

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD**  
**March 6, 2012**

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, March 6, 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 Auditor Michelle Knutson and interested citizens. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Athey and carried to approve the minutes of the February 21<sup>st</sup> meeting.

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

Commissioners reported on the following committees:

Sandberg – Tech; Property  
Athey – Toqua Park; Personnel  
Wulff – Toqua Park  
Olson – Dream for Kids; PrimeWest

Motion by Athey, seconded by Olson and carried to approve the following fee schedule for Toqua Park:

Season Pass (purchased by 5/15)	\$300 per year
Season Pass (purchased after 5/15)	\$400 per year
Weekly Rate	\$75/week
Daily rate	\$15 per day

HR Director Sue Schultz arrived at the meeting.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Sandberg and carried to close the meeting at 8:50 AM to discuss labor negotiation strategy. Motion by Olson, seconded by Berning and carried to reopen the meeting at 8:55 AM.

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

Motion by Athey, seconded by Sandberg and carried to extend Barb Maas' leave request until October 31<sup>st</sup> as recommended by HR Director Sue Schultz.

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

Digital Ally, Inc	\$ 4,325.00
Milbank Communications	4,385.33
Motorola	23,546.93
Traverse County	22,144.44
Upper MN Valley RDC	4,857.50
William Watson	4,145.05
49 Payments Less Than \$2,000	<u>11,914.82</u>
Total	<u>\$75,319.07</u>

Discussion was held on the revised lease agreement with FSA that was presented and discussed at the February 7<sup>th</sup> meeting. Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to approve the revised agreement at the proposed rental

amounts, but contingent upon inclusion of the County's revised language in the agreement as originally approved December 20<sup>th</sup>.

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

Motion by Berning, seconded by Athey and carried to re-appoint Jon Pansch as the County's representative on the Bois de Sioux Watershed District Board for a 3-year term.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to update the Accounting Policies and Procedures manual as presented by Auditor Knutson.

Auditor Knutson asked for questions and/or comments on the year-to-date financial information provided for the Board's review.

Auditor Knutson provided an update on redistricting. Consensus was for Knutson to present various viable options to the City of Ortonville for their consideration to adjust their precinct boundaries.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to raise the fleet gas card account limits to \$2,000 per month as a result of the rising gas prices.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Athey and carried to approve the new items for display in the rotunda by the Big Stone Arts Council.

Environmental Officer Darren Wilke reported that Strata Corporation has requested a 30-day extension in order to allow the County to postpone the public hearing scheduled for March 13<sup>th</sup>. Environmental Officer Wilke recommended approval of the extension and rescheduling the hearing after consulting with the County's land use attorney. Following a discussion, motion by Berning, seconded by Athey and carried to reschedule the public hearing to April 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM at the Clinton Memorial Building.

Clark Mastel presented additional signatures to the previously submitted petition regarding the quarry project.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Berning and carried to execute the FY 2012 SSTS Abatement Grant Agreement with the Board of Water & Soil Resources (BWSR) as presented by Environmental Officer Wilke.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Sandberg and carried to approve the agreement for the new allocation for the AgBMP Loan Program as presented by Environmental Officer Wilke.

Commissioner Sandberg and Environmental Officer Wilke provided an update on the recent Land Records Committee meeting and the discussion on the upgrade available for GIS. No action is needed at this time.

Following a break, Jane Hennagir from MCIT presented the 2011 Member Report.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to approve the data reimbursement per the Cell Phone policy for employees Gale Mittelstaedt and Pam Rud as requested by Family Services Director Gale Mittlestaedt.

Chairman Wulff adjourned the meeting at 10:23 AM.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

Walter W. Wulff, Chairman

Michelle R. Knutson, Auditor