

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD
June 18, 2013

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, June 18, 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 Wulff and carried to approve the minutes of the June 4th regular meeting and the June 17th Board of Appeal and Equalization meeting.

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

Motion by Olson, seconded by Athey and carried to approve the following correction to the May 21, 2013, minutes: Highway Maintenance Workers were hired at Grade 8, not Grade 9.

Commissioners reported on the following committees:

Athey – WACCO; Fair Board; Toqua Park; Met with City of Graceville

Wulff – Pomme de Terre; PIC

Berning – Met with City of Graceville

Olson – Pioneerland; PrimeWest

Sandberg – CBSL; Museum; Property

Discussion was held on several issues at Toqua Park.

Mike and Nancy Athey were present to introduce their new sign company, Boulder Designs.

Motion by Wulff, seconded by Athey and carried to approve the temporary partial closing of CSAH 18 (Main Street) in the City of Graceville on July 13, 2013, from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM for a 3-on-3 basketball tournament.

Keith Zimmerman presented his concerns with water problems that he believes are a result of CD #10/11 in Moonshine Township being cleaned out. Mr. Zimmerman proposed holding some of the water back in the spring so that it doesn't all flow at once and flood his property. Because the ditch ends before his property, the ditch system cannot assist with any work that needs to be done on his property due to the flooding. County Engineer Nick Anderson was also present for the discussion. It was recommended that Mr. Zimmerman meet with the Bois de Sioux Watershed District to see if they can assist with a plan on how to relieve his water issues and then return to a county board meeting.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Wulff and carried to execute the contract with Bituminous Paving for SAP 006-030-001, the seal coat project, as presented by Engineer Anderson.

Discussion was held on the criteria for selling the County's wetland credits for mitigation and what the selling price would be. No action was taken at this time.

Discussion was held on the new wheelage tax and sales tax legislation. Attorney Watson will do some research on the process and it will be discussed again at a future meeting.

IT Director Terry Ocaña reported that the County's grant application was approved by Blandin Foundation in the amount of \$10,000 for adding mobile device

functionality to the County's web portal. Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to execute the Grant Agreement as presented by IT Director Ocaña.

County Treasurer Cindy Nelson was present to request the Board set sale prices for this year's tax forfeited properties for the respective cities if they want to purchase them. Motion by Athey, seconded by Olson and carried to set the price at \$100 each.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Wulff and carried to adopt the following resolution for tax-forfeited land as requested by Treasurer Nelson:

2013-18

WHEREAS, the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners desires to offer for sale certain parcels of land that have forfeited to the State of Minnesota for non-payment of taxes; and

WHEREAS, said parcels of land have been viewed by the County Board of Commissioners and have been classified as non-conservation lands as provided for in Minnesota Statute 282.01.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners hereby certifies that all parcels of land on the attached list have been viewed and comply with the provisions of Minnesota Statutes 85.012, 92.461, 282.01, Subd. 8 and 282.018 and other statutes that require the withholding of tax-forfeited lands from sale.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners hereby requests approval from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources for the sale of said lands.

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

Computer Professionals	\$ 4,120.32
Hancock Concrete Products	2,698.73
Prairie Lakes Youth Programs	5,788.48
Sullivan Excavating	2,285.00
62 Payments Less Than \$2,000	<u>19,691.39</u>
Total	\$34,583.92

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Olson and carried to authorize the following internal transactions:

Family Services to Highway	\$ 244.31
General to Highway	\$ 1,939.65
Ditch to Highway	\$ 800.85
CD 16	\$669.06
JD 4	\$131.79

Motion by Athey, seconded by Olson and carried to authorize payment of \$39.54 to SECAP as an auditor warrant.

Motion by Wulff, seconded by Sandberg and carried that the 2012 financial statements be approved and ordered published.

Discussion was held on requesting that the County be released from the requirement that the State conduct the annual audits and instead be allowed to hire a private CPA firm to perform future audits. Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Olson and carried to send a letter to State Auditor Otto requesting the release.

Motion by Wulff, seconded by Olson and carried to execute the 4-year maintenance agreement with Election Systems & Software as presented by Auditor Knutson.

Motion by Wulff, seconded by Athey and carried to authorize the hiring of Dean Jensen for the Toqua Park Caretaker position at Grade 1 Step 4 effective June 18, 2013 as presented by HR Director Dawn Gregoire. Commissioner Wulff will be meeting with him to go over the County's expectations. Commissioner Athey is working on finding someone to handle the Park reservations.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Olson and carried to rescind the prior motion to approve the new employee handbook. Due to new legislation, additional changes need to be made and delaying the adoption will allow time to meet with employees to go over all of the changes.

HR Director Gregoire reported that the social worker position for the new waiver program has been posted internally.

Chairman Berning adjourned the meeting at 10:12 AM.

Joseph J. Berning, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Michelle R. Knutson, Auditor