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Times

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McIntosh, Minnesota

The legendary Johnny Holm Band plays to a sold-out crowd for the First Care Medical Services Foundation fundraiser



Even Fonder is the President of the First Care Medical Foundation, along with his wife, Ruth, they welcomed Johnny Holm to the First Care Foundation's annual benefit and community concert held at venture's Bar & Grill in Fosston on Saturday, March 9th.

Fosston City Council holds special meeting to update on the Essentia Health dispute

There was little room left in the Fosston City Council chambers as a crowd of more than 60 concerned citizens and Essentia Health employees crowded in to hear an update from the Council concerning the dispute the city has with the healthcare corporation who currently is under contract at the Fosston hospital.

Fosston City Attorney, Steven Larson spoke first about the questions that will be brought to the Arbitration board, the next step in this dispute.

The board will convene from July 8 – 11, 2024, when it will be decided if, in fact, the Essentia Health Corporation is in breach of their contract they have with the First Care Medical Services Foundation, which owns the hospital and is part of the City of Fosston.

Questions that will be raised include whether labor and delivery are part of Obstetrics services, whether Essentia gave proper notice of the discontinuation of labor and delivery, and if there is cause to “excuse” the corporation of providing labor and delivery services at the Fosston hospital.

Cassie Heide, Fosston City Administrator, then spoke about the legal process needing to run its’ course before local control of the hospital is recovered. If and when the City chooses to terminate the contract with Essentia Health Corporation, there will be a 12-month, good-faith operating window prior to the hospital being managed by First Care Medical Services.

Evan Fonder, the President of the First Care Medical Services Foundation spoke about the evolution of discontinued

The tickets for the First Care Medical Services Foundation Community Concert went on sale at the end of January and area folks ran to pick them up for a chance to have a night of entertainment with the Legendary Johnny Holm Band.

The Community Concert, held on Saturday, March 9th at Venture's Bar & Grill in Fosston was designed to bring the community together for a night of fun, dancing and community building in honor of the Foundation's goal of securing the healthcare future in our area. The Foundation which owns the hospital in Fosston, is working to ensure a solid future for our region's healthcare needs and celebrating their commitment to just that.

When Johnny and the band arrived, the buzz in the building began, as the quick set up of the band's equipment on the newly built stage got the band warmed up for the start of an amazing night of music, dancing, fun stories, and quite a few laughs.

Johnny Holm and his band of talented musicians, along with his brilliant and gifted daughter, Jordan, have traveled across the country, mostly throughout the Midwest, performing to crowds equaling millions of people over the past 55 years that he and his band have been entertaining. Starting in 1969, Johnny has played in many venues, from bars to fairs, with a few regularly scheduled gigs, such as Memorial Day in Mentor and at one time, a regular at Valleyfair amusement park.

At the height of his career, Johnny was entertaining over 220 days of the year. He has moved that number down to a mere 120 days, and most of his events are summer orientated, with a few vacation days over the winter to visit warmer climates and old friends.

Many of Johnny's band members have gone on to make their way up in the music world, playing for national artists and performing their own shows across the country.

Late this summer, Johnny Holm will release a new album he is currently working on in

Nashville. He said the songs will be more personal, and people will identify with them. Stay tuned and be on the lookout for his newest works during 2024.

His next performance in our area will be Sunday, May 26th at the Maple Lake Pavillion in Mentor.

WEM School readiness and Head Start Early Childhood & Preschool screening

The Win-E-Mac school will offer preschool and early childhood screening for a free and simple check of how your child is growing, developing, and learning.

A trained professional will check your child's vision and hearing, height and weight, immunizations, large and small muscle development, thinking, language and communication skills, and social and emotional development. The screening is open to all children, ages three years old and up, who have not been previously screened. Children must be screened before entering preschool and kindergarten.

The screening will take place at Polk County Public Health located in the Bjella Building (240 Cleveland Avenue SW) in McIntosh on Monday, March 18th.

Contact Heather Earls at Win-E-Mac to set up an appointment time for your child to be screened by emailing her at: hearls@wemschools.org.



Callen Weisfennig, Essentia Hospital and Clinic Administrator, and his wife Alysia were able to visit with Johnny Holm before the Community Concert that was held at Venture's Bar and Grill as an annual fundraiser for the First Care Medical Foundation.

Celebrate

St. Patrick's Day March 17



McIntosh Council meets February to discuss blighted property and more

Regular Council Meeting
Thursday February 8,
2024 at 5:30 p.m.
Community Center
call to order:
Mayor Strom called the meeting to order at 5:30.
Pledge of allegiance:
Roll call:
Members present: Mayor Toby Strom, Luke Syverson and Beth Hagen Luke Burd and Jordan Gunufson
Melissa Finseth – clerk/treasurer
Rebecca Boehrsen - Li-

censed Assisted Living Director for Poplar Meadows guests: Mary Goodwin, Denise Stark, Zach Thoma – Moore Engineering, Inc.
Determination of quorum:
Quorum was met.
Agenda additions:
None.
Approval of minutes:
a. January 11, 2024 regular council meeting minutes
Council...
Continued on page 2 ...



Performing to a sold out crowd, the legendary Johnny Holm Band performed at Venture's Bar & Grill last Saturday night as part of the First Care Foundation's Community Concert and annual fundraiser for a fun night of dancing and community building.

With credit card interest at all-time highs, here's what you need to know

March is National Credit Education Month.

Do you know how much interest you are paying on your credit cards? If you don't, you aren't alone.

About half of all credit card users are not sure what the interest rates are on their credit cards, according to CreditCards.com. Shannon Doyle, financial educator with LSS Financial Counseling, shared that the Annual Percentage Rate on your credit card is an important number to know because it can significantly impact your financial wellbeing, especially over time.

Currently, the average interest on a bank credit card rate is 21.5 percent, according to the Federal Reserve — the highest interest rate ever recorded by this organization.

