

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD**  
**March 7, 2006**

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, March 7, 2006. Chairman Athey called the meeting to order with Commissioners Tomschin, Janssen, Olson and Swigerd present. Also present were Elsie Perrine, 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 February 21<sup>st</sup> regular meeting and the March 1<sup>st</sup> special meeting.

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

Committee reports were presented.

Attorney Watson reported that he had contacted MN Counties Insurance Trust regarding insurance for the Farmers Market which will be located at the Big Stone County Historical Society. As it is a joint agreement, the County will not have to carry additional insurance.

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

General	\$29,039.85
Highway	16,345.17
Ditch	<u>463.75</u>
Total	\$45,848.77

Motion by Tomschin, seconded by Janssen and carried to execute the Annual County Boat and Water Safety Grant Agreement and adopt the following resolution:

**2006-13**

WHEREAS, under the provisions of M.S. Section 86B.105, the Sheriff of each county is required to carry out the provision of Chapter 86B and the Boat and Water Safety Rules, hereinafter referred to as the "Minn. Rules", including patrol, enforcement search and rescue, watercraft inspection, waterway marking and accident investigation, all hereinafter referred to as the "Sheriff's Duties"; and

WHEREAS, in connection with the Sheriff's Duties, M.S. Section 86B.701 provides that the County submit to the Commissioner of Natural Resources a budget to carry out the Sheriff's Duties; and

WHEREAS, M.S. Section 86B.701 and the Minn. Rules provide for the allocation of funds by the Commissioner to the County based on certain criteria and conclusions to assist the funding of the Sheriff's Duties; and

WHEREAS, the County has submitted a proposed budget to the State.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the State shall reimburse the County up to \$2,009.00 for the activities stated in Chapter 86B.

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

**2006-14**

BE IT RESOLVED that Big Stone County act as the legal sponsor for an application for funding to the State of Minnesota Department of Natural Resources for Maintenance of snowmobile trails managed by Big Stone Lake Area Sno Riders.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon approval of its application by the state, Big Stone County may enter into an agreement with the State of Minnesota for the above referenced project and that it will comply with all applicable laws and regulation as stated in the agreement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chair of the Big Stone County Commissioners is authorized to sign such an agreement with the Department of Natural Resources.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Auditor is authorized to serve as the fiscal agent for the above-mentioned project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Big Stone County act as legal sponsor for 32 miles of snowmobile trails in Traverse County beginning North of Graceville and extending North through Wheaton to the White Rock Dam.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Big Stone County act as legal sponsor for 2 miles of snowmobile trails in Traverse County beginning west of Beardsley and extending west to Browns Valley.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Swigerd and carried to authorize \$500 to help sponsor the 2006 Meander Upper MN River Art Crawl.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Tomschin and carried to execute the Memorandum of Intent with the University of MN Extension Service for the Nutrition Education Program for 2006.

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

#### **2006-15**

WHEREAS, the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners has reviewed the proposed Mileage Credit and Load Factor Formula for providing ranking priority of public transit systems for bus acquisition through MnDOT District 8 Area Transportation Plan (ATP) for placement in the State Transportation Investment Plan STIP; and

WHEREAS, because of competition for a limited number of buses, certain data from transit systems in MnDOT District 8 will be applied to the existing Bus Ranking Formula and to the proposed Load Factor Formula and the Mileage Credit Formula and the results used to compare one transit system to another for ranking to determine which transit systems will get buses in the future; and

WHEREAS, Prairie Five CAC, Inc. has a transit system from which its data will be applied to the Load Factor and Mileage Credit for comparison to other transit systems for ranking for determination of bus acquisition from District 8 ATP; and

WHEREAS, when Prairie Five CAC, Inc.'s data for its transit system is applied to the Load Factor and Mileage Credit Formulas because of the demographics of the service area, the transit system's structure, and the transit system's definition and classification according to the formulas relative to other transit systems in District 8, Prairie Five CAC, Inc.'s transit system will be unable to compete with other transit systems for future bus procurement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners do not support adoption and application of the proposed Load Factor Formula and Mileage Credit Formula in their present forms without changes and adjustments that will allow Prairie Five CAC, Inc.'s transit system to compete with other transit systems in the bus procurement process.

Auditor Knutson updated the Board on the recent meetings held regarding a phone system for the Courthouse and Extension. Motion by Swigerd, seconded by Olson and carried to authorize the purchase and amend the 2006 budget in the amount of \$7,500 to allow for the additional offices to be included in the system.

Countryside Public Health Administrator Liz Auch reviewed the Agency's 2005 activities.

John and Lila Salls, Curtis Bailey, George Taylor, Dianne Radermacher, Nick Anderson, Darren Wilke and Sandy Vold arrived at the meeting.

Dave Soehren and Brad Olson of the DNR were present to discuss the purchase of land in Browns Valley Township. Curtis Bailey, representing Citizens for Big Stone Lake, presented the Board with a letter urging support of this project.

Auditor Knutson replaced Clerk Berger at the meeting.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Janssen and carried to table the resolution on the land purchase until the April 4<sup>th</sup> meeting to allow for time to discuss it with area landowners.

Attorney Watson and Commissioner Tomschin left the meeting.

Following a break, motion by Olson, seconded by Swigerd and carried to adopt the Big Stone County Floodplain Management Ordinance with the related flood insurance study and maps and to publish a summary in the official minutes.

## **SUMMARY OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT ORDINANCE, 2006**

A floodplain ordinance drafted by FEMA was reviewed and approved by the Board of County Commissioners March 7, 2006 thereby resulting in the adoption of the Big Stone County Floodplain Management Ordinance, 2006. This ordinance reflects changes resulting from a recent floodplain study done by FEMA. The following is a summary of the Big Stone County Floodplain Management Ordinance, 2006:

1. Statutory Authorization, Findings of Fact and Purpose
2. General Provisions and Definitions
3. Establishment of Zoning Districts
4. Floodway District
5. Flood Fringe District
6. General Flood Plain District
7. Subdivisions
8. Utilities, Railroads, Roads & Bridges
9. Manufactured Homes/Travel Trailers and Travel Vehicles
10. Administration
11. Non-Conforming Uses
12. Penalties for Violation
13. Amendments

A printed copy of the entire Ordinance is available to view at the Environmental Office at 20 2<sup>nd</sup> St SE, Ortonville, Minnesota. Also, a copy of the ordinance is available on the County's website at [www.bigstonecounty.org](http://www.bigstonecounty.org)

Commissioner Tomschin returned to the meeting.

VSO Richard Johnson was present to update the Board on how Medicare Part D affects Veterans. Discussion on medical transportation for County Veterans was also held.

Sheriff Joe Berning was present to request permission to spend up to \$30,000 to begin placing signs at intersections along State and County tar roads. The funds will come out of the money reserved for 911 signage. Motion by Olson, seconded by Swigerd and carried to authorize the expenditures and amend the 2006 budget in the amount of \$30,000.

RSVP Director Karin Mack was present to update the Board on efforts to educate the public on meth. Commissioner Olson suggested using the County's website to make the information available.

Commissioner Olson left the meeting.

Randy Nelson of Prairie Country RC&D presented an overview of 2005 activities.

Motion by Tomschin, seconded by Janssen and carried to appoint Martin Heck as a ditch viewer and reappoint Jon Pansch as the County's representative to the Bois de Sioux Watershed Board.

Chairman Athey adjourned the meeting at 11:17 AM.

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Wade Athey, Chairman

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Michelle R. Knutson, Auditor