

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD
March 3, 2020

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, March 3, 2020. Chairman Athey called the meeting to order with Commissioners Klepel, Olson and Sandberg present. Also present were Dillon Dwyer of the Ortonville Independent, HR Director Dawn Gregoire, County Attorney Joe Glasrud, and County Auditor Michelle Knutson. In addition, the following were also in attendance for the work session discussion: Bruce Freske, Liz Rackl, Cal Rackl, Paul Schwendemann, Eran Sandquist, Joe Stangel, Bruce Nelson, Curt Vacek, Cara Greger and Scott Simmons. The Pledge of Allegiance followed. Commissioner Backer arrived at the meeting.

The work session included a continued discussion on a County no net gain policy. Attorney Glasrud reported that he had shared other county policies with the commissioners and all have been passed in resolution form. The possibility of handling it through an ordinance was also brought up. Other discussion items included establishing a percentage of acres limit; handling the issue through the land use ordinance; and including other owner groups like farmers. This topic will continue to be on the work session agenda. Environmental Director Darren Wilke arrived during the work session.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Backer and carried to approve the minutes of the February 18th regular board meeting.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to approve the agenda with the additions of Westlaw contract and a closed session for the sale of the current highway building.

Commissioners reported on the following committees:

Olson – Pioneerland

Sandberg – Audit; MSI; Property

Athey – Property; Prairie 5; Personnel; Extension; Fair Board

Backer – Woodland; BSAG; CPT; Personnel

Klepel – Extension

Chairman Athey reported on the recent Department Head meeting.

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

CBS Squared	\$15,772.50
Environmental Systems Research	6,515.00
Kandiyohi County Sheriff Dept	4,168.91
KNOWiNK	5,120.00
Purchase Power	2,126.37
The Retrofit Companies	2,069.23
42 Payments Less Than \$2,000	<u>20,048.01</u>
Total	\$55,820.02

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

Discussion was held on whether the Board wants to continue appointments to the EDA board since it is not active. Attorney Glasrud will research options and report back at the next meeting.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to authorize \$1,000 towards the 2020 Meander as requested by the RDC. The budget only included a \$500 appropriation.

Discussion was held on the lease with Main Street Industries. Attorney Glasrud will present an updated lease at the next meeting.

Attorney Glasrud reported that the Westlaw contract for his office is up at the end of the month. The new price is substantially higher than the current contract of \$218.02 per month. After negotiating, the agreed on 3-year price will be \$319 per month with a 2% annual increase. Motion by Olson, seconded by Backer and carried to authorize Attorney Glasrud to execute a new contract with West Law as presented.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Klepel and carried to approve the Assistant CVSO job description for grading as presented by HR Director Gregoire.

Gregoire also reported that Social Worker Nicole Albin has moved to adult services so they will now be filling the children's position vacated by Albin.

Jim Mulder arrived at the meeting.

Environmental Director Wilke presented information on the MPCA's Clean Water Partnership Loan program. Further review will be done so no action was taken.

Discussion was held on MPCA's proposed fee increases.

Motion by Backer, seconded by Sandberg and carried to close the meeting at 9:53 AM pursuant to M.S. §13D.05, Subd. 3(c)(3) to discuss the sale of parcel #22-0805-000, which is the County highway shop in Ortonville. Commissioners Athey, Backer, Klepel, Olson and Sandberg and County Attorney Joe Glasrud were present during the closed meeting.

Motion by Backer, seconded by Sandberg and carried to reopen the meeting at 9:55 AM.

Mr. Mulder reviewed the work that has been done regarding the creation of a County Coordinator position. Department heads Wilke, Vold, Martig, Gregoire and Anderson were also present. Following discussion on the proposed job description, it was decided that before approval, it would be reviewed with all department heads. Mulder will be available by phone for the department head meeting to answer any questions.

Mr. Mulder also reviewed his recommended hiring process. Following discussion, motion by Olson, seconded by Backer and carried to approve the process as presented.

Chairman Athey adjourned the meeting at 11:17 AM.

Wade Athey, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Michelle R. Knutson, Auditor