

**RE-ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD
January 6, 2015**

Commissioner Roger Sandberg and newly elected Commissioner Jay Backer were sworn in by Chairman Brent Olson in the Courthouse Rotunda along with the other elected County officials.

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, January 6, 2015. Chairman Olson called the meeting to order with Commissioners Athey, Backer, Berning and Sandberg present. Also present were Mike Swenson of the Ortonville Independent, County Attorney Bill Watson and County Auditor Michelle Knutson. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Upon call for nominations for Board Chairman, Commissioner Athey nominated Commissioner Sandberg. Following 3 calls for further nominations, motion by Athey, seconded by Berning and carried to cast a unanimous ballot for Commissioner Sandberg for Chairman. Outgoing Chairman Olson turned the meeting over to newly-elected Chairman Sandberg.

Chairman Sandberg called for nominations for Vice Chairman. Commissioner Berning nominated Commissioner Athey. Following 3 calls for further nominations, motion by Olson, seconded by Backer and carried to cast a unanimous ballot for Commissioner Athey for Vice Chairman.

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

Motion by Athey, seconded by Olson and carried to approve the agenda.

The bids received from the Ortonville Independent and the Northern Star for publishing those notices as legally required were reviewed. Motion by Athey, seconded by Backer and carried to accept the bid and surety bond of the Ortonville Independent as the official newspaper of the County for 2015. The Northern Star will publish second notices as required by law.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Backer and carried to establish the following committee appointments:

Commissioner List

AMC Voting Delegates	All Commissioners
AMC Environment & Natural Resources Policy Committee	Commissioner Athey
AMC General Government Policy Committee	Commissioner Olson
AMC Health & Human Services Policy Committee	Commissioner Backer
AMC Public Safety Policy Committee	Commissioner Berning
AMC Transportation & Infrastructure Policy Committee	Commissioner Sandberg
Appeals Committee (relating to the Ag Inspector)	Commissioners Athey & Olson Backer the alternate
Audit Committee	Commissioner Sandberg
Big Stone Area Growth	Commissioners Olson & Backer
Bois de Sioux Watershed District	Commissioner Backer
Central MN Emergency Services Board	Commissioner Sandberg Berning the alternate
Citizens for Big Stone Lake	Commissioner Sandberg
Communications	Commissioner Olson Sandberg the alternate
Countryside Public Health	Commissioner Berning

Ditches & Roads	All Commissioners
Joint Ditch 7/24 Authority	Commissioners Olson, Sandberg & Berning
Joint Ditch 4 Authority	Commissioners Backer, Athey & Olson
Joint Ditch 10/11 Authority	Commissioners Sandberg, Athey & Olson
Environmental Committee	Commissioners Sandberg & Olson
Extension Committee	Commissioners Backer & Athey
Fair Board	Commissioner Athey
Food Shelf	Commissioner Sandberg
Historical Society	Commissioner Sandberg
HRA	Commissioner Athey
Insurance Committee	Commissioners Olson
Investment Committee	Commissioner Sandberg
Law Library Committee	Commissioner Athey
Land Records Committee	Commissioner Sandberg
Legislative Committee	All Commissioners
Local Collaborative	Commissioner Sandberg
Main Street Industries Board	Commissioner Sandberg
MCIT	Chair
	Vice Chair the alternate
Personnel & Labor Relations Committee	Commissioners Olson & Athey
	Backer the alternate
Pioneerland Library Board	Commissioner Olson
Planning & Zoning	Commissioners Athey & Olson
Pomme de Terre River Association	Commissioner Berning
Prairie Country RC&D Council	Commissioner Backer
	Sandberg the alternate
Prairie Five Community Action Council	Commissioner Athey
Prime West Health Systems	Commissioner Olson
	Sandberg the alternate
Private Industry Council	Commissioner Backer
	Chief Elected Officials Board
	Olson the alternate
Public Safety Committee	Commissioners Berning & Athey
Purchasing & Property Management	Commissioner Berning
	Sandberg the alternate
Red River Basin Commission	Commissioner Backer
Regional Development Commission (RDC)	Commissioner Olson
	Sandberg the alternate
Safety Committee	Commissioner Sandberg & Berning
Soil & Water Conservation District	Commissioner Athey
	Olson the alternate
Southwest MN EMS	Commissioner Backer
	Berning the alternate
Supporting Hands Nurse Family Partnership	Commissioner Berning
	Olson the alternate
Toqua Park Committee	Commissioners Athey & Backer
WACCO	Commissioner Athey
	Sandberg the alternate
WesMN Revolving Loan Fund	Commissioner Backer
911 Advisory Board	Commissioner Berning

Other Committee Members

- AMC Voting Delegates** Auditor, Engineer & HR Director
- Appeals Committee** (relating to the Ag Inspector) John Cunningham
- Audit Committee** State Auditor Rep, County Auditor, HR Director,
Sharron Bystol & Verden Gerber
- Bois de Sioux Watershed District** Engineer
- Central MN Emergency Services Board** Sheriff
- Environmental Committee** Environmental Officer
- Extension Committee** Lay members as appointed
- Insurance Committee** Representatives from
General, Family Services & Highway
- Investment Committee** Treasurer, Family Services Director & Engineer
- Law Library Committee** County Attorney
- Land Records Committee** Terry Ocaña, Cindy Nelson, Darren Wilke, Elaine Martig,
Sandy Vold, Nick Anderson & John Haukos
- Personnel & Labor Relations Committee** HR Director
- Planning & Zoning** Lay members as appointed
- Safety Committee** Safety Director, Engineer, Sheriff
- 911 Advisory Board** John Haukos, David Hills, Jim Hasslen & Michelle Knutson

Commissioner Backer left the meeting.

