

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD
October 17, 2017

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, October 17, 2017. Chairman Backer called the meeting to order with Commissioners Athey, Olson and Sandberg present. Commissioner Berning was absent. Also present were Beau Peterson from SWCD, Mary Meyer, Mary Gustafson, Mike Swenson of the Ortonville Independent, County Attorney Joe Glasrud, County Auditor Michelle Knutson and Deputy Auditor Holly Wellendorf. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Motion by Sandberg, second by Olson and carried to approve the minutes of the October 3rd regular meeting.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Athey and carried to approve the agenda with noted additions.

Commissioners reported on the following committees:

Sandberg – Museum; CBSL; ESB; Insurance

Athey – SWCD; HRA

Backer – Dept. Head; Woodland

Olson – PrimeWest

Representative Jeff Backer was present for the buffer ordinance discussion. He wanted to let everyone know the legislature's intent with the buffer law. He expressed some concerns with the current draft. The consensus of the Board was to refer the buffer ordinance draft back to Planning and Zoning.

Environmental Officer Darren Wilke reported that DNR Fisheries is requesting \$4,300 for a concrete wash station in Ortonville to wash netting and boats. Other government agencies could also use the station. The money would come from Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) funds. Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to authorize the appropriation with Commissioner Athey voting Nay.

Wilke informed the Board that Charles Moeller resigned from his position on the Water Plan Committee and thanked him for his service.

Attorney Glasrud provided a report on recent meetings he has attended.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to renew the agreement for shared County Engineer services with Stevens County.

County Engineer Todd Larson and Hwy Maintenance Supervisor Darby Karsky presented an update on options for a County garage building. There are currently 3 site options that they will continue to explore. This item will be added to the next meeting agenda for further follow-up.

Karsky reported that he had 2 bids for a cleanout on County Ditch 8. The bids are over the \$22,000 in the fund. Motion by Athey, seconded by Sandberg and carried to authorize the cleanout. Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Athey and carried to assess the difference to landowners over 5 years.

Karsky reported that the dual wall tile in County Ditch 13 has collapsed in some spots. He has a quote of \$1/foot and \$.54 mobilization from a company in Fargo to run a camera to diagnose the problem. Motion by Athey, seconded by Olson and carried to authorize the work.

Karsky also reported that the tile in County Ditch 14 is completely flat in some spots. He would like to use the camera in this tile as long as they will be in the area. Motion by Athey, seconded by Sandberg and carried to authorize the additional expenditure.

Karsky reported that he will be sending out letters of noncompliance to several landowners for disturbing the buffers on Joint Ditch 4.

Commissioner Sandberg left the meeting.

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

Berkner Plumbing & Heating	\$ 8,895.00
Computer Professionals	4,948.00
Rinke-Noonan	2,760.00
UMRWD	64,000.00
35 Payments Less Than \$2,000	<u>11,738.95</u>
Total	\$92,341.95

Motion by Olson, second by Athey and carried to authorize the following internal transactions:

General to Highway	\$ 1,722.12
Family Services to Highway	\$ 43.83
Ditch to Highway – County Ditch 2	\$ 220.00

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

Discussion was held on the assessment of redetermination costs on County Ditches 4 and 20. Motion by Athey, seconded by Olson and carried to assess any amounts over \$500 over 5 years.

Auditor Knutson presented a proposed logo for Emergency Management. Motion by Athey, seconded by Olson and carried to authorize the use of the logo.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Olson and carried to appoint the Family Services Director in place of the County Engineer as a delegate to the Association of Minnesota Counties.

The remainder of the meeting was spent in a strategic planning work session.

HR Director Gregoire gave a brief update on the County's health insurance plan rates for 2018.

Chairman Backer adjourned the meeting at 10:29 AM.

Jay Backer, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Michelle R. Knutson, Auditor