

## Yellow Medicine County Board Minutes

August 22, 2006

Chairman Lynn Anderson called this regular meeting to order at 12:00 PM with Commissioners Gary Johnson, Jane Remiger, Louis Sherlin, and Ron Antony present. Administrator John Chattin, County Attorney Keith Helgeson, Robert Wolfington of the Marshall Independent, and Scott Tedrick of the Granite Falls Advocate Tribune were also present.

**08-22-06-01** Motion by Mr. Sherlin and second by Ms. Remiger to approve the agenda with the addition of: a Thoma property settlement statement to the consent agenda; heating and A/C needs in the Clarkfield building; Verhelst CUP; Curt Sorum request to amend minutes; Region 6W Rural Energy Board; Serenity Gardens contract; and per diems and to approve: August 8, 2006 regular meeting minutes with the following language added to the Goodfellows issue – “Mr. Jones agreed that the distance is measured to Goodfellows’ door and not to their property line”; calling a special meeting for September 5, 2006 at 9:00 AM for attending a Meth Committee meeting; Thoma settlement statement; and the following resolution:

Be it hereby resolved, that the Yellow Medicine County Board of Commissioners establishes a Postretirement Health Care Savings Arrangement under their VEBA Plan with an effective date of March 1, 2006; and

Be it further resolved, that such accounts shall be funded with 100% of accrued severance pay (accrued vacation, sick leave, and comp time) or similar amounts following termination of employment.

Carried.

The resolution to appoint a special prosecutor in the Granite Falls Fire Department gambling violation issue was discussed. Keith Helgeson, County Attorney, noted that the state has referred charges to the County and they must be considered.

**08-22-06-02** Motion by Mr. Sherlin and second by Ms. Remiger to approve a resolution appointing David Torgelson as Special Assistant County Attorney for Yellow Medicine County to review charges in the Granite Falls Fire Department gambling case. Carried.

Under reports, Mr. Sherlin reported on a negotiation session with LELS. Mr. Johnson discussed a Joint Ditch #38 meeting and UMVRDC. Ms. Remiger gave updates on AMC Transportation Policy Committee, Prairie Country RC&D, Yellow Medicine Historical Society, Minnesota Valley Regional Rail Authority, and a Workforce Center open house. Mr. Antony covered Safety Committee and Yellow Medicine Watershed meetings.

There were no citizens present to be heard.

Kay Zempel, County Recorder, asked for Board approval to have documents taken off site for imaging.

**08-22-06-03** Motion by Mr. Sherlin and second by Mr. Antony to approve taking plats off site for 2 to 5 days for imaging. Carried.

Mr. Antony gave updates on Pioneerland Library System. Mr. Anderson shared some correspondence and discussed an AMC Environment and Natural Resources Policy Committee meeting, negotiations with LELS, a ditch hearing, CEE VI Drug Task Force, and a technology planning session.

Mr. Anderson reconvened a public hearing on a petition for outlet into County

Ditch #48 at 1:00 PM. John Kolhei, Ditch Inspector, and several property owners were present. Mr. Kolhei noted that a redetermination would cost at least \$80,000. The petitioner, Roger Verly, could tile up to the watershed line without any action being taken. Mr. Verly withdrew his petition.

**08-22-06-04** Motion by Mr. Sherlin and second by Mr. Antony to close the hearing at 1:23 PM. Carried.

A proposal from Chappell Central to modify the cooling system in the County's Clarkfield building was considered.

**08-22-06-05** Motion by Ms. Remiger and second by Mr. Johnson to approve the proposal of Chappell Central for \$8,825. Carried with Mr. Antony voting against the motion, preferring it be included in the 2007 budget.

Amendments to minutes requested by Curt Sorum were discussed. Mr. Kolhei was asked to offer amendments to the July 25, 2006 Board minutes at the September 12, 2006 meeting.

Liz Auch, Countryside Public Health Administrator, reviewed 2006 activities and funding and requested the same contribution for 2007 that they received in 2006.

