

May 23, 2006
Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting
Minutes

The Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, May 23, 2006 at 1:00 p.m. at the Cottonwood County Courthouse in Windom, MN. Presiding over the meeting was Chairman Ron Kuecker. Present for all or portions of the meeting were: Commissioners Ron Kuecker, Norm Holmen, John Oeltjenbruns, Gary Sorenson, Chuck Severson; Administrative Assistant Kelly Thongvivong; Auditor/Treasurer Jan Johnson; County Attorney Doug Storey; Kathy Marsh, Mike Hanson, Marlene Smith, Mark Marcy, Dominic Jones, Holli Arp, Robyn Winters, Tim Arlt and Ron Gregg. Motion by Holmen, second by Severson, unanimous vote to approve additions to the agenda. Motion by Sorenson, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to approve the minutes of the May 9, 2006 meeting.

* * * *

Kathy Marsh, Extension Office Manager, met with the board to present quotes for a new laptop and computer monitors. After reviewing the quotes, the board asked that Marsh look into getting some additional quotes, as the prices seemed to be a little high for the needs of the office.

Marsh also reported that Private Industry Council would like to provide an office worker for the Extension Office during the summer months. Motion by Sorenson, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to enter into agreement with Private Industry Council to supply an office worker for the summer. The salary for this position will be paid through Private Industry Council.

* * * *

Environmental Officer Mike Hanson met with the board to discuss several different items. Motion by Holmen, second by Severson, unanimous vote to authorize Chairman Kuecker to sign Board of Water & Soil Resources Block Grant when it is received.

Hanson presented proposed recommendations to the Zoning Ordinance by the Planning Commission. Motion by Sorenson, second by Holmen, unanimous roll call vote to adopt resolution 06-05-23A amending Cottonwood County Zoning Ordinance No. 28.

Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by Sorenson, unanimous roll call vote to adopt resolution 06-05-23B changing Mining, Extraction & Excavation Ordinance No. 35 to No. 36.

Update was given in regards to feedlot in Delton Township Section 7. Hanson reported that PCA is doing the permit for this feedlot.

Hanson reported that the Water Plan Update Informational Meeting would be held on May 25th at 6:30pm at the DNR office.

Hanson presented a budget update in regards to the 3-county ISTS Pilot Grant Project. Hanson was instructed to bring back a proposed plan to the next meeting.

Emergency Management Director Mark Marcy met with the board to present quotes for a new box for the Dodge pickup so that the Emergency Management equipment can be better secured in the truck. The board asked that Marcy pursue other options that may be available.

Marcy asked a question in regards to his last paycheck but no action was taken. This will be discussed at a future meeting.

* * * *

Dominic Jones, Red Rock Rural Water, met with the board to ask that the board consider adopting a resolution pertaining to amended Joint Powers Agreement and Advance Agreement for Red Rock Rural Water System's 2005 expansion bonding. Because of Hurricane Katrina, Red Rock's project experienced overruns in its bidding process of approximately \$1.7 million. Fortunately, they have been able to obtain a significant grant, coupled with a smaller loan, for the overruns. Motion by Sorenson, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous roll call vote to adopt resolution 06-05-23C approving and authorizing amended Advance Agreement (in the amount not to exceed \$5,760,000.00) with Minnesota Rural Water Finance Authority and authorizing participation in a Joint Powers Authority.

Motion by Severson, second by Holmen, unanimous roll call vote to adopt resolution 06-05-23D amending Joint Powers Agreement for the Red Rock Rural Water System 2005 expansion bonding.

* * * *

Holli Arp, University of Minnesota Extension, met with the board to introduce Robyn Winters as the new Program Coordinator for Cottonwood County. Her first day of employment was May 15th and she has been busy trying to get acquainted with everyone.

Arp reported that Steve Iverson, Ag Technical Advisor, has resigned effective June 6th. Discussion was held as to whether or not the county will choose to hire a similar position or decide on other options that might be available. No further action was taken at this time.

* * * *

County Engineer Ron Gregg met with the board to discuss a few different items. Motion by Sorenson, second by Severson, unanimous vote to allow Gregg to advertise for the reconstruction of CSAH 2 from CR 50 north to TH 30. This is an extension of the previous CSAH 2 project.

Gregg presented quotes for the purchase of a laptop computer. After reviewing the quotes, the board asked that he do some further research as the quotes were a little overpriced.

Motion by Sorenson, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to authorize contract approval for the CSAH 2 Project (SAP 17-602-21) and Carson Township Bridge Project (SAP 17-599-83).

