

**Yellow Medicine County Board Meeting Minutes
September 14, 2010**

Chairperson Jane Remiger called this regular meeting of the Yellow Medicine County Board to order at 9:00 a.m. with Commissioners Louis Sherlin, Gary Johnson, Jane Remiger, Dick Wambeke and Ron Antony present. Also present were County Administrator Ryan Krosch, County Attorney Keith Helgeson, Granite Falls Advocate Tribune reporter Scott Tedrick and Marshall Independent reporter Phillip Bock.

Approve Agenda 9-14-10-01 Motion by Commissioner Wambeke and seconded by Commissioner Antony to approve the agenda with the following changes: add a budget re-allocation request, FY 2011 Natural Resource Block Grant Agreement and FY 2011 Snowmobile Maintenance and Grooming Grant Agreement to the consent agenda; add insurance enrollment process to other business; add the August 2011 jail report to the informational items. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

Consent Agenda 9-14-10-02 Motion by Commissioner Antony and seconded by Commissioner Johnson to remove one budget re-allocation request for discussion and to approve the remaining consent agenda items as follows: minutes of the August 24, 2010, County Board meeting; Revenue Fund budget amendment of \$28,540.00 in revenues and \$28,540.00 in expenditures; FY 2011 Natural Resource Block Grant Agreement and FY 2011 Snowmobile Maintenance and Grooming Grant Agreement. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

White "Smart" Board Purchase 9-14-10-03 Administrator Krosch requested to re-allocate budgeted funds to purchase a white "smart" board for the Law Enforcement Training Room. Administrator Krosch explained that several County Departments could use a smart board for meeting and training presentations. The Board discussed the need for the purchase. Motion by Commissioner Sherlin and seconded by Commissioner Wambeke to approve the re-allocation request of \$2,500 for the purchase of a smart board. Motion carried with Commissioners Wambeke, Remiger and Sherlin voting in favor and Commissioners Antony and Johnson voting against.

Citizen Comments None

Commissioners' Reports

Commissioner Antony reported on 6W Corrections, ICS, SWCD and the Lyon County Landfill. Commissioner Wambeke reported on the County HRA, Safe Communities Coalition, Fatal Review Committee and the Adult Mental Health Advisory Committee. Commissioner Remiger reported on the County Historical Society, discussion regarding a joint recycling facility with Redwood and Renville Counties, PACT 4, Yellow Medicine County Township Association Annual Meeting, Countryside Public Health and the RC & D. Commissioner Johnson reported on 6W Corrections and the RDC. Commissioner Sherlin reported on Area II.

County Museum Maintenance 9-14-10-04 Commissioner Remiger informed the Board that the County Historical Society was planning to re-side and insulate the County Museum building and was requesting \$3,000 from the County to help pay for the project. The County Museum is a County owned building. The remaining cost of the project would be paid for by the Historical Society. Motion by Commissioner Wambeke and seconded by Commissioner Antony to approve a budget amendment of \$3,000 for the County Historical Society for maintenance to the County Museum. Motion carried with Commissioners Antony, Wambeke, Remiger and Sherlin voting in favor and Commissioner Johnson voting against.

Department Update County Parks Director Myron Hagelstrom gave an update on the County parks.

The Board recessed for a break at 10:05 a.m.

The Board reconvened at 10:15 a.m.

Family Services Presentation Family Services staff Peg Heglund, Emily McGonigle and Stacey Steinbach and Restorative Justice Coordinator Julie Marthaler gave a presentation on Yellow Medicine County's children services and restorative justice practices and philosophies. The presentation will also be made at a Governor's Conference later in September.

Food Shelf Coordinator Hiring 9-14-10-05 Family Services Director Peg Heglund informed the Board that interviews were conducted for the Food Shelf Coordinator position and that the recommendation was to hire Linda Bukowski for the position. Motion by Commissioner Sherlin and seconded by Commissioner Wambeke to hire Linda Bukowski for the Food Shelf Coordinator position. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

Regular Agenda

Resolution Approving a State Land Acquisition 9-14-10-06 DNR Assistant Area Wildlife Manager Bill Schuna presented a resolution requesting County Board approval of a State land purchase for a 160 acre wildlife management area in Wergeland Township. Motion by Commissioner Sherlin and seconded by Commissioner Antony to approve Resolution #21-2010 approving the acquisition by the State of Minnesota of lands described as follows: The Southwest Quarter (SW1/4) of Section Ten (10), Township One Hundred Fourteen (114) North, Range Forty-Four (44) West of the Fifth P.M. Motion carried with Commissioners Antony, Wambeke and Sherlin voting in favor and Commissioners Remiger and Johnson voting against.

