

REGULAR SESSION OF THE MOWER COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

May 25, 2021

The Mower County Board of Commissioners in and for the County of Mower, Minnesota, met in Regular Session May 25, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. at the Government Center in Austin, Minnesota.

All members present, viz: Polly Glynn, Chair  
Jerry Reinartz  
Mike Ankeny  
Jeff Baldus  
John Mueller  
Trish Harren, County Administrator

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion made by Commissioner Reinartz, seconded by Commissioner Ankeny, to approve the agenda removing the requested action to approve Chateau Speedway fireworks display permit. Motion carried.

County Assessor Joy Kanne provided the Board with a department update. Information included the status of Local Boards and Open Book in response to the valuation notices. There are fewer calls this year as property owners are aware of property sales at increased rates and an increase in market values. Ag land sales have also increased. The department will eventually switch from valuing via CER (Crop Equivalency Rating) to CPI (Crop Productivity Index) and is working on how best to do the conversion. The quintile area was reviewed and Ms. Kanne highlighted how the department is communicating with the property owners and how it is using GIS (Geological Information Systems) to track progress and to complete its reports to the State.

Motion made by Commissioner Reinartz, seconded by Commissioner Ankeny, to approve the minutes of May 4, 2021 Ditch, May 4, 2021 Work Session and May 11, 2021. Motion carried.

Julie Holgate, Social Services Supervisor, was recognized for retirement with 24 years of public sector service.

Health & Human Services Director Crystal Peterson provided the board with Covid update on cases and vaccines. Mower County has experienced 4692 cumulative cases, 32 deaths, with approximately 35 active cases. Numbers are decreasing in cases statewide. In Mower County 61% of the population age 16 and older has received at least one dose of vaccine. Public health has administered 9005 vaccines. The department continues to work with community leaders and Mayo to find ways to reach out to various populations for vaccinations.

Mike Hanson, Public Works Director, presented bid information received for the following projects: 4 – 5 bidders for each project / some over / some under estimate

Township Bridges:	SAP 050-599-170: New Bridge 50K84 in Red Rock Township SAP 050-599-172: New Bridge 50K81 in Bennington Township SAP 050-599-173: New Bridge 50K82 in Nevada Township
County Road Bridges:	SAP 050-604-027: New Bridge 50K86: CSAH 4 Marshall Township SAP 050-604-028: New Bridge 50K87: CSAH 4 Marshall Township

Motion made by Commissioner Baldus, seconded by Commissioner Mueller, to award the bid to the low bidder Fitzgerald Excavating (\$175,502) for project SAP 050-599-170 and have the project commence. Motion carried. Full bid abstract on file in the office of the County Auditor-Treasurer and Public Works Director.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Baldus, to award the bid to the low bidder Midwest Contracting, LLC (\$119,740) for project SAP 050-599-172 and have the project commence. Motion carried. Full bid abstract on file in the office of the County Auditor-Treasurer and Public Works Director.

Motion made by Commissioner Reinartz, seconded by Commissioner Mueller, to award the bid to the low bidder Fitzgerald Excavating (\$165,623) for project SAP 050-599-173 and have the project commence. Motion carried. Full bid abstract on file in the office of the County Auditor-Treasurer and Public Works Director.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, to award the bid to the low bidder Fitzgerald Excavating (\$298,665.70) for project SAP 050-604-027 and have the project commence. Motion carried. Full bid abstract on file in the office of the County Auditor-Treasurer and Public Works Director.

Motion made by Commissioner Baldus, seconded by Commissioner Ankeny, to award the bid to the low bidder Fitzgerald Excavating (\$304,336.50) for project SAP 050-604-028 and have the project commence. Motion carried. Full bid abstract on file in the office of the County Auditor-Treasurer and Public Works Director.

The Board recessed at 10:01 a.m. for the purpose of a public hearing.

The Chair called the Public Hearing to order at 10:01 a.m. in regard to a Housing Tax Abatement request of New Horizon Homes, applicant, to construct a single-family home, Lot 2, Block 3 Nature Ridge, Austin, MN, Minnesota (PIN 34.465.0203).

County Administrator Trish Harren reviewed the application and recommended approval.

The applicant was not present but left a message with a Commissioner indicating continued appreciation of the housing tax abatement program. No one spoke for or against the New Horizon housing tax abatement application on parcel 34.465.0203.

