

REGULAR SESSION OF THE MOWER COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

August 25, 2020

The Mower County Board of Commissioners in and for the County of Mower, Minnesota, met in Regular Session August 25, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. at the Government Center in Austin, Minnesota.

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

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion made by Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Ankeny, to approve the agenda with the addition to approve the purchase of a 2020 Ford Edge as a replacement pool vehicle. Motion carried.

County Auditor-Treasurer Scott Felten provided the Board with a department update that included voting statistics from the primary election, absentee balloting requests, mail balloting and information concerning the preparation for the general election. There is a higher request for absentee ballots due to COVID-19. COVID-19 has also impacted the activities of the complete count committee regarding the 2020 census and information indicates that the count activities will cease at the end of September. First half of tax payments came in at the same percentage as 2019.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Gabrielson, to approve the minutes of August 4, August 4 Work Session, August 11 and August 18, 2020. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Gabrielson, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, to approve the following Commissioner warrants for payment:

<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
3D Specialties Inc	3,678.72	Harty Mechanical Inc	3,514.13
Anoka County Corrections	3,960.00	Henry G Meigs, LLC	139,050.09
ArcaSearch Corporation	10,979.50	Mayo Clinic	5,066.50
AUSTIN AUTOMOTIVE LLC	2,197.76	Midwest Monitoring & Surveillance	5,517.62
AUSTIN AUTOMOTIVE LLC	29,717.93	MN Supply Company	2,861.85
Baudoin Oil Company	11,893.72	Motorola Solutions Inc	5,030.15
Bauer Built Tire	11,727.00	Mower County Agric Society	3,346.73
Brock White Co Llc	2,600.18	Mower County Soil & Water Cons	49,310.13
Bruening Rock Products Inc	3,528.90	Pictometry International Corp	8,337.05
Cedar Valley Services, Inc	53,467.66	Regents Of The University Of Minnesota	2,578.45
Commissioner Of Transportation	8,508.68	Skyline Construction, Inc.	232,791.66
Consolidated Correctional Foodservice	14,754.22	Uhl Company Inc	5,165.00
Department Of Corrections	2,795.00	Ulland Brothers Inc.	5,103.80
Development Corp Of Austin	5,000.00	US Imaging, Inc.	34,118.80
DLT Solutions LLC	14,382.45	Village Ranch Inc	30,976.55

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Freeborn County Co-Operative Oil Co.	17,879.37	Ziegler, Inc	3,422.11
General Parts, LLC	2,098.98	70 Payments less than 2000	29,187.05
Hancock Concrete Products, Llc	16,565.51	<b>Final Total:</b>	<b>781,113.25</b>

Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Glynn, to approve the US Imaging proposal to scan books on-site for the Recorder's office (\$40,233) and authorize the Recorder to sign the proposal. Motion carried.

**Date: August 25, 2020**

**Res. #76-20**

**RESOLUTION**

On motion of Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held August 25, 2020 at the Government Center, Austin, Minnesota.

**WHEREAS**, on August 25, 2020 the Root River Antique Historical Power Assn., Inc. presented a request for a Minnesota Lawful Gambling License for gambling to be conducted at the Root River Antique Historical Power Assn., Inc. on July 18, 2021.

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, the Mower County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve the issuance of a Minnesota Lawful Gambling License to Root River Antique Historical Power Assn., Inc. for gambling at Root River Antique Historical Power Assn., Inc. on July 18, 2021.

Passed and adopted this 25<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2020.

Motion made by Commissioner Gabrielson, seconded by Commissioner Glynn, to approve the Radio Interoperability Agreements (perpetual until terminated): one with the State of Iowa & one with Worth County. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Gabrielson, seconded by Commissioner Glynn, to appoint Commissioner Ankeny and Commissioner Reinartz to the Canvassing Board which is to convene on November 13, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. in the County Board Room. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, to appoint Jane Brogan to the Mower County Housing Authority to fill the remaining term of resigning Jeannette Curley effective September 1, 2020 (through 12/31/22). Motion carried.

Lisa Kocer, Health & Human Services Director, was recognized for retirement from Mower County with 32 years of service.

Barb Duenes, Case Aide I in Health & Human Services, was recognized for retirement from Mower County with 25 years of service.

There were family, friends and co-workers present to wish the retirees well on their new retirement adventures.

A Public Hearing was held in regard to a Housing Tax Abatement request of Cory & Patricia Grant, applicants, to construct a single-family home on 16.64 Acres, Section 5, Township 101 Range 015, 16.64AC BLDG SITE NW¼ NW¼ DOC #635252, Lodi Township, Mower County, MN (PIN 10.005.0030).

