

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD
August 6, 2019

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, August 6, 2019. Chairman Sandberg called the meeting to order with Commissioners Athey, Backer, Klepel and Olson present. Also present were Dillon Dwyer of the Ortonville Independent, Mary Meyer, Mary Gustafson, Liz Auch of Countryside Public Health, HR Director Dawn Gregoire, Family Services Director Pam Rud, County Attorney Joe Glasrud and County Auditor Michelle Knutson. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Motion by Backer, seconded by Olson and carried to approve the minutes of the July 16th regular meeting.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Backer and carried to approve the agenda with the addition of a closed session for a discussion on the sale of the current highway building.

Sheriff Mark Brown arrived at the meeting.

Bill Powell, representing City of Ortonville Planning & Zoning, was present to request County support for demolition of forfeited properties in the City. Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Olson and carried to agree to share the cost up to \$3,000 per project as per County policy.

Countryside Public Health Administrator Liz Auch reviewed the agency's activities and presented the 2020 budget and the County's share.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Backer and carried to adopt the following resolution:

2019-19

BE IT RESOLVED that Big Stone County enter into a Grant Contract with the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs (MDVA) to conduct the County Veterans Service Office Operational Enhancement Grant Program. The grant must be used to provide outreach to the County's veterans; to assist in the reintegration of combat veterans into society; to collaborate with other social service agencies, educational institutions, and other community organizations for the purposes of enhancing services offered to veterans; to reduce homelessness among veterans; and to enhance the operations of the County Veterans Service Office, as specified in Minnesota Statute 197.608 and Minnesota Laws 2017, Chapter 4, Article 1, Section 38, Subdivision 2. This Grant should not be used to supplant or replace other funding.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chairman and CVSO be authorized to execute the Grant Contract for the above-mentioned Program on behalf of the County.

Becky Parker, Vicki Oakes, Janine Teske and Vince Robinson from BSAG were present to update the Board on MNbump and BSAG activities and to present the 2020 budget request, which includes additional funding for the MNbump position.

County Librarian Vicki Bartz was present to request financial support for the summer reading program held in Clinton. Motion by Backer, seconded by Olson and carried to authorize \$500 towards the program as requested by Bartz.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Backer and carried to appoint the following to the ESB EMAC committee: Representative – Dona Greiner and Alternate – Val Seifert.

Emergency Management Director Greiner provided an update on the office's activities.

Ditch Inspector Darby Karsky reported that a request had been received to clean coons tail out of County Ditch 2. Cost is estimated to be approximately \$3,000. Motion by Athey, seconded by Klepel and carried to authorize the clean out.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to approve utilizing State Aid Maintenance funds at the percentages allowed by MnDOT State Aid to assist in funding the construction of a cold storage facility for the Highway Department.

Highway Technician Derrick Loeschke provided the following bid summary for SAP 006-621-028, the County Highway 21 project:

Ronglien Excavating	\$101,836.88
Riley Brothers Construction	\$106,716.00
Gladden Construction	\$165,917.00

Motion by Olson, seconded by Backer and carried to accept the low bid from Ronglien Excavating.

Sheriff Mark Brown reviewed the recent temporary moving of the antennae and related equipment off the Ortonville water tower and requested authorization to update the equipment before it is reinstalled on the tower. Sheriff Brown reported the approximated cost for moving expenses and the new equipment to be \$5,023. Motion by Athey, seconded by Backer and carried to authorize the expenses and the purchase of the new equipment as requested.

Sheriff Brown provided an update on the NG911 project. Brown stated that Pro West will be needed to complete the project. Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Olson and carried to authorize Sheriff Brown to execute the contract with Pro West to complete the NG911 project. Brown stated that most of their work will be done in 2020.

Sheriff Brown also reviewed future purchases that are being budgeted for in 2020 including the County's share in the regional logger, the premise logger and dispatch consoles. Motion by Olson, seconded by Klepel and carried to authorize the purchase of the Gateway computers in 2019 to take advantage of pricing.

Commissioners reported on the following committees:

Olson – Countryside; PrimeWest; Pioneerland; CPT; Supporting Hands
Sandberg – MSI; Personnel; Dept Head; Safety; Food Shelf; ESB;
Property

Athey – Personnel; Prairie 5; Fair Board; Park; Property

Backer – Bois de Sioux; Park; CPT

Motion by Olson, seconded by Backer and carried to adopt the following resolution:

2019-20

WHEREAS, PrimeWest Rural Minnesota Health Care Access Initiative, dba PrimeWest Health ("PrimeWest"), is a joint-powers entity, duly authorized by the Minnesota Department of Health, and to be comprised of twenty-four Minnesota counties – Beltrami County, Big Stone County, Chippewa County, Clearwater County, Cottonwood County, Douglas County, Grant County, Hubbard County, Jackson County, Kandiyohi County, Lac qui Parle County, Lincoln County, Lyon County, McLeod County, Meeker County, Nobles County, Pipestone County, Pope County, Redwood County, Renville County,

Stevens County, Swift County, Traverse County, and Yellow Medicine County (“the Counties”); and

