

**Yellow Medicine County Board Meeting Minutes
September 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, West Central Tribune reporter Tom Cherveney, Granite Falls Advocate Tribune reporter Scott Tedrick and Marshall Independent reporter Robert Wolfington.

Approve Agenda 09-11-07-01 Motion by Commissioner Sherlin and second by Commissioner Wambeke to approve the agenda with the following changes: Remove HRA levy from the consent agenda and place on the regular agenda; add recommendation for hiring correction officer and final payment resolution for Granite Falls shop to the consent agenda; add renewable energy forum and commissioner's fax/printers to the regular agenda; add Highway 274 and county based purchasing to the commissioner's reports; add native prairie bank letter to informational. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda 09-11-07-02 Motion by Commissioner Johnson and second by Commissioner Remiger to approve the consent agenda items as follows: minutes of the August 28, 2007, County Board meeting; hiring Ryan Cherveney as a correctional officer; and a final payment resolution for the Granite Falls 2006 shop electrical work authorizing final payment to Bill's Electric in an amount of \$412.50. Motion carried.

Citizen Comments There were no citizens present to be heard.

Commissioners Reports Commissioner Sherlin reported on Area II. Commissioner Johnson reported on the Township Annual Meeting, 6W Corrections and Prairie 5. Commissioner Remiger reported on the Township Annual Meeting, MN Machinery Museum, County Museum, and county based purchasing of health insurance for those on public assistance. Commissioner Wambeke reported on Countryside Public Health and county based purchasing. The Board discussed county based purchasing and the consensus was to continue to explore it further. Commissioner Antony reported on the Township Annual Meeting, 6W Corrections and ICS. The Board requested that a letter be sent to the Governor's office requesting USDA drought assistance designation for the county and that letters be sent to legislators regarding improvements to US Highway 59. The Board discussed a meeting with MnDOT and the City of Wood Lake to discuss the turnback of MN Highway 274 to the county. The consensus of the Board was that the county was not interested in the turnback of Highway 274 and that a letter be sent to MnDOT stating the county would not be attending the meeting to discuss the turnback.

Yellow Medicine County Museum Relocation Yellow Medicine County Historical Society Board members Jan Peterson, Terri Dinesen and David Sandt presented a recommendation for relocating the county museum from the flood plain. Several options were looked at and the recommendation was to relocate the museum to a property owned by David Cole near the intersection of MN Highway 274 and County Highway 44. Property owners adjacent to this proposed site and Granite Falls Mayor David Smiglewski were also present for the discussion. The Board asked that Emergency Management Director Michelle Gatz attend the next Board meeting with information about grant opportunities and total estimated costs of the proposed relocation.

Planning and Zoning Appropriation Request 09-11-07-03 Planning and Zoning Director

Randy Jacobson presented the Board with a request to purchase new office work stations for the Planning and Zoning Office as part of the county's MPCA grant. Motion by Commissioner Johnson and second by Commissioner Wambeke to approve an additional appropriation of \$6,700 to purchase office work stations for the Planning and Zoning Office. Motion carried.

Redwood River Watershed Resolution 09-11-07-04 County Water Plan Coordinator Jolene Johnson presented a resolution for the Redwood River Watershed. Motion by Commissioner Sherlin and second by Commissioner Johnson to approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Yellow Medicine County Board of Commissioners, that it hereby designates Jolene Johnson, Water Plan Coordinator, as Project Representative for the implementation of the Redwood River Watershed Phosphorous TMDL Compliance Clean Water Partnership Project for Yellow Medicine County.

The Project Representative shall have the authority to represent the Yellow Medicine County Board of Commissioners in all Project matters that do not specifically require action by the Yellow Medicine County Board of Commissioners.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Yellow Medicine County Board of Commissioners that, as Loan Sponsor, the Yellow Medicine County Board of Commissioners enters into the attached Minnesota Clean Water Partnership Project Implementation Loan Agreement along with the Redwood-Cottonwood Rivers Control Area, as Project Sponsor, and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency to conduct the implementation of the Redwood River Watershed Phosphorus TMDL Compliance Continuation Clean Water Partnership Project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Yellow Medicine County Board of Commissioners that the County Auditor, Lois Bonde be authorized to execute the attached Minnesota Clean Water Partnership Project Implementation Loan Agreement for the above referenced Project on behalf of the Board as Loan Sponsor.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Yellow Medicine County Board of Commissioners that the County Auditor, Lois Bonde be authorized to execute loan disbursement requests for the above referenced project to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency on behalf of the Board. Motion carried.

