

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD**  
**November 15, 2011**

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, November 15, 2011. Chairman Athey called the meeting to order with Commissioners Berning, Olson, 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 Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to approve the minutes of the November 1<sup>st</sup> regular meeting.

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

Commissioners reported on the following committees:

Olson – RDC; PrimeWest; BSAG

Sandberg – Property; Audit; IT; MSI; CBSL

Athey – HRA: Fair Board; Prairie 5

Wulff – SWMHC; RC&D; RLF

Berning – Countryside; Property

Attorney Watson reported that he has drafted a notice to take bids on the sale of the 2 acre parcel in Odessa Township.

Attorney Watson reported that he may have a conflict with a court date and a Court of Appeal argument regarding the Barnes case. Motion by Olson, seconded by Berning and carried to authorize hiring another attorney to take the case if the court case cannot be rescheduled.

Countryside Public Health Administrator Liz Auch presented the new Joint Powers Agreement that was drafted by Attorney Watson. Motion by Olson, seconded by Wulff and carried to execute the agreement as presented.

Administrator Auch also provided an update on her agency.

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

Computer Professionals	\$ 3,747.33
Contech Construction Products	2,365.25
Kandiyohi County	29,088.10
Milbank Communications	4,017.40
Traverse County	2,550.00
Waste Management	8,748.67
West Con	16,309.99
44 Payments Less Than \$2,000	<u>13,297.96</u>
Total	\$80,124.70

Motion by Olson, seconded by Berning and carried to amend the Accounting Policies and Procedures to update amounts for bid requirements as per Minnesota Statutes and change our accrual period from 60 to 30 days.

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

Motion by Olson, seconded by Wulff and carried to approve the new items for display in the rotunda by the Big Stone Arts Council.

Motion by Berning, seconded by Sandberg and carried to establish the 2012 tobacco license fee at \$150 due to a \$25 increase from Countryside for the compliance check.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Berning and carried to set the coroner fee at \$150 per hour and to pay mileage at the IRS rate.

Building Supervisor Jim Hasslen presented 2 quotes to put in new interior doors on the north side of the building. Motion by Wulff, seconded by Sandberg and carried to accept the low quote of \$3,395 from Builders Millwork, Inc.

Commissioner Sandberg provided an update on the Whetstone Project. Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Olson and carried to contribute \$25,000 towards the feasibility study, which is Phase 2 of the project. These funds will be levied over 2 budget cycles beginning in 2013.

Commissioner Olson asked that the Board consider establishing a policy for economic development tax abatements. The matter was tabled until the next meeting.

The Board participated in a conference call regarding the FSA lease with Morrell Jordan, the federal contracting officer, and Glenn Schafer and Molly Arnold from the State FSA office. Following a request from Mr. Jordan, motion by Sandberg, seconded by Wulff and carried to recess the meeting at 9:52 AM to allow further discussion with just the Property Committee. Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Berning and carried to reopen the meeting at 10:05 AM. Commissioner Sandberg reported that a follow-up call will take place on Thursday, November 17<sup>th</sup>.

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

**2011-46**

BE IT RESOLVED that pursuant to M.S. §161.36, the Commissioner of Transportation be appointed as Agent of the County to accept as its agent, federal aid funds which may be made available for eligible transportation related projects.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners and the County Auditor are hereby authorized and directed for and on behalf of the County to execute and enter into an agreement with the Commissioner of Transportation prescribing the terms and conditions of said federal aid participation as set forth and contained in "Minnesota Department of Transportation Agency Agreement No. 84101", a copy of which said agreement was before the County Board and which is made a part hereof by reference.

Engineer Anderson presented a copy of the restoration order from US Fish & Wildlife regarding work that had been done in Otrej Township.

Engineer Anderson provided an update on various projects and activities in the Highway Department.

Chairman Athey adjourned the meeting at 10:29 AM.

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Wade Athey, Chairman

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