

## COUNTY/HR office to undergo remodeling

FROM PAGE 2

Anderson expressed concern that the county's starting pay for an assistant county attorney will not attract any candidates.

"We're fighting with the entire state for assistants," Anderson said. "There are 25% of the counties in the state with vacant assistant positions."

The board opted to not change the salary structure

for the assistant county attorney for the time being and authorized posting the vacancy, specifically advertising at law schools in the region.

Anderson added that the county did not receive a grant for victim witness support, but had discussed the possibility of sharing a position with Jackson County. The board approved negotiating with Jackson County for a possible victim witness support staffer, who would work two days a week in Cottonwood County.

### Bond discussion

George Eilertson from Northland Securities spoke to the board about the direction the board wants to take for bonding for the public works facility.

The board consensus was to pursue a 20-year bond, with the option to refinance after eight years.

A resolution calling for the sale of bonds would come in May. Until then, Eilertson said he would work on the county's bond rating.

### HR office remodel

The board discussed a quote to remodel the human resources office at the court-

house, adding more security and privacy.

The quote of \$23,000 from Borsgard Construction would remodel the office, add acoustic ceiling tile and soundproof interior walls.

The project was estimated to last two to three weeks. While work is ongoing, human resources staff would temporarily relocate to the North Highway 71 building.

### Other business

In other business, the board:

- Approved an amendment to a conditional use permit for the Red Rock Quarry. The

quarry will transition to using 280th Street as its main traffic conduit to Highway 71.

- Approved a bid of \$1,838,337 with Central Specialties of Alexandria for this year's County Road 3 overlay project.

- Approved a motion allowing the public works director to seek a DNR outdoor recreation grant, which could be used for bathrooms and septic upgrades at Dutch Charley Park.

- Approved the purchase of a new Case 821G loader for the public works department at a cost of \$272,336.

- Approved a haying contract with Ethan Quade for the Schoper Bush land, at \$950 a year for five years.

- Approved mowing contracts with Cory Ulferts and Russ Janssen and approved Bekah Saffert as the Talcot Park campground host.

- Approved hiring Tammy Baerg as a heavy equipment operator.

- Approved a resolution expressing opposition to the new state flag and state seal.

- Approved a \$60 monthly cell phone allowance for the county assessor.

## Cottonwood COUNTY COURTS

**Speeding:** Zander W. Leining, Prior Lake, \$130; Mavis Asenso, Shakopee, \$130; Isaac C. Berg, Sioux Falls, \$130; Karl A. E. Harr, Elk River, \$140; Sara L. Meis, Long Prairie, \$120; Heather L. Mentzer, Dakota City, Neb., \$140; Peter J. Morales Chacon, Huron, S.D., \$130; Michael W. Murdy, Albertville, \$130; Michael L. Neuman, Farmington, \$220; Jesse I. Rios, Sioux City, Iowa, \$130; Elsa N. N. Skeie, Olivia, \$140; Jailey J. Thompson, St. Francis, \$120.

**Speeding/no Minnesota driver's license:** Allison O. Alvarado Bartolon, Worthington, \$240.

**Driving after suspension:** Axel H. Juarez Feliciano, St. James, \$280.

**Headlights/taillights to be displayed sunset-sunrise:** Oscar A. Hernandez, Windom, \$120.

**No Minnesota driver's license:** Axel H. Juarez Feliciano, St. James, \$280.

**No insurance owner:** Lane M. McCoy, Cottage Grove, \$280.

**DWI-operate motor vehicle-body contains any amount schedule I/II drugs-not marijuana:** Ashley M. Trenary, St. Paul, \$580, local confinement 90 days, stay 90 days for one year, supervised probation one year, complete and pay for a comprehensive assessment within 60 days of sentencing and follow all recommendations in a timely manner; defendant must sign all releases for assessor to obtain collateral information from assigned probation agent(s), assigned social worker(s) if any, mental health treatment provider(s) if any, relevant family/household members and recent treatment providers as part of their assessment, defendant must successfully complete the level of treatment and aftercare recommended rather than choosing a lesser level of care, report to agent as directed, meet with agent when directed, sign all releases of information, no violations of law misdemeanor or greater.

