

## Yellow Medicine County Board Minutes

July 27, 2004

Chair Jane Remiger called this regular meeting to order at 11:07 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.

**07-27-04-01** Motion by Mr. Anderson and second by Mr. Sherlin to approve the agenda with addition of a Family Services investigation agreement and advertising for temporary janitorial help. Carried.

Mr. Johnson noted a change to the July 13<sup>th</sup> minutes under motion 07-13-04-06 where he had voted against the motion.

**07-27-04-02** Motion by Mr. Sherlin and second by Mr. Anderson to approve the consent agenda including: the July 13, 2004 minutes as amended; reappointment of Connie Erickson as the County Assessor for a 4-year term commencing January 1, 2005; hiring of Dan McGonigle for the temporary position of Emergency Management Planning Coordinator; and adoption of the following resolution:

Be it Resolved, that Yellow Medicine County act as legal sponsor for an application for funding to the State of Minnesota Department of Natural Resources for maintenance of snowmobile trails managed by the Snowdrifters of Montevideo; and

Be it Further Resolved, that upon approval of its application by the State, Yellow Medicine County may enter into an agreement with the State of Minnesota for the above referenced project and that it will comply with all applicable laws and regulation as stated in the agreement; and

Be it Further Resolved, that the Chairperson of the Board is authorized to sign such an agreement with the Department of Natural resources for 2004 and for a period of time not to exceed five years; and

Be it Further Resolved, that Yellow Medicine County will act as legal sponsor for snowmobile trails in the counties of Yellow Medicine, Lac qui Parle, and Chippewa and that County Auditor/Treasurer Carolyn Sherlin will serve as fiscal agent for the above project.

Carried.

Mr. Sherlin started the Board and Committee reports with an update on the Extension budget. Mr. Johnson also added some comments on Extension and reported on the Upper Minnesota Valley Regional Development Commission (UMVRDC) annual meeting, Pioneerland Library, Western Revolving Loan Fund, and Prairie V. Ms. Remiger shared a notice from Minnesota Counties Insurance Trust (MCIT) reflecting a 2004 insurance dividend of \$79,233.

Several upcoming meeting were reviewed.

Under citizen comments, Art Larson asked if any action would be taken on a conditional use permit (CUP) application. As there was none planned, Mr. Larson left.

Michelle Gatz, VSO/Emergency Management Director, reviewed the grant she obtained for identification badge equipment. If additional equipment were purchased, she would be able to provide more services. The grant is for \$7,200 and an additional \$3,200 would be needed to purchase the additional software and equipment.

**07-27-04-03** Motion by Mr. Anderson and second by Mr. Antony to purchase the additional ID badge software and equipment out of 9-1-1 funds, if possible, or an additional appropriation will be made out of County surplus funds. Carried.

Ms. Gatz also discussed the availability of a workshop for Weapons of Mass Destruction/Terrorism Incident Preparedness. She was asked to set up the training sometime in March.

Engineer John Johnson asked for a bid letting date to be set and a resolution adopted.

**07-27-04-04** Motion by Mr. Johnson and second by Mr. Antony to set 1:00 p.m. on August 24, 2004 for the letting of bids for new Clarkfield shop facilities. Carried.

**07-27-04-05** Motion by Mr. Anderson and second by Mr. Sherlin to adopt the following resolution, including a County commitment of approximately \$1,900:

WHEREAS, Yellow Medicine County and the City of Granite Falls are proceeding with the construction of the Memorial Park Trail – Phases 2&3; and

WHEREAS, a Phase II historical evaluation is needed as part of the environmental assessment process; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Department of Transportation has proposed Contract No. 86724;

Now, therefore, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Yellow Medicine that it should and hereby does accept said contract and authorizes Administration to execute said contract.

Carried, with Mr. Johnson voting against the resolution.

Ms. Remiger continued Commissioner reports with updates on Redwood-Cottonwood Rivers Control Area (RCRCA), the regional railroad authority, and a meeting with Wood Lake Township residents on water hookups.

Ms. Remiger recessed the meeting at 12:10 p.m. for lunch and reconvened at 12:40 p.m.

Grant Velde, with Velde Sanitation, requested his firm be considered for picking up garbage at County buildings. He said he was the only garbage hauler who was a resident of Yellow Medicine County and would take over any services currently provided for 5% less than was now being paid. Research will be done to determine if there are any existing contracts for garbage pickup.

There were many citizens present for the discussion on library funding, including representatives from the Canby and Granite Falls library boards and city councils. Mr. Johnson explained the history of the funding formulas that are being implemented over a 5-year period. Granite Falls was advocating for additional funds based on their usage data. Mr. Johnson noted that any change in the formula would require another look at other areas that were considered when the formula was implemented.

**07-27-04-06** Motion by Mr. Sherlin and second by Mr. Antony to leave the 5-year formula as is with a 50/50 split targeted for Canby and Granite Falls. Carried, with Mr. Anderson opposed.

Auditor Carolyn Sherlin introduced Don Bungum, a Senior Marketing Representative with the MAGIC Fund. Mr. Bungum reviewed the MAGIC Fund history and how it operates.

Ms. Sherlin reviewed the County's current investments. There were several comments offered on how the surplus should be invested and if any oversight should be exercised.

Ms. Remiger called for a break at 2:23 p.m. and reconvened at 2:32 p.m.

Mr. Anderson reported on the Labor Management Committee, Southwest Regional Solid Waste, and the Memorial Park Trail meeting.

**07-27-04-07** Motion by Mr. Sherlin and second by Mr. Anderson to approve the Commissioners' Warrants as presented totaling \$138,128.96 and acknowledge review of Auditor's Warrants totaling \$119,260.56. Carried.

**07-27-04-08** Motion by Mr. Sherlin and second by Mr. Antony to approve an agreement between Family Service and the Sheriff's Department for investigative services. Carried.

**07-27-04-09** Motion by Mr. Sherlin and second by Mr. Antony to advertise for temporary janitorial help if Gib Christensen is called to active duty. Carried.

Mr. Chattin noted that he had completed a 6-month probationary evaluation of Planning and Zoning Administrator Randy Jacobson and recommended that he be removed from probation and made a regular employee.

**07-27-04-10** Motion by Mr. Antony and second by Mr. Anderson to end Mr. Jacobson's probationary period and make him a regular employee. Carried.

**07-27-04-11** Motion by Mr. Anderson and second by Mr. Sherlin to discontinue the additional pay awarded to Jolene Johnson, during the probationary period of Mr. Jacobson, starting in August. Carried.

There was a lengthy discussion on the 2005 budget process. Mr. Chattin asked for some direction so he could ensure the Board's wishes were incorporated into the budget process. He also proposed a new budget process for 2005. The Board's initial thoughts were to consider a levy increase of from 0% to 3%. A preliminary levy will be set in September.

**07-27-04-12** Motion by Mr. Antony and second by Mr. Anderson to adopt the budget process as proposed by Mr. Chattin in the agenda packet. Carried.

Mr. Chattin will also arrange for department heads to meet with the Board at least twice a year.

**07-27-04-13** Motion by Mr. Antony and second by Mr. Sherlin to adjourn the meeting at 3:12 p.m. Carried.

Witness:

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Jane Remiger, Chair

Attest:

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Carolyn Sherlin, Auditor/Treasurer