Mark Gruman – Permanent Employment Status 09-11-07-05 County Attorney Keith Helgeson recommended Assistant County Attorney Mark Gruman be changed from a probationary status to a permanent employment status. Motion by Commissioner Johnson and second by Commissioner Sherlin to approve permanent employment status for Mark Gruman. Motion carried.

Department Reports The county attorney and administrator gave reports to the Board.

Commissioner Faxes and Printers The Board discussed the types of fax machines and printers they are using.

Set HRA Levy 09-11-07-06 A resolution for the county HRA tax levy for fiscal year 2008 was reviewed. Motion by Commissioner Johnson and second by Commissioner Sherlin to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Housing and Redevelopment Authority of Yellow Medicine County (the “Authority”) was created by action of the Board of Commissioners of Yellow Medicine County (the “County”) pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 469.004: and

WHEREAS, pursuant to such action on the part of the County and Minnesota Statutes, Sections 469.001 to 469.047 (the “Act”), the Authority was granted all of the same functions, rights, and powers, duties, privileges, immunities, and limitations as are provided for housing and redevelopment authorities created for cities under the Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 469.033, subd. 6, of the Act permits the Authority to levy and collect a special benefit tax of up to .0144% of taxable market value upon all taxable property, both real and personal, within the Authority’s area of operation; and

WHEREAS, proceeds of the tax may be extended for the purposes of Sections 469.001 to 469.047 of the Act, including, without limitation, to pay certain administrative costs of the Authority; and

WHEREAS, the Authority has requested that the Board of Commissioners of the County approve the levy of such a special benefit tax in the amount not exceeding .0144% of the taxable market value of taxable property within the Authority’s area of operation contained within the County; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the County has considered such request by the Authority and has determined that consenting to such a special benefit tax levy by the Authority is in the best interests of the County and its residents; and

WHEREAS, the Authority is also required pursuant to Section 469.033, subd. 6, of the Act to, in connection with the levy of such a special benefit tax, formulate and file a budget in accordance with the budget procedure of the County in the same manner as required of executive departments of the County and the amount of the tax levy for the following year shall be based upon that budget and approved by the County; and

WHEREAS, the Authority has presented to the Board of Commissioners of the County a copy of a proposed budget for its operations for fiscal year 2008.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Board of Commissioners of Yellow Medicine County as follows: That the levy of a special benefit tax pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 469.033, subd. 6, is hereby consented to with respect to taxes payable in calendar year 2008 in the amount of \$40,873; which amount does not exceed .0144% of taxable market value of taxable property within the Authority’s area of operation within the County. Motion carried.

Renewable Energy Forum 09-11-07-07 A request from the Upper MN Valley RDC to complete renewable energy forums in 2008 was presented. Motion by Commissioner Sherlin and second by Commissioner Wambeke to approve \$3,000 in the 2008 budget for renewable energy forums. Motion carried.

Preliminary 2008 Levy 09-11-07-08 The 2008 preliminary levy and budget calculations were presented and discussed. Motion by Commissioner Sherlin and second by Commissioner Remiger to take \$50,000 out of the proposed budget for the economic development authority and to increase the 2008 preliminary net levy by 7% for a total preliminary gross levy of \$7,564,669. Motion carried.

Other Business: None

Approval of Disbursements/Review Auditor's Warrants 09-11-07-09 Motion by Commissioner Sherlin and second by Commissioner Remiger to approve the Commissioner's Warrants for the following amounts: \$44,520.68 Revenue Fund, \$66,522.45 Road and Bridge Fund and \$1,298.17 Ditch Fund; and acknowledge review of Auditor's Warrants totaling \$1,205,205.04. Motion carried.

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

Informational The Board reviewed a letter from the DNR regarding land being put in the Minnesota Native Prairie Bank Program.

Adjourn 09-11-07-10 Motion by Commissioner Johnson and second by Commissioner Sherlin to adjourn at 11:25 a.m. Motion carried.

Witness:

Attest:

Ron Antony, Chair

Lois Bonde, Auditor/Treasurer