**DWI-Operate motor vehicle-alcohol concentration .08 within two hours:** Brian J. Holmes, Medina, \$855, local confinement 364 days, stay 334 days for two years, credit for time served two days, serve as home detention/electronic monitor-

ing (if eligible), work release (if eligible), defendant is to serve 48 continuous hours in custody, defendant is to report to Cottonwood County Jail or make arrangements with another jail and report there and pay all costs associated, defendant is to serve additional time on electronic home monitoring, credit for two days served will be credited towards electronic home monitoring, home monitor (electronic) 28 days for intermediate, defendant has credit for two days served, complete comprehensive assessment and follow recommendations, sign all releases of information, contact your probation officer as directed, remain law-abiding, supervised probation two years, no same or similar offenses.

**Disorderly conduct-offensive/abusive/boisterous/noisy/obscene:** Alfredo A. Leon, Eden Prairie, \$580, supervised probation, one year; remain law-abiding, domestic abuse evaluation, complete and pay for a domestic abuse inventory and follow all recommendations, no contact with victim(s) until results from the domestic abuse inventory are obtained, contact your probation officer as directed, sign all releases of information, local confinement 90 days, stay 36 days for one year, credit for time served 54 days.

**Uninsured vehicle-owner violation:** Tristen N. Linnenbrink, Windom, \$280.

**Operate motor vehicle after license suspension/revocation/cancellation:** Eladio Lopez Rosario, Mt. Lake, \$280.

**Issue dishonored check-value not more than \$250:** Gina M. Olson-Kronback, Mt. Lake, \$75, restitution of \$156.20, unsupervised probation six months.

**License for vehicle class or type:** Gerward D. Johnson, Gulfport, Miss., \$180; Veronica R. Lopez Felix, Madelia, \$180.

**Dog running at large prohibited:** Zachary W. Romsdahl, St. James, \$180.

**Failure to stop at stop lines at entrance to through highway:** Jacob A. Sturm, St. James, \$130.

**Driving without a valid license for vehicle class or type/driver who is not owner must later produce proof of insurance if required:** Carolina Gonzalez Diaz, Butterfield, \$380.

**Unsafe tires-prohibitions:** Andrew H. Wisnosky, Fairmont, \$130.

**Driving without a valid**

**license for vehicle class or type:** Gerward D. Johnson, Gulfport, Miss., \$180; Veronica R. Lopez Felix, Madelia, \$180.

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**Driving without a valid**

## Mt. Lake POLICE REPORT

**Jan. 29**  
• 8:46 p.m. An officer took a report of a possible telephone-based scam.

**Jan. 31**  
• 7:07 p.m. An officer responded to a report of possible harassment. Upon investigation, the officer determined that two juveniles were harassing each other. The parties were separated and advised of options.

**Feb. 2**  
• 8:57 a.m. An officer received a report of a driving complaint. The officer was

unable to locate the vehicle in question.

• 11:14 a.m. An officer responded to a report of possible trespassing. The party in question, a 32-year-old Mt. Lake male, was cited for trespassing. He was then arrested on an outstanding warrant.

**Feb. 3**  
• 11:03 p.m. An officer was dispatched to the scene of a possible disturbance. It was a civil disturbance and the parties were separated for the evening.

**Feb. 4**  
• 12:52 p.m. An officer assisted the Cottonwood County Sheriff's Office with a report of domestic assault.

• 7:42 p.m. A traffic stop was made on County Road 27. A 23-year-old Mt. Lake male was cited for driving after revocation.

• 8:17 p.m. A traffic stop was made at the intersection of Mountain Lake Road and Seventh Street. A 42-year-old Windom female was cited for driving after revocation.

