

Yellow Medicine County Board Minutes

August 8, 2006

Chairman Lynn Anderson called this regular meeting to order at 9:04 AM with Commissioners Louis Sherlin, Gary Johnson, Jane Remiger, and Ron Antony present. Administrator John Chattin and Scott Tedrick of the Granite Falls Advocate Tribune were also present. Robert Wolfington of the Marshall Independent arrived shortly after the meeting started.

08-08-06-01 Motion by Ms. Remiger and second by Mr. Johnson to approve the agenda as presented and to also approve the consent agenda consisting of the July 25, 2006 regular meeting minutes (with 2 edits), several reallocation/additional appropriation requests, and adoption of the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Yellow Medicine County Board that, as Loan Sponsor, the Yellow Medicine County Board enters into the Minnesota Clean Water Partnership Project Implementation Loan Agreement Amendment #1 along with 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 Clean Water Partnership Project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Yellow Medicine County Board that the Board Chair, Lynn Anderson, be authorized to execute the Minnesota Clean Water Partnership Project Implementation Loan Agreement Amendment #1 for the above referenced Project on behalf of the Yellow Medicine County Board as Loan Sponsor.

Carried.

There were no citizens present to be heard.

Mr. Sherlin reported on Area II Minnesota River Basin Projects and Western Minnesota Revolving Loan Fund. Mr. Johnson discussed SWCD, Southwest SAFE Communities Coalition, Southern Minnesota Area Transportation Partnership, the Ditch 48 meeting, Region 6W Community Corrections, Western Minnesota Revolving Loan Fund, Yellow Medicine Task Force, and Prairie Five CAC. Mr. Antony discussed Pioneerland Library, Ms. Remiger covered Minnesota Machinery Museum, and Mr. Anderson reviewed some correspondence and the Minnesota Energy Board meeting.

08-08-06-02 Motion by Mr. Antony and second by Ms. Remiger to approve a Rural Minnesota Energy Board Joint Powers Agreement. Carried.

A proposal from Vetter Johnson Architects was tabled to see if it had previously been acted on.

Ms. Remiger discussed a request by the Minnesota River Board for the County to rejoin their organization. There was no interest expressed.

Judy Larson, with the Southwest Initiative Foundation, and Berdette Schoep, of Clarkfield Outdoors, reviewed the Foundation's activities and their requested budget of \$3,320 for 2007.

Paul Henriksen, Environmental Administrator, discussed options for a recycling contract and electronics and tire collection dates. Additional information will be presented at the next meeting.

08-08-06-03 Motion by Mr. Antony and second by Mr. Sherlin to open the public hearing on the GoodFellows off-sale liquor license at 10:40 AM. Shelley Ann Anderson, representing GoodFellows, provided a survey by Bolton & Menk indicating that GoodFellows is 3.0 miles from the Montevideo city limits. Steve Jones, Montevideo

City Manager, and Tom Ryman, Liquor Store Manager, were present to object to the license. Their opinion was that the distance was substantially less than 3.0 miles when measured in a straight line and was 2.97 miles when driven by the shortest route, according to their survey by Scott Conn of Rodeberg & Berryman. State statute dictates that it must be not "less than three miles by the most direct route from the boundary of a city." Mr. Jones agreed that the distance is measured to Goodfellows' door and not to their property line. There was considerable discussion due to the differing surveys presented.

08-08-06-04 Motion by Mr. Antony and second by Mr. Johnson to find that GoodFellows is 3.0 miles from the Montevideo city limits and to approve the Off-Sale Liquor License for Shelley Ann Anderson, dba GoodFellows. Carried.

Mr. Anderson closed the hearing at 11:05 AM.

Becci Leonard and Tammy LaTurco-Pitzel of the Women's Rural Advocacy Program, Inc. reviewed their services to Yellow Medicine County and the surrounding area. Due to cuts in funding, they were hoping to have the County contribute to their ongoing operations. Their request for \$7,000 will be considered in the 2007 budget.

