

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD**  
**June 19, 2007**

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, June 19, 2007. Chairman Tomschin called the meeting to order with Commissioners Athey, Sandberg, Olson and Janssen present. Also present were Mary Jo Stueve, Mike Swenson of the Ortonville Independent, County Attorney Bill Watson and County Auditor Michelle Knutson. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Olson and carried to approve the minutes of the June 5<sup>th</sup> regular meeting and June 11<sup>th</sup> Board of Appeal and Equalization meeting.

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

Committee reports were presented.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to authorize the 3-year funding request for a water quality study of the Pomme de Terre River.

Mary Jo Stueve from CURE updated the Board on the Big Stone II project. Her organization is requesting that the hearing scheduled for July be deferred until the EIS is issued. Ms. Stueve encouraged the Board to contact her with any questions they may have.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Janssen and carried to execute the 5-year lease with Kaye Enterprises for Countryside Public Health as presented by Attorney Watson.

Attorney Watson informed the Board that the County has made final payment on the contract for deed with Harlan and Arlyce Rieck. Mr Rieck has the right to farm the property for 3 more years per the agreement and is responsible for the real estate taxes.

Discussion was held on the procedure for getting authorization to fund additional witness expenditures for Attorney Watson's office. The matter will be discussed further at the Family Services Board meeting.

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

General	\$24,183.71
Highway	<u>27,100.37</u>
Total	\$51,284.08

Motion by Athey, seconded by Janssen and carried to reappoint Kathy Morrill to the Local Social Services Agency Board for another 2-year term.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to approve the application of Clinton Cards for an On-Sale Malt Liquor License for a softball tournament on June 30-July1, 2007, at Toqua Park.

Following break, County Engineer Nick Anderson reported that an improvement would be necessary for County Ditch #13 as a repair would not fix the problem.

Engineer Anderson also reported that issues need to be resolved before the final viewer's report for the redetermination of County Ditches #5 and #21 can be approved.

Discussion was held on the bridge at the foot of the lake. Anderson reported that the State will provide half of the overage so the County will have to provide the other half. The bid will be awarded at the next meeting.

Anderson updated the Board on the County Road 63 and trail projects.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Janssen and carried to authorize the installation of a generator for the Sheriff's Office as requested by Sheriff John Haukos. The funds will come from an emergency management grant and 911 as the office is designated as the emergency operations center (EOC).

Rod Kelsey of Riley, Dettmann & Kelsey was present to provide an overview of the upcoming compensation and classification study process.

Motion by Janssen, seconded by Sandberg and carried to execute the agreement with Lac qui Parle County Family Services Director Joel Churness to serve as the interim Family Services Director as presented by HR Director Sue Schultz.

HR Director Schultz reported that BCBS Portability Plan rates will be going up approximately 7.2% for the 60-64 age group effective July 1<sup>st</sup>. This results in an increase of \$51.01 per month per employee to the cafeteria plan employer contribution per the employee contracts.

Board consensus was to allow HR Director Schultz to provide limited mediation services to the Upper Minnesota River Valley Watershed District.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Janssen and carried to close the meeting at 10:25 AM to discuss labor negotiation strategy.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Janssen and carried to reopen the meeting at 11:57 AM.

Chairman Tomschin adjourned the meeting at 11:57 AM.

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Doug Tomschin, Chairman

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