That means, if you are carrying a \$6,000 balance on a credit card from month to month, you are paying about \$107 in interest each month,



which totals about \$1,284 per year, depending how your credit card company handles compound interest. (You can calculate the interest you are paying by using Calculator.net's credit card calculator.)

"That's a significant chunk out of your budget each year that you could use to pay for groceries, car payments, or a fun trip to a warm destination," Doyle said.

Moreover, if you only pay the minimum monthly payment on your balance — say \$120 and

never charge another item to the card, it will take you about 11 years to pay off that card. In the meantime, you'll be paying the credit card company nearly \$10,000 for the privilege of borrowing that \$6,000.

Doyle shares several strategies to avoid the high cost of interest on credit cards:

- 1) **Pay bills in full each month,** and on time. Avoid high interest rates altogether by paying your balance in full every month. Your FICO score — or the most common way to

determine your credit score — also considers your payment history and late payments not only lower your credit score but can stay on your record for more than seven years. So, even if you're only paying the minimum, make sure payments are timely.

- 2) **Implement the power payment method.** If it's not possible to pay your monthly credit card balance in full, pick your priority debt to pay off. This could either be the card with the lowest balance (to have fewer payments), or the card with the highest interest (to save money on interest.) Pay as much extra on the priority debt as you can, while paying the minimum payments on any other debt, until the priority debt is paid off, then add that total payment to the next card in line.

- 3) **Consider a Debt Management Plan.** By creating a DMP, you can typically lower your monthly payment and

reduce interest rates on your credit cards so that you can pay off your debt more quickly. Together, these two strategies will save you thousands of dollars in the long run.

LSS Financial Counseling is a nonprofit organization that offers Debt Management Plans that require a small, one-time set up fee and a small monthly maintenance fee. They also offer free budget and debt counseling that can help you outline your income and monthly expenses and create a budget that can work for you.

"Anytime is a good time to get your personal finances in order," Doyle said. "Often, creating a budget is the first step that can help you avoid lots of financial headaches down the road."



Open Thursday, March 14th 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm and Thursday, March 21 10:00 am - 2:00 pm.

For information: email: foodshelf@gracechurcherskine.org or call 218-687-2250, leave a message.

Bingo at FCA

Freedom Christian Academy will host a Meat Bingo night on Friday, March 15th starting at 6:30 pm at the Erskine Community Center, 105 Ross Avenue. This will be a fundraiser for the school and bingo winners will win meat bundles as prizes. For more information visit fcaerskine.org.

MCCL

Meeting in McIntosh

Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life (MCCL) Chapter No. 45 will hold its monthly meeting March 21, 2024, at 7:00pm, at Mt. Carmel Church in McIntosh. All who value every human life from womb to tomb are encouraged to attend.

King Township Annual Meeting

King Township, County of Polk, State of Minnesota, will hold its annual meeting and elections at the McIntosh Community Center, 115 Broadway Ave, on Tuesday, March 12, 2024. The Annual meeting will begin promptly at 3:00 pm. Voting for Board positions that are up for election, will take place after the meeting from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

Lucas Thom
King Township Clerk

Community Birthday and Anniversary Calendar

Wed. March 13: Sylvie Strom, Christian Widman, Henry Swanson

Thurs. March 14: Barbara Rolf

Fri. March 15: Ashlee Lee, Ray Catahan

Sat. March 16: Lee Narum

Sun. March 17: Leslie Finseth, Jens Stordahl, Amie Erickson

Mon. March 18: Jason Voxland, Jay Mahlen, Bill Woods, Evalynn Sveen

Tues. March 19: Harald Thompson

McIntosh Times

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

Wed. March 13: 5:30am Mass; 6:30pm Stations of the Cross

Fri. March 15: 11:30am Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston
Sun. March 17: 8:00am Confession; 8:30am Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston; 10:30am Mass at St. Joseph's, Bagley

Wed. March 20: 5:30am Mass; 6:30pm Stations of the Cross

Fri. March 22: 11:30am Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston
Sun. March 24: 8:00am Confession; 8:30am Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston; 10:30am Mass at St. Joseph's, Bagley

Thurs. March 28: 7:00 pm Mass of Last Supper, Institution of the Holy Eucharist at St. Mary's, Fosston

Fri. March 29: 6:00pm Passion of the Lord, Good Friday at St. Mary's, Fosston

Sat. March 30: 8:00pm Easter Vigil Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston

Sun. March 31: 8:30am East Sunday Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston; 10:30am Mass at St. Joseph's, Bagley

OURS SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)
McIntosh
Pastor Rene Mehlberg
Synodical Authorized Minister Katie DeMarais

Sun. March 17: 10:00am Coffee Hour; 10:30am Worship Services

Sun. March 24: 10:00am Coffee Hour; 10:30am Worship Services

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 - The Journey. Our Saviors service will be available by 8:30 am each Sunday until further notice.

MCINTOSH AFLC
McIntosh Trinity / Mount Carmel:
Interim Pastor: Nathan Dalager

Trinity: (27262 315th St. SE, McIntosh) Sunday Worship: 11:00am; Sunday School: 9:45am

Mt. Carmel: (305 State St. NE, McIntosh) Sunday Worship: 9:30am; Sunday School: 10:45am

Lutheran Parish YouTube Channel

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

Sun, March 17: 9:30am Sunday School and Adult Bible Study

Tues, March 19: 10:00am. Sunday worship service telecast on GVTN--30

Wed, March 20: 6:30pm Bible Study at Sharon Ramberg's home

Gosen Church is located 4 miles south of the junctions of Highways 2 & 59 or 4 miles north of Winger; then 1/2 mile east on County Road 206. For information call 268-4242 or 687-3461.

