

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD**  
**January 19, 2016**

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioners' Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, January 19, 2016. Chairman Athey called the meeting to order with Commissioners Backer, Berning, Olson 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.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Backer and carried to approve the minutes of the January 5<sup>th</sup> reorganizational meeting.

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

Commissioners reported on the following committees:

Olson – PrimeWest; BSAG  
Sandberg – Water Plan  
Athey – SWCD; Park; Department Head  
Backer – Park  
Berning – Pomme de Terre; CSPH

Discussion was held on the fees for Toqua Park for 2016. Motion by Backer, seconded by Olson and carried to approve the following fee schedule for Toqua Park:

Season Pass	\$1,200
Camper Fee	\$20/day
Tent Fee	\$10/day
Hunter's Pass (after Labor Day)	\$100
Tournaments	\$50/day

Attorney Watson reported that he would prefer that Attorney Jenny Boulton amend the Federated loan agreement for the revised repayment schedule approved by the Board at the December 15<sup>th</sup> board meeting.

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

Big Stone SWCD	\$ 4,388.50
Bonanza Education Center	4,000.00
Computer Professionals	4,481.00
Environmental Systems Research	2,500.00
Kandiyohi County Sheriff Dept	30,434.22
Marco	7,811.25
MCIT	131,849.00
Olson-Dahn/Serocki Excavating	10,847.70
Ortonville Area Health Services	4,067.00
Ratwik Roszak & Maloney	2,180.88
Schuneman Equipment	94,055.72
51 Payments Less Than \$2,000	<u>17,941.56</u>
Total	\$314,556.83

Motion by Olson, seconded by Berning and carried to execute the retainer agreement with Rinke Noonan for assistance and representation on drainage matters.

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

The DNR's response regarding the Request to Exempt Public Watercourse in Almond Township Section 13 that was received after the last board meeting was presented to the Board.

County Recorder Elaine Martig provided the Board with reports on fees collected and vital statistics for 2014 and 2015. Martig reported that her office continues to be in compliance with the recording requirements per statute. Martig also provided an update on her office.

County Assessor Sandy Vold was present to request the Board set the date for the County Board of Appeal and Equalization meeting. Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Backer and carried to set the meeting for Tuesday, June 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Berning and carried to approve the submission of the Pay Equity Implementation Report as presented by HR Director Dawn Gregoire.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to accept the resignation of Social Worker Linda Gere with thanks for her years of service to the County. Linda's last day will be March 30<sup>th</sup>.

Motion by Berning, seconded by Backer and carried to authorize the filling of the social worker position vacated by Gere.

Chairman Athey adjourned the meeting at 9:12 AM.

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Wade Athey, Chairman

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