The Chair closed the Public Hearing at 10:05 a.m. in regard to a Housing Tax Abatement request of New Horizon Homes for parcel 34.465.0203.

The Chair called the Public Hearing to order at 10:05 a.m. in regard to a Housing Tax Abatement request of New Horizon Homes, applicant, to construct a single-family home, Lot 1, Block 1 Nature Ridge 2<sup>nd</sup>, Austin, MN, Minnesota (PIN 34.467.0010).

County Administrator Trish Harren reviewed the application and recommended approval.

The applicant was not present. No one spoke for or against the New Horizon Homes housing tax abatement application for parcel 34.467.0010.

The Chair closed the Public Hearing at 10:06 a.m. in regard to a Housing Tax Abatement request of New Horizon Homes parcel (PIN 34.467.0010).

The Chair called the Public Hearing to order at 10:06 a.m. in regard to a Housing Tax Abatement request of New Horizon Homes, applicant, to construct a single-family home, Lot 2, Block 1 Nature Ridge 2<sup>nd</sup>, Austin, MN, Minnesota (PIN 34.467.0020).

County Administrator Trish Harren reviewed the application and recommended approval.

The applicant was not present. No one spoke for or against the New Horizon Homes housing tax abatement application for parcel 34.467.0020.

The Chair closed the Public Hearing at 10:07 a.m. in regard to a Housing Tax Abatement request of New Horizon Homes parcel 34.467.0020.

The Chair called the Public Hearing to order at 10:08 a.m. in regard to a Housing Tax Abatement request of Bigelow & Lennon, applicant, to construct a single-family home Lot 1, Block 2, Nature Ridge 2<sup>nd</sup>, Austin, MN (PIN 34.467.0060).

County Administrator Trish Harren reviewed the application and recommended approval.

Jim Martin for the applicant Bigelow & Lennon Construction was present and spoke on his own behalf. No one else spoke for or against the Bigelow & Lennon Construction housing tax abatement application for parcel 34.467.0060.

The Chair closed the Public Hearing at 10:10 a.m. in regard to a Housing Tax Abatement request of Bigelow & Lennon parcel 34.467.0060.

The County Board reconvened its regular session at 10:13 a.m.

**Date: May 25, 2021**

**Res. #34-21**

**RESOLUTION APPROVING TAX ABATEMENT  
FOR CERTAIN PROPERTY PURSUANT TO MINN. STAT. 469.1813**

On motion of Commissioner Baldus, seconded by Commissioner Ankeny, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held May 25, 2021 at the Government Center, Austin, Minnesota.

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute 469.1813 gives authority to the County of Mower to grant an abatement of property taxes imposed by the County if certain criteria are met; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the statutory requirements, Mower County has adopted the Tax Abatement Policy for new construction of Single and Multi-family homes which includes criteria which must be met before an abatement of taxes will be granted; and

WHEREAS, Nature Ridge Properties of Austin, Co. (Seller) is the owner of certain property within Mower County, legally described as follows:

Lot 2, Block 3, Nature Ridge, Austin, MN (PIN 34.465.0203)

WHEREAS, New Horizon Homes LLC (Buyer) has made application to Mower County for the abatement of taxes as to the above-described parcel; and

WHEREAS, Notice having been duly given, a public hearing was held on May 25, 2021 before the Mower County Board of Commissioners, on said application.

WHEREAS, Nature Ridge Properties of Austin, Co. (Seller) and New Horizon Homes LLC (Buyer) have met the statutory requirements outlined under Minnesota Statute 469.1813 Subdivision 1(1) and Subdivision 2(i) as well as Mower County's criteria for tax abatement;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF MOWER COUNTY, MINNESOTA:**

1. Mower County does, hereby grant an abatement of Mower County's share of real estate taxes upon the above-described parcel for the construction of the single-family home.
2. The tax abatement will be for no more than five years commencing, in the tax year the property realizes a value increase over original value due to construction of the housing project. Partially constructed housing may result in an abatement in the first abatement year that may be significantly less than the following years. This will still be considered one of the five years of eligible abatement. In the event construction has not commenced within one year of approval, the abatement is eliminated and the property owner will need to reapply in accordance with this policy.
3. The County shall provide the awarded abatement payment following payment of due real estate taxes annually. One single payment shall be made to the owner of record at the time of the payment, by December 30<sup>th</sup> of that calendar year.

