

April 28, 2009  
Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners  
Regular Meeting  
Minutes

The Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, April 28, 2009 at 1:00 p.m. at the Cottonwood County Courthouse in Windom, MN. Presiding over the meeting was Chairman Gary Sorenson. Present for all or portions of the meeting were: Commissioners Gary Sorenson, Tom White, Ron Kuecker, Norm Holmen, John Oeltjenbruns; Administrative Assistant Kelly Thongvong; Auditor/Treasurer Jan Johnson; County Attorney Doug Storey, Jason Purrington, Ron Gregg, Crystal Reith and Marlene Smith. Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by White, unanimous vote to approve additions to the agenda. Motion by Holmen, second by Kuecker, unanimous vote to approve the minutes of the April 14, 2009 meeting as amended.

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Sheriff Jason Purrington met with the board to discuss a few different items. Purrington presented a state bid for a light bar for the new squad car that will soon be here. The bid was from Northern Safety Technology, Inc. in the amount of \$1,698.68. Motion by Holmen, second by White, unanimous vote to accept the state bid in the amount of \$1,698.68 from Northern Safety Technology, Inc.

Purrington reported that the computer in the deputies' office has been having problems and he would like to replace it with a new computer. A state bid in the amount of \$882.69 was received. Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by White, unanimous vote to accept the state bid in the amount of \$882.69 from DELL.

Purrington presented a Safe and Sober Communities Resolution for consideration. The Sheriff's Department will be working with several area communities from October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2010 on such things as seat belt enforcement and speed enforcement. All the finances will go through the Worthington Police Department. Motion by Kuecker, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous roll call vote to adopt resolution as follows:

**Resolution 09-04-28  
Authorizing Execution of Agreement**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Cottonwood County Sheriff's Office enter into a grant agreement with the Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Office of Traffic Safety for the project entitled SAFE & SOBER COMMUNITIES during the period from October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2010.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Officer Darrin Vossen of the Worthington Police Department, is hereby authorized to execute the grant, be the fiscal agent and administer of this grant on behalf of the Worthington Police Department.

I certify that the above resolution was adopted by the Board of Commissioners of Cottonwood County on April 28, 2009.

S/Gary Sorenson, Board Chairman

S/Jan Johnson, Auditor/Treasurer

Discussion was held regarding lease agreements between the County and Southwestern Mental Health Center and Southwest/West Central Service Cooperative. County Attorney Doug Storey will review the current lease agreement with SWMHC and work on drafting new agreements for the N. 71 County Office Building.

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Motion by Holmen, second by White, unanimous vote to make final payment in the amount of \$5,579.42 to Windom Floor & Sleep. This amount includes additional \$153.00 for extra work required.

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County Engineer Ron Gregg met with the board to discuss several items. Gregg reported that MnDOT has requested a lease renewal at the Storden Highway Shop. MnDOT is asking for a reduction in the monthly rate of \$50.00. Gregg was instructed to do some research in regards to current rental rates of similar buildings.

Gregg reported that the Mt. Lake Bike Path appears to be delayed for another year. There are some ADA requirements that will need to be resolved.

The board reviewed photos of CSAH 16 (two miles south of the City of Mt. Lake).

Gregg reported that the County has been selected to receive grant dollars in the amount of \$84,388.00 for two safety projects on CSAH 5 & 13 involving paving shoulders on the inside of the horizontal curves. Motion by Holmen, second by Kuecker, unanimous vote to authorize Chairman to sign acceptance of grant dollars when it is received.

Gregg reported on the probationary status of three new employees. Gregg requested a three-month probationary extension for Kevin Donahue and Tom Baumgard to address performance. Motion by Kuecker, second by Holmen, unanimous vote to extend Kevin Donahue's probationary period for an additional three months until August 1, 2009. Motion by Kuecker, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to extend Tom Baumgard's probationary period for an additional six months until December 1, 2009. Brian Cooley will not complete his six-month probationary period until June 1, 2009.

Gregg gave a brief update in regards to the Surplus Auction that was held on April 25<sup>th</sup>. He reported that there was a good turnout.

Gregg informed the board that his 4-year appointment as County Engineer will expire in May and a reappointment will need to be done at that time.

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4-H Program Coordinator Crystal Reith met with the board to give an update regarding recent 4-H events.

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Assistant Environmental Officer Marlene Smith met with the board to present a conditional use permit for Mary Louise Walinga for excavating, mining and screening of gravel for a pit located in Great Bend Township. Motion by Holmen, second by White, unanimous vote to approve the conditional use permit granted to Mary Louise Walinga based on three conditions mentioned and on a recommendation of the Planning Commission.

Seven bids for mowing property at the N. 71 County Office Building were opened and were as follows: Russell & Evonne Janssen - \$35.00/hour; Jerry Parker - \$2,400/season; Marlin Zinke - \$150/mowing; Flatebo & Sons - \$100/week; Gary's Lawn Service - \$150/mowing; Paul Schmitz - \$125/mowing; Joe's Lawn Care - \$2,750/season. Motion by Kuecker, second by White, unanimous vote to accept bid for mowing N. 71 County Office Building property from Russell & Evonne Janssen from May 1<sup>st</sup> to September 30<sup>th</sup> not to exceed 2.5 hours of mowing per week.

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Motion by Holmen, second by Kuecker, unanimous vote to approve Request for Proposal for Pay Study as presented to the board and to send to firms that conduct pay evaluation studies.

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Commissioner Holmen gave a brief updated regarding the RCRCA Joint Powers Agreement for 2009. He reported that the agreement has not yet been received in final draft form so no action was taken at this time.

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Motion by Holmen, second by White, unanimous vote to allow Kelly Thongvivong to use county credit card for IT purchases for Cottonwood County not to exceed \$500.00 on behalf of Greg Walsh, Information Services Director.

Motion by Kuecker, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to approve two-year subscription renewal for Watchguard Services in the amount of \$3,450.00 through Computer Technology Solution, Inc.

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Commissioner Kuecker gave an update regarding Red Rock Rural Water and reported that they are going through an internal expansion and will need to do further bonding in the near future.

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Commissioner White gave an update regarding RSVP and reported that Mary Jensen has encountered a few equipment problems since the move of the other offices from the County Office Building that need to be resolved.

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Commissioner Holmen gave an update regarding signage at the N. 71 County Office Building. The offices will be instructed to order their own signage.

Update was given in regards to current expenses for the N. 71 County Office Building.

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Auditor/Treasurer Jan Johnson informed the board that three employees have not yet turned in Conflict of Interest statements for 2009.

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There being no further business, there was a motion by Kuecker, second by White, unanimous vote to adjourn the meeting at 3:45 p.m.

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Jan Johnson, Auditor/Treasurer

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Gary Sorenson, Board Chairman

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Kelly Thongvivong, Bd. Adm. Assistant