

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD**  
**March 20, 2012**

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, March 20, 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 Deputy Auditor Sharon Finke and interested citizens. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Olson and carried to approve the minutes of the March 6<sup>th</sup> meeting.

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

Commissioners reported on the following committees:

Sandberg – CBSL; Property

Athey – SWCD; HRA

Wulff – Extension; Pomme de Terre; WesMN RLF; RR Basin; PIC; Toqua Park

Olson – Dream for Kids; Pioneerland Library; BSAG

Attorney Watson distributed copies of a Tax Abatement and Business Subsidy Agreement for the Board to review.

Environmental Officer Darren Wilke arrived at the meeting. Discussion was held regarding the time, location and framework for the upcoming public hearing for the Strata Conditional Use Permit application. Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Berning and carried to hold the hearing on Tuesday, April 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM at the Ortonville Armory and use the format as recommended by Environmental Officer Wilke and Attorney Watson, which is as follows: 1) Public comment will be limited to "new" material and each presenter will be allowed 5 minutes; 2) The applicant will be allowed to have closing remarks; and 3) The submittal timeline will remain open until 4:00 PM on April 25, 2012, for the applicant and the public to submit responses to any new information.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to accept, with thanks and regret, the resignation of Vicki Oakes from the Big Stone County Planning Commission.

US Fish & Wildlife representatives Bruce Freske and Cheri Sloneker were present to request certification of acquisition of lands for habitat easements in Big Stone, Otre, Odessa and Ortonville Townships. Landowner Tim Burdick was also present. Motion by Olson, seconded by Athey and carried to certify for acquisition the following described property:

1. T122N, R46W, 5<sup>th</sup> P.M., Section 36, part of lots B and C of the E1/2 NE1/4
2. T122N, R45W, 5<sup>th</sup> P.M., Section 31, GLs 3 & 4
3. T121N, R45W, 5<sup>th</sup> P.M., Section 36, part of the W1/2 E1/2 NE1/4, and part of the W1/2 NE1/4, NE1/4 NW1/4
4. T121N, R45W, 5<sup>th</sup> P.M., Section 36, part of the W1/2 NE1/4, and part of the NE1/4 NW1/4
5. T121N, R46W, 5<sup>th</sup> P.M., Section 12, part of Lot A of the SE1/4, together with a perpetual easement over and across Lot B of the SE1/4 for a road ROW for the purposes of ingress and egress to Lot A of the SE1/4.

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

Berkner Plumbing & Heating	\$ 2,497.00
Border States Cooperative	30,060.55
Computer Professionals	3,406.10
Kandihohi County	2,363.75
O'Day Equipment	4,822.00
Office of the State Auditor	2,236.50
Traverse County	2,300.00
50 Payments Less Than \$2,000	<u>12,447.09</u>
Total	\$60,132.99

Motion by Olson, seconded by Berning and carried to adopt the following resolution and execute the Annual County Boat and Water Safety Grant Agreement as presented:

**2012-08**

WHEREAS under the provisions of M.S. Section 86B.105, the Sheriff of each county is required to carry out the provision of Chapter 86B and the Boat and Water Safety Rules, hereinafter referred to as the "Minn. Rules", including patrol, enforcement search and rescue, watercraft inspection, waterway marking and accident investigation, all hereinafter referred to as the "Sheriff's Duties"; and

WHEREAS in connection with the Sheriff's Duties, M.S. Section 86B.701 provides that the County submit to the Commissioner of Natural Resources a budget to carry out the Sheriff's Duties; and

WHEREAS M.S. Section 86B.701 and the Minn. Rules provide for the allocation of funds by the Commissioner to the County based on certain criteria and conclusions to assist the funding of the Sheriff's Duties; and

WHEREAS the County has submitted a proposed budget to the State.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the State shall reimburse the County up to \$1,915.00 for the activities stated in Chapter 86B.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Berning and carried to approve the 2012 Tobacco License application for One More Inc.

Deputy Auditor Finke advised the Board that the Ortonville City Council approved the proposed change in precinct lines for redistricting. The change allows the County to redraw Commissioner Districts to bring them back into compliance using the 2010 census. County maps were distributed with proposed Commissioner District lines and the Commissioners were asked to bring any other possibilities to the next meeting.

Deputy Auditor Finke informed the Board that due a conflict with the upcoming primary election, the annual township meeting has been rescheduled to Tuesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 PM at the Clinton Memorial Building.

Motion by Berning, seconded by Athey and carried to rescind the motion from the March 6<sup>th</sup> meeting appointing Jon Pansch to the Bois de Sioux Watershed District Board in order to allow for proper appointment procedures to be followed.

At 9:20 AM Chairman Wulff turned the meeting over to Vice Chairman Berning and left to attend a funeral.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Olson and carried to approve the proposed agreement with AFSCME 65 Family Services for 2012 and 2013 as presented by HR Director Sue Schultz.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to approve the Memorandum of Agreement with AFSCME 65 Family Services regarding the step adjustment for Maggie Novak.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Olson and carried to approve the hiring of Janet Messmer for the Appraiser/Office Clerk position in the Assessor's Office effective April 9, 2012, at Grade 7 Step 12.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Athey and carried to authorize the internal posting of a Records Clerk/Administrative Assistant in the Sheriff's Office to fill the position vacated by Messmer.

A discussion was held regarding the possibility of establishing a joint powers agreement with neighboring counties for the sharing of the services provided by the Veterans Service Officer. Attorney Watson will research the legalities and HR Director Schultz will contact State VSO representatives to gather more information.

Engineer Anderson advised the board that he had not received the agreement with the DNR for the Meadowbrook Road Project so no action was necessary.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Olson and carried to adopt the County Policy on County Road Sign Maintenance with the noted changes

Engineer Anderson reviewed the items he will be discussing with the Township Officials at their annual meeting. The items include the need to collect data, such as location of culverts and signage, to be added as layers to the GIS maps. He will be offering the County Highway Department's assistance in collecting the data for a fee and will be stressing to the Townships the importance on getting the information added to the maps.

Engineer Anderson provided an update on his plans for gravel crushing and road projects for the upcoming season.

Vice Chairman Berning adjourned the meeting at 9:53 AM.

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Walter W. Wulff, Chairman

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sharon Finke, Deputy Auditor