

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD
April 6, 2021

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the courtroom at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, April 6, 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 a discussion on the plans for spending the American Rescue funds that the County will be receiving. The Leadership Committee will be discussing this and will make recommendations to the Board.

Coordinator Rud shared a letter that was received by Joe and Renee Eustice requesting the Board to send a letter of support to the Minnesota Department of Education for disability rights and justice to be added to the school curriculum. Commissioner Olson stated he was willing to write a letter and consensus was to have him send a letter on the Board's behalf.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Athey and carried to approve the minutes of the March 16th regular meeting.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Olson and carried to approve the agenda as amended to move Countryside Administrator Liz Auch before Committee Reports.

Ms. Auch provided an update on Countryside Public Health's activities and COVID. The percent vaccinated with at least one dose in Big Stone County is 54.5%.

Commissioners reported on the following committees:

Olson – Pioneerland; PrimeWest

Sandberg – MSI; Audit; Museum

Athey – CJI; HRA; Prairie 5; Fair Board

Klages – ESB

Backer – BdSWD; Woodland; CPT

Scott Gillespie, the County's representative to the Bois de Sioux Watershed Board of Managers, provided an update on the Watershed's activities.

Motion by Backer, seconded by Athey and carried to re-appoint Scott Gillespie to the Bois de Sioux Board of Managers for a 3-year term.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Olson and carried to execute the Upper MN River Partnership Memorandum of Agreement as presented by Environmental Technician Danny Tuckett.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Athey and carried to approve the 2020 Feedlot Annual Report as presented by Tuckett.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Klages and carried to authorize the hiring of a Summer Extension Helper for 2021 at Grade 1 as requested by HR Director Dawn Gregoire.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Athey and carried to accept the resignation of Seasonal Part-time Highway Worker Nate Nelson as presented by HR Director Gregoire.

Coordinator Rud provided an update on the Yellowstone Trail Alliance. Consensus of the Board was to refer the request to BSAG.

It was decided that the American Rescue Plan will be added to future work sessions.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Olson and carried to authorize \$1,000 for the Beardsley First Responders to be spent on supplies or training.

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

Abdo Eick & Meyers	\$ 8,100.00
Bob Walsh Enterprises	19,936.00
JLA Industrial Equipment	11,442.15
Lenovo	11,287.76
Marco	4,477.80
Rinke-Noonan	3,620.50
SERVPRO	10,611.52
Stevens County	3,073.38
The Window Place	4,336.30
West-Con	4,822.18
35 Payments Less Than \$2,000	<u>19,547.18</u>
Total	\$101,254.77

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Klages and to authorize the following internal transactions:

General to Highway	\$ 1,129.36
Ditch to Highway	\$ 1,324.01
Joint Ditch 4	\$ 87.43
County Ditch 5	\$1,236.58

Auditor-Treasurer Knutson asked for questions and/or comments on the year-to-date financial information provided for the Board's review.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Olson and carried that the 2020 financial statements be approved and ordered published.

Motion by Backer, seconded by Athey and carried to approve Graceville Golf Club's application for a County on-sale liquor license.

Auditor-Treasurer Knutson reported that the County received a \$25,000 return of capital contribution from CPT.

Auditor-Treasurer Knutson presented four dilapidated structure applications from the City of Clinton for assistance to demo tax forfeited parcels 17-0134-000, 17-0192-000, 17-0237-000 and 17-0374-000. Motion by Olson, seconded by Klages and carried to approve funds for 50% of the project, up to a maximum of \$3,000 per parcel. Disbursement will not be made until after proper receipts have been submitted.

Auditor-Treasurer Knutson reported that the County will be submitting costs for its admin expenses for the business relief grants.

Chairman Backer adjourned the meeting at 10:03 AM.

Jay Backer, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Michelle R. Knutson, Auditor-Treasurer