VERNES LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMC)
McIntosh
Pastor Lee Laaveg

Sun. March 17: 9:00am Worship
Sun. March 24: 9:00am Worship

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
McIntosh
Pastor Bruce Blocker,

Sundays: 9:00am Worship; 10:00am Fellowship Hour; 10:15am Sunday School

CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Winger

Sundays: 10:30am Coffee Fellowship; 11:00am Worship

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH-NALC
Erskine
Rev. Pam Thorson

Sundays: 9:15am Sunday School; 10:30am Worship

Come early and enjoy fellowship and a good cup of coffee. It will also be available at the same time on Garden Valley Channel 30, Facebook and YouTube.

Council...

Continued from page 1

Motion by Jordan Gunufson and seconded by Luke Syverson to approve the January 11, 2024 regular council meeting minutes. Passed unopposed.

Public concerns:

Mary Goodwin was in attendance to inquire about updating the community center kitchen. the Minnesota Department of Health will need to come on site to assess what is required. Remodeling projects do not qualify for grants, so either the city will have to budget for it out of the general fund, or the citizens will have to fundraise for the expenses. Mary also asked what it would take for the city to construct a pickle ball court. There are no current plans to undertake the project due to tight budget constraints.

MEDA and Poplar Meadows:

a. Rental status
Rebecca Boehrsen reported that Poplar Meadows currently has twenty-six residents. There is one 1 bedroom available for rent.

b. Approval of Poplar Meadows monthly bills

Motion by Luke Syverson and seconded by Luke Burd to approve the monthly bills in the amount of \$78,059.05. Passed unopposed.

c. Debt payment

Rebecca Boehrsen reported that no debt payment will be made this month due to lack of excess revenues.

Old business:

a. Little Bobby's Bar and Grill

Motion by Luke Burd and seconded by Beth Hagen to approve a liquor license for Little

Bobby's Bar and Grill. Voting in the affirmative: Luke Burd, Beth Hagen and Luke Syverson. Opposed: Jordan Gunufson. Motion Passed.

b. Weather siren

Tabled

c. Reese property

Zach Thoma of Moore Engineering, Inc. was in attendance to go over a tentative plan to plot out a portion of the Reese property on the south side of Highway 2. With surveying and engineering fees, the total cost of the project will fall between \$5,000.00 and \$10,000.00. Motion by Luke Burd and seconded by Luke Syverson to move forward with the project. Passed unopposed.

d. Blighted property

Melissa Finseth provided an email response from the City Attorney on legal steps the city needs to take to contact blighted property owners. The council is aware the issue is a complex, multi-step, process that requires court involvement and will need to budget accordingly.

New business:

a. Water tower inspection contract KLM Engineering, Inc.

Motion by Luke Syverson and seconded by Beth Hagen to approve a ten year inspection contract, through KLM Engineering, Inc., in the amount of \$7,300.00. The first inspection will occur in 2025. Passed unopposed.

b. City budget

The council heard from the city clerk about the city's current finances and what it is shaping up to look like in 2024 as additional funds are needed

to support all monthly expenses. Low priority projects will need to be put on hold for the foreseeable future.

c. Building permit: Burthwick

Motion by Luke Syverson and seconded by Jordan Gunufson to approve a building permit for Tara and John Burthwick. Passed unopposed.

Approval of monthly bills:

Motion by Luke Syverson and seconded by Jordan Gunufson to approve the monthly bills in the amount of \$78,059.05. Passed unopposed.

NOTICE OF MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS OF FOSSTON TRI-COOP

Fosston, Minnesota

Notice is hereby given that the Annual meeting of stockholders of Fosston Tri-Coop will be held at Ventures Bar & Grill in Fosston, Minnesota on Friday, March 22, 2024. Meeting will start at 5:00 p.m. with a meal to follow.

The business meeting will include the presentation of the annual report and election of two directors, who will serve a term of three years.

Curtis Bartz
Secretary-Treasurer



The dance floor was full during the First Care Medical Services Foundation's Community Concert with the legendary Johnny Holm Band performing a sold out concert at Venture's Bar & Grill on Saturday, March 9th in Fosston.

BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL GUIDE

This space for rent at \$127.40 for 6 months.

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Polk County Commissioners Minutes

FEBRUARY 20, 2024 BOARD MINUTES

Pursuant to motion of adjournment, the Polk County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 9:30 o'clock a.m., February 20, 2024. Members present: Commissioner Paul Reese, Commissioner Warren Strandell, Commissioner Gary Willhite, Commissioner Joan Lee, Commissioner Mark Holy (virtual), and Charles S. Whiting, County Administrator, Clerk of the Board. Others present Valerie Bjerk, Deputy Clerk of the Board, and Ashley Loewen.

AGENDA

A motion was made by Commissioner Lee seconded by Commissioner Strandell and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the February 20, 2024, agenda.

CONSENT ITEMS

A motion was made by Commissioner Reese seconded by Commissioner Willhite and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the February 20, 2024, consent items:

- 1.Approve the February 6, 2024, Board minutes.
- 2.Approve Commissioner Warrants: General Revenue Fund, \$194,988.12; Public Works Fund, \$35,419.13; Public Safety Fund, \$47,671.61; Public Health Fund, \$20,714.96; Forfeited Tax Sale Fund, \$1,120.00; Special Assessments (Ditch) Fund, \$304.26; Environmental Services Fund, \$20,566.06; Resource Recovery Fund, \$68,579.67; Landfill Fund, \$33,428.96; Per Diems, \$1,575.00; Meal Reimbursements (without over-night lodging), \$0.00 and Sign Audit List.
- 3.Approve payment to US Bank, St. Louis, MO in the amount of \$129,088.91 for procurement card purchases.
- 4.Approve Resolution (2024-08) Accepting Financial Donations On Behalf Of Polk County Coordinated Victim Services From Dwain & Kirsten Fagerlund, Crookston, MN

RESOLUTION (2024-08) Accepting Financial Donations On Behalf Of Polk County Coordinated Victim Services From Dwain & Kirsten Fagerlund, Crookston, MN

The following resolution (2024-08) was offered by Commissioner Reese:

WHEREAS, Dwain and Kirsten Fagerlund, residents of Crookston, Minnesota, has made a financial donation of \$50.00 to support the services and programming of PCCVS;

WHEREAS, PCCVS, which is part of the Polk County Attorney's Office, wishes to have the County Board formally accept these financial donations on behalf of PCCVS;

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

- 1.The financial donation from Dwain and Kirsten Fagerlund, which is listed above, hereby be accepted by the Polk County Board of Commissioners on behalf of Polk County Coordinated Victim Services to be used in support of the services and programming provided by Polk County Coordinated Victim Services.

