

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD
January 20, 2009

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, January 20, 2009. Chairman Olson called the meeting to order with Commissioners Athey, Sandberg, and Wulff present. Commissioner Berning was absent. 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 Wulff and carried to approve the minutes of the January 6th regular meeting.

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

Commissioners reported on the following committees:

Wulff – Newly Elected Commissioners Conference

Olson – Prime West

Sandberg – Property (3); Technology

Attorney Watson reported that he is in the process of reviewing the following:

1. Lease agreement with the City of Ortonville
2. Contract with Kandiyohi County for dispatch services
3. Agreement with Pro-West
4. Contract Extension for Vertical Solutions

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

General	\$100,918.80
Highway	4,394.92
Ditch	<u>17,685.00</u>
Total	\$122,998.72

County Treasurer Cindy Nelson presented investment information and fund balances for 2008 for the Board's review.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Wulff and carried to approve the list of financial institutions as depositories for County funds as presented by Treasurer Nelson.

Don Kleven of the US Fish & Wildlife was present to request certification of acquisition of land in Almond and Big Stone Townships for an Easement for Wildlife Habitat Protection. Sara Vacek of US Fish was also present. Discussion was held on the concern for maintaining the County Ditch on the property. Mr. Kleven assured the Board that the easement is taken subject to ditch rights. Motion by Athey, seconded by Wulff and carried to table the matter until the next meeting when the County Engineer could be present. Following a call to the Engineer, the motion was rescinded. Motion by Wulff, seconded by Sandberg and carried to certify for acquisition the following described property:

Easement for Wildlife Habitat Protection:

1. T122N, R46W, 5th P.M., Section 2, Government Lot 2, part of Government Lots 3, 4 and 5
2. T123N, R46W, 5th P.M., Section 35, part of SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, part of Government Lot 2

Easement:

1. T123N, R46W, 5th P.M., Section 36, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$
2. T122N, R46W, 5th P.M., Section 1, part of Government Lot 4, and part of SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, and the North 30 rods of Government Lot 5
3. T122N, R46W, 5th P.M., Section 2, Government Lot 1, part of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, and part of Government Lot 10, part of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, and part of Government Lot 9

County Assessor Sandy Vold was present to request the Board set the date for the Board of Appeal and Equalization meeting. The meeting was set for Monday, June 15th at 7:00 PM.

HR Director Sue Schultz was present to request ratification of a motion passed at Welfare Board on December 18, 2008, to increase the base salary hours of the Family Services Director from 75 to 80 every pay period. Motion by Athey to rescind the motion passed at Welfare Board. Motion failed for lack of a second. Motion by Sandberg and seconded by Olson to ratify the Welfare Board action subject to annual review for the necessity of the change. Motion carried with Commissioner Athey voting Nay.

Commissioner Olson requested that HR Director Schultz assemble a comparison of staffing changes by department for 5 years ago and current.

Chairman Olson adjourned the meeting at 9:45 AM.

Brent Olson, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Michelle R. Knutson, Auditor