4. The real estate taxes to be abated shall be for up to the full amount of the real estate taxes collected due to the added tax base of the newly constructed housing/home annually. The current value of the property is not eligible for the abatement, will not be abated as part of this program and is further defined as the "original value." Any eligible abatement years are calculated on the tax increase due to a value increase over the original value.

Passed and approved this 25<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2021.

**Date: May 25, 2021**

**Res. #35-21**

**RESOLUTION APPROVING TAX ABATEMENT  
FOR CERTAIN PROPERTY PURSUANT TO MINN. STAT. 469.1813**

On motion of Commissioner Reinartz, seconded by Commissioner Mueller, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held May 25, 2021 at the Government Center, Austin, Minnesota.

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute 469.1813 gives authority to the County of Mower to grant an abatement of property taxes imposed by the County if certain criteria are met; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the statutory requirements, Mower County has adopted the Tax Abatement Policy for new construction of Single and Multi-family homes which includes criteria which must be met before an abatement of taxes will be granted; and

WHEREAS, Nature Ridge Properties of Austin, Co. (Seller) is the owner of certain property within Mower County, legally described as follows:

Lot 1, Block 1 Nature Ridge 2<sup>nd</sup>, Austin, MN (PIN 34.467.0010)

WHEREAS, New Horizon Homes LLC (Buyer) has made application to Mower County for the abatement of taxes as to the above-described parcel; and

WHEREAS, Notice having been duly given, a public hearing was held on May 25, 2021 before the Mower County Board of Commissioners, on said application.

WHEREAS, Nature Ridge Properties of Austin, Co. (Seller) and New Horizon Homes LLC (Buyer) have met the statutory requirements outlined under Minnesota Statute 469.1813 Subdivision 1(1) and Subdivision 2(i) as well as Mower County's criteria for tax abatement;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF MOWER COUNTY, MINNESOTA:**

1. Mower County does, hereby grant an abatement of Mower County's share of real estate taxes upon the above-described parcel for the construction of the single-family home.
2. The tax abatement will be for no more than five years commencing, in the tax year the property realizes a value increase over original value due to construction of the

housing project. Partially constructed housing may result in an abatement in the first abatement year that may be significantly less than the following years. This will still be considered one of the five years of eligible abatement. In the event construction has not commenced within one year of approval, the abatement is eliminated and the property owner will need to reapply in accordance with this policy.

3. The County shall provide the awarded abatement payment following payment of due real estate taxes annually. One single payment shall be made to the owner of record at the time of the payment, by December 30<sup>th</sup> of that calendar year.
4. The real estate taxes to be abated shall be for up to the full amount of the real estate taxes collected due to the added tax base of the newly constructed housing/home annually. The current value of the property is not eligible for the abatement, will not be abated as part of this program and is further defined as the "original value." Any eligible abatement years are calculated on the tax increase due to a value increase over the original value.

Passed and approved this 25<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2021.

**Date: May 25, 2021**

**Res. #36-21**

**RESOLUTION APPROVING TAX ABATEMENT  
FOR CERTAIN PROPERTY PURSUANT TO MINN. STAT. 469.1813**

On motion of Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held May 25, 2021 at the Government Center, Austin, Minnesota.

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute 469.1813 gives authority to the County of Mower to grant an abatement of property taxes imposed by the County if certain criteria are met; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the statutory requirements, Mower County has adopted the Tax Abatement Policy for new construction of Single and Multi-family homes which includes criteria which must be met before an abatement of taxes will be granted; and

WHEREAS, Nature Ridge Properties of Austin, Co. (Seller) is the owner of certain property within Mower County, legally described as follows:

Lot 2, Block 1, Nature Ridge 2<sup>nd</sup>, Austin, MN (PIN 34.467.0020)

WHEREAS, New Horizon Homes LLC (Buyer) has made application to Mower County for the abatement of taxes as to the above-described parcel; and

WHEREAS, Notice having been duly given, a public hearing was held on May 25, 2021 before the Mower County Board of Commissioners, on said application.

