

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD
August 16, 2016

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioners' Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, August 16, 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 Berning, seconded by Sandberg and carried to approve the minutes of the August 2nd regular meeting.

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

Commissioners reported on the following committees:

Sandberg – Canvass; Property

Athey – SWCD; Extension; HRA; Personnel

Olson – PrimeWest

Backer – Extension; Personnel

Berning – Canvass; Property

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Backer and carried to execute the updated lease agreement with Main Street Industries. Commissioner Olson abstained.

Attorney Watson talked to the Board about transition planning. Based upon staffing needs, he requested that the County hire a 37.5 hour per week legal assistant for his office. Following discussion, motion by Olson, seconded by Berning and carried to begin the process of hiring a full time legal assistant for the County Attorney's Office.

Blake Knisley and Bruce Freske from US Fish & Wildlife were present to request certification of acquisition of land for a wetland easement in Odessa Township and a habitat easement in Ortonville Township. Tim Burdick was also present. Motion by Berning, seconded by Olson and carried to certify for acquisition the following described properties:

1. T121N, R45W, 5th P.M., Section 10, W1/2NE1/4.
2. T121N, R45W, 5th P.M., Section 2, GL 5 and Riparian Rights except that part Lying Nly of CR 64; and GL 6 except that part Lying Nly of CR 64 and also except Paradise Acres. To be determined by a survey.

Stevens County Emergency Management Director (EMD) Dona Greiner was present and introduced to the Board. Motion by Olson, seconded by Backer and carried to officially appoint Greiner as Big Stone County's EMD. Greiner reported that she has done an assessment of Big Stone County's EM office and provided a list of the items that she will be working on. Motion by Backer, seconded by Sandberg and carried to adopt the following resolution:

2016-19

WHEREAS, annually Big Stone County is awarded the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) from the State of Minnesota related to Emergency Management; and

WHEREAS, the EMPG requires a local match of county expenditures, as well as quarterly and annual reports to be completed and submitted; and

WHEREAS, timely execution of this grant is necessary.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chairman, County Auditor or the County Emergency Management Director are authorized to execute this grant agreement on behalf of Big Stone County.

HR Director Dawn Gregoire presented the job description that has been drafted for the Deputy EMD position. Motion by Backer, seconded by Sandberg and carried to approve the Deputy EMD job description at Grade 8 as presented by HR Director Gregoire. Motion by Olson, seconded by Backer and carried to authorize filling the position.

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

Computer Professionals Unlimited	\$ 4,456.00
Crop Production Services	13,478.25
Pioneer Public TV	5,000.00
51 Payments Less Than \$2,000	<u>13,326.64</u>
Total	\$36,260.89

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Berning and carried to authorize the following internal transactions:

General to Highway	\$ 435.74
Family Services to Highway	\$ 22.57
Ditch to Highway	\$ 1,499.93
Joint Ditch 4	\$ 98.10
County Ditch 30	\$1,401.83

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 Olson and carried to re-appoint Willard Rakow to the HRA Board effective October 1, 2016, for a 5-year term.

Auditor Knutson reviewed the law passed by the legislature requiring counties to create a local elections emergency plan. Motion by Olson, seconded by Backer and carried to adopt the Big Stone County Election Emergency Plan as presented by Auditor Knutson.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Berning and carried to adopt the following resolution and execute the grant agreement:

2016-20

BE IT RESOLVED that Big Stone County enter into a Grant Contract with the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs (MDVA) to conduct the County Veterans Service Office Operational Enhancement Grant Program. The grant must be used to provide outreach to the County's veterans; to assist in the reintegration of combat veterans into society; to collaborate with other social service agencies, educational institutions, and other community organizations for the purposes of enhancing services offered to veterans; to reduce homelessness among veterans; and to enhance the operations of the County Veterans Service Office, as specified in Minnesota Laws 2015 Chapter 77 Article 1, Section 37, Subdivision 2. This Grant should not be used to supplant or replace other funding.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chairman and CVSO be authorized to execute the Grant Contract for the above-mentioned Program on behalf of the County.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Berning and carried to adopt the following resolution to support the One Watershed One Plan project for all watersheds in the County as presented by Environmental Officer Darren Wilke:

2016-21

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, the County has three major watersheds including the Mustinka River #35, the Pomme de Terre River #17, and the Upper Minnesota River #16, as delineated in the attached One Watershed, One Plan Suggested Boundary Map, and has interest in developing a comprehensive watershed management plan for each of the three watersheds within its boundary.

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 districts, watershed joint powers entity, and soil and water conservation districts within the three major watersheds for watershed-scale planning efforts in the future; and

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

Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to adopt the following resolution opting out of the requirements of MS §394.307 as presented by Environmental Officer Wilke:

2016-22

WHEREAS, on May 12, 2016, the Governor of Minnesota signed into law Chapter 111 of the 89th Legislature of the State of Minnesota establishing definitions and requirements for Temporary Family Health Care Dwellings, which was introduced during the 2016 legislative session as Senate File 2555 and House File 2497; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 111 amends Minnesota Statute § 394 which regulates county permitting and zoning processes by establishing new rules for the placement of Temporary Family Health Care Dwellings on residential property; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Association of County Planning & Zoning Administrators, the professional association for county planning and zoning staff in Minnesota, supports the concept of Temporary Family Health Care Dwellings; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 111 erodes local control of the permitting process; limiting a county's ability to foster and guide development, and placing an undue burden on county staff to forego standard permitting practices; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners to protect the public health, safety and welfare of County residents and the environment of the County; and

WHEREAS, subdivision 9 of Minnesota Statute § 394.307 allows a county to “opt-out” of the regulations through the passage of a county board resolution.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Big Stone County elects to regulate Temporary Family Health Care Dwellings through already existing permitting standards of the Big Stone County Land and Related Resources Management Ordinance (Ordinance) and the Shoreland Management Ordinance; and

BE IT RESOLVED, pursuant to authority granted by Minnesota Statutes, Section 394.307, Subdivision 9, the County of Big Stone opts-out of the requirements of Minnesota Statute 394.307, which defines and regulates Temporary Family Health Care Dwellings.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Backer and carried to close the meeting at 9:47 AM for labor negotiations.

Motion by Berning, seconded by Backer carried to reopen the meeting at 10:02 AM.

The remainder of the meeting was spent reviewing the 2017 budget. IT Director Terry Ocaña was present to respond to questions regarding his department’s budget.

Chairman Athey adjourned the meeting at 10:40 AM.

Wade Athey, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Michelle R. Knutson, Auditor