

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD
August 6, 2013

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, August 6, 2013. Chairman Berning called the meeting to order with Commissioners Athey, Olson, Sandberg and Wulff present. Also present were Elsie Perrine, Mike Swenson of the Ortonville Independent, County Attorney Bill Watson and County Auditor Michelle Knutson. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to approve the minutes of the July 16th regular meeting.

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

Commissioners reported on the following committees:

Athey – HRA; Prairie 5 (2); Personnel; Leadership Training; SWCD;

Toqua Park

Wulff – RLF; Toqua Park

Berning – Southwest EMS

Olson – Pioneerland; BSAG; Dream for Kids; Collaborative; PrimeWest;

Personnel

Sandberg – MSI; Safety; Food Shelf; ESB; Water Plan

Motion by Olson, seconded by Athey and carried to approve mileage for Commissioner Wulff to attend the upcoming ditch viewer seminar.

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

Crop Production Services	\$ 5,322.97
Edney Distributing	3,025.85
Envirotech Services	4,842.03
Hasslen Construction	24,680.00
John Deere	10,046.26
Kandiyohi County	64,085.10
Kris Engineering	2,934.15
MAAC	2,770.00
Midway Ford	26,078.38
Ridgewater College	3,722.00
Sibson Gravel	38,705.74
State Auditor	5,346.00
William Watson	4,202.33
West Con	7,394.80
57 Payments Less Than \$2,000	<u>14,406.80</u>
Total	\$217,562.41

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

Auditor Knutson reported that the County's 2013 MCIT dividend will be \$76,592 and is allocated as follows: Workers' Compensation \$24,462 and Property/Casualty \$52,130.

Environmental Officer Darren Wilke provided an update on the status of the recycling contract and reported that Waste Management representatives will be attending the next meeting.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Athey and carried to approve the solid waste licenses for the City of Beardsley, City of Clinton, Mattheisen Disposal, Engebretsen, Wittrock & Sons and Waste Management as presented by Environmental Officer Darren Wilke.

Discussion was held regarding the tax forfeited property at 512 Orchard St in Ortonville. Consensus was that the County should view each property on a case-by-case basis from an economic development standpoint when deciding how to address maintenance of forfeited properties. Deputy Assessor Barb Amundson was also present for the discussion.

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

Chief Deputy Sheriff David Hills was present on behalf of Sheriff Haukos to request that the County's K9 program be suspended as Kilo has reached retirement age and to allow Deputy Woods purchase him for \$1. Following discussion, motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to suspend the K9 program and sell Kilo to Deputy Woods for \$1 as recommended.

IT Director Terry Ocaña provided information on document imaging and reported that he has included the expense in the 2014 budget for the Board's consideration.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Athey and carried to execute the agreement with Court Administration for use of the County's phone system as presented by IT Director Ocaña.

IT Director Ocaña provided an update on the courthouse roof project. The insurance company has approved the claim from the hail storm in 2012 and gave their approval to hire a scope of work. Since the scope of work has been completed, motion by Wulff, seconded by Olson and carried to authorize the request for bids with the requirement that the project be completed in 2013 due to the temporary patch and contingent upon Attorney Watson's approval of the final request document. Facilities Technician Jared Heck was also present.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Wulff and carried to also include in the request that the bids include a separate cost for making suitable modifications to the flag pole on the Courthouse roof.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Wulff and carried to approve the Cafeteria Plan document retroactive to January 1, 2013, as presented by HR Director Dawn Gregoire.

Motion by Wulff, seconded by Olson and carried to approve the hiring of Rebecca Larson for the Social Worker position at Grade 11 Step 1 contingent upon successful completion of screening as recommended by HR Director Gregoire.

County Treasurer Cindy Nelson was present to express her concerns over the Board's risk management decision to reduce the change fund in her office. Commissioner Sandberg informed the Board that he spoke with Treasurer Nelson after the last meeting regarding her concerns and had asked her to track the cash activity in the office to see what an appropriate amount would be. The information was not provided, but a list of what other counties have in their change funds was distributed. Discussion followed. Commissioner Olson inquired as to where the County is at with

accepting credit cards. Treasurer Nelson stated that she will be meeting with another county in September who is also looking at implementing credit cards for payments. Discussion was also held on the Treasurer's process for verifying current departmental change funds. Following further discussion, motion by Wulff, seconded by Olson and carried to raise the change fund amount in the Treasurer's office to \$800.

Following a work session to continue meeting with individual elected officials as part of the new salary setting process, the meeting was recessed for the Highway Department 5-Year Plan Meeting.

The meeting was reconvened at 12:30 PM with the Commissioners and Auditor present.

Vince Robinson presented BSAG client and activity summary for 2012. He also provided the current activity as well as the 2014 budget request for the Board's consideration.

HR Director Dawn Gregoire arrived at the meeting.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Athey and carried to close the meeting at 1:15 PM for the purpose of discussing labor negotiation strategy.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to reopen the meeting at 2:12 PM.

A work session was held to continue reviewing the 2014 budget. Chairman Berning left the meeting during the review.

Vice Chairman Olson adjourned the meeting at 2:37 PM.

Joseph J. Berning, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Michelle R. Knutson, Auditor