

July 3, 2007
Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting
Minutes

The Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, July 3, 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, Gary Sorenson, Tom White, Ron Kuecker; Administrative Assistant Kelly Thongvivong; Auditor/Treasurer Jan Johnson; County Attorney Doug Storey; Senator Jim Vickerman, Representative Rod Hamilton, Jason Purrington, Ron Gregg, Mark Marcy, Todd Dibble, Mike Hanson, Becky Wiens, Kay Grams, Craig Myers, Sandra Hartman and Andy Olson. Absent was Commissioner Oeltjenbruns. Motion by Sorenson, second by White, unanimous vote to approve additions to the agenda. Motion by Kuecker, second by Sorenson, unanimous vote to approve the minutes of the June 26, 2007 meeting as amended.

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Senator Jim Vickerman and Representative Rod Hamilton met with the board to give an overview of the recent legislative session and to hear some of the comments/concerns from some of the individuals present.

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Sheriff Jason Purrington met with the board to discuss a few items. Motion by Sorenson, second by White, unanimous roll call vote (Commissioner Oeltjenbruns was absent) to allow Chairman Holmen to sign resolution for acceptance of DNR grant that was recently received for the purchase of equipment (radio, life jackets, etc.) for the water safety boat.

Discussion was held in regards to the Red Rock Dells and whether or not the county should put up signage of some kind. Purrington and County Attorney Storey will work together in regards to this matter.

Motion by Sorenson, second by Kuecker, unanimous vote to give Purrington permission to apply for DNR ATV grant for the Sheriff's Department. This grant is in the amount of \$1503.05 with no matching funds required. This grant can be used for safety courses, purchase of equipment, etc.

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County Engineer Ron Gregg met with the board with several informational items. Gregg gave an update on the 2007 construction projects. He reported that the CSAH 2 surfacing project is 90% complete. The Germantown Township retention project will not be built to Phase II, due to flood easement concerns. Mountain Lake outlet structure is in the final design phase.

Gregg reported that Cottonwood County held two household hazardous waste collections last week, one in Windom and the other at the landfill. There were 199 households that participated this year.

Gregg also reported that MPCA performed their annual inspection of the landfill on July 2nd.

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Emergency Management Director Mark Marcy met with the board to discuss a few items. Marcy reported that he would not be asking for permission to apply for grants as the deadline had already passed.

Marcy reported that he would be placing an ad in the *Citizen* for the advertisement of the old emergency management trailer.

Marcy informed the board that a disaster drill (tornado situation) would be held on August 4th at 9:00 a.m. in the Jeffers area.

Update was given in regards to how the regional emergency management grant in the amount of \$500,000 would be used.

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Veteran's Service Officer Todd Dibble and Environmental Officer Mike Hanson met with the board to present their recommendation of hire for the Administrative Assistant position within their offices. Motion by Sorenson, second by White, unanimous vote to hire Leslie Makovsky on Step 3 of the 2007 pay scale effective July 16, 2007.

Dibble presented 6-month budget report for the Veteran's Office. After reviewing the information, there was a motion by Sorenson, second by White, unanimous vote to amend Veteran's budget by adding \$3500 to "Veteran Transportation" line item and subtracting \$3500 from "Equipment Leased" line item.

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Discussion was held in regards to current TMDL position. Motion by Kuecker, second by Sorenson, unanimous vote to extend Karen Boysen's position through September 30, 2007, which is the current extension of the TMDL grant.

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Motion by Kuecker, second by Sorenson to approve payment to I & S Engineers & Architects in the amount of \$9,337.50. Voting as follows: aye – Sorenson, Kuecker, Holmen; nay – White. Motion carried. Commissioner Oeltjenbruns was absent.

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Brief discussion was held in regards to flags for the Commissioner's room. Commissioner Kuecker will bring back his recommendation to the next board meeting.

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Discussion was held in regards to e-mail received from Dan Wheeler (soil scientist from University of Minnesota) in regards to the recent ISTS review. Because not all of the commissioners received this e-mail, it will be forwarded on to all the board members for their review so that it can be discussed further at the next board meeting.

Chairman Holmen will plan to give Heidi Lindgren from MPCA a call in regards to how the county needs to proceed next with the ISTS review.

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Brief discussion was held in regards to the county's current disciplinary policy that was recently reviewed by Minnesota Counties Insurance Trust (MCIT). A recommendation was made by MCIT to add language to our existing policy. This will be discussed further at the next board meeting.

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Brief discussion was held in regards to the current set-up of the Commissioner's Room and what is planning to be done yet before it is all completed.

The board authorized Kelly Thongvivong to go ahead and order blinds for the arches of the windows in the Commissioner's Room due to the amount of sunlight coming through the windows. This purchase was originally approved at the May 8, 2007 commissioners meeting.

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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