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(280—Feb. 7, 2024)

official proceedings of Mt. Lake

## BOARD OF EDUCATION

**Regular School Board Meeting Minutes**  
**December 18, 2023**  
**5:30 p.m.**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Chad Pedersen at 5:31 p.m. Roll call conducted by School Board Clerk, Julie Brugman.

**Members present:** Pam Hoek, Chad Eken, Tom Fast, Audi Nickel, Matt Gohr, Julie Brugman, Chad Pedersen

**Others present:** Michelle Larson, Kurt Jahnke, Brandon Henning, Joel Alvstad, Dmitry Bucklin, Ramont Harder Schrock, Crystal Fast, Mikkala Hup, Gretchen Beyer, Noelle Henning, Lori Southivong, Shawn Naas, Doug Regehr.

That the Proposed Agenda be approved as presented. Motion by Nickel. Second by Hoek. Approved.

That the Consent Agenda be approved as presented: minutes from previous meeting, monthly bills, donations and open enrollments. Motion by Hoek. Second by Eken. Approved.

The following reports were available for school board member review and comment: Truth In Taxation, Meet and Confer dates, Upcoming School Board meetings, Special Board Meeting, Covid-19 Review, 0-4 Year Old Census, Great Start Compensation Support Payment, MSBA Leadership Conference, Factors Bearing

on the District's Future and the Superintendent's Report.

**Motion:** To adopt Levy Limitation and Certification 2023 payable 2024. Motion by Nickel. Second by Eken. Approved. Voting in favor of the motion by roll call were: Pam Hoek, Audi Nickel, Chad Eken, Tom Fast, Chad Pedersen, Julie Brugman.

**Motion:** To approve the seniority list for members of the MLMSEA bargaining unit. Motion by Brugman. Second by Hoek. Approved.

**Motion:** To approve the seniority list for members of the MLMSEA bargaining unit. Motion by Hoek. Second by Nickel. Approved.

**Motion:** To approve the resignation of Merlin Stoesz as a full-time custodian effective November 30, 2023. Motion by Brugman. Second by Gohr. Approved.

**Motion:** To approve the resignation of Jehu Coronado as a full-time custodian effective January 1, 2024. Motion by Nickel. Second by Eken. Approved.

**Motion:** To approve the retirement of Amy Hartzler at the end of the 2023-24 school year. Motion by Hoek. Second by Brugman. Approved.

**Motion:** To approve the withdrawal of Rachel Sefcik's resignation as ECCE Teacher Assistant. Motion by Nickel. Second by Fast. Approved.

**Motion:** To approve Becki

Hanson as a short call substitute for Paige Harder the district's Birth- 4 year old teacher. Motion by Fast. Second by Eken. Approved.

**Motion:** To approve the Town 'N Country Daycare Handbook and Contracts to be effective January 1, 2024. Motion by Hoek. Second by Eken. Approved.

**Motion:** To approve The Resolution providing for the issuance and sale of general obligation aid anticipation certificates of indebtedness, series 2024A, subject to certain parameters; and taking other actions with respect thereto. Motion by Nickel. Second by Eken. Approved. Voting in favor of the motion by roll call were: Hoek, Eken, Fast, Nickel, Gohr, Brugman and Pedersen.

**Motion:** To approve the adoption of revenues and expenditures for General Fund 01. Motion by Fast. Second by Gohr. Approved.

**Other:** School Board Negotiations Committee Meeting to be held on Tuesday, December 26, 2023.

The Board recognized and thanked out-going school board members, Pam Hoek with 13 years of service, and Julie Brugman with 24 years of service.

**Motion:** That the school board meeting be adjourned. Motion by Brugman. Second by Hoek. Approved. Time: 7:14 p.m.

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observer@mtlakenews.com • mtlakenews.com

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### LETTERS

We welcome letters to the editor up to 300 words. We strongly encourage letters to be typed/mailed and may be edited for clarity and length. Letters must include name, address and phone number.

Deadline is 10 a.m. Monday.

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observer@mtlakenews.com

OR drop off through the mail slot  
OR send through the mail.