

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD
March 1, 2016

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioners' Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, March 1, 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, Family Services Director Pam Rud, County Attorney Bill Watson and County Auditor Michelle Knutson. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

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

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

Commissioners reported on the following committees:

Olson – Broadband; Pioneerland; Insurance; RDC; PrimeWest

Sandberg – Insurance; MSI

Athey – Legislative; Prairie 5; WACCO; Fair Board

Backer – Legislative

HR Director Dawn Gregoire was present to place a conference call to Toni Smith of AMC to review their LEAN program. Following the call, motion by Backer, seconded by Olson and carried to authorize HR Director Gregoire to proceed with scheduling a LEAN 101 session with AMC.

Attorney Watson reviewed the recommended language for the second amendment to the Federated Telephone loan agreement from Attorney Jenny Boulton. Motion by Olson, seconded by Backer and carried to approve the second amendment as presented.

Attorney Watson reported that he has reviewed the joint powers agreement with the St. Paul Port Authority for the PACE program. Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Olson and carried to adopt the following resolution designating the Port Authority to implement and administer a project assessed clean energy improvement financing on behalf of the County, and providing for the imposition of special assessments as needed in connection with that program:

2016-08

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the County of Big Stone (the "County"), as follows:

1. The Port Authority of the City of Saint Paul (the "Port Authority") has established the Property Assessed Clean Energy Program ("PACE OF MN") to finance the acquisition and construction or installation of energy efficiency and conservation improvements (the "**Improvements**"), on properties located throughout the State of Minnesota through the use of special assessments pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Sections 216C.435 and 216C.436 and Chapter 429 and 471.59 (the "Act").
2. In order to finance the Improvements, the County hereby determines that it is beneficial to participate in PACE OF MN, and to designate the Port Authority as the implementor and administrator of that program on behalf of the County for purposes of financing Improvements located within the County.

3. The County understands that the Port Authority may obtain funding from designated lending institutions or may issue its PACE OF MN special assessment revenue bond(s) to finance the Improvements, and that the sole security for the loan(s) or bond(s) will be special assessments imposed by the governmental entity participating in PACE OF MN.
4. To facilitate and encourage the financing of Improvements located within the County, the County covenants to levy assessments for said Improvements on the property so benefitted, in accordance with the Application and Petition for Special Assessments received from the owner(s) of the Property and approved by the Port Authority. The interest rate on the Special Assessments shall be the interest rate on the Loan(s) or Bond(s), and may include additional interest.
5. After imposition of the special assessments, the County shall collect such assessments and remit them to the Port Authority for use in the repayment of the Loan(s) or Bond(s). The County will take all actions permitted by law to recover the assessments, including without limitation, reinstating the outstanding balance of assessments when the land returns to private ownership, in accordance with Minn. Stat. Section 429.071, Subd. 4.
6. The County Board Chairman or County Auditor are authorized to execute on behalf of the County, any documents, certificates or agreements necessary to implement the program authorized by this resolution.

Attorney Watson left the meeting.

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

County Engineer Nick Anderson was present to request approval for a project on CSAH 18 through Toqua Park. Motion by Olson, seconded by Backer and carried to authorize the Engineer to proceed with bidding the project.

Engineer Anderson reported that he received notice that the DNR is cancelling the trail maintenance agreement. He has submitted the final expenditures for payment.

Environmental Officer Darren Wilke presented a 1-year agreement with Pro-West & Associates for GIS maintenance. This contract increases the per parcel fee from \$13 to \$16.10. Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Backer and carried to execute the contract and authorizing Environmental Officer Wilke to sign on behalf of the County.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Olson and carried to approve the following as presented by Environmental Officer Wilke:

- 2015 County Feedlot Officer Annual Report and Performance Credit Report
- 2016-17 MPCA County Feedlot Program Delegation Agreement Work Plan

Environmental Officer Wilke reported that the Board will need to appoint an alternate to the Board of Adjustment in the near future.

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

GovConnection	\$11,070.63
Schuneman Equipment	4,719.26
State Auditor	6,714.24
William J Watson	4,456.16

Wildlife Forever	2,650.00
43 Payments Less Than \$2,000	<u>11,506.37</u>
Total	\$41,116.66

Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to approve the new items for display in the rotunda by the Big Stone Arts Council. Featured artist is Rob Rakow.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Backer and carried to re-appoint Kathy Morrill as a member of the Local Social Services Agency Board retroactive to July 9, 2015, for a 2-year term.

Discussion was held on scheduling employee CPR/first aid training. HR Director Dawn Gregoire will follow-up on some of the options discussed and report back to the Board.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Backer and carried to accept the resignation of Case Aide Rachael Anderson. HR Director Gregoire stated that her last day will be March 31, 2016. Motion by Olson, seconded by Backer and carried to authorize the filling of the case aide position vacated by Anderson.

The remainder of the meeting was spent discussing various strategic planning subjects. Discussions will continue at future board meetings.

Chairman Athey adjourned the meeting at 10:24 AM.

Wade Athey, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Michelle R. Knutson, Auditor