

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD
November 25, 2008**

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, November 25, 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 Athey, seconded by Olson and carried to approve the minutes of the November 10th regular meeting.

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

Committee reports were presented.

Discussion was held on what to do with the year old furnace from the County Office Building. Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to donate it to the Museum.

Bob Meyer from the Ortonville City Council was asked to take the Board's request to install an electrified security door at the Police Department to the next City Council meeting.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Tomschin and carried to approve payment of the following claims:

General	\$17,512.84
Highway	3,789.62
Ditch	<u>445.00</u>
Total	\$21,747.46

Auditor Knutson reported that notice was received that the County's 2008 MCIT dividend is \$54,819 and is allocated as follows: Workers' Compensation \$13,605 and Property/Casualty \$41,214.

Auditor Knutson reported that the County has been selected as the 2008 Most Improved County in the Property and Casualty Division by MCIT.

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

2008-29

WHEREAS, the Joint Powers Agreement and Bylaws of PrimeWest Health requires that Big Stone County designate and appoint one person to serve as a member of PrimeWest Health's Joint Powers Board; and

BE IT RESOLVED that the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners hereby appoints Commissioner Brent Olson to serve as a member of the PrimeWest Health Joint Powers Board, with Commissioner Roger Sandberg as the alternate.

Auditor Knutson reported that a petition had been received from the Big Stone Hutterian Brethren for an outlet to Joint Ditch #4. A hearing with the Joint Ditch Authority will be scheduled after the first of the year to consider the request.

Discussion was held on correspondence received from the Federal Communications Commission regarding digital television transition outreach. Board consensus was to pass on partnering with them on the project.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to authorize payment of the claims for the work being done on the Family Services building as Auditor warrants when they are received.

Vicki Grimli of the Ortonville Library informed the Board of the opportunity to apply for an ICMA Grant to convert the lower level to a media center. Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to encourage and support the submission of the grant application. The Board suggested that Ms. Grimli work through Big Stone Area Growth for assistance as they are under a current consulting arrangement with Vince Robinson of Development Services Inc.

Following a break, County Engineer Nick Anderson reported on some signs that were ordered by the Museum for installation, but were not ordered to meet minimum signing requirements as outlined by the State of Minnesota. Board consensus was to authorize the Engineer to install only signs that meet the State's standard requirements.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Athey and carried to authorize a clean out of Combined Ditch #10/11 and installation of new culverts.

Engineer Anderson reported that the buffer strip on County Ditch #8 needs to be reseeded again. The landowner will be responsible for the cost.

Discussion was held on Hartman's shed along the trail. Mr. Hartman has offered to blacktop from the end of the trail to the street to be allowed to leave the shed at its current location. Board consensus was to allow Mr. Hartman the option. If the cost is too great, the shed will have to be moved.

Commissioners Olson and Sandberg will meet with Kurt Deter of Rinke Noonan regarding the Cease and Desist Order on County Ditch #2.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Athey and carried to accept the resignation of Ladonna Klapel effective June 6, 2009. The resignation was accepted with regret and with appreciation for her years of service.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Olson and carried to authorize the hiring of a replacement Office Support Specialist with Commissioners Athey and Tomschin voting Nay.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Athey and carried to accept the resignation of Bill Mellon effective February 21, 2009. The resignation was accepted with regret and with appreciation for his years of service.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Athey and carried to combine the Maintenance Supervisor job duties with the Emergency Management Director (EMD) position, making this a full-time Big Stone County position. This will require termination of the agreement with Swift County sharing an EMD. HR Director Sue Schultz was instructed to send a letter as notice to Swift County per the agreement and upon Attorney Watson's review.

Discussion was held on the snow removal contract for the Courthouse, Government Building and Family Services. Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to authorize the Building Maintenance Supervisor to coordinate snow removal services. Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to execute the contract as amended to include the above directive.

Chairman Janssen adjourned the meeting at 10:55 AM.

Howard Janssen, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Michelle R. Knutson, Auditor