

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD**  
**March 3, 2015**

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioners' Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, March 3, 2015. Chairman Sandberg called the meeting to order with Commissioners Athey and Backer present. Commissioners Berning and Olson were absent. 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 Backer and carried to approve the minutes of the February 17<sup>th</sup> regular meeting.

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

Commissioners reported on the following committees:

Sandberg – Property; CBSL; Museum

Athey – Prairie 5; Fair Board; Toqua Park

Backer – Bois de Sioux; EDA; BSAG

Vince Robinson representing BSAG, was present to report that BSAG passed a motion authorizing Vince to draft a proposed administrative agreement for the EDA. Discussion followed on various procedural items with regard to the issuance of bonds for the fiber project.

Motion by Backer, seconded by Athey and carried to appoint the two EDA Commissioners to the negotiating committee with Federated.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Backer and carried to authorize up to \$5,000 for incidental EDA expenditures.

Attorney Watson presented Bylaws for the EDA that were approved at the February 26<sup>th</sup> EDA meeting and recommended their approval to the Board. Motion by Backer, seconded by Athey and carried to approve the Bylaws as presented.

Attorney Watson reported that a letter had been sent out to all the townships and cities regarding their participation in the county-wide EDA and recommended that board members attend upcoming township and council meetings to follow-up on the letter.

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

Barr's/Conroy Electric	\$14,165.71
GovConnection, Inc	16,268.17
Office Peeps	2,137.15
Snow Wheel Systems	2,313.74
Traverse County Sheriff	5,076.82
William Watson	4,413.00
West Con	6,788.44
35 Payments Less Than \$2,000	<u>11,156.98</u>
Total	\$62,320.01

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 Backer and carried to approve the job description for the Nurse Care Coordinator position as presented.

Motion by Backer, seconded by Athey and carried to authorize the HR Director to proceed with filling the Nurse Care Coordinator position.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Backer and carried to approve the job description for the Sign Tech/Maintenance Worker position as presented.

Motion by Backer, seconded by Athey and carried to authorize the HR Director to proceed with filling the Sign Tech/Maintenance Worker position.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Backer and carried to approve the County sponsoring a 529 College Savings Plan for employees. This will be at no cost to the County.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Backer and carried to approve the hiring of Rachael Anderson for the Case Aide-Adult Services position at Grade 6 Step 1.

Discussion was held on the procedure for pay adjustments for part-time, seasonal and intermittent employees. Board consensus was to achieve consistency among all departments. Motion by Athey, seconded by Backer and carried to use the employee's anniversary date for timing of increases, to draft job descriptions for all positions and place them of the County's grade scale.

Motion by Backer, seconded by Athey and carried to authorize the abatement of \$86.40 in mobile home tax on parcel 04-8036-000 as requested by Treasurer Cindy Nelson.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Backer and carried to adopt the following resolution and execute the Annual County Boat and Water Safety Grant Agreement as presented by Chief Deputy Sheriff Dave Hills:

**2015-09**

WHEREAS under the provisions of M.S. § 86B.105, the Sheriff of each county is required to carry out the provision of Chapter 86B and the Boat and Water Safety Rules, hereinafter referred to as the "Minn. Rules", including patrol, enforcement search and rescue, watercraft inspection, waterway marking and accident investigation, all hereinafter referred to as the "Sheriff's Duties"; and

WHEREAS in connection with the Sheriff's Duties, M.S. § 86B.701 provides that the County submit to the Commissioner of Natural Resources a budget to carry out the Sheriff's Duties; and

WHEREAS M.S. § 86B.701 and the Minn. Rules provide for the allocation of funds by the Commissioner to the County based on certain criteria and conclusions to assist the funding of the Sheriff's Duties; and

WHEREAS the County has submitted a proposed budget to the State.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the State shall reimburse the County up to \$1,824.00 for the activities stated in Chapter 86B.

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

Via speaker phone, Environmental Officer Darren Wilke provided information on a grant opportunity to receive funding to establish an inventory of buffer strips in the County. The grant would require a 25% match by the County which can include in-kind expenditures. Following discussion, motion by Athey, seconded by Backer and carried to authorize Environmental Officer Wilke to apply for the 50' Ag Buffer Inventory Grant.

County Engineer Nick Anderson reported that the following bids had been received for the gravel crushing project:

Hard Rock Screening	\$119,700
Sibson Gravel	\$136,800
Commerford Construction	\$144,000
Central Specialties	\$175,500

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Backer and carried to award the bid to Hard Rock Screening.

Discussion was held on setting a date for the County road tour. Due to the absence of two commissioners, Engineer Anderson will set up the tour by email and then will post as required.

Engineer Anderson requested that more paving projects be added to the 2015 plan to take advantage of the lower fuel prices. Following discussion, motion by Athey, seconded by Backer and carried to amend the 5-year plan to add additional bituminous in 2015.

Chairman Sandberg adjourned the meeting at 10:24 AM.

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Roger Sandberg, Chairman

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Michelle R. Knutson, Auditor