WHEREAS, Nature Ridge Properties of Austin, Co. (Seller) and New Horizon Homes LLC (Buyer) have met the statutory requirements outlined under Minnesota Statute 469.1813 Subdivision 1(1) and Subdivision 2(i) as well as Mower County's criteria for tax abatement;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF MOWER COUNTY, MINNESOTA:

1. Mower County does, hereby grant an abatement of Mower County's share of real estate taxes upon the above-described parcel for the construction of the single-family home.
2. The tax abatement will be for no more than five years commencing, in the tax year the property realizes a value increase over original value due to construction of the housing project. Partially constructed housing may result in an abatement in the first abatement year that may be significantly less than the following years. This will still be considered one of the five years of eligible abatement. In the event construction has not commenced within one year of approval, the abatement is eliminated and the property owner will need to reapply in accordance with this policy.
3. The County shall provide the awarded abatement payment following payment of due real estate taxes annually. One single payment shall be made to the owner of record at the time of the payment, by December 30<sup>th</sup> of that calendar year.
4. The real estate taxes to be abated shall be for up to the full amount of the real estate taxes collected due to the added tax base of the newly constructed housing/home annually. The current value of the property is not eligible for the abatement, will not be abated as part of this program and is further defined as the "original value." Any eligible abatement years are calculated on the tax increase due to a value increase over the original value.

Passed and approved this 25<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2021.

**Date: May 25, 2021**

**Res. #37-21**

**RESOLUTION APPROVING TAX ABATEMENT  
FOR CERTAIN PROPERTY PURSUANT TO MINN. STAT. 469.1813**

On motion of Commissioner Mueller, seconded by Commissioner Baldus, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held May 25, 2021 at the Government Center, Austin, Minnesota.

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute 469.1813 gives authority to the County of Mower to grant an abatement of property taxes imposed by the County if certain criteria are met; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the statutory requirements, Mower County has adopted the Tax Abatement Policy for new construction of Single and Multi-family homes which includes criteria which must be met before an abatement of taxes will be granted; and

WHEREAS, Nature Ridge Properties of Austin, Co. (Seller) is the owner of certain property within Mower County, legally described as follows:

Lot 1, Block 2, Nature Ridge 2<sup>nd</sup>, Austin, MN (PIN 34.467.0060)

WHEREAS, Bigelow & Lennon Construction (Buyer) has made application to Mower County for the abatement of taxes as to the above-described parcel; and

WHEREAS, Notice having been duly given, a public hearing was held on May 25, 2021 before the Mower County Board of Commissioners, on said application.

WHEREAS, Nature Ridge Properties of Austin, Co. (Seller) and Bigelow & Lennon Construction (Buyer) have met the statutory requirements outlined under Minnesota Statute 469.1813 Subdivision 1(1) and Subdivision 2(i) as well as Mower County's criteria for tax abatement;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF MOWER COUNTY, MINNESOTA:

1. Mower County does, hereby grant an abatement of Mower County's share of real estate taxes upon the above-described parcel for the construction of the single-family home.
2. The tax abatement will be for no more than five years commencing, in the tax year the property realizes a value increase over original value due to construction of the housing project. Partially constructed housing may result in an abatement in the first abatement year that may be significantly less than the following years. This will still be considered one of the five years of eligible abatement. In the event construction has not commenced within one year of approval, the abatement is eliminated and the property owner will need to reapply in accordance with this policy.
3. The County shall provide the awarded abatement payment following payment of due real estate taxes annually. One single payment shall be made to the owner of record at the time of the payment, by December 30<sup>th</sup> of that calendar year.
4. The real estate taxes to be abated shall be for up to the full amount of the real estate taxes collected due to the added tax base of the newly constructed housing/home annually. The current value of the property is not eligible for the abatement, will not be abated as part of this program and is further defined as the "original value." Any eligible abatement years are calculated on the tax increase due to a value increase over the original value.

Passed and approved this 25<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2021.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, to approve the Health & Human Services accounts payable totaling \$230,830.04. Motion carried.

Northland Security financial advisor George Eilertson appeared before the Board remotely to provide background information in regards to the Finance Committees recommendation to pay off the last of the debt on the Justice Center. The interest rate being paid on the bond is higher than interest revenue rates on investments. By paying off this bond early the county will save approximately \$420,749 in interest payments.



Date: May 25, 2021

Res. #38-21

**RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE REDEMPTION OF  
THE OUTSTANDING  
GENERAL OBLIGATION CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN BONDS, SERIES  
2012A**

On motion of Commissioner Baldus, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held May 25, 2021 at the Government Center, Austin, Minnesota.

