

October 7, 2014
Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting
Minutes

The Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, October 7, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. at the Cottonwood County Courthouse in Windom, MN. Presiding over the meeting was Chairman Jim Schmidt. Present for all or portions of the meeting were: Commissioners Jim Schmidt, Tom White, Norm Holmen, Kevin Stevens, John Oeltjenbruns; County Coordinator Kelly Thongvivong; County Attorney Nick Anderson; Auditor/Treasurer Jan Johnson; Kathy Marsh, Jason Purrington, JinYeene Neumann, Jared Morrill, Kim Hall, Gale Bondhus, and Susan Amundson.

Motion by White, second by Holmen, unanimous vote to approve the agenda. Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by Holmen, unanimous vote to approve the minutes of the September 23, 2014 regular board meeting.

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Kelly Thongvivong met with the board to present a few items. Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by Stevens, unanimous vote to pay registration fee of \$15.00 and mileage of \$10.75 for Gale Bondhus, County Assessor, for attending MAAO Region V meeting in July.

Motion by Stevens, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous roll call vote to adopt resolution as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 14-10-07

RESOLUTION APPOINTING DAVE HULSTEIN AND GARY SCHIMBENO
TO THE RED ROCK RURAL WATER SYSTEM BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS.

Background Information

WHEREAS, Dave Hulstein's 4-year term as a Commissioner on the Red Rock Rural Water System (RRRWS) Board of Commissioners is scheduled to expire at midnight on December 31, 2014; and

WHEREAS, Gary Schimbeno's 4-year term as a Commissioner on the Red Rock Rural Water System (RRRWS) Board of Commissioners is scheduled to expire at midnight on December 31, 2014; and

WHEREAS, Dave Hulstein and Gary Schimbeno would like to serve another 4-year term on the RRRWS Board of Commissioners, which terms will commence at 12:00 a.m. on January 1, 2015, and will expire at midnight on December 31, 2018; and

WHEREAS, On September 11, 2014 the RRRWS Board of Commissioners unanimously adopted a Motion which recommended that Dave Hulstein and Gary Schimbeno be appointed for another 4-year term on the RRRWS Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS the Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners believes that Dave Hulstein and Gary Schimbeno are qualified to act as Commissioners on the RRRWS Board of Commissioners and all are worthy of appointment.

BE IT NOW RESOLVED, that the Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners hereby recommends that Dave Hulstein and Gary Schimbeno be appointed to the RRRWS Board of

Commissioners pursuant to and provided for by Minnesota Statutes §116A et seq, to a four-year term, which shall commence at 12:00 A.M. on January 1, 2015, and shall expire at midnight on December 31, 2018.

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was approved by the Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners on October 7, 2014 by a vote of 5 for, 0 against, absent, and 0 abstaining.

DATED: October 7, 2014

S/James Schmidt, Board Chairman

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Commissioner White led discussion regarding sending a letter to Senator Bill Weber and Representative Rod Hamilton explaining how levy limits that have been imposed in the past has hurt county budgeting. Consensus of the board is for a letter to be written for the board chairman to sign.

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Commissioner Schmidt informed the board that he had been approached by a business owner regarding what is being done with passports and the complaints that business owner has heard from the public.

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JinYeene Neumann, County Engineer, met with the board to present a few items. Neumann presented a Detour Agreement and resolution between the State of Minnesota Department of Transportation and Cottonwood County for using CSAH 1 and CSAH 16 for a detour while constructing the middle gap of TH60. Neumann has some issues with the agreement as presented and is working on getting an amendment to the agreement. Neumann will bring the amended agreement and the resolution to a future meeting.

Neumann presented a Lighting Maintenance Agreement and resolution between the State of Minnesota Department of Transportation and Cottonwood County for lighting maintenance at the intersection of TH60 and CSAH 8. The agreement reads that MNDOT will reinstall a LED lighting system at this intersection and that the county will provide for the operation, maintenance, and electrical. Neumann will do more research on this agreement and will present at a future meeting.

Neumann asked the board for permission to hire a part-time Accounting Assistant to replace an employee planning on retiring later in the year. The board asked her to bring her request back to the board when a retirement letter has been received.

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The board held discussions regarding 2015 department budgets. The 2015 proposed levy approved was \$8,846,451 and with proposed revenue for 2015, the department budget requests will have to be reduced by \$694,022 to have a balanced budget. Each commissioner met with their assigned departments and brought forth the line items that could be reduced to meet the proposed levy. The Auditor/Treasurer will revise the 2015 budget in the IFS system to reflect the changes and report back to the board.

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Commissioner Holmen led discussion regarding employee eTime cards and the misunderstanding of what was discussed at the previous meeting. Holmen explained that he thought only employees that are not exempt should report hours. The Auditor/Treasurer should work with the Sheriff's Department and RtVision as to how this would affect the deputies and jailer/dispatch.

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There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Jan Johnson, Auditor/Treasurer

James Schmidt, Board Chairman

Kelly Thongvivong, County Coordinator