

July 5, 2017
Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting
Minutes

The Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Wednesday, July 5, 2017 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, Jim Schmidt, Kevin Stevens, Norm Holmen; County Coordinator Kelly Thongvivong, County Attorney Nick Anderson, Auditor/Treasurer Jan Johnson, Kathy Marsh, Kathy Kretsch, Kyle Pillatzki, Gale Bondhus, and Rahn Larson.

Chairman Appel 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 Holmen, second by Schmidt, unanimous vote to approve the minutes of the June 20, 2017, regular meeting. Motion by Schmidt, second by Stevens, unanimous vote to approve the minutes of the June 20, 2017, Board of Appeal and Equalization meeting

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Kathy Kretsch, County Recorder, met with the board to inform them of the passage of Real ID in Minnesota and how it will impact her office; and, to also ask for a third working day per week for her part-time staff effective January 1, 2018, due to Real ID. Kretsch explained that with Real ID three different types of driver's licenses will be offered, each with different criteria, and information will need to be explained to customers. Due to this fact, Kretsch would like to increase her part-time help from two days to three days per week effective January 1, 2018. Consensus of the Board is to include a salary increase on the Recorder's preliminary Part-Time Salary budget request for 2018.

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Kyle Pillatzki, Assistant County Engineer/Solid Waste Administrator, met with the board on a few items. Pillatzki presented for approval a draft County Wide Residential and Commercial Recycling Services Request for Bids document. After much discussion, motion by Gravley, second by Holmen, unanimous vote to approve advertising for bids using the County Wide Residential and Commercial Recycling Services Request for Bids document presented with all bids due by 1:00 pm on August 7, 2017.

Motion by Gravley, second by Stevens, unanimous vote to approve the amended landfill contract between Cottonwood County and Diane Kruger for payment of landfill tipping fees.

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Kelly Thongvivong, County Coordinator, met with the board to discuss a few items. Motion by Holmen, second by Schmidt, unanimous vote to move Ryan Brockberg, Solid Waste Technician, to permanent full-time status effective July 17, 2017, and move Jared Van Dyke, Solid Waste Technician, to permanent full-time status effective July 18, 2017.

Motion by Holmen, second by Gravley, unanimous vote to recognize the recent resignation of Assistant County Attorney Lori Buchheim, which has been accepted by the County Attorney, and authorize County Attorney Anderson to fill the

position as he has requested.

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Motion by Stevens, second by Schmidt, unanimous vote to approve July warrants as follows:

County Revenue Fund	\$ 74,240.49
Ditch Fund	\$ 150.25
Taxes and Penalties Fund	\$ 322.80
County Revenue Fund	\$ 481.07
Road and Bridge Fund	\$ 8,438.18
Waste Abatement/Score Fund	\$ 5,527.07
Landfill Enterprise	<u>\$ 24,892.67</u>
	\$114,052.53

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Commissioner Appel asked County Attorney Anderson for a brief review of the non-compliant septic system process.

Commissioner Appel led discussion and asked for a consensus of the board regarding tax abatements for businesses locating to the county, outside of city limits. Consensus of the board is to be open and hear what the business has to say.

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Motion by Holmen, second by Stevens, unanimous vote to recess as the County Board and to convene as the Ditch Authority.

Motion by Holmen, second by Gravley, unanimous vote to recognize 800 feet of tile as county tile in Branch C-2 of County Ditch 31 as per profile documentation.

Motion by Stevens, second by Schmidt, unanimous vote to adjourn as the Ditch Authority and to reconvene as the County Board.

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Commissioner Schmidt updated the board on a wind tower meeting that was held the week of June 26th for the proposed wind tower farm in the northwest part of the county.

Commissioner Schmidt also stated that he had visited Talcot Park recently and was very impressed with the upkeep of the park.

Commissioner Gravley informed the board that there was a washout just north of the bridge at Dutch Charley Park.

Commissioner Gravley informed the board that the Plum Creek appropriation will now be divided between the three libraries in the county rather than sent to the Plum Creek main office.

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Motion by Schmidt, second by Gravley, unanimous vote to close the meeting at 10:24 a.m. to discuss strategy for labor negotiations. Present for the closed session were: Commissioners Appel, Schmidt, Stevens, Gravley, and Holmen; County Coordinator Kelly Thongvivong, County Attorney Nick Anderson, Auditor/Treasurer Jan Johnson, and Kathy Marsh.

Motion by Schmidt, second by Stevens, unanimous vote to open the closed session at 11:02 a.m.

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There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:02 a.m.

Jan Johnson, Auditor/Treasurer

Thomas D. Appel, Board Chairman

Kelly Thongvivong, County Coordinator