

The Pipestone County Commissioners met with Chairman Dan Wildermuth, Commissioners Chris Hollingsworth, Luke Johnson, Doug Nagel, and Dallas Roskamp. County Administrator Steve Ewing was also present. Chairman Wildermuth called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**AGENDA**

Motion by Roskamp, seconded by Hollingsworth to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion by Johnson, seconded by Wildermuth to approve the consent agenda as follows:

1. Approve Commissioners Minutes: TNT Meeting 12/11/23, 12/12/2023
2. Approve Commissioners Warrants in the amount of \$92,719.12
3. Approve Auditors Warrants: 12/15/23, 12/22/23, 12/26/23
4. Approve Hospital Warrants \$1,008,341.71

Motion carried unanimously.

As per Minnesota Statute 375.12 the following Commissioner Warrants information is presented:

<b>Vendor Name</b>	<b>Total</b>
Regents Of The University Of Minnesota	28,361.55
Eide Bailly LLP	19,720.00
Governmentjobs.com, INC	4,527.00
Ratwik Roszak & Maloney PA	3,274.04
MN County Attorneys Assn	2,707.00
Surplus Warehouse of Willmar Inc	2,645.00
SeaChange Print Innovations	2,640.00
Justice Fire & Safety LLC	2,426.75
Morris Electronics Inc	2,419.41
AT&T MOBILITY	2,249.23
Erickson Engineering Co Inc	2,000.00
WARRANTS OVER \$2,000	\$72,969.98
NUMBER OF CLAIMS UNDER \$2,000	41
WARRANTS UNDER \$2,000	\$19,749.14
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$92,719.12</b>

**ROAD AND BRIDGE ITEMS**

County Engineer Nick Bergman reported to the board that the trade in value of the Motor Grader has remained the same. There was a question on whether it would due to the length of time it took for the new Motor Grader to be delivered.

**IT CYBERSECURITY PURCHASE**

Information Technology (IT) Director Bill Folger requested approval to purchase an additional component to the Darktrace cybersecurity software called email scoping. This software purchase would allow another line of defense to detect cyber-attacks through email. The Darktrace Email Scoping software is \$21,000 for a three-year agreement in two annual payments of \$10,500 beginning January 1, 2024. Motion by Roskamp, seconded by Hollingsworth to approve the three-year agreement and purchase of Darktrace Email Scoping Software for \$21,000.00. Motion carried unanimously.

**PERSONNEL**

Human Resources Coordinator Cathy Feste announced that Highway Maintenance Worker Austin Underdahl resigned effective November 30, 2023. Feste announced that Loren Gunnink was hired as a full-time Highway Maintenance Worker on December 26, 2023.

**2024 NON-UNION PAY PLAN AND PAY PLACEMENTS**

Human Resources Coordinator Cathy Feste requested approval of the revised non-union pay plan and recommended pay increases for non-union staff in 2024. The new pay plan recommendation is the result of a County market study which included a regional survey and pay plan structure recommendations by compensation consultant Gallagher. Motion by Hollingsworth, seconded by Johnson to approve the 2024 non-union pay plan and non-union staff wage placements effective January 1, 2024. Motion carried unanimously.

**2024 – 2025 LELS UNION CONTRACT – SHERIFF’S OFFICE**

HR Coordinator Cathy Feste presented for approval the negotiated labor agreement between Pipestone County and the Law Enforcement Labor Services, Inc., Local 244 Sheriff’s Office Unit effective January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2025. Motion by Johnson, seconded by Nagel to approve the bargaining agreement between Pipestone County and the Law Enforcement Labor Services, Inc., Local 244 Sheriff’s Office Unit effective January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2025. Motion carried unanimously.

**2024 – 2025 LELS UNION CONTRACT – JAILER/DISPATCHEES**

HR Coordinator Cathy Feste presented for approval the negotiated labor agreement between Pipestone County and the Law Enforcement Labor Services, Inc., Local 167 Jailer/Dispatcher Unit effective January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2025. Motion by Johnson, seconded by Nagel to approve the bargaining agreement between Pipestone County and the Law Enforcement Labor Services, Inc., Local 167 Jailer/Dispatchers Unit effective January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2025. Motion carried unanimously.

**2024 COMMISSIONERS SALARIES/2024 PER DIEM RATE**

County Administrator Steve Ewing presented options for Commissioners salary amounts in 2024. Motion by Johnson, seconded by Roskamp to approve a 2024 Commissioner annual salary of \$24,117.00. Yeas: Hollingsworth, Johnson, Nagel, Roskamp. Nays: Wildermuth. Motion carried.

