

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD
February 2, 2016

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioners' Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, February 2, 2016. Chairman Athey called the meeting to order with Commissioners Backer, Olson and Sandberg present. Commissioner Berning was absent. Also present were Mike Swenson of the Ortonville Independent, County Attorney Bill Watson and Deputy Auditor Sharon Finke. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Backer and carried to approve the minutes of the January 19th meeting.

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

Commissioners reported on the following committees:

Sandberg – ESP; Collaborative; Safety

Backer – SWEMS; Bois de Sioux

Discussion was held on the notice in the paper requesting bids for the sale of the CHS building in Clinton. Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Backer and carried to close the meeting for discussion of submitting a sealed bid for the purchase of the building. Chairman Athey closed the meeting at 8:44 AM.

At 8:49 AM Chairman Athey reopened the meeting. Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Backer and carried to authorize the Auditor's Office to submit to CHS a sealed bid for purchase of the CHS building located at 91 Main Street in Clinton with the appropriate required cashier's check. Commissioner Olson abstained.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Backer and carried to authorize payment of the following claims as presented by Deputy Auditor Finke:

Forklifts of MN, Inc.	\$ 19,465.00
Kandiyohi County Sheriff Dept	30,283.59
MCCC	7,489.00
SHI International Corp	2,293.00
Office of the State Auditor	3,289.00
Upper MN River Watershed Dist	6,000.00
36 Payments Less Than \$2,000	<u>8,159.25</u>
Total	\$ 76,978.84

Motion by Olson, seconded by Backer and carried to ratify the Maintenance and Support Contract with TriMin Systems.

Motion by Backer, seconded by Olson and carried to accept the bid from James Nitz Construction in the amount of \$13,629 to construct a picnic shelter at Toqua Park.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to adopt the following resolution as requested by the Upper Minnesota Valley Regional Development Commission (UMVRDC):

2016-07

WHEREAS, Big Stone County has interest in the resources available to the citizens of our area that promote economic opportunities, enhance our education systems and enrich rural living; and

WHEREAS, broadband is an essential community infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, Big Stone County is working with the Upper Minnesota Valley Regional Development Commission (UMVRDC) and the counties served by them to assure the development of broadband; and

WHEREAS, Big Stone County believes in the support of a common broadband vision statement to help advance broadband policy and deployment across Minnesota.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Big Stone County supports the following vision statement:

Everyone in Minnesota will be able to use convenient, affordable World-class broadband networks that enable us to survive and thrive in our communities and across the globe.

County Engineer Nick Anderson reported that the funding has been approved for the bridge project in Prior Township and so it will be added to the 2016 construction project list. Approval still needs to be received from the Army Corp of Engineers and the DNR.

Motion by Backer, seconded by Olson and carried to set a JD 4 Ditch meeting for March 1st at 1:00 PM at the Graceville Community Building.

Engineer Anderson advised the board that statements will be sent to property owners for seeding projects in the spring.

Engineer Anderson reported that CSAH 32 is not wide enough to pave as is and so it will be necessary to get it on the 5 year plan list.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Olson and carried to approve the placement of a bench along the Minnesota River Trail by Colleen Hedge and Paul Strong in memory of Gayle Hedge.

HR Director Dawn Gregoire reviewed the County's current practice regarding comp time and use of time off by exempt employees and possible changes that could be made to it. The Board requested that she discuss it at the next department head meeting and report back at the next county board meeting.

Discussion was held regarding the need for strategic planning to be done for the County's future and what it might include. HR Director Gregoire informed the board members of the Lean Training option that AMC offers to counties. The Board requested that Gregoire set up a conference call with the appropriate person at AMC to discuss the process.

Chairman Athey adjourned the meeting at 9:54 AM.

Wade Athey, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Sharon Finke, Deputy Auditor