

Yellow Medicine County Board Minutes

March 9, 2004

Chair Jane Remiger called this regular meeting to order at 9:00 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.

03-09-04-01 Motion by Mr. Johnson and second by Mr. Anderson to approve the agenda with the addition of a Lamberton Waste-to-Energy Project feasibility report and the removal of Michelle Caveney. Carried.

03-09-04-02 Motion by Mr. Sherlin and second by Mr. Antony to approve the consent agenda item of the February 24, 2004 regular meeting minutes with a change to motion 02-24-04-13 identifying the building. Carried.

Under Commissioner reports, Mr. Antony reported on the Creative Solutions Committee; Mr. Sherlin attended an Area II meeting; Mr. Johnson gave updates on Region 6W Community Corrections, Extension, and Area Agencies on Aging issues; and Mr. Anderson attended meetings on the Lamberton Waste-to-Energy project and the Memorial Park Trail.

Myron Hagelstrom, Parks Supervisor, reviewed past and proposed activities at Oraas and Timm Parks. Several possible improvement projects developed by university students in 2003 were shared. He also reviewed those items that were common to all seven proposed projects that would be addressed in 2004.

Mr. Anderson reviewed the recently completed Lamberton Waste-to-Energy Project feasibility report. The report was positive with a new time frame of 44 to 48 months to complete the project. The Board agreed that the County should continue to support the project.

03-09-04-03 Motion by Mr. Sherlin and second by Mr. Antony to open the public hearing on the County's 5-Year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) at 10:01 a.m. Carried.

Engineer John Johnson, Assistant Engineer Steve Schaub, and Engineering Tech Mike Schraffran were all present for the CIP public hearing. Greg Doose, who lives on County Highway B-1 asked about traffic counts on that road and plans for improvement. There were no current traffic counts or plans for improvement in the CIP. He also asked about County Highway 17, by the airport, wondering how an airport expansion would affect that road. A scheduled airport meeting was expected to address that issue. Ms. Remiger closed the hearing at 10:13 a.m.

03-09-04-04 Motion by Mr. Johnson and second by Mr. Sherlin to adopt the 5-Year CIP as presented. Carried.

Mr. Johnson reviewed a proposed Living Snow Fence Program. It would establish an easement where trees would be planted to keep snow off County highways. Although more expensive than purchasing standing crops, in the long term it would be cost effective.

03-09-04-05 Motion by Mr. Johnson and second by Mr. Antony to approve of the Living Snow Fence Program. Carried.

03-09-04-06 Motion by Mr. Antony and second by Mr. Anderson to approve the "Current Issues and Programs" brochure developed by the Highway Department. Carried.

03-09-04-07 Motion by Mr. Sherlin and second by Mr. Antony to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Yellow Medicine County has determined that the following deficient bridges on the CSAH, County Road, Township Road, and City Street systems are a high priority and require replacement or rehabilitation within the next five (5) years; and

Bridge No.	Road No.	Estimated Project Cost	Federal Funds	Local Funds	Bond Funds Needed	Proposed Constr. Year
90254	CSAH 4	\$200,000	--	\$25,000	\$175,000	2004
90259	CSAH 6	\$60,000	--	\$10,000	\$50,000	2004
90261	CSAH 8	\$60,000	--	\$60,000	\$0	2004
L9127	Canby – Custer Ave	\$120,000	--	\$40,000	\$80,000	2004
L7866	Florida Twp T-7	\$130,000	--	\$100,000	\$30,000	2004
L7886	Fortier Twp T-17	\$75,000	--	\$65,000	\$10,000	2004
5121	CSAH 4	\$160,000	--	\$90,000	\$70,000	2005
90256	CSAH 4	\$70,000	--	\$50,000	\$20,000	2005
2965	CSAH 7	\$450,000	--	\$50,000	\$400,000	2005
7101	CSAH 17	\$120,000	--	\$95,000	\$25,000	2005
L7931	Fortier/Norman Twp T-59	\$100,000	--	\$20,000	\$80,000	2005
L7935	Fortier Twp T-65	\$80,000	--	\$15,000	\$65,000	2005
L7986	Fortier Twp T-198	\$60,000	--	\$40,000	\$20,000	2005
87501	CSAH 3	\$130,000	--	\$100,000	\$30,000	2006
87502	CSAH 3	\$130,000	--	\$100,000	\$30,000	2006
87570	CSAH 3 (Rehab)	\$200,000	--	\$150,000	\$50,000	2006
90300	County Road A5	\$300,000	--	\$25,000	\$275,000	2006
L9001	Sandnes Twp T-86	\$80,000	--	\$20,000	\$60,000	2006
567	Norman Twp T-57	\$150,000	--	\$90,000	\$60,000	2007
L7975	Posen/Wd Lk Twp T-147	\$100,000	--	\$90,000	\$10,000	2007
L7964	Wood Lk Twp T-107	\$40,000	--	\$10,000	\$30,000	2007
L7911	Burton Twp T-45	\$100,000	--	\$25,000	\$75,000	2008
L9926	Hammer Twp T-154	\$120,000	--	\$30,000	\$90,000	2008
L9079	Lisbon Twp T-70	\$60,000	--	\$20,000	\$40,000	2008
L8999	Sandnes Twp T-93	\$150,000	--	\$90,000	\$60,000	2008
L7970	Sioux Agency Twp T-125	\$60,000	--	\$20,000	\$40,000	2008
L9004	Normania Twp T-75	\$130,000	--	\$100,000	\$30,000	2009
L9073	Stony Run Twp T-184	\$80,000	--	\$20,000	\$60,000	2009

