

July 10, 2012  
Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners  
Regular Meeting  
Minutes

The Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, July 10, 2012 at 9:00 a.m. at the Cottonwood County Courthouse in Windom, MN. Presiding over the meeting was Chairman Norm Holmen. Present for all or portions of the meeting were: Commissioners Norm Holmen, John Oeltjenbruns, Jim Schmidt, Tom White, Ron Kuecker; Executive Assistant Kelly Thongvivong; Auditor/Treasurer Jan Johnson; Assistant County Attorney Lori Buchheim; Robin Wies, Kate Roberts, Jan Voit, Andy Geiger, Gale Bondhus, Jason Purrington, Deb Maxson, Lloyd Kalfs, Kiel Tschumperlin and Rory Lindvall.

Motion by Kuecker, second by White, unanimous vote to approve additions to the agenda. Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by Schmidt, unanimous vote to approve the minutes of the July 3, 2012 meeting.

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Robin Wies and Kate Roberts met with the board representing the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP). They gave an update in regards to some of the programs that they have offered in the last several months. Wies also presented the 2011 Annual Report to the board.

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Jan Voit, Heron Lake Watershed District Administrator and Kiel Tschumperlin, Watershed Coordinator met with the board to give an annual update and to inform the board about some of the funds that are available. A report was also given regarding some of the projects that are currently being worked on.

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Andy Geiger, Planning & Zoning/Solid Waste/Parks Administrator, met with the board to discuss several items. Two quotes were received for placement of the frost layer on the newly constructed Cell No. 7 as follows: Minion Excavating - \$41,435.20 and Mathiowetz Construction - \$72,000. The projected start date for this project is July 16, 2012 and the completion date shall be on or before August 31, 2012. After further discussion, there was a motion by Kuecker, second by Schmidt to hire Minion Excavating for a cost of \$41,435.20 based on the quote received but to enter into a contractual agreement with Minion Excavating with the approval of Geiger in the absence of Ron Gregg as Gregg will still be responsible for overseeing this project. Voting as follows: Aye – Kuecker, Schmidt, Oeltjenbruns, Holmen. Nay – White. Motion carried. This agreement will further discuss the daily penalty if timelines are not met. A proof of performance bond will also be requested of Minion Excavating and the county will reimburse Minion for this cost.

Geiger reported that he recently reviewed the current fee schedule at the landfill and after comparing it to other landfills in our area would recommend the following changes: \$22.50/ton for demo debris which would include the tipping fee and \$.10/pound for tire disposal. Motion by Kuecker, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to accept Geiger's recommendation for increased demolition and tire disposal rates effective August 1<sup>st</sup>.

Geiger reported that one quote was received for test well monitoring for the new construction demo site at the landfill. It was questioned at that point as to whether or not permission was ever received by Ron Gregg to begin construction of a new demo cell where work had been done. Motion by White, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to allow Geiger to obtain another quote for test well monitoring for the new construction demo site at the landfill.

Geiger presented two quotes for a new generator for the landfill as follows: Running's - \$587.80 w/tax and GDF Bobcat - \$736.37. Motion by White, second by Schmidt, unanimous vote to accept low quote in the amount of \$587.80 from Running's for the purchase of a generator.

Geiger reported that he has not yet received a quote for sealing of the well at Talcot Park. Geiger also informed the board about some vandalism that recently occurred at Talcot Park.

Commissioner White mentioned that he recently had a conversation with one of the seasonal campers at Talcot Park and he heard all positive comments about the park and the employees that are working there. This individual did have a suggestion about adding some new playground equipment.

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County Assessor Gale Bondhus met with the board to discuss a proposal from Pictometry for a fly-over of Cottonwood County. Bondhus reported that a fly-over is currently scheduled for 2014 but because a few area counties are doing a fly-over in 2013 it was questioned as to whether or not Cottonwood County could get a better rate by scheduling a fly-over one year earlier. The last fly-over was done in 2007. Bondhus was asked to obtain a contract from Pictometry for review by the County Attorney before making any decisions.

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Sheriff Jason Purrington met with the board to discuss the AT & T Frequency Relocation Agreement that was approved in June by the board. Purrington reported that AT & T has reprioritized their market area and they are no longer interested in relocating the current microwave link which could have been helpful in allowing the county to obtain a redundant backup which will be needed for the radio system. Purrington will continue to explore options and check into costs involved.

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A draft copy of a Request for Bids for Gravel Crushing and Stockpiling was reviewed by the board. After further discussion, there was a motion by Kuecker, second by White, unanimous vote to allow Highway Department to request bids for gravel crushing.

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Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by White, unanimous vote to approve July warrants as follows:

County Revenue Fund	\$ 76,816.65
Road and Bridge Fund	\$ 72.11
Long Term Capital Outlay	\$ 4,393.07
Ditch Fund	\$ 2,469.98

Road & Bridge	\$102,946.57
Landfill Enterprise	<u>\$ 28,062.56</u>
	\$214,760.94

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The request for improvement on JD #31 was not discussed at this time as the bond that was necessary was not yet received.

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Miscellaneous appropriations for 2012 were discussed at this time for possible payment by the board. The board asked that a presentation by the Ag Society be given before the appropriation for 2012 is granted.

Motion by White, second by Schmidt, unanimous vote to pay appropriations in the amount of \$2,000 each to the Senior Citizen Centers in Westbrook, Storden, Mt. Lake, Windom and Jeffers.

Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by White, unanimous vote to pay appropriations in the amount of \$1,500 each to the Heritage Houses in Mt. Lake and Westbrook.

Motion by White, second by Schmidt, unanimous vote to pay appropriation in the amount of \$500 to the Southwest Crisis Center.

Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by Schmidt, unanimous vote to pay appropriation in the amount of \$1,000 to the Ecology Bus. The board asked that they receive some assurance that they have fulfilled their commitment to providing programming to the schools in Cottonwood County.

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Motion by Kuecker, second by Schmidt, unanimous vote to approve the contract with the State of Minnesota for the use of the Driver's Exam Room at the Law Enforcement Center.

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Information regarding bonding for 2013 road improvements that was received from George Eilertson, Northland Securities, was handed out to the board for their review.

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A draft copy of the Thomas Gravel Pit Agreement was reviewed by the board. It was suggested that payment to Jim Thomas be specific in the contract as to how he can expect to be paid. Further discussions will be held and a final copy of an agreement will be presented at a future meeting. It was also suggested that the county check into the possibility of listing a line item on the tax statement so citizens know that the county levied more to repair the roads.

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Commissioner Schmidt asked some questions regarding the Seed Capital Fund. Updated copies of forms necessary to apply for a loan will be provided to Schmidt as there is a business in Westbrook that is interested in obtaining additional funding.

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Discussion was held regarding the contents of last year's audit. Several items were pointed out and questions were asked. The board also questioned whether or not the outstanding contracts from the Highway Department have yet been signed so further follow-up will need to be done.

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There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

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Jan Johnson, Auditor/Treasurer

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Norm Holmen, Board Chairman

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Kelly Thongvivong, Executive Assistant