

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE YELLOW  
MEDICINE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
GRANITE FALLS, MINNESOTA  
November 14, 2006**

The Yellow Medicine County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 9:00 am on Tuesday, November 14, 2006, with the following members present: Ron Antony, Jane Remiger, Gary Johnson, Louis Sherlin and Chair Lynn Anderson. Also present were County Auditor-treasurer Carolyn Sherlin, and news reporters Scott Tedrick and Robert Wolfington. The chairperson called the meeting to order. The following items were added to the agenda: Rental property, tax abatement, GIS System and Budget discussion.

**11-14-06-01** On motion by Antony, seconded by Remiger, the agenda for the day and the minutes of October 24, 2006 were accepted and approved.

An additional appropriation request was approved for the County Attorney's Office in the amount of \$1900 on motion by Remiger, seconded by Antony, and all voting in favor.

The following resolution was adopted on motion by Remiger, seconded by Ron and all voting in favor:

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF  
MINNESOTA CHEMICAL HEALTH WEEK**

WHEREAS, over half a million Americans will die this year from alcohol, tobacco and other drug-related causes; and

WHEREAS, it costs every man, woman and child in Minnesota more than \$1,200.00 annually to cover the costs of unnecessary health care, extra law enforcement, auto accidents, crime and lost productivity resulting from substance abuse; and

WHEREAS, every person in the State of Minnesota is affected by alcohol, tobacco and other drug abuse; and

WHEREAS, prevention and treatment efforts have made major gains in reversing trends toward more and more alcohol, tobacco and other drug use in our communities; and

WHEREAS, alcohol, tobacco and other drug use are major factors in fires, drownings, rapes and other crimes, school failure, child abuse, injury, disease, violence and lost productivity; and

WHEREAS, fetal alcohol spectrum disorders are the leading cause of mental retardation in the United States, yet these disorders are 100 percent preventable; and

WHEREAS, businesses, governments, law enforcement agencies, schools, religious institutions, service organizations, neighborhoods, youth, senior citizens and other individuals are encouraged to demonstrate their commitment to help reduce and prevent alcohol, tobacco and other drug abuse by wearing and /or displaying the color red during Minnesota Chemical Health Week.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that November 13 – 19, 2006, be declared MINNESOTA CHEMICAL HEALTH WEEK throughout Yellow Medicine County, and the County Commissioners of Yellow Medicine County support the activities of Minnesota Chemical Health Week and the work of the Minnesota Prevention Resource Center, and encourage the citizens of Yellow Medicine County to participate in Minnesota Chemical Health Week activities and other alcohol and drug abuse prevention efforts year 'round.

Discussion took place on Amendment #1 to Loan Agreement SRF0116, Between the State of Minnesota through MPCA, Yellow Medicine County (loan sponsor) and Yellow Medicine Watershed District (project sponsor) concerning the Minnesota Clean Water Partnership Project Implementation Loan Agreement. Said agreement requests extension of approximately one year for project completion and reduces Yellow Medicine Loan by \$9866. Antony moved for approval, Johnson seconded, motion carried.

Antony moved to approve ongoing tobacco agreement with Countryside Public Health for 2007. This agreement provides for mandatory compliance checks for retail establishments. Johnson seconded motion, all voted in favor.

County Attorney Keith Helgeson requested approval for the office space lease with Todd Trudel for the relocation of his office to 868 Prentice St. Said agreement is for a three year period at monthly rent of \$750 beginning 12/1/06. Sherlin moved for approval, Antony seconded, motion carried.

A request to hire six election judges for the Post Election Equipment Review was made. Sherlin moved for approval at a salary of \$12 per hour. Remiger seconded, all voted in favor.

Sherlin nominated Johnson as the county delegate to the annual MCIT meeting, Antony seconded, motion carried.

Antony reported on the Pioneerland Library Policy Committee, and a Wind Power meeting.  
Sherlin reported on Western Mental Health and Area II.  
Johnson reported on Community Corrections.

