

June 2, 2009  
Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners  
Regular Meeting  
Minutes

The Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, June 2, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. at the Cottonwood County Courthouse in Windom, MN. Presiding over the meeting was Chairman Gary Sorenson. Present for all or portions of the meeting were: Commissioners Gary Sorenson, Tom White, Ron Kuecker, Norm Holmen, John Oeltjenbruns; Administrative Assistant Kelly Thongvong; Auditor/Treasurer Jan Johnson; County Attorney Doug Storey, Mike Hanson, Ron Gregg and Marlene Smith. Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by White, unanimous vote to approve additions to the agenda. Motion by Holmen, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to approve the minutes of the May 26, 2009 meeting as amended.

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Environmental Officer Mike Hanson met with the board to discuss several items. Hanson reported that the Planning Commission held a public hearing to consider the conditional use application submitted by Marlow and Marilyn Nickel and ProSource Technologies Inc/RCC Wireless to construct a 295' guyed Telecommunications Tower and an equipment shelter to be located in the Southeast Quarter of Section 16 of Amboy Township. The Planning Commission recommends approval of this permit with five conditions as mentioned. Motion by Holmen, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to approve conditional use permit based on five conditions mentioned and on a recommendation of the Planning Commission.

Hanson reported that Cottonwood County has \$10,000 allocated from GBERBA that is to be spent for its septic program for equipment purchases. Hanson presented two quotes for the purchase of a laptop as follows: DELL - \$3,224.61 and CDW Government, Inc. - \$2,547.22. Motion by White, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to accept low quote in the amount of \$2,547.22 from CDW Government, Inc. for the purchase of a laptop. This purchase will be reimbursed by GBERBA once an invoice is submitted.

Hanson presented two quotes for a handheld GPS data collection and relocation tool as follows: Schneider Corporation - \$8,685 and Frontier Precision Inc. - \$7,820.00 (state bid). Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by Kuecker, unanimous vote to accept state bid in the amount of \$7,820.00 from Frontier Precision Inc. for the purchase of a handheld GPS data collection and relocation tool. This purchase will be partially (\$7,452.78) reimbursed by GBERBA once an invoice is submitted, as the total allocated from GBERBA for equipment purchases is \$10,000.

Motion by Holmen, second by White, unanimous vote to allow one individual from the Environmental Office to attend the annual Minnesota Association of County Ag Inspectors (MACAI) Conference to be held July 27-29 in Shakopee and to pay for all necessary expenses.

County Engineer Ron Gregg met with the board to discuss a few items. Gregg asked that the board adopt a resolution for expenditure of bridge bonding money for the bridge project on CSAH 8. Motion by Kuecker, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous roll call vote to adopt resolution as follows:

**Resolution 09-06-02  
For Agreement to State Transportation Fund (Bridge Bonds)  
Grant Terms and Conditions**

**WHEREAS**, Cottonwood County has applied to the Commissioner of Transportation for a grant from the Minnesota State Transportation Fund for construction of Bridge No. 17533 (S.P. 17-608-09)

**WHEREAS**, the Commissioner of Transportation has given notice that funding for this bridge is available; and

**WHEREAS**, the amount of the grant has been determined to be \$62,972.10 by reason of the lowest responsible bid;

**NOW THEREFORE**, be it resolved that Cottonwood County does hereby agree to the terms and conditions of the grant consistent with Minnesota Statutes, section 174.50, subdivision 5, clause (3), and will pay any additional amount by which the cost exceeds the estimate, and will return to the Minnesota State Transportation Fund any amount appropriated for the bridge but not required.

S/Gary Sorenson, Board Chairman

S/Jan Johnson, Auditor/Treasurer

Gregg presented an updated copy of a Recycling Survey that he would like to send out in order to improve the current system and increase participation. Gregg was told to move ahead with the survey.

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Commissioner Holmen gave an update regarding ditch bank repair of JD #15 in Lakeside Township.

Commissioner Kuecker questioned whether or not more than one quote should be received for ditch work that is to be completed. Discussion was also held regarding whether or not a policy regarding ditch work should be developed at some point in the future.

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Quotes for the 9<sup>th</sup> Street Office painting/carpentry project were as follows: Dallas Smith - \$2,997 (carpentry work only); Windom Painting - \$4,435 (painting only); Curt Fast - \$1,540 (painting only with paint to be supplied by county); Borsgard Construction - \$2,850 (carpentry work only); Southwest Minnesota ProWall - \$3,462.40 (painting & carpentry work with paint to be supplied by county). Motion by Holmen, second by Kuecker, unanimous vote to accept quote in the amount of \$3,462.40 (includes labor and materials) from Southwest Minnesota ProWall for painting/carpentry work at the 9<sup>th</sup> Street Office Building. Paint for this project is to be supplied by the county and electrical work is not included in the quote.

Motion by Holmen, second by Kuecker, unanimous vote to contact vendors to obtain quotes for signage for the new Community Health Services building. Commissioner Kuecker has agreed to work on this.

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Commissioner Holmen asked about the status of some of the county appropriations. Appropriations that have been received to date will be presented for approval at the next board meeting.

Update was given regarding Regional Radio Board meeting that Holmen attended last week in Marshall.

Brief discussion was held regarding an e-mail received from AMC in regards to the state budget as well as levy limits and funding levels for the next few years.

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Auditor/Treasurer Jan Johnson reported that a check in the amount of \$1,000 was received from the University of Minnesota for sign reimbursement for the outside signage at the N. 71 County Office Building.

Johnson reported that the State Auditors would be offering a training session in Marshall on June 24<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 – 3:30 p.m. focusing on Internal Controls that the Commissioners are invited to attend.

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Chairman Sorenson gave an update in regards to a letter he recently received from Good Samaritan Society regarding Eventide Suites in Mt. Lake. Sorenson will ask County Attorney Doug Storey to draft a response letter to present at the next board meeting.

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Much time was spent reviewing pay study proposals that were submitted to the county and determining which firms/individuals the county board would like to further interview. Nine proposals were received and the board decided to interview four firms/individuals (Sherrie Le, Bjorklund Consulting, Wayne Brede and Springsted) for a countywide pay study. One firm was previously interviewed before an official RFP was sent out. Interviews will be conducted on June 17<sup>th</sup> beginning at 10:00 a.m.

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There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

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Jan Johnson, Auditor/Treasurer

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Gary Sorenson, Board Chairman

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Kelly Thongvivong, Bd. Adm. Assistant