

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE
RICE COUNTY COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Commissioner's Room / Government Services Building
Tuesday, August 17, 2021 at 8:30 AM**

I. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

(At the beginning of each Committee of the Whole Work Session meeting, the floor will be open to solicit public comments. Public comments will be limited to two (2) minutes for each person, subject to the discretion of the County Board Chairperson). Linda Moore from Faribault, MN made a public comment.

II. OUTSIDE AGENCY:

- A. Marguerite Moran from Lonsdale Public Library called in by zoom to discuss information on library budgets for 2021 and 2022, key indicators for both years, notable achievements for 2020-2021 and important goals and measures for 2022.
- B. John Dvorak, Executive Fair Manager for the Rice County Agricultural Society spoke in regards to some projects that are still in the works. He is stating that some building doors and hardware are needed to be replaced, the Conservation Building is in need of a new roof, the grandstand stairs and handrails need to be brought up to code, and the infield of the grandstand has issues with drainage. He thanked the Commissioners for their ongoing support in helping them with funding to help work towards getting these issues resolved. John states his goal is to build a solid relationship with the county staff and commissioners and to provide the best County Fair that the people of Rice County deserve.
- C. Steve Pahs, District Manager for the Rice County Soil & Water Conservation District spoke in regards to how their funding is obtained and how it's used. SWCD receives a large amount of funding from the state, but most of those funds are used for projects. The funding that is received from Rice County allows them to exist and implement the conservation work. Steve went over the funding summary for 2020, accomplishments in 2020, workload and goals in 2021, and activities and goals for 2022.
- D. Don Gauge, Executive Director of Southeaster MN EMS talked about their mission and goals. SE Minnesota EMS Regional System is to ensure that quality patient care is available throughout the eleven- county area by maximizing the response capabilities of emergency response personnel. They plan to achieve this through education and support of all the emergency responders (Fire, First Responders, EMS and Law Enforcement) to ensure they are well trained and ready to respond to 911 emergencies. Don talked about the copy of the 2022 budget and breakout of costs which includes the previous funding by 11 counties listed as JPB funds, a list of services in the county who have taken part in some of the programs, the funding request letter from their Joint Powers Board and an information page on the history of their Seatbelt funding.
- E. Mona Kaiser, Executive Director for Buckham West, included a copy of the 2020 Annual Report for review. She went through a description of what the agency does and the services it provides. She also discussed their mission, which is to promote the physical, emotional, intellectual, economic and social well-being of older adults and to promote their participation in all aspects of community life in Faribault and the surrounding area. She also reviewed future goals and objectives for 2022.
- F. Lynne Pederson, Director of FiftyNorth spoke on behalf of Northfield Senior Citizens, Inc. Board of Directors. The funding received was used to support the FiftyNorth programming and the role it plays in the Northfield and surrounding communities by offering programs and services that are current to what older adults want and need to stay mentally, physically, and socially healthy and active.
- G. Unfortunately, nobody showed up for SEMCAC to speak.

III. SOCIAL SERVICES: Mark Shaw

- A. Discussed how the Child support office is handled. Order of operations and different ways things are handled within the unit.

IV. FINANCE: Paula O'Connell

- A. Documentation showing Cash and Pooled Investments of Rice County for the period ended June 30, 2021. The schedule of Deposits and Investments showed projected maturity composition, institutions, investment types, interest earnings (cash basis), treasury curve, market values, and investment activity within Rice County.
- B. Quarterly Financial Report for the Period Ending June 30, 2021.

V. ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES: Julie Runkel

- A. Julie Runkel submitted the drafted Solid Waste Plan for Submission for State Review and Approval. This is to be revised every 10 years. Rice County currently needs to adopt an updated plan.

VI. HIGHWAY: Dennis Luebbe

- A. Dennis Luebbe, talked about updates taking place within the Highway department. Most projects are still ongoing. Some have been placed on pause due to changes in employment within the offices. But Dennis is looking forward to the future progress and completion of all projects.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Galen Malecha, seconded by Jeff Docken, to adjourn the meeting.

RESULT: Approved, AYES: Jeff Docken, Dave Miller, Steve Underdahl, Galen Malecha, Jim Purfeerst,
NAYS: None