

**RE-ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD
January 3, 2012**

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, January 3, 2012. Chairman Athey called the meeting to order with Commissioners Berning, Olson, Sandberg and Wulff present. Also present were Mike Swenson of the Ortonville Independent, Elsie Perrine, County Attorney Bill Watson and County Auditor Michelle Knutson. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Upon call for nominations for Board Chairman, Commissioner Olson nominated Commissioner Wulff. Following 3 calls for further nominations, motion by Sandberg, seconded by Berning and carried to cast a unanimous ballot for Commissioner Wulff for Chairman. Outgoing Chairman Athey turned the meeting over to newly-elected Chairman Wulff.

Chairman Wulff called for nominations for Vice Chairman. Commissioner Sandberg nominated Commissioner Berning. Following 3 calls for further nominations, motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to cast a unanimous ballot for Commissioner Berning for Vice Chairman.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Berning and carried to approve the minutes of the December 20th regular meeting.

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

The bids received from the Ortonville Independent and the Northern Star for publishing those notices as legally required were reviewed. Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to accept the bid and surety bond of the Ortonville Independent as the official newspaper of the County for 2012. The Northern Star will publish second notices as required by law.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Athey and carried to establish the following committee appointments:

Commissioner List

AMC Voting Delegates	All Commissioners
Appeals Committee (relating to the Ag Inspector)	Commissioners Athey & Olson Wulff the Alternate
Audit Committee	Commissioner Sandberg
Big Stone Area Growth	Commissioners Olson & Wulff
Bois de Sioux Watershed District	Commissioner Wulff
Central MN Emergency Services Board	Commissioner Sandberg Berning the Alternate
Citizens for Big Stone Lake	Commissioner Sandberg
Community Resource Sharing Partnership (CRSP)	Commissioners Sandberg & Wulff
Countryside Public Health	Commissioner Berning
Ditches & Roads	All Commissioners
Joint Ditch 7/24 Authority	Commissioners Olson, Sandberg & Berning
Joint Ditch 4 Authority	Commissioners Wulff, Athey & Olson
Joint Ditch 10/11 Authority	Commissioners Sandberg, Athey & Olson
Environmental Committee	Commissioners Sandberg & Olson
Extension Committee	Commissioners Wulff & Athey
Fair Board	Commissioner Athey
Food Shelf	Commissioner Sandberg
Historical Society	Commissioner Sandberg

HRA	Commissioner Athey
Insurance Committee	Commissioners Athey & Sandberg
Investment Committee	Commissioner Sandberg
Law Library Committee	Commissioner Athey
Land Records Committee	Commissioner Sandberg
Legislative Committee	All Commissioners
Main Street Industries Board	Commissioner Sandberg
MCIT	Chair
	Vice Chair the Alternate
MN River Board	Commissioner Wulff
	Athey the alternate
Personnel & Labor Relations Committee	Commissioners Olson & Athey
	Wulff the Alternate
Pioneerland Library Board	Commissioner Olson
Planning & Zoning	Commissioners Athey & Olson
Pomme de Terre River Association	Commissioner Wulff
Prairie Country RC&D Council	Commissioner Wulff
	Sandberg the alternate
Prairie Five Community Action Council	Commissioner Athey
Prime West Health Systems	Commissioner Olson
	Sandberg the alternate
Private Industry Council	Commissioner Wulff
	Chief Elected Officials Board
	Olson the alternate
Public Safety Committee	Commissioners Berning & Athey
Purchasing & Property Management	Commissioner Berning
	Sandberg the Alternate
Red River Basin Commission	Commissioner Wulff
Regional Development Commission (RDC)	Commissioner Olson
	Sandberg the alternate
Safety Committee	Commissioner Sandberg & Berning
Soil & Water Conservation District	Commissioner Athey
	Olson the alternate
Supporting Hands Nurse Family Partnership	Commissioner Berning
	Olson the alternate
Technology Committee	Commissioner Sandberg
Toqua Park Committee	Commissioners Athey & Wulff
WACCO	Commissioner Athey
	Sandberg the alternate
WesMN Revolving Loan Fund	Commissioner Wulff
911 Advisory Board	Commissioner Berning

Other Committee Members

AMC Voting Delegates	Auditor, Engineer & HR Director
Appeals Committee (relating to the Ag Inspector)	John Cunningham
Audit Committee	State Auditor Rep, County Auditor, HR Director,
	Sharron Bystol & Verden Gerber
Bois de Sioux Watershed District	Engineer
Central MN Emergency Services Board	Sheriff
Environmental Committee	Environmental Officer
Extension Committee	Lay members as appointed

Insurance Committee.....No more than two representatives from
 General, Family Services & Highway
Investment Committee.....Treasurer, Family Services Director & Engineer
Law Library Committee County Attorney
Land Records Committee..... Terry Ocaña, Cindy Nelson, Darren Wilke, Elaine Martig,
 Sandy Vold, Nick Anderson & John Haukos
Personnel & Labor Relations Committee HR Director
Planning & Zoning Lay members as appointed
Safety Committee..... Safety Director, Engineer, Sheriff,
 Sue Kaess & Ed Roeder
911 Advisory Board John Haukos, David Hills, Janet Messmer & Michelle Knutson

Commissioners reported on the following committees:

Sandberg – EMB
 Athey – Prairie 5
 Wulff – Toqua Park

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Berning and carried to re-appoint Marlton DeNeui and Ann Holme to the Planning Commission and Neil Brandt to the Board of Adjustment for three-year terms as recommended by Environmental Officer Wilke.

