

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD
August 1, 2017

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Room at 8:30 AM on Wednesday, August 1, 2017. Chairman Backer called the meeting to order with Commissioners Athey, Berning, Olson and Sandberg present. Also present were Mary Meyer, Mary Gustafson, Mike Swenson of the Ortonville Independent, County Attorney Joe Glasrud and County Auditor Michelle Knutson. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Athey and carried to approve the minutes of the July 18th regular meeting.

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

Commissioners reported on the following committees:

Sandberg – Food Shelf; ESB

Athey – Fair Board; Park

Backer – BSAG; Dept Head; BdSWD Advisory; SW EMS

Olson – RDC

Attorney Glasrud reported that he is in the process of reviewing the Data Practices Policy and provided an update on pending cases.

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

AAA Striping Service	\$ 35,432.76
Big Stone SWCD	3,446.50
Diamond Mowers	2,356.76
Kandiyohi County Sheriff Dept	35,204.81
Pictometry	2,625.00
Tri City Paving	29,518.23
38 Payments Less Than \$2,000	<u>10,631.66</u>
Total	\$119,215.72

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

2017-26

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 2017, Chapter 4, Article 1, Section 38, 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.

Attorney Glasrud reported that he is still working on the Purchase of Services Agreement with TriMin Systems so it will be deferred until the next meeting.

Blake Knisley from US Fish & Wildlife was present to request certification of acquisition of land for a wetland easement in Almond Township. Motion by Berning, seconded by Olson and carried to certify for acquisition the following described property:

1. T123N, R46W, 5th P.M., Section 34: NE1/4NE1/4, except Long Island; GL 3 & 4 except Lot A; GL 2 except Lot C
2. T123N, R46W, 5th P.M., Section 35: SW1/4NW1/4 except Lot A; GL 1; Excepting the Perpetual RIM Conservation Easement

Sheriff John Haukos arrived at the meeting.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to approve the hiring of Hope Munsterman as a Social Worker at Grade 11 Step 1 with a start date of August 7th as presented by HR Director Dawn Gregoire.

HR Director Gregoire reported that Amy Haas has withdrawn her acceptance of the Financial Worker position. In order to assist other individuals who may be interested in qualifying to apply for the position, the County will be sponsoring a merit exam on August 21st in Clinton.

Gregoire provided an update on the status of the compensation study.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Athey and carried to formally accept the resignation of Mark Dietz with great thanks for his service over the years. Mark's last day was July 31st.

Auditor Knutson reported that the hearings for the redeterminations of County Ditches 4 and 20 have been scheduled for September 12, 2017. Notices will be mailed out in the coming weeks.

A work session regarding the 2018 budget was held.

4-H Program Coordinator Suzanne Souza and 4-Hers Brooklyn Conrad and Robert Angelo were present to provide an update on the work they have been doing with the aquatic invasive species (AIS) program. Souza also reported that she has completed the course to be a certified AIS Inspector.

Larry Deutsch and Barb Anderson were present to provide further information on the planning and zoning issue discussed at the last board meeting. The Board advised that any appeals will need to be addressed with the Board of Adjustment.

The remainder of the meeting was spent with Toni Smith from AMC in a strategic planning work session.

Chairman Backer adjourned the meeting at 3:40 PM.

Jay Backer, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Michelle R. Knutson, Auditor

