

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MURRAY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MURRAY COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER – SLAYTON, MINNESOTA
November 28, 2017, 8:30 a.m.

Pursuant to notice, the Murray County Board of Commissioners convened with the following members present: Commissioners Glenn Kluis, Gerald Magnus, Lori Gunnink and David Thiner. Also, present Aurora Heard, County Coordinator. Excused Absence: Commissioner James Jens and County Attorney Travis Smith.

The meeting opened by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Chairman asked if there were any additions to the agenda. Several items were added.

It was moved by Gunnink, seconded by Magnus and passed to approve the agenda as modified.

No conflicts of interest were identified.

Consent Agenda

1. Approve Minutes from November 21, 2017

It was moved by Thiner, seconded by Gunnink and passed to approve consent agenda item 1.

A motion was made by Magnus, and seconded by Gunnink to approve the report of the Ditch Committee of the Judicial Ditch lying within the County of Murray on those petitions for repair that have been inspected for determining what repairs, if any, are necessary, the extent and nature of such repairs, an estimated cost of such repairs or a list of bills presented for payment that will enable said ditches to answer their purposes and to pay all bills contained within the report.

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Ditch #</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Petition #</u>	<u>Inspector</u>	<u>Commissioner District</u>
<u>Bolton & Menk</u>					
	CD 22	420.00		Improvement	
	JD 8	5,592.50		Improvement	
	Subtotal	<u>6,012.50</u>			
<u>Johnson Ditching, Inc.</u>					
	CD 20	6,650.00	2017-008	ok'd by Howard on 11-15-2017	2-Gunnink
	CD 20	1,185.00	2017-053	ok'd by Howard on 11-15-2017	2-Gunnink
	Subtotal	<u>7,835.00</u>			
<u>Scott Peschges</u>					
	CD 65	180.00	2017-062	ok'd by Howard on 11-21-17	1-Jens
	Subtotal	<u>180.00</u>			
<u>Riley Land Improvement, LLC</u>					
	JD11	140.00	2017-051	ok'd by Howard on 11-15-17	1-Jens
	Subtotal	<u>140.00</u>			
<u>John Schueller (Viewing Services)</u>					
	JD 14	1,627.50		Redetermination of Benefits	
	Subtotal	<u>1,627.50</u>			
	Total for All Ditch Bills	<u>15,795.00</u>			

Commissioner Thiner introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION 2017-11-28-01
A RESOLUTION APPROVING
MURRAY COUNTY'S APPLICATION FOR FUNDING
FROM THE VOTING EQUIPMENT GRANT**

WHEREAS, Minnesota counties are responsible for administering elections, which includes the purchase and maintenance of supplies and election equipment, including accessible voting equipment; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota last updated much of its voting equipment between 2002 and 2006 meaning that the equipment is rapidly approaching the end of its 10 to 15-year lifespan; and

WHEREAS, it's essential for precincts to have functioning voting equipment so that voters are able to cast their ballot on equipment that is secure, accessible, accurate, and reliable; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota's 90th Legislature authorized \$7 million for the Voting Equipment Grant Account to assist counties, cities, towns, and school districts with the purchase of voting equipment; and

WHEREAS, to receive funding from the Voting Equipment Grant Account, counties must submit an application to the Minnesota Secretary of State before December 15, 2017; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, Murray County approves its application for funding from the Voting Equipment Grant; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the County certifies that any funds awarded from the Voting Equipment Grant will be used only to purchase assistive voting technology, an electronic roster system, an electronic voting system, any individual component of an electronic voting system, or any other equipment or technology approved by the Secretary of State.

The foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Commissioner Magnus, and thereupon being put to a vote all members of the Board voted for its adoption.

It was moved by Thiner, seconded by Gunnink to proceed with advertising for bids for the roof on the courthouse with Inspec a construction project management company based out of Minneapolis.

It was moved by Thiner, seconded by Gunnink to have Coordinator Heard, the County Board Chair, and CEO Dennis Goebel sign the 2018 flexible benefit plan.

Bobby Howard and Dan Litchfield from Invenergy presented information regarding solar projects in Lake Wilson.

Beth Wilms, Director of Southwest Health and Human Services (SWHHS), met with the County Board and gave an update on SWHHS.

10:09 a.m. Open Forum/Public Comment – No members of the public were present.

10:15 a.m. The Public Hearing for the proposed changes to Murray County’s business subsidy was called to order.

Amy Rucker, EDA Director presented the county business subsidy policy and criteria. She has not received any comments regarding the updated policy.

10:26 a.m. The Board Chair opened the public hearing for comments. No members of the public were present.

10:26 a.m. The Public Hearing was closed.

Commissioner Gunnink introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION
OF THE COUNTY OF MURRAY To State
Its Resolution # 2017-11-28-02 entitled

“Business Subsidy Policy and Criteria”

RESOLVED by the Board of the County of Murray that it shall adopt the following **Business Subsidy Policy and Criteria**:

Preamble. Whenever the County of Murray invests public funds or agrees to voluntarily forfeit tax or other revenue that benefit private development projects, those projects should create the greatest number of Full Time Equivalent (FTE) jobs that pay a living wage possible for the residents of the County and the surrounding region. County policy makers and economic development agents must keep the critical need for living wage FTE jobs the priority whenever public dollars are invested in a private business or development project.