Minnesota Falls Dam Environmental Assessment 9-14-10-07 Planning and Zoning Director Randy Jacobson requested the Board approve a letter to the Minnesota Environmental Quality Board asking that the Minnesota DNR be designated the Regulatory Governmental Unit (RGU) for an environmental assessment worksheet (EAW) needed for the potential removal of Excel Energy's dam located on the Minnesota River in Minnesota Falls Township. Director Jacobson stated the DNR would have more staff and better expertise in completing an EAW than the County. Motion by Commissioner Antony and seconded by Commissioner Johnson to approve sending a letter to the Environmental Quality Board requesting the DNR to be the RGU for the upcoming Excel Energy dam EAW in Minnesota Falls Township. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

2011 Budget and Levy Administrator Krosch reviewed the proposed 2011 budget and levy with the Board. The 2011 proposed budget shows a balanced budget with the addition of a 1.9% net tax levy increase. Administrator Krosch explained many operational and capital expenditure cuts were made to the budget in order to balance it with only a 1.9% tax levy increase. Cuts to the budget were made in response to the County losing 63% of its county program aid funding from the State of Minnesota from 2010 to 2011. The Board had a lengthy discussion on how much of a tax levy increase should be approved. Commissioners Antony, Wambeke and Remiger spoke in favor of little or no increase to the tax levy for 2011. A 0% tax levy change would require the County to deficit spend and designate reserves to balance the budget. Commissioners Johnson and Sherlin spoke in favor of going with a tax levy increase higher than 1.9% in order to lessen the likelihood of using County reserves in 2011 and to have funding available in case of additional State funding cuts.

9-14-10-08 Motion by Commissioner Johnson and seconded by Commissioner Sherlin to increase the 2010 net tax levy by 5.0% for taxes payable in 2011. The motion failed with Commissioners Antony, Wambeke, Remiger and Sherlin voting against and Commissioner Johnson voting in favor.

9-14-10-09 Motion by Commissioner Sherlin and seconded by Commissioner Wambeke to increase the 2010 net tax levy by 1.9% for a total preliminary 2011 gross levy of \$8,190,815. Motion carried with Commissioners Wambeke, Remiger and Sherlin voting in favor and Commissioners Antony and Johnson voting against.

Subsequent 2011 Budget and Levy Discussion and Public Comment 9-14-10-10 Motion by Commissioner Johnson and second by Commissioner Sherlin to announce Tuesday, December 14, 2010, at 6:00 p.m. at the County Board Room of the Yellow Medicine County Courthouse as the regularly scheduled meeting of the County Board at which the 2011 budget and levy will be discussed and the meeting at which the public will be allowed to speak on the budget and levy. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

2011 County HRA Tax Levy 9-14-10-11 Motion by Commissioner Johnson and seconded by Commissioner Sherlin to approve Resolution #22-2010 consenting to a special benefit tax levy of \$45,000 for the Housing and Redevelopment Authority of Yellow Medicine County pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 469.033, subd. 6, for taxes payable in 2011. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

County Extension Service Agreement 9-14-10-12 Motion by Commissioner Sherlin and seconded by Commissioner Johnson to approve as presented a three year agreement beginning January 1, 2011, between the University of Minnesota and Yellow Medicine County for providing Extension programs and employing Extension staff. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

Closed Meeting for Labor Negotiations 9-14-10-13 Motion by Commissioner Johnson and seconded by Commissioner Sherlin to enter into a closed meeting for labor negotiation strategy pursuant to Minnesota Statute 13D.03. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

The time of the closed meeting was 12:20 p.m. in the Yellow Medicine County Board Room. Those in attendance were Commissioners Antony, Wambeke, Remiger, Johnson and Sherlin; County Administrator Krosch; County Attorney Helgeson.

The closed meeting ended at 12:42 p.m. and the regular County Board meeting was reconvened.

Other Business Administrator Krosch requested to implement a new insurance enrollment process this year. Rather than staff returning forms indicating the type of health, life, dental and other insurance they want for 2011 the enrollment process would be done using an Internet based software program from AFLAC Insurance where staff would meet with individuals to provide them with the information they need to enroll for insurance in 2011. This new process provides a more efficient administration of insurance benefits. The Board agreed to try the new insurance enrollment process this fall.

Informational The August 2010 jail and investment reports were reviewed.

Approval of Disbursements/Review of Auditor's Warrants 9-14-10-14 Motion by Commissioner Sherlin and seconded by Commissioner Antony to approve the Commissioner warrants for the following amounts: \$142,376.41 Revenue Fund, \$225,853.38 Road and Bridge Fund, \$9,998.94 Ditch Fund, \$70,278.62 Human Services Fund; and acknowledge review of the Auditor's warrants. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

Review of Upcoming Meetings and Events The Board reviewed upcoming meetings and events.

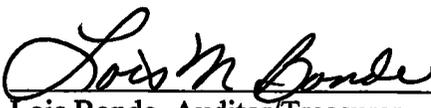
Adjourn 9-14-10-15 Motion by Commissioner Johnson and seconded by Commissioner Wambeke to adjourn at 12:47 p.m.. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

Witness:

Attest:



Jane Remiger, Chair



Lois Bonde, Auditor/Treasurer