

May 1, 2007
Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting
Minutes

The Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, May 1, 2007 at 9:00 a.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; Mark Marcy, Ron Gregg, Vicky Wagner and Tammy Crowell. Motion by Sorenson, second by Kuecker, unanimous vote to approve additions to the agenda. Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by White, unanimous vote to approve the minutes of the April 24, 2007 meeting.

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Emergency Management Director Mark Marcy met with the board to discuss several different items. Marcy reported that he recently responded to an e-mail that was sent out to counties from a surplus service for the opportunity to purchase used trailers. Motion by Sorenson, second by Kuecker, unanimous vote to allow for purchase of FEMA trailer for \$3,000. This trailer will be used as a command post for Emergency Management.

Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by White, unanimous vote to give Marcy permission to apply for Emergency Management Preparedness Grant (EMPG) for 2007.

Motion by Sorenson, second by White, unanimous vote to give Marcy permission to apply for Commercial Equipment Direct Assistance Program (CEDAP) once on behalf of Sheriff's Department and once on behalf of Emergency Management.

Marcy presented two quotes for wireless Internet but after further discussion, no action was taken at this time.

Marcy informed the board that the sensors on the existing gas detector need to be replaced as they are worn out. Marcy was instructed to get quotes on a new gas detector as well as find out how much it will cost to fix the sensors on the existing gas detector. This will be presented at a future meeting.

Marcy updated the board on a training that the Sheriff's Department is hoping to offer in early 2008 with the topic relating to active shooters and the debriefing process. They are currently working with Minnesota West to secure grant funding for the costs involved with this training.

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County Engineer Ron Gregg met with the board to discuss increasing dust control costs. Motion by Sorenson, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to raise the price of dust control from \$60/100 feet to \$65/100 feet since the cost has gone up.

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County Attorney Doug Storey handed out some information in regards to a recent Supreme Court ruling in regards to the control of flow for Solid Waste.

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Motion by Kuecker, second by Sorenson, unanimous vote to approve RCRCRA appropriation request of \$7,440 for 2008 & 2009, which is an increase of \$372 and to authorize Chairman Holmen to sign.

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"25 by 25" Resolution 07-05-01 was presented for consideration. After much discussion, the board agreed not to take any action at this time as they felt that the resolution needed to be reworded.

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Update was given in regards to a recent meeting held between Commissioner Sorenson, Commissioner Kuecker and Mike Hanson informing Hanson about the status of the installation of any new ISTS systems. Bill Dunn from MPCA is planning to send a letter to the county by May 15th stating his concerns. Commissioner Sorenson will contact Hanson to let him know that he should have all files readily available to MPCA for their use.

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Brief discussion was held in regards to 2007 COLA that was given to all county employees. It was noted that a COLA is automatically given to all employees even if they are on probation at the time. The only time employees would not receive an increase while on probation is if a step increase is granted or there may be instances when a Department Head would not automatically receive a COLA as their salary is generally set separate by the board.

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

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**Resolution 07-05-01B
Older Americans Month May 2007
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, Cottonwood County is home to more than 3250 citizens 60 years of age or older; and

WHEREAS, 290 RSVP volunteers donated 23,699 hours in Cottonwood County and

WHEREAS, the older citizens of Cottonwood County represent a dramatic trend in our nation's demographic make up; and

WHEREAS, older persons are diverse, respected citizens who continue to contribute to our nation's social and economic well-being; and

WHEREAS, a growing number of baby boomers are rapidly becoming older citizens, and the number of individuals providing care to family members and friends is expanding significantly; and

WHEREAS, the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead require us to think differently about health and long term care, and work together to rebalance and modernize our current systems so that we may adequately plan for and address the needs of current and future generations; and

WHEREAS, older persons are entitled to live lives of dignity and independence through:

- Streamlined access to information and community services;
- Information about cost-effective prevention practices and activities that will improve health and quality of life, and
- Innovative, affordable options of care and support that will provide an array of choices about how and where to live.

NOW THEREFORE, THE COTTONWOOD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS do hereby proclaim **May 2007** to be Older Americans Month and urge all citizens to honor older adults, and those who care for them, during May and throughout the year. We urge all to promote and participate in activities that contribute to helping older Americans make choices for a healthy and rewarding future.

S/Jan Johnson, Auditor/Treasurer

S/Norm Holmen, Board Chairman

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Commissioner Kuecker gave an update in regards to the carpet for the Commissioner's Room.

Motion by Sorenson, second by Kuecker, unanimous vote to approve contract payments as submitted by Borgsgard Construction and approved by I & S with a retainage of 10%.

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Auditor/Treasurer Johnson reported that he only received one internal applicant for the position of Deputy Treasurer/Auditor and he is comfortable with this individual. Motion by Sorenson, second by White, unanimous vote to approve internal transfer of Brenda Anderson pending there are no further transfer requests received by the close of business today.

Motion by Sorenson, second by Kuecker, unanimous vote to authorize Veteran's Service Officer to post internally for 7 days for the position of Deputy Service Officer and to advertise if necessary after the 7-day posting period has expired.

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

**Resolution 07-05-01A
Big Bend Snowriders Club**

WHEREAS, Cottonwood County has established the Cottonwood County Snowmobile Trails System; and

WHEREAS, the County, working with the Big Bend Snowriders Club, desires to see the continuation of the trails system; and

WHEREAS, Cottonwood County will act as legal sponsor for an application for the DNR Snowmobile Trails Assistance Program and may enter into agreement with the State of Minnesota on behalf of the Big Bend Snowriders Club; and

WHEREAS, Cottonwood County will comply with all applicable laws and regulations as stated in the agreement; and

WHEREAS, Jan Johnson, County Auditor/Treasurer, 900 Third Avenue, Windom, MN 56101 will act as the fiscal agent on behalf of Cottonwood County.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners hereby supports the acceptance of this grant on behalf of the Big Bend Snowriders Club.

S/Jan Johnson, Auditor/Treasurer

S/Norm Holmen, Board Chairman

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Brief discussion was held regarding recent change orders received from I & S as submitted by Borsgard Construction. Commissioner Kuecker will contact Scott from I & S to discuss this further and to discuss the retainage amount.

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Motion by Sorenson, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to allow for the purchase of a HP LaserJet 3050 All-in-One Machine for the Recorder's Office in the amount of \$224.97 + tax and to use the county credit card for this purchase.

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Brief discussion was held in regards to telephone conversation Chairman Holmen recently had with Lyle Muir in regards to a problem with a tile system that does not show up on any of the county tile maps. Holmen will contact Lyle Muir to discuss this further.

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Brief discussion was held in regards to current Policy Number 313 as it relates to Department Heads. Research will be done to see what other counties have for disciplinary action of a Department Head. This will be discussed again at the next board meeting.

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There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Jan Johnson, Auditor/Treasurer

Norm Holmen, Board Chairman

Kelly Thongvivong, Bd. Adm. Assistant