

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD**  
**July 21, 2020**

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the courtroom at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, July 21, 2020. Chairman Athey called the meeting to order with Commissioners Backer, Klepel, and Sandberg present. Commissioner Olson was absent. Also present were Mike Swenson of the Ortonville Independent, Interim County Coordinator/Family Services Director Pam Rud, County Attorney Joe Glasrud, County Engineer Todd Larson, Highway Maintenance Supervisor Darby Karsky and Deputy Auditor Heather Henrich. Other department heads and staff were participating via phone. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

The work session began with a discussion about the CARES Act funding. Coordinator Rud and Emergency Management Director Dona Greiner are working on making sure all entities have submitted their certification for the funding. The County's was submitted, but we have not received the funds to date. The next CARES Act task force meeting is scheduled via teams for July 22<sup>nd</sup>. Vince Robinson referenced the survey that Vicki Oakes sent out and he has been working on developing Business Assistance program guidelines.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Backer and carried to approve the minutes of the June 16<sup>th</sup> regular board meeting with an amendment to the Interim County Coordinator discussion. Backer would like the minutes to be amended to show that the Personnel Committee would be used at the discretion of the County Coordinator.

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

Commissioners reported on the following committees:

Sandberg – Property

Athey – Property; CARES

Backer – BSAG; CARES; SW EMS; Bois de Sioux

Klepel – Safety

Motion by Backer, seconded by Klepel and carried to authorize payment of the following claims as presented by Deputy Auditor Henrich:

4 Bar G Farms	\$ 3,285.00
Bituminous Paving	3,772.19
Bond Trust Services Corporation	177,147.29
Central Applicators	22,777.85
CPT	5,652.00
Given's Shorescapes	2,500.00
Guardian Fleet Safety	9,868.72
Midway Ford	34,680.00
Waste Management	11,467.38
WatchGuard	3,075.00
West Con	2,393.16
Ziegler	4,760.08
43 Payments Less Than \$2,000	<u>17,120.03</u>
Total	\$298,498.70

Motion by Klepel, seconded by Sandberg and carried to approve the Liquor License for Club 7-75 as presented by Deputy Auditor Henrich.

County Treasurer Cindy Nelson presented the Board with pictures and information about ten forfeited properties in Big Stone County. The cities will have first option to purchase, the cities have 60 days to make that decision.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Backer and carried to adopt the following resolution for tax-forfeited land as requested by Treasurer Nelson:

**2020-24**

WHEREAS, the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners desires to offer for sale certain parcels of land that have forfeited to the State of Minnesota for non-payment of taxes; and

WHEREAS, said parcels of land have been viewed by the County Board of Commissioners and have been classified as non-conservation lands as provided for in Minnesota Statute 282.01.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners hereby certifies that all parcels of land on the attached list have been viewed and comply with the provisions of Minnesota Statutes 85.012, 92.461, 282.01, Subd. 8 and 282.018 and other statutes that require the withholding of tax-forfeited lands from sale.

Treasurer Nelson requested that the Board set sale prices for this year's tax forfeited properties for the respective cities if they want to purchase them. Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Backer and carried to set the price at \$100 each.

Motion by Backer, seconded by Klepel and carried to reappoint Alice Stielow to the Local Social Services Agency Board for a 2-year term as presented by Family Service Director Pam Rud.

Rud presented a letter from Traverse County regarding sharing a Family Services Director 50/50 beginning January 1, 2021. Following discussion, Rud was directed to draft a letter to Traverse County stating we were not interested in the option at this time.

Correction Program Director Tony Frisch was present to answer questions about the Western Probation Services employee salary increases from the previous meeting. Motion by Backer, seconded by Sandberg and carried to approve the 2020 salary adjustments for Western Probation Services employees as recommended by the Joint Powers Board.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Klepel and carried to set the annual Highway 5-Year Plan meeting for August 18<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM at the Highway Department as requested by County Engineer Todd Larson.

Engineer Larson provided an update on highway department activities. Larson would also like to schedule a County Ditch 2 informational meeting as a follow-up to the March 6<sup>th</sup> meeting. Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Klepel and carried to set the meeting for September 1<sup>st</sup> at 11:00 AM during the regular board meeting.

Motion by Klepel, seconded by Backer and carried to set the public hearing for the reestablishment of County Ditch 21 drainage records for August 18<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 AM.

Motion by Klepel, seconded by Sandberg and carried to appoint Mark Dietz as viewer for the DNR petition to use County Ditch 2 as an outlet. The hearing will be set at a later time.

Motion by Backer, seconded by Klepel and carried to appoint Mark Dietz as viewer for County Ditch 13 to address the Fitzner Slough outlet petition when received as recommended by Larson.

Motion by Backer, seconded by Klepel and carried to approve the updated Lookback Policy for ACA as recommended by HR Director Dawn Gregoire.

Motion by Backer, seconded by Sandberg and carried to approve the updated Data Practices Policy as reviewed by Attorney Glasrud.

SWCD Assistant District Manager Tammy Neubauer presented financial information for the District and their 2021 budget request. She would request the same funding as last year which is \$90,000.

Coordinator Rud presented a budget worksheet to the Board prepared by Auditor Knutson. She suggested the Board review it and begin discussions at the next board meeting. Rud also presented an idea of having work sessions with the Board and County Leadership Team to talk about long range planning.

Chairman Athey adjourned the meeting at 9:57 AM.

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Wade Athey, Chairman

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Heather M. Henrich, Deputy Auditor