

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD**  
**November 15, 2022**

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioners' Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, November 15, 2022. Chairman Klages called the meeting to order with Commissioners Sandberg, Backer and Athey present. Commissioner Olson was absent. Also present were Dillon Dwyer of the Ortonville Independent and Coordinator Pam Rud. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

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

Motion by Backer, seconded by Sandberg and carried to approve the minutes from the November 1<sup>st</sup> regular board meeting.

Commissioners reported on the following committees:

Sandberg – Insurance Committee

Backer – Park, BSAG

Klages – Park, Extension, PW, BSAG, PdTRA, RDC

Emergency Management Director Dona Greiner presented information on winter weather awareness week and the planned activities for the week. Greiner provided updates on the local and federal declarations for the storm events from May 2022.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Backer and carried to approve the following resolution:

**2022-39**

WHEREAS, Annually Big Stone County is awarded the EMPG (emergency management performance grant) from the State of Minnesota related to Emergency Management, and;

WHEREAS, The EMPG requires a local match of county expenditures, as well as quarterly and annual reports to be completed and submitted, and;

WHEREAS, Timely execution of this grant and documentation is necessary, and;

WHEREAS, When working with HSEM and FEMA after a disaster event or incident, and;

WHEREAS, The State (HSEM) and Federal level (FEMA) may require additional paperwork from Big Stone County for reimbursement, require time extensions, and to submit forms to withdraw from initial funding requests, and;

WHEREAS, Timely execution of these forms and documentation is necessary.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the County Auditor, County Coordinator, and the County Emergency Management Director are authorized to execute reimbursement agreements, sign-off on and submit required State and Federal reports and forms on behalf of Big Stone County.

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

Baycom	\$11,752.00
CPT	5,209.00
Ortonville Independent	3,954.12
SafeAssure	5,173.98
Traverse County Sheriff	2,000.00
Tri-County Co-op	4,778.50
Twin Valley Tire	2,369.00
West Con	29,170.34
Brenda Zahrbock	3,203.11

54 Payments Less Than \$2,000	<u>17,715.06</u>
Total	\$85,325.11

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

General to Highway	\$ 2,786.89
Family Services to Highway	\$ 277.99
Ditch to Highway	\$ 2,957.81
County Ditch 2	\$ 125.03
Joint Ditch 7	\$ 223.74
Comb Ditch 10/11	\$ 736.59
County Ditch 13	\$1,513.82
County Ditch 30	\$ 358.63

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

Motion by Athey, seconded by Sandberg and carried to adopt the following resolution to update the designated depositories as previously approved in resolution 2022-02:

**2022-40**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners designates as depositories the following financial institutions and designates the following as brokers and authorized investment holders:

- Minnwest Bank of Ortonville
- CenBank of Ortonville
- Frandsen Bank & Trust of Clinton
- First Independent Bank of Beardsley
- Star Bank of Graceville
- MAGIC Fund, managed by PFM Asset Management
- BNY Mellon/Pershing Advisor Solutions/Ehlers Investment Partners
- US Bank/Moreton Capital Markets

County Engineer Jordan Roggenbuck provided an update on Highway Department activities including the FLAP grant, TEDI grant, Safe Routes to School grant and informed the Board that the open highway maintenance position has been posted internally.

Dr. Ashley Kjos, Woodland Center CEO, provided an annual update to the Board on recent activity. Dr. Kjos stated that there will be a 1% increase to the Purchase of Service contract for Big Stone and that the County POS contracts cover about 12% of their overall annual revenue.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Backer and carried to approve the solid waste hauler license for Whetstone Sanitation as presented by Environmental Service Director, Darren Wilke.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Backer and carried to approve an extension for the Verizon Conditional Use Permit for a period of one year.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Backer and carried to approve the following resolution:

**2022-41**

WHEREAS Minnesota Statute Chapter 400.08 authorizes Big Stone County to impose a reasonable charge for solid waste management including, but not limited to, recycling,

household hazardous waste and special collections; and WHEREAS all of Big Stone County shall be deemed a service area for the purpose of implementation of a solid waste management service charge.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the following rate schedule is adopted by the Board of County Commissioners for a \$50.00 solid waste service charge to be assessed for collection in 2023 and thereafter along with property taxes for dwellings/units in the following classes of property:

Agricultural Housing Unit; Residential; Seasonal Recreational Residential; Apartments – charge per apartment unit; Personal Property; Gross Earnings/in-lieu of; Tax Exempt. Commercial and Industrial properties will remain at a \$35 solid waste service charge.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Athey and carried to approve the family service warrants.

Motion by Backer, seconded by Sandberg and carried to approve the 2023 Someplace Safe Contract.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Backer and carried to approve the SWPIC contract for 2023-2025.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Backer and carried to approve the 2023 Daycare licensing contract with Chippewa County.

Motion by Backer, seconded by Athey and carried to approve the hiring of Andrew Maas as an Appraiser in the Assessors office. Andrew will start on November 21<sup>st</sup> on Grade 8, step 1.

Motion by Backer seconded by Sandberg and carried to approve the hiring of Heather Rise as an Eligibility Worker in the Family Service Department. Heather will start November 16<sup>th</sup> on Grade 7, step 1.

Motion by Backer, seconded by Athey and carried to approve the contract with Stevens County for Emergency Management Services for 2023-2024.

Coordinator Pam Rud provided an update on health insurance for 2023. PEIP premiums increased 50% and they wanted a 2-year contract. Bill Chukuske with NIS was able to get the health plan Gravie to bid our group and rates came in 18% less than PEIP and it was only a one-year agreement and provides better coverage for staff. The Insurance Committee will continue to work on finding options for benefits for 2024 and beyond.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Backer and carried to approve County Engineer Jordan Roggenbuck to have a county issued credit card with a limit of 5,000.00.

Work session included discussion on the Board Work Session scheduled for November 17<sup>th</sup>. Due to scheduling conflicts, the work session will be rescheduled to November 29<sup>th</sup> starting at 8:00 AM.

Commissioner Klages adjourned the meeting at 9:43 AM.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeff Klages, Chairman

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Pam Rud, Coordinator