

November 1, 2005
Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting
Minutes

The Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, November 1, 2005 at 9:00 a.m. at the Cottonwood County Courthouse in Windom, MN. Present for all or portions of the meeting were: Commissioners Chuck Severson, Ron Kuecker, Norm Holmen, John Oeltjenbruns, Gary Sorenson; Administrative Assistant Kelly Thongvivong; Auditor/Treasurer Jan Johnson; County Attorney Doug Storey; Bob Haken, Jason Purrington, Kristi Sell and Ron Gregg. Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by Sorenson, unanimous vote to approve the additions of the agenda. Motion by Holmen, second by Sorenson, unanimous vote to approve the minutes of the October 25, 2005 meeting.

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Sheriff Bob Haken met with the board regarding the new radio console at the Sheriff's Department as well as some additional requests for some work to be done to accommodate these changes. Two quotes were presented for electrical work that needs to be done for the new radio console. Quotes were as follows: Ron's Electric - \$4,496 and L&S Electric - \$4,810. Motion by Sorenson, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to accept low quote from Ron's Electric in the amount of \$4,496.

Two quotes were received for new office furniture for the jail and dispatch area at the LEC and these quotes were as follows: Office Depot - \$6,599.81, which did not include S&H and Dan's Office Supply - \$4,599, which included S&H and installation. Motion by Sorenson, second by Kuecker, unanimous vote to accept low quote in the amount of \$4,599 from Dan's Office Supply.

Three quotes were received for a new analog recorder for the Sheriff's Department, which is used to record all incoming 911 calls. Quotes were as follows: US Intertec LLC - \$15,090, which does not include S&H and tax; Alpha Wireless - \$8,975.29, which includes everything, and Eventide - \$8,490.00, which does not include S&H or installation. Motion by Holmen, second by Sorenson, unanimous vote to accept quote from Alpha Wireless as this amount included everything.

Two carpet quotes were received for carpeting four rooms at the LEC. These two quotes were as follows: Hammer's Furniture - \$5,115 and Carpet Plus - \$3,828.63. Motion by Sorenson, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to accept low quote in the amount of \$3,828.63 from Carpet Plus.

Two quotes were presented for the repair of five showers at the jail but because the quotes did not include all of the necessary information to make a determination, no action was taken. This will be discussed further at the next board meeting.

Brief discussion was held in regards to the possibility of hiring a part-time deputy due to the fact that they will be short one deputy after the first of the year

when Jason Purrington begins serving as the interim Sheriff. Commissioner Kuecker stated that he would like to have something in writing before he would want to make a decision on this matter. No action was taken at this time.

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Commissioner Sorenson gave a brief update in regards to the GPS system that is currently being used in Redwood County.

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Discussion was held again in regards to the request for a change from monthly to bi-monthly payroll that was first brought up almost 1-year ago. Because it has been stated several times that it would be nice for all employees to be paid on a consistent basis and only for hours that they have actually worked, there was a motion by Kuecker, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to put the remainder of Cottonwood County employees on bi-monthly payroll beginning January 1st. A letter will be sent from the Commissioners to notify employees of the upcoming change.

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Commissioner Kuecker reported that the current county employment application is in the process of being revised and a rough draft should be ready for presentation at the Labor-Management Committee next week.

Kuecker also asked that an additional bullet item be added to the Department Head performance evaluation form.

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County Engineer Ron Gregg met with the board to discuss a few different items. He reported that after looking at the numbers in regards to the recycling program, it would be his recommendation not to pursue a CAP Grant at this time because it would not be cost-effective to have a recycling facility just for Cottonwood County.

Gregg reported that he recently received a resignation letter from a part-time employee. Motion by Sorenson, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to accept resignation of Bonnie Willard with appropriate payout of benefits.

Motion by Kuecker, second by Holmen, unanimous vote to give approval to hire a full-time employee with shared duties between the landfill and the recycling program pending union approval on the hours.

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Commissioner Oeltjenbruns shared some thank you notes that he received from the 5th Grade class in Mt. Lake in regards to the Ecology Bus.

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It was reported that the amount of the monthly employee contribution for insurance would be set at one of the December board meetings.

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Motion by Kuecker, second by Sorenson, unanimous vote to allow for purchase of magnets to be used for advertising for the transit system. This amount is not to exceed \$750 and will be paid for out of the transit advertising grant.

Auditor/Treasurer Johnson reported that he recently had someone look at the transit garage roof due to the leaking problem and that he received an estimate for a roof replacement/repair.

Johnson reported that he recently received a questionnaire in regards to public drainage ditch buffer strips. Johnson will contact SWCD to see if they will be submitting their own questionnaire.

It was reported that Mary Kiffmeyer, Secretary of State, would be at the Courthouse on Wednesday afternoon for approximately 45 minutes to talk with people about the HAVA (Help Americans Vote Act) Program.

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Commissioner Kuecker gave a brief update in regards to some things that were discussed at a recent SWCD meeting that he attended.

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There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Jan Johnson, Auditor/Treasurer

Chuck Severson, Board Chairman

Kelly Thongvivong, Bd. Adm. Assistant