

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD
November 21, 2006

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, November 21, 2006. Chairman Athey called the meeting to order with Commissioners Tomschin, Olson, Janssen and Swigerd present. Also present were Mike Swenson of the Ortonville Independent, HR Director Sue Schultz, 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 November 7th regular meeting.

Motion by Swigerd, seconded by Janssen and carried to approve the agenda. Committee reports were presented.

Discussion was held on the contract with Qwest for a T-1 line. Attorney Watson will contact them.

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

General	\$ 37,780.86
Highway	23,829.82
Ditch	<u>13,734.50</u>
Total	\$ 75,345.18

Motion by Olson, seconded by Tomschin and carried to adopt the following resolution:

2006-32

WHEREAS, the regional public library systems in Minnesota provide an important service through library operations to the entire population of the State of Minnesota; and WHEREAS, the regional public library systems are funded primarily through local tax levies and by the State of Minnesota through Regional Library Basic System Support; and

WHEREAS, the State of Minnesota has not increased its contribution to Regional Library Basic System Support in over a decade; and

WHEREAS, the funding for regional public library systems has increasingly fallen on local property tax dollars.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners hereby requests its legislative representatives and the Governor to place a high priority on a substantial increase in the Regional Public Library Basic System Support appropriation during the 2007 legislative session.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners hereby requests that the Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) join the Minnesota Library Association (MLA) in supporting this increase during the 2007 legislative session.

Notice was received that the County's 2006 MCIT dividend is \$46,933 and is allocated as follows: Workers' Compensation \$9,444 and Property/Casualty \$37,489.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Janssen and carried to authorize \$2,500 for maintenance on County Ditch #19.

A brief discussion was held on the trade-in and purchase of a new mower for the Highway Department. Due to cost increases of snow plows, Board consensus was to have one put on order this fall, payable in 2007.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Janssen and carried to authorize \$4,000 for maintenance on County Ditches #6 and #20.

A brief discussion was held on the County's credit card policy. The Board directed HR Director Schultz to review our present policy with the Department Heads and present a revised policy for approval.

County Engineer Nick Anderson presented a Certificate of Performance for SAP 06-600-03 with Ronglien Excavating. Motion by Olson, seconded by Tomschin and carried to adopt the following resolution:

2006-33

WHEREAS, County SAP 06-600-03 has in all things been completed and the County Board being fully advised in the premises.

NOW THEN BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board hereby accepts said completed project for and on behalf of the County of Big Stone, and authorize final payment to Ronglien Excavating in the amount shown on final pay estimate.

Anderson reported that the Highway Department will be doing additional work on the intersection at Meadowbrook.

Discussion was held concerning the communication problems the cities of Beardsley, Clinton and Graceville are having. The Board directed Chief Deputy David Hills and Engineer Anderson to coordinate a meeting with Gene Johnson and the various representatives to find a solution as soon as possible.

Chairman Athey adjourned the meeting at 9:43 AM.

Wade Athey, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Laura Berger, Clerk