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

- 5.Approve Resolution (2024-09) Accepting Financial Donations On Behalf Of Polk County Coordinated Victim Services From Grove Mechanical, Inc., Crookston, MN

RESOLUTION (2024-09) Accepting Financial Donations On Behalf Of Polk County Coordinated Victim Services From Grove Mechanical, Inc., Crookston, MN

The following resolution (2024-09) was offered by Commissioner Reese:

WHEREAS, Grove Mechanical, Inc., located in Crookston, Minnesota, has made a financial donation of \$50.00 to support the services and programming of PCCVS;

WHEREAS, PCCVS, which is part of the Polk County Attorney's Office, wishes to have the County Board formally accept these financial donations on behalf of PCCVS;

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

- 1.The financial donation from Grove Mechanical Inc., which is listed above, hereby be accepted by the Polk County Board of Commissioners on behalf of Polk County Coordinated Victim Services to be used in support of the services and programming provided by Polk County Coordinated Victim Services.

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

- 6.Approve Resolution (2024-10) Accepting Financial Donations On Behalf Of Polk County Coordinated Victim Services From Trinity Lutheran Church WLECA, Crookston, MN

RESOLUTION (2024-10) Accepting Financial Donations On Behalf Of Polk County Coordinated Victim Services From Trinity Lutheran Church WLECA, Crookston, MN

The following resolution (2024-10) was offered by Commissioner Reese:

WHEREAS, Trinity Lutheran Church WLECA, located in Crookston, Minnesota, has made a financial donation of \$250.00 to support the services and programming of PCCVS;

WHEREAS, PCCVS, which is part of the Polk County Attorney's Office, wishes to have the County Board formally accept these financial donations on behalf of PCCVS;

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

- 1.The financial donation from Trinity Lutheran Church WLECA, which is listed above, hereby be accepted by the Polk County Board

of Commissioners on behalf of Polk County Coordinated Victim Services to be used in support of the services and programming provided by Polk County Coordinated Victim Services.

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

- 7.Approve Resolution (2024-11) Accept Gifts And Donations Received To Polk County Social Services From Organizations, Businesses And Church Groups In 2024

RESOLUTION (2024-11) Accept Gifts And Donations Received To Polk County Social Services From Organizations, Businesses And Church Groups In 2024

The following resolution (2024-11) was offered by Commissioner Reese:

WHEREAS, Community members, service organizations, businesses, and Church groups, offer to donate items money or gift cards to Polk County Social Services to assist in meeting the needs of people served by Human Services programs, and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute 465.03 requires a county to accept gifts by resolution; and,

WHEREAS, The donations received throughout the year from community members, service organizations, businesses, and Church groups will be for the sole purpose of assisting people receiving services from Polk County Social Services to meet needs that are otherwise not covered, and,

WHEREAS, Acceptance of the items or gift cards in accordance with the donor's terms is in the best interest of the County of Polk.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Polk County Board of Commissioners does accept the above-described funds as donated throughout the year from community members, service organizations, businesses, and Church groups and extends its grateful appreciation.

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

COUNTY BOARD MEMBER IS-SUE FORUM

- 1.Commissioner Reese brought forth that he attended the following meetings:

- a. Tri-Valley Opportunity Council
- 2. Commissioner Strandell brought forth that he attended the following meetings:
- a. Northwest Regional Corrections Center
- b. Area Transportation Partnership Meeting
- c. Luther Jacobson, Shelly, MN Phone Call
- 3. Commissioner Willhite brought forth that he attended the following meetings:

- a. Tri-County Community Corrections
- b. Ditch Meeting
- c. Extension Meeting
- d. Audit Discussion
- 4. Commissioner Lee brought forth that she attended the following meetings:
- a.Personnel One Watershed, One Plan Meeting
- b.East Polk Soil and Water Conservation District Meeting
- c.Planning and Zoning Meeting
- d.Extension Meeting
- e. DAC Meeting
- 5.Commissioner Holy brought forth that he attended the following meetings:

- a.Red Lake One Watershed
- b.Middle River-Snake River-Tamarac River Watershed Meeting
- c.Email from Laurie Marshall

PUBLIC HEALTH

Sarah Reese, Public Health Director (virtual) came before the Board with matters pertaining to her department:

1.Advertising & Hiring a .28 Nurse Practitioner

A motion was made by Commissioner Strandell seconded by Commissioner Lee and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve advertising and hiring of a .28 FTE Nurse Practitioner – Sexual and Reproductive Health within Polk County Public Health.

