



McINTOSH Times

Hub of the Thirteen Townships

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McIntosh, Minnesota

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The Ginger Junker, Margie Illies.

The Ginger Junker in McIntosh offers shoppers a variety of old and new

Think about what it would look like if your grandfather's shed collided with your grandmother's kitchen. Now you have a good idea of what it's like to stand inside The Ginger Junker; the latest addition to the Shoppes of McIntosh. The prominent building faces east, perched behind the bend of the business main street. Her two-story frontage is dressed in white vinyl but glance at her sides, see the beautiful brick? Some of it dates to the early 1900's. At some point, a catastrophic fire left only two of her outer walls. Nevertheless, she still stands. Her attire has varied over the years as have her

wares. According to one local resident, she probably started out as a mercantile before becoming a longstanding hardware store. Local resident Harold Thompson's grandfather, Gilbert Abrahamson, first operated the Abrahamson Hardware Store. Then later, his son-in-law and daughter, Theodore and Rosetta took over. Finally, it was Harold's turn. Among the many items available in the store were flooring—both linoleum and carpet—appliances, furniture and of course tools and all kinds of fasteners and fittings. They offered appliance repair, plumbing services

and floor installation. Other local residents: Evonne Hartel and Melford Grundyson recall that it was a very busy place. In recent years, it continued as a Hardware store with proprietors Joan Kasprzak, followed by Lee and DeeDee Narum who added The Country Store with it. When The Country Store closed, Joan converted it into Joan's Junk. She and her mother, Donna Larson, filled it wall to wall with all kinds of estate sale items.

Fosston native, Nathan Illies and his wife Margie relocated to Fosston, MN—along with their three children: Tommy, Lexy and Avery—from the cities, in the fall of 2018. Margie fell in love with the old building and she and her husband purchased Joan's Junk in June 2020, renaming it The Ginger Junker. Margie—ginger-haired and spunky—has always been artistic. Having a penchant for junk and a love of anything vintage, nostalgic or just plain quirky prepared her perfectly for her new enterprise.

What's in The Ginger Junker? What isn't? The 10,000 square foot space is artistically arranged with groupings including anything from rust and dust, vintage milk glass and pottery displays to household furniture from any decade. Margie is especially fond of mid-century modern pieces. The shop is the perfect canvas to unleash her creative drive, whether it is arranging depression glass according to color or pairing rustic and modern pieces in a one-of-a-kind display. She admits the eclectic, colorful shop is a good indication of what it looks like inside her head.

Right inside the front door, an old warehouse cart provides an industrial rustic platform for an eye-catching display. Smiling, Margie shares there is a lady who has been buying whatever piece of furniture is promoted there and then apol-

Ginger Junker... Continued on page 2...

McIntosh Community Blood Drive will be held January 27th

The McIntosh Friends of Veterans will again sponsor the Blood Drive in McIntosh. It will be held on Wednesday, January 27, 2021 from 12:30 pm to 5:30 pm.

If you can give blood and don't receive a call, contact Mary at 218-563-3827 or go to www.bloodhero.com to schedule an appointment by using the donor code McIntosh.

All blood and platelet donations are tested for COVID-19 antibodies. If you've tested positive for COVID-19 and recovered, your plasma may be able to help patients currently fighting the virus as a convalescent plasma donor.



Many blood drives have been cancelled, so your individual donations matter now more than ever. We are now testing all donors for COVID-19 antibodies. Whether you're eligible to give whole blood; recovered from COVID-19 and can do-

nate convalescent plasma; you are saving lives.

There is no inherent risk of getting coronavirus from the donation procedure itself, but the donation staff follow CDC guidelines and take extra precautions to protect our staff and donors.

It doesn't take much time and every donation has the power to save up to three lives.

Masks are required and appointments are encouraged. Social distancing guidelines are practiced both in the waiting area and when giving blood.

For more information go to www.vitalant.org.

Looking Back: 2020 Year in Review, part 2

April 2020: Hoping for a reprieve from lockdown, COVID-19 statistics do not allow for the opening of the Country by Easter. The pandemic rages on and steps to keep cases from increasing brings new, extensive orders.

Win-E-Mac School moves to distance learning for the remainder of the 2019 - 2020 school year.

Governor Walz issues an executive order directing Minnesotans to stay at home except for specific circumstances.

Win-E-Mac hosts a virtual Spirit Week for Win-E-Mac families to have some fun while at home.

Health officials confirm the first lab confirmed case of COVID-19 in Polk County.

Hearts and teddy bears decorate the windows of homes and businesses in our communities as part of #worldofhearts a movement to show that even though we were isolated from each other we were still all in it together. Teddy bears and other animals were put into windows for another way to distract from the stress of the pandemic and feel like there was community togetherness.

Cloth Face masks were encouraged and community members went to work sewing up the coverings for those who needed them.

May 2020: COVID-19 reported deaths surpass 100,000 during the month of May as Minnesota remains on lockdown.

The City of McIntosh had Clean-Up week the first full week of May, where residents were offered some services to help them clean up their yards and enjoy some sunshine.

The Win-E-Mac School honored their teachers during Teacher Appreciation Week as well as the nutrition professionals working in the kitchens for School Lunch Hero Day on May 1st.

Mark Thompson retired from Garden Valley Technologies and was honored with a car parade to celebrate his years at GVTL.

Win-E-Mac Seniors had a very non-conventional graduation.

Review... Continued on page 3...

COVID-19 Weekly Update

Polk County Public Health



NEW CASES	ACTIVE CASES	HOSPITAL CASES	TOTAL DEATHS
35	98	7 New Hospital Admissions	53
0 New ICU Admissions			
TOTAL CASES: 3,233			

*New Case Data from December 31 - January 6

January 7, 2021

Win-E-Mac school moves to in-school for elementary and hybrid for high school students

On January 18th, 2021 will be a staff development day at Win-E-Mac School with no students.

Starting on Tuesday, January 19th, Grades 5 and 6 will come back in person to school Monday through Friday and there will be, hybrid learning for high school students to in-

clude Wednesdays on a new hybrid schedule.

The High School Hybrid calendar is available on the Win-E-Mac website at www.wem-schools.org.

The school does have a plan to bring all High School students back later. If your student is struggling, please call the District and make some arrangements.

The Safe Learning Plan for the 2020-21 School Year has been updated, so starting on January 19th, 2021, every elementary school across the state will begin bringing students back into an in-person learning model without needing to consult their Regional Support Team, as long as they are able to implement all updated health and safety measures in the Safe Learning Plan. Middle and high schools will continue to use the original process for determining their learning models and must also implement additional health and safety measures if they are providing in-person or hybrid learning.

