

**Minutes of Le Sueur County Board of Commissioners Meeting
September 22, 2020**

The Le Sueur County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, September 22, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. in the Courthouse at Le Center, Minnesota. Those members present were: John King (remote), Dave Gliszinski (remote), Lance Wetzel (remote), Steve Rohlfing and Danny O’Keefe. Also present were Darrell Pettis and Brent Christian.

On motion by O’Keefe, seconded by Wetzel and approved via roll call vote 5 to 0, the Board approved the agenda for the business of the day.

On motion by King, seconded by Gliszinski and approved via roll call vote 5 to 0, the Board approved the consent agenda:

- Approved the September 15, 2020 County Board Minutes and Summary Minutes.
- Approved the September 17, 2020 CD 22, 37, 43, 44, 60 and 65 Special Meeting Minutes and Summary Minutes
- Approved the Electronic Funds Transfer report:
 - 9/16/2020 Transferred \$600,000.00 from First State Bank of Le Center to Cornerstone State Bank of Le Sueur for Payroll.
 - 9/18/2020 Transferred \$21,986.00 from Hometown Bank Cleveland (Bond Proceeds) to First State Bank of Le Center for Sulp payments.
- Approved Liquor Licenses for: Traxler’s Hunting Preserve, Next Chapter Winery, Caribou Gun Club and Le Sueur Country Club, Inc.

Joshua Mankowski, Planning & Zoning Administrator appeared before the Board with several items for approval.

On motion by Wetzel, seconded by O’Keefe and approved via roll call vote 5 to 0, the Board granted an After-The-Fact Conditional Use Permit to DUSTIN & ALISA SCHIPPER, CLEVELAND, MN, (APPLICANT/OWNER) to allow grading, excavating, and filling of 298 cubic yards of material outside the shore impact zone and additional 107.1 cubic yards of material in the shore impact zone for the construction of a beach sand blanket, path, rip rap and grading an ice heave in a Shoreland Special Protection “SP” District, German Lake, a Recreational Development lake. Property is located in Government Lot 2, Section 33, Cordova Township.

The application is approved with the following conditions:

1. Brush removal within the Wetland should only be done with a chainsaw and brush cutter. No heavy equipment should be used to minimize the amount of disturbance that occurs within the wetland.
2. Plant a continuous deep rooted Minnesota native vegetation buffer within the proposed ice heave area that is to be graded and behind the proposed riprap project(s).
3. Plant deep rooted Minnesota native vegetation along the proposed access grading area to help filter runoff and erosion from the road.

4. The proposed walking path should not exceed 4 feet in width. The remaining grading that is needed for the proposed project should only occur to create a gradual slope in order to access the dock.

The findings are on file at the Planning & Zoning Office.

On motion by O’Keefe, seconded by King and approved via roll call vote 5 to 0, the Board granted a Conditional Use Permit to LAUREN SATROM, CLEVELAND, MN, (APPLICANT\OWNER) to allow grading, excavating, and filling of 330 cubic yards of material for the construction of 3 retaining walls and to accommodate a walkout basement in a Shoreland Recreational Residential “RR” District, Lake Jefferson, Recreational Development lake. Property is located at Lots 31 & 32, Edgewater Terrace, Section 3, Cleveland Township.

The application is approved with the following conditions:

1. Implement a best management practice that will be able to withstand the amount of stormwater runoff that is a result from the proposed garage, foyer, and driveway. Examples of practices that can be implemented include but not limited to: berms, French drains, grassed waterways, rain gardens, and dry creek bed.

The findings are on file at the Planning & Zoning Office.

On motion by O’Keefe, seconded by Wetzel and approved unanimously via roll call vote 5 to 0, the Board granted a Conditional Use Permit to ZACK & RACHEL DIRKS, ST. PETER, MN (APPLICANT); BLAKE & JOELLEN DIRKS, ST. PETER, MN (OWNER) to allow Grading, Excavating, and Filling of approximately 1,016 cubic yards and the construction of a retaining wall to accommodate a Walkout Single Family Dwelling. Property is located in the NE 1/4 of the SW 1/4, Section 2, Kasota Township. The application is approved as written.

