

**RE-ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD
January 6, 2009**

Commissioner Brent Olson and newly elected Commissioners Walter Wulff and Joe Berning were sworn in by County Attorney Bill Watson in the Courthouse Rotunda.

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, January 6, 2009, Vice Chairman Olson called the meeting to order with Commissioners Sandberg, Berning, Wulff and Athey present. Also present were Mike Swenson of the Ortonville Independent, County Attorney Bill Watson, and County Auditor Michelle Knutson. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Upon call for nominations for Board Chairman, motion by Athey, seconded by Sandberg and carried to nominate Commissioner Olson. Following 3 calls for nominations, motion by Athey, seconded by Sandberg and carried to cast a unanimous ballot for Commissioner Olson for Chairman. Chairman Olson then called for nominations for Vice Chairman. Motion by Athey, seconded by Berning and carried to nominate Commissioner Sandberg. Following 3 calls for nominations, motion by Athey, seconded by Wulff and carried to cast a unanimous ballot for Commissioner Sandberg for Vice Chairman.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Athey and carried to approve the minutes of the December 30th regular meeting.

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

The bids received from the Ortonville Independent and the Northern Star for publishing those notices as legally required were reviewed. Motion by Athey, seconded by Wulff and carried to accept the bid and surety bond of the Ortonville Independent as the official newspaper of the County for 2009. The Northern Star will publish second notices as required by law.

Motion by Berning, seconded by Sandberg and carried to establish the following committee appointments:

Commissioner List

AMC Voting Delegates	All Commissioners
Appeals Committee (relating to the Ag Inspector)	Commissioners Athey & Olson Wulff the Alternate
Audit Committee	Commissioner Sandberg
Big Stone Area Growth	Commissioners Olson & Wulff
Bois de Sioux Watershed District	Commissioner Wulff
Central MN Regional Radio Board	Commissioner Sandberg Berning the Alternate
Citizens for Big Stone Lake	Commissioner Sandberg
Community Resource Sharing Partnership (CRSP)	Commissioners Sandberg & Wulff
Countryside Public Health	Commissioner Berning
Ditches & Roads	All Commissioners
Joint Ditch 7/24 Authority	Commissioners Olson, Sandberg & Berning
Joint Ditch 4 Authority	Commissioners Wulff, Athey & Olson
Joint Ditch 10/11 Authority	Commissioners Sandberg, Athey & Olson
Environmental Committee	Commissioners Sandberg & Olson
Extension Committee	Commissioners Wulff & Athey
Fair Board	Commissioner Athey

Food Shelf	Commissioner Wulff
Historical Society	Commissioner Sandberg
Insurance Committee	Commissioners Athey & Sandberg
Investment Committee	Commissioner Sandberg
Juvenile Corrections Committee	Commissioners Berning & Athey
Law Library Committee	Commissioner Athey
Land Records Committee	Commissioner Sandberg
Legislative Committee	All Commissioners
Main Street Industries Board	Commissioner Sandberg
MN Counties Insurance Trust Voting Delegate	Chair
	Vice Chair the Alternate
MN River Board	Commissioner Wulff
	Athey the alternate
Personnel & Labor Relations Committee	Commissioners Olson & Sandberg
Pioneerland Library Board	Commissioner Olson
Planning & Zoning	Commissioners Athey & Olson
Pomme de Terre River Association	Commissioner Wulff
Prairie Country RC&D Council	Commissioner Wulff
	Sandberg the alternate
Prairie Five Community Action Council	Commissioner Athey
Prime West Health Systems	Commissioner Olson
	Sandberg the alternate
Private Industry Council	Commissioner Wulff
	Chief Elected Officials Board
	Olson the alternate
Public Safety Committee	Commissioners Berning & Athey
Purchasing & Property Management	Commissioners Sandberg & Berning
Regional Development Commission (RDC)	Commissioner Olson
	Sandberg the alternate
Safety Committee	Commissioner Sandberg & Berning
Sentence to Service Advisory Board (STS)	Commissioner Berning
Soil & Water Conservation District	Commissioner Athey
	Olson the alternate
Supporting Hands Nurse Family Partnership	Commissioner Berning
	Olson the alternate
Technology Committee	Commissioner Sandberg
Toqua Park Committee	Commissioners Athey & Wulff
WACCO	Commissioner Athey
	Sandberg the alternate
West Central Regional Juvenile Center	Commissioner Athey
	Berning the alternate
WesMN Revolving Loan Fund	Commissioner Wulff
911 Advisory Board	Commissioner Berning

Other Committee Members

AMC Voting Delegates	Auditor, Engineer & HR Director
Appeals Committee (relating to the Ag Inspector).....	John Cunningham
Audit Committee	State Auditor Rep, County Auditor, HR Director, Sharron Bystol & Verden Gerber
Bois de Sioux Watershed District	Engineer
Central MN Regional Radio Board	Sheriff