**WHEREAS:**

A. The Board of Commissioners of Mower County, Minnesota issued \$9,955,000 General Obligation Capital Improvement Plan Bonds, Series 2012A, dated June 1, 2012; and

B. All of said bonds maturing on February 1, 2020 through 2028, inclusive, are subject to redemption, in whole or in part, and prepayment at the option of the County on February 1, 2019, and on any date thereafter at par plus accrued interest, all as provided in the resolution of the County authorizing the issuance of said bonds; and

C. The County deems it desirable and in the best interest of the County to call \$4,670,000 of the outstanding bonds maturing in the years 2022 through 2028, inclusive, for redemption on June 29, 2021, in accordance with said resolution authorizing the issuance of said bonds, and

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Commissioners of Mower County, Minnesota as follows:

1. \$4,670,000 of the General Obligation Capital Improvement Plan Bonds, Series 2012A, dated June 1, 2012, of Mower County, Minnesota, maturing in the years 2022 through 2028, inclusive, shall be redeemed and prepaid on June 29, 2021, at 100% of their principal amount plus accrued interest for each such bond called.

2. The County Administrator is hereby authorized and directed to give mailed notice of call to the bank where said bonds are payable and said bank shall provide such notice to the holders of the bonds as may be required by law. Said notice shall be in substantially the form entitled "NOTICE OF CALL FOR REDEMPTION;" copy on file in the office of the Finance Manager.

3. The County Finance Manager is hereby authorized and directed to deposit with the bank where said bonds are payable prior to said call date sufficient funds to pay all principal and interest due on the bonds as of the call date.

Passed and approved unanimously this 25<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2021.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Mueller, to approve the following Commissioner warrants for payment:

<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
180 Degrees, Inc.	6,343.82	Minnesota Ag Group Inc	2,647.92
Baudoin Oil Company	20,878.40	MJ O'Connor Inc	4,626.70
Bustad Dozing & Excavating Inc	8,377.00	Motorola Solutions Inc	30,489.65
Cedar Valley Services, Inc	68,662.02	Nexus-Mille Lacs Family Healing	6,061.20
Damel Corporation Morem Tree Service	4,760.00	Office Of Mn It Services	5,630.86
Dell Marketing L P	3,523.34	Petersen Professional Services LLC	3,000.00
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES	5,763.00	Skipped Parts LLC	2,100.00
Erickson Engineering Co., LLC	6,974.00	Thomson Reuters-West Payment Center	2,960.76
Hancock Concrete Products, Llc	6,078.36	Ulland Brothers Inc.	9,254.86
Holiday Inn Austin	6,352.52	Village Ranch Inc	11,739.60
Language Line Services	2,406.13	65 Payments less than 2000	29,909.24
Mayo Clinic	8,490.20	<b>Final Total:</b>	<b>257,029.58</b>

Motion carried.

Jail Administrator James Brown recommended to the Board for approval two revised agreements related to inmate texting (Reliance Systems) and phone services (Reliance Telephone) and a quote from Lexipol for a jail policy and procedure manual service for continuous updates with legislative changes.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, to approve the revised Reliance Telephone – Phone/iPod/iPad Voice Call Location Agreement effective May 25, 2021. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Baldus, to approve the revised Reliance Systems – Inmate Text Message and Video Call Location Agreement effective May 25, 2021. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Mueller, to accept the proposal of Lexipol for jail policy and procedures manual (\$35,383.50). Motion carried.

Commissioner Reinartz on behalf of the Personnel Committee recommended a new policy that incorporates the position the Board took on May 4, 2021 when it adopted the statement of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion.

Motion made by Commissioner Reinartz, seconded by Commissioner Ankeny, to adopt Personnel Policy C126 Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging effective May 25, 2021. The new policy is as follows:

SECTION C126  
DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION & BELONGING

**Policy Statement:**

Mower County is committed to fostering, cultivating and preserving a culture of diversity, equity and inclusion. We believe this is only possible in an environment built on respect and dignity and where there is a core set of principles and values to support and uphold.

**Definitions:**

**Diversity** is about recognizing and valuing difference. Differences can be in race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, age, physical abilities, religious beliefs, political beliefs or other ideologies. It's acknowledging the benefit of having a range of perspectives in decision-making and the workforce being representative of the organization's community.