WHEREAS, local roads play an essential role in the overall state transportation network and local bridges are the critical component of the local road systems; and

WHEREAS, State support for the replacement or rehabilitation of local bridges continues to be crucial to maintaining the integrity of the local road systems and is necessary for the County and the Townships to proceed with the replacement or rehabilitation of the high priority deficient bridges described above; and

WHEREAS, Yellow Medicine County intends to proceed with replacement or rehabilitation of these bridges as soon as possible when State Transportation Bond Funds are

available;

BE IT RESOLVED, that Yellow Medicine County commits that it will proceed with the design and contract documents for these bridges immediately after being notified that funds are available in order to permit construction to take place within one year of notification.

Carried.

03-09-04-08 Motion by Mr. Sherlin and second by Mr. Anderson to set a public hearing for replacement of Bridge No. 90259 on CSAH 6 and Joint Ditch #10 for 10:00 a.m. on April 13, 2004. Carried.

03-09-04-09 Motion by Mr. Johnson and second by Mr. Sherlin to set a bid letting date for the grading project on County A-1 for April 27, 2004 at 1:00 p.m. Carried.

03-09-04-10 Motion by Mr. Antony and second by Mr. Sherlin to set the bid letting date for box culvert replacement projects in Florida Township, Fortier Township, and on CSAH 6, south of Wood Lake, for April 27, 2004 at 1:10 p.m. Carried.

03-09-04-11 Motion by Mr. Anderson and second by Mr. Sherlin to set a bid letting date for Phase 1 of the Memorial Trail Project for April 27, 2004 at 1:15 p.m. Carried.

Mr. Johnson noted that Burlington Northern has asked if the County would like to participate in the replacement of a railroad crossing on 9th Avenue. The normal 80% cost sharing would be reduced to 40%, or about \$78,000, if the County wished to participate. The funds would come out of Municipal State Aids.

03-09-04-12 Motion by Mr. Sherlin and second by Mr. Anderson to agree to 40% participation in the project. Carried.

Mr. Johnson distributed end-of-year budget numbers for the Highway Department showing anticipated revenues exceeding expenditures by \$430,000. Mr. Johnson was asked to have a representative at a road meeting coming up in Clarkfield and there was discussion on access to 10-ton roads. The Highway Department will have a representative at the Clarkfield meeting and monitor 10-ton road access.

Ms. Remiger called for a break at 10:43 a.m. and reconvened at 10:55 a.m.

Kevin Wald, representing Specialty Systems Engineering, was present to request tax abatement for the Specialty Systems property in Granite Falls. He distributed a history of events wherein an abatement request had previously been made without action taken to secure that abatement.

03-09-04-13 Motion by Mr. Anderson and second by Ms. Remiger (after passing the gavel to Mr. Sherlin) to set a public hearing for consideration of a tax abatement for Kevin Wald for the Specialty Systems parcels for April 13, 2004 at 10:00 a.m. Carried with Mr. Johnson voting against the motion.

The gavel was passed back to Ms. Remiger and additional discussion on the tax abatement took place.

03-09-04-14 Motion by Mr. Antony and second by Mr. Sherlin to calls for bids for lawn mowing at the YMC fairgrounds. Carried.

03-09-04-15 Motion by Mr. Sherlin and second by Mr. Johnson to close the meeting to discuss union negotiation strategies at 11:21 a.m. Carried.

Ms. Remiger reopened the meeting at noon.

03-09-04-16 Motion by Mr. Anderson and second by Mr. Sherlin to adopt Policy 403 – Designation of Unreserved Fund Balances and Policy 404 – Current Portion of Compensated Absences as presented. Carried.

03-09-04-17 Motion by Mr. Sherlin and second by Mr. Anderson to call for a public hearing on the adoption of a Joint Restated Resolution for the Minnesota Valley Regional Rail Authority to amend their organizational document for April 13, 2004 at 10:30 a.m. Carried.

Mr. Chattin gave some updates and asked if the Board wished to pursue an offer to

purchase an old County highway building. They agreed to continue the process and wait for a formal offer.

County Attorney Tom Kramer asked for resolution of a pay issue involving his Office Manager. Since she was not on the County's step system, due to hours worked, employees under the Office Manager were being paid more than she was.

03-09-04-18 Motion by Mr. Sherlin and second by Mr. Antony to maintain a 29¢ per hour differential between the Office Manager and the highest paid secretarial staff for 2004 and in the future. Carried, with Mr. Johnson and Ms. Remiger voting against the motion.

Ms. Remiger reviewed some upcoming meetings and correspondence received.

03-09-04-19 Motion by Mr. Sherlin and second by Mr. Anderson to approve Commissioners' Warrants totaling \$90,916.65, as presented, and acknowledge review of Auditor's Warrants as presented totaling \$4,329.39 and \$5,194.56. Carried.

03-09-04-20 Motion by Mr. Antony and second by Mr. Sherlin to adjourn the meeting at 12:22 p.m. Carried.

Witness:

Jane Remiger, Chair

Attest:

Carolyn Sherlin, Auditor/Treasurer