

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD
August 2, 2022

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioners' Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, August 2, 2022. Chairman Klages called the meeting to order with Commissioners 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 Backer, seconded by Olson and carried to approve the minutes of the July 19th regular meeting.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Olson and carried to approve the agenda with the additions of dilapidated structure application and Highway phones, computers, and Engineer discussion.

Commissioners reported on the following committees:

Olson – PW, SHNFP

Backer – BdSWD, CPT, Woodland, RDC

Athey – P5, 1W1P

Klages – Public Safety, ESB, 1W1P

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

Big Stone Ag Service	\$ 40,014.55
City of Graceville	60,000.00
Hart Intercivic	6,582.52
Hormann Works	8,787.50
Lac qui Parle Sheriff	4,159.00
Nick's Tree Service	2,000.00
Stevens County	4,951.75
Traverse County	23,075.20
Yellow Medicine County Jail	6,188.09
45 Payments Less Than \$2,000	<u>18,888.56</u>
Total	\$174,647.17

Motion by Backer, seconded by Olson and carried to delegate to the County Auditor any of its authority, powers or responsibilities under Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 282 regarding tax forfeited land.

Motion by Backer, seconded by Olson and carried to approve the dilapidated structure application from Phil Barutt for parcel 19-0053-000 and contribute \$3,000 towards the project with an additional \$1,000 towards asbestos removal.

Lisa Graphenteen with Big Stone Area Growth presented an update on BSAG activities for years 2021 and 2022. Options for addressing the housing needs in the County presented and discussed. BSAG 2023 budget request was received.

Highway Maintenance Supervisor Darwin Karsky presented a request from Foster Township for the County to blade and plow the roads. Motion by Athey, seconded by Olson and carried to take on Foster Township road maintenance. Motion by Athey, seconded by Backer and carried to hire an additional highway maintenance staff.

Commissioner Athey brought up the issue of Highway Department phones and computers and requested that the issues be fixed. After discussion on the topics, it was decided that it is a training issue and additional training will be provided to staff who require it.

Motion by Athey to rescind the letter to Stevens County to end the Engineer Agreement and to remain in the shared agreement. Commissioner Klages made three calls for a second to the motion. The motion failed for lack of a second.

Family Service Director Laura Laub requested approval for Jean Callens to cover a FMLA leave from December 1st to March 1st. Motion by Olson, seconded by Backer and carried to hire Jean Callens for FMLA coverage at the rate of \$26.19/hour plus mileage for up to 20 hours a week.

Laub provided an update on the Opioid Settlement and will continue to work with Public Health and the regional partners.

Motion by Backer, seconded by Athey and carried to approve the 2022-2023 Family Service Collaborative contract.

Big Stone SWCD Manager Tammy Neubauer presented their 2023 budget request.

Coordinator Pam Rud shared information on the AMC Fall policy conference.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Backer and carried to reappoint Wanda Holker to the Upper Minnesota River Watershed District Board of Managers for a 3 year term effective August 9, 2022 through August 13, 2025.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Athey and carried to approve the agreement with the City of Ortonville for law enforcement services.

Motion by Backer, seconded by Olson and carried to approve the hiring of Kayla Chester as a Social Worker starting September 6th. She will be at Grade 10, Step 1.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Backer and carried to renew the short-term disability contract for 2023.

Work session included discussion on tax collection and options that people have for payment. Auditor-Treasurer Knutson discussed direct payment options.

Commissioner Klages adjourned the meeting at 9:42 AM.

Jeff Klages, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Pam Rud, Coordinator