**Equity** seeks to ensure fair treatment, equality of opportunity, and fairness in access to information and resources. The goal being to create conditions that provide the opportunity for everyone to reach their fullest potential.

**Inclusion** builds a culture of belonging by actively inviting the contribution and participation of all people.

**Belonging** is when employees are not only included, they are also encouraged to participate, share ideas and ask questions. Belonging is a measure of inclusion being successful. It is the achievement of a work environment in which all individuals are treated fairly and respectfully, have equal access to opportunities and resources, and can contribute fully to the county's success.

Our employees are the most valuable asset we have. The collective sum of the individual differences, life experiences, knowledge, innovation, self-expression, unique capabilities and talent that our employees bring to their work represents a significant part of not only our culture, but our ability to serve the diverse people in our community.

We embrace and encourage our employees' differences in age, color, disability, ethnicity, family or marital status, gender identity or expression, language, national origin, physical and mental ability, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, veteran status, and other characteristics that make our employees unique.

Mower County's diversity initiatives are applicable—but not limited—to our practices and policies on recruitment and selection; compensation and benefits; professional development and training; promotions; transfers; layoffs; terminations; and the ongoing development of a work environment built on the foundation of gender and diversity equity that encourages and enforces:

- Respectful communication and cooperation between all employees.
- Teamwork and employee participation, permitting the representation of all groups and employee perspectives.
- Employer and employee contributions to the communities we serve to promote a greater understanding and respect for the diversity.

All employees of Mower County have a responsibility to treat others with dignity and respect. All employees are expected to exhibit conduct that reflects inclusion during work, at work functions on or off the work site. All employees are also required to attend and complete annual diversity awareness training to enhance their knowledge to fulfill this responsibility.

This policy partners with the Offensive Conduct, Sexual Harassment and Violence Policy as well as the Respectful Workplace Policy to define the conduct expected of employees, and elected officials. Repeated or severe violations of these policies will be addressed and can lead to disciplinary actions, up to and including termination.

Reporting Procedures:

Employees who believe they have been subjected to any kind of discrimination that conflicts with the company's diversity policy and initiatives should seek assistance from a supervisor or Human Resources.

Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Reinartz, seconded by Commissioner Baldus, to approve the renewal application of Four Daughters Vineyard and Winery for a liquor license (full liquor, on-sale and Sunday) effective July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Mueller, seconded by Commissioner Baldus, to approve the application of Prime Stein, LLC d/b/a Lansing Corners for a liquor license (full

liquor, on-sale and Sunday) effective July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 subject to proof of insurance. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Baldus, seconded by Commissioner Ankeny, to approve the Transient Merchant application of TNT Fireworks for the sale of fireworks at Wal-Mart in Austin, MN effective June 20, 2021 through July 5, 2021. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Baldus, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, to approve the monthly investment report for the month ending January 2021. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Mueller, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, to amend the start time of the County Board of Review & Equalization on June 15, 2021 from 6:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Motion carried.

It was noted under Building Committee that there have been conversations with the Ag Society regarding the Purple Ribbon Plaza due to how it is handled for depreciation purposes. Buildings are owned and insured by the County and the Ag Society accountant mistakenly depreciated the building on the Ag Society books as if the Ag Society owned the building.

Commissioner Ankeny noted he would be attending the SEMREX meeting in person as the chair even though most other attendees will continue to attend remotely.

Commissioner Baldus noted that he has been informed that remote attendance to the Minnesota Rural Counties will no longer be an option effective July 1 in accordance with Association of Minnesota Counties direction. There was a discussion on the mixed messages being received regarding the acceptability of continuing remote attendance at meetings. The Commissioners would like to continue remote attendance at many committee assigned meetings and even Board meetings, if necessary.

The respective Commissioners reported briefly on other committees meetings which included the Joint City/County meeting, Mn Rural Energy Board, Extension Committee, and SWCD. There is a request to have the LEC Advisory Committee to meet.

Motion made by Commissioner Baldus, seconded by Commissioner Ankeny, to adjourn the meeting at 11:43 a.m. Motion carried. The next meeting is scheduled for June 1, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.

**THE MOWER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**BY:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Chairperson**

**Attest:**

**By:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Clerk/Administrator**

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