One new mitigation strategy being implemented on January 4th, is that all public schools providing in-person or hybrid learning must offer on-site testing to all staff that interact with students.

This includes teachers, paraprofessionals, administrators, support staff, nutrition staff, bus drivers and more.

The state of Minnesota will provide training and saliva test kits so that schools can conduct this testing

Sports will be starting competition on Thursday, January 14th with a Boys Basketball game at Win-E-Mac.

Following the Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL) rules of return to play, Win-E-Mac will always require masking of everyone in the building. Following the Social Distancing Guidelines, we will allow 2 tickets per athlete and cheerleader, for spectators.

Spectators must always wear masks and observe social distancing

DO NOT come to the game if you are ill or experiencing symptoms

Each pod can be up to 2 people if they sit together (Household units)

All games will be broadcasted on GV TV or radio. We will follow the same guidelines as volleyball for seating and leaving the gym once your child has played.

Parents can stay for their child's play and will need to leave after the event. This may change as the season moves on. There will be no concessions.

For away games, we encourage our parents to transport your athlete to the game, so the bus is not crowded or the threat of a positive case.



There are many treasures inside the Ginger Junker, including this picture of the building as it once was that now houses the business.



There is much to see and explore at The Ginger Junker in McIntosh.

Health Care Month highlights employment opportunities at a critical time

Health care employs 478,485 people in Minnesota, the largest workforce by sector in the state, accounting for \$25.7 billion in wages in 2019.

The key role of the health care industry in Minnesota's economy has been highlighted in the COVID-19 pandemic, during which dedicated health care workers saved thousands of lives. The importance of the industry in the state is why Governor Walz has proclaimed January as Health Care Month.

"Health Care Month is an opportunity to highlight the economic impacts of the health care industry in our state. Health care jobs offer a career path to family-sustaining wages and economic security," said Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) Commissioner Steve Grove. "Many entry-level health care jobs can be started with no previous experience and many employers provide on-the-job training, helping people considering a career move get on track for future career growth in the health care field."

Health care in Minnesota pays an average annual wage of \$53,659, which is 4% higher than the nation's average wage of \$51,792 for the same sector. Wages go up with additional training, certification and experience. There is projected long-term demand, as well as high current demand for health care workers. Four of the top 10 Jobs in Demand now in Minnesota based on current job postings are health care jobs.

Many entry-level health care positions can leverage skills and experience from other industries, including the hospitality industry. People who lost their jobs in restaurants, hotels or other places during the pandemic may find now is a good time to try out a health care position, even temporarily, to earn money and



learn more about working in the field. People considering a career shift from hospitality to health care can use this tool to see how skills from common hospitality jobs transfer to various roles – including non-direct care roles like dietary and housekeeping – in health care.

Health care added \$36.6 billion to Minnesota's economy in 2019, representing the fourth-largest contribution (10%) to the state's private gross domestic product by any sector. There are more than 11,000 health care employers in Minnesota, including Mayo Clinic and other renowned institutions.

The strength of the health care sector in Minnesota contributes to med-tech breakthroughs and R&D that help foster the success of adjacent industries, such as pharma and medical manufacturing. Minnesota's top export category is optics/medical products, with \$4.6 billion in exports in 2019. This category includes orthopedics and artificial body parts (like prosthetics and medical devices); medical and surgical instruments; and analytical devices.

As Governor Walz proclaimed: Health care is a dynamic and robust industry, crucial to the health and strength of Minnesota's diverse economy. Minnesota's health care workers deserve

to be celebrated for serving on the front lines during the COVID-19 pandemic, working to ensure our state's safety and security.

Find out more about the vibrant health care industry in Minnesota, get information about Health Care Month virtual events and access other related resources on the Health Care Month page on CareerForceMN.com.

CPR classes offered at RiverView Health every month

RiverView Health offers CPR classes to the public on the second Thursday of each month. One class is for certification, the other is for individuals who do not need certification but want to learn CPR.

RiverView's HeartSaver CPR AED (automated external defibrillator) class is for those needing certification. The cost of the course is \$50; this includes the HeartSaver CPR AED eCard and book. This class is 4 hours (6-10 pm) with a test at the end of the session.

The other CPR class offered at RiverView monthly is the Friends and Family course for those that do not need certification. No test or card is issued for this course. Each participant receives a Friends and Family CPR book. This

Ginger Junker...

Continued from page 1

ogizing. Because then Margie needs to dismantle the display and rework it with yet another piece.

That kind of dynamic is one of the things—this St. Paul, MN city girl—Margie likes about being transplanted into a rural community. The chance to meet the locals, get to know her clientele all while letting her creativity soar. And The Ginger Junker attracts all kinds of customers. From shabby chic junking aficionados to guys hunting down fishing spears and tools. Little boys are instinctively drawn to the cupboard that houses vintage trucks and cars and little girls trail along with their Moms finding treasures of their own. Some clients are regulars and always on the hunt for something specific and—if they can't find it, they can add their name and wish to the customer "picking" list.

When asked if she was "picking" right now, Margie quickly responded she is always "picking!" The back rooms and the enormous warehouse testify to her diligence in this regard. Shelves, tables, nooks and

cubbies are chock full of items waiting to migrate to the sale floor. This small business is a one stop shop for anyone who wants to "pick" what the "picker" picked. She is actively looking for smaller estate "picking" appointments. Over the past months, she has become adept at matching her finds to her clientele. She enjoys the fact that as she hunts for inventory, she can picture her buyer. And she just smiles when they find items on the shelf and bring them to the counter.

With the current small business economy challenges, many rural communities are making it a priority to spend their dollars locally. Margie has made her shop available for local artisans and entrepreneurs—without the benefit of their own brick and mortar—to market their art or goods at The Ginger Junker. And if you like the vibe as you meander through and want a little bit of that in your home or business but have no idea where to start... just let Margie know. She can point you in the right direction or help you style your space.

Feeling a little artsy yourself? Looking for a spot to share your technique with others? Consider Ginger's Attic. The loft space at the top of the stairs is private and cozy. Margie has plans to enlarge it and even bigger plans for the rest of The Ginger Junker. Currently, she is applying to register the old gal as an historical building. This would go a long way in providing funding opportunities for taking out the drop-down ceiling and exposing the wonderful tin and vintage light fixtures dangling above. It would also allow her to renovate the weathered brick façade, replace bricked-in windows and doors and expose the marvelous old windows on The Ginger Junker's frontage.

Have a question for The Ginger Junker? Want a sneak peek at her latest finds? You can contact Margie at 218.308.6131 or follow The Ginger Junker on Facebook or Instagram. But the best way to experience The Ginger Junker ambience is to visit it in person!

