

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD**  
**July 2, 2019**

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, July 2, 2019. Chairman Sandberg called the meeting to order with Commissioners Athey, Klepel and Olson present. Also present were Dillon Dwyer of the Ortonville Independent, Mary Meyer, Mary Gustafson, Janet Spalinger, Brent Hasslen of Hasslen Construction, Highway Maintenance Supervisor Darby Karsky, Engineering Technician Derrick Loeschke, County Attorney Joe Glasrud and County Auditor Michelle Knutson. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Klepel and carried to approve the minutes of the June 18<sup>th</sup> regular meeting and the June 19<sup>th</sup> Board of Appeal and Equalization meeting.

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

Brent Hasslen was present to review the estimates for the proposed highway building that include pre-engineered steel or pre-cast options. Following discussion, board consensus was to proceed with the pre-engineered steel option. Commissioner Backer arrived at the meeting.

Following discussion on the possible implementation of a wheelage tax to provide an additional funding option for construction of a new highway building, motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to adopt the following resolution:

**2019-15**

WHEREAS, Minn. Stat. 163.051, provides, in part, that the board of commissioners of each county is authorized to levy a wheelage tax on each motor vehicle which is kept in such county when not in operation and which is subject to annual registration and taxation under Chap. 168 at a rate of \$10 per vehicle through 2017 and up to \$20 per vehicle in 2018 and beyond; and

WHEREAS, the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners desires to implement such a wheelage tax and have the state registrar of motor vehicles collect the same; and

WHEREAS, the proceeds of such a wheelage tax would be used for the partial funding of the construction of a new highway building.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners authorize and impose a wheelage tax as provided for in Minn. Stat. 163.051 of \$10 on each motor vehicle for 2020 and each subsequent year thereafter until such time that the general obligation bond related to the construction of the new highway building is paid off.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the county requests the state registrar of motor vehicles to collect the wheelage tax on behalf of the county.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Backer and carried to adopt the following resolution as presented by Technician Loeschke:

**2019-16**

WHEREAS, CP 006-001-019, CP 006-002-019, CP 006-003-019, CP 006-004-019, CP 006-005-019, CP 006-006-019 and CP 006-007-019 have 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 Bituminous Paving, Inc. in the amount shown on final pay estimate.

Loeschke provided an update on the CSAH 21 culvert project. The Department is recommending that all bids be rejected and that the project be re-let with a decreased scope of rip rapping to be included in the project. Motion by Athey, seconded by Backer and carried to reject all bids received. Motion by Olson, seconded by Backer and carried to authorize re-advertising for bids with the change in the project specifications as recommended.

Loeschke presented the bids that had been received for the pavement striping for 2019. Motion by Athey, seconded by Olson and carried to award the bid to AAA Striping Service at a cost of \$33,478.79.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Olson and carried to approve the hiring of David Moberg for the Intermittent Highway Maintenance Worker at Grade 6 Step 1 effective July 8, 2019, as presented by Supervisor Karsky.

Motion by Backer, seconded by Athey and carried to adopt the following resolution and execute the Annual County Boat and Water Safety Grant Agreement as presented by Sheriff Mark Brown:

**2019-17**

WHEREAS under the provisions of M.S. § 86B.105, the Sheriff of each county is required to carry out the provision of Chapter 86B and the Boat and Water Safety Rules, hereinafter referred to as the "Minn. Rules", including patrol, enforcement search and rescue, watercraft inspection, waterway marking and accident investigation, all hereinafter referred to as the "Sheriff's Duties"; and

WHEREAS in connection with the Sheriff's Duties, M.S. § 86B.701 provides that the County submit to the Commissioner of Natural Resources a budget to carry out the Sheriff's Duties; and

WHEREAS M.S. § 86B.701 and the Minn. Rules provide for the allocation of funds by the Commissioner to the County based on certain criteria and conclusions to assist the funding of the Sheriff's Duties; and

WHEREAS the County has submitted a proposed budget to the State.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the State shall reimburse the County up to \$1,762.00 for the activities stated in Chapter 86B.

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

Bond Trust Services	\$ 74,898.75
CBS Squared	14,658.75
GovConnection	2,951.58
Northland Business Systems	3,326.00
Regents of the U of MN	18,445.02
Stevens County	9,017.40
39 payments less than \$2,000	<u>13,976.50</u>
Total	\$137,274.00

Motion by Athey, seconded by Olson and carried to reappoint Wanda Holker to the Upper Minnesota River Watershed District Board of Managers for a 3-year term effective August 13, 2019 through August 9, 2022.

Commissioners reported on the following committees:

Klepel – BSAG; Extension

Sandberg – MSI; Property; Personnel; Dept Head

Athey – Personnel

Backer – Bois de Sioux; CPT Personnel; BSAG

Blair Mace and Bruce Freske from US Fish & Wildlife was present to request certification of acquisition of land for a habitat easement in Browns Valley Township and a fee purchase in Odessa Township. Mace reviewed the process for fee purchase property. Deputy Regional Realty Chief Bill Mulvaney along with Dennis and Debbie Shelstad were also present. Motion by Athey, seconded by Olson and carried to certify for acquisition the following described property for a habitat easement: T124N, R486W, 5th P.M., Section 8, Lot A of the S1/2SE1/4 and part of Lot B of E1/2SE1/4. Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to certify for acquisition the following described property for fee purchase: T121N, R45W, 5th P.M., Section 11, N1/2SW1/4 and the S1/2NW1/4 and the S1/2NE1/4 to be surveyed.

Discussion was held on water concerns and Mr. Freske stated that they do have flowage easements available which allows temporarily holding water on a property. He also stated that he has no problem with a temporary draw down of water to assist the Highway Department.

Sandy Vold, representing the Clinton Care Center, was present to request a letter of support for their building project. Consensus of the Board was to sign the letter of support.

Chairman Sandberg adjourned the meeting at 9:45 AM.

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Roger Sandberg, Chairman

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Michelle R. Knutson, Auditor