

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD**  
**June 17, 2008**

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, June 17, 2008. Chairman Janssen called the meeting to order with Commissioners Tomschin, Athey, Sandberg and Olson present. Also present were Elsie Perrine, 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 June 3<sup>rd</sup> regular meeting.

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

Committee reports were presented.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to approve the Highway Right-of-Way Plat for temporary easements for County Project 06-663-06.

Attorney Watson reported that the State Public Defenders Office has cut staff and they will no longer be representing parents in child protection matters effective July 2008. Therefore, the County will now have to cover those costs and consider this in their budget process.

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

General	\$73,754.14
Highway	20,846.39
Ditch	<u>1,785.00</u>
Total	\$96,385.53

Auditor Knutson notified the Board that the school boards of the Ortonville and Bellingham School Districts are proposing a consolidation of the two districts. The proposed consolidation has been approved by the Commissioner of Education. If approved by both school boards, the plan is to have the question on consolidation on the ballot at the primary election on September 9<sup>th</sup>.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Tomschin and carried to approve the new items for display in the rotunda by the Big Stone Arts Council.

Motion by Sandberg and seconded by Olson and carried to authorize an additional appropriation to the Historical Society for 2008 to be used towards workers compensation and liability coverage. Following discussion, motion carried with the understanding that this is for one year and that the Society will be responsible for including this in their budget for future years.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Sandberg and carried to adopt the following resolution to adopt and implement the County Water Management Plan:

**2008-13**

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103B.301, Comprehensive Local Water Management Act, authorizes Minnesota to develop and implement a local water management plan; and

WHEREAS, Big Stone County currently has a state approved local water management plan that covers the period of May 2003 through May 2013; and

WHEREAS, this local water management plan contains a Five-Year Focus Plan for implementation, which covers the years of May 2003 through May 2008; and  
WHEREAS, the state's Findings of Fact, Conclusion and Order approving Big Stone County's local water management plan specifies that the Five-Year Focus Plan will be required to be updated by May 2008; and  
WHEREAS, Big Stone County has determined that the updated Five-Year Focus Plan and continued implementation of a local water management plan will help promote the health and welfare of the citizens of Big Stone County.  
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Big Stone County Board of Commissioners resolves to amend its local water management plan by providing for the required update of the Five-Year Focus Plan.  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Big Stone County will coordinate its planning efforts with all local units of government within the county, and the state review agencies.  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners delegates the Water Plan Task Force with the responsibility of amending the plan pursuant to M.S. 103B.301 and shall report to the County Board on a periodic basis.

Environmental Officer Darren Wilke presented information on the Conditional Use Permit (CUP) Application for an expansion and remodel proposal by the Big Stone Hutterian Brethren. Clarence and Eli Hofer were also present. Following discussion and a review of the plan project, motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to approve the CUP as recommended by the Planning Commission including getting a proposal from SWCD to look at a tree planting plan that also takes into account barn ventilation issues.

Discussion was held on the legislation that passed implementing levy limits for 2009-2011.

Commissioner Athey brought up concerns he has received regarding permitting for ditching and the haying of county road ditches.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Janssen and carried to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 AM.

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Howard Janssen, Chairman

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