

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD**  
**May 7, 2019**

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, May 7, 2019. Chairman Sandberg called the meeting to order with Commissioners Athey, Backer, Klepel and Olson present. Also present were Dillon Dwyer of the Ortonville Independent, Mary Meyer, Mary Gustafson, Janet Spalinger, HR Director Dawn Gregoire, Tom Suppes of MCIT, Deputy Auditor Heather Henrich and Deputy Auditor Cindy Brehmer. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Motion by Backer, seconded by Olson and carried to approve the minutes of the April 16<sup>th</sup> regular meeting.

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

MCIT Risk Management Consultant Tom Suppes presented 2019 report to County Board. This report is presented every other year. Tom informed the Board on rate and coverage changes for 2019.

Commissioners reported on the following committees:

Olson – PrimeWest (2); Pioneerland; P&Z; Supporting Hands

Sandberg – Safety; Census; Food Shelf; Dept Head

Athey – Prairie 5; Personnel; SWCD; P&Z; Toqua Park; Property

Backer – SW EMS; Bois de Sioux; CPT (2); RDC; Toqua Park

Bill Vangness was present to request the Board's approval for the Graceville Golf Club's application for a gambling permit for a raffle. Motion by Backer, seconded by Athey and carried to approve the application.

Discussion was held on hiring Jim Mulder to work with the Board and a committee to come up with a job description for a County Coordinator position. Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Olson and carried to hire Jim Mulder to help facilitate the process.

Big Stone County 4-H Program Coordinator Suzanne Souza was present to report that they have been presented with the President's Environmental Youth Award. 10 youth and chaperones will be traveling to Washington, D.C. to accept the award on July 25, 2019. They received the award based on the AIS education that they have provided to state and county residents. They will be fundraising for this trip in the coming months.

Environmental Services Director Darren Wilke, along with Chuck Andrews of Wm. D. Scepaniak Inc., reported to the Board on a Conditional Use Permit. Wm. D. Scepaniak is requesting a permit to use the Marvin Schmeichel pit as a storage yard for wind tower components. After discussion by the Board, motion by Olson, seconded by Athey and carried to approve the permit with the conditions as recommended by the Planning Commission.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Backer and carried to authorize payment of the following claims as presented by Deputy Auditor Brehmer:

Liftoff	\$14,856.00
Ortonville Independent	3,511.91
Pro West & Associates	9,401.56
Softree Technical Systems	3,730.00
Sturdevants	5,421.15

Tri County Co-op	4,291.78
West Con	14,687.11
44 payments less than \$2,000	<u>18,196.19</u>
Total	\$74,095.70

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

General to Highway	\$ 1,418.44
Family Services to Highway	\$ 157.53
Ditch to Highway – CD 2	\$ 255.00

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

Discussion was held on AMC’s sample resolution for transportation funding. After discussion, motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to adopt the following resolution:

**2019-11**

WHEREAS Minnesota Counties maintain 30,742 miles of County State Aid Highway (CSAH) roads and 14,141 miles of county roads, totaling over 30% of the state’s roadways; and

WHEREAS the total annual need is \$1.084 billion over the next 25 years just to maintain the current CSAH and county road system, not including expansion; and

WHEREAS the annual funding gap for counties has resulted in deferring basic maintenance, delaying expansion projects with resulting safety concerns, mounting congestion, and missed economic growth for businesses and commuters; and

WHEREAS a comprehensive and sustainable transportation solution should include robust funding for roads, bridges, and transit, and address the varying needs in different parts of the state.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners encourages the Minnesota Legislature to pass and the Governor to sign a bill that brings adequate funding to Minnesota’s statewide transportation system.

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

**2019-12**

BE IT RESOLVED that Big Stone County act as the legal sponsor for an application for funding to the State of Minnesota Department of Natural Resources for Maintenance of snowmobile trails managed by Big Stone Lake Sno Riders.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon approval of its application by the state, Big Stone County may enter into an agreement with the State of Minnesota for the above referenced project and that it will comply with all applicable laws and regulations as stated in the agreement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chair of the Big Stone County Commissioners is authorized to sign such an agreement with the Department of Natural Resources.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Auditor is authorized to serve as the fiscal agent for the above-mentioned project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Big Stone County act as legal sponsor for 32 miles of snowmobile trails in Traverse County beginning north of Graceville and extending north through Wheaton to the White Rock Dam.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Big Stone County act as legal sponsor for 2 miles of snowmobile trails in Traverse County beginning west of Beardsley and extending west to Browns Valley.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Backer and carried to approve the Off Sale Beer License for Lakeshore RV Park.

Discussion was held about a letter of commitment for establishing a 2020 Census Complete Count Committee (CCC). After discussion, the Board decided to not establish the CCC.

Commissioner Klepel will represent the County Board at the AMC District Meeting on June 7<sup>th</sup>. Commissioner Athey is also tentatively planning on attending.

HR Director Gregoire asked the Board to adopt the following resolution to add new deputy, Kyle Arndt to the Law Enforcement PERA Account. Motion by Olson, seconded by Athey and carried to approve the following resolution:

**2019-13**

WHEREAS, the policy of the State of Minnesota as declared in Minnesota Statutes 353.63 is to give special consideration to employees who perform hazardous work and devote their time and skills to protecting the property and personal safety of others; and WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes Section 353.64 permits governmental subdivisions to request coverage in the Public Employees Police and Fire plan for eligible employees of police or sheriff departments whose position duties meet the requirements stated therein and listed below.

BE IT RESOLVED that the County Commissioners of Big Stone County hereby declares that the position of Deputy Sheriff, currently held by Kyle Arndt, meets all of the following Police and Fire Plan membership requirements:

1. Said position requires a license by the Minnesota peace officer standards and training board under sections 626.84 to 626.863 and this employee is so licensed;
2. Said position's primary (over 50%) duty is to enforce the general criminal laws of the state;
3. Said position charges this employee with the prevention and detection of crime;
4. Said position gives this employee the full power of arrest; and
5. Said position is assigned to a designated police or sheriff's department.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this governing body hereby requests that the named employee be accepted as a member of the Public Employees Police and Fire Plan effective the date of this employee's initial Police and Fire Plan salary deduction by the governmental subdivision.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Athey and carried to close the meeting at 9:55 AM for LELS negotiations.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Athey and carried to open the meeting at 10:42 AM.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Backer and carried to delegate the Sheriff and HR Director to continue LELS negotiations on the Board's behalf.

Chairman Sandberg adjourned the meeting at 10:43 AM.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

Roger Sandberg, Chairman

Heather M. Henrich, Deputy Auditor