

Yellow Medicine County Board Minutes
October 12, 2004

Chair Jane Remiger called this regular meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. with Commissioners Lynn Anderson, Gary Johnson, Louis Sherlin, and Ron Antony present. Administrator John Chattin, Dan McGonigle of the Granite Falls Advocate Tribune, and Robert Wolfington of the Marshall Independent were also present.

10-12-04-01 Motion by Mr. Anderson and second by Mr. Sherlin to approve the agenda with the addition of: vehicle use by John Kolhei; technical support position request; and conducting a visioning session. Carried.

10-12-04-02 Motion by Mr. Johnson and second by Mr. Antony to approve the consent agenda items including the September 28, 2004 regular meeting minutes, with one sentence edited, and two Planning and Zoning Additional Appropriation requests. Carried.

Mr. Antony started reports with an update on the Cooperative Efforts Committee. Mr. Johnson attended the Comparable Worth Committee and Region 6W Community Corrections. Mr. Sherlin reported on Area II Minnesota River Basin Projects. Ms. Remiger reviewed a Family Services meeting and suggested that the 2005 budget and 2003 audit be reviewed at the November 9th Board meeting.

Several upcoming meetings were discussed.

A request from John Kolhei, County Ditch Inspector, for personal use of his County vehicle was considered. A distinction between personal use and commuting use was drawn. Mr. Kolhei was requesting commuting use during the active ditch season.

10-12-04-03 Motion by Mr. Sherlin and second by Mr. Anderson to allow Mr. Kolhei commuting use of his County vehicle during the active ditch season with proper reporting of personal mileage annually, per County policy. Carried, with Mr. Johnson voting against the motion.

Head Custodian Curt Johnson reviewed the roof reshingling and jail dehumidification projects. He also noted that tree planting and window replacement should be considered in future courthouse project planning. The process to find a temporary replacement for Gib Christensen was discussed.

10-12-04-04 Motion by Mr. Antony and second by Mr. Sherlin to hire LeRoy Sik as a temporary Assistant Head Maintenance Engineer/Custodian, per the hire letter offered. Carried.

10-12-04-05 Motion by Mr. Anderson and second by Mr. Antony to adopt Policy 204 – Employee Recognition Event as submitted. Carried.

Mr. Antony reviewed discussion from the Cooperative Efforts Committee on the continued need for a Technical Support position in the County. A Request for Proposals did not result in the services hoped for. It was suggested that the County advertise for a part-time position for approximately 25 hour per week. Annual costs were estimated at \$25,000, with much of that already paid out for contracted services.

10-12-04-06 Motion by Mr. Johnson and second by Mr. Anderson to advertise for a part-time Technical Support Specialist. Carried.

A short break was taken at 10:00 a.m. with the meeting reconvened at 10:09 a.m.

John Johnson, County Engineer, reviewed the County's current dust control policy. He felt that the \$300 fee discouraged use and suggested that a lower fee could encourage additional dust control services. He estimated the County's cost at \$150 per application.

10-12-04-07 Motion by Mr. Johnson and second by Mr. Antony to charge \$150 per application for dust control measures. Carried.

Engineer Johnson distributed the current equipment replacement schedule. It showed that highway equipment was normally replaced with 12 to 20 years of service. Mowers were replaced most frequently at 4 years and some equipment already had 40 years of use.

A recommendation to eliminate a Highway Diversion Fund was considered. The fund was originally started to fund a diversion project and aggregated contributions from the County, townships, and watershed district. Future repairs and maintenance of the channel were the responsibility of the County, with no provision for assessing other entities.

10-12-04-08 Motion by Mr. Johnson and second by Mr. Anderson to discontinue the Highway Diversion Channel Fund, credit the Road and Bridge Fund for the current balance of \$13,014.48, and acknowledge the County's responsibility for future channel repairs and maintenance. Carried, with Mr. Antony and Mr. Sherlin voting against the action.

10-12-04-09 Motion by Mr. Johnson and second by Mr. Antony to approve final payment on bridge replacement projects SP 87-599-49 (Florida Township), 87-599-106 (Fortier Township), and 87-606-12 (Wood Lake) to R & G Construction for \$13,206.45. Carried.

Randy Jacobson, Planning and Zoning Administrator, reviewed a contract with the Upper Minnesota Valley Regional Development Commission (UMVRDC) for comprehensive planning services. The contract totaled \$28,000, with \$7,000 payable in 2004.

10-12-04-10 Motion by Mr. Sherlin and second by Mr. Anderson to approve the contract with the UMVRDC and an additional appropriation, out of County surpluses, of \$7,000 for the 2004 payment. Carried.

10-12-04-11 Motion by Mr. Sherlin and second by Mr. Antony to approve an additional appropriation request from Mr. Jacobson for advertising, mileage, and per diems totaling \$1,350, as presented. Carried.

Michelle Gatz, VSO/Emergency Management, reviewed Policy 504 – Photo Identification Cards. Information desired on the cards was discussed.

10-12-04-12 Motion by Mr. Sherlin and second by Mr. Anderson to approve Policy 504 – Photo Identification Cards with the additional of an optional medical information section and changing the requirement to display to encourage to display, except when required due to special circumstances. Carried.

The Comparable Worth Committee recommendation for a change in the Fiscal Officer's points precipitated a discussion on the need for a new system. Contracting with an outside vendor for such services was considered.

10-12-04-13 Motion by Mr. Johnson and second by Mr. Antony to approve changing the Fiscal Officer's comparable worth points to 296, assigning Labor Grade 13 – Step 7 to the position, and recognize a new monthly salary of \$3,307. Carried.

The Board discussed having a visioning session to brainstorm over the future of the County.

10-12-04-14 Motion by Mr. Sherlin and second by Mr. Antony to set Thursday, December 2, 2004, at 7:00 p.m. as the date and time to hold a County Board Visioning Session. Carried.

10-12-04-15 Motion by Mr. Antony and second by Mr. Anderson to approve

Commissioners' Warrants as presented totaling \$138,188.64 and acknowledge review of Auditor's Warrants as presented totaling \$418,512.62. Carried.

10-12-04-16 Motion by Mr. Sherlin and second by Mr. Johnson to adjourn at 11:38 a.m. Carried.

Witness:

Jane Remiger, Chair

Attest:

Carolyn Sherlin, Auditor/Treasurer