

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD
January 16, 2024

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioners' Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, January 16, 2024. Chairman Sandberg called the meeting to order with Commissioners Olson, Klages, Zimmel and Athey present. Also present were Dillon Dwyer of the Ortonville Independent and Auditor-Treasurer Michelle Knutson. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Zimmel and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the January 2nd re-organizational meeting.

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

Commissioners reported on the following committees:

Zimmel – BSAG

Athey – SWCD, MRC, UMRWD

Klages – BSAG, PW, PdTJPB

Olson – PW

Motion by Athey, seconded by Olson and carried unanimously to authorize payment of claims as presented by Auditor-Treasurer Knutson. Vendors, excluding Family Services, receiving payments in excess of \$2,000 are as follows:

Abdo	\$ 11,500.00
Alpha Training & Tactics	7,144.56
Assn of MN Counties	2,971.00
Barnett/Kristin	4,975.00
Dugs Construction	2,450.00
Ehlers & Associates	2,700.00
HDR Engineering	3,424.89
Kandiyohi County Sheriff Dept	49,197.73
Les Jones Roofing	66,950.00
MN County Attorney's Assn	2,255.00
MN UI Fund	2,704.65
Nelson Electric	4,313.48
Pro West & Associates	5,500.00
Stevens County	2,500.19
The Shop	10,169.47
Traverse County	2,855.00
Tri County Co-op Oil Assn	3,416.11
42 Payments Less Than \$2,000	<u>22,356.83</u>
Total	\$207,383.91

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

Motion by Olson, seconded by Klages and carried unanimously to approve the contract with Mended Inc. for parenting education as presented by Family Services Director Laura Laub.

Motion by Zimmel, seconded by Olson and carried unanimously to authorize Laub to move forward with participating in the Minnesota Emergency Alert System (EAS). All costs associated are covered by DHS.

Building Maintenance Supervisor Jared Heck introduced new Custodian Christian Bickel to the Board.

Heck provided cost information on the Courthouse HVAC project and Auditor-Treasurer Knutson provided additional information on fund balance and possible use of reserves for the excess over the budgeted amount. Following discussion, motion by Klages, seconded by Sandberg and carried unanimously to authorize moving ahead with the complete project per the bid received.

County Engineer Jorden Roggenbuck joined remotely to request approval for MnDOT's partnership in funding for the electric vehicle. Motion by Olson, seconded by Zimmel and carried unanimously to adopt the following resolution:

2024-05

BE IT RESOLVED, that pursuant to M.S. §161.36, the Commissioner of Transportation be appointed as Agent of the local agency to accept as its agent, federal aid funds which may be made available for eligible transportation related projects.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Roger Sandberg (Chairman) and Pam Rud (Clerk) are hereby authorized and directed for and on behalf of the local agency to execute and enter into an agreement with the Commissioner of Transportation prescribing the terms and conditions of said federal aid participation as set forth and contained in "Minnesota Department of Transportation Agency Agreement No. 1055445", a copy of which said agreement was before the County Board and which is made a part hereof by reference.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Klages and carried unanimously to adopt the following resolution for the Public Land Survey System Restoration Grant:

2024-06

WHEREAS, the Big Stone County Highway Department has the opportunity to request funding for the project titled "Big Stone County PLSS Restoration" up to the amount of \$300,000; and

WHEREAS, Big Stone County Highway Department has reviewed the funding request and the "Duties of a Fiscal Agent" document provided by the State and is fully aware of the work that will occur if funded, the project timeline, and the project budget.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Big Stone County Board authorizes the Big Stone County Highway Department to submit a proposal for the project titled "Big Stone County PLSS Restoration" up to the amount of \$300,000.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Big Stone County Board authorizes the Big Stone County Highway Department to act as a fiscal agent if funding is awarded for the 2024 project titled "Big Stone County PLSS Restoration", and will comply with all terms as stated in the fiscal agent agreement.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Zimmel and carried unanimously to approve extending the personal unpaid leave request for Connie Jurgens until February 6th as presented by Environmental Director Darren Wilke.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Olson and carried unanimously to accept the resignation of County Attorney Maggie Kluver effective January 17, 2024.

Chairman Sandberg swore in Attorney Danielle Olson who will be assisting the County with County Attorney services in the interim.

Countryside Public Health, in partnership with NAMI, is offering free virtual suicide prevention classes entitled Questions, Persuade, Refer (QPR) for Agricultural Communities.

The work session included a discussion on Toqua Park and the proposed project. Board consensus was to proceed with the Park Committee meeting and Heck to bring back the final proposal to the next meeting.

Chairman Sandberg adjourned the meeting at 9:06 AM.

Roger Sandberg, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Michelle R. Knutson, Auditor-Treasurer