Paul Henriksen, Environmental Administrator, discussed an electronics collection to be held October 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> in Granite Falls, Canby, and Clarkfield. Fees for disposal were reviewed. The recycling contract and tire collection were also discussed.

Sheriff Bill Flaten discussed his recommendation for dealing with removal of bodies.

**08-22-06-06** Motion by Mr. Johnson and second by Mr. Antony to adopt the following policy: When a dead body is removed by the authority of the Sheriff or Coroner for the purpose of an autopsy, the County shall be responsible for the removal of the body, transportation to the autopsy facility, and transportation back to the location of the funeral facility that made the removal. Carried.

Mr. Flaten also reviewed a 9-1-1 Plan Change resolution where calls would be selectively routed to the Yellow Medicine dispatch. The state would be funding the technology needed at a cost of approximately \$56,000.

**08-22-06-07** Motion by Mr. Johnson and second by Mr. Antony to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Gary telephone exchange provides service to approximately 75 customers in Yellow Medicine and Lac qui Parle Counties and is owned by Interstate Telecom Cooperative in Clear Lake, South Dakota; and

WHEREAS, Public Safety Services for the East Gary customers is provided by both Deuel County (fire response) and Yellow Medicine County (police and EMS); and

WHEREAS, the Yellow Medicine County Sheriff has requested that the State of Minnesota fund an additional trunked circuit to selectively route 911 calls to the appropriate agency; and

WHEREAS, the State of Minnesota has agreed to fund one trunked circuit between Interstate Telecom Cooperative's Gary telephone central office in South Dakota and the IES selective router in Ruthton, Minnesota to provide selective routing information for Yellow Medicine County and Lac qui Parle County customers of Interstate Telecom Cooperative in Gary, SD.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Yellow Medicine County Board determines that this modification is the most appropriate way to meet the requirements of those public safety agencies whose services will be available by dialing 911, and

authorizes county payment of any non-recurring costs and any additional service levels adopted as part of the 911 plan change.

Carried.

**08-22-06-08** Motion by Ms. Remiger and second by Mr. Antony to advertise for a Corrections Officer to fill a vacancy. Carried.

The delay that will be caused by not having a lease agreement to approve for the new County Attorney offices was discussed. The hospital and city have both approved the lease terms.

**08-22-06-09** Motion by Ms. Remiger and second by Mr. Antony to remove the contingency in the 08-08-06-07 motion of having a signed lease and have Group II Architects proceed with their design and bidding documents as soon as possible. Carried.

A letter from Doug Sik opposing the Bob Verhelst CUP was noted. The letter suggested that Mr. Verhelst was in violation of the conditions of his CUP. Planning and Zoning Administrator Randy Jacobson will be at the September 12<sup>th</sup> meeting to discuss the situation.

Mr. Helgeson discussed actions being taken with the Serenity Gardens contract. It is in dispute and Mr. Helgeson will keep the Board informed of the process.

**08-22-06-10** Motion by Mr. Johnson and second by Mr. Sherlin to approve Commissioner's Warrants, as presented, totaling \$181,942.47 and acknowledge review of Auditor's Warrants, as presented, totaling \$94,445.24. Carried.

Engineer Andy Sander discussed ATP highway funding issues. He was also asked about some of the expenditures in the highway budget. The Board decided that a special meeting would be needed to further address budget issues.

**08-22-06-11** Motion by Mr. Antony and second by Mr. Johnson to call a special meeting for 8:00 AM on September 8, 2006 to discuss the 2007 budget. Carried.

**08-22-06-12** Motion by Ms. Remiger and second by Mr. Antony to close the meeting to discuss possible litigation at 3:20 PM. Carried.

Mr. Anderson reopened the meeting at 3:31 PM.

**08-22-06-13** Motion by Mr. Sherlin and second by Ms. Remiger to adjourn the meeting at 3:32 PM. Carried.

Witness:

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Lynn Anderson, Chairman

Attest:

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Carolyn Sherlin, Auditor/Treasurer