

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD
March 1, 2022

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioners' Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, March 1, 2022. Chairman Klages called the meeting to order with Commissioners Sandberg, 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 February 15th regular board meeting.

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

Commissioners reported on the following committees:

Sandberg – Woodland
Olson – Pioneerland, PrimeWest
Backer – RRB, Personnel (2), Woodland, CPT
Athey – Extension, Prairie 5
Klages – Personnel (2), Extension

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

Bond Trust Services	\$251,444.44
Nelson Electric	2,614.53
Scott County Sheriff Office	2,640.00
West Con	22,105.66
Yellow Medicine County Jail	3,617.54
Ziegler	8,975.00
27 Payments Less Than \$2,000	<u>11,078.65</u>
Total	\$302,475.82

Motion by Olson, seconded by Athey and carried to authorize payment of \$175 to MACFO as an auditor warrant.

Sheriff Brown requested the Board's permission for out of state travel to Philadelphia for Deputy LaMee to attend Drug Recognition Expert Training at the end of March. There is no cost to the County for the training. Motion by Backer, seconded by Olson and carried to approve the out of state travel.

Drainage Inspector Darwin Karsky received a request from landowners to replace the lateral tiles in County Ditch 16. Motion by Athey, seconded by Olson and carried to approve the tile replacements and accept the quote of \$40,184 from Big Stone Ag Services. This will be less if the southeast laterals are removed from the replacement list.

Human Resource Director Dawn Gregoire presented a tentative Agreement with LELS for 2022-2024. Motion by Backer, seconded by Olson and carried to approve the tentative agreement with LELS.

Gregoire informed the Board that negotiations continue with Maggie Kluver for County Attorney.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to approve the following resolution to support fully funding SCORE grants to counties as recommended by Environmental Director Darren Wilke.

2022-13

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes requires counties manage MSW according to an established hierarchy; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota's counties have made investments in waste prevention and recycling systems; and

WHEREAS, counties with innovative ideas should be provided the requisite opportunity and flexibility to successfully implement those ideas so as to best serve their communities; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota's counties have continued to invest in waste reduction and recycling by imposing local taxes and/or fees; and

WHEREAS, the revenues the State is collection via the solid waste management taxes have continued to grow while amounts sent to the counties have not increased proportionally; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota counties face significant market trends that will require innovative approaches to manage materials separated from solid wastes in order to adequately meet the growing and changing needs of citizens and businesses; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota has an opportunity to improve it waste reduction and recycling system through funding the counties investments in infrastructure and expanded operations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Big Stone County supports the state funding, by increased SCORE (Select Committee on Recycling and the Environment) grants, in amounts which fully utilize the solid waste management tax revenues for solid waste reduction, management activities, and improving our environment.

Facilities Manager Jared Heck requested approval to for tuckpointing the retaining wall in the front of the courthouse. Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Backer and carried to approve Superior Caulking to complete the tuckpoint work for \$21,120.85.

Coordinator Rud requested that the Board approve the publication of intent to redistrict. Motion by Olson, seconded by Backer and carried to publish the notice of intent to redistrict as required.

Rud shared the annual report from the Association of Minnesota Counties.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to support the Minnesota River Valley Scenic Byway with \$500.00 as budgeted for 2022. Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to support the 2022 Meander with \$1,000 as budgeted.

Work session was held. Dillon Dwyer with the Ortonville Independent shared information regarding a news series that he plans to write on Pillars of Big Stone County. He asked for the County's support in participating in these articles.

Use of the highway garage was discussed as an event has been scheduled there that is too large for the meeting room. Discussion was held and the consensus was to allow this one-time use of the garage.

Motion by Backer, seconded by Olson and carried to enter into closed session at 9:22 AM to discuss negotiations with the County Attorney. The Commissioners, Coordinator Rud, HR Director Gregoire and Interim County Attorney Matt Franzese were present during the closed session. Motion by Backer, seconded by Olson and

carried to reopen the meeting at 10:20 AM. The Personnel Committee will meet with Maggie to discuss the issues raised during the closed session.

Commissioner Klages adjourned the meeting at 10:22 AM.

Jeff Klages, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Pam Rud, Coordinator