

Yellow Medicine County Board Minutes

January 6, 2004

Commissioner Gary Johnson called this organizational meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. with Commissioners Louis Sherlin, Lynn Anderson, Jane Remiger, 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.

Mr. Johnson asked for nominations for Board Chair. Mr. Anderson nominated Ms. Remiger. Mr. Johnson asked three times for additional nominations and heard none.

01-06-04-01 Motion by Mr. Sherlin and second by Mr. Anderson to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Ms. Remiger for Yellow Medicine County Board Chair for 2004. Carried.

Ms. Remiger called for nominations for Vice-Chair. Mr. Antony nominated Mr. Sherlin for Vice-Chair. Ms. Remiger asked three times for additional nominations and heard none.

01-06-04-02 Motion by Mr. Anderson and second by Mr. Johnson to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Mr. Sherlin for Yellow Medicine County Board Vice-Chair for 2004. Carried.

01-06-04-03 Motion by Mr. Sherlin and second by Mr. Anderson to approve the agenda with the addition of: appointment of a driver's license agent; update on Planning and Zoning Administrator hiring; need for a Comp Worth Committee meeting; employee recognition event; and status of purchasing the Clarkfield building. Carried.

A long list of Commissioner representatives on internal and external boards and committees was reviewed. Representatives for the Wetlands Conservation Act Appeals Board and the SWCD Workgroup were added and Minnesota River Basin Joint Powers Board was dropped from the list.

01-06-04-04 Motion by Mr. Johnson and second by Mr. Anderson to adopt the 2004 board and committee representatives per the amended listing, including Board Committee Positions, Advisory Committees/Boards, AMC Delegates, and Ditch Boards. Carried.

01-06-04-05 Motion by Mr. Antony and second by Mr. Sherlin to set Board meetings for the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 9:00 a.m. and the 4th Tuesday at 11:00 a.m. and set committee meetings per the adopted listing. Carried.

01-06-04-06 Motion by Mr. Antony and second by Mr. Sherlin to set the pocket gopher bounty at \$1.00. Carried.

01-06-04-07 Motion by Mr. Sherlin and second by Mr. Antony to charge the actual cost of the County Attorney for Family Services to the Welfare Department. Carried.

01-06-04-08 Motion by Mr. Anderson and second by Mr. Johnson to authorize the Auditor/Treasurer to issue warrants for incidental expenses. Carried.

01-06-04-09 Motion by Mr. Anderson and second by Mr. Johnson to set the 2004 mileage reimbursement rate at 37½¢ per mile. Carried.

01-06-04-10 Motion by Mr. Antony and second by Mr. Sherlin to set the 2004 meal reimbursement allowance at \$33 per day. Carried.

01-06-04-11 Motion by Mr. Sherlin and second by Mr. Antony to adopt the following resolution:

Whereas, the County normally collects tax-forfeit fees from the sale of tax-forfeit parcels within the County; and

Whereas, State Statute 282.08, Subd. 5(ii) allows for the retention of 20% of those fees for the acquisition and maintenance of county parks or recreational areas;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that 20% of the tax-forfeit fees remaining after the apportionments required under M.S. 282.05, Subdivisions 1 through 4, be used for the acquisition and maintenance of county parks or recreational areas.

Carried.

01-06-04-12 Motion by Mr. Anderson and second by Mr. Johnson to adopt the following resolution:

The Yellow Medicine County Board of Commissioners **does hereby resolve**, pursuant to the requirements of Minn. Stat. §176.011, subd. 9 (6), that all officers of Yellow Medicine County who are elected or appointed to a regular term in office, or to complete the unexpired portion of a regular term, shall be included within the definition of “employee” as that term is defined in Minn. Stat. §176.011, subd. 9 for purposes of coverage under the Workers’ Compensation Laws of the State of Minnesota; and

It is further resolved that this resolution recognizes that Yellow Medicine County has in the past included said officials in all Workers’ Compensation reports and audits and that this resolution is intended to meet the statutory requirements and confirm an existing practice, not to establish a new practice.

Carried.

01-06-04-13 Motion by Mr. Anderson and second by Mr. Antony to table adoption of the 2004 Comparable Worth Schedule until the Comp Worth Committee has met and can review and recommend the schedule to the Board. Carried.

01-06-04-14 Motion by Mr. Sherlin and second by Mr. Johnson to approve the consent agenda consisting of the December 23, 2003 regular meeting minutes. Carried.

