

Yellow Medicine County Board Minutes

October 26, 2004

Chair Jane Remiger called this regular meeting to order at 11:12 a.m. with Commissioners Lynn Anderson, Gary Johnson, Louis Sherlin, and Ron Antony present. Administrator John Chattin, Robert Wolfington of the Marshall Independent, and Dan McGonigle of the Granite Falls Advocate Tribune were also present.

10-26-04-01 Motion by Mr. Antony and second by Mr. Johnson to approve the agenda with the addition of a JD 21 public hearing, a Prairie Lakes Youth Programs agreement, AMC Conference delegates, and a closed session to discuss union negotiations. Carried.

10-26-04-02 Motion by Mr. Sherlin and second by Mr. Johnson to approve the consent agenda consisting of the October 12, 2004 regular meeting minutes, a tobacco compliance check contract with Countryside Public Health, and several reallocation and additional appropriation requests. Carried.

Mr. Sherlin reported on a Stone Hill Park meeting and the Western Minnesota Revolving Loan Fund. Mr. Johnson attended meetings of Prairie V, UMVRDC, Pioneerland Library, and a Countryside Public Health forum. Ms. Remiger gave updates on the Redwood-Cottonwood Rivers Control Area (RCRCA) and the AMC Region VI District meeting and shared some correspondence.

Representatives from the Fair Board, Jolene Madson and Menno Fokken, reviewed their income statement for 2004. The fair was profitable and they were asking that \$19,500 be budgeted for 2005, the same as for 2004. They were commended by the Board on a job well done.

Engineer John Johnson discussed some road funding issues involving the Upper Sioux. He will be meeting with them to discuss his concerns. He reviewed the 3rd quarter, 2004 Engineering Report and distributed the latest 2005-2009 construction plan. He also explained the reallocation request submitted.

10-26-04-03 Motion by Mr. Johnson and second by Mr. Antony to approve the highway reallocation request as submitted. Carried.

Ms. Remiger recessed the meeting at noon for lunch and reconvened at 12:35 p.m.

Deputy Bill Flaten explained a resolution related to a \$3,538.34 snowmobile grant.

10-26-04-04 Motion by Mr. Sherlin and second by Mr. Antony to adopt the following resolution:

Be it resolved, that the Yellow Medicine County Sheriff's Office may enter into a grant agreement with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Division of Enforcement, for the project "Snowmobile Safety Enforcement Grant" during the period from November 1, 2004 through June 30, 2005; and

Be it further resolved, that Richard T. Rollins, Sheriff of Yellow Medicine County, is hereby authorized to execute such agreements as are necessary to implement the project on behalf of the Yellow Medicine County Sheriff's Office.

Carried.

Deputy Flaten was also questioned on the current burning permit process. After some discussion, it was decided to explore additional alternatives for providing permits.

10-26-04-05 Motion by Mr. Anderson and second by Mr. Sherlin to allow VEBA as an option in 2005 for union employees provided their collective bargaining units provide a letter to the County indicating that they accept the VEBA and CMM co-pays previously adopted by the Board. Carried.

10-26-04-06 Motion by Mr. Johnson and second by Mr. Antony to adopt the following resolution:

Be It Resolved, that the Yellow Medicine Board of Commissioners approves the appointment of Frank Engels, Leonard Swenson, and Henry Van Dyke to each serve another four-year term on the Lincoln-Pipestone Rural Water Commission starting January 1, 2005.

Carried.

10-26-04-07 Motion by Mr. Johnson and second by Mr. Sherlin to leave the AMC Annual Conference delegates the same as they were in 2003. Carried.

Ms. Remiger shared some additional correspondence with the Board.

Lou Ann Nagel, SWCD District Manager, and Menno Fokken, SWCD Board member, updated the Board on SWCD activities. They also had some questions on VEBA and how any changes in personnel costs would affect their budget, as past budget requests were based on personnel costs. There was considerable discussion on their budget and how it should be determined in the future. The Board believed the current methodology was working fine.

No one from the Extension Service was available for an update.

Mr. Antony Updated the Board on Labor-Management Committee (LMC) activities. Mr. Anderson reported on Countryside Public Health, Prairie Lakes Youth Programs, and the LMC.

Ms. Remiger asked about obtaining a door prize for the AMC Conference. She will take care of it.

The need for a public hearing for JD 21 was discussed.

10-26-04-08 Motion by Mr. Sherlin and second by Mr. Anderson to call for a public hearing for JD 21 at 2:00 p.m. on November 23, 2004 and to name Ms. Remiger as an alternate for Mr. Johnson, as he declared a possible conflict of interest. Carried.

An amended joint powers agreement forming Prairie Lakes Youth Programs was reviewed. It was primarily needed because of a name change.

10-26-04-09 Motion by Mr. Sherlin and second by Mr. Johnson to approve the agreement as presented. Carried.

10-26-04-10 Motion by Mr. Johnson and second by Mr. Antony to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the State of Minnesota has downsized the Job Service portion of the Montevideo Workforce center; and

WHEREAS, the southwest region of Minnesota has a higher overall unemployment rate than some areas still being covered by Workforce Centers; and

WHEREAS, the Montevideo Workforce Center is located in a ZOBZ zoned area; and

WHEREAS, the Montevideo Workforce Center provides a vital service to the area by assisting individuals in their search for employment opportunities and business in meeting their labor force needs; and

WHEREAS, there is no other Workforce Center to the west, southwest, or

northwest of Montevideo within a 50 mile radius;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE YELLOW MEDICINE COUNTY BOARD, that the State of Minnesota is urged to reconsider its recent decision to downsize the Montevideo Workforce Center at 127 West Nichols Avenue; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution is hereby presented to the State of Minnesota in support of retaining the Job Service Partner at the Montevideo Workforce Center.

Carried.

10-26-04-11 Motion by Mr. Sherlin and second by Mr. Anderson to close the meeting at 1:28 p.m. to discuss union negotiating strategies. Carried.

Pay and benefit issues, currently being negotiated with collective bargaining units, were discussed.

Ms. Remiger reopened the meeting at 1:38 p.m.

10-26-04-12 Motion by Mr. Antony and second by Mr. Sherlin to approve the Commissioner's Warrants as presented totaling \$90,844.91 and acknowledge review of Auditor's Warrants totaling \$74,961.81. Carried.

10-26-04-13 Motion by Mr. Johnson and second by Mr. Anderson to adjourn the meeting at 1:40 p.m. Carried.

Witness:

Jane Remiger, Chair

Attest:

Carolyn Sherlin, Auditor/Treasurer