

July 11, 2006
Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting
Minutes

The Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, July 11, 2006 at 9:00 a.m. at the Cottonwood County Courthouse in Windom, MN. Presiding over the meeting was Chairman Ron Kuecker. Present for all or portions of the meeting were: Commissioners Ron Kuecker, Norm Holmen, John Oeltjenbruns, Gary Sorenson, Chuck Severson; Administrative Assistant Kelly Thongvivong; Auditor/Treasurer Jan Johnson; County Attorney Doug Storey; Mary Ann Anderson, Jason Purrington, Ron Gregg, Mike Hanson and Craig Myers. Motion by Sorenson, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to approve additions to the agenda. Motion by Holmen, second by Severson, unanimous vote to approve the minutes of the June 27, 2006 meeting as amended.

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County Recorder Mary Ann Anderson met with the board to present a quote to replace the software used to record, track and store land records as the current recording software will soon become harder to support. Anderson was asked to try to obtain a second quote and to invite someone from Fidlar Software to attend a future meeting to present further information in regards to the present system.

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Motion by Holmen, second by Severson, unanimous vote to recess as the County Board and to convene as the Ditch Authority.

It was reported that the JD #15 construction project is now complete so a final hearing date needs to be set. Motion by Sorenson, second by Severson, unanimous vote to set JD #15 final acceptance hearing for August 8th at 9:15 a.m. during the regular board meeting.

It was reported that the JD #5 construction project is now complete so a final hearing date needs to be set. Motion by Holmen, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to set JD #5 final acceptance hearing for August 8th at 9:30 a.m. during the regular board meeting.

Motion by Sorenson, second by Severson, unanimous vote to adjourn as the Ditch Authority and to reconvene as the County Board.

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Sheriff Jason Purrington reported that Cottonwood County has been awarded a grant through the DNR for the purchase of a boat. Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by Sorenson, unanimous vote to accept DNR grant for \$21,192 for the purchase of a new boat and to authorize signatures as required.

Purrington reported that Mark Marcy applied for a CEDAP grant for a thermal imager and was awarded the grant. Motion by Holmen, second by Severson, unanimous vote to accept the CEDAP grant for a thermal imager. He also informed the board that one of the stipulations of receiving the grant is for

one individual from the Sheriff's Department to attend a conference in Florida so that they can be instructed on how to use the thermal imager. The thermal imaging company will pay for the airfare, room & board and meals. The only cost to the county will be the travel expense to the airport. Motion by Sorenson, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to approve out-of-state travel request to Florida in mid-August to be paid for by the thermal imaging company.

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It was reported that four interviews for the position of Veteran's Service Officer/Deputy Emergency Management Director were held on Monday. Motion by Sorenson, second by Severson, unanimous vote to authorize Chairman Kuecker to enter into negotiations with their top choice for Veteran's Service Officer/Deputy Emergency Management Director.

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County Engineer Ron Gregg met with the board to discuss a few items. Bid results for the CSAH 2 construction project were reviewed and were as follows: Minion Excavating - \$716,974.60; Mathiowetz Construction - \$661,231.90; R & G Construction - \$663,813.00; Central Specialties, Inc. - \$562,982.00; Midwest Contracting LLC - \$644,687.10. Motion by Severson, second by Sorenson, unanimous vote to award low bid to Central Specialties, Inc. in the amount of \$562,982.00.

Motion by Sorenson, second by Severson, unanimous vote to remove previous motion from the table, which was made on June 27, 2006 during the regular board meeting in regards to Thomas Keech and to move him from probation to permanent full-time status effective July 11th.

Gregg informed the board that Kyle Pillatzki, Highway Tech Supervisor at the Highway Department, has requested a pay increase so that he is more in line with the average wage amongst highway technicians in MnDOT District 7. Gregg reported that he compared salaries statewide as well as other factors such as MnDOT certification, computer and highway design knowledge to best determine Kyle's rate of pay. Gregg's recommendation would be to increase Kyle Pillatzki's rate of pay from Step 5 to step 8 on the current matrix. Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by Severson to go along with Gregg's recommendation to move Kyle Pillatzki to Step 8 of the 2006 pay scale effective July 16, 2006. Voting as follows: Aye: Kuecker, Holmen, Severson, Oeltjenbruns. Nay: Sorenson. Motion carried.

Motion by Sorenson, second by Holmen, unanimous vote to approve payment in the amount of \$1,022 to Robert and Sheila Krueger, owners of R&S Appliance Recycling as the billing missed the cut-off for July warrants.

Gregg reported that there are new hours at the landfill effective July 24th to August 31st for a trial period.

An update was given in regards to CSAH 2 and the Carson Township Bridge.

