

January 12, 2010  
Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners  
Regular Meeting  
Minutes

The Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, January 12, 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; Senator Jim Vickerman, Representative Rod Hamilton, Jason Purrington, Ron Gregg, Kay Clark, Dave Bucklin, Craig Myers and Craig Mueller. Motion by Holmen, second by Sorenson, unanimous vote to approve additions to the agenda. Motion by Holmen, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to approve the minutes of the January 5, 2010 meeting as amended.

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Senator Jim Vickerman and Representative Rod Hamilton met with the board to discuss the upcoming legislative session as well as some of the challenges that the county will be facing during the next few years.

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Sheriff Jason Purrington met with the board to discuss a few items. Motion by Sorenson, second by Holmen, unanimous vote to allow Purrington to post and advertise simultaneously for up to two positions for a part-time jailer/dispatcher.

Motion by Sorenson, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to approve Sheriff's Department fee schedule/jail fees for 2010 as presented with exception of per person service which was increased to \$30.00 from \$25.00.

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County Engineer Ron Gregg met with the board to discuss a few different items. Gregg reported that 24 applications were received for the two Heavy Equipment Operator positions and 6 applicants were interviewed. Motion by Holmen, second by Sorenson, unanimous vote to approve the hire of Joel Grams for the Westbrook Shop and Jason Harnack for the Windom Shop as recommended by Gregg. The starting date for both applicants will be on or before February 1<sup>st</sup> upon completion of all the requirements of hire.

Motion by Sorenson, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to approve the construction contract between the County and the City of Jeffers for the reconstruction of CSAH No. 31 (Whited Street).

Gregg informed the board about a delinquent account in the amount of \$1,330.91 at the Cottonwood County Landfill. The account is from the Daberkow Construction Company. No action was taken at this time due to pending bankruptcy proceedings.

Gregg informed the board that a conference entitled "Minnesota State Aggregate Mining" would be held on February 18<sup>th</sup> in St. Cloud if anyone is interested in attending.

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Commissioner Sorenson asked that Auditor/Treasurer Johnson prepare information for the board in regards to 2009 overtime hours for all county departments.

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Family Service Agency Director Craig Myers met with the board in regards to the recent closures of county offices during inclement weather and whether or not the closures could be handled differently so that employees receive notification earlier. A memo will be sent out to all Department Heads in regards to the procedure that Sheriff Purrington will try to follow. It was also suggested that an announcement be posted on the county website so employees can find out the information that way.

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Motion by Sorenson, second by Kuecker, unanimous vote to declare that the county offices were officially closed all day on Thursday, January 7<sup>th</sup> due to inclement weather conditions and in accordance with County Policy Number 420.

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County Recorder Kathy Kretsch met with the board to present quotes for the purchase of additional storage on the HP server in the Recorder's Office. Two quotes were received as follows: CDW - \$518.62 and HP - \$523.47. Motion by Sorenson, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to accept the low quote in the amount of \$518.62 from CDW.

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The board spent much time reviewing the 2008 Audit Report and asking questions.

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Motion by Sorenson, second by Holmen, unanimous vote to appoint Phyllis Bakken to a 2<sup>nd</sup> term on the Planning Commission with her term to expire on December 31, 2012.

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Motion by Holmen, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to approve credit card bill in the amount of \$1,061.46 to Bank of the West for lodging costs for County Commissioners that chose to attend the AMC Conference in December.

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Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by Holmen, unanimous vote to approve January warrants as follows:

County Revenue Fund	\$183,662.06
Ditch Fund	\$ 109.80
Taxes & Penalties Fund	\$ 50.00

Road & Bridge	\$ 50,165.41
Waste Abatement/SCORE	\$ 4,969.46
Landfill Enterprise	\$ 2,965.04
	<u>\$241,921.77</u>

\* \* \* \*

Motion by Sorenson, second by Oeltjenbruns to approve 2010 Waste Hauler Licenses. Voting as follows: Aye – Sorenson, Oeltjenbruns, Holmen and Kuecker. Abstaining from the vote was Chairman White.

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Brief discussion was held regarding the setting of salaries that was done at the last board meeting.

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Motion by Kuecker, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to allow the commissioners permission to attend the “Legislative 101” meeting in Mankato on January 14<sup>th</sup> and to receive a per diem.

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Brief discussion was held regarding the Soil & Water Conservation District and some of the struggles that they have been having recently with funding, staffing, etc.

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Brief discussion was held regarding Department Head evaluations as well as personnel matters.

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There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

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Jan Johnson, Auditor/Treasurer

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Tom White, Board Chairman

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Kelly Thongvivong, Bd. Adm. Assistant