WHEREAS, Big Stone County (“the County”) is one of the twenty-four Counties that has agreed to authorize PrimeWest to act on its behalf through a joint powers agreement under Minn. Stat. § 471.59;

WHEREAS, the County elected, through PrimeWest, to purchase health care services on behalf of persons within the County eligible for Health Care Services for Families and Children through Prepaid Medical Assistance (MA) and MinnesotaCare, as well as persons eligible for Minnesota Senior Health Options (MSHO)/Minnesota Senior CarePlus (MSC+);

WHEREAS, consistent with Minn. Stat. § 256B.69 and Minn. Stat. § 256B.692, the County informed the Department of Human Services that the County had selected PrimeWest to purchase health care services for eligible persons within the County. The County also desired that PrimeWest be selected as the single plan for both MA and MSHO/MSC+ to serve all persons within the County as allowed under federal and state law starting on January 1, 2020;

WHEREAS, on or around July 25, 2019, the Department of Human Services notified the County that PrimeWest was not invited to contract to provide services as the single plan for all persons within the County who are eligible to participate in the MA or MSHO/MSC+ programs;

WHEREAS, the Department of Human Services has offered no explanation for its decision not to select PrimeWest as the single health plan, and the Department of Human Services has identified no evidence that the Commissioner of Human Services considered contracting with PrimeWest on a single-health plan basis as required by Minn. Stat. § 256B.694;

WHEREAS, the County strongly disagrees with the Department of Human Services’ decision not to select PrimeWest as the single health plan for both MA and MSHO/MSC+ in the County as allowed by federal and state law and, to the extent PrimeWest has not been selected as the single health plan both MA and MSH/MSC+ in the County, the County seeks to pursue all action necessary to challenge the Department of Human Services’ decision;

WHEREAS, to the extent the Department of Human Services did not select PrimeWest as the single health plan for both MA and MSHO/MSC+ within the County as allowed by federal and state law, the County wishes to retain Lockridge Grindal Nauen PLLP as outside legal counsel to pursue legal and/or administrative action challenging that decision.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

1. The County of Big Stone (“the County”) retains the law firm of Lockridge Grindal Nauen, PLLP for purposes of challenging any decision by the Department of Human Services not to contract with PrimeWest on a single-health plan basis within the County.
2. The County expressly authorizes Lockridge Grindal Nauen PLLP to communicate with the Department of Human Services on behalf of the County to request and pursue mediation under Minn. Stat. Chapter 256B, to appear on the County’s behalf at any mediation or administrative proceeding, and, if necessary, to pursue litigation on behalf of the County to challenge the Department of Human Services’ decision.

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

CBS Squared	\$ 5,937.96
Contech Engineered Solutions	24,295.81
Frontier Precision	2,165.00
Hancock Concrete Products	12,439.60
Hitesman & Wold	2,774.00
Kibble Equipment	4,906.99
Kris Engineering	2,973.60
M-R Sign Co	2,006.69
Ridgeview Excavating	6,730.00
Ronglien & Sons Excavating	4,322.45
Twin Valley Tire	2,127.32
West Con	12,748.75
Ziegler	3,089.21
56 payments less than \$2,000	<u>15,972.02</u>
Total	\$102,489.40

Motion by Olson, seconded by Klepel and carried to approve the following internal transactions:

General to Highway	\$ 2,784.69
Family Services to Highway	\$ 229.46
Ditch to Highway	\$ 633.26
County Ditch 2	\$ 72.10
Joint Ditch 4	\$209.26
County Ditch 8	\$351.90

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

Auditor Knutson reported that the County's 2019 MCIT dividend will be \$40,280 and is allocated as follows: Workers' Compensation \$31,506 and Property/Casualty \$8,774.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Backer and carried to approve the hiring of Heather Prisinger for the Social Worker position at Grade 10 Step 1 effective August 20, 2019, as presented by HR Director Gregoire.

HR Director Gregoire provided an update on the status of the hiring process for the IT Director position and reported that a revised job description has been completed. Motion by Athey, seconded by Sandberg and carried to approve the revised job description.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Backer and carried to approve the updated Flex Plan Document as presented by HR Director Gregoire. This included updates to the County's provider list in the document.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Backer and carried to close the meeting under MS §13D.03, Subd. 1(b) to consider strategy for LELS labor negotiations at 10:38 AM.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Klepel and carried to reopen the meeting at 10:54 AM.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Backer and carried to close the meeting under MS §13D.05, Subd. 3(c) in preparation for the sale of the current Highway Department

Building located at 437 Minnesota St N, Ortonville, MN (parcel # 22-0805-000) at 10:56 AM.

Motion by Backer, seconded by Athey and carried to reopen the meeting at 11:11 AM.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Olson and carried to approve the use of gravel tax funds earmarked for county road projects to install 18" tile in the road ditch east of St. Pauli church south of Clinton to eliminate washout issues.

The remainder of the meeting was a work session to continue reviewing the County's 2020 budget.

Chairman Sandberg adjourned the meeting at 12:01 PM.

Roger Sandberg, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Michelle R. Knutson, Auditor