Environmental Committee	Environmental Officer
Extension Committee	Lay members as appointed
Insurance Committee	No more than two representatives from General, Family Services & Highway
Investment Committee	Treasurer, Family Services Director & Engineer
Juvenile Corrections Committee	Family Services Director, Sheriff, County Attorney, Probation Officer & Judge
Law Library Committee	County Attorney
Land Records Committee	Sharon Finke, Cindy Nelson, Darren Wilke, Elaine Martig, Sandy Vold, Nick Anderson & John Haukos
Personnel & Labor Relations Committee	HR Director
Planning & Zoning	Lay members as appointed
Safety Committee	Safety Director, Engineer, Sheriff, Custodian Sue Kaess & Ed Roeder
Sentence to Service Advisory Board (STS)	Sheriff
West Central Regional Juvenile Center	Sheriff
911 Advisory Board	John Haukos, David Hills, Janet Messmer & Michelle Knutson

There were no Committee reports.

Attorney Watson reported that no resolution is needed by the Board to implement the new Aggregate Tax rates for 2009 per MS 298.75.

Attorney Watson reported that he received notice that the decision on the petition for post conviction relief has been petitioned for discretionary review by the Supreme Court.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Wulff and carried to adopt the following resolutions as presented by County Engineer Nick Anderson:

2009-01

BE IT RESOLVED by the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners that the County Highway Engineer is hereby instructed to hire such miscellaneous and semi-skilled labor and such machinery and equipment as may from time to time be required at the prevailing rates in the community.

2009-02

BE IT RESOLVED by the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners that the County Highway Engineer is hereby authorized to purchase gravel material from various pits at the prevailing rates for graveling and re-graveling the Big Stone County roads.

2009-03

WHEREAS the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners recognizes the need to be helpful to cities and townships during an emergency or natural disaster.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners that the County Highway Engineer is hereby authorized and instructed to pay by regular payroll up to the amount of five thousand dollars for approved emergency labor performed off the regular County Road System.

2009-04

BE IT RESOLVED by the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners that the County Highway Engineer is hereby authorized and instructed to impose weight and load restrictions as he deems necessary on any or all County Roads and County State Aid Highways pursuant to Chapter 500, Article 4, Section 1, Subdivision 3 of Laws of 1959.

2009-05

BE IT RESOLVED by the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners that the County Highway Engineer is hereby authorized to spray weeds and objectionable vegetation in all of the County Ditch Systems without further approval of the County Board of Commissioners so long as expenditures do not exceed \$750.00 for any single County Ditch. This resolution excludes Joint Ditches.

County Engineer Anderson reported that the tilling of road right-of-way will be discussed at the annual township meeting. Chairman Olson reviewed previous board action regarding this to update Commissioners Wulff and Berning.

Discussion was held on the Conservation Preservation funds and possible projects that may qualify.

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

General	\$223,165.45
Highway	88,706.29
State	<u>1,889.00</u>
Total	\$313,760.74

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Berning and carried to approve the following internal transactions, effective December 31, 2008:

Ditch to Highway	\$ 181.40
General to Highway	\$7,140.83

Motion by Athey, seconded by Berning and carried to approve the 2009 aggregate gravel tax budget with revenues estimated to be \$80,000.

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

2009-06

BE IT RESOLVED, that the 2009 County Ditch Assessments be established as follows:

<u>Ditch Number</u>	<u>Assessment</u>
2	\$5,000
4	\$ 500
8	\$ 500
12	\$ 500
13	\$5,000
17	\$ 500
18	\$1,000
19	\$1,000
20	\$ 500
30	\$ 500

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Berning and carried to execute the Letter of Agreement with Ing Consulting Group, Inc and authorize Auditor Knutson to contact them to proceed.

Possible dates for a Joint Ditch #4 hearing were provided to Auditor Knutson. Knutson will contact Traverse County and set the hearing date.

New commissioners were informed of previous discussions regarding bonding for County projects. New bond rate information was distributed to board members for their review.

Auditor Knutson reviewed miscellaneous correspondence with board members. Following a break, elected officials John Haukos, Cindy Nelson, and Elaine Martig arrived at the meeting for the setting of elected officials' salaries. Motion by Athey and seconded by Sandberg to freeze the salaries for elected officials at the 2008 amounts for 2009 as follows:

Attorney	\$76,966.50
Auditor	\$66,378.00
Recorder	\$46,098.00
Sheriff	\$59,904.00
Treasurer	\$56,725.50

Following discussion, motion carried with Commissioner Wulff voting Nay.

Sheriff Haukos updated the Board on the future of dispatch services in the County.

Chairman Olson adjourned the meeting at 10:45 AM.

Brent Olson, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Michelle R. Knutson, Auditor