

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD
September 1, 2009

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, September 1, 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, Elsie Perrine, 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 August 18th regular meeting.

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

Commissioners reported on the following committees:

Athey – Fair Board; Prairie 5

Motion by Athey to appropriate an additional \$1,000 to the Fair for 2009. Motion failed for lack of a second.

Wulff – RLF; Bois de Sioux Watershed

HR Director Schultz arrived at the meeting.

Olson – Personnel

Motion by Olson and seconded by Wulff to request the employee unions to consider a reduction in the cafeteria plan contribution from \$970/month to \$870/month for 2010 to assist with the budget shortfall. Following discussion, motion carried.

Sandberg – Collaborative; Technology; Personnel

Attorney Watson reported that he will be drafting a 3-year agreement with Federated Telephone for lease of the shed at the Schumacher Tower location. The lease amount will be \$125/month due to the fact that air conditioning will be installed.

Discussion was held on the temporary beer license application that was received. No license will be issued due to the fact that the organization making the application does not meet the requirements per state statute.

HR Director Schultz reported that a letter was received from Lac qui Parle County stating that they are unable to fulfill the County's request for assistance with staffing the VSO office. However, they are willing to allow their VSO to service any County veterans at their office. Motion by Athey, seconded by Sandberg and carried to accept their offered assistance and have LQP VSO Dan Meyer sign a confidentiality agreement.

HR Director Schultz reported that Ochs, Inc. informed her that the County's current carriers for the core benefits were the low bidders on the RFPs. Motion by Wulff, seconded by Berning and carried to award the bids to Minnesota Life for the life insurance and to Assurant for the short and long term disability. The results of the RFPs are available in the HR office.

HR Director Schultz presented a letter received from Swift County Human Services Director Deanna Steckman regarding the sharing of a director position at 40% time. An agreement will be drafted for approval at the next meeting.

Sheriff John Haukos was present for a discussion on West Central Regional Juvenile Center. Following a lengthy discussion, motion by Wulff, seconded by Sandberg and carried to continue to pay the per diem as needed versus purchasing a bed for an annual fee. In addition, motion by Berning, seconded by Athey and carried to

vote against entering into the First Amended Cooperative Agreement for the Construction & Operation of the Clay County Secure Juvenile Detention and Treatment Facility which would change the percentage of votes needed for future amendments to the agreement.

Attorney Watson and Sheriff Haukos informed the Board that the Hyden trial went well and the Attorney General's office was very impressed with the community cooperation and the cooperation between law enforcement and other agencies. The Board also thanked the Sheriff and Attorney for their efforts.

LeRoy Hamann was present for a discussion on the County's installation of right-of-way signs along County roads. County Engineer Nick Anderson arrived during the discussion. The consensus of those present is that there are inconsistencies with the right-of-way setbacks. Engineer Anderson will review Mr. Hamann's situation and will adjust the signage if necessary.

Engineer Anderson presented a Certificate of Performance for SP 06-606-018 with Central Specialties, Inc. Motion by Athey, seconded by Sandberg and carried to adopt the following resolution:

2009-37

WHEREAS, County SAP 006-606-018 has in all things been completed and the County Board being fully advised in the premises.

NOW THEN BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board hereby accepts said completed project for and on behalf of the County of Big Stone, and authorize final payment to Central Specialties, Inc. in the amount shown on final pay estimate.

Engineer Anderson presented a Certificate of Performance for SAP 006-090-002 with Structural Specialties, Inc. Motion by Berning, seconded by Wulff and carried to adopt the following resolution with Commissioner Athey voting Nay:

2009-38

WHEREAS, County SP 006-090-002 has in all things been completed and the County Board being fully advised in the premises.

NOW THEN BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board hereby accepts said completed project for and on behalf of the County of Big Stone, and authorize final payment to Structural Specialties, Inc. in the amount shown on final pay estimate.

Discussion was held on the level of department head involvement with recent discussions with the unions. The Board advised that it's the Personnel Committee's responsibility under the Board's direction.

Following a break, motion by Athey, seconded by Wulff and carried to authorize payment of the following claims as presented by Auditor Knutson:

General	\$23,083.23
Highway	<u>17,437.78</u>
Total	\$40,521.01

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Wulff and carried to amend the previous motion on July 21st setting the rent for Family Services to \$11 per square foot effective September 1, 2009.

Motion by Berning, seconded by Wulff and carried to authorize payment of hotel costs for an interim VSO if needed.

Motion by Berning, seconded by Athey and carried to appoint Commissioner Wulff as the County's representative to the Red River Basin Commission.

The Board continued their review of the 2010 County budget.
HR Director Schultz returned to the meeting to report that the Department of Veterans Affairs will be sending VSO Galyn Minkel to assist County veterans 2 days a week for 2 months or until a replacement is hired.

Chairman Olson adjourned the meeting at 10:45 AM.

Brent Olson, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Michelle R. Knutson, Auditor