

November 3, 2009
Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting
Minutes

The Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, November 3, 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 Thongvivong; Auditor/Treasurer Jan Johnson; County Attorney Doug Storey, Jason Purrington, Mark Marcy and Mike Hanson. Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by Holmen, unanimous vote to approve additions to the agenda. Motion by Holmen, second by Kuecker, unanimous vote to approve the minutes of the October 27, 2009 meeting.

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Sheriff Jason Purrington met with the board to report that on October 29th, an interview committee heard presentations from four different vendors in reference to completing a participation plan to migrate onto the ARMER radio system, which the county has received a \$30,000 grant for. The interview committee consisted of: Alan Wahl, Ken Bradford, Jeff Shirkey, Mark Marcy, Gary Sorenson and Jason Purrington. The four vendors that gave presentations were: Geo-Comm (\$23,760.00), Gary Therkelsen (\$30,039.00), Gary Elert (\$9,000.00), Alpha Wireless (not to exceed \$30,000.00). After hearing all of the presentations and checking references for the top two choices, the committee felt that the most complete and comprehensive study could be provided by Gary Therkelsen. Motion by Holmen, second by Kuecker, unanimous vote to approve acceptance of participation plan in the amount of \$30,039.00 from Gary Therkelsen based on a recommendation of the interview committee, which \$30,000 will be paid for with regional grant money administered by Murray County as they are serving as the fiscal agent.

Brief discussion was held regarding checking into exemption for sales tax for this project as it was recently discussed at the Regional Radio Board meeting.

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Environmental Officer Mike Hanson met with the board to discuss a few different items. Hanson presented a resolution which would authorize Cottonwood County to participate in the Cottonwood River Watershed Phosphorus TMDL Continuation Project sponsored by the Redwood-Cottonwood River Control Area. By approving the resolution and signing the loan papers Cottonwood County will receive \$100,000 of low interest loan money to cover the cost of upgrading septic systems in the portion of the Cottonwood River Watershed located in our county. Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by Holmen, unanimous roll call vote to adopt resolution as follows:

**Cottonwood River Watershed TMDL/CWP Project
Agreement SRF0209
Resolution 09-11-03**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners, the Sponsor, that it hereby designates C. Michael Hanson as Project Representative for the implementation of the Cottonwood River Watershed Phosphorus TMDL Continuation Clean Water Partnership Project for Cottonwood County.

The Project Representative shall have the authority to represent the Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners in all Project matters that do not specifically require action by the Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners, that as Loan Sponsor, the Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners enters into the attached Minnesota Clean Water Partnership Project Implementation Loan Agreement along with Redwood-Cottonwood Rivers Control Area, as Project Sponsor, and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency to conduct the implementation of the Implementation of the Cottonwood River Watershed Phosphorus TMDL Continuation Clean Water Partnership Project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners that the County Board Chair, Gary Sorenson be authorized to execute the attached Minnesota Clean Water Partnership Project Implementation Loan Agreement for the above referenced Project on behalf of the Board as Loan Sponsor.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners that the Environmental Office Administrator, C. Michael Hanson be authorized to execute loan disbursement requests for the above referenced project to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency on behalf of the Board.

WHEREUPON the above resolution was adopted at a regular meeting this 3rd day of November, 2009.

S/Jan Johnson, Auditor/Treasurer

Hanson presented the West Fork Des Moines River Watershed Memorandum of Agreement. The objective of this memorandum is to leverage funds and resources by solidifying our commitment to the West Fork Des Moines Watershed (WFDMRW). This will allow for those involved to maximize resources more effectively, provide new opportunities, and establish a diverse and unique commitment to cleaning up the WFDMRW. Motion by White, second by Kuecker, unanimous vote to allow Chairman Sorenson to sign the West Fork Des Moines River Watershed Memorandum of Agreement.

Hanson reported that a conditional use hearing for the Sioux Rock Quarry project in Delton Township would be held on November 30th at 1:00 p.m. at the Environmental Office.

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Commissioner Holmen gave an update regarding the Buffer Strip Plan of Action. After further discussion, the board agreed to wait until a later time to take this action.

Commissioner Oeltjenbruns gave an update regarding a ditch in his district that will be followed up on.

Much discussion was held regarding Emergency Management Department. Because the new job description for the Emergency Management Director position has not been finalized, the board agreed to wait until the next board meeting to post and advertise the position.

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Commissioner Oeltjenbruns informed the board that a meeting would be held on November 6th in Redwood Falls for those interested in pursuing a wind project amongst the counties.

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Brief discussion was held in regards to job evaluations for elected officials. At this time, the board decided that they do not have to fill out performance reviews for the elected officials.

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Commissioner Holmen gave an update regarding the Region 8 AMC meeting that he and Commissioner Oeltjenbruns attended on October 29th in Lakefield.

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Commissioner White gave an update regarding Chamber Coffee that was held at the new recycling center in Windom that he attended on October 30th and the Start Noticing Breakfast that he attended on October 29th.

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Motion by Holmen, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to approve snowplow contracts with the cities of Westbrook and Jeffers for the 2009-2010 season. The rates for 2009-2010 will be \$1200 for the City of Westbrook and \$1200 for the City of Jeffers.

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Motion by Kuecker, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to allow for payment in the amount of \$6,500 to Wayne Brede for work done on the county pay study.

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The board was reminded about the MCIT training that would be held on November 9th at 1:00pm in the Commissioner's Room.

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There being no further business, there was a motion by Kuecker, second by White, unanimous vote to adjourn the meeting at 11:15 a.m.

Jan Johnson, Auditor/Treasurer

Gary Sorenson, Board Chairman

Kelly Thongvivong, Bd. Adm. Assistant