SHERIFF

James Tadman, Polk County Sheriff came before the Board with matters pertaining to his department:

1. Monthly Sheriff Reports

The January 2024 Monthly Sheriff Reports were discussed and presented to the Board. (Reports on file in the Administrator's Office)

2. Replace and Upgrade the Microwave Link between the County and the State for Dispatch

A motion was made by Commissioner Strandell seconded by Commissioner Reese and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the quote as presented to the Board for the upgraded microwave link in the amount of \$20,646.94 for the Dispatch area. (Quote on file in the Administrator's Office)

FINANCE

Ron Denison, Finance Director came before the Board with matters pertaining to his department:

1. Backup Voucher Signer Approval List Addendum

A motion was made by Commissioner Lee seconded by Commissioner Reese and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the following list of new backup expense claim voucher signers as an addendum to prior lists:

Joshua Plante, Assistant Facilities Director, for Richard Langlois, Facilities Management Director, Angel Korynta, Public Health Assistant Director, for Sarah Reese, Public Health Director, Lori Nystad, Office Support Services Supervisor, for Sarah Reese, Public Health Director, Cherie Chaput, Fiscal Supervisor I, for Karen Warmack, Social Services Director, and Victoria Ramirez, Social Services Manager, for Karen Warmack, Social

Services Director.

2. Accounting Officer Replacement Request

A motion was made by Commissioner Reese seconded by Commissioner Strandell and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve refilling a Finance Accounting Officer position, and to fill any internal subsequent position vacancies occurring within the Finance Department because of this action.

SOCIAL SERVICES

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

1.Violence Intervention Project Contract Approval

A motion was made by Commissioner Lee seconded by Commissioner Willhite and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the Contract with Violence Intervention Project from February 2, 2024, through December 31, 2024, as presented to the Board. (Contract on file in the Administrator's Office)

2. Approve Resolution (2024-12) Supporting Clay County To Request Minnesota Bond Funds For Development Of Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility On Behalf Of Polk County Social Services 2024

RESOLUTION (2024-12) Supporting Clay County To Request Minnesota Bond Funds For Development Of Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility On Behalf Of Polk County Social Services 2024

The following resolution (2024-12) was offered by Commissioner Lee:

WHEREAS, Throughout Minnesota there is inadequate capacity in the continuum of care to support children with high acuity, complex and/or co-occurring conditions that include violent or sexually inappropriate behavior and/or physical health challenges; and

WHEREAS, Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities (PRTF) are a part of this continuum for children and youth under age 21 with complex mental health conditions and aggression; and

WHEREAS, Currently there are four PRTF facilities operational in Minnesota with a total capacity of 166 beds and an additional PRTF set to open soon; and

WHEREAS, There is a need for additional PRTF beds in the State of Minnesota to meet the needs of children with serious and complex mental health needs; and

WHEREAS, The location of PRTF beds must be spread across the state to ensure equal access and proximity to a child's home community, family, and service providers; and

WHEREAS, Clay County is committed to establishing a PRTF and will partner with an eligible provider

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That Polk County does hereby request authorization to replace, rehabilitate, or remove such bridges; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That Polk County does hereby request financial assistance with eligible approach grading and engineering costs on township bridges, as provided by law.

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

3. Approve MNDOT Agreement 1055490

A motion was made by Commissioner Strandell seconded by Commissioner Reese and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the MNDOT Agreement 1055490 as presented to the Board. (Agreement on file in the Administrator's Office)

a.Approve Resolution (2024-15) State Funded Program for IJIA Discretionary Grant Assistance Terms and Conditions SAP 060-589-001

RESOLUTION (2024-15) State Funded Program for IJIA Discretionary Grant Assistance Terms and Conditions SAP 060-589-001

The following resolution (2024-15) was offered by Commissioner Lee:

WHEREAS, Polk County has applied to the Commissioner of Transportation for a grant from the State Program for IJIA Assistance; and

WHEREAS, The Commissioner of Transportation has given notice that funding for this project is available; and

WHEREAS, The amount of the grant has been determined to be \$30,000.00 by reason of the Request for Proposal submitted;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That Polk County does hereby agree to the terms and conditions of the grant consistent with Minnesota Laws 2023, Chapter 68, Article 1, Section 2, Subdivision 5(a), and will pay any additional amount by which the cost exceeds the estimate, and will return any amount appropriated for the project but not required. The proper county officers are authorized to execute a grant agreement and any amendments thereto with the Commissioner of Transportation concerning the above-referenced grant.

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

4. Polk/Russia Township Agency Agreement

Russia Township has requested Polk County Highway survey, design and construct a new township bridge. A motion was made by Commissioner Reese seconded by Commissioner Strandell and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve Polk County Russia Township Agency Agreement and

in the delivery of PRTF services; and

WHEREAS, Clay County is seeking Minnesota bond funds to aid in land acquisition and building a PRTF;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, The Polk County Board of Commissioners via this Resolution, supports Clay County to request Minnesota bond funds for infrastructure in the development of a Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility in Clay County.

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

WEST POLK SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Nicole Bernd, District Manager, West Polk Soil and Water Conservation District came before the Board with matters pertaining to the WP-SWCD:

Discussion along with handouts were presented to the Board regarding the following:

- 1.Polk CD 99, Polk JD 60, West Central Regional Water District, Houston Avenue – Crookston, FY24-25 Natural Resources Block Grant and County Match and the Sand Hill River Watershed Based Implementation Fund. (Handouts on file in the Administrator's Office)

MIS

Levi Webster, Polk County MIS Director came before the Board with matters pertaining to his department:

1.Approval for Microsoft 365 and Windows Server Licensing

A motion was made by Commissioner Strandell seconded by Commissioner Reese and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve SHI quotes in the amount of \$191,727.96 for the annual Microsoft

