

October 3, 2006
Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting
Minutes

The Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, October 3, 2006 at 9:00 a.m. at the Cottonwood County Courthouse in Windom, MN. Presiding over the meeting was Chairman Ron Kuecker. Present for all or portions of the meeting were: Commissioners Ron Kuecker, Norm Holmen, John Oeltjenbruns, Gary Sorenson, Chuck Severson; Administrative Assistant Kelly Thongvivong; Auditor/Treasurer Jan Johnson; County Attorney Doug Storey; Mike Hanson & Ron Gregg. Motion by Sorenson, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to approve additions to the agenda. Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by Sorenson, unanimous vote to approve the minutes of the September 26, 2006 meeting.

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Auditor/Treasurer Johnson presented two quotes for a new copy machine as follows: Davis Typewriter - \$5,008 and New Star - \$5,376. Motion by Holmen, second by Sorenson, unanimous vote to accept low quote in the amount of \$5,008 from Davis Typewriter for a Sharp ARM355UCT Digital Document System. This amount includes trade-in of the old copy machine.

The board suggested that a sign be placed by each copy machine that states that they are not for public use and permission must be given for their usage.

Johnson presented two quotes for equipment for the Recorder's Office. After much discussion, the board decided to ask Fidar to review the quotes before making a final decision on the equipment purchase.

Motion by Severson, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to allow the Windom Chamber of Commerce to use the north side of the Courthouse lawn on October 9th for the Fall Festival.

Motion by Holmen, second by Severson, unanimous vote to make a correction to the September Commissioner warrants that resulted in a reduction of \$437.68.

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Environmental Officer Mike Hanson met with the board to discuss a few items. Motion by Severson, second by Holmen, unanimous vote to return funds for Individual Sewage Treatment System (ISTS) grant program that have recently been requested by Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA). The amount returned will be based on Bill Dunn's final figures.

Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by Sorenson, unanimous vote to approve conditional use permit for a residence in Great Bend Township, Section 13 to Tyler and Ashley Anderson based on conditions mentioned and on a recommendation of the Planning Commission.

Brief update was given regarding JD #5 and a county ordinance that needs to be looked at revising.

Motion by Holmen, second by Severson, unanimous vote to instruct Chairman Kuecker to sign 2006 Annual County Feedlot Officer and Performance Credit Report as well as 2007 County Feedlot Program Work Plan Form.

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County Engineer Ron Gregg met with the board to discuss a few items. Discussion was held regarding the donation of sick leave by one employee to another. County Attorney Storey was asked to research what the rights of the employer are.

Updates were given in regards to 2006 construction projects. It was reported that CSAH 2 is almost 100% complete on both ends.

Gregg gave a brief update on an incident that recently happened at the landfill that involved heat escaping from the demo pile, which resulted in the investigation of a possible fire source. Gregg reported that no source was ever found.

Gregg reminded the board that a Household Hazardous Waste Collection would be held on October 4th from noon to 6pm at the landfill.

Motion by Sorenson, second by Severson, unanimous vote to approve 2006-2007 snow removal agreements between the county and the cities of Mt. Lake, Jeffers and Westbrook.

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Proposal from I & S Engineers & Architects was reviewed by the board. They questioned the cost for the mechanical engineering and asked that I & S be contacted for their response as to why the cost of this portion of the proposal was so high when very little work would be needed with the remodel. This will be discussed further at the next board meeting.

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Commissioner Holmen presented a draft copy of a county emergency closure policy that he put together by using information collected from the peer counties as well as input received from the unions at the last Interest Based Collective Bargaining meeting. After reviewing the draft copy, a few minor changes will be made and will be reviewed again at the October 24th board meeting.

Holmen gave an update in regards to a Jeffers wind tower meeting that he recently attended. He also presented the estimated figures for total projected revenue for the towers.

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Commissioner Severson reported that five applicants have been received so far for the RSVP Coordinator position. He reported that he would be sitting in on interviews.

Brief discussion was held regarding conversation Severson recently had with Extension Office Manager in regards to the work that she is currently responsible for doing in the absence of a 4-H Program Coordinator. Severson questioned whether or not she should be given a stipend for her work in the interim process of hiring another 4-H Program Coordinator. No action was taken.

Kelly Thongvivong, Transit Coordinator, updated the board in regards to recent transit meetings that she has attended in regards to Human Service – Public Transit coordination planning. The board questioned where they might be able to send a letter in regards to their thoughts on the transit coordination meetings and discussions.

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Chairman Kuecker reported on a few correspondence items that he has recently received via mail and e-mail. He reported that the deadline for Mike Hanson to submit requested information to MPCA is October 27th.

E-mail was received in regards to county-based purchasing and was forwarded on to Craig Myers as he is taking the lead on potentially moving forward with this.

Letter was received from the Department of Veterans Affairs recognizing Brenda Anderson for the work she did while operating without a Veterans Officer in Cottonwood County.

Letter was received by each of the Commissioners from Larry Stevens in regards to his concerns with the zoning ordinance. Chairman Kuecker will forward a copy of this letter to County Attorney Storey for his review.

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There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Jan Johnson, Auditor/Treasurer

Ron Kuecker, Board Chairman

Kelly Thongvivong, Bd. Adm. Assistant