



# MORRISON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OFFICIAL MINUTES

February 4, 2014

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The meeting was held in the County Board Room, Government Center, Little Falls MN, and was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Jelinski.

**Members present:** Commissioners Randy Winscher, Duane Johnson, Kevin Maurer and Jeff Jelinski.

**Staff present:** Deb Gruber, Brian Middendorf, Russ Nygren, Brad Vold, Bonnie Paulsen, Steve Backowski, Michel Wetzel, Julie Shelstad, Lori Czech, Karla Nornberg, Brad Beaty, Brad Vold, Kristen Nelson, Mary Murphy, Yvette Anez, Darci Borwege, Jim Koetter, Amy Herold, Mary Beth Bontjes, Annette Messerschmidt, Mike Trettel, Jodi Wetzel, Sherry Welinski, DelRae LeBlanc, Tom Swensen, Deb Helmerick, Brian Middendorf, Cindy Smith, Barb DeZurik, Dorothy Lampert, Deb Wippler, Becky Diebel, Joyce Kahl and Nicole Nordlund.

**Others present:** Jennie Zeitler and Jerry Chandler.

## APPROVAL OF COUNTY BOARD MINUTES

A motion was made by Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Maurer and carried unanimously to approve the Morrison County Board of Commissioner Minutes for January 21, 2014.

## AGENDA CHANGES

A motion was made by Commissioner Maurer, seconded by Commissioner Johnson and carried unanimously to adopt the agenda as presented with the addition of the Years of Service Awards.

## YEARS OF SERVICE AWARDS

Jeff Jelinski, Chairman and Deb Gruber, Administrator presented the Years of Service Awards for the following employees:

Five Year Certificates of Appreciation were presented to Yvette Anez, Darci Borwege, Linda Day, Duane Doble, Jamie Doble, Thomas Fussy, Frank Giuliani, David Kicker, Casey King, Angela Loscheider, Mary Murphy, Kristen Nelson, Karla Nornberg, Lisa Retka, and Sherry Tschida.

10 Year Certificates of Appreciation and a small gift were presented to Kimberly Acker, Bradley Beaty, Joel Gross, Carrie Herman, Amy Herold, James Koetter, Jason McDonald and Brad Vold.

15 Year Certificates of Appreciation and \$25.00 in Chamber Bucks were presented to Shannon Anderson, Mary Beth Bontjes, Jean Balaski, Mary Handeland, Daniel Hayes, Deborah Helmerick, Robert Hoffman, Jamie Luberts, Randy Lundgren, Brian Middendorf, Jennifer Sanders, Cindy Smith and Michelle Warnberg.

20 Year Certificates of Appreciation and a mantel clock were presented to Tom Swensen.

25 Year Certificates of Appreciation and \$50.00 in Chamber Bucks were presented to DelRae LeBlanc, Annette Messerschmidt, Steve Messerschmidt, Bonita Strassburg, Michael Trettel, Sherry Welinski, Jodi Wetzel and Jacqueline Wise.

30 Year Certificates of Appreciation and \$60.00 in Chamber Bucks were presented to Barb DeZurik, Joyce Kahl and Michel Wetzel.

35 Year Certificates of Appreciation and \$70.00 in Chamber Bucks were presented to Rebecca Diebel and Deborah Wippler.



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40 Year Certificate of Appreciation and \$80.00 in Chamber Bucks were presented to Dorothy Lampert.

### SHERIFF'S REPORT

A motion was made by Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Winscher and carried unanimously to approve a rerate of the Jail Programmer.

Michel Wetzel, Sheriff, presented the monthly report for December 2013 to the County Board.

### SOCIAL SERVICES REPORT

Brad Vold, Director of Social Services reported to the Board an update on the Legislative Platform from the Minnesota Association of County Social Service Administrators.

Brad Vold, Director of Social Services also reported on Energy Assistance use in the four Counties that have Tri-County Community Action in Waite Park.

### PUBLIC HEALTH REPORT

A motion was made by Commissioner Winscher, seconded by Commissioner Maurer and carried unanimously to authorized filling two full-time Case Management positions.

