

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD**  
**June 7, 2016**

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioners' Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, June 7, 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, Scott Simonitch, 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 May 17<sup>th</sup> regular meeting.

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

Commissioners reported on the following committees:

Olson – Dream for Kids; Pioneerland; RDC; Buffer Mtg; PrimeWest

Sandberg – MSI; Museum; ESB

Athey – Toqua Park; Prairie 5; Personnel

Backer – Toqua Park; Personnel

Berning – AMC District Mtg

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

James Nitz Construction	\$ 15,454.00
Kandiyohi County Sheriff Dept	38,056.07
M-R Sign Co	11,079.18
S.W. Inc	4,180.00
Team Laboratory Chemical Corp	17,220.00
Titan Machinery	29,931.79
Tri City Paving	40,816.92
West Con	10,894.55
Wildlife Forever	4,140.00
Yellow Medicine County	2,305.80
45 Payments Less Than \$2,000	<u>11,154.02</u>
Total	\$185,232.33

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

General to Highway	\$ 1,146.57
Family Services to Highway	\$ 91.96
Ditch to Highway	\$ 2,850.09
Joint Ditch 4	\$2,669.25
County Ditch 12	\$ 180.84

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

Motion by Berning, seconded by Sandberg and carried to approve the temporary partial closing of County Highway 30 in the City of Ortonville on June 18, 2016, from 6:00 PM to Midnight for a concert during Lake Days.

Commissioner Berning reported that he has been approached by Kevin Doschadis to see if he can volunteer his time trimming at Toqua Park. Following

discussion, motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to allow Mr. Doschadis to volunteer at the park contingent on MCIT's approval with proper procedures being followed to do so.

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

Sheriff John Haukos and County Engineer Nick Anderson arrived at the meeting.

Scott Simonitch was present to ask for an explanation on the County's policy for utility excavations. He reviewed his situation from back in 2003 where he was required to use flowable fill with his sewer replacement. He also shared inconsistencies on cases where that type of fill was or was not required. Engineer Anderson explained that the enforcement of that policy is now only required if there are issues with compaction of the soil. The Board asked that Engineer Anderson update the policy to reflect the changes.

Jared House from Pomme de Terre Watershed District was present to request the County's support and participation in a grant application with the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) for funds to complete the One Watershed, One Plan project. Motion by Olson, seconded by Berning and carried to adopt the following resolution:

**2016-14**

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Board of Soil and Water Resources has developed policies for coordination and development of comprehensive watershed management plans, also known as One Watershed, One Plan, consistent with Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103B.801, Comprehensive Watershed Management Planning Program; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103B.301, Comprehensive Local Water Management Act, authorizes Minnesota Counties to develop and implement a local water management plan; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103C.331, subdivision 11, Comprehensive Plan, authorizes Minnesota Soil and Water Conservation Districts to develop and implement a comprehensive plan; and

WHEREAS, the counties, watershed joint power entity, and soil and water conservation districts within the Pomme de Terre River #17, as delineated in the attached One Watershed, One Plan Suggested Boundary Map, have interest in developing a comprehensive watershed management plan for this area.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Big Stone County recognizes and supports watershed-scale planning efforts consistent with Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103B.801, also known as One Watershed, One Plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Big Stone County welcomes the opportunity to collaborate with the counties, watershed joint powers entity, and soil and water conservation districts within the Pomme de Terre River Watershed for watershed-scale planning efforts in the future; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Big Stone County supports an application to the Board of Water and Soil Resources for a planning grant to develop a comprehensive watershed management plan and anticipates entering into a Memorandum of Agreement or Joint Powers Agreement with the counties, watershed joint power entity, and soil and water conservation districts within the Pomme de Terre River Watershed to collaborate on this effort, pending selection as a recipient of a planning grant.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Backer and carried to approve the hiring of Heather LaMee for the Case Aide position at Grade 6 Step 1 effective June 9, 2016, as presented by HR Director Dawn Gregoire.

Motion by Backer, seconded by Sandberg and carried to approve the hiring of Josie Pruet for the Social Worker Waiver position at Grade 11 Step 1 effective June 13, 2016, as presented by HR Director Gregoire.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Berning and carried to approve the hiring of Jonathon Kirchberg for the Engineering Tech I position at Grade 10 Step 4 effective July 5, 2016, as presented by HR Director Gregoire.

HR Director Gregoire reported that both Stevens and Traverse Counties have expressed interest in sharing an Emergency Management Director. Board consensus was for HR to continue pursuing this collaboration.

HR Director Gregoire reported that MCIT allows the Board to authorize volunteers as long as we provide the required safety training.

Discussion was held on overtime for the Sheriff's deputies. Sheriff Haukos reviewed the current policy and the request to approve overtime after their scheduled shift. Following discussion, motion by Olson, seconded by Backer and carried to approve the request with the requirement that it be reviewed in 2 years.

The remainder of the meeting was spent continuing the County's strategic plan discussion. Department heads and staff were present for a presentation and discussion on M-Files, the County's electronic document management system. Following the presentation, the Board began meeting with staff to become more familiar with the duties and responsibilities of each office.

Chairman Athey adjourned the meeting at 11:14 AM.

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Wade Athey, Chairman

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