

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD
April 19, 2011

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, April 19, 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 Sandberg, seconded by Olson and carried to approve the minutes of the April 5th regular meeting.

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

Commissioners reported on the following committees:

Olson – Restructuring; Dream for Kids

Sandberg – Restructuring

Wulff – RC&D; Toqua Park

Berning – Supporting Hands; Countryside Public Health

Attorney Watson provided an update on his office's activities.

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

| | |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Computer Professionals Unlimited | \$ 3,967.33 |
| Kris Engineering | 6,541.99 |
| Ortonville Independent | 4,116.85 |
| Traverse County | 2,700.00 |
| Twin Valley Tire | 5,142.71 |
| West Con | 4,835.00 |
| Ziegler Inc | 4,110.59 |
| 52 Payments Less Than \$2,000 | <u>17,383.62</u> |
| Total | \$48,798.09 |

Motion by Olson, seconded by Wulff and carried to approve an internal transaction of \$6,140.35 from General to Highway.

Motion by Wulff, seconded by Sandberg and carried to approve the Off Sale Beer License for Lakeshore RV Park.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Berning and carried to execute the 6-month lease agreement for a storage shed at Big 12 Storage for April through September.

Following discussion, motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to send a letter to Representative Falk urging him to support a House bill regarding county-based purchasing language as requested by PrimeWest.

Liz Auch and Julie Kunrath from Countryside Public Health were present to provide an update on the Statewide Health Improvement Program (SHIP) and the related activities in the County.

HR Director Sue Schultz reported that the time period for turning in applications for the Toqua Park positions was extended to April 20th.

HR Director Schultz also reported that a grievance had been filed against the County and that the Personnel Committee will be meeting and will report back to the Board at a later date.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to adopt the following resolutions as presented by Emergency Manager Jim Hasslen:

2011-33

WHEREAS, the County of Big Stone, Minnesota, has sustained severe losses of a major proportion, brought on by flooding commenced on March 19, 2011; and WHEREAS, Big Stone County is a public entity within the State of Minnesota; and WHEREAS, the following conditions exist in Big Stone County as a result of flooding: numerous township, county and state roads are underwater; public and private buildings are either damaged or likely to be damaged by flooding.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chairperson of Big Stone County, acting on behalf of and for the people of Big Stone County, declare that a state of emergency exists within Big Stone County, with all the powers and responsibilities attending thereto as provided by Chapter 12, Minnesota Statute, and Big Stone County Emergency Plan Resolution, dated January 6, 2004.

2011-34

WHEREAS, the County of Big Stone has sustained severe losses of major proportion, caused by flooding starting on the date of March 19, 2011; and WHEREAS, Big Stone County is a public entity within the State of Minnesota; and WHEREAS, substantial damage has been sustained to public/private property, as outlined in the attached damage assessment forms; and WHEREAS, the cost of recovery from this disaster is beyond the resources available within the County, and state and federal resources are necessary.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners, for and on behalf of the citizens of Big Stone County, request the Governor of the State of Minnesota to petition the President of the United States to declare the County of Big Stone, Minnesota to be a major disaster area, through appropriate channels.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this request is for: The Public Assistance (Infrastructure Support) Program only.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Emergency Management Director is authorized to coordinate the damage assessment teams with local government, and assist in the administration of the disaster recovery process, as needed.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Olson and carried to execute the Technology Support Services Contract with the Ortonville School District.

IT Systems Technician Terry Ocaña provided an update on GIS.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Wulff and carried to approve the recommended GIS fee schedule as follows:

\$250 per year subscription

\$150 for a one time shape file

IT Systems Technician Ocaña also reported that the newly designed County website is up and running and includes the link to the GIS information.

SWCD Technician Darrin Welle presented the Big Stone SWCD Annual Report for 2010. Administrative Assistant Tammy Neubauer and Supervisor Vernon Johnson were also present.

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

2011-35

WHEREAS, Minnesota is consistently placed at or near the bottom of national measures that assess the capacity for local government innovation in all 50 states; and WHEREAS, Minnesota and its counties face significant demographic trends that will require innovative approaches to program delivery in order to adequately meet the growing and changing needs of citizens; and

WHEREAS, counties with innovative ideas should be provided the requisite opportunity and flexibility to successfully implement those ideas so as to best serve their communities; and

WHEREAS, counties across Minnesota boast significant geographic, demographic and economic diversity that thus requires maximum flexibility in programmatic implementation; and

WHEREAS, counties are willing and able to identify, implement and methodically verify increased programmatic efficiencies through a process that will cultivate and sustain a strong and trusting state-local partnership; and

WHEREAS, transitioning to an outcomes-based system of program evaluation is in the best interest of every Minnesota citizen and government that desires to maximize public resources and enhance the quality of life in their community to the fullest extent possible.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that Big Stone County recommends that the Legislature and governor work cooperatively with all 87 counties to swiftly pass the MAGIC Act into law during the 2011 legislative session, thus implementing a system that will enhance and incent local government efficiency and innovation throughout Minnesota by:

1. Allowing counties to take any action not prohibited by state law to provide for the health, safety and general welfare of the public; and
2. Creating a measured, outcomes-based waiver process whereby counties, in partnership with the legislative and executive branch of state government, can implement efficiency-based, time-limited pilot programs that are subject to final review by the Legislature and Governor and will create a repository of best practices so as to improve long-term policy decisions across the state.

Attorney Watson left the meeting.

Following a break, Upper MN River Watershed District representatives Dianne Radermacher and Deanna Lundberg and board managers Bob Toelle, Loren Harste, Terry Gillespie and Gary Haugen were present for an update on permitting. Environmental Officer Darren Wilke was also present.

Don Kleven and Bruce Freske of the US Fish & Wildlife was present to request certification of acquisition of lands for habitat easements in Odessa Township. Motion by Olson, seconded by Berning and carried to certify for acquisition the following described property:

1. T121N, R45W, 5th P.M., Section 22, the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ (EXCEPTING THEREFROM OL1 thereof); and EXCEPT 4 acres in the NE corner of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$; AND the E $\frac{1}{2}$ E $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ and the W $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$ W $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, subject to road ROW, AND also subject to a perpetual easement for the purposes of ingress and egress along a strip of land described as the Sly 50' of the E $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ for the purpose of

granting ingress and egress to the W $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$. (Tract will be surveyed at the expense of the FWS to determine a legal description and total acres.)

2. T121N, R45W, 5th P.M., Section 36, the W $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ and the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ lying N of RR, SUBJECT to easements of record and visible on premises. (Tract will be surveyed at FWS expense to determine a legal description and total acres.)

Chairman Athey adjourned the meeting at 10:37 AM.

Wade Athey, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Michelle R. Knutson, Auditor