

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD**  
**May 3, 2011**

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, May 3, 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, Sheriff John Haukos, Family Services Director Gale Mittelstaedt, County Attorney Bill Watson and County Auditor Michelle Knutson. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Attorney Watson requested that his office be allowed to get access to the Law Enforcement Technology Group (LETG) records program. Sheriff Haukos stated that it would be beneficial for both offices for the Attorney's Office to have access. There may be a one-time fee of \$1,000, but the annual maintenance is already being paid by the Sheriff's Department. Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Berning and carried to authorize the Attorney's Office to use LETG.

Motion by Berning, seconded by Olson and carried to approve the minutes of the April 19<sup>th</sup> regular meeting.

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

HR Director Sue Schultz arrived at the meeting.

Commissioners reported on the following committees:

Olson – Collaborative; Small Cities with RDC; RDC

Sandberg – MSI; Food Shelf; Property

Athey – Prairie 5; Toqua Park

Wulff – Extension; Toqua Park

Upon the request of Sheriff Haukos, motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to authorize the sale of the old K-9 squad for \$1,200 to Schrader's Law Enforcement Supply, who is outfitting the new one.

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

Big Stone SWCD	\$ 3,000.00
Kris Engineering	3,837.22
Office of the State Auditor	3,889.14
Waste Management	8,600.38
William Watson	4,109.88
45 Payments Less Than \$2,000	<u>10,090.43</u>
Total	\$33,527.05

Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to close the meeting at 8:43 AM as permitted for attorney-client privilege per MS 13D.05.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Berning and carried to reopen the meeting at 8:44 AM.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Wulff and carried to reclose the meeting at 8:45 AM for another matter as permitted for attorney-client privilege per MS 13D.05.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Wulff and carried to reopen the meeting at 9:23 AM.

Attorney Watson reported that the lease for Countryside Public Health is up in May of 2012. Consensus was for Attorney Watson to send a letter to Mr. Jim Kaye notifying him of our intent not to renew the lease.

Attorney Watson also reported that the most recent post conviction relief petition was denied.

VSO Dan Meyer presented the Book of Honor he made. Meyer also provided information on his office's activities during the past month for the Board's review.

The Property Committee reported that they are waiting for a 3<sup>rd</sup> quote for the installation of a wall for the server room.

Discussion was held on the new revolving loan fund established by Big Stone Area Growth (BSAG). The Cities of Ortonville and Graceville are providing the match, but because an application was received for someone outside of city limits, they are requesting that the County invest in it as well. Motion by Olson, seconded by Berning and carried to authorize \$2,600 as an investment into the BSAG revolving loan fund.

Commissioner Olson provided an update on the possible restructuring at the Courthouse. Consensus was to convene the citizen advisory committee that was established and get their input.

A brief discussion was held on redistricting for commissioner districts.

IT Systems Technician Terry Ocaña reported that there is a technology grant opportunity for document imaging. The matter will be discussed at Welfare Board and then brought back to the Board for further discussion.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Wulff and carried to authorize the following temporary emergency hires for the Splash Program as presented by HR Director Sue Schultz:

Chris Fellows at Grade 3 Step 3  
Marissa Baerwaldt at Grade 3 Step 1  
One to be decided at Grade 3 Step 1

All hires will be contingent upon background checks.

Motion by Wulff, seconded by Berning and carried to authorize the hiring of Ron Haugen as the Toqua Park Caretaker at Grade 1 Step 2 effective May 7, 2011.

HR Director Schultz read the resignation letter she received from Appraiser Travis Scoblic, who was also present. Motion by Olson, seconded by Wulff and carried to accept the resignation with regret and appreciation.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Wulff and carried to approve additional hours for the part-time custodian to be the fill-in at Toqua Park.

Commissioner Wulff left the meeting.

At 10:00 AM with various bidders and Highway Technicians present, County Engineer Nick Anderson opened and read the following bids received:

SAP 006-610-023 & SAP 006-613-007

<b><u>BIDDER</u></b>	<b><u>AMOUNT</u></b>
Bituminous Paving	\$ 836,148.00
Central Specialties	\$ 856,882.31
Mark Sand & Gravel	\$1,077,379.50

SAP 006-622-006

<b><u>BIDDER</u></b>	<b><u>AMOUNT</u></b>
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Central Specialties	\$873,977.45
J & J Earthworks	\$845,631.75
Kuechle Underground	\$984,429.26
Ronglien & Sons Excavating	\$820,071.92
States Borders Construction	\$749,148.85

Technicians Mark Dietz and Terry LaVoi took the bids to the Auditor's Office for review and tabulation.

Engineer Anderson reported that, in the future, all bids will be opened and reviewed at the Highway Department and then brought to the Board for awarding.

Engineer Anderson reported on the costs of snow plowing.

Discussion was held on spring drainage issues. Engineer Anderson reported that the weir on County Ditch 2 did not impact flooding and that the flooding issues on Highway 12 would be helped with a tile over the long term.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Berning and carried to award the bid on SAP 006-610-023 & SAP 006-613-007 to Bituminous Paving.

Engineer Anderson discussed the cell phone policy with regard to a data plan and phone. The Board referred the matter to the IT committee.

Discussion was held on the installation of a fish screen on County Road 62. Engineer Anderson reported that a new concrete culvert is needed first.

The Highway Department will be installing some signage by the new playground in Lakeside Park.

Discussion was held on the cleaning of county road ditches. Engineer Anderson reviewed the process. Board consensus was to continue with the current process where the landowner may apply for a permit from the Highway Department for cleaning them.

Attorney Watson left the meeting.

Environmental Officer Darren Wilke, Steve Berkner from CBSL, Amos Wollman from Lismore Colony and Scott Thaden from Anez Consulting were present for a discussion on an amendment to the Colony's CUP to "remove the condition requiring bio-filters on the finishing barn and allow geo-thermal technology to be placed on both barns, which will allow them to meet OFFSET numbers." Mr. Thaden presented information on new technology regarding odor control and the OFFSET Model. Motion by Olson, seconded by Berning and carried to approve the amendment based on the facts presented.

Attorney Watson returned to the meeting.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Berning and carried to authorize the expenditures to demolish the structure, clear the lot and restore the shoreline on the tax forfeited property in Sunset View and as presented by Environmental Officer Wilke.

Chairman Athey adjourned the meeting at 11:05 AM.

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Wade Athey, Chairman

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