

July 27, 2010
Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting
Minutes

The Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, July 27, 2010 at 9:00 a.m. at the Cottonwood County Courthouse in Windom, MN. Presiding over the meeting was Chairman Tom White. Present for all or portions of the meeting were: Commissioners Tom White, Ron Kuecker, Norm Holmen, John Oeltjenbruns, Gary Sorenson; Administrative Assistant Kelly Thongvivong; Auditor/Treasurer Jan Johnson; County Attorney Doug Storey; Ron Gregg, Gale Bondhus, Jenny Quade and Jason Purrington.

Motion by Holmen, second by Kuecker, unanimous vote to approve additions to the agenda. Motion by Sorenson, second by Holmen, unanimous vote to approve the minutes of the July 13, 2010 meeting as amended.

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County Engineer Ron Gregg met with the board to discuss several items. Gregg recommended the purchase of a 963D track loader to replace the current 963C at the Cottonwood County Landfill. By exercising the guaranteed repurchase of \$120,000, the trade price for the 963D is \$167,950. This is actually \$16,635 cheaper than the 963C the county purchased in 2005. Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by Kuecker, unanimous vote to allow for the purchase of a new 963D CAT loader and exercise guaranteed buyback of the 2005 model for a total price of \$167,950.00. The purchase of this equipment will be taken out of either the 2010 or 2011 budget depending on the timing of the delivery.

Gregg requested a change to the 2010 Landfill budget as follows: line item 50-391-5559 (fees – revenue) change from \$300,000 to \$360,000 and line item 50-391-6287 (contractors – expense) change from \$43,000 to \$85,000. Motion by Holmen, second by Sorenson, unanimous vote to accept budget changes as presented by Department Head.

Gregg reported that bids were opened on July 21st for the City of Jeffers Reconstruction Project on CSAH 32 (SAP 17-632-01). The seven bids were as follows: GM Contracting Inc. - \$1,163,383.63, Duininck Bros. Inc. - \$1,269,968.35, Kuechle Underground Inc. - \$1,010,363.95, Carstensen Contracting Inc. - \$1,631,108.04, Contractors Edge - \$1,250,689.52, Schmidt Construction Co. - \$1,122,160.05, Quam Construction Co. Inc. - \$949,905.15. Motion by Holmen, second by Sorenson, unanimous vote to accept low bid in the amount of \$949,905.15 from Quam Construction Co. Inc. for the Jeffers project.

Gregg gave an update regarding the design of cell #7 at the Cottonwood County Landfill. Gregg reported that the board had previously approved Wenck's quote of \$6,000 to design cell #7. He is hoping to let bids on construction of cell #7 sometime this winter, which would also include plans for partial closure of cell #4 and half of cell #5.

Update was given in regards to the recycling program. Gregg reported that the recycling department is now accepting plastics #1 thru #5 as well as flat cardboard. Cottonwood County citizens are to be reminded that all recyclable material needs to be sorted before being picked up at the curb or delivering themselves to the recycling sheds.

Motion by Sorenson, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to move Joel Grams (Heavy Equipment Operator) to permanent full-time status effective August 1, 2010 after successful completion of his 6-month probationary period.

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County Assessor Gale Bondhus met with the board to discuss a few items. Bondhus presented a proposed fee schedule for Beacon subscription renewal that would take effect August 1, 2010. Motion by Sorenson, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to approve Beacon subscription renewal fees as presented by Department Head. It was also suggested to look at the language in the existing contract for possible revisions.

Bondhus presented information that she received from Borgen, Inc. in regards to the proposed office remodeling and repair of water damage in the Assessor's Office. The board asked that they have more time to look through the information presented and discuss it further at a future board meeting.

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Probation Officer Jenny Quade met with the board to ask permission to use the courthouse grounds on August 2, 2010 from 5-7pm for Windom's Night to Unite. Motion by Sorenson, second by Kuecker, unanimous vote to allow for use of the courthouse grounds on August 2nd for this event.

Motion by Holmen, second by Sorenson, unanimous vote to allow for the use of the county credit card for the purchase of supplies for the Night to Unite event that totaled \$84.39.

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Sheriff Jason Purrington met with the board to ask for their approval of a resolution authorizing execution of agreement. Motion by Kuecker, second by Holmen, unanimous roll call vote to adopt resolution as follows:

Resolution Authorizing Execution of Agreement

Be it resolved that the Cottonwood County Sheriff's Office enter into a grant agreement with the Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Office of Traffic Safety for the project entitled SAFE & SOBER COMMUNITIES during the period from October 1, 2010 through September 30, 2011.

Be it further resolved that Officer Darrin Vossen of the Worthington Police Department, is hereby authorized to execute the grant, be the fiscal agent and administrator of this grant on behalf of the Worthington Police Department.

S/Tom White, Board Chairman

S/Jan Johnson, Auditor/Treasurer

Purrington gave an update regarding a regional dispatch meeting that he attended on Monday. Several individuals will be in attendance at the next meeting which will be held on August 16th in Worthington.

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Motion by Holmen, second by Sorenson, unanimous vote to close the meeting at 2:57 p.m. for considerations of allegations or charges against an

employee pursuant to Minn. Statute 13D.05, Subd. 2. The employee did not request that the meeting be opened. Those present were: 5 Commissioners, Kelly Thongvivong and Doug Storey. Motion by Kuecker, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to reopen the meeting at 4:18 p.m.

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Motion by Kuecker, second by Sorenson, unanimous vote to pay 2010 appropriation in the amount of \$18,000 to the Ag Society as well as \$7,500 appropriation for building maintenance.

Motion by Kuecker, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to pay 2010 appropriation in the amount of \$1,000 to Southwest Minnesota Arts & Humanities Council.

Motion by Holmen, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to pay 2010 appropriation in the amount of \$1,000 to Travel Southwest.

Motion by Sorenson, second by Kuecker, unanimous vote to pay 2010 appropriation 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 Sorenson, unanimous vote to pay 2010 appropriation in the amount of \$1500 each to the Heritage Houses in Westbrook and Mt. Lake.

Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by Holmen, unanimous vote to pay 2010 appropriation in the amount of \$300 to Southern Tourism.

Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by Sorenson to pay 2010 appropriation in the amount of \$1,000 to Prairie Ecology Bus. Voting as follows: Aye – Oeltjenbruns and Sorenson. Nay – Kuecker, Holmen and White. Motion failed.

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Motion by Holmen, second by Sorenson, unanimous vote to allow Kim Hall to use county credit card for making room reservations at Breezy Point on September 19-22, 2010 for the Association of MN Emergency Mangers Conference. The total cost is \$555.00.

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Commissioner Oeltjenbruns gave an update regarding recent meetings he attended with the Energy Board, Solid Waste Commission and Minnesota River Board. He reported that the Energy Board would be asking for an appropriation in the amount of \$2,500 for 2011 and the Solid Waste Commission will be requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$500 for 2011.

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Commissioner Holmen expressed his desire to begin labor negotiations for 2011 as soon as possible.

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Brief discussion was held regarding the payment of hours to an individual. This situation will be discussed further with Doug Storey.

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There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:43 p.m.

Jan Johnson, Auditor/Treasurer

Tom White, Board Chairman

Kelly Thongvivong, Bd. Adm. Assistant