

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD
January 22, 2008

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, January 22, 2008. Chairman Janssen called the meeting to order with Commissioners Tomschin, Athey, Sandberg and Olson present. Also present were Mike Swenson of the Ortonville Independent, County Attorney Bill Watson, and County Auditor Michelle Knutson. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Motion by Tomschin, seconded by Athey and carried to approve the minutes of the January 8th re-organizational meeting.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Sandberg and carried to approve the agenda with noted addition.

Committee reports were presented.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Athey and carried to appoint Donnette Herberg as the County's representative to the Prairie Waters Regional Tourism Board.

Discussion was held on tax forfeited buildings. Commissioner Athey brought up concerns with a building in Beardsley. However, it is in the delinquent stage and has not yet gone forfeited. Attorney Watson stated that until it goes forfeit, it is not the County's responsibility.

Attorney Watson reported that union labor contracts are still being reviewed.

Attorney Watson reported back on his discussion with the Odessa City Attorney regarding county-wide prosecution of misdemeanors. Motion by Olson and seconded by Sandberg and carried to authorize the County Attorney's Office to prosecute certain offenses for cities within Big Stone County with a population of 600 or less pursuant to MS §484.87. Following discussion, motion carried.

County Treasurer Cindy Nelson presented investment information and fund balances for 2007 for the Board's review.

County Recorder Elaine Martig provided the Board with reports on vital statistics and fees collected for 2006 and 2007.

Recorder Martig reported that she is working on getting old records computerized so they can be tied into the current Fidlar system.

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

General	\$ 81,168.75
Highway	<u>112,194.52</u>
Total	\$193,363.27

Motion by Olson and seconded by Sandberg to ratify a letter of support for the RDC to submit an application for grant funds to complete an all hazards mitigation plan update for Big Stone County. Following discussion, motion carried.

Discussion was held on a letter received from the Artichoke-Otrey-Akron First Responders requesting financial assistance for the purchase of additional defibrillators. Commissioner Tomschin will speak to the Emergency Management Director regarding possible funding sources.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to ratify the hiring of Bobbie Oakes for the Office Support Specialist position at Family Services at a Grade 9 Step 5

on the County's current job classification matrix as presented by HR Director Sue Schultz.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Olson and carried to execute the compensation agreement with the non-union group as originally offered with Commissioners Athey and Tomschin voting Nay.

Following break, discussion was held on the structure of the Community Resource Sharing Partnership. Board consensus was to leave the committee members as originally appointed for 2008.

Rod Kelsey of Riley, Dettmann & Kelsey presented the results of the compensation and classification study. Department Heads Cindy Nelson, Darren Wilke, John Haukos, Sandy Vold, Elaine Martig and Nick Anderson were also present. Following the presentation and discussion, motion by Olson and seconded by Athey to authorize Mr. Kelsey to meet with the employees as scheduled with the understanding that this has not been finalized. Motion carried with Commissioner Tomschin voting Nay.

Chairman Janssen adjourned the meeting at 11:10 AM.

Howard Janssen, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Michelle R. Knutson, Auditor