

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD
May 3, 2016

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioners' Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, May 3, 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 and County Auditor Michelle Knutson. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Motion by Backer, seconded by Berning and carried to approve the minutes of the April 19th regular meeting.

Motion by Berning, seconded by Sandberg and carried to approve the agenda with noted addition.

Attorney Bill Watson arrived at the meeting.

Commissioners reported on the following committees:

Olson – Pioneerland; RDC

Sandberg – MSI; Food Shelf; Collaboration

Athey – Prairie 5; Fair Board

Backer – SWEMS; Bois de Sioux

Berning – Supporting Hands

Attorney Watson reported that he has reviewed the Collateral Account Security Agreement from Swift County and Federated, but has forwarded it to Attorney Jenny Boulton for her review. Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to approve the Agreement contingent on Attorney Bouton's approval as recommended by Attorney Watson.

Attorney Watson left the meeting.

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

3D Specialties	\$ 7,673.25
Fridgen Excavating	18,370.00
Pro-West & Associates	2,770.00
William Watson	4,456.16
36 Payments Less Than \$2,000	<u>8,679.29</u>
Total	\$41,948.70

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Backer and carried to adopt the following resolution:

2016-12

BE IT RESOLVED that Big Stone County act as the legal sponsor for an application for funding to the State of Minnesota Department of Natural Resources for Maintenance of snowmobile trails managed by Big Stone Lake Area Sno Riders.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon approval of its application by the state, Big Stone County may enter into an agreement with the State of Minnesota for the above referenced project and that it will comply with all applicable laws and regulations as stated in the agreement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chair of the Big Stone County Commissioners is authorized to sign such an agreement with the Department of Natural Resources.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Auditor is authorized to serve as the fiscal agent for the above-mentioned project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Big Stone County act as legal sponsor for 32 miles of snowmobile trails in Traverse County beginning north of Graceville and extending north through Wheaton to the White Rock Dam.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Big Stone County act as legal sponsor for 2 miles of snowmobile trails in Traverse County beginning west of Beardsley and extending west to Browns Valley.

Auditor Knutson asked for questions and/or comments on the year-to-date financial information provided for the Board's review.

Environmental Officer Darren Wilke was present to address questions on if Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) funds could be used to help support the Whetstone River Channel Restoration Project. Following discussion, motion by Sandberg, seconded by Berning and carried to authorize a total of \$60,000 from 2015 and 2016 AIS funds towards the Whetstone Project.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Berning and carried to appoint Michael Trulson to the Board of Adjustment to fill the vacancy created by Jim Lund earlier in the year. The term will run through 2017.

Discussion was held on establishing a policy for the use of County funds for tearing down and disposal of tax forfeited and dilapidated properties. Environmental Officer Wilke recommended that the Board talk to the municipalities in their districts and have them provide a list of properties that should be considered. The Board could then prioritize the list and do them as funding allows.

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

Librarian Vicki Bartz provided an update of library activities and on the computer replacement purchases at the Graceville and Ortonville libraries. Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to authorize the purchases of various computers as presented by Bartz. The cost will come out of the committed funds set aside for this purpose.

County Engineer Nick Anderson reported that a beaver dam has been removed on the Artichoke Lake Outlet. Following discussion, motion by Olson, seconded by Berning and carried to authorize up to \$2,500 per year for maintenance on the outlet.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Backer and carried to execute the contract with Riley Bros Construction, Inc. for construction project SAP 006-635-006 as presented by Engineer Anderson.

Engineer Anderson reported that he received a request to clean and reshape Joint Ditch 4 in Traverse County and also needs to reseed some of the buffer strip. Motion by Olson, seconded by Berning and carried to authorize the clean out and the reseeding with the appropriate penalty assessed.

Motion by Berning, seconded by Sandberg and carried to accept the resignation of Records Clerk/Emergency Management Director (EMD) Jim Hasslen with thanks for his years of service to the County. Jim's last day will be July 8th. Sheriff Haukos has indicated that the office will absorb the duties of the Records Clerk. The Board directed HR Director Dawn Gregoire to look into the possibility of sharing an EMD with another county.

HR Director Gregoire reported that AMC representatives are able to return June 28-30 for an additional LEAN 101 training and then a Kaizen event. Motion by Backer, seconded by Olson and carried to authorize Gregoire to schedule both as presented.

The remainder of the meeting was spent continuing the County's strategic plan discussion. The Auditor was directed to include a 5-year plan discussion on upcoming agendas until one is approved and in written form.

Chairman Athey adjourned the meeting at 10:12 AM.

Wade Athey, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Michelle R. Knutson, Auditor