

February 5, 2019
Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting
Minutes

The Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, February 5, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. at the Cottonwood County Courthouse in Windom, MN. Present for all or portions of the meeting were: Commissioners Tom Appel, Donna Gravley, Kevin Stevens, Norm Holmen, Larry Anderson; County Coordinator Kelly Thongvivong, County Attorney Nick Anderson, Auditor/Treasurer Jan Johnson, Kathy Marsh, Nick Klisch, Alex Schultz, Ryan Miller, Chad August, Brian Nyborg, Jim Christensen, JoAnn Russenberger, Karen Kremmin, Dorothy Fundahn, Ron Kuecker, Jake Comnick, Dan Warner, Wayne Singer, Arthur Christensen, and Rahn Larson.

Chairman Holmen called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Motion by Gravley, second by Stevens, unanimous vote to approve the agenda as amended. Motion by Anderson, second by Appel, unanimous vote to approve the minutes of the January 15, 2019 meeting.

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Brian Nyborg, DNR Wildlife Manager, and Chad August, DNR Assistant Wildlife Manager, met with the board to get approval for a 286 acre land acquisition in Section 28 of Great Bend Township. Nyborg stated that this land would be an addition to the String Lakes State Wildlife Management Area and open to the public for hunting. Nyborg also stated that the property contains 65 acres of unbroken native prairie and 43 acres of restorable wetlands. Motion by Gravley, second by Stevens, unanimous roll call vote to approve the land acquisition by the Department of Natural Resources of approximately 286 acres in Section 28 of Great Bend Township and approve the following resolution:

**Cottonwood County Board of County Commissioners
Review of Proposed State Land Acquisition**

In accordance with Minnesota Statutes 97A.145, Subd. 2, the Commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources on February 5, 2019 provided the county board with a description of lands to be acquired by the State of Minnesota for water, forestry, wildlife, and natural plant community conservation purposes. Land to be acquired are described as follows: Part of Section 28, Township 105N, Range 36W, Great Bend Township, Cottonwood County, as described in attached Exhibit A.

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, by the Board of County Commissioners of Cottonwood County on February 5, 2019, that the State's proposed acquisition of the attached described property be (approved) (disapproved).

This resolution was presented by Commissioner Donna Gravley, second by Commissioner Kevin Stevens, and upon vote was duly adopted. I, Jan Johnson, County Auditor of the County of Cottonwood, State of Minnesota, certify that the foregoing resolution is a true and correct excerpt of the minutes of the Board of County Commissioners, County of Cottonwood, State of Minnesota held at Windom, Minnesota, on the 5th day of February, 2019.

S/Jan Johnson, Auditor/Treasurer

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Alex Schultz, Planning and Zoning Technician, and Ryan Miller, Environmental Health Specialist, met with the board regarding amendments to

Ordinance #39. Miller reviewed the list of changes to the ordinance. Motion by Appel, second by Anderson, unanimous vote to approve the amended sections of Cottonwood County Ordinance #39 "Providing for the Regulation of Food and Beverage Establishments."

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Nick Klisch, County Engineer/Public Works Director, met with the board to get approval to give the cities in Cottonwood County the option to have a one-time city wide clean up and give them a 50% reduction on the tipping fees for MSW. Motion by Gravley, second by Appel, unanimous vote to have a one-time half-price tipping fee of \$26.67/ton plus \$6.67/ton surcharge plus \$4.53 waste tax billed to the cities in Cottonwood County for the use of a city wide clean up in 2019 and allow the Solid Waste Department to pick up mattresses at the city wide events at a charge of \$2 per piece.

Klisch led discussion regarding a half mile section of road in Lakeside Township near POET. Klisch stated that after the Highway 60 project was completed the concrete portion of 510th Avenue that was a couple hundred feet in length is now a half mile. Klisch stated that the township isn't really equipped to maintain a concrete road. After discussion, the board requested that Klisch draft a maintenance agreement between Cottonwood County and Lakeside Township for the half mile portion of road.

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Motion by Appel, second by Stevens, unanimous vote to approve the Mountain Lake Golf Development, Inc. liquor license renewal.

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Kelly Thongvivong, County Coordinator, met with the board to discuss a few items. Motion by Gravley, second by Anderson, unanimous vote to move Jordan Allen and Isaak Paulson to permanent part-time status effective February 9, 2019 as Part-Time Jailer/Dispatchers.

Thongvivong led discussion regarding the Renodry System that was presented at the January 15th meeting. After discussion, motion by Stevens, second by Anderson, unanimous vote to enter into a contract with RenoDry USA in the amount of \$9,058.00 for drying out the Courthouse foundation.

Motion by Appel, second by Stevens, unanimous vote to declare that the County offices were officially closed until 10:30 a.m. on January 30, 2019, due to the inclement weather conditions and in accordance with County Policy No. 420.

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Motion by Stevens, second by Appel, unanimous vote to approve February warrants as follows:

County Revenue Fund	\$ 92,849.10
Long Term Capital Outlay	\$ 5,517.03
County Building Fund	\$ 4,361.39
County Revenue Fund	\$ 1,944.33
Road and Bridge Fund	\$ 72,330.66
Long Term Capital Outlay	\$ 14,949.50
Waste Abatement/SCORE	\$ 5,660.88

Landfill Enterprise	\$ 16,983.86
	<u>\$214,596.75</u>

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Chairman Holmen appointed Joe Saffert to the serve on the Extension Committee as a representative of District 1.

Discussion was held regarding the Courthouse Grounds and Building Worker job responsibilities. Consensus of the Board is to revise the job description and bring back to the board for approval.

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Commissioner Appel gave an update on the remodeling of the 10th Street Office Building. Appel asked for input on signage for the building and clarification on the keyless entry for internal doors.

Commissioner Stevens gave an update on the Heron Lake Watershed Board. Stevens also stated that he and Commissioner Gravley attended the Watonwan One Watershed One Plan meeting on January 28th and would ask the board to approve a per diem for the meeting. Motion by Appel, second by Anderson, unanimous vote to approve a per diem for Commissioners attending the Watonwan One Watershed One Plan meeting on January 28th.

Commissioner Anderson led discussion regarding liability for volunteers working at Pat's Grove this spring. The Board stated that all accident claims should be reported to the HR office and instructed the County Coordinator to check with MCIT regarding liability.

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Jan Johnson, Auditor/Treasurer, informed the board that the brokerage firm of First Empire Securities is merging with Stifel Nicolaus and Company as of March 15th and asked the board to approve them as a brokerage firm for the county. Motion by Gravley, second by Stevens, unanimous vote to designate Stifel Nicolaus and Company as an official Cottonwood County broker and depository.

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Motion by Stevens, second by Appel, unanimous vote to pay a per diem to Commissioner Gravley for attending the Daycare Shortage meeting at River City Eatery on January 23, 2019.

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There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:42 a.m.

Jan Johnson, Auditor/Treasurer

Norman Holmen, Board Chair

Kelly Thongvong, County Coordinator