



Dakota County

Board of Commissioners

Minutes

Tuesday, July 23, 2024

11:00 AM

Conference Room 3A, Administration
Center, Hastings

Special County Board meeting for the purpose of considering approval of an employment contract and appointment of County Manager.

1. Call To Order And Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m. by Chair Joe Atkins who welcomed everyone.

Present: Commissioner Mike Slavik
Commissioner Joe Atkins
Commissioner Laurie Halverson
Commissioner William Droste
Commissioner Liz Workman
Commissioner Mary Hamann-Roland

Absent: Commissioner Mary Liz Holberg

Also in attendance were Tom Novak, Interim County Manager; Tom Donely, First Assistant County Attorney; and Jeni Reynolds, Sr. Administrative Coordinator to the Board.

2. County Board/County Administration

2.1 Resolution No: 24-362
Approval Of Employment Agreement With Heidi Welsch And Appointment As
County Manager

Motion: Mike Slavik

Second: Laurie Halverson

Interim County Manager Tom Novak briefly spoke to this item. Commissioners and Heidi Welsch shared comments.

WHEREAS, the Dakota County Board received notice from the then current County Manager of planned retirement on May 23, 2024; and

WHEREAS, David Drown and Associates (DDA) was selected to conduct the executive search process for a new County Manager; and

WHEREAS, the County Manager position was posted from March 27 to April 24, 2024, during which time a total of 52 applications were received; and

WHEREAS, of the 52 applications, 15 semi-finalists were presented to the Dakota County Board for consideration; and

WHEREAS, of the 15 semi-finalists, five semi-finalists were selected as finalists for interview by the Dakota County Board; and

WHEREAS, special County Board meetings were conducted on June 24 and July 9 to interview finalists for the vacant County Manager position; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 24-361 (July 9, 2024), the County Board directed staff to negotiate an employment agreement with Heidi Welsch as the selected candidate for the County Manager position in Dakota County; and

WHEREAS, an employment agreement between Dakota County and Heidi Welsch has been drafted by the County Attorney's Office and Employee Relations Department and reviewed by Heidi Welsch.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the County Manager Employment Agreement with Heidi Welsch and authorizes the County Board Chair to execute the agreement, subject to approval by the County Attorney's Office as to form; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby appoints Heidi Welsch as County Manger effective September 3, 2024.

Ayes: 6

3. Adjournment

3.1 Adjournment

On a motion by Commissioner Hamann-Roland, seconded by Commissioner Droste, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 11:13 a.m.

Joe Atkins
Chair

ATTEST

Tom Novak
Interim County Manager