

January 26, 2010
Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting
Minutes

The Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, January 26, 2010 at 1:00 p.m. at the Cottonwood County Courthouse in Windom, MN. Presiding over the meeting was Vice-Chairman Ron Kuecker. 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; Jason Purrington, Greg Walsh, Gale Bondhus, Mike Hanson, Bob Pankratz and Craig Myers. Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by Sorenson, unanimous vote to approve additions to the agenda. Motion by Holmen, second by Sorenson, unanimous vote to approve the minutes of the January 12, 2010 meeting as amended. Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by Sorenson, unanimous vote to approve the minutes of the January 19, 2010 special meeting with addition of names of the applicants who were interviewed for the Emergency Management Director position.

* * * *

Sheriff Jason Purrington and Information Services Director Greg Walsh met with the board to present two quotes for the purchase of a new server for the Sheriff's Department as the current server is having some issues with backups and is almost at full capacity. The two quotes were as follows: DELL - \$9,333.98 and HP - \$9,509.05. Motion by Sorenson, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to accept the low quote in the amount of \$9,333.98 from DELL for the purchase of a new server.

Purrington gave an update about a meeting he attended with Dan Olsen in regards to the possibility of a new phone system for the Sheriff's Department. Purrington wanted to present the information he has received so far to see how the board would like him to proceed. No discussions have been held with the City of Windom at this point. Purrington will continue to gather information in regards to possible costs, etc. and will begin discussions with the Chief of Police as the phone system may have an effect on the Windom Police Department as well.

* * * *

County Assessor Gale Bondhus met with the board to set the County Board of Equalization date for 2010. Motion by Holmen, second by Sorenson, unanimous vote to set Board of Equalization for Wednesday, June 16th at 6:00pm with the first appointment to begin at 6:30pm.

Bondhus reported that the County Board will have to act as the Board of Appeal for Germantown Township this year as they have lost their Board of Appeal rights.

* * * *

Chairman White returned from Jury Duty at 2:06 p.m. and was able to preside over the remainder of the meeting.

Environmental Officer Mike Hanson met with the board to discuss a few different items. Hanson presented two quotes for replacement of the clutch on the 1989 Case/IH 385 tractor used at Talcot Park. The two quotes received were as follows: Miller Sellner - \$1,125.93 and Midway Farm Equipment - \$1,286.10. Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by Holmen, unanimous vote to accept the low quote in the amount of \$1,125.93 from Miller Sellner for the replacement of the clutch.

Hanson asked that the board accept the 2009 Annual County Feedlot Officer and Performance Credit Report as presented and to allow Chairman White to sign it. Motion by Holmen, second by Kuecker, unanimous vote to accept the report and to allow Chairman White to sign.

Hanson asked that he be allowed to obtain quotes for a 40' x 60' steel shed to be constructed north of the existing shop building at Talcot Park. After much discussion, there did not seem to be much support by the board for the construction of a shed at this time. Hanson was asked to present information at a future meeting in regards to the cost of supplying free firewood at Talcot Park.

Hanson asked permission to advertise for two seasonal employees for the Parks Department. He was told to coordinate with the Highway Department for the purposes of hiring for seasonal help.

Hanson presented information in regards to setback permits issued for 2009 and gave an update regarding how many septic systems were completed last year.

Hanson presented a listing of his duties and responsibilities as Environmental Officer per request of Chairman White.

* * * *

Much discussion was held regarding fund balances and reserve accounts. It was determined that an amount of \$90,000 was budgeted twice in the Highway Department budget for 2010 and it should not have been. Motion by Sorenson, second by Kuecker, unanimous vote to change line item 03-330-5227 (Market Value Credit) from \$90,000 to \$0.00 in the 2010 budget as it has already been budgeted in line item 03-330-5001 (Property Taxes – Current).

* * * *

Discussion was held regarding the Emergency Management Director position. Motion by Holmen, second by Kuecker, unanimous vote to offer the position to Kimberly Hall at Step 2 of the 2010 pay matrix contingent upon successful completion of a background check.

* * * *

Commissioner Holmen talked briefly about a call he received in regards to disaster for snow removal and some of the township roads that are potentially looking to close.

* * * *

It was reported that the Start Noticing Program would be holding a breakfast on February 11th at the Law Enforcement Center for any commissioners interested in attending.

The Statewide Health Improvement Program (SHIP) Conference will be held on Monday, February 8th from 8:45am – 4:00pm in Lamberton if any of the commissioners are interested in attending.

* * * *

Brief discussion was held regarding overtime reports for 2009 that were distributed to the board members.

* * * *

Motion by Kuecker, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to pay 2010 appropriation in the amount of \$7,440 to Redwood-Cottonwood River Control Area (RCRCA).

Motion by Sorenson, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to pay 2010 appropriation in the amount of \$2,525 to Southwest Minnesota Workforce Council.

* * * *

Motion by Kuecker, second by Holmen, unanimous vote to approve revision to Policy 225 (GASB 34).

* * * *

Commissioner Sorenson asked that a report be prepared for used vacation, sick leave, etc. for each employee for the board's review.

* * * *

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:44 p.m.

Jan Johnson, Auditor/Treasurer

Tom White, Board Chairman

Kelly Thongvong, Bd. Adm. Assistant