

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD
December 3, 2024

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioners' Room at 5:00 PM on Tuesday, December 3, 2024. Chairman Sandberg called the meeting to order with Commissioners Zimmel, Athey, and Olson present. Also present were Dillon Dwyer of the Ortonville Independent, County Attorney Rebecca Trapp and Coordinator Pam Rud. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Zimmel and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the November 19th regular meeting.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Athey and carried unanimously to approve the agenda with the addition of the SnoRider Grant Agreement and Dilapidated Structure request.

Commissioners reported on the following committees:

Zimmel – BdSWD, RDC, Prairie Waters

Athey – P5

Olson – Pioneerland

Sandberg – MSI, Personnel

Motion by Athey, seconded by Olson and carried unanimously to authorize payment of claims as presented by Auditor-Treasurer Michelle Knutson. Vendors, excluding Family Services, receiving payments in excess of \$2,000 are as follows:

Associated Consulting Engineering	\$ 2,250.00
ESRI	12,110.81
Guardian Fleet Safety	28,439.49
Hormann Works	6,979.00
Insight Public Sector	7,931.10
Johnson Jet-Line	4,574.80
Karpel Solutions	4,450.00
West Con	16,542.32
26 Payments Less Than \$2,000	<u>9,292.35</u>
Total	\$92,569.87

Motion by Olson, seconded by Zimmel and carried unanimously to approve 2025 Tobacco Licenses for the following businesses: Casey's General Store, Dollar General, Family Dollar, Snak Atak and Tri-County Co-op.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Zimmel and carried unanimously to execute the Snowmobile GIA FY 2025 Maintenance and Grooming Grant Agreement for Big Stone Lake Sno-Riders for \$30,122.40 and authorize Auditor-Treasurer Knutson to sign on behalf of the County.

Auditor-Treasurer Knutson reported that the County's 2024 MCIT dividend will be \$13,735 and is all related to Workers' Compensation.

Jake Dorry was present to discuss a dilapidated structure request. He is looking to tear down a home at 413 Jackson St in Ortonville and can get a contractor to come on December 6th to do it but did not have prior approval from the Board. Motion by Olson, seconded by Athey and carried unanimously to approve the dilapidated structure request as long as all criteria is successfully met prior to demolition.

Rud presented a Safe Routes to school resolution to support the City of Graceville in Phase 2 of the project. Motion by Athey, seconded by Olson and carried with Commissioner Zimmel abstaining to approve the following resolution.

2024-25

WHEREAS, the city of Graceville is applying for funding to implement phase 2 of projects from the Clinton, Graceville Beardsley Safe Routes to School Plan;

WHEREAS, the city is working cooperatively to implement sidewalk improvements in coordination with construction plans at the Clinton Graceville Beardsley School in Graceville;

WHEREAS, non-state aid cities must have a state aid city or county sponsor;

WHEREAS, the city of Graceville has requested that Big Stone County be the sponsor for this project and provide a licensed engineer to design and manage all aspects of the proposed project;

WHEREAS, Big Stone County has been assured that the city of Graceville and the Clinton Graceville Beardsley School District are jointly providing the required match for the applications and will assume the maintenance costs and responsibility for the life of the proposed project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Big Stone County agrees to act as project sponsor and engineer for the project should the City of Graceville's application be selected for funding, and that such a role shall include the following responsibilities:

- a. Be the fiscal agent on behalf of the community and have funds flow from MnDOT to the state aid county to the contractor
- b. Request SAP/SP number for the project
- c. Ensure the project meets milestones and dates
- d. Assist local agency in execution of a grant agreement
- e. Develop, review and/or approve the plan
- f. Submit plan, engineers estimate, and proposal to the District State Aid Engineer (DSAE)
- g. Advertise, let, and award the project
- h. Submit pay requests to State Aid
- i. Communicate progress and updates with the DSAEs and Active Transportation Engineer
- j. Provide adequate oversight, supervision and inspection
- k. Assist with project close out
- l. Work cooperatively to develop long term maintenance responsibilities for county owned components of this project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Jorden Roggenbuck is hereby authorized to act as agent on behalf of this sponsoring agency.

Chief Deputy Maatz was present to answer any questions from the public regarding portable recording systems. Per Minnesota Statute 626.8473, Subd 2, a local law enforcement agency is to provide an opportunity for public comment before it purchases or implements a portable recording system (Body Cameras). This statute also requires a governing body with jurisdiction over the budget of the law enforcement agency to provide an opportunity for public comment at a regularly scheduled meeting. No comments were received. Motion by Olson, seconded by Athey and carried unanimously to include the body cameras in the 2025 budget.

Discussion was held on the appointment to the Upper Minnesota River Watershed District. This item will be moved to the December 17th meeting and the three interested parties can come before the Board to express their interest in the position.

Rud requested action on the 2025 general wage increase for non-union staff. Motion by Olson, seconded by Athey and carried unanimously to approve a 4% general wage increase for 2025.

Rud presented the Emergency Management contract with Stevens County for 1-1-25. Motion by Athey, seconded by Zimmel and carried unanimously to approve the contract.

With the resignation of the Deputy Emergency Management Director, a new one needs to be named. Motion by Athey, seconded by Zimmel and carried unanimously to approve the appointment of Chief Deputy John Maatz as the Deputy Emergency Management Director.

Rud requested a temporary Eligibility Worker position to be approved for 10 weeks, 8-10 hours per week at Grade 7, Step 1. Motion by Olson, seconded by Zimmel and carried unanimously to approve the request as presented.

Rud informed the Board the Tammy Borgheiinck has been hired as the Veterans Service Officer and will start on December 16th.

Rud informed the Board that Ashley Goergen has been hired as an Eligibility Worker and has already started with the County.

Chairman Sandberg recessed the Board meeting until 6:00 PM.

At 6:00 PM, the Public Meeting to take comments on the 2025 Budget and Levy was held. There were no comments from the public.

Chairman Sandberg adjourned the meeting at 6:11 PM.

Roger Sandberg, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Pam Rud, Coordinator