

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD
June 16, 2020

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the courtroom at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, June 16, 2020. Chairman Athey called the meeting to order with Commissioners Backer, Klepel, Olson and Sandberg present. Also present were Dillon Dwyer of the Ortonville Independent, HR Director Dawn Gregoire, County Engineer Todd Larson, Highway Maintenance Supervisor Darby Karsky, Family Services Director Pam Rud, Environmental Director Darren Wilke, County Recorder Elaine Martig, County Treasurer Cindy Nelson, Assistant CVSO Ward Odom, County Attorney Joe Glasrud and County Auditor Michelle Knutson. Other department heads and staff were participating via phone. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Ward Odom was officially sworn in as the Assistant CVSO by Chairman Athey.

The work session began with a discussion on appointing an interim County Coordinator. Commissioner Olson stated that he had a conversation with Pam and that he is supportive of a position with a limited scope. After discussion, a 20-25% position seemed agreeable with those present. A period of 12-18 months was also proposed as that would allow time needed to evaluate if the County would like to make the position more permanent.

Discussion was held on possible options for the use of the CARES Act funding that may be coming to the County. Commissioner Olson reported that Countryside Public Health has expended significant dollars during this COVID pandemic so some of the funding may be needed there. Consensus was to use BSAG for funds that would be funneled to businesses in the County.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Backer and carried to approve the minutes of the June 2nd regular board meeting.

Motion by Backer, seconded by Olson and carried to approve the agenda with noted addition to add County Coordinator under HR.

Commissioners reported on the following committees:

Olson – Countryside; PrimeWest

Sandberg – Property; Museum

Athey – SWCD; Property; EM Mtgs; Personnel

Backer – EM Mtg; RDC; Personnel; PIC

Klepel – ESB

Attorney Glasrud reported that he will be bringing a purchase agreement for the current Highway Garage to the next meeting.

Discussion was held on the parking lot by the Graceville Golf Course. Attorney Glasrud reported that the lot is owned by the County. Leasing was discussed as an option. Commissioner Backer will talk to Gene Carrington and report back to the Board.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Klepel and carried to adopt the COVID-19 Preparedness Plan for Big Stone County as presented by Attorney Glasrud.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Backer and carried to adopt the following resolution for local delegation of authority per M.S. §12.27:

2020-18

WHEREAS, Big Stone County is required to delegate local authority in certain emergency situations by Minn. Stat. § 12.27, subd. 3.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners as follows:

1. The Sheriff of Big Stone County is designated to act in accordance with the provisions and requirements of Minn. Stat. § 12.27, subd. 3.
2. This resolution shall not affect or impair the exercise of other powers or duties not contained in Minn. Stat. § 12.27, subd. 3.
3. This resolution shall not affect or impair any prior resolution, contract, or agreement of Big Stone County for mutual aid.

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

Matthew Carlson	\$ 2,000.00
CDW Government	2,835.03
City of St Cloud	3,846.15
CPT	5,732.00
Rod Ehrp	2,600.00
Paul & Terresa Huselid	3,000.00
Kandiyohi County Recycling	2,000.00
Milbank WinWater Works	2,530.96
Ortonville Independent	3,534.27
Rain for Rent	76,934.62
43 Payments Less Than \$2,000	<u>10,753.28</u>
Total	\$115,766.31

Motion by Olson, seconded by Klepel and carried to authorize the following internal transactions:

General to Highway	\$1,417.29
Ditch to Highway	\$1,812.12
County Ditch 2	\$826.96
County Ditch 8	\$135.36
County Ditch 20	\$849.80

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

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Backer and carried to approve the Off Sale Beer License for Lakeshore RV Park contingent upon submission of required renewal paperwork.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Backer and carried to approve the following 3-year assessment agreements as presented by County Assessor Sandy Vold: Townships of Akron, Almond, Artichoke, Big Stone, Foster, Graceville, Malta, Moonshine, Odessa, Otrey, Prior and Toqua and the City of Johnson.

US Fish & Wildlife representatives Blake Knisley and Bruce Freske were present via phone to request certification of acquisition of land for a habitat easement in Otrey Township. Steve, James and Amy Sitter were also present. Following discussion, motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to certify for acquisition the following described property for a habitat easement: T122N, R45W, 5th P.M., Section 32, part of NW1/4, part of N1/2SW1/4, part of S1/2NE1/4 to be surveyed.

Engineer Larson provided an update on Highway Department activities.

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

2020-19

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 \$1,773.00 for the activities stated in Chapter 86B.

Sheriff Brown reported that the County will be transitioning to Smart911 beginning July 1st. Brown stated that everyone will need to sign up as information will not be transferred from the current system.

Sheriff Brown provided an update on the mutual aid provided to the City of Minneapolis and thanked his staff for their professionalism during the civil unrest response. Sheriff Brown also expressed his appreciation to the community for the support shown for law enforcement and the military during this time.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Olson and carried to approve a personal unpaid leave request for VSO Dan Meyer for June 18-July 7, 2020.

Discussion was held on the interim County Coordinator position. HR Director Gregoire stated that she is working with Jim Mulder on a Memorandum of Understanding. Once the Personnel Committee has reviewed it, it will be brought to the Board for approval.

County Treasurer Cindy Nelson was present to request assessed values for the tax forfeited property that was recently demoed in the City of Ortonville. Following discussion, motion by Olson, seconded by Backer and carried to set the basic sale price at \$500 on parcel 22-0361-000 and \$3,000 on parcel 22-0810-000 and to adopt the following resolution setting the sale:

2020-20

BE IT RESOLVED, that all parcels of tax-forfeited land listed on List of Tax-Forfeited Land #20-1 be classified as non-conservation land; that the basic sale price of each parcel on List of Tax-Forfeited Land #20-1, that is on file with the Clerk of the County Board, be approved and authorization for a public sale of this land be granted, pursuant to M.S. 282.01; that the sale will be held at 9:00 AM, Friday, July 17, 2020, by the Big Stone County Treasurer at the Big Stone County Courthouse, for not less than the basic sale price; and that full payment is required at the time of the sale.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to authorize Assistant CVSO Ward Odom as the County's authorized representative for finalizing any existing grants and those the office may enter into.

Chairman Athey adjourned the meeting at 10:11 AM.

Wade Athey, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Michelle R. Knutson, Auditor