

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD
July 16, 2013

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, July 16, 2013. Chairman Berning called the meeting to order with Commissioners Athey, Sandberg and Wulff present. Commissioner Olson arrived during Committee Reports. 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 Wulff, seconded by Sandberg and carried to approve the minutes of the July 2nd regular meeting.

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

Commissioners reported on the following committees:

Athey – Fair Board; Toqua Park; HRA

Wulff – RLF; Pomme de Terre

Berning – Supporting Hands; Countryside

Sandberg – Museum; CBSL; Property

Discussion was held on the November 15, 2011, motion regarding the Whetstone Project. Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Olson and carried to change the original fund allocation for the feasibility study to be reallocated to the reconnaissance study (Phase 1) contingent upon written authorization from the US Army Corps of Engineers to use outside engineering.

Discussion was held on the Audit Committee's recommendation to reduce the amount of the Treasurer's change fund. Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Wulff and carried to reduce it to \$200.

Sheriff John Haukos arrived at the meeting.

Attorney Watson reported that the 8th Judicial District is making application for grant money to establish a region-wide drug court. Sheriff Haukos expressed his concerns with the County supporting the concept. Following discussion, motion by Berning, seconded by Wulff and carried to not participate at this time based on the concerns expressed by the Sheriff and Attorney.

Cheryl Glaeser, Program Officer for the Southwest Initiative Foundation (SWIF), arrived at the meeting and presented an update on SWIF's activities. Ms. Glaeser also thanked the Board for their past support and requested continued support with the 2014 budget request.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to approve the amendment to the cafeteria plan documents to define spouse due to the recent legislative changes as presented by HR Director Dawn Gregoire.

Environmental Officer Darren Wilke reported that the asbestos report is complete on the 421 Stephens Ave tax-forfeited property. Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to authorize the \$2,000 for the asbestos removal and up to \$3,500 for demolition and removal of the structure.

Treasurer Cindy Nelson presented a request to repurchase a tax-forfeited property for the Board's consideration. Motion by Olson, seconded by Athey and carried unanimously to adopt the following resolution:

2013-19

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners to approve the written application from Ronald Soderquist to repurchase the following described property:

Lot 10 & N ½ of Lot 11, Block 2, Burdick & Spencer's Addition, City of Beardsley

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

Bituminous Paving	\$ 32,062.50
BNSF Railway	10,491.37
Computer Professionals	4,264.07
Contech Construction Products	6,599.58
Envirotech Services	4,429.00
Ortonville Independent	4,257.63
Prairie Lakes Youth Programs	3,915.41
Regents of the U of MN	13,548.39
Tri County Co-op Oil Assn	2,530.15
West Con	17,660.56
59 Payments Less Than \$2,000	<u>16,888.01</u>
Total	\$116,646.67

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

Family Services to Highway	\$ 404.95
General to Highway	\$ 2,533.93
Ditch to Highway – CD 16	\$ 47.28

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

Motion by Wulff, seconded by Berning and carried to approve the On Sale Liquor License for Club 7-75.

Discussion was held on the State Auditor's response to the County's request to be released as an audit client. Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to authorize Auditor Knutson to contact them again for further information.

Auditor Knutson provided a report on the recent vehicle sales.

Following a break, County Engineer Nick Anderson presented the Project Bid Summary for SAP 006-610-022 which included the following bids:

Bituminous Paving	\$1,146,691.45
J&J Earthworks	\$1,263,839.60
Central Specialties	\$1,397,448.88

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Olson and carried to award the bid to Bituminous Paving contingent upon State approval.

Discussion was held on the value of wetland credits. Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Olson and carried to set the value of the County's credits at \$.50 per square foot.

Discussion was held on Strata Corporation's request to purchase 2.88 acres of wetland credits. Motion by Wulff, seconded by Sandberg and carried to authorize the sale of 2.88 acres to Strata.

Engineer Anderson reported that the County is leasing two tractors from Titan Machinery for \$1/hour and two from Amundson Peterson John Deere at no cost.

The 5-Year Highway Planning Meeting was set for 11:00 AM on Tuesday, August 6, 2013, at the Highway Department.

Engineer Anderson provided a construction update.

Engineer Anderson reported that he has finally received the Cooperative Agreement for the Trail from the DNR so they will begin to do maintenance.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Athey and carried to approve the temporary partial closing of CSAH 16 in the City of Beardsley on July 20, 2013, in the evening for a street dance.

Motion by Wulff, seconded by Sandberg and carried to approve the temporary partial closing of CSAH 30 in the City of Ortonville on August 17, 2013, from noon to 1:00 AM for a concert.

Discussion was held on the option to implement a wheelage tax in the County. Motion by Olson, seconded by Athey and carried not to implement a wheelage tax for 2014.

Following a recess for the Social Services board meeting, a work session was held at 1:00 PM to begin discussing the 2014 budget. Commissioner Athey was absent for the work session.

Chairman Berning adjourned the meeting at 2:10 PM.

Joseph J. Berning, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Michelle R. Knutson, Auditor