

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD
August 18, 2015

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioners' Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, August 18, 2015. Chairman Sandberg called the meeting to order with Commissioners Athey, Backer, Berning and Olson 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 Backer, seconded by Berning and carried to approve the minutes of the August 4th regular meeting.

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

Commissioners reported on the following committees:

Berning – Countryside; Pomme de Terre

Olson – Personnel (2); PrimeWest; Broadband (BSAG)

Sandberg – CBSL; Property

Athey – Personnel

Backer – Personnel; Extension

HR Director Dawn Gregoire was present for the committee reports.

Attorney Watson reported that IT Director Terry Ocaña has recommended a particular computer for their office, but he still has some issues to sort out.

Attorney Watson reported that he is reviewing an updated Joint Powers Agreement for PrimeWest and will bring it to the next meeting for approval.

Attorney Watson left the meeting.

Ortonville/Graceville Head Librarian Vicki Bartz presented the Library's 2016 budget request and provided an update on their programming and plans for computer replacement.

Upper MN River Watershed District Administrator Dianne Radermacher was present to provide an update on the Whetstone project. They are in the process of acquiring land for the project. The total estimated cost is approximately \$6.6 million. Once approved, the project will be done in two phases. It will be seeded for 2 years before the channel is opened and it is planned to be completed in 2020.

Sheriff John Haukos arrived at the meeting during the Whetstone update.

Mike Toelle of Prairie Pride and Jeff Bauman of Anez Consulting were present to request a change to the conditional use permit (CUP) they were granted. They would like to use a combination of an EPI Air System and bio-curtains as alternatives for odor/dust control in place of bio-filters. Motion by Athey and seconded by Berning to allow the new technology in addition to using bio-filters on the fans that run year round. Following discussion, motion carried with Commissioners Sandberg and Olson voting Nay. Environmental Officer Darren Wilke was also present for the discussion.

IT Director Terry Ocaña and County Engineer Nick Anderson arrived at the meeting during the CUP discussion.

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

Environmental Officer Wilke reported on his visit to the two tax forfeited properties that are across the street from the Ortonville School. Following discussion, motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to remove them from the sale. Wilke will get a quote on asbestos removal and report back to the Board.

IT Director Ocaña was present to request approval to purchase the budgeted back-up hardware and software. Motion by Olson, seconded by Backer and carried to authorize the purchase.

Ocaña also reported that the cost to set Attorney Watson up with a County computer would be approximately \$1,600 and is covered in the 2015 budget.

Commissioner Olson brought up a recent accident due to crop infringement in road right-of-way and the concern he has with the same issue on township intersections in Big Stone County. Consensus was for the Board to send a letter to township officials to address the concerns.

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

Computer Professionals	\$ 4,293.00
PrimeWest Health	10,243.34
Sis Insulation	5,500.00
TrueNorth Steel	3,529.94
West Con	16,184.83
55 Payments Less Than \$2,000	<u>15,504.23</u>
Total	\$55,255.34

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

Family Services to Highway	\$ 112.73
General to Highway	\$ 2,101.32
Ditch to Highway – JD 7	\$ 121.72

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 Berning and carried to execute the 2015 Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) Agreement with the State of Minnesota as presented by Auditor Knutson.

Motion by Berning, seconded by Backer and carried to approve the Temporary On Sale Liquor License for VFW Post 3964 for an event to be held at Stony Run Lodge September 26-27, 2015.

Discussion was held on the recent increase in the hourly cleaning fee from Main Street Industries (MSI). Consensus was to have Attorney Watson prepare an agreement that would include an annual cost of living adjustment. Chairman Sandberg will discuss a proposed agreement at his upcoming MSI meeting and provide Attorney Watson with any additional information.

The meeting was recessed at 10:22 AM until after the Social Services Board meeting.

The meeting reconvened at 11:09 AM.

The remainder of the meeting was spent reviewing the 2016 budget.

Chairman Sandberg adjourned the meeting at 11:48 AM.

Roger Sandberg, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Michelle R. Knutson, Auditor