

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD
Highway Department Five-Year Plan Meeting
June 21, 2011

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the conference room at the Highway Department at 1:00 PM on Tuesday, June 21, 2011. Chairman Athey called the meeting to order with Commissioners Olson, Wulff, Sandberg and Berning present. Also present were Lon Moen, Derrick Loeschke, Terry LaVoi, Toby Reiffenberger, County Engineer Nick Anderson, and County Deputy Auditor Sharon Finke.

Engineer Anderson reviewed the 5-year plan for road construction. Motion by Olson, seconded by Wulff and carried to approve the plan as presented.

The 5-year plan for major equipment expenditures was presented. Engineer Anderson requested that the Board approve the plan as presented, but that he would reserve the right to request to purchase the grader that was originally scheduled for replacement in 2010 and was now scheduled for 2012 this fall if the budget would allow it. Motion by Berning, seconded by Olson and carried to approve the plan as presented.

Engineer Anderson reported that requests had been filed with MnDOT for 95% of the reimbursement for State Aid construction projects and those funds should arrive prior to the anticipated State shutdown.

Engineer Anderson reviewed the financial status of the highway department. Upon recommendation of the Engineer, motion by Olson, seconded by Berning and carried to undesignate the \$50,000 for Capital Equipment, transfer the money into the other savings account and close the account.

Engineer Anderson reported that his department will continue to make progress on the ROW marking, but that because of work load and staffing issues they may not complete as much as they would like to this year. He stated that the project is about half complete, leaving about 225 miles of road to mark ROW on.

A discussion was held regarding the need to ensure that anyone who is cutting hay on roadway ROW has applied for a permit and therefore has permission from the adjacent landowner.

Engineer Anderson reported he is planning to attend a Watershed board meeting this afternoon at which time they will be discussing the problems with seaweed growth where the water is backed up on CD 2.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to authorize Engineer Anderson to design the US 12 tile and to use Highway Department staff during the construction.

Engineer Anderson distributed information regarding roadway sites in Big Stone County that have received FEMA funding in 2011.

Engineer Anderson reported that he is continuing to try to access State Park Road funding for paving Prior Township's Meadowbrook Road, but that it is not yet guaranteed for 2012 or 2013.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Wulff and carried to execute the "Maintenance Cooperative Agreement" with the State of Minnesota for the Minnesota State Trail from Big Stone Lake to the Big Stone National Wildlife Refuge effective July 1, 2011 and expiring June 30, 2013.

Highway Technician Dietz demonstrated the many uses of the County's new Lidar point clouds, the database which includes an inventory of county roads, signs and culverts, GIS and pictometry imagery.

Chairman Athey adjourned the meeting at 2:45 PM.

Wade Athey, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Sharon Finke, Deputy Auditor