Trish Harren, County Administrator, reviewed the application and recommended approval.

The applicant Cory Grant was present virtually and spoke on his own behalf. No one else spoke for or against the Grant housing tax abatement application.

**Date: August 25, 2020**

**Res. #77-20**

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

On motion of Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Ankeny, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held August 25, 2020 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, Eron Maty and Chad Emanuel are the owner(s) (and sellers) of certain property within Mower County, legally described as follows:

16.64 Acres, Section 5, Township 101 Range 015, 16.64AC BLDG SITE NW¼ NW¼ DOC #635252, Lodi Township, Mower County, MN (PIN 10.005.0030)

WHEREAS, Cory and Patricia Grant (buyers) have 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 August 25, 2020 before the Mower County Board of Commissioners, on said application.

WHEREAS, Eron Maty and Chad Emanuel (sellers) and Cory and Patricia Grant (buyers) 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 August, 2020.

A Public Hearing was held in regard to a Housing Tax Abatement request of Tyler & Ashley Stadheim, applicants, to construct a single-family home, on Lot 11, Block 1, Seven Springs 3rd Addition, Lansing Township, Mower County, MN (PIN 08.511.0110).

Trish Harren, County Administrator, reviewed the application and recommended approval.

The applicant Tyler Stadheim was present virtually but was unable to be heard. No one spoke for or against the Stadheim housing tax abatement application.

**Date: August 25, 2020**

**Res. #78-20**

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

On motion of Commissioner Gabrielson, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held August 25, 2020 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, Tyler and Ashley Stadheim are the owner(s) of certain property within Mower County, legally described as follows:

Lot 11, Block 1, Seven Springs 3<sup>rd</sup> Addition, Lansing Township, Mower County, MN (PIN 08.511.0110)

WHEREAS, Tyler and Ashley Stadheim have 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 August 25, 2020 before the Mower County Board of Commissioners, on said application.

WHEREAS, Tyler and Ashley Stadheim 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 August, 2020. – Commissioner Jeff Baldus abstained.

**Date: August 25, 2020**

**Res. #79-20**

**RESOLUTION**

On motion of Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Ankeny, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held August 25, 2020 at the Government Center, Austin, Minnesota.

**BE IT RESOLVED** That effective August 25, 2020, the Mower County Board of Commissioners (Mower County Community Health Board) hereafter referred to as the "Board", by virtue of its authority under Minnesota Statute 145A and by this Resolution of the Board hereby appoints and authorizes Crystal Peterson, Health & Human Services Director of Mower County located at 201 1<sup>st</sup> Street NE, Austin, MN (crystalp@co.mower.mn.us), to act and bind the Mower County Community Health Board for the following purpose(s):

- a. To serve as the Community Health Services Administrator and the Board's agent according to Minnesota Statute 145A.04, Subd. 2, in communicating with the Commissioner of Health between Board meetings, including receiving information from the Commissioner and disseminating that information to the Board, as well as providing information to the Commissioner on the Board's behalf.
- b. To sign and submit to the Commissioner the required components of the Local Public Health Act including identification of local priorities, progress reports and budgets according to Minnesota Statute 145A.04, Subd. 1a.
- c. To submit grant applications, sign and execute contracts on behalf of the Board for funding opportunities administered by the Department of Health and other entities.
- d. To review, approve and submit invoices on behalf of the Board for activities for funding opportunities administered by the Minnesota Department of Health and other entities.

Passed and approved this 25<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2020.

Under Community Health Updates, Lisa Kocer provided an update that included that refugee admissions into the County had been down due to COVID but have recently increased. Mower County received two families of five and another five persons are expected. Ms. Kocer advised that the County has an opportunity to apply for a grant to provide influenza immunizations. The grant, if received, is for adults only and is geared to generate innovative ideas for immunizing communities. The County is not committed if an grant award is offered, but is working on a plan.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, to approve the Health & Human Services accounts payable totaling \$139,093.49. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Reinartz, seconded by Commissioner Gabrielson, to approve a late claim for payment totaling \$131.95 for Vendor #5000. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, to approve the 2020 Mower County Ag Inspector work plan and report. Motion carried.

**Date: August 25, 2020**

**Res. #80-20**

**RESOLUTION**

On motion of Commissioner Gabrielson, seconded by Commissioner Glynn, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held August 25, 2020 at the Government Center, Austin, Minnesota.

