

November 4, 2008
Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting
Minutes

The Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, November 4, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. at the Cottonwood County Courthouse in Windom, MN. Presiding over the meeting was Chairman John Oeltjenbruns. Present for all or portions of the meeting were: Commissioners John Oeltjenbruns, Gary Sorenson, Tom White, Ron Kuecker, Norm Holmen; Administrative Assistant Kelly Thongvong; Auditor/Treasurer Jan Johnson; County Attorney Doug Storey; Kathy Kretsch, Dave Doty, Mike Hanson, Jason Purrington, Ron Gregg, Marlene Smith and Jerry Hayes. Motion by White, second by Holmen, unanimous vote to approve additions to the agenda. Motion by Sorenson, second by White, unanimous vote to approve the minutes of the October 28, 2008 meeting as amended.

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County Recorder Kathy Kretsch and Dave Doty from FNTI met with the board to discuss the microfilm conversion that was originally approved in August. Kretsch explained that FNTI underestimated the amount of aperture cards that were used in the original quote for the conversion. Doty explained how he arrived at the figure for the original quote and told the board that he originally came up with an estimate of 120,000 cards. After beginning the project, it was noted that there were a lot more cards than FNTI originally anticipated. The amount of cards was approximately 195,000 instead of the 120,000 originally quoted. The projected estimate for the completion of the remainder of the project is \$39,471.04. After much discussion and clarification, Doty agreed to complete the project and to carry the project estimate for the remaining portion interest-free until the end of December 2010. Motion by Sorenson, second by Holmen, unanimous vote to finish the project at the stated price of \$39,471.04 with 50% of remaining balance to be paid by December of 2009 and the other 50% to be paid by December of 2010. A written agreement will be drawn up by FNTI.

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Environmental Officer Mike Hanson met with the board to present a conditional use permit for Stan and Christy Bennett to construct an addition to an existing residence located in Shoreland in Midway Township. Motion by Holmen, second by White, unanimous vote to approve the conditional use permit granted to Stan and Christy Bennett based on five conditions mentioned and on a recommendation of the Planning Commission.

Hanson asked for permission to apply for an HSEM (Homeland Security Emergency Management) Grant. The Department of Agriculture would like physical location of all feedlots in the State of Minnesota identified. Motion by Sorenson, second by Kuecker, unanimous vote to allow Hanson to apply for the HSEM Grant.

Sheriff Jason Purrington met with the board to seek approval to hire a part-time Deputy Sheriff. Motion by Sorenson, second by Holmen, unanimous vote to allow Purrington to post and advertise for a part-time Deputy Sheriff.

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Commissioner Sorenson gave an update in regards to the last Regional Radio Board meeting he attended. He reported that the budgets for 2008 and 2009 were complete and Cottonwood County's portion for 2008 is \$500 and 2009 would be \$505. The 2009 budget is based on population. Sorenson reported that additional towers might need to be put up in the future with a local match of 20%.

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County Attorney Doug Storey met with the board to present the MCAPS Agreement with Minnesota Counties Computer Cooperative (MCCC). Motion by Holmen, second by White, unanimous vote to approve the MCAPS Agreement with Minnesota Counties Computer Cooperative.

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Motion by Sorenson, second by White, unanimous roll call vote to adopt resolution as follows and set public hearing for December 2, 2008 at 9:15 a.m.

**Resolution 08-11-04
Cottonwood County Aggregate Tax Resolution**

WHEREAS, the Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners recognizes the importance of maintaining aggregate resources for the general economy of the county; and

WHEREAS, the County Board recognizes that property taxes are an important consideration as to the viability of the aggregate industries located in the county; and

WHEREAS, the State of Minnesota has an ad valorem property tax system based on the full market value of real estate or personal property; and

WHEREAS, the provisions of Minn. Stat. §. 273.1115, Aggregate Resource Preservation Property Tax Law, grants special and unique treatment to owners of land containing aggregate deposits, in comparison with other property in the county, therefore shifting the tax burden on these properties to other taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, the provisions of Minn. Stat. § 273.1115, Aggregate Resource Preservation Property Tax Law, allow a county to terminate application of this law; and

WHEREAS, a county may reauthorize application of this law by a resolution of the County Board revoking the termination; and

WHEREAS, the County Board is required to hold a public hearing as part of the process to terminate application of this law; and

WHEREAS, said public hearing has been scheduled for December 2, 2008 at 9:15 a.m.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners hereby elects to begin the process of terminating participation in the Aggregate Resource Preservation Property Tax Law in Cottonwood County.

Motion by Sorenson, second by Holmen, unanimous vote to authorize blanket approval of November Commissioner warrants. There will be no board meeting on November 11th due to Veteran's Day.

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Auditor/Treasurer Jan Johnson reported that he has received a retirement resignation from Lynn Mohlencamp (Deputy Auditor/Treasurer) effective December 31, 2008. Motion by Sorenson, second by White, unanimous vote to accept retirement resignation from Lynn Mohlencamp effective December 31st with appropriate payout of benefits.

Motion by Kuecker, second by Holmen, unanimous vote to allow Johnson to post internally and advertise if necessary for the Deputy Auditor/Treasurer position.

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Motion by Kuecker, second by Sorenson, unanimous vote to allow Greg Johnson to attend Steam & Hot Water Boiler Training December 3rd & 4th in Jackson.

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County Engineer Ron Gregg met with the board to discuss a few different items. Gregg reported that 17 applications for the Highway Shop Supervisor position were received and 6 applicants were interviewed. Motion by Kuecker, second by Holmen, unanimous vote to offer the Highway Shop Supervisor position to Brian Cooley effective December 1st contingent on the results of a background check, physical and drug test. Brian Cooley will start on Step 10 of the 2008 pay scale.

Gregg reported that he received 10 applications for the Solid Waste Worker position and is hoping to set up interviews fairly soon.

Brief discussion was held regarding bottled water at the Highway Department. The board suggested taking up a donation for the purchase of water.

Motion by Holmen, second by White, unanimous vote to approve newly hired Highway Shop Supervisor to attend Steam & Hot Water Boiler Training December 3rd & 4th in Jackson.

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There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Jan Johnson, Auditor/Treasurer

John Oeltjenbruns, Board Chairman

Kelly Thongvivong, Bd. Adm. Assistant