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

Association of MN Counties	\$ 4,853.00
Big Stone Area Growth	7,500.00
Big Stone Co Historical Society	19,999.00
Big Stone SWCD	14,375.00
Bonanza Education Center	5,000.00
Bond Trust Services Corp	70,205.00
City of Graceville	5,000.00
City of Ortonville	5,000.00
Countryside Public Health	25,230.50
MCIT	129,180.00
MN Sheriff's Assn	2,375.00
Pioneerland Library System	15,455.50
US Bank	15,420.00
William Watson	4,655.45
14 Payments Less Than \$2,000	<u>9,085.81</u>
Total	<u>\$333,334.26</u>

Auditor Knutson reviewed the 2011 ditch loan activity with the Board. Motion by Athey, seconded by Olson and carried to authorize the following internal transactions effective 12/31/11:

Ditch to General		\$23,012.00
County Ditch 2	\$ 1,608.00	
County Ditch 8	\$ 102.00	
Combined Ditch 10/11	\$15,358.00	
County Ditch 14	\$ 2,012.00	
County Ditch 16	\$ 3,488.00	
Joint Ditch 4	\$ 444.00	
General to Ditch		\$30,600.00

County Ditch 2	\$ 1,900.00
County Ditch 8	\$ 3,100.00
County Ditch 30	\$12,100.00
Joint Ditch 4	\$13,500.00

Treasurer Nelson presented investment information and fund balances for 2010 and 2011 for the Board's review.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to approve the list of depositories for the County as presented by County Treasurer Cindy Nelson.

Motion by Berning, seconded by Athey and carried to approve the 2012 aggregate gravel tax budget with revenues estimated to be \$100,000.

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

2012-01

BE IT RESOLVED, that the 2012 County Ditch Assessments be established as follows:

<u>Ditch Number</u>	<u>Assessment</u>
2	\$20,000
8	\$ 5,000
17	\$ 500
19	\$ 1,000
20	\$ 500
30	\$11,700

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Olson and carried to approve the Election Services Agreement with Synergy Graphics as presented.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Wulff and carried to execute the audit engagement letter with the Office of the State Auditor for the 2011 audit.

Motion by Berning, seconded by Sandberg and carried to execute the agreement with Countryside Public Health for tobacco compliance checks.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Athey and carried to execute the Cooperative Purchasing Venture Agreement with the Materials Management Division of the State of Minnesota.

Motion by Berning, seconded by Sandberg and carried to accept a \$5,000 donation from Sheriff John Haukos to be dedicated for equipment in the Sheriff's Department. The donation was given as wage reimbursement while he has been serving as a trainer through the US State Department.

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

Following a break, County Assessor Sandy Vold was present to request the Board set the date for the County Board of Appeal and Equalization meeting. The meeting was set for Monday, June 11th at 7:00 PM.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Berning and carried to approve the following internal transaction effective December 31, 2011:

Ditch (JD 4) to Highway	\$2,363.75
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Motion by Olson, seconded by Athey and carried to extend Barb Maas' leave request until March 6th as recommended by HR Director Sue Schultz.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Olson and carried to reclass Liane Rausch to regular part-time in the Extension Office due to the employee leave of absence.

Building Maintenance Supervisor Jim Hasslen requested that Ron Haugen be added as a Custodian fill-in. Motion by Athey, seconded by Berning and carried to authorize Ron Haugen for the position at Grade 4 Step 1.

HR Director Schultz reported that the County received an award from MCIT for Outstanding Loss Ratio Under 50% in Property and Casualty for 2006-2010.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to execute the Group MedicareBlue Rx Retiree Prescription Drug Plan with Blue Cross Blue Shield as presented by HR Director Schultz.

Board consensus was to authorize HR Director Schultz to research hiring a public relations firm to provide education on elected versus hired.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Athey and carried to adopt the following resolutions as presented by County Engineer Nick Anderson:

2012-02

BE IT RESOLVED by the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners that the County Highway Engineer is hereby instructed to hire such miscellaneous and semi-skilled labor and such machinery and equipment as may from time to time be required at the prevailing rates in the community.

2012-03

BE IT RESOLVED by the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners that the County Highway Engineer is hereby authorized to purchase gravel material from various pits at the prevailing rates for graveling and re-graveling the Big Stone County roads.

2012-04

WHEREAS the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners recognizes the need to be helpful to cities and townships during an emergency or natural disaster.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners that the County Highway Engineer is hereby authorized and instructed to pay by regular payroll up to the amount of five thousand dollars for approved emergency labor performed off the regular County Road System.

2012-05

BE IT RESOLVED by the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners that the County Highway Engineer is hereby authorized and instructed to impose weight and load restrictions as he deems necessary on any or all County Roads and County State Aid Highways pursuant to Chapter 500, Article 4, Section 1, Subdivision 3 of Laws of 1959.

2012-06

BE IT RESOLVED by the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners that the County Highway Engineer is hereby authorized to spray weeds and objectionable vegetation in all of the County Ditch Systems without further approval of the County Board of Commissioners so long as expenditures do not exceed \$1,000.00 for any single County Ditch. This resolution excludes Joint Ditches.

Motion by Berning, seconded by Olson and carried to appoint Neil Brandt as a County ditch viewer and authorize training expenditures as requested by Engineer Anderson.

Discussion was held on the road right-of-way by Toqua Park that is owned by the Hutterites. Attorney Watson will contact Elmer Hofer to finalize acquiring the right-of-way.

Auditor Knutson reported that a letter had been received from the Ortonville School stating that they are waiving any commitment of the County to provide any IT services during the 60-day notice period.

Following a picture of the board members by Mr. Swenson, Chairman Wulff adjourned the meeting at 10:28 AM.

Walter W. Wulff, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Michelle R. Knutson, Auditor