Commissioners reported on the following committees:

- Olson – Dream for Kids; Pioneerland; EDA Exploration
- Sandberg – ESB; Museum; Property
- Athey – Prairie 5; HRA

Attorney Watson reviewed the enabling resolution and notice that he drafted for the EDA Exploration Committee.

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

Association of MN Counties	\$ 5,023.00
Big Stone Area Growth	8,750.00
Big Stone Co Historical Society	25,000.00
Big Stone SWCD	15,000.00
Bonanza Education Center	5,000.00
Bond Trust Services Corp	73,742.50
City of Graceville	5,000.00
City of Ortonville	5,000.00
Countryside Public Health	27,302.50
MN Sheriff’s Assn	3,386.60
Pictometry Visual Intelligence	19,273.75
Pioneerland Library System	16,888.75
William Watson	4,413.00
13 Payments Less Than \$2,000	<u>8,463.45</u>
Total	<u>\$222,243.55</u>

Motion by Olson, seconded by Berning and carried to authorize the following internal transactions effective 12/31/14:

Family Services to Highway	\$ 133.92
General to Highway	\$ 2,899.87
Ditch to Highway – JD 24	\$ 147.50

Auditor Knutson reviewed the 2014 ditch loan activity with the Board. Motion by Berning, seconded by Olson and carried to authorize the following internal transactions effective 12/31/14:

Ditch to General		\$ 32,514.00
CD 10/11	\$ 3,604.00	
CD 14	\$ 4,008.00	
CD 15	\$ 6,572.00	
CD 16	\$12,314.00	
CD 20	\$ 5,542.00	
CD 30	\$ 474.00	
General to Ditch		\$ 38,000.00
CD 30	\$25,000.00	
JD 4	\$13,000.00	

Motion by Olson, seconded by Athey and carried to approve the 2015 aggregate gravel tax budget with revenues estimated to be \$100,000.

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

2015-01

BE IT RESOLVED, that the 2015 County Ditch Assessments be established as follows:

<u>Ditch Number</u>	<u>Assessment</u>
2	\$20,000
4	\$ 2,000
8	\$10,000
12	\$ 5,000
14	\$ 2,500
15	\$10,000
16	\$13,000
17	\$ 500
18	\$ 500
19	\$ 1,000
20	\$ 2,000
30	\$ 2,000

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

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

Motion by Athey, seconded by Olson and carried to authorize the Auditor to pay the Ag Society their appropriation in full in January beginning in 2015.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Athey and carried to accept of the resignation of Office Clerk/Appraiser I Janet Messmer with regret and with thanks for her contributions to the County.

Motion by Berning, seconded by Olson and carried to approve the list of depositories for the County as presented by County Treasurer Cindy Nelson.

Treasurer Nelson presented investment information and fund balances for 2013 and 2014 for the Board's review.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Berning and carried to reappoint Jim Lund to the Board of Adjustment and Don Diekmann and Mark Blackwelder to the Planning Commission for 3 year terms.

Due to Environmental Officer Wilke's absence, the discussion on committee structure will happen at a future meeting.

IT Director Terry Ocaña presented the EDA Exploration Committee's report. Following a summary review of the information included in the report by Ocaña, motion by Olson, seconded by Berning and carried to set the public hearing to consider the adoption of an enabling resolution which would create the Big Stone County Economic Development Authority for Tuesday, February 3rd at 9:30 AM during the regular board meeting.

IT Director Ocaña provided the Board with quotes for running new cabling in the lower level of the Courthouse. Motion by Olson, seconded by Berning and carried to accept the quote from Barr/Conroy Electric with a not to exceed amount of \$6,800.

IT Director Ocaña reported that additional fiber will need to be run over to the Government Building for the Sheriff's Office. Motion by Berning, seconded by Olson and carried to authorize Ocaña to spend up to \$4,000 to add the additional fiber.

Graceville City Clerk Scott Bauer was present to recap the City's experience managing Toqua Park this past season. Discussion was held on some of their recommendations including updating the playground equipment and needed repairs to the bathrooms. The contract terms were acceptable and they are willing to continue to manage the Park. The Park Committee will meet with Mr. Bauer to plan for the upcoming season.

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

Motion by Olson, seconded by Berning and carried to adopt the following resolutions as presented by County Engineer Nick Anderson:

2015-02

BE IT RESOLVED by the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners that the County Highway Engineer is hereby instructed to hire such miscellaneous and semi-skilled labor and such machinery and equipment as may from time to time be required at the prevailing rates in the community.

2015-03

BE IT RESOLVED by the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners that the County Highway Engineer is hereby authorized to purchase gravel material from various pits at the prevailing rates for graveling and re-graveling the Big Stone County roads.

2015-04

WHEREAS the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners recognizes the need to be helpful to cities and townships during an emergency situation or natural disaster. THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners that the County Highway Engineer is hereby authorized and instructed to pay by regular payroll and equipment rental rates up to the amount of ten thousand dollars for approved labor and equipment assisting cities and townships off of the regular County Road System.

2015-05

BE IT RESOLVED by the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners that the County Highway Engineer is hereby authorized and instructed to impose weight and load restrictions as he deems necessary on any or all County Roads and County State Aid Highways pursuant to Chapter 500, Article 4, Section 1, Subdivision 3 of Laws of 1959.

2015-06

BE IT RESOLVED by the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners that the County Highway Engineer is hereby authorized to spray weeds and objectionable vegetation in all of the County Ditch Systems without further approval of the County Board of Commissioners so long as expenditures do not exceed \$2,500.00 for any single County Ditch. This resolution excludes Joint Ditches.

Chairman Sandberg adjourned the meeting at 10:18 AM.

Roger Sandberg, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Michelle R. Knutson, Auditor