Old Bridge No.	New Bridge No.	Road No. and Name	Crossing	LPI	Estimated Proj. Cost	Federal Funds	Local or State Aid Funds	Township or Bridge Funds Request	Proposed Const. Yr.
L7619	60570	Columbia, T-530, 440 th St SE	BNSF	56	1,500,000		10,000	1,400,000	2024
LT10	60L74	Brandsvold, 360 th Ave SE	CD23		120,000		10,000	110,000	2024
LT10	60L75	CR 225	Huntsville Coulee		150,000		10,000	140,000	2025
LT10	60L76	Russia	190 th Ave SW		120,000		10,000	110,000	2024
L7510		Euclid, T-189, 290 th Ave SW	CD 66	49	120,000		10,000	110,000	2025
L7522		Scandia, T-209, 265 th Ave SW	Sand Hill	35	700,000		20,000	680,000	2025
L7624		Lessor, T-892, 315th St SE	Poplar River	70	150,000		10,000	140,000	2025
L5792		Kertsonville, T-244, 170 Ave SW	Coulee	25	120,000		10,000	110,000	2025
5767	60565	CSAH 1	Red River	38	4,000,000		500,000	3,500,000	2026
L5788		Chester, T-756, 310 th Ave SE	Lost River	52	700,000		20,000	680,000	2026

allow the Administrator and Chair of the Board to sign the Agreement as presented to the Board. (Agreement on file in the Administrator's Office)

5.East Grand Forks RAISE Grant Application

Polk County, Grand Forks County, City of Grand Forks, and City of East Grand Forks have been working on Merrifield Bridge/Inner City Bridge for years. East Grand Forks is the lead agency in this work. The group is applying for a planning grant via the RAISE Grant. East Grand Forks has requested a Letter of Support for the application from Polk County. A motion was made by Commissioner Strandell seconded by Commissioner Reese and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve Polk County writing a letter of support for the application and allowing the Board Chair and Administrator to sign the letter. (Letter on file in the Administrator's Office)

COUNTY DITCHES - HIGHWAY

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

1. Redetermination of Benefits for County Ditches

Discussion along with handouts were presented to the Board. H2o's Bryan Murphy (virtual) came before the Board regarding the redetermination of benefits for county ditches along with Sandhill River Watershed Board (Craig Engelstad, Clayton Bartz, Shawn Brekke, April Swenby, Don Andringa (virtual), Stuart Christian (virtual) – Sandhill Watershed) (Chris Fee – KROX) (Zach Hermann – Houston Engineering). (Handout on file in the Administrator's Office)

Commissioner Mark Holy left the meeting at 11:50 a.m. (virtual)

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

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

1. Polk Transfer Station – Replace Operator Position

A motion was made by Commissioner Strandell seconded by Commissioner Reese and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to advertise and fill the Transfer Station Operator position at the Polk County Transfer Station in Crookston, MN.

2. Adjustment of Fees at Polk Solid Waste Facilities – 2024

Discussion was held with the Board regarding adjusting fees for CY2024 based on waste projections (additional waste volumes to be received) that were supposed to be received. Resulting changes shall be recommended for approval at a subsequent Board meeting.

3. Polk Landfill – Wetland Permit Updates

An update was given to the Board regarding the status of the following Wetland-related permits at the Polk County Landfill: DNR Protected Plant Taking Permit, DNR/SWCD Rare Natural Community Taking Permit, SWCD (State) Wetland Permit, USACE (Federal) Wetland Permit.

4. Purchase Agreement for Wetland Credits

Discussion was held with the Board regarding the use of Wetland Bank #1583 and secure purchase agreement for the 11.18 acres of wetland credits to satisfy the State and Federal Permits. The Purchase Agreement would be acted upon by

Licensing Renewal Agreement.

HIGHWAY

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

1. Resolution (2024-13) Agreeing To Be Lead Applicant For 2024 Rebuilding American Infrastructure With Sustainability And Equity (RAISE) Grant Program

RESOLUTION (2024-13) Agreeing To Be Lead Applicant For 2024 Rebuilding American Infrastructure With Sustainability And Equity (RAISE) Grant Program

The following resolution (2024-13) was offered by Commissioner Strandell:

WHEREAS, Surface Transportation is a vital part of Polk County's, and the Region's, infrastructure as it provides safe, reliable, and affordable transportation which is essential to the mobility, economic competitiveness and quality of life for regional residents, and

WHEREAS, The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act authorized and appropriated \$1.5 billion annually to be awarded by the Department of Transportation ("DOT") 2022 – FY 2026 for Local and Regional Project Assistance Program Grants under National Infrastructure Investments, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, The Polk County Board of Commissioners agrees to serve as the lead applicant for a RAISE Grant application to restore and modernize existing Minnesota Bridges 5767, 6676, and 6646 in five counties across the Red River of the North between Minnesota and North Dakota; also agreeing to secure and guarantee the local share of costs associated with this project and responsibility for seeing this project

through to its completion, with compliance of all applicable laws, rules and regulations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, The Polk County Board of Commissioners authorizes the submittal of a RAISE Grant application for the Revitalizing Red River Corridor Connections project, as described above.

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

1a. Approve Polk County Match Letter

A motion was made by Commissioner Reese seconded by Commissioner Strandell and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the Polk County Match Letter as presented. (Letter on file in the Administrator's Office)

2.Resolution (2024-14) Bridge Replacement Priority List

RESOLUTION (2024-14) Bridge Replacement Priority List

The following resolution (2024-14) was offered by Commissioner Lee:

WHEREAS, Polk County has reviewed the pertinent data on bridges requiring replacement, rehabilitation, or removal, supplied by local citizenry and local units of government; and

WHEREAS, Polk County has identified those bridges that are high priority and that require replacement, rehabilitation, or removal within the next five years;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the following bridges are high priorities for replacement, major rehabilitation, or removal, and Polk County intends to replace, rehabilitate, or remove these bridges as soon as possible when funds are available; and

the Board at a subsequent Board meeting.

