

April 9, 2013
Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting
Minutes

The Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, April 9, 2013 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, Jim Schmidt, Kevin Stevens, Tom White, Norm Holmen; Executive Assistant Kelly Thongvivong; Auditor/Treasurer Jan Johnson; County Attorney Nick Anderson, Rob Baden, Jan Voit, Gordy Olson, Brianna Grandprey, Rahn Larson, Lloyd Kalfs, Mike Haugen, Alan Coners and Jay Grandprey.

Motion by White, second by Schmidt, unanimous vote to approve additions to the agenda. Motion by White, second by Holmen, unanimous vote to approve the minutes of the April 2, 2013 meeting as amended.

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Rob Baden, Assistant Area Wildlife Manager, met with the board to seek approval for the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to acquire 160 acres, located in Section 14, Delton Township. This property will become the new Rock Ridge State Wildlife Management Area (WMA). Motion by White, second by Schmidt, unanimous roll call vote to adopt resolution as follows:

Resolution 13-04-09
Cottonwood County Board of County Commissioners
Review of Proposed State Land Acquisition

In accordance with Minnesota Statutes 97A.145, Subd. 2, the Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources on April 9th, 2013 provided the county board with a description of lands to be acquired by the State of Minnesota for water, forestry, wildlife, and natural plant community conservation purposes. Lands to be acquired are described as follows:

NW1/4 (Northwest Quarter) of Section Fourteen (14), Township 107N, Range 35W, Delton Township, Cottonwood County.

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, by the Board of County Commissioners of Cottonwood County on April 9th that the State's proposed acquisition of the attached described property be approved.

This resolution was presented by Commissioner White, seconded by Commissioner Schmidt and upon vote was duly adopted.

S/Jan Johnson, Auditor/Treasurer

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Heron Lake Watershed District Administrator Jan Voit met with the board to give an update on 2012 activities and to give an overview of efforts planned for 2013.

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Commissioner White gave an update regarding a recent phone call he received from Dan Olsen, Windomnet, regarding grant funds that are currently available that could assist in paying for a feasibility study if the county would be interested in doing a request for proposal for determining the potential costs for

getting fiber optic to the residents in the county that currently do not have fiber into the home. There would be no cost to the county at this time. Motion by Holmen, second by Schmidt, unanimous vote to allow Windomnet to proceed with accessing grant funds in order to do a request for proposal to pay for a feasibility study for the purpose of exploring potential costs of getting fiber optic to other areas of the county.

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Commissioner Holmen reported on a proposed 25% increase to the 2014 & 2015 appropriation for RCRCA (Redwood-Cottonwood River Control Agency). This will be discussed further at the next board meeting for possible approval.

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Motion by Schmidt, second by Holmen, unanimous vote to hire KyLee Manthei as the Extension Summer Intern for 2013 at a rate of \$9.15/hour effective May 28, 2013.

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Motion by Holmen, second by White, unanimous vote to approve VISA bill in the amount of \$622.68 for hotel costs at the Legislative Conference.

Motion by White, second by Schmidt, unanimous vote to approve Sheriff's Department credit card bill in the amount of \$59.80 for the purchase of leather ear cushions.

Motion by Schmidt, second by Holmen, unanimous vote to approve registration in the amount of \$45.00 for Heidi Hansen's attendance at the training entitled "Land Use Decisions" which she attended as a member of the Board of Adjustment.

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Motion by White, second by Schmidt, unanimous vote to approve April warrants as follows:

County Revenue Fund	\$115,802.41
Long Term Capital Outlay	\$ 3,618.44
Road and Bridge Fund	\$ 108.53
County Building Fund	\$ 1,257.88
Ditch Fund	\$ 1,731.24
Road & Bridge	\$112,151.58
Landfill Enterprise	<u>\$ 9,781.62</u>
	\$244,451.70

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Gordy Olson, Interim Planning & Zoning Administrator, met with the board for a public hearing to discuss the proposed revisions to the Cottonwood County SSTS Ordinance #38. The proposed revisions were initiated because of questions that came up regarding property transfers as well as a desire to revisit the time frames spelled out in Section 17 for non-compliant systems. The result of the proposed changes will be a clear definition of a property transfer as well as better coordination between the Zoning Ordinance and the Septic System Ordinance as well as the Property Transfer Septic System Disclosure/Agreement form. A copy of the ordinance was sent to MPCA and no comments have been received at this time.

Motion by Holmen, second by Stevens, unanimous vote to approve Cottonwood County SSTS Ordinance #38 based on no public input or controversy and to accept the changes to the SSTS Ordinance #38 as submitted by the committee effective April 9, 2013. Lloyd Kalfs will draft a letter that he would like to send out to attorneys, realtors, etc. in the county with the new disclosure form.

Brief discussion was also held regarding Olson's thoughts of convenience in having the two offices that deal with feedlots, septics and zoning issues in closer proximity or even in the same building.

Olson asked the board to approve two conditional use permits. The first one was granted to Wendell Klassen for the construction of a 2,000 head swine finishing barn located in Mt. Lake Township. Motion by White, second by Schmidt, unanimous vote to approve the conditional use permit with five conditions as mentioned and based on a recommendation of the Planning Commission.

The second conditional use permit was granted to Steve Jeckell for the construction of monoslope cattle barns over existing open feedlots located in Highwater Township. Motion by Holmen, second by Schmidt, unanimous vote to approve the conditional use permit with five conditions as mentioned and based on a recommendation of the Planning Commission.

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Motion by Holmen, second by Schmidt, unanimous vote to contract with Anita Schlabach, The Untamed Mouse, for additional assistance with the new website development at a rate of \$40/hour.

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Commissioner White asked for some further discussion regarding whether continuing to have SWCD take care of feedlots and septics in the future is the right thing to do. It was noted that the Cottonwood SWCD office is currently taking over some of the duties in Watonwan County as well. It was questioned whether this should be explored further with a possible new Planning & Zoning position.

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Brianna Grandprey, Senior at Windom High School, met with the board to present her Eagle Achievement Project for consideration of a Human Society for Cottonwood County.

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Motion by White, second by Schmidt, unanimous vote to close the meeting at 11:12 a.m. to discuss strategy for upcoming labor negotiations. Present for the closed session were: Commissioners Oeltjenbruns, Schmidt, Stevens, White, Holmen; Kelly Thongvivong, Nick Anderson and Jan Johnson.

Motion by Schmidt, second by White, unanimous vote to open the closed session at 12:22 p.m.

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There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:22 p.m.

Jan Johnson, Auditor/Treasurer

John Oeltjenbruns, Board Chairman

Kelly Thongvivong, Executive Assistant