Steele County
Agenda Item

Subject: DNR Flood Gauge Maintenance Contract

Department: County Board

Committee Meeting Date: February 11, 2021

Board Meeting Date: February 23, 2021

Resolution: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Consent Agenda: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Policy Committee Recommendation:

Committee recommends renewal of DNR Flood Gauge Maintenance Contract

Recommendation:

1. Approval of contract amendment to continue maintenance contract.
2. Authorize Mike Johnson to sign contract.
3. Authorize Emergency Management to approve contract invoices for payment.

Background *(Including Budget Impact)*:

Following the repeated risk of flooding in Steele County, automated flood gauges were installed at Maple Creek on Dane Road and Straight River at Bridge Street. These automated gauges are a critical source of information during periods of heavy rain and spring snow melt.

The gauges are maintained by the MN DNR. The current maintenance contract expired on 31-Jan-2021.

The proposed amendment extends the contract from 31-Jan-2021 to 31-Jan-2023. The annual contract price remains unchanged at $4,700, paid semi-annually.

These two gauges are part of a network across Steele County. The other gauges must be read manually. It takes a volunteer approximately one hour to make a loop to read all of the gauges. These automated gauges provide readings in 15 minute increments.

Live data can be viewed at:
https://water.weather.gov/ahps2/hydrograph.php?wfo=mpx&gage=owtm5
https://water.weather.gov/ahps2/hydrograph.php?wfo=mpx&gage=owmm5

Attachments

20210122 Flood Gauge Contract 159626.pdf