5.Solid Waste Financing Options – 2024

An update was given to the Board on Solid Waste financing options under consideration for various options and scenarios. Polk County has been pursuing Grants (CAP, SWIFR, MPCA EA) to build out the Solid Waste infrastructure over the last few years – to maximize previous investment, compliance with new rules/issues, deal with 'new normal' circumstances such as lack of available labor and skyrocketing prices. All attempts have failed thus far. In coordination with Polk County Administrator, financing options are being looked at for various scenarios. Looking at bonding options for

local cost share if State Bonds are appropriated in 2024 for 9 Co H&S/ Phase III project, smaller bonding options for essential work if no State Bonds are appropriated in 2024, and possible GF loan for immediate needs (wetland credit, plant restitution, repayment of consulting for LF long-term design).

COMMISSIONER WARRANTS

A motion was made by Commissioner Reese seconded by Commissioner Willhite and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board that the following Commissioner Warrants were approved:

COMMISSIONER WARRANTS DATED 02/23/2024 APPROVED 02/20/2024

M52C

Vendor Name	Amount
Aramark Uniform Services	2,461.50
AT- Scene LLC	8,218.00
Baldwin Supply Company	3,558.09
Brost Chevrolet Inc	3,853.49
Church & Dwight Co Inc	25,357.62
CNH Industrial Accounts	4,878.16
Code 4 Services Inc	4,790.87
Crookston Fuel Company	7,185.02
CuraScriptSD	2,175.97
D & T Ventures, LLC	3,472.88
Destination Transport	2,190.00
DS Solutions Inc	6,888.00
Election Systems & Software Inc	21,952.26
Golf Cars Plus	3,109.84
Government Mgmt Group Inc	5,000.00
Grainger	2,167.67
Intradyn	17,170.30
Kurita America Inc	10,869.92
Level 5 Services	3,969.00
LSQ Funding Group LC	3,920.16
Lunseth Plumbing & Heating Co	7,622.30
MN Sheriffs' Association	9,405.79
MnCCC Lockbox	18,376.27
Morris Electronics Inc	35,552.12
Motorola Solutions Inc	6,685.92
Napa Auto Parts	2,330.62
Northdale Oil Inc	3,162.25
Northland Comm & Tech College	4,100.00
NW ECB	3,500.00
Nw Mn Household Hazardous	12,909.36
Paige Co. Containers Inc	2,280.00
Pemberton Law PLLP	3,272.00
PERA	2,379.60
Polk County	9,775.00
Polk County Environmental Services	2,



Tuesday morning, the Win-E-Mac elementary students enjoyed a "Green Eggs & Ham" breakfast with their parents and friends. Here Terri Kaupang, her kids, Jackson and Emma are joined by the Cat in the Hat, Mr. Bruer.



Mr. Svalen's and Mr. Roragen's 4th grade classes understood the assignment for Wordy Wednesday during Read Across America Week at Win-E-Mac School. The 4th graders wore many different "wordy" shirts to celebrate the Wednesday!



Connie Nelson was even able to life her arm this high before her surgery and now she has unlimited range with the hinge that was put in her arm.

Connie Nelson has successful surgery

One who has suffered for years with arthritis is Connie Nelson who is able to lift her arm above her head now. Something she has not been able to do for long time. She has the kind of arthritis that eats up the joints so they wear out. She has had a shoulder surgery, hip surgery and two knee surgeries done.

With her arthritis the cartilage within a joint begins to break down and the underlying bone begins to change. These changes usually develop slowly and get worse over time. It can cause pain, stiffness, and swelling. In some cases it also causes reduced function and disability; some people are no longer able to do daily tasks or work. She has not been able to lift a coffee pot off the stove.

She went to Doctor Caron in Bemidji and he told her that he did not do elbows. He sent her to Mayo Hospital in Rochester to see a Dr. Mabry, an orthopedic surgeon who could do the work.

She went down in July for her first time to have a conversation with him and about all the x-rays that had been taken. She went down again on August 17 and had her surgery on her elbow and went home on August 18. She now has metal in her joints but she can move her arm freely again.

One week later she was back to see Dr. Caron in Bemidji who did a set of x-rays and they were sent to Mayo. They were followed up with a zoom meeting. Connie had never done that and her daughter Erin Ladd



brought her computer and they had the meeting.

She will be going back in Mayo for a follow up but she has been wonderful ever since. She is back to Rosemaling again and her other hobbies. She meets with the Norda Gonvick Rosemaling group who meets in Our Saviors Church in Leonard and Good Shepherd in Clearbrook. The group was started many years ago when Sara Madsen had a craft shop in Gonvick who sold supplies to them. She was the County Extension agent in Clearwater County.

She is thankful for all the prayers from members of the First Baptist Church and others during all her time of healing.

She believes to Look Up, Get Up, Don't Sit, Go Get Help.

Try a new meat and potatoes dish this St. Patrick's Day

St. Patrick's Day presents the perfect opportunity to try authentic Irish cuisine as well as foods and beverages that have become associated strictly with the holiday (like green beer). It's likely someone you know will be cooking corned beef and cabbage this St. Patrick's Day. But what if you're among those who just doesn't fancy the salted and pickled flavoring of this familiar favorite?

"Zesty Braised Beef with New Potatoes" isn't exactly corned beef, but it can be a worthy alternative. It's warm, filling and flavorful, and can be just the thing to eat on a chilly March day. What's more, this rich beef can pair well with a dark stout like Guinness. Enjoy this recipe, courtesy of "The Healthy Slow Cooker" (Robert Rose) by Judith Finlayson.

Zesty Braised Beef with New Potatoes
Serves 8

2 tablespoons olive oil, divided

2 ounces chunk pancetta, preferably hot pancetta, diced

2 pounds trimmed stewing beef, cut into 1-inch cubes and

patted dry

2 onions, finely chopped

4 cloves garlic, minced

1 teaspoon dried thyme

1/2 teaspoon sea salt

1/2 teaspoon cracked black peppercorns

1/2 cup dry white wine

2 cups chicken stock

2 pounds small new potatoes, scrubbed and thinly sliced (about 30 tiny ones)

1/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper, dissolved in 1 tablespoon freshly squeezed lemon juice

1/4 cup finely chopped parsley leaves.

