

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD
August 21, 2012

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, August 21, 2012. Chairman Wulff called the meeting to order with Commissioners Athey, Berning, Olson and Sandberg present. Also present was David Botker, Mike Swenson of the Ortonville Independent, County Attorney Bill Watson and Deputy Auditor Sharon Finke. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Motion by Berning, seconded by Sandberg and carried to approve the minutes of the August 7th regular meeting.

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

Commissioners reported on the following committees:

Sandberg – Museum; Property
Athey – P & Z; HRA
Wulff – Toqua Park
Berning – Property
Olson – P & Z; PrimeWest

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

M-R Sign Co	\$ 2,558.05
Ronglien & Sons Excavating	2,592.00
Traffic Marking Service	11,386.00
48 Payments Less Than \$2,000	<u>9,484.33</u>
Total	\$26,020.38

David Botker expressed his support of Gary Haugen's service on the Upper MN River Watershed Board. Following discussion, motion by Olson, seconded by Berning and carried to re-appoint Gary Haugen to a three-year term on the Upper MN River Watershed Board effective August 14, 2012 through August 11, 2015.

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

IT/Facilities Director Terry Ocaña arrived at the meeting and presented the quotes that had been received for the Government Building roofing project. The base quotes, not including suggested upgrades were as follows:

Scoblic Construction	\$ 8,610.27
Ward Construction	\$ 9,450.00
Hasslen Construction	\$25,000.00

Ward and Hasslen offered additional upgrades above and beyond base bids. Following discussion, motion by Berning, seconded by Sandberg and carried to approve the quote received from Scoblic Construction.

Environmental Officer Darren Wilke arrived at the meeting and presented information regarding the Conditional Use Permit application from S & J Custom Feeding to expand their feedlot. Upon recommendation of the Planning Commission, motion by Athey, seconded by Olson and carried to approve the Conditional Use Permit application of S & J Custom Feeding.

A discussion was held regarding the need for storage that various county departments have and what storage facilities are currently in use. Motion by Olson, second by Sandberg and carried to authorize the Property Committee to negotiate on a purchase price for the building located at 108 Second Street SE in Ortonville.

HR Director Sue Schultz arrived at the meeting. She presented a letter of resignation that she had received from Family Services Director Gale Mittelstaedt. Motion by Olson, seconded by Athey and carried to accept with regret and gratitude the resignation of Family Services Director Gale Mittelstaedt.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Olson and carried to approve the internal posting of a fulltime Family Services Director.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Berning and carried to hire Melisa Benson for the Financial Worker position at Grade 7 Step 1 effective September 4, 2012, as recommended by HR Director Sue Schultz.

A discussion was held regarding the building maintenance needs of the County. HR Director Sue Schultz presented a job description for a fulltime Facilities Technician/Custodian. Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Berning and carried to approve the job description at a Grade 6 on the County's position scale. Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Berning and carried to authorize the internal posting and advertising of a fulltime Facilities Technician/Custodian.

Lighting needs in the courtroom and rotunda were discussed. It was board consensus that the costs should be added to the 2013 budget.

Commissioner Athey reported that the Big Stone County Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) received approval to convert an apartment at the High Rise Building into office space. He stated that they are requesting that in exchange for receiving office space from the County, that they receive \$6,000/year. Board consensus was that Commissioner Athey should continue a discussion with the HRA about their request.

Discussion was held regarding the information that had been received regarding the layout of the ballot questions. Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to adopt the following resolution:

2012-16

WHEREAS, the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners voted to place the elected/appointed issue on the general election ballot to be decided by the voters of Big Stone County.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the County questions read as follows:

County Question 1 – County Auditor

M.S. 375A allows for the hiring/appointment of the County Auditor.

Shall the office of County Auditor change from an elected to an appointed position at the expiration of the current term?

County Question 2 – County Recorder

M.S. 375A allows for the hiring/appointment of the County Recorder.

Shall the office of County Recorder change from an elected to an appointed position at the expiration of the current term?

County Question 3 – County Treasurer
M.S. 375A allows for the hiring/appointment of the County Treasurer.

Shall the office of County Treasurer change from an elected to an appointed position at the expiration of the current term?

The Board discussed additions that need to be made to the 2013 budget and instructed the Deputy Auditor to ensure that they were included.

HR Director Sue Schultz requested that the board hold a closed session during their 2nd meeting in September to discuss negotiation strategies.

Commissioner Berning presented the bids that were received for the office space construction in the Family Services Building:

For Countryside Public Health Offices:	Dallas I Hanson Construction	\$ 4,803
	Hasslen Construction	\$ 7,400
For Family Services Offices:	Dallas I Hanson Construction	\$ 8,500
	Hasslen Construction	\$11,000

Action will be taken on the bids at the Family Services Board meeting.

Commissioner Athey left the meeting at 9:40 AM and the rest of the Commissioners took a break.

Following the break, Garrett Backes, Development and Communications Specialist for the Southwest MN Initiative Foundation, arrived at the meeting and presented an update on the Initiative Fund's activities.

Chairman Wulff adjourned the meeting at 10:25 AM.

Walter W. Wulff, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Sharon Finke, Deputy Auditor