

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD
December 15, 2009

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, December 15, 2009. Chairman Olson called the meeting to order with Commissioners Athey, Berning, Sandberg and Wulff 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 Berning and carried to approve the minutes of the December 1st regular meeting.

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

Commissioners reported on the following committees:

Athey – SWCD

Wulff – Pomme de Terre; RLF

Berning – Property

Olson – PrimeWest; Personnel

Sandberg – Personnel; Property

Discussion was held on the tax forfeited property in the City of Odessa. Motion by Berning, seconded by Sandberg and carried to adjust the basic sale price on tax forfeited parcel 21-0115-000 to \$250.

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

General	\$50,593.49
Highway	12,660.48
Ditch	530.58
Taxes & Penalties	<u>387.40</u>
Total	\$64,171.95

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Wulff and carried to approve the following tobacco license applications for 2010:

Beardsley Country Market

Bonnie's Hometown Grocery

CHS Inc dba Cenex C-Store (Ortonville)

George's Bar & Grill Inc.

Graceville Bar & Lounge

Graceville Country Market

Hartman's Super Valu

Headquarter's Bar, Inc.

Holiday Stationstore #105

KJ's Kountry Store

Tri County Coop

Motion by Wulff, seconded by Athey and carried to appoint the Theresa Diekmann and Jan Eifealdt to the Extension Committee for 3-year terms and Rachel Sprung as the youth representative for a 2-year term effective 1/1/2010.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Berning and carried to authorize the Auditor to pay any claims received by December 31st so as to account for them in the current year's business.

Auditor Knutson asked for questions and/or comments on the year-to-date financial information provided for the Board's review.

As presented by Sheriff John Haukos, motion by Berning, seconded by Wulff and carried to raise the following Civil Process fees by \$10: Civil Process, Posting of Notice and Unserved Process.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Berning and carried to execute the contract with the Central Minnesota Regional Radio Board and the State of Minnesota for the design, procurement, construction and operation of an 800 MHz county/regional integrated public safety radio communication subsystem with MnDOT.

Sheriff Haukos provided information on an upcoming project supported by the Sheriff's Association to hire a company to write policies for the counties statewide. This would allow consistent policy and would also provide annual training for staff. The cost is estimated at \$1,300 per year. No action is needed at this time.

VSO Dan Meyer provided information on his office's activities during the past month for the Board's review.

Discussion was held on establishing a budget policy. Chairman Olson suggested three goals for planning the 2011 budget: present a balanced budget; support a levy increase of no more than the rate of inflation; and lose employees only through attrition. The Board will bring back their thoughts on these and any further ideas to the next meeting.

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

2009-45

BE IT RESOLVED, that all parcels of tax-forfeited land listed on the List of Tax-Forfeited Land #10-1 be classified as non-conservation land; that the basic sale price of each parcel on List of Tax-Forfeited Land #10-1, that is on file with the Clerk of the County Board, be approved and authorization for a public sale of this land be granted, pursuant to M.S. 282.01; that the sale will be held at 9:00 AM, Friday, January 22, 2010, by the Big Stone County Treasurer at the Big Stone County Courthouse, for not less than the basic sale price; and that full payment is required at the time of the sale.

A conference call was placed to Jill Urdahl of Hildi, Inc. to review the County's newest GASB 45 Actuarial Valuation Report for Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB).

Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to adopt the following resolution:

2009-46

BE IT RESOLVED that the Big Stone County 2010 budget and levy be established as follows:

	GENERAL	HIGHWAY	FAMILY SERVICES	DITCH	2010 TOTAL
REVENUES					
Tax Levy & Aids	\$2,413,308	\$850,000	\$900,000		\$4,163,308
Other Taxes	\$9,400	\$35,000			\$44,400
Special Assessments	\$116,500			\$68,500	\$185,000
Licenses & Permits	\$19,550				\$19,550

Intergovernmental	\$329,193	\$2,220,500	\$1,332,508		\$3,882,201
Charges for Services	\$173,850	\$138,000	\$281,936		\$593,786
Investment Earnings	\$70,800	\$10,000			\$80,800
Miscellaneous	\$110,651	\$24,500	\$38,750		\$173,901
Proceeds from Sale of Bonds					\$0
Sale Proceeds		\$100			\$100
TOTAL REVENUES	\$3,243,252	\$3,278,100	\$2,553,194	\$68,500	\$9,143,046
EXPENDITURES					
General Government	\$1,676,400				\$1,676,400
Public Safety	\$1,073,114				\$1,073,114
Highway		\$3,359,155			\$3,359,155
Sanitation	\$178,971				\$178,971
Family Services			\$2,695,434		\$2,695,434
Health	\$79,915				\$79,915
Culture & Recreation	\$143,166				\$143,166
Conservation of Natural Resources	\$234,726			\$57,520	\$292,246
Economic Development	\$32,541				\$32,541
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$3,418,833	\$3,359,155	\$2,695,434	\$57,520	\$9,530,942

Following a break, Department Heads Nick Anderson, John Haukos, Jim Hasslen, Elaine Martig, Cindy Nelson, Sue Schultz, Sandy Vold and Darren Wilke arrived at the meeting.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Wulff and carried to approve the County's Emergency Operations Plan as presented by Emergency Management Director Jim Hasslen.

Motion by Wulff, seconded by Olson and carried to approve the temporary part-time fill-in hiring of Cara Greger for the RSVP Office Support position at Grade 1 Step 1, effective December 14, 2009.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Athey and carried to approve the Memorandum of Understanding for Mark Thompson's request for a temporary change in status from full-time to intermittent part-time until March 31, 2010 as presented by HR Director Schultz.

Discussion was held regarding working with Employment Attorney Ann Goering to update the Employee Handbook. HR Director Schultz will request a projected cost for the project and report back to the Board at the next meeting.

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

2009-47

WHEREAS, M.S. 375.055 provides that county commissioners shall receive annual salaries for services rendered while serving as a county commissioner and may receive per diem payments and reimbursement for necessary expenses.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the 2010 salary of the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners shall remain at \$13,306.02 and the per diem rate shall remain at \$50.00 for service on any board, committee or commission or for the performance of services by individual commissioners when required by law.

Discussion was held on the 2010 elected officials' salaries. The Board listened to input from the appointed and elected department heads. The possibility of freezing or reducing the non-union employees' COLA for 2010 was also discussed. The Board asked for other comments to be submitted to them prior to the next board meeting.

Chairman Olson adjourned the meeting at 10:54 AM.

Brent Olson, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Michelle R. Knutson, Auditor