The findings are on file at the Planning & Zoning Office.

On motion by O’Keefe, seconded by King and approved via roll call vote 5 to 0, the Board granted a Conditional Use Permit (MN Court of Appeals Case # A19-1148) to USS WATER TOWN SOLAR LLC (APPLICANT); ROBERT CULHANE JR, Waterville, MN (OWNER) to construct a 1 MW Solar Garden. Property is located in the West 1/2 of SW ¼, Section 34, Waterville Township. The application is approved with the following condition:

1. Invasive and noxious weeds shall be controlled on the entire parcel.

A bond in the amount of \$25,000 is required.

On motion by O’Keefe, seconded by King and approved via roll call vote 5 to 0, the Board granted a Conditional Use Permit (MN Court of Appeals Case # A19-1149) to USS WATER CITY SOLAR LLC (APPLICANT); ROBERT CULHANE JR, Waterville, MN (OWNER) to construct a 1 MW Solar Garden. Property is located in the W1/2 SW ¼, Section 27, Waterville Township.

The application is approved with the following condition:

1. Invasive and noxious weeds shall be controlled on the entire parcel.

A bond in the amount of \$25,000 is required

Justin Lutterman, GIS Manager, appeared before the Board with one item for approval.

On motion by Wetzel, seconded by O’Keefe and approved via roll call vote 5 to 0, the Board approved the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, a GIS grant in the amount of \$46,469.00 has been allocated to Le Sueur County from the State of Minnesota, ECN Division, for the period November 25th, 2019 to March 31st, 2022.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Le Sueur County Board agrees to accept the GIS grant, to be used according to the terms and conditions outlined therein.

Cindy Westerhouse, Human Resources Director came before the Board with several items for approval.

On motion by Gliszinski, seconded by King and approved via roll call vote 5 to 0, the Board approved the recommendation to promote Bruce Collins, Investigative Sergeant, Grade 12, Step 11 at \$40.60 per hour to Captain, Grade 13, Step 11 at \$43.02 per hour, in the Sheriff’s Office, effective October 26, 2020.

On motion by King, seconded by Wetzel and approved via roll call vote 5 to 0, the Board approved the recommendation to post for an Investigative Sergeant, Grade 12, Step 4 at \$30.34 per hour in the Sheriff’s Office.

On motion by Gliszinski, seconded by O’Keefe and approved via roll call vote 5 to 0, the Board approved the recommendation to hire Diane Hazlett, full time Administrative Assistant II in Probation, Grade 4, Step 4 at \$19.03 per hour, effective September 28, 2020.

On motion by O’Keefe, seconded by Wetzel and approved via roll call vote 5 to 0, the Board approved the recommendation to hire Minerva Gomez, full time Community Service Aide – Interpreter in Human Services, Grade 4, Step 4 at \$19.03 per hour, effective October 5, 2020.

Pam Simonette, Auditor - Treasurer, appeared before the Board with one item for approval.

On motion by King, seconded by O’Keefe and approved via roll call vote 5 to 0, the Board approved the Application to Repurchase from Justin Lutterman for parcel # 21.465.0060, 205 Cedar Trail, City of Le Sueur, in the amount of \$16,669.23.

Cindy Shaughnessy, Public Health Director appeared before the Board to discuss Le Sueur County’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Darrell Pettis, County Administrator appeared before the Board with the 2021 proposed budget and levy.

The County Administrator announced that the subsequent meeting for the adoption of the final 2021 budget and levy will be held in the Commissioner’s Room of the Le Sueur County Courthouse on Tuesday, December 15th at 6:00 p.m. Public testimony on the levy and/or the budget will be allowed as part of this hearing.

On motion by Wetzel, seconded by Gliszinski and approved via roll call vote 5 to 0, the Board adopted the 2021 Preliminary Levy of \$23,597,187 a 4.5% levy increase.