Motion by Roskamp, seconded by Hollingsworth to set the 2024 Commissioner per diem amount at \$100.00 per day. Motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLUTION 59-35-23 2024 FINAL BUDGET AND LEVY**

Motion by Wildermuth, seconded by Roskamp to Approve Resolution 59-35-23 Final Budget and Levy as follows:

	Levy Before Program Aid	Program Aid	Levy After Program Aid
REVENUE	\$ 6,723,296.00	\$ 749,106.00	\$ 5,974,190.00
ROAD & BRIDGE	\$ 1,504,326.00	\$ -	\$ 1,504,326.00
WELFARE	\$ 1,679,801.00	\$ -	\$ 1,679,801.00
Levy After Program Aid Reduction			\$ 9,158,317.00
Total Referendum Levies			\$ -
Total Levy Taxes Payable 2024			\$ 9,158,317.00
Total Levy Taxes Payable 2023			\$ 8,514,333.00
<b>Percent Increase Levy</b>			<b>7.56%</b>

Motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLUTION 59-36-23 2024 FINAL LEVY TAXES PAYABLE**

Motion by Johnson, seconded by Nagel to approve Resolution 59-36-23 2024 Taxable Levy Resolution 59-36-23 Final Levy Taxes Payable 2024. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioners thanked Administrator Ewing and Department Heads for their work on the budget this year.

**SHERIFF – 2024 CITY LAW ENFORCEMENT CONTRACTS**

Sheriff Keith Vreeman requested approval of the City Law Enforcement Contracts with total cost per city as follows:

City	Sheriff Total	Dispatch Total
Edgerton	\$108,489.00	
Hatfield	\$3,510.00	
Holland	\$11,375.00	
Ihlen	\$4,095.00	
Jasper	\$52,287.00	
Pipestone	\$804,564.00	\$217,479.00
Ruthton	\$14,560.00	
Trosky	\$6,240.00	
Woodstock	\$7,150.00	

The contracts have already been approved by each City Council. Motion by Hollingsworth, seconded by Johnson to approve the 2024 Law Enforcement contracts between Pipestone County Sheriff's Office and municipalities in Pipestone County. Motion carried unanimously.

**2024-2025 IV-D CHILD SUPPORT COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT**

Sheriff Vreeman presented the 2024 – 2025 IV-D Child Support Cooperative Agreement between Pipestone County Offices of Human Services, County Sheriff, and County Attorney, the entities responsible for providing services necessary to the operation of the child support enforcement program. The 2024 through 2025 agreement is in place in order to compensate said county entities with respect to reimbursement for costs incurred in providing services necessary to operate the child support enforcement system under Title IV-D of the Social Security Act. Motion by Roskamp, seconded by Wildermuth to approve the 2024 – 2025 IV-D Child Support Cooperative Arrangement between Pipestone County Offices of Human Services, County Sheriff, and County Attorney effective January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2025. Motion carried unanimously.

**BID OPENING CP 2024-100 2024 GRAVEL CRUSHING – 10:30AM**

County Engineer Nick Bergman and Assistant Engineer Jerid Johnson joined the meeting to open bids for CP 2024-100 2024 Gravel Crushing. Bids received were as follows.

Planholder	Address	Bid Total
Sweetman Sand & Gravel	Currie, MN	\$218,960.00
Wm. D. Scepaniak	Holdingsford, MN	\$348,670.00
Rogge Excavating	Ghent, MN	\$214,200.00
Central Specialties Inc.	Alexandria, MN	\$314,160.00
Ferguson Aggregate & Crushing, Inc.	Alexandria, MN	\$291,550.00
R.A. Muecke Sand & Gravel	Slayton, MN	\$260,610.00
R&E Enterprises of Mankato, Inc.	Mankato, MN	\$367,710.00

Bids were taken for review by Engineering staff and County Attorney Damain Sandy.

**BID OPENING FOR JANUARY – JUNE 2024 FUEL BID**

Engineer Bergman opened the following bids for January through June 2024 fuel:

BIDDER	GASOLINE		DIESEL					
	17,000 gallons Pipestone		Pipestone shop			Outlying shops		
	10% Ethanol	"margin"	15,000 gallons			10,000 gallons @ 4 different locations		
		B5	B20	"margin"	B5	B20	"margin"	
Chandler Co op	\$2.80	\$0.15	\$2.85	\$2.85	\$0.10	\$2.95	\$2.95	\$0.20
BioAg Energy Services	\$2.765	\$0.43	\$2.965	\$3.065	\$1.1779	\$3.065	\$3.165	\$0.2779

Motion by Johnson, seconded by Nagel to award the 2024 January through June gasoline bid to BioAg Energy Services and the diesel bid to Chandler Co-op. Motion carried unanimously.

**GRAVEL CRUSHING BID AWARD**

Engineer Bergman recommends awarding the gravel crushing bid to the low bidder. Motion by Nagel, seconded by Hollingsworth to award the CP 2024-100 2024 Gravel Crushing bid to Rogge Excavating of Ghent, MN for \$214,200.00. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Nagel, seconded by Roskamp to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 11:09 am.

Dan Wildermuth  
Pipestone County Board Chairman

ATTEST:  
Steven Ewing  
County Administrator