WHEREAS, project number SAP 50-609-010 completed by Rochester Sand & Gravel has in all things been completed and the County Board being fully advised in the premise.

NOW THEN BE IT RESOLVED that we do hereby accept said completed project for and on behalf of the County of Mower and authorize final payment as specified herein:

Contract Amount: \$ 267,921.03  
Final Amount: \$ 265,535.98 [99.11%]  
Final Payment: \$ 13,276.80

Passed and approved this 25<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2020.

**Date: August 25, 2020**

**Res. #81-20**

**RESOLUTION**

On motion of Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Ankeny, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held August 25, 2020 at the Government Center, Austin, Minnesota.

WHEREAS, project number SAP 50-620-014 completed by Dodge County has in all things been completed and the County Board being fully advised in the premise.

NOW THEN BE IT RESOLVED that we do hereby accept said completed project for and on behalf of the County of Mower and authorize final payment as specified herein:

Contract Amount: \$ 117,062.07  
Final Amount: \$ 138,994.43 [118.74%]  
Final Payment: \$ 138,994.43

Passed and approved this 25<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2020.

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Motion made by Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, to approve recommendation for local option disaster abatement as applied for by Michael Dortmund on parcel 24.001.0080 (The Port in Elkton) due to fire (\$245.70). Motion carried.

Commissioner Glynn reported on behalf of the Finance Committee that a request for a partial 5-year tax abatement for a tiling equipment company looking to lease to buy the old SEMA building in LeRoy. The Committee recommends setting a date for the required public hearing to consider RWF BRON's request.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Gabrielson, to set the public hearing to September 8, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. to consider the request of RWF BRON for a 5 year tax abatement (at 50% reduction) for PIN 26.005.0207 in LeRoy, MN (former SEMA facility). Motion carried.

Commissioner Glynn reviewed a spreadsheet of CARES Act Covid Relief expenditures that have been reviewed by the Committee and are recommended for Board approval.

Motion made by Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Gabrielson, to approve the following CARES Covid Relief funding expenditures and approve the corresponding Professional Services Agreement with CRW Architecture & Design Group for the remodel expenditure in Health & Human Services:

Department	Expenditure	Amount
Health & Human Services	Homeless Prevention Vouchers to be distributed by Mower County financial workers in compliance with program standards	\$ 45,000.00
Health & Human Services	Foster Care Family COVID Stipend \$500 each Foster families for additional costs related to prepare students for school and to manage infection prevention	\$ 29,000.00
Health & Human Services	Utility Relief Program - This program is designed for families who were current on their utility bill as of January 2020, but who have gone in arrears specifically due to impact by COVID (Austin Utilities)	\$ 37,500.00
Health & Human Services	Utility Relief Program - This program is designed for families who were current on their utility bill as of January 2020, but who have gone in arrears specifically due to COVID. This amount is a not to exceed. (Freeborn Mower Power)	\$ 33,500.00
Administration	Additional funds for the Chore Service Program for seniors to provide extra cleaning and disinfecting for COVID prevention.	\$ 5,000.00
Administration	Insurance for DCA to meet MCIT minimum contract requirements to administer the Covid Relief Grant Fund Program.	\$ 7,494.00
Public Works	GPS Tracking Units to electronically transfer data from heavy equipment to public works accounting system. Cost includes units and installation	\$ 10,350.00
Health & Human Services	Professional Design Services for HHS Telework remodel.	\$ 25,000.00
Public Works	Reimbursement for the purchase of three lap tops to allow for telework to comply with governor's orders	\$ 4,240.84
TOTAL APPROVED 8/25/2020		<u>\$203,699.74</u>

Motion carried.



Commissioner Glynn reported that the Finance Committee is recommending the replacement of the 2014 Ford Fusion pool vehicle this year instead of the planned replacement in 2021. Public Works Lead Mechanic has found a local replacement vehicle that can be purchased at a better value than the state bid and the County can take possession immediately. The trade in value is also significantly higher than was offered by the state bid dealership.

Motion made by Commissioner Reinartz, seconded by Commissioner Glynn, to approve the purchase of a 2020 Ford Edge as a replacement fleet vehicle with a trade-in of the 2014 Ford Fusion (\$29,717.93). Motion carried 4 – 1. Commissioner Ankeny voted ay.

Motion made by Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Ankeny, to adjourn the meeting at 11:13 a.m. Motion carried. The next meeting is scheduled for September 1, 2020 at 1:00 p.m.

**THE MOWER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

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

**Attest:**

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

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