

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD
September 6, 2011

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, September 6, 2011. Chairman Athey called the meeting to order with Commissioners Berning, Olson, Sandberg and Wulff present. Also present were 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 August 16th regular meeting.

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

Commissioners reported on the following committees:

Olson – RDC; PrimeWest

Sandberg – MSI; Safety; Beyond the Yellow Ribbon

Athey – Prairie 5; Law Library

Wulff – Bois de Sioux Project Team; Toqua Park

Berning – Countryside Public Health

Attorney Watson reported on his office's recent activities.

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

Bituminous Paving	\$ 9,618.75
Crop Production Services	6,013.73
Milbank Communications	4,297.57
Motorola	5,512.19
Rain for Rent	22,919.67
Schuneman Equipment Company	2,145.44
Traverse County	21,791.29
Univar USA Inc	3,966.06
William Watson	4,109.88
West Con	6,684.96
50 Payments Less Than \$2,000	<u>13,208.98</u>
Total	\$100,268.52

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 Sandberg and carried to adopt the following resolution:

2011-38

WHEREAS, the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners desires to offer for sale certain parcels of land that have forfeited to the State of Minnesota for non-payment of taxes; and

WHEREAS, said parcels of land have been viewed by the County Board of Commissioners and have been classified as non-conservation lands as provided for in Minnesota Statute 282.01.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners hereby certifies that all parcels of land on the attached list have been viewed and comply with the provisions of Minnesota Statutes 85.012, 92.461, 282.01,

Subd. 8 and 282.018 and other statutes that require the withholding of tax-forfeited lands from sale.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners hereby requests approval from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources for the sale of said lands.

Auditor Knutson reported that she had met with Sue Lundell from the City of Ortonville regarding possible precinct line redistricting options.

VSO Dan Meyer provided information on his office's activities during the past month for the Board's review.

Countryside Public Health Administrator Liz Auch was present to explain the changes to the funding formula for 2012. Following discussion, motion by Olson, seconded by Berning and carried to adjust the budget to the proposed amount as presented by Auch.

Following a break, Chairman Athey declared the public hearing open at 10:00 AM to take public comment on the Big Stone County Land and Related Resources Ordinance. Environmental Officer Darren Wilke provided an overview of the changes. No public comments were received. Chairman Athey declared the hearing adjourned at 10:02 AM.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to adopt the Big Stone County Land and Related Resources Ordinance and to publish a summary of the ordinance in the official minutes:

**SUMMARY OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY
LAND & RELATED RESOURCES MANAGEMENT ORDINANCE**

Additions/Amendments to the Big Stone County Land and Related Resources Management Ordinance, 1998, were passed and approved by the Board of County Commissioners on September 6, 2011, thereby resulting in the adoption of the Big Stone County Land and Related Resources Management Ordinance, 2011. The amendments to the Ordinance include: decreasing the number of Planning Commission members, clarification of the definition of Home Occupations, adding a definition and related language for Home Extended Business Occupations, adding Home Occupations and Home Extended Business Occupations to Permitted Uses in the Ag District, adding wind and meteorological towers to permitted Conditional Uses in the A-1 district, reducing the front setback in residential districts, incorporating legislative changes to the language regarding variances, correcting language regarding notice and hearing requirements for amendments and clarifying exceptions to required permits. All of the amendments have been incorporated into the applicable sections of the Ordinance summarized as such:

1. Preamble and Purpose
2. Title
3. Jurisdiction, Compliance, Interpretation
4. Severability and Repeal of Conflicting Ordinance
5. Rules and Definitions
6. General Regulations
7. Zoning Districts
8. Use District Regulations
9. Amendment

10. Building/Excavation/Individual On-site Sewage System Permits
11. Conditional Uses
12. Variances
13. Fees
14. Violations
15. Administration and Enforcement
16. Board of Adjustment
17. Planning Commission
18. Zoning Map
19. Adoption of Ordinance
20. Procedural Diagrams

A printed copy of the entire Ordinance is available to view at the Environmental Office, located in the Courthouse at 20 2nd St SE, Ortonville, Minnesota. A copy of the Ordinance can be purchased for \$10 or is also available on the County website: www.bigstonecounty.org

Representatives from SWCD arrived at the meeting. Vernon Johnson introduced Blayne Johnson as the new District Technician. Tammy Neubauer presented the proposed budget for 2012. A brief discussion was held regarding the committee set up to review cost saving measures between the SWCD and Environmental Office.

Philip Deal of the Wheaton-Dumont Coop Elevator along with board members Vaughn Maudal, Chuck Grimes and Greg Frisch, Dewayne Redfield from Star Bank in Graceville and Gary Hoffman from Titan were present to provide an update on the elevator's proposed project by Graceville. County Assessor Vold and Environmental Officer Wilke were also present. Mr. Deal stated that they are exploring the possibility of Big Stone County's support of the project, which would provide economic activity in the County. Mr. Deal also reported that they are in the process of doing soil testing to see if the location is even viable. They are planning to request an economic tax abatement in the near future.

Attorney Watson left the meeting.

County Engineer Nick Anderson reported that the new blade has been ordered. They will be purchasing a John Deere due to pricing changes and savings to the County.

Engineer Anderson provided a review of the various construction projects.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to support the Engineer's recommendation and not allow farm tiling parallel to the county roads in the right-of-way due to the impact on downstream landowners.

Discussion was held on the flooding issues on Hwy 28.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Wulff and carried to authorize up to \$10,000 for maintenance on County Ditch #2.

Engineer Anderson provided an update on the US Hwy 12 tiling project.

Discussion was held on water issues by Swenson Lake. Motion by Olson and seconded by Wulff to assess a \$500 outlet fee for the tile permit to use County Ditch #30. Motion carried with Commissioner Berning voting Nay.

Following discussion, motion by Wulff, seconded by Olson and carried to do a redetermination of benefits on County Ditch #30.

Engineer Anderson provided an update on the process to change the highway functional class for roads on the CSAH system.

Due to the absence of Attorney Watson, the discussion on the recording of County Ditches was tabled until the next meeting.

John Meyer from the National Guard was present to explain the Beyond the Yellow Ribbon Program and request that the County become a Yellow Ribbon Community. The program is designed to create awareness for the purpose of connecting Service members and their families with community support, training, services and resources. Meyer requested that a steering committee be formed. Commissioner Sandberg asked that each commissioner think of a person in their district that could serve on the committee and report back at the next meeting.

Discussion was held on the preliminary 2012 County budget.

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

2011-39

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the proposed 2012 budget be approved and the gross levy be established at \$4,607,059.

The public meeting to take comments on the proposed budget and levy will be held on Thursday, December 1st at 6:00 PM in the Commissioner's Room.

Chairman Athey adjourned the meeting at 12:04 PM.

Wade Athey, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Michelle R. Knutson, Auditor