Business Subsidy Public Purpose. The public purposes of this policy shall be to accomplish the following on behalf of the County of Murray:

1. Enhance economic growth in this area
2. Create high quality job growth in this area
3. Retain high quality jobs in this area
4. Stabilize the community

This policy is adopted in compliance with Minn. Stat. § 116J.994, subd. 2.

Principles of Business Subsidy Implementation. The County shall target its business subsidy assistance to businesses that demonstrate a clear and ongoing commitment to the community by providing living wage jobs to their employees and to County residents, where applicable, by giving priority to those businesses over businesses that have not traditionally paid living wages.

The County shall focus its business subsidy assistance only to businesses which agree to comply with annual business subsidy reporting requirements as required by the Business Subsidy statute Minn. Stat. §§ 116J.993 - 116J.995.

I. DEFINITIONS

“Authorized Business Subsidy Signatory” means the individual(s) who is/are authorized by this Policy to execute business subsidy agreements on behalf of the County of Murray.

“Business Subsidy” means a state or local government agency grant, contribution of personal property, real property, infrastructure, the principal amount of a loan at rates below those commercially available to the recipient, any reduction or deferral of any tax or any fee, any guarantee of any payment under any loan, lease, or other obligation, or any preferential use of government facilities given to a business, and as defined by the Business Subsidy statute Minn. Stat. §§ 116J.993 - 116J.995. Business subsidies shall include, but not be limited to:

1. Loan
2. Grant
3. Tax abatement
4. TIF or other tax reduction or deferral

5. Guarantee of payment
6. Contribution of property or infrastructure
7. Preferential use of governmental facilities
8. Land contribution

Business subsidies do not include the following:

1. assistance of less than the amount set forth in Minn. Stat. § 116J.993, subd. 3(1).
2. assistance that is generally available to all businesses or to a general class of similar businesses, such as a line of businesses, size, location or similar general criteria;
3. public improvements to buildings or lands owned by the County that serve a public purpose and do not principally benefit a single business or defined group of businesses at the time the improvements are made;
4. property polluted by contaminants being redeveloped as defined in Minn. Stat. § 116J.552, subd. 3.
5. assistance provided for the sole purpose of renovating old or decaying building stock or bringing it up to code and assistance to designated historic preservation sites or districts, if the assistance is equal to or less than 50% of the total cost of the development;
6. assistance to provide job readiness and training services;
7. assistance for housing;
8. assistance for pollution control or abatement, including assistance from a TIF hazardous substances sub district;
9. assistance for energy conservation;
10. tax reductions resulting from conformity with federal tax law;
11. workers' compensation and unemployment compensation;
12. benefits derived from regulation;
13. indirect benefits derived from assistance to educational institutions;
14. funds from bonds allocated under Minnesota Chapter 474A, refunding bonds and 501(c)(3) bonds;
15. assistance for collaboration between a Minnesota higher education institution and a business;
16. assistance from a tax increment financing soils condition district as defined under Minn. Stat. § 469.174, subd.19;
17. redevelopment when the recipient's investment in the purchase of the site and in site preparation is 70 percent or more of the assessor's current years estimated market value;
18. general changes in tax increment financing law and other general tax law changes of a principally technical nature;
19. federal assistance until the assistance has been repaid to and reinvested by the local governmental unit;
20. business loans or loan guarantees in an amount less than or equal to the amount set forth in Minn. Stat. § 116J.993, subd. 3(21); and
21. federal loan funds provided through the U.S. Economic Development Administration.

“Business Subsidy Report” means the annual reports submitted each year for each business receiving a business subsidy in the community. The report is submitted by the LGU to comply with Minn. Stat. § 116J.994, subd. 8.

“Criteria” means the equitably applied, uniform standards by which the Economic Development Agency and /or the County bases its decision to award any business subsidy to a private business or development project establishing a business and creating jobs in the County of Murray.

“DEED” means Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development.

“Economic Development Agent” means the county department, local or regional economic development agency or other authorized entity that is empowered to solicit, negotiate and form business subsidy agreements on behalf of the County of Murray. The Economic Development Agent for the County of Murray shall be the Murray County Economic Development Authority (EDA), hereinafter “Agent”.

“Living Wage Job” shall mean a job which pays wages, including benefits not mandated by law, that total at least the rate of 110% of the current poverty level for a family of four.

“Local Governmental Unit” hereinafter LGU, means the county or county economic development authority.

“Recipient” means any business entity that receives a business subsidy as defined by Minn. Stat. § 116J.993, and that has signed a Business Subsidy Agreement with the county.