1. In a skillet, heat 1 tablespoon of the oil over medium-high heat. Add pancetta and cook, stirring, until nicely browned, about 3 minutes. Transfer to slow cooker stoneware (3 1/2 to 5 quart).

2. Add beef to skillet, in batches, and cook, stirring until browned, about 4 minutes per batch. Transfer to stoneware as completed.

3. Reduce heat to medium. Add remaining tablespoon of oil to pan. Add onions and cook, stirring, until softened, about 3 minutes. Add garlic, thyme, salt and peppercorns and cook,

stirring, for 1 minute. Add wine, bring to a boil and boil, stirring and scraping up brown bits from bottom of pan for 2 minutes. Add stock and potatoes and bring to a boil. Simmer for 2 minutes.

4. Transfer to stoneware. Cover and cook on low for 8 hours or on high for 4 hours, until potatoes are tender. Stir in cayenne solution. Cover and cook on high for 10 minutes. Transfer to a server dish and garnish with parsley. Serve with a big platter of roasted carrots.

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF POLK
NINTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
DISTRICT COURT
PROBATE DIVISION

RE: Estate of
Douglas K. Rand
Court File No.: 60-PR-24-336

**NOTICE OF INFORMAL
APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL
REPRESENTATIVE AND
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
(INTESTATE)**

Notice is given that an application for informal appointment of personal representative has been filed with the Registrar. No will has been presented for probate. The application has been granted.

Notice is also given that the Registrar has informally appointed Kathryn R.L. Rand, whose address is 40286 235 Street SW, Fisher, Minnesota 56723, as personal representative of the Estate of the Decedent. Any heir or other interested person may be entitled to appointment as personal representative or may object to the appointment of the personal representative. Unless objections are filed with the Court (pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 524.3-607) and the Court otherwise orders, the personal representative has full power to administer the Estate including, after 30 days for the date of issuance of letters, the power to sell, encumber, lease or distribute real estate.

Any objections to the appointment of the Personal Representative must be filed with this Court and will be heard by the Court after the filing of an appropriate petition and proper notice of hearing.

Notice is also given that (subject to Minnesota Statutes section 524.3-801) all creditors having claims against the Estate are required to present the claims to the personal representative or to the Court Administrator within four months after the date of this Notice or the claims will be barred.

Dated: March 4, 2024
Registrar:
/s/ Gina DeVilbiss-Hendry
Dated: March 4, 2024
Court Administrator:
/s/ Kathy Narlock

Attorney for Personal Representative
Kyle A. Barlow (#0397795)
Fredrikson & Byron, P.A.
51 Broadway, Suite 400
Fargo, ND 58102-4991
Telephone: 701.237.8200
Facsimile: 701.237.8220
Email: kbarlow@fredlaw.com
#81535586v1

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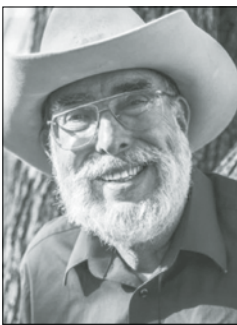
Home Country

By Slim Randles

Life in a small town means everybody knows what's going on, good or bad. Just take what happened to Dud the other day.

It was trash day, and the trash barrels were on the street waiting to be emptied into the weekly truck. Dudley Campbell was no different from his neighbors, having his cans at the curbside ready for a trip to the dump. His wife, Anita, had driven to the city to do some shopping, so Dud was home alone.

And probably that's why he felt secure in going through his own garbage. First, he spread a tarp out on the ground next to the cans and then dove in. He resembled a badger trying



to dig up a squirrel as he went lower and lower in the garbage can and the pile on the tarp grew larger.

Mrs. Miller lived just across the street from Dud, and was watching the whole operation. She made a horrified phone call across town to Mamie Dilworth, who then passed it along to Windy Wilson. Windy, she knew, was a man of action.

He'd know what to do.

And he did. The bags of groceries were put on Dud's porch when he wasn't looking. The used-but-clean clothing for both Dud and Anita were laid on the porch swing.

Anita discovered them when she got home and was the one who informed her husband of

the porch treasure.

At supper that evening, Anita asked Dud if he'd done anything to warrant this largesse. I mean, Anita had been clothes shopping all day, so she knew it wasn't her.

And Dud said, "Hon, the only thing I did differently today was to find that little bronze horse statue I use for a paperweight. I had accidentally tossed it in the trash."

Brought to you by the bronze horse statues on Ebay, if you like really fancy stuff. Expensive, but they don't eat much.

Living Local Women Workshop

Living Local Women Workshop #2 is set for March 23, 2024; 10am -12pm @ the "Clearbrook City Hall". 200 Elm St. Clearbrook, MN.

Alethea Kenney; Traditional Naturopath, Western Herbalist, and Aromatherapist will be the speaker at the "Living Local Women" Workshop #2. Alethea will take participants on a virtual winter weed walk through her farm during her presentation, Foraging Through Fields and Forests: Understanding the limitations of conventional medicine can empower people to safely take charge of healing simple conditions.

She will share about the diverse "native" and "introduced" plants in northern Minnesota, see some edible and medicinal plants, as well as learn to make your own healing salve.

Althea, along with her husband, has farmed since 1996, and now keeps various feral animals, equines, dogs, cats and ducks sustainably on a farm in Northern Minnesota that runs on renewable energy.

Alethea Kenney holds a Diploma in Veterinary Homeopathy and is certified in Equine Iridology. She authored books,



"An Ounce of Prevention: Raising and Feeding Animals Naturally", and "Homeopathic First Aid for the Farm". Her latest book Foraging Fields Fencerows, and Forests" will be available soon.

More information can be found at borealbalance.com, backinbalanceminerals.com, and reedbird.com. Her books are available online or from her direct.