Under Commissioner reports, Ms. Remiger attended a museum meeting. That precipitated some discussion on funding of fair buildings. She also noted that the Ag Conference in Willmar was coming up. Mr. Johnson will be attending a BWSR meeting and he shared some correspondence. He also offered some information on meth lab ordinances for Mr. Chattin to research further. Mr. Sherlin reported on a Western Minnesota Revolving Loan Fund meeting. The Board also reviewed upcoming meetings.

Letters received from Doug Gregoire and Delmar Mamer seeking appointment to the Yellow Medicine River Watershed Board were reviewed. Mr. Gregoire is currently serving on the board but concerns were raised over attendance.

01-06-04-15 Motion by Mr. Sherlin and second by Mr. Anderson to appoint Delmar Mamer to the Yellow Medicine River Watershed Board. The motion carried with Mr. Johnson and Mr. Antony voting against the appointment.

Ms. Remiger explained a request by the Minnesota Valley Regional Rail Authority (MVRRA) for \$750 to be used as matching funds in leveraging \$39,000 in grant dollars.

01-06-04-16 Motion by Mr. Sherlin and second by Mr. Johnson to approve a request by the MVRRA for \$750 in matching funds. Carried with Mr. Anderson opposed.

01-06-04-17 Motion by Mr. Sherlin and second by Mr. Johnson to nominate Mavis Gustafson to serve as an at-large board member on the Prairie Waters Advisory Board. Carried.

01-06-04-18 Motion by Mr. Johnson and second by Mr. Antony to appoint Tom Massman and Gary Geihl to the Yellow Medicine County Planning Commission. Carried.

Ms. Remiger call for a short recess at 3:06 p.m. and reconvened at 3:20 p.m.

Lois Bonde, Fiscal Officer, presented a request for a new server and associated software.

01-06-04-19 Motion by Mr. Sherlin and second by Mr. Antony to approve the purchase of a new server for \$2,661.46 and new software for \$1,386.43 with funds appropriated out of designated computer funds. Carried.

Dental deductible reimbursements were considered. The County currently pays \$25 of the \$50 annual deductible. Board action will be included in future personnel policies and collective bargaining agreements.

01-06-04-20 Motion by Mr. Johnson and second by Mr. Antony to continue paying \$25 of the deductible. Carried.

01-06-04-21 Motion by Mr. Johnson and second by Mr. Anderson to approve a licensing fee of \$1,100 and a monthly fee of \$40 for the establishment of a County Web site out of designated computer funds. Carried.

Mr. Chattin noted that he is waiting final confirmation of a closing date on the Clarkfield building. A final payment of \$174,000, adjusted by closing costs, will be due at closing.

01-06-04-22 Motion by Mr. Sherlin and second by Mr. Anderson to authorize payment for the Clarkfield building and signatures as needed at closing. Carried.

01-06-04-23 Motion by Mr. Sherlin and second by Mr. Antony to appoint Nancy Saucke as an employee of the City of Granite Falls to serve as the County's driver's license agent. Carried.

01-06-04-24 Motion by Mr. Johnson and second by Mr. Sherlin to execute a contract with Prairie Five Community Action Council, as presented, for the storage of buses at the County fairgrounds. Carried.

Mr. Chattin gave an update on the search for a Planning and Zoning Director. Three new applications have been received. An interview committee of Mr. Chattin, Ms. Remiger, and Mr. Anderson was asked to select candidates for interviews.

01-06-04-25 Motion by Mr. Johnson and second by Mr. Anderson to stop accepting applications for the Planning and Zoning Director Position. Carried.

County Attorney Tom Kramer presented an invoice for additional services. There was much discussion on services and costs. It was noted that Mr. Chattin, Family Services Director Peggy Heglund, and Mr. Anderson will be meeting with Mr. Kramer to discuss future communications and expectations.

01-06-04-26 Motion by Mr. Sherlin and second by Mr. Antony to approve the disbursements, as presented totaling \$21,613.86 from the Revenue Fund, \$18,354.34 from the Road and Bridge Fund, \$2,166.91 from the Ditch Fund, and including the invoice from Mr. Kramer for \$6,012.50.

The Sheriff's department has purchased its new squad car. It needs to be equipped and the Sheriff is requesting the use of unused budgeted funds to do it.

01-06-04-27 Motion by Mr. Antony and second by Mr. Johnson to approve the use of budgeted funds to equip the new squad car for use. Carried.

01-06-04-28 Motion by Mr. Anderson and second by Mr. Antony to adjourn the meeting at 4:02 p.m. Carried.

Witness:

Jane Remiger, Chair

Attest:

Carolyn Sherlin, Auditor/Treasurer