

**Yellow Medicine County Board Meeting Minutes
December 11, 2007**

Chairman Ron Antony 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 Robert Wolfington.

Approve Agenda 12-11-07-01 Motion by Commissioner Sherlin and second by Commissioner Wambeke to approve the agenda with the following changes: add November financial reports and MPCA/Ditch #10 letter to the informational agenda; remove union negotiations from the regular agenda; add UCare Grant to the regular agenda. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda 12-11-07-02 Motion by Commissioner Johnson and second by Commissioner Sherlin to approve the consent agenda items as follows: minutes of the November 27, 2007, County Board meeting; permanent employment status and authority to deputize Janel Timm – Chief Deputy Auditor; resolution approving Bill Ufkin and Wayne Mitchell Kling to the Lincoln-Pipestone Rural Water Board; tobacco license for Tom Norman – Bakery Bar & Grill in Clarkfield. Motion carried.

Citizen Comments 12-11-07-03 Eldeen Baer, Ruth Leppke and Marcella Oellien met with the Board to discuss the activities of the Canby Depot Visitor Center and to request county assistance for the Depot. Motion by Commissioner Remiger and second by Commissioner Sherlin to contribute \$1,000 total to the Canby Depot Visitor Center for 2007 and 2008. Motion carried.

Commissioners Reports Commissioner Wambeke reported on County Based Purchasing, the Courthouse Campus Committee, union negotiations and the AMC Conference. Commissioner Remiger reported on the Courthouse Campus Committee, shared county engineer annual review meeting with Swift County and the AMC Conference. Commissioner Johnson reported on the SWCD and the AMC Conference. Commissioner Sherlin reported on Prairie Waters CVB. Commissioner Antony reported on the RVI document imaging software demonstration in Willmar and the AMC Conference.

Department/Agency Reports County Assessor Connie Erickson presented an overview of the 2008 assessment.

CAMA 12-11-07-04 County Assessor Erickson gave an overview of computer aided mass appraisal (CAMA) and presented a service agreement for completing CAMA in the county. Motion by Commissioner Sherlin and seconded by Commissioner Wambeke to approve the expenditure of \$10,000 from the 2008 Recorder's Unallocated Fund for a service agreement with Doug Parsons to provide CAMA and other related services in 2008. Motion carried.

Homestead Abatement 12-11-07-05 County Assessor Erickson requested a homestead tax abatement for a property that was over taxed due to a clerical error. Motion by Commissioner Sherlin and second by Commissioner Johnson to approve a homestead tax abatement of \$108 for Corey Erp, City of Canby, Parcel #31-418-4904. Motion carried.

The county attorney and county administrator reports were presented to the Board.

Regular Agenda:

2008 Salary for Sheriff, Attorney and Recorder 12-11-07-06 County Sheriff Bill Flaten, County Attorney Keith Helgeson and County Recorder Kay Zempel discussed with the Board their 2008 salaries. These elected department heads requested placement on the same pay scale as other county department heads. Motion by Commissioner Wambeke and second by Commissioner Remiger to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes 387.20, 386.015 and 388.18 require the county board to set by resolution the salary of the county sheriff, attorney and recorder.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Yellow Medicine County Board of Commissioners set the following salaries for county sheriff, attorney and recorder in 2008:

Sheriff – Step 11, Grade 25 on the 2008 Yellow Medicine County Salary Schedule;
Attorney – Step 12, Grade 28 on the 2008 Yellow Medicine County Salary Schedule;
Recorder – Step 7, Grade 22 on the 2008 Yellow Medicine County Salary Schedule.
Motion carried with Commissioner Johnson voting against the motion.