### ASSESSOR'S REPORT

A motion was made by Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Maurer and carried unanimously to approve the Abstract of Tax Abatements dated February 4, 2014. The Abstract of Tax Abatements is attached to these minutes.

### AUDITOR REPORT

Russ Nygren, Auditor/Treasurer, presented the Cash Report Year End for December 31, 2013.

### COUNTY BOARD WARRANTS

A motion was made by Commissioner Winscher and seconded by Commissioner Johnson to approve the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, the Morrison County Board of Commissioners have reviewed the list of County Board Warrants;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the list of County Board Warrants on file in the Auditor/Treasurer's Office for February 4, 2014 be approved for payment:

REVENUE	\$	39,757.49
PUBLIC WORKS	\$	136,064.83
SOCIAL SERVICE	\$	98,380.22
SOLID WASTE	\$	10,119.67
LOCAL COLLABORATIVE	\$	22,126.79
TOTAL	\$	306,449.00
MEALS	\$	28.34

Motion carried on a roll call vote with all Commissioners voting "aye".

### PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

A motion was made by Commissioner Wincher, second by Commissioner Johnson and carried unanimously to approve allowing the Public Works Director to hire Seasonal Engineering staff up to step 9 of Grade 10 depending on qualifications.



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**ADMINISTRATORS REPORT**


A motion was made by Commissioner Maurer, seconded by Commissioner Johnson and carried unanimously to approve Resolution #2014-008, supporting legislation allowing counties to designate their county website to publish public notices.

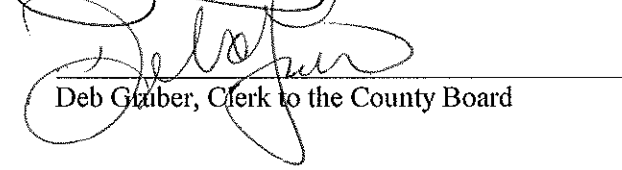
**COUNTY BOARD REPORTS AND SCHEDULE**

Members of the County Board reported on various meetings they have attended and on their upcoming schedule of meetings with various organizations.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Winscher and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 10:10 a.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeffrey J. Jelfnski, Chairman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Deb Guiber, Clerk to the County Board



**MORRISON COUNTY  
REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION**

REQUESTED BOARD DATE:           **February 4, 2014**

ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT:       **ASSESSOR'S OFFICE**

PRESENTER:                         **Glen A. Erickson**

ITEM (as appears on agenda):     **ASSESSOR'S REPORT (ABATEMENTS)**

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**BOARD ACTION:**

**Request approval of the attached Abstract of Tax Abatements dated February 4, 2014.**

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**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

