

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD OF JACKSON COUNTY, MINNESOTA
March 5, 2024

The Jackson County Board of Jackson, Minnesota met in regular session, in the Jackson County Government Center West, Large Conference Room, City of Jackson, Minnesota, on March 5, 2024. The following members of the Jackson County Board of Commissioners were present: Roger Pohlman, Scott McClure, Phil Nasby, and James Eigenberg. Commissioner Don Wachal was absent. County Administrator, Ryan Krosch, County Attorney, Kristi Meyeraan and Assistant to the Administrator, Brandi Bourquin were also in attendance.

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair McClure called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion was made by Commissioner Nasby and seconded by Commissioner Eigenberg to adopt the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion was made by Commissioner Eigenberg and seconded by Commissioner Pohlman to approve the following Consent Agenda items:

Board Action 24-044 – Approve February 20, 2024 Board of Commissioner Regular Meeting Minutes.

Board Action 24-045 – Approve all Commissioner disbursements in accordance with Minnesota Statutes 130.01 subd. 4(b), recorded on warrants numbered 105504-105640 in the amount of \$312,631.47 for the following funds: Revenue, \$114,708.38; Public Works, \$65,523.75; 2013A GO Capital Improvement Bonds, \$108,563.80; Ditch, \$17,111.30; and Library, \$6,724.24. A detailed list of claims paid is available at the Auditor/Treasurer’s office upon request.

Vendor	Total
Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP	40,000.00
Minnesota Energy Resources	36,858.63
Institute For Envir Assessment Inc	30,846.77
Contegrity Group Inc	27,818.51
Stonebrooke Engineering, Inc	24,132.37
Martin County Auditor/Treasurer	17,086.48
Minnkota Architectural Products Co., Inc	13,300.00
Wold Architects And Engineers	11,050.58
Collins Engineers, Inc.	7,702.50
Jackson/City Of	7,607.20
Advanced Correctional Healthcare, Inc	6,999.91
Mn Dept Of Transportation	6,547.42
Sanford Health - Sioux Falls	6,449.00
Rosburg Construction, Inc	6,400.00
Equipment Blades Inc.	6,000.00
Rupp, Anderson, Squires & Waldspurger PA	3,805.39
Livewire Printing Co	3,839.37
Baker & Taylor, LLC	3,270.64
Cooperative Energy Co.	3,088.36
Schneider Geospatial, LLC	2,652.00
JCL Solutions - Janitors Closet	2,523.16
Verizon Wireless	2,308.29
Amazon Capital Services	2,302.73
Ziegler Inc.	2,277.58
KLJ Engineering LLC	2,245.20
Minnesota West Comm. & Technical College	2,012.37

Family Services Network	2,012.19
Total Claims Submitted Over \$2000	281,136.65
89 Claims Submitted Under \$2000	31,494.82
Total Claims Submitted	312,631.47

Board Action 24-046 – Re-appoint Sara Dvorak to a three-year term on the Jackson County RLF Board.

Board Action 24-047 – Approve 2024 West Central Contracted Services Agreement for communication infrastructure.

Board Action 24-048 – Approve the 2024 Service Agreement with Southwest Mental Health Center.

Board Action 24-049 – Approve Court Services/Probation Information Technology Agreement.

Board Action 24-050 – Approve Court Services/Probation Lease Agreement.

Board Action 24-051 – Approve Summer Library Program 2024 \$600.00 Grant Agreement from the Southwest Initiative Foundation and Heron Lake-Okabena Community Foundation.

Board Action 24-052 – Approve Grant Agreement from the Southwest Initiative Foundation and Heron Lake-Okabena Community Foundation for \$850.00 for Heron Lake Library Equipment and Toys for the Children's Room.

The motion carried unanimously.

CITIZEN/STAKEHOLDER/ORGANIZATION

Motion was made by Commissioner Nasby and seconded by Commissioner Eigenberg to adopt Resolution 24-007 – Approving Fort Belmont 2023 Annual Report and 2024 Budget for the Fort Belmont Museum and Visitor's Center. The motion carried unanimously.

County of Jackson)
) SS.
State of Minnesota)

Resolution No. 24-007

APPROVING FORT BELMONT/JCT, INC. FISCAL YEAR 2023 ANNUAL REPORT & FISCAL YEAR 2024 BUDGET
Resolved by the Board of Commissioners, County of Jackson, and State of Minnesota:

WHEREAS, a grant agreement and construction grant for the Fort Belmont Museum and Visitor's Center Project was entered into between Jackson County, a political subdivision of the State of Minnesota and the Minnesota Historical Society, and;

WHEREAS, Article II, Section 2.03 of the grant agreement and construction grant for the Fort Belmont Museum and Visitor's Center Project between Jackson County, a political subdivision of the State of Minnesota and the Minnesota Historical Society requires that Jackson County will annually adopt, by resolution, a budget for the operation of such programs that clearly shows that forecast program revenues will be equal to or greater than forecast program expenses for the next fiscal year, and;

WHEREAS, Article II, Section 2.03 of the grant agreement and construction grant for the Fort Belmont Museum and Visitor's Center Project between Jackson County, a political subdivision of the State of Minnesota and the Minnesota Historical Society requires that Jackson County will supply to the Minnesota Historical Society and the Department of Finance certified copies of such resolution and budget.

