

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD**  
**January 22, 2013**

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, January 22, 2013. Chairman Berning called the meeting to order with Commissioners Athey, Olson, Sandberg and Wulff 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 Athey, seconded by Olson and carried to approve the minutes of the January 8<sup>th</sup> re-organizational meeting.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Wulff and carried to approve the agenda.

Commissioners reported on the following committees:

Wulff – RLF

Berning – SW EMS

Olson – Dream for Kids; BSAG; Pioneerland (2)

Sandberg – Land Records; Property; CBSL; MSI

Attorney Watson reported that the 3-day trial that was scheduled during his vacation has been postponed.

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

Diane C Hammond	\$ 3,355.20
Kandiyohi County Sheriff	30,849.84
L & O Acres Transport	2,107.83
Prairie Lakes Youth Programs	5,580.00
Strong Realty	4,000.00
Traverse County	4,843.16
West Con	6,630.00
40 Payments Less Than \$2,000	<u>15,073.25</u>
Total	\$72,439.28

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Wulff and carried to execute the audit engagement letter with the Office of the State Auditor for the 2012 audit.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Wulff and carried to execute the 3-year agreement with MAXIMUS for the completion of the 2012, 2013 and 2014 Indirect Cost Allocation Plans.

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

**2013-07**

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes 244.19, subd. 6 outlines a process for state reimbursement to participating counties of 50% of the previous year's expenditure for their probation officer salaries; and

WHEREAS, 27 County Probation Officer counties and 28 Department of Corrections Contract counties participate in this process; and

WHEREAS, appropriations from the State have steadily decreased from 50% in 1996 to an all-time low of 31% in FY 2012; and

WHEREAS, the 55 counties participating in this process have been forced to absorb the \$2,963,000 deficit in the FY 2012 reimbursement funding for their probation officers; and

WHEREAS, the 2013 legislative session will be establishing the FY 14 and FY 15 appropriation for probation officer salary reimbursement for these 55 counties; and WHEREAS, the Minnesota Association of County Probation Officers has been working with the Department of Corrections and legislative staff to ensure that an accurate FY 14 and FY 15 appropriation amount is determined.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners strongly requests the 2013 Minnesota Legislature to appropriate sufficient funds to reimburse the 55 participating counties for the full 50% of the cost of their probation officer salaries.

Motion by Wulff, seconded by Olson and carried to accept the \$2,500 donation presented by 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.

Dawn Hegland from the RDC presented information on their organization's purpose and provided an update on their activities.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Olson 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 Darren Wilke.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Athey and carried to adopt the following resolution:

#### **2013-08**

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103B.301, Comprehensive Local Water Management Act, authorizes Minnesota Counties to develop and implement a local water management plan; and

WHEREAS, the current Big Stone County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan is effective until May 28, 2013; and

WHEREAS, Big Stone County is currently updating the Local Water Management Plan in accordance with Minnesota Statutes Chapter 103B.301; and

WHEREAS, Big Stone County has completed the following items:

- 1) The County resolution to update the water plan, and
- 2) Notices sent to state and local groups inviting input on the plan update, and
- 3) The priority concerns scoping document has been developed and submitted to BWSR for the State Agency review; and

WHEREAS, Big Stone County needs to complete the following:

- 1) The BWSR southern region review committee needs to schedule and meet with the county to review the priority concerns scoping document and then make its recommendation to the full BWSR Board, and
- 2) Develop the water plan based on inputs received from partners addressing priority concerns identified, and
- 3) Conduct a public hearing to solicit final review comments, make adjustments as necessary, and then submit the water plan to BWSR for State agency review and final approval by the BWSR Board; and

WHEREAS, Big Stone County is hereby requesting an extension to:

- 1) Provide for sufficient time to complete the water plan, and
- 2) Provide for sufficient time for all to review the final water plan, and
- 3) Ensure that the updated water plan meets the state's standards and the goals of the county; and

WHEREAS, Big Stone County assures continued effort toward completion of the Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan update; and

WHEREAS, the Act gives the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources the authority to extend the ending date of a current local water management plan for a period of up to one year.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners requests from the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources an extension of the effective date of the current County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan until December 31, 2013, in order to complete the update process in accordance with Minnesota Statutes Chapter 103B.301.

Environmental Officer Wilke reported and expressed his thanks for the \$2,143 match to the Water Plan Grant by the Citizens for Big Stone Lake.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Wulff and carried to approve the following retirements presented by HR Director Dawn Gregoire:

Highway Technician Terry LaVoi                      effective 4-26-13

Maintenance Supervisor Gary Haugen      effective 5-31-13

The Board expressed their thanks for their years of service to the County.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Olson and carried to authorize HR Director Gregoire to start the hiring process for the Maintenance Supervisor position.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Olson and carried to accept the resignation of Financial Worker Melisa Benson effective 1-17-13.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Athey and carried to authorize HR Director Gregoire to start the hiring process for the Financial Worker position vacated by Benson.

Motion by Wulff, seconded by Olson and carried to approve the submission of the Pay Equity Implementation Report as presented by HR Director Gregoire.

Chairman Berning adjourned the meeting at 9:36 AM.

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Joseph J. Berning, Chairman

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Michelle R. Knutson, Auditor