-a.m.opdahl

LSS Meals Menu 687-2262

Tues, Jan 19th - Ham - AuGratin Potatoes - Buttered Cabbage & Carrots - Wheat Rolls - Brownies - Milk

Wed, Jan 20th - Turkey - Mashed Potatoes & Gravy - Dressing - Squash - Pumpkin Bars - Milk

CHURCH DIRECTORY

ST. MARY'S CHURCH Fosston Fr. John Suvaheen, Pastor

Sun. Jan. 10: 8:30 a.m. Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston; 10:30 a.m. Mass at St. Joseph's, Bagley

Sun. Jan. 17: 8:30 a.m. Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston; 10:30 a.m. Mass at St. Joseph's, Bagley

OURS SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA) McIntosh Supply Pastor Gordon Syverson

Currently there is no in house worship until further notice. It can be viewed on Sunday mornings on Garden Valley channel 30 and 9:00 and 11:15 am or on our YouTube channel "One in Spirit" on Sunday mornings starting at 7:30 am.

MCINTOSH AFLC McIntosh Trinity / Mount Carmel: Pastor Karl Anderson

Mt Carmel and Trinity Free Lutheran Churches in McIntosh have resumed holding Sunday Services.

9:30 Trinity
11:00 Mt Carmel
Social distancing practices will be encouraged.

Video Services will continue on GVTV Channel 30 at 10am Sunday, 7pm Sunday and 6pm Wednesday.

They will also be posted on the McIntosh AFLC Parish YouTube channel

GOSEN LUTHERAN CHURCH Independent Gary Johnson, Pastor www.gosen-church.com Face Book: Gosen Church

Sun., Jan. 10: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Bible Study; 11:00 a.m. Worship Service (also on Facebook: gosenchurch and gosenchurch.com)

Tues, Jan. 12: 10:00 a.m. Sunday worship service telecast on GVTV--30

Wed, Jan. 13: 6:30 p.m. Bible Study at Sharon Ramberg's home.

CALVARY-IMMANUEL LUTHERAN PARISH Winger/Bejou Supply Pastor Gordon Syverson

Calvary Lutheran Church, Winger, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Bejou, and Our Saviors Lutheran Church, McIntosh will run church services on Channel 30 on Garden Valley Channel 30. They will also be available on YouTube on channel One in Spirit Calvary. Our Saviors service will be available by 8:30 am each Sunday until further notice.

Foods you can eat that can positively affect your mood

No one is immune to the occasional bad mood.

Whether it's the weather, waking up on the wrong side of the bed or another variable, various factors can have an adverse effect on a person's mood.

Food is one factor that can have a positive effect on mood. Certain foods have been found to positively affect mood, so incorporating them into your diet may help you stay positive even on those days when you get up on the wrong side of the

bed.

• **Fatty fish:** A study from British researchers published in the Archives of General Psychiatry found that a daily dose of an omega-3 fatty acid called eicosapentaenoic acid, or EPA, helped patients with depression significantly reduce their feelings of sadness and pessimism. Hackensack Meridian Health notes that salmon, albacore tuna, sardines, trout, and anchovies are rich in omega-3 fatty acids.

• **Nuts and seeds:** The min-

erals selenium, copper, magnesium, manganese, and zinc have all been linked to mental health, and nuts are rich in each of those minerals. Hackensack Meridian Health notes that almonds, sunflower seeds, pumpkin seeds, walnuts, and peanuts are particularly good sources of the immune system-boosting minerals zinc and magnesium.

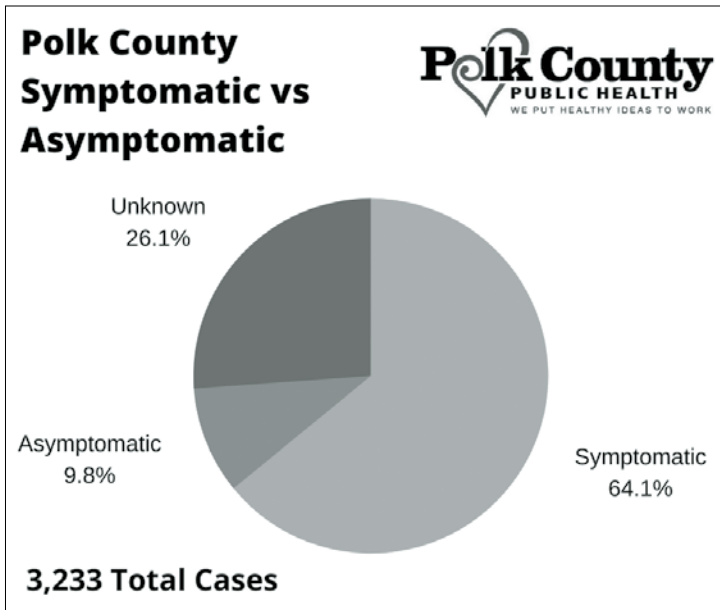
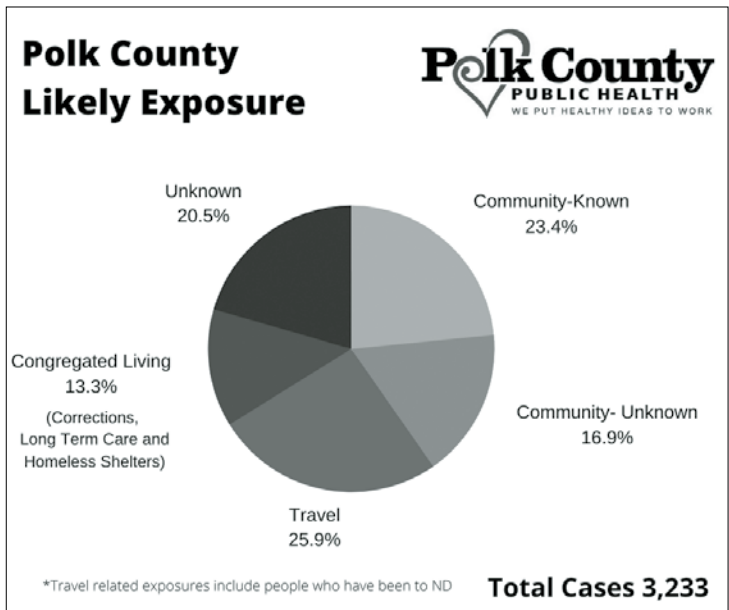
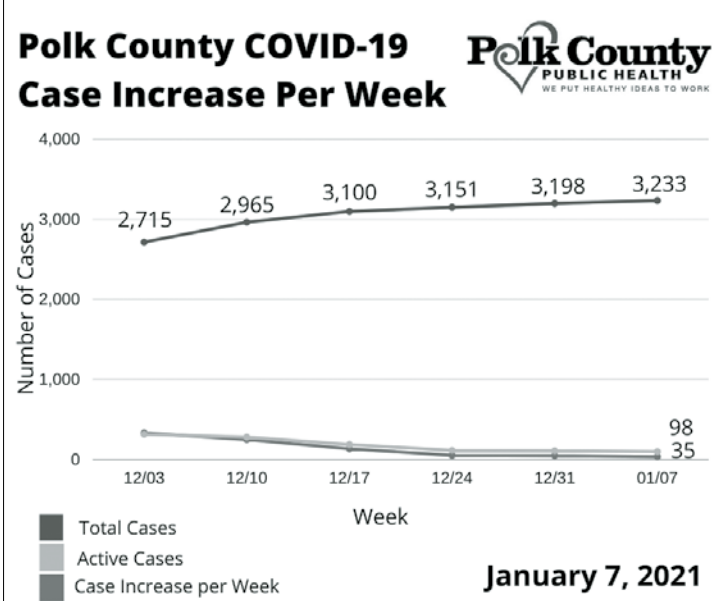
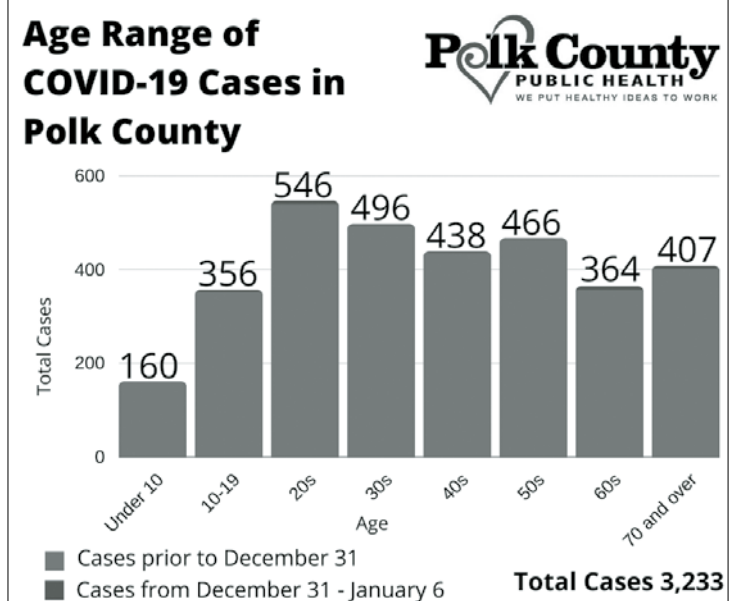
• **Dark, leafy greens:** Dark, leafy greens like kale, spinach and collards are rich in iron and magnesium, both

