

April 24, 2007  
Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners  
Regular Meeting  
Minutes

The Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, April 24, 2007 at 1:00 p.m. at the Cottonwood County Law Enforcement Center 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, Gary Sorenson, Tom White, Ron Kuecker; Administrative Assistant Kelly Thongvivong; Auditor/Treasurer Jan Johnson; County Attorney Doug Storey; Kristi Sell, Mike Hanson, Jack Kelly, Ron Gregg, Mark Marcy, Dick Asleson and Rob Anderson. Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by White, unanimous vote to approve additions to the agenda. Motion by Sorenson, second by White, unanimous vote to approve the minutes of the April 10, 2007 meeting.

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Jail Administrator Kristi Sell met with the board to seek authorization to write-off 12 outstanding checks totaling \$40.29 dated 6/25/03 to 6/20/05 that the jail has written to inmates that have been released. Motion by Sorenson, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to write-off checks totaling \$40.29. This money will be remitted to the state as unclaimed property.

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Environmental Officer Mike Hanson met with the board to present computer quotes after finding out more information in regards to the computer that he was given permission to purchase at the last board meeting. Motion by Kuecker, second by Sorenson, unanimous vote to rescind motion from April 10, 2007 meeting for the purchase of a new computer for the Environmental Office based on new information received regarding the cost for more memory, installation and transferring of data.

Hanson presented two new quotes for the purchase of a computer as follows: Davis Typewriter - \$900.50 (includes 1-hr set up time) and New Star - \$905.50 (does not include 1-hr set up time). Motion by Sorenson, second by White, unanimous vote to accept quote from Davis Typewriter in the amount of \$900.50 for the purchase of a computer.

Hanson reported on a few hearings that would be held next week. He also presented copies of correspondence in regards to the complaints recently received regarding a property in Southbrook Township as well as information regarding an application for a permit for an industrial well in Cottonwood County.

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Jack Kelly met with the board to present information in regards to the sprinkler system at the Courthouse. He gave an estimate of how much it might cost if the board agrees to make some changes to the current system when the 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue street project is being done. Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by Kuecker, unanimous vote to seek quotes for upgrading sprinkler system.

Update was given in regards to a recent telephone conversation with Bill Dunn of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) regarding ISTS systems. Motion by Sorenson, second by Kuecker, unanimous vote to let Mike Hanson know that until MPCA has completed review, Cottonwood County will stop the installation of any new ISTS systems.

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County Engineer Ron Gregg met with the board to discuss several different items. Gregg asked that the board review and approve the purchase of a server and a computer for the Highway Department. Because there were still questions with the two quotes received, Gregg was asked to get clarification and to seek another quote to present at a future meeting.

Gregg presented information for the board to review regarding wage data for the Solid Waste Department. The data shows comparable county wages and health insurance contributions. After much discussion and review of the data, no action was taken, as there was a lack of a motion to proceed.

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

**DNR Dam Safety Program  
Grant Agreement Resolution  
07-04-24**

**IT IS RESOLVED** that the COUNTY of COTTONWOOD, hereinafter referred to as the "Applicant", act as legal sponsor for the project described in the Department of Natural Resources Dam Safety Program grant application.

**IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Applicant has the legal authority to apply for financial assistance, and the institutional, managerial and financial capability to carry out the project.

**IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Applicant has not violated any federal, state, or local laws pertaining to fraud, bribery, graft, kickbacks, collusion, conflict of interest or other unlawful or corrupt practice.

**IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED** that upon approval of its application by the State, the Applicant may enter into an agreement with the State for the above-referenced project, and that the Applicant certifies that it will comply with all applicable laws and regulations as stated in the grant agreement.

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED** that Ronald Gregg, County Engineer, is hereby authorized to execute the Dam Safety Program grant agreement and act as the Applicant's authorized agent for the purpose of administration of the grant.

S/Jan Johnson, Auditor/Treasurer

S/Norm Holmen, Board Chairman

Gregg handed out a copy of the Road Tour agenda for tomorrow morning's trip.

Gregg asked that the board review and approve gravel crushing quotes (on file in Commissioner's Room) and gravel pit agreement. Gregg recommended awarding the crushing contract to L & S Construction Corp. for the

production of gravel in the Leland Johnson Pit. He also recommended entering into an agreement with Leland Johnson for the production and reimbursement of gravel produced on his property. Motion by White, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to enter into agreement with Leland & Barbara Johnson for the lease of their gravel pit. Motion by Sorenson, second by White, unanimous vote to enter into agreement with L & S Construction Corp. for the mining of gravel.

