

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD**  
**February 2, 2021**

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the courtroom at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, February 2, 2021. Chairman Backer called the meeting to order with Commissioners Athey, Klages and Sandberg present. Commissioner Olson was absent. Also present were Dillon Dwyer of the Ortonville Independent, IT Director Matt Anderson, Coordinator Pam Rud and Auditor-Treasurer Michelle Knutson. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

The work session included the following: a brief update on the remaining habitat easement; an update on the new business relief program; the opportunity for 4-H to assist with activities for Fridays in the Ortonville School system; possible contract for snow removal; follow-up on the purchase agreement for the current highway building; and the possible sale of wetland credits. Assessor Sandy Vold, Attorney Joe Glasrud and Environmental Director Darren Wilke arrived during the session.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Klages and carried to approve the minutes of the January 19<sup>th</sup> regular meeting.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Athey and carried to approve the agenda with the following changes:

1. move Bill Vangsness before committee reports
2. Add 4-H Program Coordinator Suzanne Souza after committee reports.

Bill Vangsness was present to request the Board's approval for the Graceville Golf Club's application for a gambling permit for a raffle. Motion by Athey, seconded by Backer and carried to approve the application.

Commissioners reported on the following committees:

Klages – Safety; SW EMS; ESB; Personnel; P&P; COVID

Athey - MRC

Sandberg – Safety; P&P; Food Shelf; MSI

Backer – SW EMS; BdSWD; CPT (2); RDC; Personnel; Probation; COVID

During Commissioner Sandberg's reports, discussion was held on various items for the new highway building. Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Klages and carried to integrate the new highway building into the County's current Mitel phone system. Motion by Sandberg and seconded by Klages to proceed with the installation of security cameras at the new highway building with oversight from Coordinator Rud and Safety Officer Dawn Gregoire. Following discussion and IT Director Anderson stating that standard cameras would be used so the Sheriff's Office has access, the motion carried. Discussion followed on electronic door entries with Commissioner Klages stating that for doors that are not electronic, they should be exit only. Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Klages and carried to proceed with electronic doors where needed for access.

Local 4- H Extension Educator Suzanne Souza provided additional information on the school's request for programming. Souza stated there are 40 K-5 students and each kit costs \$2-3. Motion by Athey and seconded by Sandberg to authorize up to \$2,000 towards the additional programming. Following discussion and wanting to offer this to CGB as well, motion carried.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Sandberg and carried to appoint Commissioner Klages to the Extension Committee in place of Chairman Backer.

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

Assn of MN Counties	\$ 2,200.00
Ratwik, Roszak & Maloney	2,336.50
SHI International	10,161.00
West Con	2,115.20
27 Payments Less Than \$2,000	<u>13,257.86</u>
Total	\$30,070.56

Assessor Vold requested that the Board set the date for the County Board of Appeal and Equalization meeting. The meeting was set for Tuesday, June 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM.

County Recorder Elaine Martig provided the Board with reports on fees collected and vital statistics for 2019 and 2020. Martig reported that her office continues to be in compliance with the recording requirements per statute.

IT Director Anderson requested the use of the website publicsurplus.com for the sale of surplus County equipment. There is no cost to the County and it provides a fair process for the public and employees. Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Klages and carried to authorize the use of the website as requested.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Backer execute the implementation agreement for the Bois de Sioux – Mustinka Watersheds Joint Comprehensive Watershed Plan as presented by Environmental Technician Danny Tuckett.

Coordinator Rud reported that the new Environmental Tech-Appraiser job description had been sent in for review and it came back at the same grade as the current Environmental Technician position so there will be no change to Tuckett's grade.

Coordinator Rud provided an update on the Leadership Committee's activities. Chairman Backer adjourned the meeting at 9:35 AM.

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Jay Backer, Chairman

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Michelle R. Knutson, Auditor-Treasurer