Tom Watson, Prairie Waters Regional Tourism Director, reviewed programs and accomplishments for 2006 and discussed their 2007 strategic plan.

Sheriff Bill Flaten requested replacement of 2 repeaters needed to upgrade County communications. The purchase would be taken out of 9-1-1 funds.

08-08-06-05 Motion by Mr. Johnson and second by Mr. Sherlin to purchase 2 repeaters, under the state bid, from West Central Communications for \$33,764.76 and allocate approximately \$1,400.00 for installation. Carried.

Mavis Gustafson, Minnesota Machinery Museum Director, presented their budget for 2007. They are requesting a \$1,000 increase to \$20,500. She also requested additional funds to pay for seal coating of their parking lot.

08-08-06-06 Motion by Mr. Antony and second by Ms. Remiger to appropriate \$1,000, out of County surpluses, for seal coating of the museum parking lot. Carried, with Mr. Johnson voting against the motion.

Mr. Anderson recessed the meeting for lunch at 12:17 PM and reconvened at 12:59 PM.

County Attorney Keith Helgeson presented his choice for the new Assistant County Attorney.

08-08-06-07 Motion by Ms. Remiger and second by Mr. Antony to hire Mark Gruman as an Assistant County Attorney, starting September 1, 2006, at a salary of \$46,709.32 annually. Carried.

A proposal for architect services for the design, bidding, and construction of new County Attorney offices was reviewed.

08-08-06-08 Motion by Ms. Remiger and second by Mr. Antony to approve a contract with Group II Architects for the design, bidding, and construction of new County Attorney Offices for \$15,400 plus expenses and fees, contingent upon a signed lease with the hospital for the property to be improved. Carried.

Mr. Helgeson updated the Board on his office activities.

Jim Przybilla, CEO of PrimeWest, was present to inform the Board about county based purchasing and how PrimeWest is currently providing those services through a joint powers agreement. Pat Coldwell, from AMC, and representatives from Chippewa, Swift, and Lac qui Parle counties were also present.

Assessor Connie Erickson presented two abatement requests.

08-08-06-09 Motion by Mr. Antony and second by Mr. Sherlin to approve an abatement of \$184.00 for Wade Halterman on parcel 34-300-3418. Carried.

08-08-06-10 Motion by Ms. Remiger and second by Mr. Sherlin to approve an abatement of \$856.00 for Olaf Lerud on parcel 16-002-4010. Carried.

There was discussion on what should be done with the Thoma house after the County takes possession on September 7th. As the County currently has a purchase agreement on the property, it could proceed with advertising the property.

08-08-06-11 Motion by Mr. Johnson and second by Mr. Antony to rent the property starting October 1st. The motion was defeated with all but Mr. Johnson opposed.

08-08-06-12 Motion by Ms. Remiger and second by Mr. Sherlin to advertise the Thoma house for sale and removal with: bids accepted through September 25, 2006; awarded on September 26, 2006; full settlement within 10 days of the award; removal of the house no later than June 1, 2007; and the County reserves the right to reject all bids. Carried.

08-08-06-13 Motion by Mr. Johnson and second by Mr. Antony to sell the detached garage on the Thoma property under the same terms as the house except removal would be required by November 1, 2006. The motion was defeated with Mr. Sherlin, Ms. Remiger, and Mr. Anderson voting against the motion.

08-08-06-14 Motion by Mr. Antony and second by Ms. Remiger to approve Commissioner's Warrants, as presented, totaling \$81,168.88 and acknowledge review of Auditor's Warrants, as presented, totaling \$52,016.94. Carried.

08-08-06-15 Motion by Mr. Sherlin and second by Mr. Johnson to adjourn at 3:05 PM. Carried.

Witness:

Lynn Anderson, Chairman

Attest:

Carolyn Sherlin, Auditor/Treasurer