

July 10, 2007
Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting
Minutes

The Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, July 10, 2007 at 9:00 a.m. at the Cottonwood County Courthouse in Windom, MN. Presiding over the meeting was Chairman Norm Holmen. Present for all or portions of the meeting were: Commissioners Norm Holmen, John Oeltjenbruns, Gary Sorenson, Tom White, Ron Kuecker; Administrative Assistant Kelly Thongvivong; Auditor/Treasurer Jan Johnson; County Attorney Doug Storey; Karen Boysen, Mike Hanson, Chris Zadak and Jacqueline Leopold. Motion by Sorenson, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to approve additions to the agenda. Motion by Kuecker, second by White, unanimous vote to approve the minutes of the July 3, 2007 meeting.

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Motion by Sorenson, second by Kuecker, unanimous vote to accept amendments of Policy Number 313 "Disciplinary Action" and to post for 30-day review period.

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Discussion was held in regards to the possible formation of a Finance/Audit Committee. Because there didn't seem to be much interest in forming a committee at this time, no further action was taken. Chairman Holmen will maybe have another discussion with the State Auditor at some point in regards to this.

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Chairman Holmen reported that he recently had a discussion with Heidi Lindgren (MPCA) in regards to the recent ISTS visits. She stated that any questions should be deferred to Bill Dunn, as he is the grant administrator for the project. Holmen also said that it sounded like MPCA does not want to do the enforcement on this matter but wants the county to take the lead on this.

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

Resolution 07-07-10
Tax-Forfeited Land Classification
Notice of Public Sale of Tax-Forfeited Lands

WHEREAS, the County Board of Commissioners of the County of Cottonwood, State of Minnesota, desires to offer for sale certain parcels of land that have forfeited to the State of Minnesota for non-payment of taxes, and

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the parcels of land described in List of Tax-Forfeited Land #8 that is contained herein shall be sold to the highest bidder at public sale. The sale will be governed by the provisions of M.S. 282.01 and by the resolution of the Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners authorizing such sale. The resolution reads as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners hereby request approval from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources for the sale of said lands.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all parcels of the tax-forfeited land listed on list of Tax-Forfeited Land #8 be classified as non-conservation land; that the basic sale price of each parcel on List of Tax-Forfeited Land #8, that is on file with the Clerk of the County Board, be approved and authorization for a public sale of the land be granted, pursuant to M.S. 282.01; that the sale will be held at 10:00 A.M. on Wednesday, September 12, 2007 by the Cottonwood County Auditor at the County Courthouse for not less than the basic sale price; and that all sales shall be full payment or on the terms set forth on List of Tax-Forfeited Land #8.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the conditions and terms of the public sale shall be described in the list contained herein and approved by the Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners.

Information about the sale of tax-forfeited land in Cottonwood County can be obtained at the office of the Cottonwood County Auditor/Treasurer, Cottonwood County Courthouse, 900 3rd Avenue, Windom, MN 56101. Telephone (507) 831-1905.

Given under my hand and official seal at Windom, MN this 10th day of July 2007.

S/Jan Johnson, Auditor/Treasurer

Motion by Sorenson, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to set minimum bid of tax-forfeiture properties at \$25.00 each.

Motion by Sorenson, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to instruct Auditor/Treasurer Johnson to get quotes (all-inclusive) for demolition of two properties in Storden. The cost of this demolition will be paid for through the County Clean-Up Fund.

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TMDL Coordinator Karen Boysen met with the board to give a TMDL update. She stated that she would soon be working on putting together a grant application for further funding of the project.

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Environmental Officer Mike Hanson met with the board to ask for approval of resolution relating to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Clean Water Partnership authorizing the county to borrow money from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and to lend money to eligible participants and eligible lenders to fund projects for the control and abatement of water pollution. Hanson also asked for approval of General Obligation Note (MPCA) for the implementation of conservation practices and effectiveness monitoring in the Middle Minnesota Watershed Project/Cottonwood County. Motion by Sorenson, second by Kuecker, unanimous roll call vote to adopt resolution and approve general obligation note.

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Chris Zadak, MPCA, met with the board to give a further update on the TMDL project. He reported that Barr Engineering should be finished with their work by the end of this calendar year.

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Motion by White, second by Sorenson, unanimous vote to accept Alvin "Bud" Fast's retirement resignation as Senior Transit Driver with appropriate payout of benefits effective August 31, 2007.

Motion by Sorenson, second by Kuecker, unanimous vote to authorize 7-day internal posting for part-time Senior Transit Driver as well as public advertising after posting period has expired.

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Commissioner Sorenson gave an update in regards to a recent visit to the Jackson County Recorder's Office with Kathy Kretsch to see the configuration of their equipment, etc. Sorenson reported that Kretsch would be presenting quotes for a new copier at a future time.

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County Attorney Storey reported that he recently contact Minnesota Counties Insurance Trust (MCIT) via a written letter in regards to the signage at Red Rock Dells. He is hoping to receive a response back from them before the next board meeting.

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Commissioner Oeltjenbruns informed the board that there would be a land use meeting in Slayton tomorrow if anyone is interested in attending.

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Commissioner Kuecker presented quotes for the purchase of two (Minnesota & U.S.) flags for the Commissioner's Room as follows: Display Sales - \$353.25 and Carrot Top - \$338.50. Kuecker had a quote from Uncommon Inc. as well but those flags did not seem to be of comparable quality to the others. Motion by Sorenson, second by White, unanimous vote to authorize purchase of flags in the amount of \$338.50 from Carrot Top.

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A monthly trial balance was handed out to the board members for their review. It was noted that the insurance fund balance as of June 30th was \$-79,211.65.

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Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by White, unanimous vote to approve July warrants as follows:

County Revenue Fund	\$ 55,046.67
Long Term Capital Outlay	\$ 10,230.80
County Building Fund	\$ 39,947.70
Ditch Fund	\$ 4,663.41
Road & Bridge Fund	\$ 63,732.38
Waste Abatement/SCORE	\$ 5,051.12
Landfill Enterprise Fund	\$ 15,694.15
TOTAL	\$194,366.23
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Commissioner Oeltjenbruns asked whether or not the county currently has a dress code policy as he had some concerns with what an individual was wearing to come to work. It was noted that Policy Number 455 - Personal Appearance states "Regardless of whether a person is assigned to an office function or maintenance area, appropriate clothing must be worn, either for the protection of an employee or for purpose of presenting a positive image to the public." The board suggested that Oeltjenbruns address his concerns with this individual.

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There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Jan Johnson, Auditor/Treasurer

Norm Holmen, Board Chairman

Kelly Thongvivong, Bd. Adm. Assistant