

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD
October 2, 2012

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, October 2, 2012. Chairman Wulff called the meeting to order with Commissioners Athey, Berning, Olson and Sandberg present. Also present were Mike Swenson of the Ortonville Independent, County Attorney Bill Watson and County Auditor Michelle Knutson. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Berning and carried to approve the minutes of the September 18th regular meeting.

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

Commissioners reported on the following committees:

Sandberg – MSI; Museum; ESB; Property

Athey – Prairie 5; WACCO

Wulff – Toqua Park

Olson – Collaborative; PLS

Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to authorize the expenditure to paint the office space vacated by the tenants in the north end of the Family Services building.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Berning and carried to accept the quote from Barr's/Conroy Electric for the electrical work in the office space mentioned above.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Olson and carried to authorize the expenditure for tree removal on the tax forfeited property.

Attorney Watson explained to the Board that there is a class action suit brought by Hennepin County on behalf of all 87 counties against Fannie Mae/Freddie Mac for payment of state deed transfer taxes on homes sold. Cost to the County would be limited to 10% of any recovery. Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to approve Big Stone County being added as a plaintiff to the suit.

Attorney Watson will be submitting invoices for long distance calls and medical examiner costs as reported at the last meeting.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Olson and carried to approve the reclassification of the VSO position from Grade 8 to Grade 10 as presented by HR Director Sue Schultz.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Berning and carried to approve placing VSO Dan Meyer at Grade 10 Step 6 as of November 1, 2012.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Olson and carried to approve the job description for a VSO Administrative Assistant position at Grade 6.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Berning and carried to advertise for a VSO Administrative Assistant for 20-30 hours per week.

HR Director Schultz reported that the monthly BCBS Medicare D rate will be decreasing in 2013 from \$124.50 to \$74.50.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to approve the revised Section 704 of the Employee Handbook as presented by HR Director Schultz. Changes were made for clarity only.

Discussion was held on the County's Compensation Plan and some concerns regarding original placement on the plan and recent hirings. HR Director Schultz was

asked to gather information on positions in the Assessor's Office and the potential cost to the County for those who did not receive their step during the wage freeze in 2011. County Assessor Sandy Vold, Deputy Assessor Barb Amundson and County Engineer Nick Anderson were also present for the discussion.

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

Big Stone Area Growth	\$ 7,500.00
Big Stone SWCD	14,375.00
GoFasters Powersports	3,327.39
Hillman Bros Excavating	5,572.61
Kandiyohi County	2,433.08
Pioneerland Library System	15,455.50
Ratwik, Roszak & Maloney	6,970.92
Synergy Graphics	4,324.27
William Watson	4,145.05
West Con	6,491.16
34 Payments Less Than \$2,000	<u>7,913.36</u>
Total	<u>\$78,508.34</u>

Motion by Olson, seconded by Athey and carried to approve the credit card request of Environmental Officer Darren Wilke per the Big Stone County credit card policy.

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 execute a lease agreement for a storage shed at Big 12 Storage for October.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Athey and carried to authorize Engineer Anderson to sell the old gas pumps.

Chairman Wulff adjourned the meeting at 9:50 AM.

Walter W. Wulff, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Michelle R. Knutson, Auditor