public Pools within Yellow Medicine County. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

**County-Issued Phones 03-22-22-12** Motion by Commissioner Johnson and seconded by Commissioner Berends to proceed with creating a policy that includes county-issued phones for employees and discontinue cell phone stipends. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

**Assessment Rates 03-22-22-13** Motion by Commissioner Kack and seconded by Commissioner Johnson to set the assessment rate at \$12.00 per parcel for a 3-year contract beginning with the 2023 assessment year. The four taxing districts that are up for renewal are Fortier, Norman, Oshkosh and Posen. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

**Assessment Rates 03-22-22-14** The required license level deadline of July 1, 2022 for the City of Clarkfield and Wood Lake was discussed. If the license level is not met and the cities choose to contract with the county, contract rates were discussed. Motion by Commissioner Johnson and seconded by Commissioner Berends to set the assessment rate for the City of Wood Lake at \$12.00 per parcel and \$13.50 per parcel for the City of Clarkfield. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

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

**Purchase of Service Contract 03-22-22-15** Motion by Commissioner Berends and seconded by Commissioner Kack to approve the Purchase of Service Contract with Woodland Centers for mental health services to include adult detox at \$595 per day, adult crisis at \$425 per day and youth crisis at \$595 per day. It also included an administrative annual fee of \$3,000. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

**Mental Health Awareness Month Proclamation 03-22-22-16** Motion by Commissioner Johnson and seconded by Commissioner Kack to proclaim May 2022 as Mental Health Awareness Month in Yellow Medicine County. Motion carried with all voting in favor.


Janel Timm, Property and Public Services Director, presented redistricting options. The information will be reviewed at the April 12, 2022 public hearing.

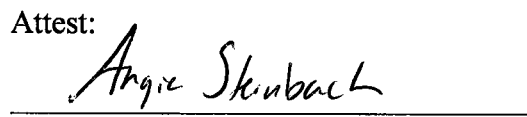
**Other Business** None

**Informational** February Jail Report

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

**Adjourn 03-22-22-17** Motion by Commissioner Berends and seconded by Commissioner Renneke to adjourn at 11:57 a.m. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

Witness:  
  
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Ron Antony, Chair

Attest:  
  
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Angie Steinbach, County Administrator