II. BUSINESS SUBSIDY REQUIREMENTS

A. **Business Subsidy Policies.** The County of Murray adopts the following:

1. Any time the County of Murray provides a business subsidy to a recipient, that business is subject to the wage levels, job creation and other criteria set forth in this policy and specified in the Business Subsidy Agreement made with the LGU. The recipient shall pay each employee compensation, including benefits not mandated by law, that on an annualized basis is equal to at least 110 percent of the federal poverty level for a family of four.
2. The County of Murray may deviate from wage and job criteria in Section II, by documenting the reason in writing for the deviation and attaching a copy of this reason to the next annual Business Subsidy Report submitted to DEED.
3. The County of Murray authorizes the Murray County EDA board chair and/or the Murray County Economic Development Director and/or the Board Chair of the County of Murray to act as its Authorized Business Subsidy Signatory to execute business subsidy agreements on behalf of the County of Murray.
4. **Requirements of businesses.** The County of Murray shall require all businesses receiving a business subsidy to comply with the following:
 - a. The business shall attend a properly noticed public hearing held by the County as provided by Minn. Stat. § 116J.994, when the value of the subsidy from local sources does or is expected to exceed the amount set forth in Minn. Stat.

§ 116J.994, subd. 5. The purpose of the hearing shall be held to identify and/or define the criteria that the or recipient shall meet to be eligible to receive a business subsidy. The hearing shall specify the subsidy provided, public purpose(s) that shall be achieved by offering the subsidy, and shall specify the measurable, specific, and tangible goals committed to by the recipient. As provided by Minn. Stat. 116J.994, subd. 5., a public notice shall be published in print and if possible, on the internet, at least 10 days prior to the hearing, identifying the location, date time and place of the hearing; and providing information about the business subsidy proposed, including a summary of the terms of the subsidy.

The foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Commissioner Magnus, and thereupon being put to a vote all members of the Board voted for its adoption.

Cathleen Almich, UCAP Transit Director and Michelle Miranowski were present to present the 2018 transit agreement.

It was moved by Thiner, seconded by Magnus and passed to approve and authorize the Board Chair and County Coordinator sign the 2018 transit agreement with United Community Action.

Drug/General Investigator Chris Lewis met with the County Board regarding the 2018-2019 Snowmobile Safety Enforcement Grant with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

It was moved by Magnus, seconded by Gunnink and passed to approve and authorize the Board Chair sign the 2018-2019 Snowmobile Safety Enforcement Grant with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

County Engineer Randy Groves and Bob Sworski, architect from CBS Squared, presented options for the highway department building.

12:30 p.m. The meeting was recessed.

1:47 p.m. The meeting was reconvened.

1:48 p.m. Commissioner Jens arrived.

The County Board discussed a potential new building for the highway department. County Engineer Groves will look into land/locations.

The County Board reviewed the 2018 budget and made the following changes:

Department	Account Code	Total
Assistive Voting Grant	01-064-6650	\$45,000.00
Planning and Zoning	01-105-6260	\$20,000.00
Human Services	01-110-401-5813	\$96,000.00
Buildings and Plant - Courthouse	01-110-111-5861	\$0.00

Buildings and Plant - Building		
Improvements	01-110-112-6640	\$377,595.00
Fairgrounds	01-110-115-6601	\$86,000.00
Fairgrounds	01-110-115-6563	\$1,500.00
Government Center	01-110-114-6640	\$3,000.00
Courthouse	01-110-111-6640	\$0.00
Sheriff	01-201-5214	\$90,000.00
Sheriff	01-201-5299	\$45,000.00
Sheriff - Boat and Water	01-202-6650	\$0.00
Sheriff - Permits to Carry	01-211-5170	\$5,000.00
Solid Waste	01-391-391-6650	\$0.00
Transit	01-515-519-6260	\$20,000.00
Transit	01-515-519-6891	\$0.00
Parks Administration	01-521-521-6563	\$1,250.00
Shetek Aeration	01-521-541-6650	\$5,000.00
Bloody Lake Aeration	01-521-548-6650	\$5,000.00
E-911 System	01-283-284-6342	\$3,000.00
Other Conservation	01-638-609-6868	\$0.00
Sheriff	01-201-6452	\$10,000.00

The County Board discussed the request from County Assessor Barritt to add an Assessing Technician in 2018. Assessor Barritt explained that the county would be losing several local assessors due to a statute change requiring AMA certification. The County Board called Sheriff Telkamp regarding budget questions, including if the \$50,000 budgeted in account code 01-201-6452 was for the Zuercher software. The Board was unable to get a hold of Sheriff Telkamp. Auditor/Treasurer Winter was going to follow up with Sheriff Telkamp regarding how much should be budgeted in account code 01-201-6452 and account codes 01-201-5214 and 01-201-5299 which are grants.

5:20 p.m. The meeting was recessed.

6:00 p.m. The meeting was called back to order.

The Board held the Truth-in-Taxation Public Meeting pursuant to M.S. § 275.065, Subd. (3). Auditor/Treasurer Winter presented a power point on the 2018 budget. Four taxpayers were present.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

ATTEST:

Aurora Heard, County Coordinator

Glenn Kluis, Chairman of the Board