

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD
January 21, 2014

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, January 21, 2014. Chairman Olson called the meeting to order with Commissioners Athey, Berning, 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 Sandberg, seconded by Berning and carried to approve the minutes of the January 7th re-organizational meeting.

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

Commissioners reported on the following committees:

Wulff – Pomme de Terre; RLF

Berning – EMS

Olson – Dream for Kids; Personnel;

Sandberg – Museum; CBSL;

Athey – HRA; Personnel; Toqua Park

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

Barr's-Conroy Electric	\$ 3,500.00
Environmental Systems Research	2,500.00
M-R Sign Co	3,658.80
Macksteel Warehouse	2,022.24
MCIT	138,830.00
Titan Machinery	21,328.16
Tri-County Coop	3,508.13
Upper MN River Watershed District	6,000.00
West Con	6,474.00
Westlat Design	3,000.00
60 Payments Less Than \$2,000	<u>23,394.81</u>
Total	\$214,216.14

Commissioner Sandberg presented plans for a 40'x50' building addition at the Museum. Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Berning and carried to authorize the construction of the building addition by the Historical Society as presented.

Motion by Berning, seconded by Wulff and carried to execute the agreement with Countryside Public Health for tobacco compliance checks.

The Board received a letter from the Big Stone County HRA stating that there are two open board positions due to the mid-term resignations of James Kaye and James Reynolds. Motion by Berning, seconded by Wulff and carried to advertise for any interested citizens that would like to be considered to serve on the board.

Kiwanis representatives Craig Randleman and Burt Nypen were present to request the Board's support for a shelter project they would like to construct at the start of the bike trail. Following discussion, motion by Sandberg, seconded by Berning and carried to authorize the Kiwanis to proceed with the project upon the County Engineer's approval of the placement of the shelter.

County Recorder Elaine Martig provided the Board with reports on fees collected and vital statistics for 2012 and 2013. Martig reported that her office continues to be in compliance with the recording requirements per statute.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Wulff and carried to authorize the hiring of Molly Taffe as a Social Worker at Grade 11 Step 1 effective February 3, 2014, as presented by HR Director Dawn Gregoire.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Berning and carried to accept the resignation of Social Worker Emily Rademacher effective January 24, 2014.

Motion by Berning, seconded by Wulff and carried to authorize the filling of the open Social Worker position due to Rademacher's resignation as requested by HR Director Gregoire.

Discussion was held on the holiday pay-out procedure for part-time employees. Motion by Athey, seconded by Sandberg and carried to pay part-timers for holidays on a prorated basis as they occur.

HR Director Gregoire reported that she has been asked to review job personnel documents for Main Street Industries. They will be billed at the established rate for her assistance.

Motion by Berning, seconded by Sandberg and carried to close the meeting at 9:16 AM for the purpose of discussing labor negotiation strategy as requested by HR Director Dawn Gregoire.

Motion by Wulff, seconded by Berning and carried to reopen the meeting at 9:34 AM.

Attorney Watson left the meeting.

Following a break, US Fish & Wildlife representative Cheri Sloneker was present to request certification of acquisition of land for a wetland easement in Otrey Township. Representatives Bruce Freske, Alex Galt and Dawn Johnson were also present. Motion by Berning, seconded by Sandberg and carried to certify for acquisition the following described property: T122N, R45W, 5th P.M., Section 11, the E1/2 NE1/4.

Chairman Olson adjourned the meeting at 10:12 AM.

Brent Olson, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Michelle R. Knutson, Auditor