

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD**  
**May 16, 2006**

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, May 16, 2006. Chairman Athey called the meeting to order with Commissioners Tomschin, Janssen, Olson and Swigerd present. Also present were Mike Spors, Mike Swenson of the Ortonville Independent, HR Director Sue Schultz and County Auditor Michelle Knutson. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Motion by Swigerd, seconded by Tomschin and carried to approve the minutes of the May 2<sup>nd</sup> regular meeting.

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

Committee reports were presented.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Swigerd and carried to execute the agreement with the City of Ortonville for dog impoundments.

Mike Spors from Berkner Plumbing and Heating gave a presentation on the replacement of the boilers in the Courthouse. He will be providing the Property Committee with an estimate.

Commissioner Swigerd will represent the County at the Region 6W Renewable Energy and Value-Added Agriculture Forum on May 31<sup>st</sup>.

Motion by Tomschin, seconded by Janssen and carried to approve the Off Sale Malt Liquor Licenses for Graceville Golf Club and Lakeshore RV Park.

Amy Roggenbuck from Countryside Public Health updated the Board on the Safe Communities Coalition. Roggenbuck also requested that legal age signage be required with all future liquor licenses approved by the County. Motion by Olson, seconded by Tomschin and carried to require the posting of legal aid signage with any future liquor licenses issued. Signage will be provided by Countryside.

Curt Vacek and Norm Haukos with the DNR, Bruce Nelsen and Environmental Officer Darren Wilke were present for the discussion on a No Net Gain policy. A letter from Dave Soehren of the DNR was also distributed. He offered a proposal to tour the County and hold a meeting with US Fish and DNR representatives to try and resolve any conflicts before any policy is adopted. Following discussion, it was decided that before any decision was made on a policy, more information needs to be gathered. Commissioners Olson and Janssen will attend the working lands meeting with US Fish and report back, as well as have representatives meet with Planning & Zoning to research and provide further education.

Following a break, motion by Swigerd, seconded by Olson and carried to authorize payment of the following claims as presented by Auditor Knutson:

General	\$26,130.26
Highway	<u>33,129.33</u>
Total	\$59,259.59

The following bid was received for the 3-year farm lease of land in Browns Valley Township:

Kenneth Hendricks	\$1,850.00/year
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Motion by Olson, seconded by Swigerd and carried to award the lease to Kenneth Hendricks.

Auditor Knutson updated the Board on the waiver application to the State Auditor.

The following bid was received on the 1996 Dodge Intrepid:

Steve Howe \$638.79

Motion by Olson, seconded by Swigerd and carried to accept the bid. As there were no bids received on the 1995 Taurus, motion by Olson, seconded by Swigerd and carried to offer the Taurus to the Museum for their upcoming equipment auction.

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

**2006-19**

WHEREAS, the Ridge Runners Snowmobile Trail has links through Lac qui Parle County, Big Stone County and connects to surrounding counties; and  
WHEREAS, Lac qui Parle County serves as the fiscal agent for state grant and aid funds for the Ridge Runners Snowmobile Trail; and  
WHEREAS, the Ridge Runners organization, with approval from the Lac qui Parle County Board, have approached the Big Stone County Board for approval to maintain and operate the Ridge Runners Snowmobile Trail in Big Stone County.  
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners does hereby authorize Lac qui Parle County to utilize state appropriated funds for the Ridge Runners Snowmobile Trail located in Lac qui Parle and Big Stone Counties. This resolution is adopted for a period of 3 years.

Auditor Knutson provided an update on the Help America Vote Act and the equipment and funding received.

County Engineer Nick Anderson, Bill Hartman and Steve Berkner were present for a discussion on the possibility of rerouting County Road 30 to Monroe Avenue. Mr. Hartman is researching his options for a building expansion project. Mr. Berkner expressed his concerns. No action was taken at this time. A market study will be done by Super Value and will be discussed again at a future meeting.

Engineer Anderson reported that the County Road 63 project is moving slower than planned as there are several parties opposed to the project.

Engineer Anderson also reported that he will finish up the tree removal project on Joint Ditch 4 as approved in 2005.

At 11:00 AM, with various bidders and highway employees present, Engineer Anderson opened bids on the following projects:

<b>BIDDER</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
<b>CP 06-0601 – Gravel Crushing:</b>	
Central Specialties	\$ 130,750.00
McNamara Inc.	\$ 114,300.00
Sibson Gravel	\$ 82,750.00
<b>SAPs 06-612-11,06-614-08, 06-321-25, 06-632-06 :</b>	
Bituminous Paving	\$1,205,203.15
Central Specialties	\$1,216,448.37
Duininck Brothers	\$1,270,132.61
Mark Sand & Gravel	\$1,339,033.42

Engineer Anderson updated the Board on Highway Department activities and the progress on the Centennial Wetland concerns.

HR Director Sue Schultz reported that a public retirement reception will be held June 19<sup>th</sup> for Sheriff Joe Berning from 2:30 – 4:00 PM.

Motion by Swigerd, seconded by Olson and carried to authorize moving the Office Clerk/Appraiser position to full time status effective June 1, 2006.

Discussion was held on the new requirements for reporting future liabilities of Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB). Board consensus was to proceed with inquiring into the cost of an actuarial study to determine the County's liability.

Discussion was held on the upcoming lease renewal of the Farm Service Agency. The Department Heads will meet and discuss any space needs and report back to the Board.

After review of the bids, the following awards were made. Motion by Olson, seconded by Janssen and carried to award the gravel crushing bid to Sibson Gravel. Motion by Tomschin, seconded by Swigerd and carried to award the SAP 06-612-11 etal bid to Bituminous Paving.

Chairman Athey adjourned the meeting at 11:25 AM.

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Wade Athey, Chairman

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