

June 5, 2007  
Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners  
Regular Meeting  
Minutes

The Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, June 5, 2007 at 9:00 a.m. at the Law Enforcement Center in Windom, MN. Presiding over the meeting was Chairman Norm Holmen. Present for all or portions of the meeting were: Commissioners Norm Holmen, John Oeltjenbruns, Gary Sorenson, Tom White, Ron Kuecker; Administrative Assistant Kelly Thongvivong; Auditor/Treasurer Jan Johnson; County Attorney Doug Storey; Gale Bondhus, Andy Olson, Kathy Kretsch, Ron Gregg, Mike Hanson, Karen Boysen, Tony Nichols, Kevin Kuehner, Leroy Peterson, Bill Dunn, Heidi Lindgren, Gene Soderbeck and Jessie Zieske. Motion by Sorenson, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to approve additions to the agenda. Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by White, unanimous vote to approve the minutes of the May 22, 2007 meeting.

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County Assessor Gale Bondhus met with the board to give them some information concerning recent local boards of review and the Board of Equalization meeting, which will be held next week.

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Andy Olson met with the board to voice his concerns in regards to the water quality of our public waters.

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County Recorder Kathy Kretsch met with the board to discuss a few items. She presented two quotes for a new receipt printer for the Recorder's Office as follows: New Star - \$679.00 and Davis Typewriter - \$688.30. Motion by Sorenson, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to approve low quote in the amount of \$679 from New Star. This will be taken out of the Long Term Equipment Fund.

Kretsch presented quotes for a new computer to use for making birth and death certificates. After further discussion in regards to the arrangement of the office, the board asked that Kretsch install the computer program she is currently using on the three computers in the office and to hold off on purchasing another computer.

Kretsch also mentioned that she would like to refinish and old table that she is currently using as a worktable in her office. Because the quote is less than \$500, Kretsch was authorized to go ahead with the repair.

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Auditor/Treasurer Johnson reported that he received a donation for \$100 from Harold Van Every for the restoration/maintenance of the Larry Buhler statute. Motion by Kuecker, second by White, unanimous vote to accept the donation in the amount of \$100.

Johnson reported that he recently had a conversation with Bob Pankratz in regards to the possibility of obtaining credit cards for the purchase of gas for the leased vehicles at Family Services. Johnson will work with Pankratz in regards to this matter before presenting further information at a future meeting.

Motion by Sorenson, second by White, unanimous vote to allow Windom Chamber of Commerce to use courthouse lawn during upcoming Riverfest activities.

Johnson reported that there will be a reintegration meeting at the ALC Church on June 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm if anyone is interested in attending. He also reported that yellow ribbons have been placed on the trees and street poles around the courthouse square.

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County Engineer Ron Gregg met with the board to discuss several different items. Gregg presented bids for snow plow equipment for the new tandem truck as follows: J-Craft by TBEI - \$102,390.78; Sanitation Products - \$90,858.17; Crysteel Truck Equipment - \$80,110.00; Aspen Equipment - \$85,736. Motion by Kuecker, second by White, unanimous vote to allow Gregg to accept quote in the amount of \$85,736 from Aspen Equipment, as it is the preferred equipment amongst the Highway Department employees.

Gregg recommended that the board consider a price increase for the disposal of e-waste at the Cottonwood County Landfill. The current disposal fees do not cover the County's disposal cost. Motion by Sorenson, second by Kuecker, unanimous vote to approve price increases as presented with the exception of two changes that were made.

Gregg informed the board that he would like to form a 911-signage committee and he asked for input from the board as to the selection of some of the members. Gregg will work on setting up a meeting for the committee to get together.

Motion by Sorenson, second by Oeltjenbruns, unanimous vote to rescind motion made on May 8<sup>th</sup> for the purchase of a new computer for the Highway Department. It was determined while ordering the computer that Microsoft Office was not part of the quote with En Pointe.

Gregg reported that CSAH 2 surfacing project has started with approximately 1.5 miles paved.

Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by Kuecker, unanimous vote to allow Gregg to hire Harlan Hayenga for part-time summer help to perform mowing for the Highway Department at a rate of \$8.50/hour.

Commissioner Kuecker asked Gregg if he has received any feedback from the letter sent to the garbage haulers regarding the disposal of garbage in our county landfill. Gregg has not heard any comments.

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Environmental Officer Mike Hanson met with the board to discuss a few items. Kevin Kuehner was present with Hanson to explain the proposed grant agreement for implementation practices in the Middle Minnesota Watershed

specifically the Little Cottonwood and Seven Mile Creek. Motion by Oeltjenbruns, second by Sorenson, unanimous roll call vote to adopt resolution as follows:

Resolution 07-06-05  
FOR THE CWP007 IMPLEMENTATION AGREEMENT  
OF THE MIDDLE MINNESOTA WATERSHED PROJECT

BE IT RESOLVED by the Cottonwood County Board that Cottonwood County enter into the attached **Grant Agreement** with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) to conduct the following Project: **CWP007 Implementation of Conservation Practices and Effectiveness Monitoring in the Middle Minnesota Watershed Project.**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Cottonwood County Board that the Chairman be authorized to execute the attached Agreement for the above-mentioned Project on behalf of Cottonwood County.

WHEREUPON the above resolution was adopted at the regular meeting of the board on this date of June 5, 2007.

S/Jan Johnson, Auditor/Treasurer

S/Norm Holmen, Board Chairman

Kuehner also reported that Cottonwood County would receive \$15,000 (3% of total area in Little Cottonwood River Watershed) in low-interest loan dollars as the 8-county area recently received \$500,000 for septic loan upgrades.

Hanson reported that the Planning Commission met on May 31<sup>st</sup> to discuss the change of wording to Ordinance No. 28 specifically regarding Section 22 Subdivision 2. Hanson stated that the public hearing for the proposed change would be held on June 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00pm at the Environmental Office.

Motion by Sorenson, second by White, unanimous vote for approval of Hanson to attend upcoming Minnesota Association of County Planning & Zoning Administrators (MACPZA) training and update seminar in St. Cloud.

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Bill Dunn, Gene Souderback and Heidi Lindgren met with the board representing the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) to discuss the recent ISTS Grant Program review. After much discussion in regards to the findings, Dunn stated that MPCA is comfortable with allowing for the continuation of the ISTS program until the end of calendar year 2007 for remaining 40 systems. To allow for continuation, Cottonwood County must comply with the following: 1) assure eligibility of participants, 2) install systems according to 7080 requirements, 3) maintain records according to 7080 requirements. If the county does not feel they can meet the requirements of the remainder of the contract, MPCA should be notified. Dunn will work on drafting a letter to the homeowners and will send to the County Attorney and County Board for their review before sending out.

Auditor/Treasurer Johnson reported that he had recently received an estimate for tuck pointing around the Courthouse and that he would try to obtain another estimate as this is something that may want to be pursued as it has been quite some time since it has been done. The board agreed that this could possibly be a 2008 budget item.

Johnson reported that he recently completed the TIF Report for Southwest Minnesota Multi-County HRA.

Johnson reported his findings in regards to contractors that may be interested in helping the county to design ISTS systems.

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Chairman Holmen presented two quotes for the lettering of the Commissioner's table as follows: Sign Pro - \$714.16 which includes installation price of \$220; J & S Signs - \$552.45 which includes installation price of \$77. Motion by Kuecker, second by White, unanimous vote to accept low quote in the amount of \$552.45 from J & S Signs for the lettering of the Commissioner's table.

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There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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Jan Johnson, Auditor/Treasurer

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Norm Holmen, Board Chairman

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Kelly Thongvivong, Bd. Adm. Assistant