2008 Commissioner Salaries 12-11-07-07 The Board discussed commissioner salaries and per diems for 2008. Motion by Commissioner Johnson and second by Commissioner Wambeke to approve a resolution keeping commissioner salaries the same as 2007 with the 2008 County cost of living adjustment added. After discussion and clarification on the motion, Commissioner Wambeke requested to withdraw his motion as he was not in favor of adding a cost of living adjustment. The motion was withdrawn. Motion by Commissioner Johnson and second by Commissioner Remiger to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute 375.055 requires the county board to set by resolution any salary they receive as compensation for services.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Yellow Medicine County Board of Commissioners set the following salaries for county commissioners in 2008:

-Commissioners: \$17,596 (current 2007 salary) plus the 2008 county cost of living adjustment.
-Board Chair: \$18,196 (current 2007 salary) plus the 2008 county cost of living adjustment.
Motion carried with Commissioners Johnson, Remiger and Antony voting in favor and Commissioners Wambeke and Sherlin voting against.

2008 Per Diems 12-11-07-08 Motion by Commissioner Sherlin and second by Commissioner Remiger to approve the following resolution for per diem payments:

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute 375.055 authorizes the county board to establish by resolution a schedule of per diem payments for service by individual county commissioners on any board, committee, or commission of county government including committees of the board, or for the performance of services by individual county commissioners when required by law.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Yellow Medicine County Board of Commissioners set the following schedule of per diem payments for county commissioners in 2008:

\$40 per meeting (same as 2007)
\$80 for meetings lasting more than ½ day (same as 2007).
Motion carried.

2008 Levy 12-11-07-09 The Board reviewed the 2008 proposed levy. Motion by Commissioner Sherlin and second by Commissioner Wambeke to approve a 7% levy increase from 2007 to 2008:

2008 Levy

Revenue Fund	\$3,512,454
Road & Bridge Fund	\$1,945,878
Family Services Fund	\$1,741,480
Library	\$71,928
Tax Abatement	\$8,200
Water Plan	\$2,829
Bond	\$281,900
Gross Levy	\$7,564,669
Less County Program Aid	-\$731,700
Net Levy	\$6,832,969

Motion carried.

2008 Budget 12-11-07-10 The Board reviewed the 2008 proposed budget. Motion by Commissioner Remiger and second by Commissioner Wambeke to approve the 2008 budget as follows:

Fund	Revenues	Expenses	Surplus (Deficit)
Revenue	5,291,388	5,359,984	(68,596)
Road & Bridge	4,332,178	4,492,700	(160,522)
Human Services	3,836,680	3,856,680	(20,000)
Jail Bond	381,900	366,226	15,674
TOTALS	13,842,146	14,075,590	(233,444)

Motion carried.

UCARE Grant 12-11-07-11 Family Service Director Peggy Heglund presented two grant opportunities from UCare. Motion by Commissioner Johnson and second by Commissioner Remiger to apply for a UCare grant. Motion carried.

12-11-07-12 Motion by Commissioner Remiger and second by Commissioner Wambeke to apply for an UCare Connect special needs plan grant. Motion carried.

Approval of Disbursements/Review Auditor's Warrants 12-11-07-13 Motion by Commissioner Sherlin and second by Commissioner Johnson to approve the Commissioner's Warrants for the following amounts: \$58,543.15 Revenue Fund, \$24,226.85 Road and Bridge Fund and \$3,285.50 Ditch Fund; and acknowledge review of Auditor's Warrants totaling \$120,403.06. Motion carried.

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

Informational: The Board reviewed the November investment, financial and jail reports and a letter from MPCA regarding Ditch #10.

Commissioner Sherlin excused himself from the afternoon portion of the meeting.

Chairman Antony recessed the meeting for lunch at 11:55 a.m.

Chairman Antony reconvened the meeting at 1:05 p.m.

Meeting with State and Federal Legislators State Senator Gary Kubly, State Representative Lyle Koenen, Tom Meium with Congressman Collin Peterson’s office and Gerald Woodley with Senator Norm Coleman’s office met with the Board, department heads and media to discuss current and proposed legislation that could impact the county. Funding for transportation and health care and the 2008 Farm Bill were among the issues discussed.

Adjourn 12-11-07-14 Motion by Commissioner Wambeke and second by Commissioner Remiger to adjourn at 3:12 p.m. Motion carried.

Witness:

Attest:

Ron Antony, Chair

Lois Bonde, Auditor/Treasurer