

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD
October 3, 2006

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, October 3, 2006. Chairman Athey called the meeting to order with Commissioners Tomschin, Olson, Janssen and Swigerd present. Also present were Kenneth Henneberg, Mike Swenson of the Ortonville Independent, County Attorney Bill Watson and Clerk Laura Berger. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Motion by Swigerd, seconded by Tomschin and carried to approve the minutes of the September 19th regular meeting.

Motion by Janssen, seconded by Swigerd and carried to approve the agenda with noted additions.

Committee reports were presented.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Tomschin and carried to execute the 3-year license agreement between Big Stone County and Federated Telephone Company for space on the County's communication tower.

Following discussion with Deputy Auditor Sharon Finke, motion by Swigerd, seconded by Janssen and carried to execute the agreement with Qwest for DSS Service.

A brief discussion was held regarding Piper Street in Prior Township. The Board directed Attorney Watson to send a letter in response to questions that Martha Croatt and Richard Mueller had concerning Piper Street.

Motion by Tomschin, seconded by Janssen and carried to authorize payment of the filing fee for the litigation of Croatt, Mueller and the County of Big Stone.

Motion by Swigerd, seconded by Olson and carried to approve the hire of a Social Worker for Family Services as presented by HR Director Sue Schultz.

County Recorder Gloria Arndt arrived at the meeting. Motion by Tomschin and seconded by Janssen to continue with the policy that Elected Officials salaries are set annually and will not be adjusted mid-year based on a job evaluation. Following discussion, motion carried with Commissioner Swigerd voting nay.

Curtis Jorgenson arrived at the meeting.

Discussion was held on setting policy for updating job descriptions for elected officials and having them re-graded. Board consensus was to table the decision until HR Director Schultz gathers more information.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Tomschin and carried to approve the hiring of Derrick Loeschke for the Maintenance Worker/Engineering Technician position, effective October 1, 2006.

Motion by Swigerd, seconded by Janssen and carried to authorize the hiring of fill-in, part-time office help for the Extension Office.

The question had been raised on the County's plan for spraying ditches. County Engineer Nick Anderson stated that the Highway Department would be spraying weeds in County Ditches this fall.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Janssen and carried to authorize payment of the following claims as presented by Auditor Michelle Knutson:

General	\$14,355.27
Highway	<u>12,168.42</u>
Total	\$26,523.69

Motion by Tomschin, seconded by Olson and carried to authorize the transfer of \$20,331.21 from Family Services to General.

The Board directed Commissioner Athey to contact Donnette Herberg of the BSLA Chamber in regards to filling the appointment vacated by Jamie Mittelstaedt as the Southern Minnesota Tourism County Representative.

Chairman Athey adjourned the meeting at 9:40 AM.

Wade Athey, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Laura Berger, Clerk