of which can increase serotonin levels and help reduce feelings of anxiety. Dark, leafy greens also help the body fight inflammation, which can have a positive effect on mood. A 2015 study published in the journal JAMA Psychiatry found that brain inflammation contributed to certain behaviors, including low mood, that appear during major depressive episodes.

• **Dark chocolate:** Chocolate lovers may be happy to learn that dark chocolate can improve mood. A 2009 study

published in the Journal of Proteome Research found that dark chocolate helped to reduce levels of the hormone cortisol, which has been linked to stress. Hackensack Meridian Health notes that, when consumed in moderation, dark chocolate made of at least 70 percent cocoa can help people relax.

Various foods can have a beneficial effect on mood, potentially helping people to stay positive when doing so proves challenging.



Community Birthday and Anniversary Calendar

Wed. Jan. 13:
*Les & Mwavis Fins-eth

Thurs. Jan. 14:
Jan Galland

Sat. Jan. 16: Connor Johnson, Merlene Vennes

Sat Jan. 17: Isaac Schlegel, Stephanie Halland

Mon. Jan. 18: Kendall Olson, Annika Shimp, Jessica Carlson, Becky Boehrnsen

Tues. Jan. 19: Carter Bartz

McINTOSH Times

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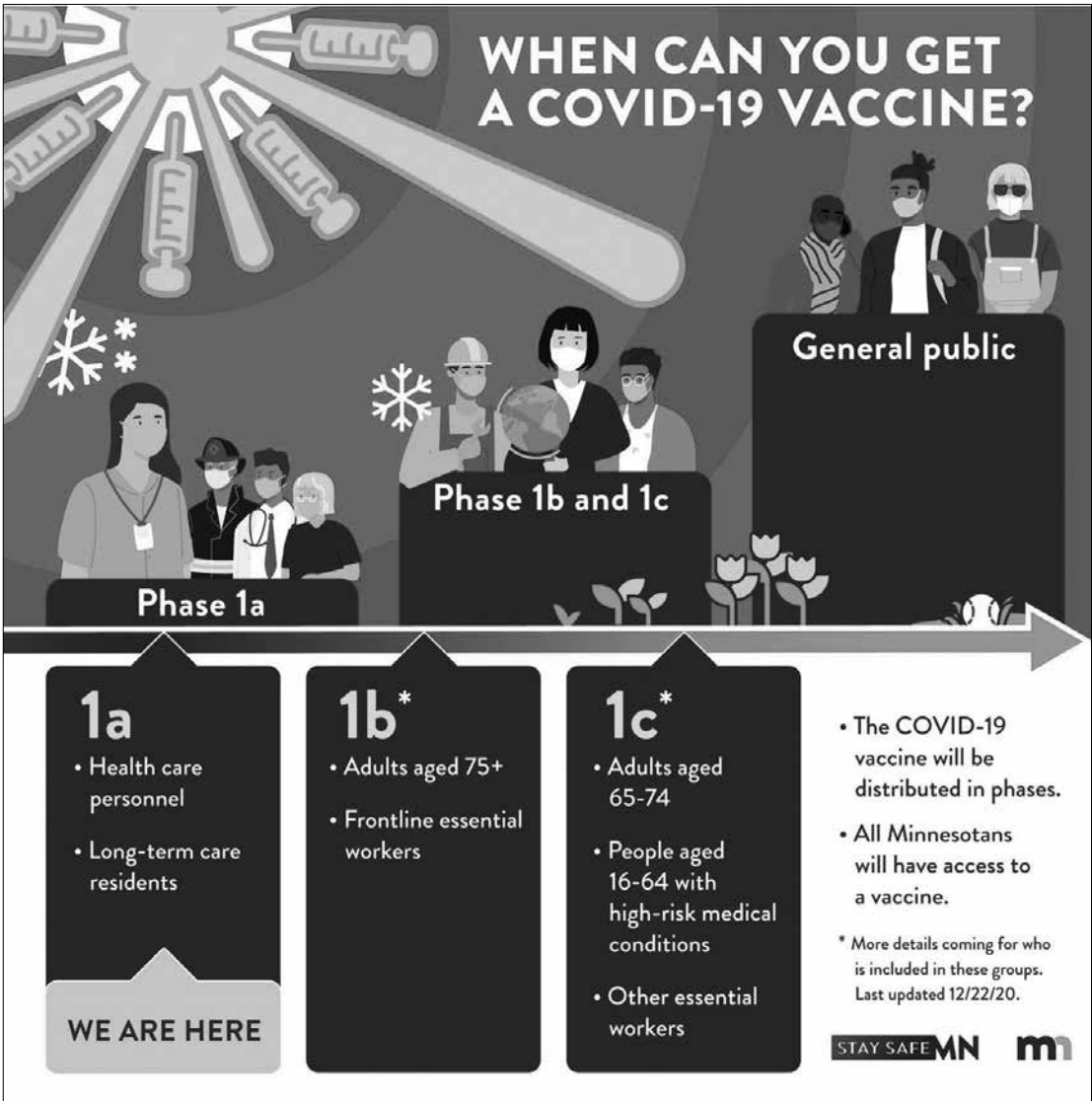
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PCPH COVID-19 vaccination distribution plan

