

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD  
May 19, 2009**

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, May 19, 2009. Chairman Olson called the meeting to order with Commissioners Athey, Berning, Sandberg and Wulff 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 Sandberg, seconded by Athey, and carried to approve the minutes of the May 5<sup>th</sup> regular meeting.

Motion by Wulff, seconded by Berning and carried to approve the agenda.

Commissioners reported on the following committees:

- Wulff – Revolving Loan Fund
- Berning – Countryside Public Health
- Olson – CD #2, Personnel; PrimeWest
- Sandberg – CBSL; Personnel

Motion by Athey, seconded by Sandberg and carried to authorize a letter of interest be sent to Senator Kubly for stimulus funding to be used for energy efficient projects in the County.

Discussion was held with Mark Taffe regarding Toqua Park. Board consensus was to proceed with the electrical work as presented as the expenditure was approved in 2008. In addition, consensus was to replace the agrilime around the playground equipment with pea rock and replace a restroom door.

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

General	\$39,327.13
Highway	20,259.39
Ditch	<u>4,418.48</u>
Total	\$64,005.00

Motion by Athey, seconded by Sandberg and carried to execute the agreement with Hildi Inc. for an actuarial valuation as required by GASB 45.

Motion by Wulff, seconded by Sandberg and carried to reappoint Mark Brown as the County's representative on the Southwest Minnesota EMS Corporation Board of Directors.

Discussion was held on the correspondence received from Pioneerland Library System (PLS) regarding the retirement of Ann Lauer from the Graceville Library. Board consensus was that they have no concerns with how PLS plans to fill the position.

HR Director Sue Schultz reported that Kathryn Schliep has been hired as the Summer Assistant for the Extension Office.

HR Director Schultz reported that an ad will be placed the week of June 1<sup>st</sup> for RFPs for the County's core insurance benefits for employees.

Board consensus was to authorize HR Director Schultz to use the evaluation form as presented for upcoming performance reviews.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Wulff and carried to cancel the previously executed agreement with Main Street Industries for cleaning services at Countryside Public Health and the Government Building and execute the revised agreement

presented by Building Supervisor Jim Hasslen to include travel in the cost of service. Commissioner Olson abstained.

Emergency Management Director Jim Hasslen presented H1N1 pandemic information to advise the Board on what will need to be done if it becomes a greater issue.

Following a break, Environmental Officer Darren Wilke was present to explain the Feedlot Performance Credit Grant. Motion by Berning, seconded by Wulff and carried to execute the grant agreement with the MN Board of Water and Soil Resources for the MPCA County Feedlot Program 2008 Performance Credit Allocations.

Environmental Officer Wilke reported that the electronic waste collection was a success bringing in 21,000 pounds of waste.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Wulff and carried to authorize an additional \$5,500 to be expended on County Ditch #15 for additional tiling.

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

**2009-22**

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that Big Stone County enter into the General Obligation Bond Proceeds Grant Agreement with the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDot) for SAP 006-606-018.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Nicholas Anderson, County Engineer is authorized to execute the Grant Agreement on behalf of Big Stone County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Board Chair and the County Auditor are authorized to execute the Declaration on behalf of Big Stone County.

Motion by Wulff, seconded by Berning and carried to adopt the following resolution contingent upon Attorney Watson's review:

**2009-23**

WHEREAS, Big Stone County has applied to the Commissioner of Transportation for a grant from the Minnesota State Transportation Fund for construction of Local Road Improvement Project No. SAP 006-606-18; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Transportation has given notice that funding for this local road improvement project is available; and

WHEREAS, the amount of the grant has been determined to be \$84,388 by reason of the lowest responsible bid;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Big Stone County does hereby agree to the terms and conditions of the grant consistent with Minnesota Statutes, section 174.52, subdivision 5, and will pay any additional amount by which the cost exceeds the estimate, and will return to the Minnesota State Transportation Fund any amount appropriated for the road project, but not required.

A cost savings discussion was held for the remainder of the meeting.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Berning and carried to approve the Early Retirement Incentive Offer as presented by HR Director Schultz. Elected officials are not eligible for the offer.

Consensus was to have the Personnel Committee begin having meetings with Department Heads to review department structure including possible combinations and appointments.

Discussion was held on opening a dialogue with the union groups regarding the possibility of opening contracts to assist with the upcoming budget issues.

Chairman Olson adjourned the meeting at 10:32 AM.

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Brent Olson, Chairman

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