

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD
October 16, 2018

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioners' Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, October 16, 2018. Chairman Olson called the meeting to order with Commissioners Athey, Backer, Berning and Sandberg present. Also present were Dillon Dwyer of the Ortonville Independent, Highway Maintenance Supervisor Darby Karsky, County Engineer Todd Larson and County Auditor Michelle Knutson. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Berning and carried to approve the minutes of the October 2nd regular meeting.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Backer and carried to approve the agenda.

Commissioners reported on the following committees:

Backer – Woodland; Pomme de Terre; BSAG

Sandberg – Museum

Athey – HRA; SWCD

County Attorney Joe Glasrud arrived at the meeting.

Southwest Initiative Foundation representative Becky Parker was present to provide an update on the Grow Our Own initiative and the upcoming Summit in Marshall and invited the Board to attend.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Berning and carried to send letters of support for county-based purchasing for local, cost-effective and dependable access to health care to the major party governor candidates.

Attorney Glasrud provided an update on recent office activities.

Motion by Berning, seconded by Backer and carried to certify the outstanding right-of-way billings as a special assessment to be included with property taxes as presented by Attorney Glasrud.

Engineer Larson provided an update on various department activities.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Backer and carried to adopt the following resolution:

2018-26

WHEREAS, SAP 006-610-024 has in all things been completed and the County Board being fully advised in the premises.

NOW THEN BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board hereby accepts said completed projects for and on behalf of the County of Big Stone, and authorizes final payment to Central Specialties, Inc. in the amount shown on final pay estimate.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Berning and carried to authorize the Engineer to advertise for bids for a Construction Manager at Risk for assistance with the construction of a new highway department facility.

Discussion was held on dust control services provided by the Highway Department and procedures when payment is not received. Motion by Olson, seconded by Berning and carried to authorize the Engineer to discontinue service to those that have not paid for services provided.

Discussion was held on the sale of culverts to townships. Consensus was that the County should have something in writing from the townships for future culvert

purchases. Engineer Larson was directed to send a letter to the townships informing them of this change.

Motion by Berning, seconded by Sandberg and carried to approve a \$100 fee for an after-the-fact permit for any work in County road right-of-way.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Berning and carried to authorize payment of the following claims as presented by Auditor Knutson:

Big Stone Ag Service	\$ 2,270.00
Mark Chase	2,223.60
Counties Providing Technology	14,752.00
Dugs Construction	2,455.00
Ryan Hage	2,203.00
Kandiyohi County Sheriff Dept	35,538.48
O'Kayes Home Center	3,780.95
Regents of the U of MN	18,141.52
SeaChange Printing	3,810.54
Twin Valley Tire	8,657.60
45 Payments Less Than \$2,000	<u>10,447.19</u>
Total	\$104,279.88

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Backer and carried to authorize the following internal transactions:

General to Highway	\$ 2,328.36
Family Services to Highway	\$ 56.56
Ditch to Highway	\$ 3,243.42
County Ditch 2	\$ 122.64
Joint Ditch 4	\$ 119.16
Joint Ditch 7	\$ 168.20
County Ditch 13	\$2,833.42

Motion by Berning, seconded by Athey and carried to execute the 2018 audit engagement letter with Abdo Eick & Meyer and authorize Auditor Knutson to sign it.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Backer and carried to execute the agreement for actuarial services with Hildi Inc.

Auditor Knutson asked for questions and/or comments on the year-to-date financial information provided for the Board's review.

HR Director Dawn Gregoire provided an update on the various employee benefit programs. Motion by Backer, seconded by Athey and carried to terminate the voluntary vision plan with Avesis. The County will be offering a new vision plan with Eye Med.

Motion by Berning, seconded by Olson and carried to authorize contracting with Kristi Hastings from Pemberton Law to provide mandatory harassment training to employees.

During the strategic planning work session, discussion was held on the additional quotes received for outside assistance with plan development. Department heads Terry Ocaña, Elaine Martig and Darren Wilke were also present. Motion by Athey, seconded by Backer and carried to accept the proposal from Jim Mulder as presented.

Following a short break, Ducks Unlimited Biologist John Lindstrom was present to answer questions regarding their purchase of land in Akron Township, that will ultimately be owned by the MN DNR. The Board stated they agree with DU's goals, but

expressed concerns with ongoing management of publicly owned land. Lindstrom stated he will share the Board's concerns with his supervisor as well as the DNR. Chairman Olson adjourned the meeting at 10:16 AM.

Brent Olson, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Michelle R. Knutson, Auditor