Polk County Public Health (PCPH) is encouraged by the level of interest in our community related to COVID-19 vaccine and would like to clarify a number of questions we continue to receive:

• **As an enrolled provider for COVID-19 vaccine**, we are expected to, and will follow, the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) recommendations and guidance related to distribution of the vaccine.

We are working with our community partners to strategically vaccinate our community in an ethical and efficient manner.

• **Currently, COVID-19 vaccine is being administered** to priority groups in-

cluded in Phase 1A, which includes healthcare workers and long-term care residents. We are hopeful vaccine will become more readily available, making additional priority groups eligible to receive vaccine.

• **A timeline for when all Minnesotans** will have access to the vaccine is unknown. In the meantime, you can act now by getting your flu shot if you haven't already, be patient as priority groups are vaccinated, and continue to practice preventative habits such as wearing a mask, staying 6 feet from others, washing your hands often and staying home if sick.

As additional priority groups become eligible for vaccination, we will share those

details with our community through local media, the Polk County Public Health social media channels, including Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, and our Polk County Coronavirus Response Hub: <https://coronavirus-response-pcg.hub.arcgis.com/>

We greatly appreciate the communities' patience and support as we work through this process!

Visit the Minnesota Department of Health website for information about the Covid-19 Vaccination Plan, including Phase 1A priorities: <https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/vaccine.html>

Review...

Continued from page 1

tion as they were able to graduate in an individual ceremony one after the other. Later celebrated by the community with a graduation parade in downtown Erskine.

McIntosh Friends of the Veterans planned and implemented a Memorial Day Service video to honor our servicemen and women.

The Win-E-Mac Class of 2020: A historic graduation for this Senior Class. Pictured: Lindsey Espeseth, Gabriella Qualey, Conor Johnson, Isaac Iverson, Zachary Simonson, Candelario Flores, Dustin Osland, Jaycee Knutson, Kalisfenia Snegirev, Uliana Boianoff, Krysten Price, Nathan Fortmann, Parker Gerber, Faina Kutsev, Tristen Seglem, Elena Boianoff, Hunter Hoffart, Carlie Sander, Steffan Kuznetsov, Adeline Spry, Isabelle Hernandez, Laila Issa, Elliana Lindberg, Natasha Salsbery, Akeela Kulikov, Katrina Jackson, Issac Salvhus, Abby Lende, Rylee Haugen Travis Lewis, Mary Hallykate Catahan and Noah Roragen. Composite picture by Erin Johnson Photography. Worth noting: This picture is 32 individual photos layered into one. Social distancing rules were followed.

Superintendents Notes

By Randy Bruer

Win-E-Mac Schools

In January, School Board members nominate board positions. The position they hold will face many challenges as they learn the system operations, school budgeting, staff negotiations, facility and grounds issues, student curriculum, technology, extracurricular, transportation, listening to the public, and many other items that are vital to our District. New teachers also have an adjustment period before reality sets in. There are student demands, parent demands, administrative demands — and not to mention the pressures of getting students to achieve. We need to take time and compliment our school personal and board members as they give a lot of extra time to benefit our students. Every parent and patron attend events of the school and talk with students complimenting them on daily activity. Remember this expression: "It takes a community to educate a child". These actions complement that purpose.

MSHSL

Winter Sports Ruling

All Minnesota schools have been given a requirement for winter sports to protect coaches and players. Masks/Face Coverings are Required in all MSHSL winter activities. Face coverings must be worn by all persons at all times, including during practices and contests. Student-athletes and others



are not permitted to remove their face coverings during activities that involve a high level of exertion. Face coverings at contests are limited to black, white, or beige, or school colors. These may include only the school names and/or mascots. A mask/face covering must cover the nose and mouth completely. There is no information given yet for spectators at competitions. We do expect this soon.

Help Needed

We have Bus Driving jobs open and we need a substitute and full-time positions. If you have an interest in working for our school, please call the District Office.

Win-E-Mac Schools

The School is important to our community and we need to acknowledge this to all patrons and visitors in our community. Our enrollment is an essential piece for our district funding,

so we need to talk about our school to others in an effort to attract new families and students to our school and community. I encourage patrons to speak with their neighbors or people contemplating change and invite them to visit our school. Our teachers and staff pride themselves on creating expectations for each student to succeed. If students choose to return to their home district or want to apply to a new district, they should apply for open enrollment by January 15, 2021. This gives the district time to plan for student needs.

Riding the School Bus

There have been a few questions of patrons regarding school buses. Minnesota Law governs transportation by the school district as a privilege and not a right for an eligible student. A student's eligibility to ride a school bus may be revoked for a violation of school bus safety or conduct policies or violation of any other law governing student conduct on a school bus pursuant to the school district's discipline policy. Revocation of a student's bus riding privilege is not an exclusion, expulsion, or suspension under the Pupil Fair Dismissal Act. We ask parents to make sure their child has dressed appropriately for weather conditions. It's cold out there, and a bus can break down, get stuck, or be late for a stop.

Welcome to the New Year!



April 2020: The First National Bank of McIntosh thanks The Clubhouse Childcare Center for having the kids cut out hearts to fill the bank's front window. The bank is participating in #aworldofhearts, a worldwide movement to spread a message of hope and togetherness during the COVID-19 pandemic by adorning windows with hearts.



