

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD
December 26, 2006

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, December 26, 2006. Chairman Athey called the meeting to order with Commissioners Tomschin, Olson, Janssen and Swigerd present. Also present were County Attorney Bill Watson, County Auditor Michelle Knutson and Clerk Laura Berger. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Motion by Swigerd, seconded by Olson and carried to approve the minutes of the December 12th meeting.

Motion by Tomschin, seconded by Janssen and carried to approve the agenda.

Committee reports were presented.

Discussion was held on the County Road #63 project. Motion by Olson, seconded by Tomschin and carried to proceed with the project. Attorney Watson will be writing letters to the landowners.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Janssen and carried to execute the agreement with Grant County for space on the County's communication tower.

Attorney Watson updated the Board on the Piper Street issue. There will be a Motion for Dismissal Hearing in January.

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

General	\$37,288.12
Highway	9,460.33
Ditch	<u>4,147.83</u>
Total	\$50,896.28

Motion by Tomschin, seconded by Olson and carried to authorize the following transfers:

General to Highway	\$ 2,547.74
Ditch to Highway	\$ 1,162.72
CD #2	\$ 302.88
CD #5	\$ 58.22
CD #8	\$ 120.32
CD # 10&11	\$ 29.11
CD #21	\$ 203.77
JD #4	\$ 448.42

Motion by Janssen, seconded by Swigerd and carried to approve the following tobacco license applications for 2007:

Bill's Super Valu Plus
CHS Inc dba Cenex C-Store (Ortonville)
CHS Inc dba Cenex C-Store (Clinton)
Glenn's Liquors, Inc.
Graceville Bar & Lounge
Graceville Country Market
Headquarter's Bar, Inc.
Holiday Stationstore, Inc.
Tri County Coop

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

2006-36

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Counties Insurance Trust Board of Directors deserves the appointment of individual county commissioners who bring well-rounded experience as well as strong interest in the many facets of counties' insurance needs; and WHEREAS, it is also important that the MCIT Board of Director membership be balanced geographically so that all regions of Minnesota are represented. NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners hereby endorses and supports the appointment of Stevens County Commissioner Neal Hofland to fill the January, 2007 vacancy on the MCIT Board.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Janssen and carried to execute the Memorandum of Intent with the University of MN Extension Nutrition Education Program.

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

2006-37

WHEREAS, M.S. 375.055 provides that county commissioners shall receive annual salaries for services rendered while serving as a county commissioner and may receive per diem payments and reimbursement for necessary expenses.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the 2007 salary of the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners shall be \$12,981.54 and the per diem rate shall remain at \$50.00 for service on any board, committee or commission or for the performance of services by individual commissioners when required by law.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Swigerd and carried to re-appoint Wilfred Tucholke, Marlton DeNeui and Ann Holme to the Planning Commission for three-year terms as recommended by Environmental Officer Darren Wilke.

Environmental Officer Wilke reported that Art Hoernemann's term is up on the Board of Adjustment and he will not be seeking re-appointment. Mr. Hoernemann was recognized and thanked for his years of service.

Discussion was held on State vs. local permitting authority for wind energy conversion systems. The State currently permits for systems over 5 MW. The proposed change would allow local authorities to permit systems up to 25 MW. Motion by Olson, seconded by Tomschin and carried to support the position to change the State threshold for permits from 5 MW to 25 MW, providing there would be State technical support.

Vic and Gary Hoffman were present to express their disappointment with the County's recent bidding process for the tractor and mowers for the Highway Department. County Engineer Nick Anderson and Maintenance Supervisor Gary Haugen were also present for the discussion. Hoffmans left the meeting. Following further discussion, Anderson and Haugen left the meeting. Motion by Janssen and seconded by Olson to stay with the original motion to purchase the equipment from Grant County. Motion failed with Commissioners Swigerd, Tomschin and Athey voting Nay. Motion by Swigerd and seconded by Tomschin to re-quote for the tractor and mowers with written specifications. Motion carried with Commissioner Janssen voting Nay.

Chairman Athey recognized and thanked Commission Swigerd for his years of service to the County.

Chairman Athey adjourned the meeting at 10:30 AM.

Wade Athey, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Laura Berger, Clerk