

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD
September 19, 2006

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, September 19, 2006. Chairman Athey called the meeting to order with Commissioners Tomschin, Olson, Janssen 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 Tomschin, seconded by Janssen and carried to approve the minutes of the September 5th regular meeting.

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

Committee reports were presented.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Swigerd and carried to appoint Commissioner Tomschin to the Pioneerland Library Board, replacing Commissioner Olson.

Due to a recent job review, a brief discussion was held on the retroactive salary issue with County Recorder Gloria Arndt. The Board tabled any action until the Personnel Committee could meet with HR Director Sue Schultz.

Discussion was held over the concerns the cities of Graceville and Beardsley are having with the County's tower. County Engineer Nick Anderson will contact Milbank Communications to have them look into it.

Engineer Anderson updated the Board on the County's road projects.

Discussion was held on the appraisals received for the County Road #63 project. Attorney Watson will forward the appraisals to the landowners.

Deputy Environmental Officer Ronda Maas was present to address the overdue sewer upgrade issues. Attorney Watson will meet with Environmental Officer Darren Wilke to continue upgrade efforts with landowners.

Alice Hanley of the US Fish & Wildlife Service was present to update the Board on new projects at the Big Stone Refuge.

Motion by Tomschin and seconded by Swigerd to increase the Bailiff's fees to \$10 per hour with a minimum of 2 hours. After discussion, motion by Tomschin and seconded Swigerd to amend the motion to include a minimum of 4 hours with payment to be paid as a Commissioner's warrant, effective October 1, 2006. Motion carried with Commissioner Athey abstaining.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Swigerd and carried to approve the use of the State of Minnesota's "Iron Mail" spam filtering system, as recommended by the Technology Committee.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Tomschin and carried to revoke Resolution 2006-16 relating to employee Brian Dahl's participation in the Public Employees Police and Fire Plan due to Dahl's change in status.

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

General	\$ 49,335.71
Highway	51,270.79
Ditch	<u>3,721.32</u>
Total	\$104,327.82

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

2006-29

BE IT RESOLVED that the following named persons are appointed as viewers to redetermine and report the benefits and damages and the benefited and damaged areas of County Ditches #5 and #21 to the drainage authority as provided by law:

Martin Heck
Donald Finberg
John Cunningham

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

2006-30

BE IT RESOLVED that Houston Engineering is appointed to assist the viewers in performing the redetermination of County Ditches #5 and #21.

Auditor Knutson reported that the County is exempt from the Truth in Taxation public hearing requirement for 2007. Motion by Olson, seconded by Tomschin and carried to allow public comment at a regular board meeting prior to the final adoption of the 2007 levy.

Motion by Janssen, seconded by Swigerd and carried to execute the Amendment to the MCIT Drug and Alcohol Testing Program Participation Agreement, effective October 1, 2006.

Engineer Anderson presented a Certificate of Performance with Sibson Gravel. Motion by Olson, seconded by Tomschin and carried to adopt the following resolution:

2006-31

WHEREAS, County Project 06-0601 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 in behalf of the County of Big Stone, and authorize final payment to Sibson Gravel in the amount shown on final pay estimates.

Discussion was held on the Centennial Wetlands Fall Project.

Motion by Janssen, seconded by Olson and carried to authorize the purchase of a Radar Speed Trailer for approximately \$5,600.

Anderson reported that there was one applicant for the Maintenance Worker/Engineering Technician position at the Highway Department.

Discussion was held on the continued delay of the US Hwy 75 project. The Board directed Commissioner Olson, along with Engineer Anderson, to draft a letter to the State of Minnesota expressing their concern in the delay.

Chairman Athey adjourned the meeting at 10:32 AM.

Wade Athey, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Laura Berger, Clerk