May 2020: A new sign in front of McIntosh Senior Living let's all who see it know that the staff at the nursing home are all heroes, along with all the other essential employees and health care workers in our community and around the country.



POLK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MINUTES

DECEMBER 15, 2020
BOARD MINUTES

Pursuant to motion of adjournment, the Polk County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 9:30 o'clock a.m., December 15, 2020 at Environmental Services, 320 Ingersoll Avenue, Crookston, MN. Members present: Commissioner Gerald Jacobson, Commissioner Warren Strandell, Commissioner Gary Willhite, Commissioner Joan Lee and Commissioner Don Diedrich and Charles S. Whiting, County Administrator, Clerk of the Board. Other present: Michelle Cote, Deputy Clerk of the Board.

AGENDA

A motion made by Commissioner Jacobson seconded by Commissioner Diedrich and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the December 15, 2020 agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion made by Commissioner Diedrich seconded by Commissioner Strandell and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the consent agenda for December 15, 2020:

1. Approve Commissioner Warrants: General Revenue Fund, \$77,266.58; Public Works Fund, \$112,288.49; Public Safety Fund, \$30,544.14; Public Health Fund, \$5,862.22; Special Assessments (Ditch) Fund, \$22,380.00; Environmental Services Fund, \$11,571.08; Resource Recovery Fund, \$148,771.18; Landfill Fund, \$40,057.96; Per Diems, \$1,125.00; Meal Reimbursement (without overnight lodging), \$79.13 and Sign Audit List.

2. Approve the November 17, November 24, and December 1, 2020 Board minutes.

3. Approve payment to US Bank, St. Louis, MO in the amount of \$109,949.17 for procurement card purchases.

4. Approve the purchase of Cell #14 Liner and Cover Material from Agru America Inc., Georgetown, SC in the amount of \$104,627.11.

5. Approval to Utilize the CY 2020 - 2022 Trailer Hauling Contract Awarded by Beltrami County to Dukek Trucking, Bemidji, MN at a Rate of \$2.21/mile for CY2021 and \$2.22/mile for CY2022.

6. Resolution (2020-101) Accepting Financial Donations On Behalf Of Polk County Sheriff's Office from Walmart Community Grant.

Resolution Accepting Financial Donations On Behalf Of Polk County Sheriff's Office From Walmart Community Grant RESOLUTION (2020-101)

The following resolution (2020-101) was offered by Commissioner Diedrich:

WHEREAS, Polk County Sheriff's Office received a Walmart Community Grant for \$2000.00 to support the Polk County Sheriff's Office for Shop with a First Responder; and

WHEREAS, Polk County Sheriff's Office, wishes to have the County Board formally accept this donation on behalf of Polk County Sheriff's Office and be used for Shop with a First Responder.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, By the County Board of Polk County, Minnesota as follows:

1. The donation from Walmart Community Grant, which is listed above, is hereby accepted by the Polk County Board of Commissioners on behalf of the Polk County Sheriff's Office.

Commissioner Strandell seconded the foregoing resolution and it was declared adopted upon the following vote. YEAS: Lee, Diedrich, Willhite, Strandell and Jacobson. NAYS: None.

COUNTY BOARD MEMBER ISSUE FORUM

1. Commissioner Jacobson brought forth that he attended the MRC meeting. Discussion was brought forth regarding the speed limit criteria around small towns specifically Rindal and concern from Norman County Commissioner Marvin Gunderson. Also brought forth was discussion regarding concerns by a citizen focused on the intersection of County Road 37 and 210.

2. Commissioner Strandell brought forth that he participated in the Pine to Prairie Drug Task Force where the focus was finances. He also participated in the Tri-County Community Corrections meeting where much of the focus was COVID-19 and the impact on the Correctional Facility. In addition, he attended a "Bridge" meeting at the request of Trail County ND where they focused on a potential replacement at the Climax site which would include a realignment with North Dakota taking the lead in the project. Also attended was an Area Transportation Partnership meeting.

3. Commissioner Willhite brought forth that he made a presentation on Valley Talk KROX. He also attended the Polk County Extension meeting. In addition he attended the Crookston School Board meeting where the focus was on the impact of COVID-19 and the direction of classroom learning. He also participated in the Polk County Planning Commission meeting. Tom Noah, Crookston, MN will replace Courtney Pulkrabek who has resigned from the Planning Commission. He also attended the Tri-Valley Opportunity Council meeting regarding audits and grants. He also attended the AMC Annual Conference.

4. Commissioner Lee brought forth that she attended the Wild Rice Marsh One Water One Plan with BWRS. In addition, she participated in a Polk County Extension meeting where evaluations of Extension staff were performed. She also participated in the AMC Board of Directors meeting where finances of the organization were the focus. In addition, she attended the AMC annual meeting. She also attended the EPA Small Community Advisory Sub-

committee (SCAS) meeting where a hearing was held regarding the Clean Water Act. She also attended the Pine to Prairie Drug Task Force meeting. Discussion was brought forth regarding AIS where only 64% of the budget was utilized. She also participated in an MCIT meeting, the State Community Health Services Advisory Committee (SCHSAC) and the Fosston Radio Talk Show. Discussion was also brought forth regarding a meeting held with a Norman County Representative, Lisa Loegeing focused on the Agricultural Educator position currently being shared with Norman County.

5. Commissioner Diedrich brought forth that he attended the Tri-County Community Corrections meeting. He also attended the MCIT Board meeting. He also participated in the Law Library meeting that focused on the remodeling of the courtrooms.

6. Law Library – Corky Reynolds made a presentation to retiring Commissioner Don Diedrich from the Law Library Board for his service to the Board.

SOCIAL SERVICES

Karen Warmack, Social Services Director came before the Board with matters pertaining to her department:

1. 2021 Social Service Board Meeting Dates

Discussion was brought forth regarding the 2021 Social Service Board meeting schedule. No action was taken.

2. Children Mental Health Respite Care Grant Approval

A motion was made by Commissioner Jacobson seconded by Commissioner Strandell and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the 2021 contract amendment of the Children Mental Health Grant for 2021 in the amount of \$91,450.00 as presented to the Board. (Children Mental Health Grant on file in the Administrator's Office.)

3. Personal Money Management

The Personal Money Management Contract was discussed and presented to the Board. A motion was made by Commissioner Diedrich seconded by Commissioner Lee and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the 2021 Personal Money Management Contract for \$15,000.00 as presented. (Contract on file in the Administrator's Office.)

