

March 14, 2006
 Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners
 Regular Meeting
 Minutes

The Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, March 14, 2006 at 9:00 a.m. at the Cottonwood County Courthouse in Windom, MN. Presiding over the meeting was Chairman Ron Kuecker. Present for all or portions of the meeting were: Commissioners Ron Kuecker, Norm Holmen, Gary Sorenson, Chuck Severson; Administrative Assistant Kelly Thongvivong; Auditor/Treasurer Jan Johnson; County Attorney Doug Storey; Ron Gregg. Commissioner Oeltjenbruns was absent. Motion by Severson, second by Holmen, unanimous vote to approve additions to the agenda. Motion by Holmen, second by Sorenson, unanimous vote to approve the minutes of the March 7, 2006 meeting as amended.

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Auditor/Treasurer Johnson reported that four companies came in to look at the Courthouse in hopes to give a quote for the Fire Alarm System but only two quotes were received and were as follows: Ron's Electric - \$8,978 and St. James Electric - \$18,000 - \$20,000. Motion by Sorenson, second by Severson, unanimous vote to accept low quote from Ron's Electric in the amount of \$8,978.

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Much discussion was held regarding the current pay matrix and some of the discrepancies that exist.

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Update was given in regards to the Southwestern Mental Health Center building proposal. The SWMHC board voted to go ahead and explore the possibilities and to form two committees (building & finance) to help in the process.

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County Engineer Ron Gregg met with the board to update them on a few items and to seek approval to purchase a used tanker to be converted into a water tanker. Two quotes were received and were as follows: Hills Stainless Steel & Equipment Co. - \$13,000 and Courts Machinery Company - \$19,500. Motion by Severson, second by Sorenson, unanimous vote to accept low quote in the amount of \$13,000 from Hills Stainless Steel & Equipment Co.

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Motion by Sorenson, second by Holmen, unanimous vote to approve March warrants as follows:

County Revenue Fund	\$ 54,959.56
Long Term Capital Outlay	\$ 1,578.55
County Building Fund	\$ 4,234.39
Road & Bridge Fund	\$ 58,168.07
Waste Abatement/SCORE	\$ 3,430.15
Landfill Enterprise Fund	<u>\$ 10,777.87</u>
TOTAL	\$133,148.59

Discussion was held regarding the appointment of an individual to the Southwestern Mental Health Center Board as Marlowe Nelsen's term expired on December 31, 2005. Commissioner Sorenson nominated Marlowe Nelsen and Commissioner Severson nominated Brenda Norby. Those in favor of appointing Marlowe Nelsen: Commissioner Sorenson. Those in favor of appointing Brenda Norby: Commissioners Severson, Holmen and Kuecker. Motion carried to appoint Brenda Norby to serve on the Southwestern Mental Health Center Board.

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Commissioner Severson gave an update in regards to the Family Services Collaborative meeting that he recently attended in place of Commissioner Oeltjenbruns. Severson reported that Greg Warner, Director of Circles of Support, stated that they are in the process of forming a joint powers board.

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Motion by Holmen, second by Sorenson, unanimous vote to declare that the county offices were officially closed on Monday, March 13th due to the inclement weather conditions.

Motion by Sorenson, second by Severson, unanimous vote to pay regular full-time employees their regular salary for Monday, March 13th because the county offices were closed due to the inclement weather. Those employees that were forced to work due to the inclement weather will receive 1 additional personal day that is to be used in 2006.

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Quotes for new carpeting in the Auditor/Treasurer's Office were presented for consideration. Because clarification was needed on a few of the quotes, this will be presented again at the next board meeting.

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It was reported that Cottonwood County received an annual settlement from Blue Cross Blue Shield for the contract year January 1, 2005 through December 31, 2005. The total of the settlement is \$43,239 and will be credited back to the county's insurance fund.

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Commissioner Sorenson shared some information regarding salary increases for 2006 among area counties that was recently compiled by SRDC.

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There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Jan Johnson, Auditor/Treasurer

Ron Kuecker, Board Chairman

Kelly Thongvivong, Bd. Adm. Assistant