

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BIG STONE COUNTY BOARD**  
**September 7, 2021**

The Big Stone County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioners' Room at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, September 7, 2021. Chairman Backer called the meeting to order with Commissioners Athey, Klages and Sandberg present. Commissioner Olson was absent. Also present were Dillon Dwyer of the Ortonville Independent, County Attorney Joe Glasrud, Coordinator Pam Rud and Auditor-Treasurer Michelle Knutson. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

There were no items for the work session.

There were no public comments received.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Klages and carried to approve the minutes of the August 17<sup>th</sup> regular meeting and Highway 5-year plan meeting.

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

Commissioners reported on the following committees:

Klages – Personnel (2); Property

Backer – Personnel (2); Park; Probation; CPT; Woodland; RDC; BdSWD

Athey – CJJ; Park; Prairie 5; Fair Board

Sandberg – Property

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

Tom Maanum & SJK Plbg & Heating	\$ 15,817.97
Midway Ford	42,155.80
Ratwik, Roszak & Maloney	2,375.50
Stevens County	4,949.39
Twin Valley Tire	9,250.00
West Con	25,139.21
54 Payments Less Than \$2,000	<u>18,934.40</u>
Total	\$118,622.27

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Klages and carried to execute the contract with Central Specialties for CP 006-002-021 for paving the parking lot at the Highway Department.

Auditor-Treasurer Knutson provided an update on redistricting and the 2020 census.

Motion by Klages, seconded by Sandberg and carried to approve the solid waste licenses for the City of Beardsley, City of Clinton, Mattheisen Disposal, Engebretson Sanitary Disposal Service, Dakota Waste Solutions and Waste Management as presented by Environmental Director Darren Wilke.

Highway Maintenance Supervisor Darby Karsky provided an update on the additional townships' requests for county maintenance. Currently there is only one township interested so consensus was to wait on proceeding with updating equipment and staffing.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Backer and carried to authorize Karsky to proceed with trading in the tractor on the new one scheduled to be purchased in 2022 rather than keeping it as approved at the 5-year plan meeting.

BSAG representatives Vince Robinson, Lisa Graphenteen and Vicki Oakes were present for an update on BSAG and the 2022 budget request. Robinson reported that due to changes in DSI, he will be stepping back and Graphenteen will be taking over BSAG activities.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Klages and carried to execute the Purchase of Service Agreement for the Transportation of Children and Youth in Foster Care Placement with Clinton-Graceville-Beardsley Schools as presented by Social Services Supervisor Amy Weir.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Klages and carried to execute the Purchase of Service Contract with Barb Wiese for Families First Prevention Services as presented by Supervisor Weir.

Motion by Klages, seconded by Sandberg and carried to authorize IT Director Matt Anderson to replace all squad computers at a cost not to exceed \$30,000. This will be funded with the ARP funds.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Athey and carried to approve the updated IT policy IT-1500 to include social media as presented by IT Director Anderson.

Motion by Klages, seconded by Sandberg and carried to place Deputy Auditor-Treasurer Cindy Brehmer at Grade 9 Step 2 effective August 3<sup>rd</sup> due to the regrading and reclassification of her position as presented by Coordinator Rud.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Klages and carried to execute the employment agreement with County Recorder Elaine Martig as presented by Coordinator Rud. The agreement is effective beginning September 20<sup>th</sup>.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Klages and carried to accept the resignation of Social Worker Kelsey Pederson effective September 15<sup>th</sup> as presented by HR Director Dawn Gregoire. Motion by Klages, seconded by Sandberg and carried to authorize filling the position.

Motion by Klages, seconded by Sandberg and carried to approve the hiring of Holly Wellendorf for the part-time Deputy Auditor-Treasurer position at Grade 8 Step 1 effective September 27, 2021.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Athey and carried to approve the hiring of Nicole Albin for the Deputy Recorder position at Grade 7 Step 1 effective September 27, 2021. Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Klages and carried to authorizing filling the Social Worker position vacated by Albin.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Klages and carried to close the meeting at 9:25 AM for consideration of labor negotiation strategy pursuant to M.S. §13D.03. The Commissioners, HR Director Gregoire and Attorney Glasrud were present during the closed session.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Sandberg and carried to reopen the meeting at 9:28 AM.

Motion by Athey, seconded by Sandberg and carried to execute the LELS Labor Agreement as presented by HR Director Gregoire.

Motion by Sandberg, seconded by Athey and carried to increase the call time for part-time deputy sheriffs to \$3.40 per hour effective this pay period contingent upon Sheriff Brown's approval.

The remainder of the meeting was a work session to start discussing the County's 2022 budget.

Board members were reminded to take advantage of educational and training opportunities offered by the Association of MN Counties (AMC).  
Chairman Backer adjourned the meeting at 10:10 AM.

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Jay Backer, Chairman

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Michelle R. Knutson, Auditor-Treasurer