4. (2) Family Based Service Provider Replacement Request

A motion was made by Commissioner Strandell seconded by Commissioner Jacobson adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to refill (2) Family Based Service Provider positions and any internal subsequent position vacancies occurring because of this action.

HIGHWAY

Richard Sanders, Polk County Highway Engineer came before the Board with matters pertaining to his department:

1. Certificate of Performance/Final Acceptance SP 060-601-061, SP 060-616-010

A motion made by Commissioner Lee and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the Certificate of Performance for SP 060-601-061 and SP 060-616-010 and the Certificate of Final Acceptance for SP 060-601-061 and SP 060-616-010 and allow the County Engineer to sign the Certificate of Performances and the County Engineer and County Administrator to sign the Final Voucher.

2. Certificate of Performance/Final Acceptance SP 060-621-014

A motion made by Commissioner Jacobson seconded by Commissioner Willhite and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the Certificate of Performance and the Certificate of Final Acceptance for SP 060-621-014 and allow the County Engineer to sign the Certificate of Performances and the County Engineer and County Administrator to sign the Final Voucher.

3. Certificate of Performance/Final Acceptance SAP 060-109-001, SAP 060-112-001, SAP 060-601-065, SAP 060-601-067

A motion was made by Commissioner Strandell seconded by Commissioner Diedrich and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the Certificate of Performance for SAP 060-109-001, SAP 060-112-001, SAP 060-601-065, and SAP 060-601-067 and the Certificate of Final Acceptance for SP 060-109-001 etc. and allow the County Engineer to sign the Certificate of Performances and the County Engineer and County Administrator to sign the Final Voucher.

4. Certificate of Performance/Final Acceptance SAP 060-620-018

A motion was made by Commissioner Diedrich seconded by Commissioner Strandell and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the Certificate of Performance and the Certificate of Final Acceptance for SAP 060-620-018 and allow the County Engineer to sign the Certificate of Performances and the County Engineer and County Administrator to sign the Final Voucher.

5. Safety Compliance Service Contract

A motion was made by Commissioner Lee seconded by Commissioner Willhite and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve contracting with Safety Compliance Services, Plummer MN and allow the County Engineer to sign the Agreement as presented. (Agreement on file in the Administrator's Office.)

6. 2021 Diesel Fuel Quotes

A motion was made by Commissioner Jacobson seconded by Commissioner Diedrich and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to award the Diesel Fuel Quote to Fertile Oil, Fertile MN for 2021.

PUBLIC HEALTH

Sarah Reese, Public Health Di-

rector came before the Board with matters pertaining to her department:

1. COVID-19 Update

An update was given to the Board regarding COVID-19.

2. Service Agreement/ Crookston Inn & Convention Center

A motion was made by Commissioner Strandell seconded by Commissioner Lee and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the Crookston Inn & Convention Center Service Agreement as presented to the Board. (Agreement on file in the Administrator's Office.)

3. Temporary Roster Clerk Typist Cashier II

Polk County Public Health is getting funding from MDH for vaccine administration/distribution that needs to be spent by June 30, 2021. A motion was made by Commissioner Diedrich seconded by Commissioner Lee and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve hiring a temporary roster Clerk Typist Cashier II position (up to 250) hours within Polk County Public Health to aid in the COVID-19 vaccine data entry. This temporary position may not be a county incurred cost.

PLANNING AND ZONING

Jacob Snyder, Environmental Specialist/Planning and Zoning Administrator came before the Board with matters pertaining to Planning and Zoning:

1. Resolution (2020-100) Conditional Use Permit For Crookston Valley Cooperative (CVC) To Construct A Dry Fertilizer Storage Facility Which Replaces An Existing Dry Fertilizer Storage Building Located In Crookston City Limits And For A Tower Height Greater Than 100 Feet

Resolution (2020-100) was offered by Commissioner Diedrich seconded by Commissioner Strandell and adopted upon the following vote: YEAS: Lee, Diedrich, Willhite, Strandell, Jacobson NAYS: None (See Resolution (2020-100) on file in the Administrator's Office.)

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Jon Steiner, Environmental Services Director came before the Board with matters pertaining to his department:

1. Resource Recovery Facility Insurance – CY2021

Options were discussed with the Board regarding Resource Recovery Facility Insurance for CY2021. MCIT provided coverage in CY2020 but has not committed to any terms in doing so for CY2021 - insurance options outside of MCIT have also been explored.

PROPERTY RECORDS

Michelle Cote, Property Records Director came before the Board with matters pertaining to her department:

1. Legal Services Agreement – Rinke Noonan, Attorneys at Law

A motion was made by Commissioner Strandell seconded by Commissioner Willhite, and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to table the proposed Monthly Retainer + Hourly Legal Services Drainage Authority Agreement with Rinke Noonan, Attorneys at Law, Fergus Falls, MN as presented to the Board. (2021 Legal Services Agreement on file in the Administrator's Office) until the December 22, 2020 meeting.

2. Annual Aggregate Report

A handout pertaining to the Annual Aggregate Report was presented to the Board. Information regarding the 2019 Aggregate Tax Collection and Disbursements in addition to the balance of the restoration fund was also discussed. (Report on file in the Administrator's Office)

3. Resolution (2020-99) A Resolution To Participate In The City Of Crookston's Housing Incentive Program Which Includes Property Tax Abatements

A Resolution To Participate In The City of Crookston's Housing Incentive Program Which Includes Property Tax Abatements RESOLUTION (2020-99)

The following resolution (2020-99) was offered by Commissioner Willhite:

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes 469.1812 through 469.1815 authorize property tax abatements for Community Economic Development purposes, and

WHEREAS, The City of Crookston desires to offer a program pursuant to said statutes.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of County Commissioners of Polk County that Polk County does authorize a housing incentive tax abatement program with the following parameters:

Exhibit A

Polk County CARES funds uses.

