

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD
September 15, 2020

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Highway Garage at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, September 15, 2020. Chairman Athey called the meeting to order with Commissioners Backer, Klepel, Olson and Sandberg present. Also present were Dillon Dwyer of the Ortonville Independent, County Engineer Todd Larson, HR Director Dawn Gregoire, Coordinator Pam Rud and County Auditor Michelle Knutson. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

The work session included a CARES update. Rud reported that there is a CARES call tomorrow which will include a report on the number of applications received by BSAG. Knutson provided an update on current expenditures to date.

Sheriff Mark Brown and Jeff Klages arrived at the meeting.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Backer and carried to approve the minutes of the September 1st regular board meeting.

Motion by Klepel, seconded by Sandberg and carried to approve the agenda with the deletion of the closed session.

Commissioners reported on the following committees:

Klepel – BSAG

Athey – CARES; Personnel

Backer – RRB; BdSWD; CARES; BSAG

Olson – PrimeWest; Countryside; AMC GG

Sandberg – Food Shelf; Museum

County Attorney Joe Glasrud reported that the two jury trials held went pretty well using the revised jury space and overflow areas.

Attorney Glasrud reported that the City of Ortonville approved the agreement to purchase the highway shop building pending city attorney approval. Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Backer and carried to approve the agreement subject to review by both attorneys.

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

CPT	\$ 5,652.00
Edney Distributing	4,107.68
John Murphy Sales	22,500.00
Kris Engineering	4,158.00
Nutrien Ag Solutions	2,648.13
Ortonville Independent	2,457.65
Regents of the U of MN	2,455.02
Rinke-Noonan	4,158.50
Ronglien & Sons Excavating	4,177.50
Dillon Schlimme	2,782.40
TrueNorth Steel	12,347.44
West Con	2,571.75
36 Payments Less Than \$2,000	<u>9,147.21</u>
Total	\$79,163.28

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

General to Highway	\$1,411.10
Ditch to Highway	\$ 836.92
County Ditch 2	\$255.00
County Ditch 20	\$520.74
County Ditch 30	\$ 61.18

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

Coordinator Rud presented a CARES funding request from BSAG for \$19,420. Motion by Backer and seconded by Olson to authorize payment of 126 of the submitted hours. Following discussion, motion failed with Klepel, Athey and Sandberg voting Nay. Rud will contact them for more information.

Engineer Larson provided an update on the new facility and road construction projects.

Motion by Klepel, seconded by Backer and carried to accept the \$100 donation from Florence Loeschke to be used at the Sheriff's discretion as presented by Sheriff Brown.

4-H Program Coordinator Suzanne Souza provided an update on 4-H. Souza reported that the County held Achievement Days this year in place of the County Fair, which allowed 4-Hers to participate in face-to-face judging for static and livestock projects. Demonstrations, food review, livestock interviews and performing arts projects were done virtually. Souza reported that the County saw a 6% growth in 4-H membership.

Discussion was held on the County's 2021 budget.

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

2020-28

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the proposed 2021 budget be approved and the net levy be established at \$5,340,878.

Following discussion, motion carried.

The public meeting to take comments on the proposed budget and levy was set for Tuesday, December 1st at 6:00 PM in the courtroom.

The start time of the December 1st board meeting was changed to 5:00 PM to accommodate the public comment period for the 2021 budget and levy.

Consensus was to hold the October 6th board meeting at the highway garage.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Sandberg and carried to adopt the following resolution as presented by HR Director Gregoire:

2020-29

WHEREAS, the County's Veterans Service Officer is currently on leave.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Big Stone County Board of Commissioners as follows:

1. Ward Odom is appointed as Interim Big Stone County Veterans Service Officer.
2. Mr. Odom's salary shall be \$35,053.20, which shall be prorated and paid on a bi-weekly basis.
3. The Board Chair is authorized to sign the Notice of Interim Appointment on behalf of the County.

4. The Human Resources Director is directed to place a copy of this Resolution, and Notice in Mr. Odom's personnel file and make arrangements to have the documents delivered to Mr. Odom.

Chairman Athey adjourned the meeting at 10:00 AM.

Wade Athey, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Michelle R. Knutson, Auditor