

March 4, 2008
Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting
Minutes

The Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, March 4, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. at the Cottonwood County Courthouse in Windom, MN. Presiding over the meeting was Chairman John Oeltjenbruns. Present for all or portions of the meeting were: Commissioners John Oeltjenbruns, Gary Sorenson, Tom White, Ron Kuecker, Norm Holmen; Administrative Assistant Kelly Thongvivong; Auditor/Treasurer Jan Johnson; County Attorney Doug Storey; Mike Hanson, Todd Dibble, Marlene Smith, Glen Graff, Steve Gode, Curt Gode and Brian Weber. Motion by Holmen, second by Sorenson, unanimous vote to approve additions to the agenda. Motion by Kuecker, second by White, unanimous vote to approve the minutes of the February 26, 2008 meeting as amended.

* * * *

Environmental Officer Mike Hanson met with the board to present a recommendation by the Planning Commission to approve the application from Glen Graff for a conditional use permit to construct a monoslope barn and expand his existing feedlot located in Amboy Township by 300 animal units. After much discussion, there was a motion by White, second by Sorenson, unanimous vote to approve conditional use permit granted to Glen Graff based on conditions mentioned and on a recommendation of the Planning Commission.

Brief discussion was held regarding Welner-Hageman beach and the quality of the water in this area. Hanson reported that Brown County is aware of the situation, as it is located within their jurisdiction.

Motion by Sorenson, second by Holmen, unanimous vote to allow Hanson and Greg Johnson to attend Septic Training Troubleshooting workshop on March 27th in Blue Earth and an SSTS Role Changes workshop in Belle Plaine on March 31st.

* * * *

Veteran's Officer Todd Dibble met with the board to discuss transportation rates for veterans. He reported that the Veteran's Administration recently raised mileage rates from \$.11/mile to \$.285/mile. Dibble reported that depending on the status of each individual veteran, some veterans pay for their transportation and some do not. Motion by Sorenson, second by Kuecker, unanimous vote to adopt transportation rates effective March 4, 2008 as follows: Rates for veterans who do not receive travel pay from VA will remain the same, which is currently \$25 to Sioux Falls and \$35 to Minneapolis. Veterans who do receive travel pay from VA will be required to relinquish all travel pay to the Cottonwood County Veterans Service Office.

* * * *

Brief discussion was held regarding recommendation of Labor-Management Committee to change wording on County Application for Employment form. The consensus of the board was to leave the wording as is.

Discussion was held regarding Dangerous Dog Ordinance that is currently being developed. Motion by Sorenson, second by Holmen, unanimous vote to set public hearing for March 25th at 1:10 p.m.

* * * *

Commissioner Sorenson gave an update in regards to his recent trip to Washington D.C. and reported on some of the meetings he attended while there.

* * * *

Commissioner Holmen gave an update in regards to the Senate Committee Hearing that he testified at yesterday at the State Capitol regarding county-based purchasing. Motion by Sorenson, second by White, unanimous vote to allow Holmen to submit county per diem and expenses for his attendance at this meeting.

* * * *

Motion by Holmen, second by White, unanimous vote to allow Southwestern Mental Health Center permission to move the Annual Incorporators Meeting from April 9, 2008 to May 14, 2008.

* * * *

Commissioner White gave an update regarding RSVP and some further information that he has learned. The consensus of the board was to have White present his idea to RSVP at the next meeting.

* * * *

Brief discussion was held regarding current Alltel plans and some cost-savings that could be taken advantage of. The Alltel representative that initially contacted the county in regards to this matter will be contacted to see if she might be able to review our current county plans before making a recommendation.

* * * *

Brief discussion was held regarding the transit garage and some of the items that are currently being stored in the garage.

* * * *

Discussion was held regarding new county office building and some new options that are being considered. Chairman Oeltjenbruns will contact Community Health Services in regards to the new options being considered.

* * * *

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Jan Johnson, Auditor/Treasurer

John Oeltjenbruns, Board Chairman

Kelly Thongvivong, Bd. Adm. Assistant