

May 17, 2016  
 Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners  
 Regular Meeting  
 Minutes

The Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, May 17, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. at the Cottonwood County Courthouse in Windom, MN. Present in person for all or portions of the meeting were: Commissioners Kevin Stevens, Jim Schmidt, Donna Gravley, Tom Appel; County Coordinator Kelly Thongvivong; Auditor/Treasurer Jan Johnson; County Attorney Nick Anderson, Kathy Marsh, Paul Johnson, Jason Purrington, JinYeene Neumann, Jed Rhubee, Lang Jensen, and Rahn Larson. Absent was Commissioner Norm Holmen.

Chairman Stevens called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Motion by Schmidt, second by Gravley, unanimous vote to approve the agenda as amended. Motion by Schmidt, second by Appel, unanimous vote to approve the minutes of the May 3, 2016 meeting.

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Paul Johnson, Emergency Management Director, and Jason Purrington, Sheriff, presented quotes on a public warning system from Hyper-Reach - \$4,300 for a one year contract and Civic Ready - \$5,480 for the first year and \$4,380 for the second and third year. Johnson recommended accepting the Civic Ready quote as Jackson County has contracted with them and because DVHHS would only have to learn one system. Motion by Appel, second by Schmidt, unanimous vote to approve entering into a 3-year contract with Civic Ready. Purrington stated that 911 funds will be used to pay this expense.

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Motion by Gravley, second by Schmidt, unanimous vote to approve May warrants as follows:

County Revenue Fund	\$106,967.07
Long Term Capital Outlay	\$ 31,479.78
County Building Fund	\$ 515.85
Ditch Fund	\$ 2,006.52
Taxes and Penalties Fund	\$ 2,311.00
County Revenue Fund	\$ 7,183.85
Road and Bridge Fund	\$100,167.69
Waste Abatement/SCORE	\$ 1,179.00
Landfill Enterprise	<u>\$ 8,382.05</u>
	\$260,192.81

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JinYeene Neumann, County Engineer/Public Works Director, and Jed Rhubee, Highway Maintenance Superintendent, met with the board to discuss a few items. Neumann presented the bids that were received for mowing (bids are on file in the HR office). Motion by Gravley, second by Schmidt, unanimous vote to enter into contracts for the rest of 2016 and all of 2017 and 2018 with Cory Ulferts to mow Red Rock Falls Park, Schoper-Bush Park, South Dutch Charlie Park and Mountain Park at a price of \$9,650 per full year and Russell Janssen to mow Highway 71 Building, DVHHS, and Pat's Grove at a price of \$2,980 per full year.

Neumann presented bids for pavement marking as follows: Swanston Equipment Company - \$51,381.50 and AAA Striping Service Company - \$45,681.49. Motion by Appel, second by Gravley, unanimous vote to approve contract with AAA Striping Service Company in the amount of \$45,681.49.

Neumann and Rhubee presented 4 state bids for a new skid loader: Bobcat - \$51,302.52; Titan Machinery, Shakopee - \$48,295.04; Titan Machinery, Marshall - \$45,750; and Westbrook Ag Power, Inc. - \$47,884.00. Motion by Schmidt, second by Gravley, unanimous vote to accept state bid from Westbrook Ag Power, Inc. for a New Holland C232 Compact Track Loader in the amount of \$47,884.00. This bid was accepted because of the monies that would be saved on future servicing/repair work.

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Commissioner Appel led discussion regarding Mountain Park. Appel stated that he has been approached by the MLOOSC Sportsman’s Club regarding relocating their shooting range to Mountain Park. JinYeene Neumann, County Engineer/Public Works Director, stated that she has been in touch with MCIT (Minnesota Counties Intergovernmental Trust) for liability issues and SHPO (State Historic Preservation Office) for historical site reasons. The consensus of the Board is to continue researching possibilities for Mountain Park.

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Kelly Thongvivong, County Coordinator, informed the board that she has received Austin Crowell’s extended, probationary performance evaluation and the recommendation is to move Crowell to permanent full-time status. Motion by Gravley, second by Schmidt, unanimous vote to move Austin Crowell, Solid Waste Technician, to permanent full-time status effective May 31, 2016.

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Commissioner Appel led discussion regarding information that was received pertaining to the Nobles Home Initiative.

Commissioner Appel gave a buffer update. Appel stated that the DNR has sent out buffer information to owners who are affected and that a two week deadline was given. Appel stated that the SWCD office has been inundated with complaints.

Commissioner Schmidt read the “Commissioners Spend Tax Dollars Poorly,” Letter to the Editor, which was printed in the May 11th issue of the *The Citizen*. Schmidt then preceded to state the facts for public knowledge. Commissioner Appel also added a few additional facts.

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Motion by Schmidt, second by Appel, unanimous vote to close the meeting at 10:27 a.m. for the purpose of labor negotiations. Present for the closed session were: Commissioners Stevens, Appel, Schmidt, and Gravley; Kelly Thongvivong, Jan Johnson, Nick Anderson, and Kathy Marsh.

Motion by Appel, second by Schmidt, unanimous vote to open the closed session at 10:48 a.m.

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A short discussion was held regarding building options for DVHHS.

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There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:52 a.m.

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Jan Johnson, Auditor/Treasurer

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Kevin Stevens, Board Chairman

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Kelly Thongvivong, County Coordinator