County Engineer Andy Sander requested approval for the following resolution:

**YELLOW MEDICINE COUNTY  
LOCAL ADVANCE RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the County of Yellow Medicine desires to construct the following County State-Aid Project: and, Project No. S.P. 87-603-27

WHEREAS, said County is prepared to proceed with the construction of said project and agrees to provide local funds to supplement the available funds in the County Regular Construction Account:

WHEREAS, the repayment of funds so advanced by the County will be paid in accordance with the provisions of Minnesota Statutes 162.08, Subd. 5, 6, & 7 and Minnesota Rules 8820.1500, Subd. 8;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Commissioner of Transportation be and is hereby requested this basis for financing said construction projects and to authorize repayments from subsequent Account, in the amounts as herein indicated. (Note: Amount shown is estimated)

\$400,000 From 2008 Allotment (Regular Construction Account)

Remiger moved for approval, Sherlin seconded, motion carried. Various county road projects were reviewed.

Sheriff Bill Flaten requested that the board terminate employment for probation employee Sue Lavoie, Johnson moved, Sherlin seconded, and all voted in favor.

Jim Brimeyer, from the Brimeyer Group presented the draft profile for the county administrator position search for approval. Job duties were reviewed and corrections made. The proposed timetable sets the deadline for applications for December 27, Candidate selection on January 22 with interviews scheduled for February 2&3. After discussion Remiger moved to proceed, Sherlin seconded. Motion carried.

City Manager Bill Lavin & Mayor Dave Smiglewski, City of Granite Falls, discussed various issues concerning the proposed relocation of the county historical museum and requested board permission to obtain proposals to complete a flood mitigation study. Various options for protecting the museum building and finding a suitable location were mentioned. The Flood Mitigation Task Force will discuss the project at its next meeting to determine available options. The cost for the engineering study will come out of existing flood mitigation funds. Remiger voiced a concern that the Museum Board was not contacted regarding this issue. A meeting of that board would be held later today and the subject will be addressed them. After further deliberation, Antony moved to grant permission to move ahead with the study, providing the museum board also agrees to the proposal, Remiger seconded motion, all voted in favor.

Remiger reported on a R&B Equipment meeting, Soil & Water conservation meeting, RC&D, ISC dry hydrants, and Prairie Waters.

A request for funding was considered from the Entrepreneur's Assistance Network. This was determined to be a budget issue and the response was to reject this request for 2007.

The rent or sale of the Thoma house was discussed. In view of a possible rental, it was determined to charge \$450 plus utilities per month. The upper deck should be removed prior to rental, the Sentence to Serve Unit needs to be contacted for this project. The auditor will advertise it for sale with stipulation that the buyer will move it from its current location.

Sherlin discussed the Gert Zell properties located in Porter. The county board previously determined that the clean-up costs for this property in the amount of \$7,440.66 should be assessed with the property taxes in 2007. The property is being sold by the owner who has requested that all current and delinquent taxes be abated by the county. He will agree to pay off the special assessment from the proceeds of the sale. On motion by Johnson, seconded by Sherlin, said request was granted. All voted in favor.

Sherlin mentioned that the County Fair Board and the Soil & Water Board be scheduled for their annual reports on the same day next summer as a convenience to one of its members who serves on both boards.

Remiger made a request to find an employee to send out various sympathy and get well cards, signed by the county board, to any person(s) who would normally be in a position to receive a card of this type.

Remiger discussed the proposed reduction in the county recorder staff for budget purposes. This was part of the 2007 budget proposal but the recorder was not contacted for comment prior to its inclusion in the budget. She asked that the recorder be present at the next meeting for comment and to bring along comparisons from other counties as to number of staff and deed transactions.

It was reported that the Score grant for 2007 will be \$49,079.

Sherlin moved to approve payment of the claims in the amount of \$86,023.46 for the Revenue Fund; \$82,398.04 from Road & Bridge Fund; and \$4,894.60 from Ditch Fund. Antony seconded, all voted in favor. On motion, the meeting was adjourned.

Witness:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lynn Anderson, Chairman

Attest:

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Carolyn Sherlin, Auditor/Treasurer