

October 14, 2008
Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting
Minutes

The Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, October 14, 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 Thongvivong; Auditor/Treasurer Jan Johnson; County Attorney Doug Storey; Karen Swenson, Mike Hanson, Jason Purrington, Ron Gregg and Andy Olson. Motion by Kuecker, second by White, unanimous vote to approve additions to the agenda. Motion by Holmen, second by White, unanimous vote to approve the minutes of the October 7, 2008 meeting.

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Karen Swenson, Director of Brown-Nicollet Community Health Services, met with the board to present the 2009 Food, Beverage & Lodging Contract and fee schedule. It was noted that there will be a 7% increase to the licensing fees for 2009 and the contract fee will increase by 10% for 2009. Motion by Sorenson, second by Holmen, unanimous vote to approve contract with Brown-Nicollet CHS for 2009.

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Sheriff Jason Purrington met with the board to discuss a few items. Purrington reported that the Sheriff's Department has been awarded a CEDAP grant for the purchase of a thermal imager. There is no cost share to the county and the grant will also pay for training for one individual. Motion by Kuecker, second by Holmen, unanimous vote to accept CEDAP grant.

Purrington reported that during the 2008 legislative session, legislation increased the allocation for the Off Highway Vehicle Enforcement grants to county sheriff's offices. Because of this, an additional amount of \$4,204 would be received. Motion by Sorenson, second by Kuecker, unanimous vote to accept additional DNR grant funding.

Update was given regarding current fleet of deputy cars and when the next car will be due for replacement.

Brief discussion was held regarding recent telephone call Purrington received regarding burn barrels.

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Motion by Kuecker, second by Sorenson, unanimous vote to offer Mark Marcy the full-time Emergency Management Director position with the salary to be negotiated and approved at a later time.

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County Engineer Ron Gregg met with the board to discuss several items. He reported that he received one internal applicant for the Heavy Equipment Operator position and no internal applicants for the Shop Supervisor position. Motion by Kuecker, second by Holmen, unanimous vote to hire Kevin Donahue

for the position of Heavy Equipment Operator in the Windom shop effective November 1, 2008 at his current hourly rate of pay during his probationary period of 6 months.

Motion by Holmen, second by White, unanimous vote to allow Gregg to post and advertise simultaneously for the Solid Waste worker position.

Gregg presented the bid results for the manhole extension project at the Cottonwood County landfill. One bid was received as follows: Mathiowetz Construction - \$74,149.64. Motion by Sorenson, second by Kuecker, unanimous vote to approve contract with Mathiowetz Construction for the manhole extension project.

Gregg asked that the board approve the snowplow contracts with the cities of Westbrook, Jeffers and Mt. Lake for the 2008-2009 season. Gregg reported that the cost had increased \$300/mile or \$1300 for the City of Jeffers, \$3900 for the City of Mt. Lake and \$1300 for the City of Westbrook. Motion by Sorenson, second by Holmen to approve contracts as presented. Voting aye: Sorenson, Oeltjenbruns. Voting nay: Holmen, Kuecker and White. Motion failed. Motion by Holmen, second by White, unanimous vote to allow for a \$200/mile increase for the 2008-2009 season. New rates for 2008-2009 will be \$1200 for the City of Jeffers, \$3600 for the City of Mt. Lake and \$1200 for the City of Westbrook.

Gregg gave an update regarding the 911-signage project. He reported that the project is going well with approximately 330 signs remaining to be installed.

Update was given regarding GIS project and it was reported that the project is coming along pretty good.

Commissioner Sorenson asked for an update regarding funding on township bridges and reported on a broken county tile on a township road.

Gregg reported that the Southbrook Township bridge replacement project is moving right along and is hoping to be completed by November 1st.

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Andy Olson met with the board to ask that they consider adopting a resolution with endorses the Homeowners and Bank Protection Act of 2008, as initiated by economist Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. No action was taken

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Motion by Sorenson, second by Holmen, unanimous vote to approve October warrants as follows:

County Revenue Fund	\$161,994.58
Long Term Capital Outlay	\$ 5,865.36
County Building Fund	\$ 26,236.00
Ditch Fund	\$ 51,302.86
Taxes and Penalties Fund	\$ 11,643.93
Road & Bridge	\$121,248.95
Waste Abatement/SCORE	\$ 8,828.65

	Landfill Enterprise	<u>\$ 37,272.23</u>
	TOTAL	<u>\$424,392.56</u>

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Motion by Sorenson, second by Kuecker, unanimous vote to suspend the purchase of all bottled water in all departments effective November 1st. A memo will be sent out to all departments notifying them of the change.

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Motion by Holmen, second by White, unanimous vote to send thank you to Andy Olson for the donation of the framed print of the Declaration of Independence.

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Motion by Sorenson, second by Holmen, unanimous vote to approve Joint Powers Agreement with Minnesota Counties Computer Cooperative (MCCC) as presented at the last board meeting.

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Discussion was held regarding the number of union representatives in attendance for negotiation meetings. Motion by Holmen, second by Sorenson, unanimous vote to allow up to two union representatives/unit to attend union negotiation meetings during work hours at regular pay.

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Commissioner Kuecker gave an update regarding the signage at the North 71 County Office Building. He reported that sample plans are currently being worked on and will be forwarded when they are received.

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Commissioner Holmen asked for discussion regarding the annual ditch report that needs to be completed and sent in within the next several weeks. Holmen suggested that the county approach the SWCD to see if they might be interested in helping with the 2008 annual ditch report that will be due in 2009. Commissioner Kuecker will talk to SWCD and have them present a proposal to the board if they are interested.

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There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:32 p.m.

Jan Johnson, Auditor/Treasurer

John Oeltjenbruns, Board Chairman

Kelly Thongvong, Bd. Adm. Assistant