Gregg reported that there was recently an incident at the landfill with contaminated demo. Because of this, Gregg would like to see a change to the current policy. Motion by Holmen, second by Sorenson, unanimous vote to begin

imposing a \$50.00/load charge plus a \$50.00/hour cleanup fee to demo loads that are contaminated with garbage or other materials not acceptable in the demo landfill. The charge will be imposed at the discretion of the Landfill Operator. This new policy change will be effective June 15, 2006.

* * * *

Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by Severson, unanimous vote to approve Mt. Lake Golf Course liquor license.

Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by Sorenson, unanimous vote to approve Mt. Lake Golf Course tobacco license.

* * * *

Motion by Holmen, second by Sorenson, unanimous roll call vote to adopt resolution 06-05-23 as follows:

**Resolution 06-05-23
Big Bend Snowriders Club**

WHEREAS, Cottonwood County has established the Cottonwood County Snowmobile Trails System; and

WHEREAS, the County, working with the Big Bend Snowriders Club, desires to see the continuation of the trails system; and

WHEREAS, Cottonwood County will act as legal sponsor for an application for the DNR Snowmobile Trails Assistance Program and may enter into agreement with the State of Minnesota on behalf of the Big Bend Snowriders Club; and

WHEREAS, Cottonwood County will comply with all applicable laws and regulations as stated in the agreement; and

WHEREAS, Jan Johnson, County Auditor/Treasurer, 900 Third Avenue, Windom, MN 56101 will act as the fiscal agent on behalf of Cottonwood County.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners hereby supports the acceptance of this grant on behalf of the Big Bend Snowriders Club.

S/Jan Johnson, Auditor/Treasurer

* * *

S/Ron Kuecker, Board Chairman

* * *

Motion by Sorenson, second by Severson, unanimous vote to allow Chairman to sign renewal agreement for implementation of 911-telephone system.

* * * *

Motion by Severson, second by Holmen, unanimous vote to seek quotes to replace transit garage roof with a metal roof.

* * * *

Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by Severson, unanimous vote to allow County Attorney to employ Clerk Hire on an as-needed basis effective May 23, 2006.

Motion by Holmen, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to allow Commissioner Sorenson to sign Area II Joint Powers Agreement Addendum.

* * * *

Commissioner Severson gave an update in regards to Plum Creek Library System's recent request for a one-time \$25,000 appropriation from nine different counties. No action was taken.

* * * *

Commissioner Oeltjenbruns updated the board on a few different items. He reported that the Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance (GBERBA) would be conducting interviews this Thursday. He also reported that the Energy Task Force is hoping to hire someone to do a feasibility study in regards to how to get the power to the metro area.

* * * *

Brief discussion was held regarding upcoming Interest-Based Bargaining refresher training. Alan Olson will be contacted to let him know of the board's intentions.

* * * *

It was noted that Chamber Coffee would be held on Friday, May 26th at 10:00am in honor of Pete Brand's upcoming retirement.

* * * *

The Master Gardener's Club recently donated a non-fruit producing flowering crab tree to the courthouse. A thank-you letter will be sent recognizing the appreciation of the donation.

* * * *

It was reported that results were received from Ann Antonsen in regards to the pointing/re-pointing of two positions on the Hay System. The Financial Assistance Supervisor II position should be pointed at 406 points and the Board Administrative Assistant should be increased from 296 to 358 points. Motion by Holmen, second by Severson, unanimous vote to develop new pay scale for the Board Administrative Assistant position (358 points) and to place Kelly Thongviong on Step 8 of the new pay scale effective June 1, 2006.

* * * *

There being no further business to come before the County Board, there was a motion by Sorenson, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to adjourn as the County Board and to convene as the Ditch Authority to discuss a matter relating to County Ditch #23. Two quotes were received and reviewed for the restoration of Tim Wenskaug's property in Bingham Lake and were as follows: Bill Anderson Landscaping - \$9,850 (sodding) or \$3,280 (seeding); Kelly Irrigation & Landscaping - \$9,978 (sodding) or \$4,512.90 (seeding). Motion by Severson, second by Sorenson, unanimous vote to accept low quote from Bill Anderson Landscaping for the seeding of Tim Wenskaug's lawn. There being no further business, the Ditch Authority adjourned.

Jan Johnson, Auditor/Treasurer

Ron Kuecker, Board Chairman

Kelly Thongviong, Bd. Adm. Assistant