

**FREEBORN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS WORKSHOP**  
**February 9, 2021 via telecommunications**

The Freeborn County Board of Commissioners met via Zoom tele-communication in the Freeborn Room at the Freeborn County Government Center at 8:30 a.m. on February 9, 2021. Members present: Commissioners Shoff and Belshan via zoom, and Edwin, Forman and Herman in person.

Commissioner Shoff called the workshop to order at 8:39 a.m. Administrator Jensen was then asked to facilitate the meeting.

Suzi Nerison, Department of Human Services Director presented the Board with Minnesota Health Care Programs comparisons for 2019 and 2020, as well as 2021 goals and projects. Discussion followed regarding the uniqueness and volume of services provided in 2020 due to the pandemic.

Phil Wacholz, Director of Public works updated the Board with local road improvement plans. Additionally, he presented information regarding the Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances (CCAA) federal program to participate in protecting the Monarch Butterfly which is considered a threatened species.

Rachel Wehner, Environmental Health Coordinator discussed participating in a Minnesota Geological Survey project with the University of Minnesota by creating a geologic atlas.

Sheriff Kurt Freitag presented the Board with information regarding the Northern Lights Task Force which consists of sheriff's offices whose counties are along the Enbridge Line 3 route and the possibility of Freeborn County deputies going beyond the 200 mile radius to provide mutual aid with security detail.

Administrator Jensen shared and updated the board on the following matters:

- Review of the 2021 cash basis budget and over of cash fund balances
- 2022 Budget process
- Potential purchase of Helmers property that was destroyed by fire
- Acquisition of land in Freeman Township by the US Fish and Wildlife Services
- Law library member appointment
- Commissioner issuance of laptop vs. ipad
- Discussion of timeframe for in person board meetings resuming

Chairman Shoff adjourned the workshop at 11:19 am.

ATTEST:   
Thomas Jensen, Freeborn County Administrator