

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD**  
**April 5, 2022**

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioners' Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, April 5, 2022. Chairman Klages called the meeting to order with Commissioners Sandberg, Olson, Backer and Athey present. Also present were Dillon Dwyer of the Ortonville Independent and Coordinator Pam Rud. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Olson and carried to approve the minutes of the March 15<sup>th</sup> regular meeting.

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

Commissioners reported on the following committees:

Sandberg – Woodland, Blandin, Property, Museum

Olson – Pioneerland, Blandin, LAC, PrimeHealth

Backer – PIC, RDC, CPT, BSAG

Athey – Fair Board, Prairie 5, MRC

Klages – Property, BSAG, ESB, Personnel

All commissioners attended the annual township meeting on April 4<sup>th</sup>.

Chairman Klages called the hearing to order for the purpose of considering preliminary plans for the redistricting of Big Stone County Commissioner Districts at 9:09 AM. No plans from the public were received. Auditor-Treasurer Knutson reviewed the plan that meets all of the redistricting requirements. Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Olson and carried to end the hearing and resume the Board meeting at 9:12 AM.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Backer and carried to adopt the following resolution for adoption of County Commissioner Districts:

**2022-15**

WHEREAS, M.S. Chapter 375 establishes the procedure and requires a process for redistricting County Commissioner districts based on population figures from the Federal Census; and

WHEREAS, M.S. 204B.135, subd. 2 requires that County Commissioner Districts be redistricted within 80 days of when the legislature has been redistricted or at least 15 weeks before the state primary election, whichever comes first; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to these statutes the 2020 Federal Census population figures shall be used to redistrict Big Stone County Commissioner Districts by April 26, 2022, and that Commissioner Districts shall be bounded by town, municipal, or precinct lines; and

WHEREAS, the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners has considered the possibility or potential for maximizing minority representation on the board of commissioners; and

WHEREAS, Big Stone County published a three week notice in the newspaper having the contract for publishing the commissioner's proceedings for the county for 2022; and

WHEREAS, Big Stone County conducted a public meeting on redistricting on April 5, 2022.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners hereby redistricts the County of Big Stone, following town, municipal, city district, or precinct lines as reestablished in April, 2022 and reestablishes the length

of terms as follows:

District 1 – City of Beardsley, Browns Valley Township, City of Barry, Toqua Township, City of Graceville, Graceville Township (4-year term, 2022 election)

District 2 – Foster Township, Prior Township, City of Clinton, Almond Township, Malta Township, City of Johnson, Moonshine Township (4-year term, 2022 election)

District 3 – Big Stone Township, Otrej Township, City of Ortonville Precinct 3 (2-year term, 2022 election)

District 4 – City of Ortonville Precinct 1 (2-year term, 2022 election)

District 5 – City of Ortonville Precinct 2, Ortonville Township, City of Odessa, Odessa Township, City of Correll, Akron Township, Artichoke Township (4-year term, 2022 election)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the redistricting plan be filed with the County Auditor by April 15, 2022, for the 2022 primary and general election and published in the Ortonville Independent.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the districts are, for illustrative purposes, identified in a map of the County attached hereto and marked Exhibit A which by reference is hereby made a part hereof.

Layne Kockelman from Abdo presented the 2021 audit findings for Big Stone County. Motion by Backer, seconded by Sandberg and carried to accept the 2021 financial statements and order their publication.

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

Ronald Athey	\$ 4,800.00
Baycom	23,739.00
Big Stone Area Growth	17,500.00
Big Stone SWCD	22,500.00
Bob Walsh Enterprises	33,668.52
CCM Health	3,797.04
Chippewa County Sheriff	3,507.50
Lac qui Parle Sheriff	3,834.49
Marco	7,249.00
Office Peeps	3,574.00
Otis Elevator Company	29,750.00
Pioneerland Library System	20,360.00
RDO Equipment	12,067.50
Stevens County	2,722.01
Superior Caulking	4,224.17
Viking Garage Door Company	2,999.41
Yellow Medicine County Jail	4,085.75
57 Payments Less Than \$2,000	<u>26,261.60</u>
Total	\$226,639.99

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

HR Director Dawn Gregoire brought the custodian job description with the added boilers license requirement for approval. The updated job description would move the position to a Grade 6. Motion by Backer, seconded by Olson and carried to approve the updated job description and authorize posting the position. Gregoire brought the retirement notice for Fiscal Officer Donna Valek at Family Services which is effective June 24<sup>th</sup>. Motion by Backer, seconded by Sandberg and carried to accept the resignation. Motion by Backer, seconded by Sandberg and carried to approve the filling of the Fiscal Officer position at a Grade 9.

Family Service Director Laura Laub presented a childcare grant program and requested \$240,000 to implement the program. The program would allow existing childcare providers to request up to \$10,000 and new providers up to \$15,000 for eligible expenses. Childcare centers could request up to \$15,000 for existing programs and up to \$20,000 for new childcare centers. The money for this program will come from levy dollars that can be reallocated due to the use of America Rescue Plan (ARP) dollars for payroll expenses. Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to approve the childcare grant program as presented. Further discussion was held on the use of ARP dollars. Motion by Olson, seconded by Backer and carried to approve the use of ARP dollars for payroll and related expenses.

IT Director Matt Anderson presented a plan to get fiber connection from the courthouse to the highway building. Motion by Backer, seconded by Olson and carried to proceed with the plan as presented.

Motion by Backer, seconded by Sandberg and carried to advertise the sealcoat projects for 2022 for the Highway Department.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Backer and carried to approve credit cards for the County Attorney Maggie Kluver and Family Service Director Laura Laub with a limit of \$2,500.00.

Motion by Backer, seconded by Athey and carried to approve the on-sale liquor license for the Graceville Golf Club.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to approve the plat for ROW 22-1.

Sheriff Brown was present during the work session to inform the Board that the City of Ortonville has contacted him about the possibility of the County providing the City's policing. Motion by Olson, seconded by Athey and carried to appoint Commissioners Sandberg and Klages to the committee to meet with the City to discuss options.

Commissioner Klages adjourned the meeting at 10:11 AM.

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Jeff Klages, Chairman

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