**See attached.**

Additional information attached: No or  Yes

**ABSTRACT OF TAX ABATEMENTS****February 4, 2014**

- 1. ARLIE & DEDRA WEITNAUER, Parcel Number 03.0048.002, Bellevue Township**  
A shed on this property was destroyed by roof collapse due to snow on March 16, 2013 and was rebuilt & useable in May 2013. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 273.123, Subd. 7, the property owner is entitled to a prorated refund of payable 2013 taxes for 1 month (April 2013) when it was unusable. Taxes for 12 months on the shed for taxes payable in 2013 were \$297.00.  $\$297.00 \times 1/12 = \$25.00$ . **Amount of Credit: \$25.00.**  
**Recommend Approval.**
- 2. GREGORY & VIRGINIA SEELEN, Parcel Number 15.0053.000, Leigh Township**  
The house on this property was destroyed by fire on September 19, 2012 and was rebuilt & useable in September 2013. Taxes payable in 2012 were abated in March 2013. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 273.123, Subd. 7, the property owner is entitled to another prorated refund of payable 2013 taxes for 3 months (October-December, 2012) when the house was uninhabitable. Taxes for 12 months on the house for taxes payable in 2013 were \$1,101.00.  $\$1,101.00 \times 3/12 = \$275.00$ . **Amount of Credit: \$275.00.**  
**Recommend Approval.**
- 3. DALE A & DEBRA A VANNORMAN, Parcel Number 16.0378.000, Little Falls Township (Note: Property sold to DELROY & MARY ELLA THOMMES on 12/26/2013)**  
The house on this property was destroyed by fire on January 25, 2012 and was rebuilt & useable in November 2013. Taxes payable in 2012 were abated in March 2013. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 273.123, Subd. 7, the property owner is entitled to another prorated refund of payable 2013 taxes for 11 months (February-December, 2012) when the house was uninhabitable. Taxes for 12 months on the house for taxes payable in 2013 were \$345.00.  $\$345.00 \times 11/12 = \$316.00$ . **Amount of Credit: \$316.00.**  
**Recommend Approval.**
- 4. KENNETH C JEDLICKI & CLARA J YORK, Parcel Number 17.0362.000, Morrill Township**  
The house on this property was destroyed by fire on February 1, 2012 and has not yet been rebuilt. Taxes payable in 2012 were abated in September 2013. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 273.123, Subd. 7, the property owner is entitled to another prorated refund of payable 2013 taxes for 10 months (March-December, 2012) when the house was uninhabitable. Taxes for 12 months on the house for taxes payable in 2013 were \$386.00.  $\$386.00 \times 10/12 = \$322.00$ . **Amount of Credit: \$322.00.** **Recommend Approval.**

**Abstract of Tax Abatements (Continued)**

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- 5. JASON BAKKE, STEVEN CHENEY & JOHN BAKKE, Parcel Number 24.0220.001, Pulaski Township**  
The house on this property was destroyed by fire on April 17, 2013 and has not yet been rebuilt. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 273.123, Subd. 7, the property owner is entitled to a prorated refund of payable 2013 taxes for the 8 months (May-December, 2013) when the house was uninhabitable. Taxes for 12 months on the house for taxes payable in 2013 were \$247.00.  $\$247.00 \times 8/12 = \$165.00$ . **Amount of Credit: \$165.00. Recommend Approval.**
- 6. ROY HOLLANDSWORTH, Parcel Number 29.0407.000, Scandia Valley Township**  
The business on this property was destroyed by fire on November 22, 2012 and has not yet been rebuilt. Taxes payable in 2012 were abated in March 2013. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 273.123, Subd. 7, the property owner is entitled to another prorated refund of payable 2013 taxes for 1 month (December 2012) when the building was uninhabitable. Taxes for 12 months on the business for taxes payable in 2013 were \$616.00.  $\$616.00 \times 1/12 = \$51.00$ . **Amount of Credit: \$51.00. Recommend Approval.**
- 7. GENE MARTIN & HOLLY JO BINKLEY, Parcel Number 44.0489.000, Royalton City**  
The buildings on this property were destroyed by fire on August 9, 2013 and have not yet been rebuilt. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 273.123, Subd. 7, the property owner is entitled to a prorated refund of payable 2013 taxes for the 4 months (September-December, 2013) when the buildings were uninhabitable. Taxes for 12 months on the buildings for taxes payable in 2013 were \$3,492.00.  $\$3,492.00 \times 4/12 = \$1,164.00$ . **Amount of Credit: \$1,164.00. Recommend Approval.**
- 8. LITTLE FALLS HRA (formerly owned by Raymond & Vivian Demarre), Parcel Number 48.0229.000, Little Falls City**  
The house on this property was destroyed by fire on February 13, 2012 and has not yet been rebuilt. Taxes payable in 2012 were abated in March 2013. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 273.123, Subd. 7, the property owner is entitled to another prorated refund of payable 2013 taxes for 10 months (March-December, 2012) when the house was uninhabitable. Taxes for 12 months on the house for taxes payable in 2013 were \$961.00.  $\$961.00 \times 10/12 = \$801.00$ . **Amount of Credit: \$801.00. Recommend Approval.**

**Abstract of Tax Abatements (Continued)**

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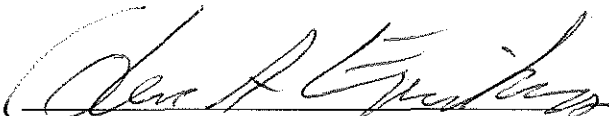
**February 4, 2014**

