

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE
YELLOW MEDICINE COUNTY BOARD
FEBRUARY 27, 2007

The Yellow Medicine County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 12:30 pm on Tuesday, February 27, 2007 with the following board members present: Chairperson Ron Antony, Gary Johnson, Jane Remiger, Louis Sherlin, and Dick Wambeke. Also present were County Auditor-Treasurer Carolyn Sherlin, County Attorney Keith Helgeson, Family Service Director Peggy Heglund, & news reporters Scott Tedrick and Robert Wolfington. The meeting was called to order and the agenda for the day and the minutes for February 13, 2007, were approved.

The County Attorney reported on the sale of the drug forfeited property noting that the procedure for the sale was now completed.

There weren't any quotes received for the purchase of the Thoma house, so the board discussed the demolition of the property. The Highway Department will be asked to submit cost estimates for the demolition and possible salvage of any thing associated with this house.

2-27-07-1 Liquor licenses for the following businesses were approved:

Shelley Ann Anderson, for Goodfellows

Berends Inc. for Bootleggers Supper Club

Montevideo Country Club, Inc. for the Montevideo Country Club

Rheimer Investments, for the Granite Golf Club

Sherlin moved for approval, Wambeke seconded, motion carried.

2-27-07-2 Amanda Sieling requested that the issue concerning the starting date for insurance coverage for new employees listed on the agenda be tabled until the Labor Management Committee makes a recommendation on this issue. Johnson moved to table any discussion, Wambeke seconded, motion carried.

The following Commissioner reports were given: Antony reported on Pioneerland Library and the Comprehensive Land Use Ordinance Task Force, Wambeke reported on the County Safety Committee, the Drug Task Force, and Circle Sentencing, Remiger reported on RC&D.

2-27-07-3 Jolene Johnson and Mary Homan, representing the Yellow Medicine and Lac qui Parle Yellow Bank Clean Water Partnership, reported that this area is eligible to receive another \$270,000 in low interest loans for septic systems and requested approval for the following resolution:

Be it resolved by the Yellow Medicine County Board of Commissioners that as Loan Sponsor, the YMC Board enters into the attached Minnesota Clean Water Partnership Project Implementation Loan Agreement Amendment #1 along with the Lac qui Parle-Yellow-Bank Watershed District, as Project Sponsor, and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency to conduct the implementation of the Lac qui Parle River Mainstream Water Quality Clean Water Partnership Project.

Be it further resolved by the Yellow Medicine County Board of Commissioners that the County Board Chair, Ron Antony, be authorized to execute the attached Minnesota Clean Water

Partnership Project Implementation Loan Agreement Amendment #1 for the above referenced Project on behalf of the board as loan sponsor.

Johnson moved for approval, Remiger seconded motion, all voted in favor

2-27-07-4 County Engineer Andy Sander requested approval for the MCIT Drug and Alcohol Testing Participating Agreement amendment. The change reflects new Drug Testing Rates. Sherlin moved for approval, Wambeke seconded motion, all voted in favor.

2-27-07-5 Information was also provided on the 2007 Dust Control Program costs that will be set at 58 cents per linear foot. Remiger moved for approval, Sherlin seconded motion, all voted in favor.

2-27-07-6 Planning and Zoning Officer Randy Jacobson and Gary Stienessen requested approval for a Conditional Use Permit to allow an expansion of his current feedlot from 475 animal units to 900 animal units. The site is located in the Rural Preservation Management District in the southeast one-quarter (SE ¼) of Section 7 in Burton Township T-114-N R-43-W. A conditional use permit is required because this is an expansion of an existing feedlot with other 500 animal units. After discussion Sherlin moved for approval, Remiger seconded motion, all voted in favor.

A short discussion took place on certain blighted property located in the county and the county's jurisdiction over damaged buildings on private property. This issue was tabled to a later date.

Mike & Bob Verhelst were present to object to the list of violations presented to the County Planning Commission in regards to the conditional use permit granted to them on July 25, 2006. They felt that they had been singled out by MPCA because of the complaints filed against them. They maintain that the feedlot conditions do not apply to regular farming procedures, and also maintain that there hasn't been any violations to the conditions attached to the conditional use permit. They also claim that several complaints have been made to MPCA and that this particular farm has been targeted for audit several times. Reviews were completed by MPCA with no violations found. The Planning Officer replied that the county does not have anything to do with the MPCA complaint, only with complaints filed with the county.

The neighbor, Doug Sik, then asked about conditions placed on a neighboring feedlot, if these conditions are not being followed, what is his recourse? The county attorney stated that if conditions are not followed, criminal procedures could be followed which may include a jail sentence. Board members replied that if he has a complaint, he should call the sheriff's office. No action was taken on this discussion.

2-27-07-7 Brian Berget, controller for Specialty Systems, requested the tax abatement refund promised to his company in an agreement dated June 14, 2005. However, the auditor pointed out several requirements in the agreement that were not followed. A change in title ownership took place without the county's knowledge and the county did not receive the required employment reports in a timely order. Berget stated that the title change was merely a technicality. The board requested the county attorney to research this stipulation. Johnson then moved to table this issue to March 27. Sherlin seconded, motion carried.

2-27-07-8 Veterans Service Officer Michele Gatz reported that her current department car will need over \$3000 in repairs to put it back in service and submitted several quotes for the purchase of a different used car for her office. However, because the prices were comparable to the cost

of a new car, Johnson moved to get quotes for a new car purchase using the state bid system. Remiger seconded motion, all voted in favor.

2-27-07-9 Family Services Director Peggy Heglund, Attorney Amanda Seiling, and Probation Officer Dawn Odegard presented a proposal to implement a program called Circle Sentencing in our county. This program is based on the restorative justice philosophy with its focus on the offender, the victim and the community. A Multi-step procedure is developed to deal with offenders and their relationship to the victim. This program will offer a healing process to all those involved with the final goal to reduce the cost of foster care/out of home placement. A different circle can be used in each community. This scenario would require the employment of a coordinator to implement the program. After discussion, Remiger moved to appropriate up to \$75,000 in the 2007 budget to hire a coordinator for the implementation of a Circle Sentencing Program in our county. Johnson seconded motion, all voted in favor. The board requested the team to research various grants to help pay for this program.

2-27-07-10 Sherlin moved to appoint Dick Wambeke as the representative to the HRA Board to fill in the unexpired term of Lynn Anderson who resigned from this position. This term will run from January 2007 to June 14, 2008. Remiger seconded motion, all voted in favor.

Remiger reported on the Regional Railroad Authority, Johnson reported on Prairie Lakes Youth Programs, County Ditch 39, and the RDC 150th celebration of the State of Minnesota. He also reported on the GIS system, Circle Sentencing Meeting and Renewable Energy. Sherlin reported on the Labor Management Committee and discussed the health insurance issue and also the Blue Cross Agent of Record.

2-27-07-11 The following claims were presented for payment: Revenue: \$28,848.90; Road & Bridge: \$22,949.62; and Ditch: \$163.60. Johnson moved to approve payment, Sherlin seconded motion, all voted in favor. As all business for the day was completed, the meeting was adjourned.

Chairperson, Yellow Medicine County
Board of Commissioners

Attest:

County Auditor-Treasurer & Clerk to County Board