AS CODED ON STATE REPORT SUBMITTED 12/9/20

SUPPLIES, EQUIPMENT, SERVICES

Dept.	
Social Services	114,787.78
Facilities	79,996.22
I/S	38,864.45
Health	17,679.28
Solid waste	13,410.77
Enviro svcs	10,787.53
GIS	7,767.96
Hwy	6,104.83
TPSC, License, Assessor	3,214.45
Sheriff	3,069.07
Finance	478.82
Attorney	218.36
Vets	138.94
	296,508.50

		public health		other	
	improve telework	special cleaning svcs	barriers, signage	mileage, advertising	
	ppe & safety & cleaning product	other special equip.	extra postage,	other special needs	
	110,996.83	1,096.30	960.35	1,794.30	114,787.78
	-	49,560.61	30,435.61	-	79,996.22
	38,864.45	-	-	-	38,864.45
	4,554.60	70.88	9,459.87	3,593.99	17,679.28
	89.99	11,888.81	430.86	1,051.11	13,410.77
	288.63	1,733.36	7,356.51	1,409.08	10,787.53
	5,341.41	-	2,426.95	-	7,767.96
	-	6,104.83	-	-	6,104.83
	1,673.32	78.78	856.67	611.72	3,214.49
	-	3,069.07	-	-	3,069.07
	448.82	30.00	-	-	478.82
	139.44	78.92	-	-	218.36
	-	138.94	-	-	138.94
	162,337.49	73,790.50	51,990.42	8,460.09	296,508.50

PAYROLL EXPENSE

Dept.	
Sheriff	992,682.10
Health	438,677.00
Social Services	250,125.69
	1,681,484.79

	payroll for public health and safety employees	budgeted personnel diverted to substantial different use
	992,682.10	
	438,677.00	
	250,125.69	
	1,431,359.10	250,125.69

total County use 1,977,993.29

Commissioner Willhite seconded the foregoing resolution and it was declared adopted upon the following vote. YEAS: Lee, Diedrich, Willhite, Strandell and Jacobson. NAYS: None.

3. 2021 Budget

a. Draft Budget Resolutions

Draft Resolution pertaining to Adopting the 2021 Budget; Setting the 2021 Net Levy; Setting 2021 Wage Grid for the County Administrator, Department Heads, Non-Union, and Social Services Personnel and Approving New Positions and Position Changes Effective in the 2021 Budget; Setting Commissioner Salary/Per Diem/Meeting List were discussed and presented to the Board. The 2021 Fund Levy Report was also discussed and presented to the Board. (Draft Resolutions and Fund Levy Report are on file in the Administrator's Office)

A motion was made by Commissioner Strandell seconded by Commissioner Jacobson and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board that the Polk County Board of Commissioners participating in the Medicare Insurance Program will receive an amount equal to two-thirds of the monthly benefits package negotiated for by the employees.

b. Review of Budget Presentation

A handout was discussed and presented to the Board regarding the 2021 Polk County Proposed Budget. (Handout on file in the Administrator's Office)

COMMISSIONER WARRANTS

A motion was made by Commissioner Diedrich seconded by Commissioner Strandell and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board that the following Commissioner Warrants were approved: (see Commissioner Warrants table)

The Board recessed to reconvene at 6:00 o'clock p.m., for a Public 2021 Budget Public Hearing at Environmental Services, 320 Ingersoll Avenue, Crookston, MN.

2021 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

1. Budget Presentation – Chuck Whiting, Polk County Administrator

The 2021 budget was presented to the Board. (Handout on file in the Administrator's Office.)

2. Open Public Meeting

A motion was made by Commissioner Lee seconded by Commissioner Jacobson and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to open the Public Hearing at 6:19 p.m.

3. Close Public Meeting

A motion was made by Commissioner Diedrich seconded by Com-

COMMISSIONER WARRANTS
DATED 12/18/2020
APPROVED 12/15/2020

Vendor Name	Amount
Anders Valley Publishing, LLC	2,933.54
Aramark	2,229.43
Architectural Resources Inc	3,656.25
Auto Glass & Aftermarket Inc	2,416.00
Beltrami Industrial Services	32,000.72
Brault Construction LLC	3,445.00
Central States Wire Products Inc	3,333.58
Chiller Systems Inc	5,460.00
Church & Dwight Co Inc	9,257.28
Crookston Fuel Company	4,976.68
Crookston Times	3,597.83
Durag	7,072.35
Election Systems & Software Inc	14,914.54
Ferguson Enterprise Inc 3093	2,010.57
GP Excavating LLC	6,860.00
Great Northern Septic	4,285.00
Grove Mechanical Inc	4,627.17
Higher Ground	10,450.00
Jet-Way Multiple Services Inc	4,237.50
Johnson Controls Fire Protection LP	2,765.27
Jsb Engineered Solutions	48,766.84
Knife River Materials	31,823.25
Kris Engineering	41,295.30
Kurita America Inc	5,997.72
MCCC Lockbox	3,195.00
MN Counties Intergov'l Trust	3,565.00
Morris Electronics Inc	5,876.05
Northdale Oil Inc	2,025.03
Northland Business Systems Inc	6,810.57
Pellenc ST American	13,742.51
Pemberton Law PLLP	4,734.25
Polk County	4,236.00
Polk County Highway Department	5,525.88
Productivity Plus Account	2,393.99
Royal Tire	2,774.90
Sampletech	15,300.00
Total Lawn Care & Landscaping	4,270.00
Urt Llc	3,424.70
US Bank Voyager Fleet Sys	3,047.69
Valley Electric Of Crookston LLC	2,442.75
Wenck Associates Inc	11,929.79
Wideth Smith Nolting & Assoc	11,722.50
190 Payments less than 2000	83,313.82
Final Total:	448,741.65

missioner Strandell and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to close the Public Hearing at 6:51 p.m.

With no further business the Board adjourned to reconvene at 8:00 a.m., December 22, 2020.

Gary Willhite, Chair
ATTEST:

Charles S. Whiting, County Administrator
Clerk of the Board

M43C

Expenses Incurred To Accommodate Employee Work And Safety During The COVID-19 Pandemic Of 2020

RESOLUTION (2020-102)

The following resolution (2020-102) was offered by Commissioner Diedrich:

WHEREAS, Governor Walz Executive Order #2020-01 declared a peacetime emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Polk County subsequently declared a state of emergency in Resolution 2020-34 due to conditions resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Polk County received \$3,985,249 in Coronavirus Relief Funds, a.k.a CARES funds, to address local community health and economic and necessary County expenses incurred due to the COVID-19 public health emergency; and

WHEREAS, Polk County utilized approximately one half of these CARES funds for community health and economic support needs in Resolutions 2020-75 and 2020-89; and

WHEREAS, Polk County intends to utilize the approximate remaining one half of CARES funds for County organization expenses and payroll support for expenses incurred due to the COVID-19 public health emergency; and

WHEREAS, The County has carefully considered eligible expenses per Federal Treasury guidelines for use of CARES funds and has reported these expenses to the Minnesota Department of Management and Budget; and

WHEREAS, The County has determined the expenses identified in Exhibit B attached meet those eligibility considerations.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, The Polk County Board of Commissioners authorizes and confirms the use of CARES funds for organization expenses and payroll support expenses incurred due to the COVID-19 public health emergency as identified in Exhibit A totaling \$1,977,993.29.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Polk County Board of Commissioners authorize County Administrator to account these funds as incurred by department fund prior to December 31, 2020.