

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE YELLOW
MEDICINE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
GRANITE FALLS, MINNESOTA
November 28, 2006**

The Yellow Medicine County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 9:00 am on Tuesday, November 28, 2006, with the following members present: Ron Antony, Jane Remiger, Gary Johnson, Louis Sherlin and Chair Lynn Anderson. Also present were County Auditor-treasurer Carolyn Sherlin, and news reporters Scott Tedrick and Robert Wolfington. The chairperson called the meeting to order. The following items were added to the agenda: Highway 59, County Attorney Office Furniture, & Moving County Museum Building. On motion by Antony, seconded by Sherlin, the agenda for the day and the minutes for November 14 were approved.

11/28/06-1 An additional appropriation in the amount of \$14,848 was approved for the sheriff's office, \$38,307 for Planning and Zoning for both revenues and expenditures, and \$25,085 for both revenue and expenditures for the Veterans Memorial on motion by Remiger, seconded by Antony and all voting in favor.

11/28/06-2 The following resolution was brought forward:

Whereas the regional public library systems in Minnesota provide an important service through library operations to the entire population of the State of Minnesota; and

Whereas, the regional public library systems are funded primarily through local tax levies, and by the State of Minnesota through Regional Library Basic System Support in overall decade; and

Whereas the funding for regional public library systems has increasing fallen on local property tax dollars; therefore, Be it resolved that Yellow Medicine County hereby requests its legislative representatives and the Governor to place a high priority on a substantial increase in the Regional Library Basic System Support Appropriation during the 2007 legislative sessions; and

Be it further resolved that yellow Medicine County join the Minnesota Library Association in supporting this increase during the 2007 Legislative Session.

Sherlin moved to adopt the above resolution. Johnson seconded motion, all voted in favor.

11/28/06-3 Antony moved to approve a one day beer license for the St. Leo American Legion for December 5, 2006. Sherlin seconded motion, all voted in favor.

11/28/06-4 Letters of application were received for appointment to the Yellow Medicine River Watershed Board from the following individuals: Richard Jelen, Zayna Anderson, and Elmo Vosted. After discussion, Antony nominated Richard Jelen for the vacancy, Sherlin seconded motion: Voting yes: Antony, Sherlin, Anderson, Voting no: Remiger, Johnson. Motion was carried.

County Assessor Connie Erickson presented an overview of 2007 property tax value assessment for our county. She stated that the overall increase will be 7% with increases varying from 5-18%. Values for wasteland increased to \$1000 per acre and pasture land from \$700 to \$800 per acre. She also discussed the Arcview GIS program and mentioned that free software is available and can be downloaded to other computers who have need of this program.

11/28/06-5 Sherlin moved to approve a Homestead abatement for Parcel #34-300-3620 for the amount of \$98, Johnson seconded motion, all voted in favor.

Johnson reported on Prairie Five and mentioned that this organization will be offering free income tax clinics again, an Extension Committee meeting, RDC, and an area MNDOT meeting. He has requested that repairs to Highway 59 be added to MNDot's Ten-year plan. This would involve a regrade from Clarkfield to Marshall.

11/28/06-6 Environmental Officer Paul Hendrickson requested approval of the 2007 Household Hazardous Waste Contract between Lyon County and Yellow Medicine County. This contract describes the terms under the local program shall be established and operated according to guidelines and procedures established by the MPCA. After discussion, Johnson moved for approval, Antony seconded, motion carried.

11/28/06-7 Henriksen introduced the following resolution which supports a request for funding to provide education on burn barrels.

**A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT AND IMPLEMENTATION
FY-2007 BURN BARREL REDUCTION CAMPAIGN GRANT**

WHEREAS; the County of Yellow Medicine supports the Southwest Solid Waste Commission Joint Powers Board's grant application from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA),, under its Environmental Assistance Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, the County of Yellow Medicine is committed to implementing the proposed project submitted by the Southwest Solid Waste Commission Joint Powers Board as described in the grant application, if MPCA funding is received;

WHEREAS, MPCA requires that the Southwest Solid Waste Commission Joint Powers Board enter into a grant agreement with MPCA that identifies the terms and conditions of the funding award.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the County of Yellow Medicine, a member of the Southwest Solid Waste Commission Joint Powers Board hereby agrees to support and implement a signed grant agreement with the MPCA to carry out the project specified therein and to comply with all the terms, conditions and matching provisions of the grant agreement and authorizes and directs the Solid Waste Administrator, Paul Henriksen to implement said signed grant agreement on its behalf.

Antony moved for approval, Remiger seconded, motion carried with Johnson voting against.