2021 PROPOSED LEVY

FUND	TAXES	PROGRAM AID	TOTAL
Revenue	12,509,082	645,198	11,863,884
Road & Bridge	2,913,078	645,199	2,267,879
SS & PA	2,584,570		2,584,570
PA & GA	1,007,003		1,007,003
Fair	50,000		50,000
Building	254,500		254,500
Extension Services	220,965		220,965
Park	281,433		281,433
Bonded Indebtedness	4,552,162		4,552,162
Victim Witness	38,302		38,302
Env Services – P & Z	367,951		367,951
Env Services – ISTS	73,607		73,607
Env Services – Water Plan	34,931		34,931
TOTAL	24,887,584	1,290,397	23,597,187

2021 PROPOSED LEVY	\$23,597,187
2020 FINAL LEVY	\$22,581,040
INCREASE IN LEVY	\$1,016,147
INCREASE OF	4.5 %

Barbara Droher Kline, appeared before the Board with numerous items for approval.

On motion by Wetzel, seconded by O’Keefe and approved via roll call vote 5 to 0, the Board approved a \$224,230.23 funding commitment to support a Border to Border grant application to be submitted by Metro Net for a 2021 broadband expansion project.

On motion by King, seconded by O’Keefe and approved via roll call vote 5 to 0, the Board approved and authorized the Chair to sign the Letter Agreement for Construction of Fiber Optic Routes – Lake Volney to County Line & Cordova Area between Le Sueur County and Metro Net in the amount of \$150,000 using Cares Act Funding.

On motion by Gliszinski, seconded by O’Keefe and approved via roll call vote 5 to 0, the Board approved and authorized the Chair to sign the Letter Agreement for Construction of Fiber Optic Routes – 211th Ave. & 201st Ave.; Hwy 13 & Southridge Ln; and Herbert St & 510th St. between Le Sueur County and Metro Net in the amount of \$150,000 using Cares Act Funding.

On motion by O’Keefe, seconded by Wetzel and approved via roll call vote 5 to 0, the Board approved and authorized the Chair to sign the Letter Agreement for Construction of Fiber Optic Routes – 281st Ave & Le Sueur Creek Road between Le Sueur County and Metro Net in the amount of \$85,000 using Cares Act Funding.

On motion by O’Keefe, seconded by Wetzel and approved via roll call vote 5 to 0, the Board approved and authorized the Chair to sign the Letter Agreement for Construction of Fiber Optic Routes – Kasota to Ottawa between Le Sueur County and Metro Net in the amount of \$150,000 using Cares Act Funding.

On motion by Wetzel, seconded by Gliszinski and approved via roll call vote 5 to 0, the Board approved and authorized the Chair to sign the Tower USA and Internet Agreement between Le Sueur County and Access Networks, Inc for the Le Center Tower Site.

On motion by O’Keefe, seconded by Wetzel and approved via roll call vote 5 to 0, the Board approved and authorized the Chair to sign the Tower Space Lease Agreement between Le Sueur County and Access Networks, Inc for the Le Center Tower Site.

On motion by O’Keefe, seconded by King and approved via roll call vote 5 to 0, the Board approved and authorized the Chair to sign the Addendum to Contract Services between Le Sueur County and NextStage for Le Sueur County Business Assistance Program for the City of Cleveland.

On motion by O’Keefe, seconded by Wetzel and approved via roll call vote 5 to 0, the Board approved and authorized the Chair to sign the Addendum to Contract Services between Le Sueur County and NextStage for Le Sueur County Business Assistance Program for the City of Kasota.

Darrell Pettis, County Administrator appeared before the Board with one item for approval.

On motion by O’Keefe, seconded by Gliszinski and approved via roll call vote 5 to 0, the Board approved and authorized the Chair to sign the North Risk Partners Service Agreement.

Commissioner Committee Reports:

- Commissioner Gliszinski reported on South Central Workforce.
- Commissioner King reported on ditch hearings.
- Commissioner Wetzel reported on ditch hearings.
- Commissioner O’Keefe reported on Fair Board, ditch hearings, P&Z.
- Commissioner Rohlfiing reported on Club House, AMC E&N Policy, MVAC.

On motion by O’Keefe, seconded by Wetzel and unanimously approved, the Board adjourned until Tuesday, October 6, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

ATTEST: _____
Le Sueur County Administrator

Le Sueur County Chairman