Gregg gave an update in regards to the SCORE fund grant for the recycling program.

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Dick Asleson, Northland Securities, and Rob Anderson, Mt. Lake EDA, met with the board to request tax abatement for a housing development project in Mt. Lake. After much discussion, there was a motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by White to adopt resolution as provided and as follows with inclusion of date for a public hearing on Tuesday, May 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm at the Cottonwood County Law Enforcement Center regarding the request from the Mt. Lake EDA for a tax abatement. Voting as follows – Aye: White, Holmen, Oeltjenbruns; Nay: Sorenson and Kuecker. Motion carried.

**Resolution No. 07-04-24B**

**CALLING FOR PUBLIC HEARING ON THE APPROVAL OF A TAX ABATEMENT RESOLUTION FOR THE PURPOSE OF FUNDING INFRASTRUCTURE COSTS FOR THE LAKEVIEW ESTATES HOUSING PROJECT IN THE CITY OF MOUNTAIN LAKE (the "Project")**

**WHEREAS**, the County Board has received a request from the Mountain Lake EDA for tax abatement assistance related to 16 parcels within the Lakeview Estates subdivision in the City of Mountain Lake to finance the costs of the Project under the authority of Minnesota Statutes, Section 469.1812 to 469.1815, inclusive (the "Abatement Law"), and

**WHEREAS**, the Abatement Law requires that the County Board hold a public hearing on the proposed use of the tax abatement prior to approving an abatement resolution.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the County Board of the County of Cottonwood, Minnesota, as follows:

1. A public hearing will be held at the time and place set forth in the Notice Of Public Hearing attached hereto as Exhibit A to consider said proposed Tax Abatement.
2. The County Auditor is hereby authorized and directed to cause notice of said hearing to be once in the official newspaper with the publication to be not less than ten (10) days prior to the date of the hearing.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Member White and upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof:  
Holmen, Oeltjenbruns, & White

and the following voted against the resolution:  
Kuecker & Sorenson

Whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted on April 24, 2007.

S/Jan Johnson, Auditor/Treasurer

Auditor/Treasurer Jan Johnson asked that the board give him permission to post and advertise for the full-time position of Deputy Treasurer/Auditor/Data Processing. Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by Sorenson, unanimous vote for authorization to post Deputy Treasurer/Auditor position internally for 7 days and to advertise after posting period has expired.

Brief discussion was held in regards to a meal reimbursement claim that was recently submitted that did not have receipts. Because the county policy is to only reimburse meals that are submitted with receipts, no further action was taken.

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Commissioner Kuecker reported that the carpeting that was originally picked out by I & S Engineers & Architects was not the carpeting that was bid in the original contract by Borsgard Construction. Motion by Kuecker, second by Sorenson to allow the purchase of carpeting as designated by I & S at county expense, which is to be added to the cost of the Borsgard contract. Voting as follows – Aye: Kuecker, Sorenson, White and Holmen; Nay: Oeltjenbruns. Motion carried.

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Motion by Sorenson, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to authorize Commissioner Sorenson to sign Area II Joint Powers Agreement, which includes approval of 2-year appropriation.

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Quotes for monitor/screen for Commissioner’s Room (on file in Commissioner’s Room) were reviewed. Motion by Kuecker, second by Sorenson, unanimous vote to allow for the purchase of a Panasonic Display Screen.

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

**Resolution 07-04-24A**

The County of Cottonwood certifies that the premise permit application being proposed by the Mt. Lake Golf Course, which is located in our jurisdiction and has already been approved by the Midway Board, has the county board’s approval to apply to the Minnesota Gambling Board for the off-site permit at the Mt. Lake Golf Course for the upcoming year.

S/Norm Holmen, Board Chairman

S/Jan Johnson, Auditor/Treasurer

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Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by White, unanimous vote to approve liquor, 3.2 and cigarette licenses for the Mt. Lake Golf Course.

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There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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Jan Johnson, Auditor/Treasurer

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Norm Holmen, Board Chairman

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Kelly Thongvivong, Bd. Adm. Assistant