Environmental Officer Mike Hanson met with the board to discuss a few items. Motion by Sorenson, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to allow for one individual to attend Ag Inspectors Conference on July 24 – July 26 at Jackpot Junction.

Hanson gave an update in regards to a nuisance complaint that has recently been filed in Section 15 of Amo Township. Hanson stated that the next step would be to forward the complaint to the County Attorney for further action.

Hanson reported that he would be having a telephone conference call with Bill Dunn and Ron Kuecker tomorrow morning at 9:00am to discuss the updated ISTS pilot project proposal in more detail.

Brief discussion was held in regards to the Highwater County Park and a question that was recently raised.

Hanson updated the board in regards to a couple of conditional use permits that will be acted on in the upcoming weeks.

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Family Service Agency Director met with the board in regards to the county matrix and how the supervisors at Family Services fit into the current matrix. Motion by Holmen, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to adjust the pointing on the current matrix to reflect a change of the Social Service Supervisor position from 479 to 551 points and the Fiscal Supervisor I position from 282 to 323 points in accordance with the Hay System. This change will not affect the current rate of pay.

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Motion by Sorenson, second by Holmen, unanimous vote to approve payment in the amount of \$24,208.57 to Borsgard Construction as the billing missed the cut-off for July warrants.

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Motion by Holmen, second by Severson, unanimous vote to allow the Windom Chamber of Commerce to use 1/2 of the courthouse lawn for Hot Dog Night on July 24th.

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Auditor/Treasurer Johnson reported that the City of Mt. Lake has filed conveyance of tax-forfeited land for one piece of property for the EDA to use for neighborhood revitalization. Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by Sorenson, unanimous vote to approve City of Mt. Lake conveyance of tax-forfeited land for authorized public use.

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Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by Holmen, unanimous vote to approve 2007 appropriation to Southwest Minnesota Workforce in the amount of \$2,525 as long as all other participant counties (14) go along with the increase to the appropriation as well.

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Commissioner Severson gave an update to the Plum Creek Library System appropriation request of \$25,000 from each county. The board will pursue checking with the libraries within the county to see if they are willing to contribute a portion of this request.

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Motion by Sorenson, second by Severson, unanimous vote to approve July warrants as follows:

County Revenue Fund	\$ 94,813.02
Long Term Capital Outlay	\$ 1,016.02
County Building Fund	\$ 11,981.24
Ditch Fund	\$ 17,841.58
Ditch Sinking 3 (JD 2)	\$ 7,477.50
Taxes and Penalties Fund	\$ 26.26
Road & Bridge Fund	\$143,353.89
Waste Abatement/SCORE	\$ 4,266.84
Landfill Enterprise Fund	<u>\$ 15,813.53</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$296,589.88</u>

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Commissioner Oeltjenbruns gave the board an update in regards to the Energy Board. He reported that Jack Keers (Pipestone County Commissioner) recently attended a meeting in the Cities to talk to the Metro Task Force about how to transmit energy to the metro area.

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Motion by Sorenson, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to approve payment in the amount of \$896.47 to VISA for payment of Extension laptop computer and digital camera as the billing missed the cut-off for July warrants.

Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by Sorenson, unanimous vote to approve payment in the amount of \$56.58 to Messer Machine as the billing missed the cut-off for July warrants.

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One of the members of the Seed Capital Fund asked that a meeting be held periodically to update the members of the happenings of the fund. The board felt that it was not necessary to hold a meeting but it would be a good idea to send out a letter to update the committee members of the status of any existing accounts.

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Motion by Holmen, second by Severson, unanimous vote to organize the management negotiating team for Interest Based Collective Bargaining (IBCB) for 2007 contract and to assign members as follows: Ron Kuecker, Norm Holmen, Ron Gregg, Craig Myers, Jason Purrington and Kelly Thongvivong.

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Chairman Kuecker updated the board in regards to a few items. He reported that a Memorandum of Understanding between Cottonwood County and Mark Marcy has been signed.

Kuecker reported that Alissa Swenson recently sent an e-mail stating that I & S Architects is in the process of working on a proposal for construction

documents and administration for the project in the Commissioner's Room and will be sending it off sometime next week.

Chairman Kuecker reported that Danny & Kathy Smith have been named as 2006 Cottonwood County Farm Family of the year. Motion by Holmen, second by Severson, unanimous vote to recognize Danny & Kathy Smith on being named as 2006 Cottonwood County Farm Family of the year by sending them a letter of recognition from the County Board.

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There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Jan Johnson, Auditor/Treasurer

Ron Kuecker, Board Chairman

Kelly Thongvivong, Bd. Adm. Assistant