NOTE: Minnesota Statutes 1988, Section 609.41, "Whoever, in making any statement, oral or written, which is required or authorized by law to be made as a basis of imposing, reducing, or abating any tax or assessment, intentionally makes any statement as to any material matter which the maker of the statement knows is false may be sentenced, unless otherwise provided by law, to imprisonment for not more than one year or to payment of a fine of not more than \$3,000, or both"

Tax is Paid  
 Tax is Not Paid

**REPORT OF INVESTIGATION**

After examining the applicants' claims, I have carefully investigated these applications and find the facts as stated above.

  
Signature of Investigator

February 4, 2014  
Date

**CERTIFICATIONS OF APPROVAL**

NOTE: For these abatements to be approved, the assessor, county auditor and the county board of commissioners must all favorably recommend their adoption.

**ASSESSOR'S RECOMMENDATION (County Assessor or City Assessor in certain cities)**

Approved       Denied

  
Assessor's Signature

**COUNTY AUDITOR'S RECOMMENDATION**

Approved       Denied

  
Auditor's Signature



**Abstract of Tax Abatements (Continued)**

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**February 4, 2014**

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**COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONER'S ACTION (To be completed by county auditor)**

XX Approved      \_\_\_\_\_ Denied

I certify that at a meeting held February 4, 2014 the County Board, took the above official action on these abatements. This action was duly adopted and entered upon the minutes of its proceedings as a public record, showing the names of taxpayers, other concerned persons and the amounts involved.



\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of County Auditor

2-4-14

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

RESOLUTION No: 2014-008

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING LEGISLATION ALLOWING COUNTIES TO DESIGNATE THEIR COUNTY WEBSITE TO PUBLISH PUBLIC NOTICES**

**WHEREAS**, counties are currently required by law to publish public notices in a designated official newspaper for the county (Minn. Stat. § 331A); and

**WHEREAS**, counties are committed to providing information to citizens and increasing access to information about county operations and business; and

**WHEREAS**, citizens expect and demand information in an immediate format; and

**WHEREAS**, counties have limited resources and must utilize tax dollars in the most efficient way possible; and

**WHEREAS**, counties should have the authority to determine the best and most efficient method of communicating information to citizens based on citizen expectations; and

**WHEREAS**, counties are continuously improving and investing in technology to reach more citizens in a timely manner; and

**WHEREAS**, utilizing county websites to publish public notices would eliminate the time and costly burden of publishing in newspapers; and

**WHEREAS**, county websites are increasingly the first place citizens look for information about their counties; and

**WHEREAS**, the ability of county websites to provide citizens with up-to-date, detailed information exceeds that of print media

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the MC County Board of Commissioners supports HF 1286 and SF 1152, legislation now before the 2014 legislature that would allow counties to publish certain public notices on their websites instead of, or in addition to, in an official newspaper.

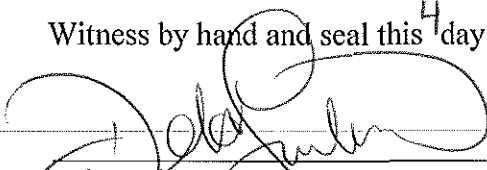
**ADOPTED** by the MC County Board of Commissioners on this, the 4 of February, 2014.

STATE OF MINNESOTA }  
COUNTY OF MORRISON }

I, Deb Gruber, County Administrator, Morrison County, Minnesota hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing copy of the resolution of the County Board of said County with the original record thereof on file in the Administration Office of Morrison County in Little Falls, Minnesota as stated in the minutes of the proceedings of said board at a meeting duly held on this 4 day of February, and that the same is a true and correct copy of said original record and of the whole thereof, and that said resolution was duly passed by said board at said meeting.

Commissioner	Yes	No	Abs	Mot	2nd
Jelinski	✓				
Johnson	✓				✓
Winscher	✓				
Meyer					
Maurer	✓			✓	

Witness by hand and seal this 4 day of February.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Deb Gruber  
County Administrator