

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD
September 20, 2011

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, September 20, 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, Family Services Director Gale Mittelstaedt, 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 September 6th regular meeting.

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

Commissioners reported on the following committees:

Sandberg – CBSL

Wulff – RLF; BSAG; RC&D; Toqua Park; PIC

Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to close the meeting at 8:40 AM to discuss labor negotiation strategy. Motion by Berning, seconded by Sandberg and carried to reopen the meeting at 8:53 AM.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Olson and carried to execute the Joint Powers Agreement with the Big Stone County Court to perform criminal background searches on name change applications as presented by Sheriff John Haukos.

Motion by Berning, seconded by Wulff and carried to adopt the following resolution and execute the Joint Powers Agreement with the BCA as recommended by Sheriff Haukos:

2011-40

WHEREAS, the County of Big Stone on behalf of its Sheriff desires to enter into a Joint Powers Agreement with the State of Minnesota, Department of Public Safety, Bureau of Criminal Apprehension to use systems and tools available over the State's criminal justice data communications network for which the County is eligible. The Joint Powers Agreement further provides the County with the ability to add, modify and delete connectivity, systems and tools over the five-year life of the agreement and obligates the County to pay the costs for the network connection.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Board of Big Stone, Minnesota as follows:

1. That the State of Minnesota Joint Powers Agreement by and between the State of Minnesota acting through its Department of Public Safety, Bureau of Criminal Apprehension and the County of Big Stone on behalf of its Sheriff is hereby approved. A copy of the Joint Powers Agreement is attached to this Resolution and made a part of it.
2. That the Sheriff, John Haukos, or his successor, is designated the Authorized Representative for the Sheriff. The Authorized Representative is also authorized to sign any subsequent amendment or agreement that may be required by the State of Minnesota to maintain the County's connection to the systems and tools offered by the State. To assist the Authorized Representative with the administration of the agreement, the County Auditor is appointed as the Authorized Representative's designee.

3. That Wade Athey, the Chair of the County of Big Stone, and Michelle Knutson, the County Board Clerk, are authorized to sign the State of Minnesota Joint Powers Agreement.

Environmental Officer Darren Wilke provided a WCA update and requested the Board's support of the program. The Board was asked to encourage operators or concerned citizens to come in to the Office to make sure projects are in compliance with all of the requirements.

Garrett Backes from the Southwest Initiative Foundation (SWIF) presented an update on the Foundation and requested the County's ongoing support for 2012. Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Wulff and carried to approve SWIF's 2012 budget request as presented.

County Treasurer Cindy Nelson presented the list of properties that have forfeited. Discussion was held on setting prices for the municipalities if they decide to purchase any properties. Motion by Olson, seconded by Wulff and carried to set the purchase price for municipalities at \$100 each. A brief discussion was held with Sheriff Haukos on the possibility of the County charging for the showing of the properties. Treasurer Nelson will check into it.

County Recorder Elaine Martig presented the revised Deputy Recorder job description for the Board's approval. Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Berning and carried to approve the job description as presented.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Berning and carried to hire Heather Henrich for the part-time Deputy Recorder position effective October 1st at Grade 6 Step 4. Henrich will now be classified as full-time as she is also currently part-time in the Auditor's Office.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Wulff and carried to approve the resignation of Part-time Custodian Jim Scheff effective September 6, 2011.

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

Border States	\$ 2,044.53
Computer Professionals Unlimited	3,747.33
Hillman Bros Excavating	10,225.06
Traffic Marking Service Inc.	3,968.78
Tri-County Co-op	2,294.30
West Con	22,614.15
40 Payments Less Than \$2,000	<u>13,628.41</u>
Total	\$ 58,522.56

Auditor Knutson reported that per their bylaws, the BSAG board appointed Mike Folk as one of the at large members replacing Mary Sykora and Becky Parker for District 4 to replace Vicki Oakes

The meeting was recessed until 1:00 PM.

Vice Chairman Wulff reconvened the meeting. Commissioners Athey and Berning were absent. Numerous landowners, the Watershed Board and County Engineer Nick Anderson were also present.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to thank and commend the County Attorney and Sheriff Offices for the County's perfect DWI conviction rate in 2010.

Ethan Jenzen from the DNR was present to provide an update on County Ditch #2. Mr. Jenzen reviewed the data that has been collected over the past year and stated that goals for the system include options for vegetation control and a change in structure to allow more high flows to pass. Further discussion was held on vegetation control. Jenzen stated that vegetation control in the channel is allowed. However, DNR aquatic land management staff would have to look at vegetative management in the basin. Engineer Anderson stated that a weir structure with a control feature would be the best, but it will be expensive and asked if the DNR would be able to assist with funding. Discussion was also held on the removal of sediment in a dry year and the DNR can permit that and negotiate the details of the process. Mr. Jenzen will continue to monitor the ditch system and will meet with Engineer Anderson to discuss the structure and establish guidelines.

Engineer Anderson provided an update on the Highway 12 tile project.
Vice Chairman Wulff adjourned the meeting at 2:37 PM.

Wade Athey, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Michelle R. Knutson, Auditor