

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD
April 20, 2021

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the courtroom at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, April 20, 2021. Chairman Backer called the meeting to order with Commissioners Athey, Klages, Olson and Sandberg present. Also present were Dillon Dwyer of the Ortonville Independent, Coordinator Pam Rud and Auditor-Treasurer Michelle Knutson. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

The work session included the following items:

1. Commissioner Sandberg provided an update on recent discussions and meetings he has been involved with regarding the County trail. Consensus was to continue with funding opportunities for extending the trail into the Refuge.
2. UMRWD Administrator Amber Doschadis and County Recorder Elaine Martig provided an update on the Whetstone River Restoration Project. Commissioner Sandberg thanked the Hedge family for their donation of land towards the project and Amber for her work on the project to date.
3. Coordinator Rud stated that there is an AMC call on Friday regarding the American Rescue Plan so there is nothing new to report at this time.

County Attorney Joe Glasrud asked via TEAMS if the Board had any questions for him as he had to sign off the meeting due to court responsibilities. No questions were asked.

There were no public comments received.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to approve the minutes of the April 6th regular meeting.

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

Commissioners reported on the following committees:

Olson – Countryside

Sandberg – HRA; Safety

Athey – HRA

Klages – Personnel; Pomme de Terre; RLF; ESB; Safety

Backer – Personnel; Woodland; Probation; CPT

Shelly Eldridge from Ehlers was present via TEAMS to report on the refunding bond sale on April 19th. Four bids were received on the adjusted \$3,070,000 Taxable GO Abatement Refunding Bonds, Series 2021A. The true interest rates ranged from 1.7225% to 1.9034%. Eldridge also reported on the S&P bond rating call and stated that the County's AA- rating was affirmed. Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to accept the proposal of the bonds as presented.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Olson and carried to adopt resolution **2021-14** authorizing \$3,070,000 Taxable General Obligation Abatement Refunding Bonds, Series 2021A; providing for the escrowing and investment of a portion of the proceeds thereof. A complete copy of the resolution is available at the Auditor-Treasurer's Office.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Athey and carried to execute the Third Amendment to the Loan Agreement with Federated Telephone to reflect the refunding of the Series 2015A Bonds by the Series 2021A Bonds, which includes an updated payment schedule.

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

Audio & Security Engineers	\$ 7,883.34
Big Stone Area Growth	5,428.72
CPT	5,687.00
Kandiyohi County Sheriff Department	36,096.62
Lac qui Parle Sheriff	6,129.25
Marco	3,894.72
Marco Technologies	12,840.64
Ortonville Independent	3,205.30
Prairie Lakes Youth Programs	2,050.99
Regents of the U of MN	18,814.00
The Shop	2,079.73
TrueNorth Steel	11,427.96
51 Payments Less Than \$2,000	<u>23,011.73</u>
Total	\$138,550.00

Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to approve the Big Stone County Property Tax Abatement Policy as presented by Auditor-Treasurer Knutson on behalf of County Assessor Sandy Vold.

County Engineer Todd Larson reported that the following bids were received for the mill and bituminous overlay and ADA work for SAP 006-620-021, 006-621-021 and 006-625-011:

Central Specialties	\$2,044,301
Duininck	\$2,302,641
Bituminous Paving	\$2,347,634
Mark Sand & Gravel	\$2,371,511

Motion by Klages, seconded by Olson and carried to award the bid to Central Specialties.

Engineer Larson provided a maintenance, County Ditch 21 appeal and building update. Commissioner Olson expressed thanks to the County taxpayers for supporting the construction of the new highway building.

Coordinator Rud reported that Highway was requesting a full-time maintenance worker. Engineer Larson and Maintenance Supervisor Darby Karsky provided additional information regarding the request. Motion by Athey and seconded by Sandberg to table the request to allow time to gather more information on possible additional township contracts and succession planning needs. Following further discussion, motion carried.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to adopt the following resolution approving State of Minnesota Joint Power Agreements on behalf of its County Attorney and Sheriff:

2021-15

WHEREAS, the County of Big Stone on behalf of its County Attorney and Sheriff desires to enter into Joint Powers Agreements with the State of Minnesota, Department of Public Safety, Bureau of Criminal Apprehension to use systems and tools available over the State's criminal justice data communications network for which the County is eligible. The Joint Powers Agreements further provide the County with the ability to

add, modify and delete connectivity, systems and tools over the five year life of the agreement and obligates the County to pay the costs for the network connection. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Board of Big Stone, Minnesota as follows:

1. That the State of Minnesota Joint Powers Agreements by and between the State of Minnesota acting through its Department of Public Safety, Bureau of Criminal Apprehension and the County of Big Stone on behalf of its County Attorney and Sheriff are hereby approved.
2. That the Sheriff, Mark Brown, or his successor, is designated the Authorized Representative for the Sheriff. The Authorized Representative is also authorized to sign any subsequent amendment or agreement that may be required by the State of Minnesota to maintain the County's connection to the systems and tools offered by the State.
3. That the County Attorney, Joe Glasrud, or his successor, is designated the Authorized Representative for the County Attorney. The Authorized Representative is also authorized to sign any subsequent amendment or agreement that may be required by the State of Minnesota to maintain the County's connection to the systems and tools offered by the State.
4. That Big Stone County Board Chair Jay Backer and Auditor-Treasurer Michelle Knutson, the County Board Clerk, are authorized to sign the State of Minnesota Joint Powers Agreements.

Chairman Backer adjourned the meeting at 9:56 AM.

Jay Backer, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Michelle R. Knutson, Auditor-Treasurer