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Jackson County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve, by resolution, the Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2023 and the Fiscal Year 2024 budget for the Fort Belmont Museum and Visitor's Center, as presented by Fort Belmont/JCT, Inc., and directs Jackson County staff to supply to the Minnesota Historical Society and the Department of Finance certified copies of such resolution and budget.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

Motion was made by Commissioner Pohlman and seconded by Commissioner McClure to adopt Board Action 24-053 – Approve legal services agreement with Cottonwood County. The motion carried unanimously.

BOARD REPORTS

Commissioner Eigenberg reported on meetings/events involving UCAP and the Heron Lake Watershed.

Commissioner Pohlman reported on meetings/events involving Blue Earth River One Watershed/One Plan Policy Committee, Plum Creek, Historical Society and DAC.

Commissioner Nasby reported on meetings/events involving Explore SW MN.

Commissioner McClure reported on meetings/events involving Drainage Conference and Explore SW MN.

AUDITOR/TREASURER

Vice Chair McClure opened the public hearing to receive comments regarding a proposed new housing property tax abatement for Lisa Smith – Parcel 22.344.0100, Heron Lake, MN at 9:36 a.m.

Auditor/Treasurer, Kevin Nordquist and County Assessor, Karla Ambrose addressed questions from Lisa Smith clarifying what year the abatement would start.

No other comments were provided. Vice Chair McClure closed the public hearing at 9:45 a.m.

Motion was made by Commissioner Eigenberg and seconded by Commissioner Nasby to adopt Resolution 24-008 – Approve the property tax abatement for Lisa Smith on Parcel 22.344.0100 in Heron Lake, MN. The motion carried unanimously.

County of Jackson)
) SS.
State of Minnesota)

**Resolution No. 24-008
APPROVING TAX ABATEMENT**

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

WHEREAS, in addition to the statutory requirements, on November 7, 2023, the Jackson County Board of Commissioners adopted the Jackson County New Housing Initiative Guidelines (the “Guidelines”) which must be met before an abatement of taxes will be granted for new residential development; and

WHEREAS, Lisa Jean Smith is the owner of the following described real estate within Jackson County, Minnesota:

Parcel #: 22.344.0100

Address of Property (if established):

Legal Description of Property: Lot 10, Block 1, Hanson’s Fourth Addition, Heron Lake MN.

WHEREAS, Smith proposes to construct a new home on this property; and

WHEREAS, Smith has made application to Jackson County (the “County”) for the abatement of taxes as to the above-described parcel; and

WHEREAS, Smith has met the statutory requirements outlined under Minnesota Statutes §469.1813 Subdivision 1(1) and Subdivision 1(2)(i) as well as the County’s Guidelines for tax abatement; and

WHEREAS, the County expects the benefits to the County of the proposed abatement agreement to at least equal the costs to the County of the proposed agreement and finds that the proposed abatement is in the public interest because it will increase or preserve the tax base; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Minnesota Statute 469.1813, a public hearing was noticed and held to take comments on Smith’s tax abatement request.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF JACKSON COUNTY, MINNESOTA, AS FOLLOWS:

1. Jackson County does hereby grant an abatement to Lisa Jean Smith of the County's share of real estate taxes upon the above-described parcel based on the proposed construction of a new single-family home on said parcel.
2. The abatement period will commence with the completion of construction, or not more than one year following County Board approval of the abatement, whichever is first, and shall continue for five years.
3. The County shall provide the awarded abatement payment following payment by the property owners of the real estate taxes due annually. One single payment of the County's share of the abatement shall be made to the property owners of record by December 31st of that calendar year.
4. The real estate taxes to be abated shall be for up to the full amount of the county real estate taxes collected from added tax base of the newly constructed home annually. Real estate taxes collected for the value of the land, any current structures, or previous home value are not eligible for tax abatement and will not be abated.
5. Taxes must be paid in full and on time to qualify for abatement each year.
6. This abatement will transfer with the sale of the property for the balance of the five-year abatement period.
7. This abatement does not apply to, or include, existing and/or new assessments to the property.

ADJOURN

Motion was made by Commissioner Eigenberg and seconded by Commissioner Pohlman to adjourn the meeting at 9:48 a.m. The motion carried unanimously.

JACKSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Board Chair

ATTEST:

Ryan Krosch, County Administrator