11/28/06-8 Dennis Healy, Lincoln-Pipestone Rural Water, requested that the county enter into a joint powers agreement with eight other counties (Lincoln, Lyon, Pipestone, Murray, Nobles, Lac qui Parle, Rock, and Redwood) that would guarantee the re-payment of a \$3,573,000 bond that will be issued through Nobles County. Approximately \$1,073,000 of the bond monies will be used to finance upgradws to LPRW pump stations and ground storage reserves. The remaining \$2,500,000 will be used to pay off the construction obligation for the Lewis & Clark project in order to curtail inflation on the interest payments. After discussion, Antony moved to approve the joint powers agreement, Sherlin seconded motion, all voted in favor.

11/28/06-9 County Attorney Keith Helgeson presented quotes for new office furniture for use in his new location. Johnson moved that the quote from Northern Business Products be accepted for \$12,145.70 Sherlin seconded motion, all voted in favor.

11/28/06-10 Antony moved to appoint Johnson to the Local Advisory Coordinating Council and Child Abuse Prevention Council and approve a per diem payment for meeting attendance. Remiger seconded, motion carried.

A letter was received from Clarkfield residents requesting consideration for the re-location of the historical museum building if it is moved. It was determined that the county board give direction to the YMC Historical Society to consider the City of Clarkfield location when researching possibilities for the site re-location prior to any decision making.

Antony reported on the Pioneerland Board Meeting and the Planning & Zoning Committee. Remiger reported on the Regional Railroad Authority and RCRCRA. Anderson reported on Prairie Lakes and the Labor Management Committee and reported that we received an insurance dividend refund from MCIT for \$62,023.

11/28/06-11 Amanda Seiling, Rae Ann Aus, Jolene Johnson and Ryan Marthaler, Labor Management Committee, requested board approval of the following language change to the Personnel Policy:

201.104 - Overtime

(E) *All compensated hours taken count towards the 40 hour requirement for purposes of determining overtime.*

201.105 - Compensatory Time

(E) *Accumulated compensatory time shall not exceed 80 hours at calendar year end.*

(F) *Compensatory time cannot be taken and earned on the same day.*

(G) *Compensatory time may be earned and taken in ¼ hour increments.*

(H) *Any employee leaving County employment in good standing, after giving proper notice of such termination, shall be compensated for compensatory time accrued and unused to the date of separation at their regular rate of pay. One hundred percent (100%) of such compensation shall be paid into the employee's VEBA account.*

201.252 - Vacation (H) *Vacation must be taken in ¼ hour increments.*

201.254 - Sick Leave (H) *Sick leave taken shall not be taken in excess of the hours accrued and must be taken in ¼ hour increments.*

201.301 - Employee Orientation

(A) *Supervisors shall be responsible for providing orientation to new employees during their first day on the job. Supervisors shall obtain a packet of new employee information from their applicable payroll clerk and ensure that the new employee completes the required forms before starting their work duties. Orientation shall include pay plans, personnel rules, fringe benefits, safety procedures, necessary employment forms, and any other policies or programs which may effect the person's employment. Orientation will be provided on an ongoing basis as policies and procedures are created or revised.*

Antony moved to adopt the above changes, Sherlin seconded, motion carried.

An Agent of Record discussion was held. Currently David Frank serves as our agent of record to provide services concerning health insurance. It was mentioned that perhaps this designation should be rotated within the county. Remiger recommended that the committee draft a RFP for the agent of record services and bring back to board for approval.

County Recorder Kay Zempel discussed the proposed half-time staff position cut in the recorder's office. She explained that this position cut would eliminate the dual tract indexing system that her office is currently following. Comparisons of similar work load status with other counties were distributed. It was determined that Antony and Remiger will visit the office to view this project before any decision on the reduction in office staff is made. They will meet with Kay to review system to determine whether or not the dual system should be continued.

12/28/06-12 Michelle Gatz and Wendell Ryer reviewed the plans for the Phase 2 Development of the Veterans Memorial Project stating that the fundraising efforts will be continued to pay for three more stones with etching of veterans names. Their request was for the county to pay for any shortfall in the cost when the bill comes in. Hopefully, they will be here by Memorial Day next spring. Antony moved to approve any shortage for payment on the stones, Sherlin seconded, motion carried.

12/28/06-13 Johnson moved to approve payment of the claims in the amount of \$79,163.06 for the Revenue Fund; \$39,661.44 from Road & Bridge Fund; and \$355.00 from Ditch Fund. Antony seconded, all voted in favor. On motion, the meeting was adjourned.

Thursday, December 07, 2006

Witness:

Lynn Anderson, Chairman

Attest:

Carolyn Sherlin, Auditor/Treasurer

