

February 10, 2009
Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting
Minutes

The Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, February 10, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. at the Cottonwood County Courthouse in Windom, MN. Present for all or portions of the meeting were: Commissioners Gary Sorenson, Tom White, Ron Kuecker, Norm Holmen, John Oeltjenbruns; Administrative Assistant Kelly Thongvivong; Auditor/Treasurer Jan Johnson; County Attorney Doug Storey; Jason Purrington, Gale Bondhus, Mike Hanson, Ron Gregg, Jon Diemer, Rick Roemer and Greg Walsh.

Motion by Holmen, second by White, unanimous vote to approve additions to the agenda. Motion by Kuecker, second by Holmen, unanimous vote to approve the minutes of the February 3, 2009 meeting as amended.

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Sheriff Jason Purrington met with the board to seek permission to fill the part-time jailer/dispatcher position. He reported that he received 9 applicants for the position and 3 individuals were interviewed. Purrington requested that he be allowed to hire the two top applicants for the position. Motion by Holmen, second by White, unanimous vote to allow Purrington to hire Orin Johnson and Kristofer Thompson as part-time jailer/dispatchers effective February 11th.

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County Assessor Gale Bondhus met with the board to set the date for the Board of Equalization meeting. Motion by Kuecker, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to set the Board of Equalization meeting for June 16th at 6:00 p.m.

Bondhus presented two quotes for the purchase of a new computer for an additional workstation in the Assessor's Office. After much discussion, the board recommended that Bondhus get quotes for a new laptop instead so that the computer she is currently using can be transferred to the new workstation. Motion by Kuecker, second by Holmen, unanimous vote to allow Bondhus to get quotes for a new laptop for her office.

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Environmental Officer Mike Hanson met with the board to discuss a few items. Hanson reported that the 3 County Pilot Septic Grant Program Amendment needs some clarification, as the dates listed are not correct. The revised amendment will be approved at a future meeting.

Discussion was held regarding park mowing contracts. After much discussion, there was a motion by Kuecker, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to advertise in the Citizen and Shopper for the park mowing bids. The ad will also direct individuals to the county website for more information. Hanson will work with the County Attorney to draft a new contract.

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Commissioner White gave an update in regards to new carpeting for the 9th Street County Office Building. Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by Holmen,

unanimous vote to get quotes for new carpeting for the 9th Street County Office Building.

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County Engineer Ron Gregg met with the board to discuss several items. A presentation by Jon Diemer and Rick Roemer of Waste Management was held in regards to the landfill and recycling. Motion by Kuecker, second by White, unanimous vote to do Request for Proposal for single sort recycling in Cottonwood County to be returned by March 9th.

Gregg asked for final payment approval for CSAH 2 construction project (SAP 17-602-22). Motion by White, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to approve final payment in the amount of \$36,321.54 for the CSAH 2 construction project.

Gregg requested that the board review and approve the MnDOT Detour Agreement No. 93867 and Resolution for the TH 60 rehabilitation project between Windom and Butterfield. Motion by Holmen, second by White to approve resolution providing for payment by the State to the County in the amount of \$29,218.82 for the use of County State Aid Highway No. 13 and No. 1 as a detour route during the concrete rehabilitation and shoulder replacement construction and other associated construction to be performed upon, along and adjacent to Trunk Highway No. 60 from Windom to Butterfield under State Project No. 1703-67 (T.H. 60). Roll call vote as follows: Aye – Holmen, Oeltjenbruns, White and Sorenson; Nay – Kuecker. Motion carried.

Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by Holmen to approve detour contract between MnDOT and Cottonwood County for the TH 60 rehabilitation project between Windom and Butterfield. Voting as follows: Aye – Oeltjenbruns, Holmen, White; Nay – Kuecker. Motion carried.

Motion by Holmen, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to accept amended MnDOT Detour Agreement No. 90377 for the construction project on TH 71 that was extended past the completion date.

Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by Holmen, unanimous vote to authorize the County Engineer to advertise for the Mt. Lake Township bridge replacement project (SAP 17-599-92).

Motion by White, second by Kuecker, unanimous vote to allow Gregg to advertise for the CSAH 8 (SP 17-608-09) Bridge replacement project.

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

**Creating Prioritized Bridge Replacement List
Resolution 09-02-10**

WHEREAS, Cottonwood County has reviewed the pertinent data on bridges requiring replacement, rehabilitation, or removal, supplied by local citizenry and local units of government; and

WHEREAS, Cottonwood County has identified those bridges that are high priority and that require replacement, rehabilitation, or removal within the next five years;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the attached list of deficient bridges are high priority and Cottonwood County intends to replace, rehabilitate or remove these bridges as soon as possible when funds are available,

FURTHERMORE, Cottonwood County does hereby request authorization to replace, rehabilitate, or remove such bridges; and

FURTHERMORE, Cottonwood County does hereby request financial assistance with eligible approach grading and engineering costs on township bridges, as provided by law.

Dated: February 10, 2009

S/Jan Johnson, Auditor/Treasurer

S/Gary Sorenson, Board Chairman

Much discussion was held regarding the 2009 Dust Control Program for Cottonwood County. The board agreed that all individuals that received dust control services last year should be sent a letter notifying them that Cottonwood County will no longer be providing dust control services but that alternative contractors are available. The county decided to discontinue services due to the fact that contractors are offering services at or below the county's current price.

Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by Holmen, unanimous vote to approve final payment in the amount of \$41,851 for the CSAH 29 reconstruction and bridge replacement project (SAP 17-629-02).

Gregg requested approval to purchase a used trailer to be used to transport equipment around the County. The cost is \$3,500 and the current owner is Martin County Implement of Truman, MN. Motion by White, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to purchase trailer from Martin County Implement for \$3,500 as presented.

Gregg presented a draft copy of a Request for Proposal for recycling services in Cottonwood County. Gregg will make some minor changes to the wording and e-mail to the board members for their approval before sending out.

Brief discussion was held regarding drafted Equipment Breakdown Policy and whether or not a policy such as this is needed. Gregg did not feel that a policy is needed at this time.

Gregg voiced his concerns regarding the Chain of Command and the calls that have been placed by employees to commissioners before talking to their Department Head.

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

County Revenue Fund	\$ 84,960.67
Long Term Capital Outlay	\$ 7,333.65
County Building Fund	\$ 5,100.00
Ditch Fund	\$ 27,596.40
Road & Bridge	\$ 72,621.63
Waste Abatement/SCORE	\$ 5,821.84

Landfill Enterprise

\$ 8,162.78

\$211,596.97

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Brief discussion was held regarding e-mail correspondence that Commissioner Holmen received from Senator Jim Vickerman regarding state cuts to counties.

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Motion by Holmen, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to allow Commissioners to claim per diem if they choose to attend the March 18th MCIT training in St. Paul entitled "Workforce Issues: Making Difficult Decisions in a Changing Environment".

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Chairman Sorenson reported that he would be attending a legislative breakfast in the next few weeks as well as going to Washington DC next month.

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Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by White, unanimous vote to allow Commissioners to claim per diem for attendance at a District 8 AMC Planning Session to be held in Slayton on February 13th.

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Possible dates for upcoming MCIT training regarding Open Meeting Laws was discussed.

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Greg Walsh, Information Services Director, asked for some direction from the board in regards to the placement of the phone jacks at the N. 71 County Office Building.

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Motion by Kuecker, second by White, unanimous vote to adjourn as the County Board and to convene as the Ditch Authority.

Motion by Holmen, second by Kuecker, unanimous vote to accept petition for improvement on JD #10.

Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by Kuecker, unanimous vote to adjourn as the Ditch Authority at 1:43 p.m.

Jan Johnson, Auditor/Treasurer

Gary Sorenson, Board Chairman

Kelly Thongvivong, Bd. Adm. Assistant