

BENTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
March 1, 2016

The Benton County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on March 1, 2016 in the Benton County Board Room in Foley, MN with Commissioners Warren Peschl, Jake Bauerly, Ed Popp, Jim McMahon and Spencer Buerkle present. Call to order by Chair Buerkle was at 9:00 AM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Peschl/Bauerly unanimous to approve the agenda as written.

No one was present to speak under Open Forum.

Consent Agenda item #5 was “pulled” for further discussion. Popp/McMahon unanimous to approve the remaining Consent Agenda: 1) approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of February 16, 2016 as written; 2) accept and file Committee of the Whole Minutes of February 3, 2016 as written; 3) accept and file Committee of the Whole Minutes of February 5, 2016 as written; 4) accept and file Committee of the Whole Minutes of February 9, 2016 as written; 6) approve 2016 Solid Waste Hauler Licenses Round II: *Waste Management of MN Inc.; Tom Kraemer Inc.; City of St. Cloud; Tri-County Organics, LLC;* and *Rapid Container Service*, and authorize the Chair to sign; 7) approve Snowmobile Safety Enforcement Grant Contract with the State of MN, and authorize the Chair to sign; and 8) approve Application for Permits to host four special events as requested by Deanna Rosa, dba *Rollies, LLC*.

McMahon/Popp unanimous to conduct a closed meeting of the County Board (at 9:04 AM) to discuss current litigation, as permitted under MN Statutes §13D.05, Subdivision 3(b).

The Board returned to open session at 9:17 AM.

Following further discussion on Consent Agenda item #5, Peschl/Popp unanimous to approve a contract with MSDS Online for web-based Safety Data Sheet support, and authorize the Chair to sign.

Joe Janish, Department of Development Director, announced that the next item meets the public meeting requirement for *Schlichting Farms, Inc.*, proposed feedlot operators in a non-delegated county, located in Section 16-Township 38-Range 31, Langola Township (1730 – 155<sup>th</sup> Street NW, Rice). He explained that the operator is proposing to expand a Tier 1 (50-999) animal unit feedlot in Benton County within the Agricultural District (from 217 animal units to 492 animal units). Janish stated that the MPCA requires that a public meeting be held for large feedlots in non-delegated counties before they can issue a permit; a land use permit from the county for the construction of the facility is also required. He stated that the Schlichting’s have noticed within the paper for the proposed expansion; the operators are proposing approximately two additions onto the existing structure as part of the project:

- About half of barn 1 is farrowing crates with a poured reinforced concrete shallow pit under the crates. Manure from those crates is pumped internally through the barn into the big pit under barn 2. The balance of barn 1 is office, storage and a maintenance room.
- Barn 2 is all farrowing crates and there is an 8-foot deep poured reinforced concrete pit under this facility.
- Barn 3 is all gestation crates and there is an 8-foot deep poured reinforced concrete pit under that facility.

- The 40' x 320' proposed building will all be gestation crates and there will be an 8 foot deep poured reinforced concrete pit under the entire structure.
- The 46' x 80' proposed building will be all farrowing crates and there will be an 8-foot deep poured reinforced concrete pit under the entire structure.
- There are no other animal holding areas, lots, or manure storage areas on the site as all animals are kept inside the main complex.

Janish announced that any comments can be directed to Rhonda Adkins-Pollution Control Specialist, West Feedlot Unit, MPCA, 7678 College Road, Suite 105, Baxter MN 56425.

The Regular County Board meeting was recessed at 9:25 AM to conduct a Human Services Board meeting.

The Regular County Board meeting was reconvened at 9:29 AM.

Board members reported on recent meetings they attended on behalf of the county.

Bauerly/Peschl unanimous to set Committees of the Whole: February 18, Benton County Association of Township Officers; March 2, Public Forum on Minnesota's Combined State Plan for the Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act; March 2, Little Rock Creek Sustainable Groundwater Use Planning Project Advisory Team; and March 3, MN Department of Military Affairs Joining Community Forces—MN Conference.

Bauerly/Peschl unanimous to adjourn at 9:42 AM.

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Spencer C. Buerkle, Chair  
Benton County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

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Montgomery Headley  
Benton County Administrator