

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD
January 16, 2018

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, January 16, 2018. Chairman Olson called the meeting to order with Commissioners Athey, Backer and Sandberg present. Commissioner Berning was absent. Also present were Andy Strei, Dillon Dwyer of the Ortonville Independent, County Attorney Joe Glasrud and County Auditor Michelle Knutson. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Motion by Backer, seconded by Sandberg and carried to approve the minutes of the January 2nd re-organizational meeting.

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

Commissioners reported on the following committees:

Backer – BSAG; RLF; Woodland

Olson – BSAG; PrimeWest; LAC

Athey – SWCD; MRC

Chairman Olson initiated a discussion on a variance between the employee handbook and current practice. Attorney Glasrud will meet with the HR Director and report back to the Board.

Bill Vangness was present to request the Board's approval for the Graceville Golf Club's application for a gambling permit for a raffle. Motion by Athey, seconded by Backer and carried to approve the application.

Attorney Glasrud reported that he has received the contracts for the City of Ortonville and the City of Barry.

Attorney Glasrud provided an update on the land purchase for Highway. Glasrud asked that Andy Strei provide the information on their request to add a first right of refusal clause and change the special assessment notation to be at the buyer's expense. Following discussion, motion by Sandberg and seconded by Athey to amend the Purchase Agreement to change the special assessment notation as requested and to include a clause that the Strei Partnership will have the option to re-purchase the property at the County's purchase price if no capital improvements are made to the property within 10 years of transfer of title or if the County offers to sell the property within the 10-year period and no capital improvements have been made. If any capital improvements are made within 10 years of transfer of title, the right to re-purchase is no longer valid and any re-purchase may be negotiated by the Strei Partnership as it would with any other purchaser if the County agrees to their offer. Following further discussion, motion carried. Attorney Glasrud will make the changes to the Purchase Agreement as directed.

Attorney Glasrud and Andy Strei left the meeting.

IT Director Terry Ocaña was present to request the Board's approval of the web services agreement with Revize. Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Backer and carried to authorize IT Director Ocaña to execute the agreement.

County Assessor Sandy Vold was present to request that the Board set the date for the County Board of Appeal and Equalization meeting. The meeting was set for Tuesday, June 12th at 7:00 PM.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Sandberg and carried to approve the contract with Pro-West for a soils module contingent upon Attorney Glasrud's approval as presented by Assessor Vold.

County Highway Engineer Todd Larson was present to provide a highway update. Several highlights include (1) the technicians are finalizing the plan and proposal for the CSAH 23 mill and overlay project and (2) quotes are being gathered for the County Ditch 13 tile repair project. Discussion was held on whether the County should become a member in the Minnesota Transportation Alliance. Consensus was to pass on membership at this time.

Implementing a road construction materials special permit fee for six and seven axle trucks as allowed by MS §169.869 was also discussed. Motion by Athey, seconded by Backer and carried to establish \$300 and \$500 annual permit fees, respectively as recommended by Engineer Larson.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Olson and carried to authorize up to \$10,000 for the Engineer to purchase a large printer/copier/scanner.

Engineer Larson was directed to proceed with getting RFPs for building plans and assemble financing options.

County Recorder Elaine Martig reviewed her department's 2017 budget-to-actual report and provided the Board with reports on fees collected and vital statistics for 2016 and 2017. Martig reported that her office continues to be in compliance with the recording requirements per statute.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Sandberg and carried to authorize allowing Karol Scherer to fill as needed during Recorder Martig's absence for the MACO conference in February.

Recorder Martig reported that she has received a quote for archiving pre-1991 documents in her office. Following discussion, Martig was asked to get another quote due to the dollar amount of the proposed project and report back to the Board.

Discussion was held on the proposed buffer ordinance. Board consensus was to wait for further clarification from the legislature and then give an update to the Planning Commission.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Backer and carried to appoint Ken Chase to the Board of Adjustment and Charlie Maanum to the Planning Commission for 3-year terms as recommended by Environmental Officer Wilke.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Backer and carried to execute the 2-year Natural Resource Block Grant Agreement as presented by Environmental Officer Wilke.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Olson and carried to execute a grant agreement with Kandiyohi County for funds for a Household Hazardous Waste Management Regional Program.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Backer and carried to designate the County's website for the publication of transportation projects as allowed by MS §331A.12.

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

Association of MN Counties	\$ 2,235.00
Computer Professionals	5,462.00
Countryside Public Health	33,701.00
Kandiyohi County Sheriff Dept	42,689.71
MCIT	117,521.00
MN Sheriff's Assn	3,443.00
SafeAssure Consultants	4,596.12
Traverse County	22,241.34
Yellow Medicine County Jail	2,091.54
43 Payments Less Than \$2,000	<u>15,826.57</u>

Total \$249,807.28

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Backer and carried to authorize the following internal transactions effective 12/31/17:

General to Highway	\$	1,633.27
Family Services to Highway	\$	126.49
Ditch to Highway	\$	7,752.19
County Ditch 8	\$	7,417.19
County Ditch 13	\$	335.00

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

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

2018-09

WHEREAS, Minnesota's mental health continuum of care is underdeveloped, creating harmful and expensive gaps in an individual's treatment; and
 WHEREAS, Minnesota's mental health system does not have the capacity to consistently respond to the needs of individuals in crisis with appropriate treatment options; and
 WHEREAS, individuals experiencing a mental health crisis are often diverted to jails and other facilities ill-equipped for their care while awaiting inpatient treatment; and
 WHEREAS, individuals ready for discharge from inpatient treatment can be detained at inpatient facilities because there is a scarcity of supportive housing units to transition to; and
 WHEREAS, the gaps in Minnesota's mental health system are not only damaging to individuals and their families, but also result in an inefficient use of taxpayer dollars; and
 WHEREAS, Minnesota has an opportunity to improve its mental health continuum of care through investments in new permanent supportive housing and regional behavioral health crisis program facilities; now, therefore,
 BE IT RESOLVED, Big Stone County supports state capital investments for regional behavioral health crisis program facilities and permanent supportive housing for people with behavioral health needs.

Discussion was held on staffing for the Auditor's Office. Motion by Athey, seconded by Backer and carried to authorize the Auditor to proceed with hiring a full-time Deputy Auditor to prepare for an upcoming retirement.

Discussion was held on per diem payments for trainings attended by the Commissioners. Consensus was that the Board will approve any non-committee meeting per diems on a case-by-case basis.

Chairman Olson reported that there has been a delay in labor negotiations due to a scheduling issue.

Chairman Olson adjourned the meeting at 10:20 AM.

Brent Olson, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Michelle R. Knutson, Auditor