

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE YELLOW  
MEDICINE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
GRANITE FALLS, MINNESOTA  
June 22, 2004**

The Yellow Medicine County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 9:00 am on Tuesday, June 22, 2004, in the board meeting room. Present were Commissioners Lynn Anderson, Ron Antony, Gary Johnson, Louie Sherlin and Chairperson Jane Remiger. Also present was County Auditor Carolyn Sherlin, and news reporter Robert Wolfington. The chairperson called the meeting to order. On motion, the agenda for the day and the minutes of June 8 and Board of Equalization Meeting held on June 14, 2004 were accepted and approved by the board.

Commissioners Reports were given on the following topics:

Sherlin: Western Revolving Loan, Day Activity Center

Johnson: Pioneerland Library, Regional Development Commission, Transportation Advisory Committee, Tourism Funding, and Prairie Five, SW Foundation. He also reported that a request was received for additional funding from our county to re-print more MN River Valley Scenic Byway brochures because of the depleted supply on hand. Johnson moved to appropriate \$402.87 to MN Byway, Antony seconded motion, all voted in favor. **6-022-04-1**

Troy Fiegen, representing the Yellow Medicine Technical Rescue Team gave a visual slide presentation on how the rescue team works. This team is part of the YM Incident Command System organization and uses volunteer fireman from throughout the county to be part of the rescue team. Discussion of the various techniques involved in rescues took place.

County Engineer John Johnson requested approval for a final payment of \$26,172.90 to River Ridge Construction for project SAP 87-599-40 that totaled \$264,127.00. G. Johnson moved for approval, Anderson seconded, motion carried. Final payment was requested for Project 87-599-97 in the amount of \$14,106.05 to River Ridge Construction for a project total of \$207,147.00. G. Johnson moved for approval, Antony seconded, motion was carried. **6-22-04-2** The 2003 Annual Report was distributed to board members.

The meeting was recessed for lunch at noon and resumed at 1:00 pm.

Ryan Krosch, UMRDC Community & Economic Development described the Comprehensive Plan Process proposed for our county. This plan would be based on projected future growth of the county and allows for citizen input during various public meetings held throughout the county. If adopted, RDC would be working with Randy Jacobson in the development of the plan. Motion by Mr. Sherlin and second by Mr. Antony to approve having Mr. Krosch proceed with the Comprehensive Planning process with an expected timeframe of 15 to 18 months at a cost of \$25,000 to \$28,000. Carried.

A Presentation on Emergency Preparedness was given by Cindy Skulstad from Countryside Public Health. A county plan depicting job duties of various county individuals was shown and the role of Public Health was explored.

County Attorney Tom Kramer reviewed several issues concerning the county including recent litigation activities, sex offender evaluations, public defenders, coroner changes, and mutual aid agreements. He also noted that he is keeping hours down at the Board's request. The Canby HRA has never paid into the Payment in Lieu of Tax for the HRA housing project claiming that there wasn't an agreement with the county to do so. Research by the auditor's office has shown that the HRA is not exempt from this tax and several years back payment could be requested. The tax should be part of the rent charged to the tenants. However, because nothing had ever been collected, there are no monies available to pay. After discussion, board members agreed that charging for back years was not in the best interest of the parties involved and instructed the auditor to proceed with collection in 2005.

Kramer also reported on the sale of the old highway shop property. An abstract has been ordered and all paperwork should be completed in the near future.

Allen Watkins & Kathy Thalberg presented a report on the Western Minnesota Enterprise Facilitation Project. Board members requested actual reports of specific assistance to area businesses.

Final approval was given for the AFSCME, MN Council 65, Local Union 1686, Courthouse Employees Contract for 2004. Sherlin moved for approval, Anderson seconded motion, all voted in favor. **6-22-04-3**

Johnson moved to approve the PIK Agreement, Antony seconded motion, all voted in favor.

Johnson moved to approve payment of claims in the amount of \$44,535.23. Antony seconded motion, all voted in favor. **6-22-04-4**

Jane Remiger  
Chairperson, Yellow Medicine  
County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Carolyn Sherlin, County Auditor  
and Clerk to the County Board