

November 24, 2009
Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting
Minutes

The Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, November 24, 2009 at 1:00 p.m. at the Cottonwood County Courthouse in Windom, MN. Presiding over the meeting was Vice-Chairman Tom White. Present for all or portions of the meeting were: Commissioners Tom White, Ron Kuecker, Norm Holmen, John Oeltjenbruns; Administrative Assistant Kelly Thongvivong; Auditor/Treasurer Jan Johnson; County Attorney Doug Storey, Mike Hanson, Gale Bondhus, Ron Gregg, Cheryl Hanson, Phil Harder and Marlene Smith. Absent was Chairman Gary Sorenson. Motion by Holmen, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to approve additions to the agenda. Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by Holmen, unanimous vote to approve the minutes of the November 10, 2009 meeting as amended.

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Environmental Officer Mike Hanson met with the board to discuss the 2010 camping rates for Talcot Park. After much discussion, there was a motion by Holmen, second by Kuecker, unanimous vote to increase the 2010 seasonal camping rate to \$990.00/year and daily rate with water & electricity to \$21.00/day due to increased utility costs. The daily rate without water & electricity will remain the same at \$13.00/day.

Motion by Kuecker, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to set the nightly camping rate at Dutch Charlie Park at \$10.00/night which includes electricity.

Hanson presented a Resolution and General Obligation Note for the Cottonwood River Watershed Phosphorus TMDL Continuation Project. By approving the Resolution and signing the General Obligation Note this will allow the County to borrow money from MPCA to use for low-interest septic loan money in the Cottonwood River Watershed. The Board approved the Project Loan Agreement at the November 3, 2009 meeting. Motion by Holmen, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous roll call vote to allow Vice-Chairman to sign Resolution 09-11-24 (on file in the Commissioner's Office) for General Obligation Note.

Hanson reported that the public hearing for SMC's Sioux Rock Quarry would be held on Monday, November 30th at 1:00 p.m. at the N. 71 County Office Building. Motion by Holmen, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to hold Special Meeting to allow the commissioners to attend the information-gathering session that will be held on Monday, November 30th at 1:00 p.m. at the N. 71 County Office Building to help make a decision regarding whether or not an EIS (Environmental Impact Statement) is needed for the SMC Sioux Rock Quarry.

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County Assessor Gale Bondhus met with the board to begin the process of setting GIS fees for companies that would like to purchase GIS layers. After much discussion, the board agreed to discuss this further at the next board

meeting and to have the County Attorney do some research regarding this matter.

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County Engineer Ron Gregg met with the board to discuss several items. Gregg reported that a labor grievance in the Highway Department was recently received regarding the rate of pay of existing employees compared to newly-hired employees. Gregg responded to the union representative in regards to the grievance.

Gregg reported that the individual who had recently accepted the Heavy Equipment Operator position in the Windom shop has since declined the position so he would like to re-advertise for the position. Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by Kuecker, unanimous vote to allow County Engineer to advertise for two Heavy Equipment Operator positions to fill vacancies in the Windom and Westbrook shops.

Gregg reported that bids were opened on November 16th for the installation of a pre-case concrete box culvert in Storden Township with the results as follows: Duininck Bros. Inc. - \$27,490.00; Sunblad Construction - \$27,986.36; Midwest Contracting LLC - \$32,435.00; Mathiowetz Construction Co. - \$32,850.00. Motion by Holmen, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to accept the low bid in the amount of \$27,490.00 from Duininck Bros. Inc.

Much discussion was held regarding the Solid Waste Department e-waste collection event that has been scheduled. Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by Holmen, unanimous vote to set e-waste collection event for Saturday, January 2nd from 9am – 3pm and to charge \$1.00/unit. It was suggested to see if an alternate date could be scheduled as well in case of inclement weather. Gregg plans to utilize the help of the Boy Scouts for this event.

Gregg mentioned some concerns that Roy Schmidt has about the condition of County Road 44 and questions about when it might be paved as it has been on the 5-year plan in the past. No action was taken.

Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by Kuecker, unanimous vote to approve snowplow contract with the City of Mt. Lake for the 2009-2010 season. The rate for 2009-2010 will be \$3,600.

Gregg was asked about the condition of County Road 3 as there seems to be some low spots, it tends to get quite muddy and some large size rocks were on the roadway after graveling.

Robert Langland met with the board in regards to his concerns with County Road 45 in Carson Township. Gregg will have Jerry Hayes look into this matter.

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Cheryl Hanson, Windom Chamber of Commerce Director, met with the board to ask permission to use the Courthouse rotunda for the Santa Visit. Motion by Holmen, second by Kuecker, unanimous vote to allow the Chamber to use the Courthouse rotunda on November 27th in the evening.

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Auditor/Treasurer Jan Johnson presented quotes for the purchase of a refurbished printer as follows: \$1,425 – IBM 6400-012 Twinax printer (Randy McCarty); \$1,425 – IBM 6400-014 Twinax printer (Randy McCarty); \$1,895 – IBM 6400-012 Twinax printer (Performance Data Resources). Motion by Holmen, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to accept low quote in the amount of \$1,425 for the refurbished IBM 6400-014 Twinax printer from Randy McCarty. This will be purchased with funds from Long Term Capital Outlay.

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Discussion was held regarding the Plum Creek Library System contract for 2010. No action was taken at this time and will be discussed at the next board meeting.

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It was reported that the MCIT dividend for 2009 has been received and was in the amount of \$85,153.

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Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by Holmen, unanimous vote to allow Vice-Chairman to sign Master Group Contract with Blue Cross Blue Shield.

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Motion by Kuecker, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to set upcoming holiday hours as follows: December 24th from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. and December 31st from 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

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Commissioner White gave a brief update regarding meeting held on November 12th with Wayne Brede.

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There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:23 p.m.

Jan Johnson, Auditor/Treasurer

Tom White, Board Vice-Chairman

Kelly Thongvivong, Bd. Adm. Assistant