

May 3, 2005  
Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners  
Regular Meeting  
Minutes

The Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, May 3, 2005 at 9:00 a.m. at the Cottonwood County Courthouse in Windom, MN. Present for all or portions of the meeting were: Commissioners Chuck Severson, Ron Kuecker, Norm Holmen, John Oeltjenbruns, Gary Sorenson; Administrative Assistant Kelly Thongvivong; Auditor/Treasurer Jan Johnson; County Attorney Doug Storey; Trevor Slette, Mike Hanson, Carol Paplow, Tom Sanders, Rich Seydel, Curt Schenk, Kay Clark and Ron Gregg. Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by Holmen, unanimous vote to approve the additions of the agenda. Motion by Sorenson, second by Kuecker, unanimous vote to approve the minutes of the April 26, 2005 meeting as corrected.

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Trevor Slette met with the board representing the Cottonwood County *Citizen*. He gave a brief presentation and explained a little more about the differences between two of the different programs (Essential Elements and Microsoft Front Page) that can be used for the website. Motion by Kuecker, second by Sorenson, unanimous vote to enter into agreement with Cottonwood County *Citizen* for the development of a county website. It was suggested that the county go with Microsoft Front Page at this time. Slette will put together some samples of different county websites so the board can decide what information may want to be included on our new website.

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Motion by Sorenson, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to accept resignation from Les Ebling (part-time dispatcher/jailer) effective May 12, 2005 with appropriate payout of benefits. Motion by Holmen, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to approve posting and advertising for part-time dispatcher/jailer.

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Environmental Officer Mike Hanson met with the board to discuss a few different items. Motion by Kuecker, second by Severson, to deny the conditional use permit before us based on 1) incompatibility with adjacent land uses and 2) lack of evidence that the groundwater in the area of the proposed rock quarry can be properly protected in terms of both water quality and quantity. Voting as follows: Yes – Severson, Kuecker, Holmen, Sorenson; No – Oeltjenbruns. Motion carried.

Discussion was held regarding the possibility of installing 10 electrical pads at Talcot Park so that the electricity usage could be monitored. Motion by Sorenson, second by Kuecker, unanimous vote to allow Hanson to purchase 10 electrical pads at Talcot Park through Ron's Electric.

Hanson reported on a few miscellaneous upcoming events and items that he will be taking care of.

It was reported that the individual that was offered the TMDL tech position has turned down the job offer so they may need to do some further advertising.

Brief discussion was held regarding the wind towers that were approved on a conditional use permit some time ago. It seems that the particular towers that were originally specified in the conditional use permit are no longer available so smaller towers will need to be installed. County Attorney Storey will review this matter to make sure there will be no problems with the difference in towers.

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Kay Clark met with the board to present two RC & D applications in the amount of \$2,500 each that have recently been submitted for approval. One of the applicants is the Windom Park and Recreation Commission and the other applicant is the Windom Youth Hockey Association. Motion by Kuecker, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to approve the two project proposals as submitted by Clark.

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Motion by Sorenson, second by Kuecker, unanimous vote to allow the Chairman to sign Memorandum of Understanding with Family Service Agency, as part of their union contract, so that payroll deductions of the employee's monthly contributions towards dependent medical insurance coverage and Flex Spending Account payroll deductions can be deducted in equal portions from each payroll check issued during the month.

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County Engineer Ron Gregg met with the board to discuss several miscellaneous items. Gregg reported that only one bid was received for the reconstruction of one block of CSAH 13 in conjunction with the City of Windom 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue reconstruction project. Motion by Holmen, second by Kuecker, unanimous vote to award bid to Svoboda Excavating and to agree with whichever surface (concrete or bituminous) the City of Windom chooses to go with when awarding their bid for the 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue reconstruction project.

Motion by Sorenson, second by Holmen, unanimous vote to allow Chairman to sign agreement with the City of Windom for the construction of CSAH 13 between 12<sup>th</sup> Street and 13<sup>th</sup> Street.

Gregg presented two quotes that were received for dust control. The two quotes were as follows: Dustcoating, Inc. - \$.887/gallon and Scotwood Industries, Inc. - \$1.130/gallon. Motion by Holmen, second by Kuecker, unanimous vote to accept low quote from Dustcoating, Inc. and to increase billable portion to customers from \$50 per 100 feet to \$60 per 100 feet.

Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by Sorenson, unanimous vote to allow Highway Department to split 50/50 (county/city) on sidewalk reconstruction projects and 75/25 (county/city) on curb and gutter projects when the project goes through a municipality.

Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by Holmen, unanimous vote to approve preliminary estimate on City of Mt. Lake sidewalk improvement project and to approve 50/50 cost share between the City of Mt. Lake and Cottonwood County.

Recycling shed quotes will be obtained and presented at a future meeting. The intent of these sheds is to install one or two in Mt. Lake near the City maintenance shop.

There was brief discussion in regards to the hours that Windom residents (if unable to get recycling out for curbside pick-up) and rural residents are able to drop off recycling at the building in Windom. These hours will be published in the newspaper along with the schedule for the upcoming Household Hazardous Waste pick-ups.

After much discussion in regards to the CSAH 29 drainage issue, there was a motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by Holmen, to propose to both parties that the county install a 24" center line culvert across the road at 1 foot above grade and to install 15" field tile down the west side of the ditch. Voting as follows: Aye: Sorenson, Oeltjenbruns, Holmen. Nay: Kuecker and Severson. Motion carried.

If the parties involved in the CSAH 29 drainage matter will not agree to the first proposal, there was a motion by Sorenson, second by Kuecker, unanimous vote to propose that the county install an 18" center line culvert across the road at grade and to install 12" dual wall down both sides of the ditch (East & West) along with appropriate berming. The maintenance of the tile in the ditches will be the responsibility of the landowners.

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Motion by Sorenson, second by Kuecker, unanimous vote to adopt Safety Manual along with the changes made that reflect the combining of the Safety Committee with the Labor-Management Committee.

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There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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Jan Johnson, Auditor/Treasurer

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Chuck Severson, Board Chairman

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Kelly Thongvivong, Bd. Adm. Assistant