

**Yellow Medicine County Board Minutes**  
September 26, 2006

Chairman Lynn Anderson called this regular meeting to order at noon with Commissioners Gary Johnson, Jane Remiger, Louis Sherlin, and Ron Antony present. Administrator John Chattin, County Attorney Keith Helgeson, Robert Wolfington of the Marshall Independent, and Scott Tedrick of the Granite Falls Advocate Tribune were also present.

**09-26-06-01** Motion by Mr. Sherlin and second by Mr. Johnson to approve the agenda with the addition of: approval of architect fees to the consent agenda; Rural Energy Board discussion; wind energy ordinance; opposition to highway reclassification; and County Board minutes concerning ditch and to approve the consent agenda items including: September 12, 2006 regular meeting minutes; reallocation and additional appropriation requests; Granite Falls Firefighters Relief Association gambling permit; and architect fees. Carried.

Under reports, Mr. Johnson discussed UMVRDC. Mr. Antony covered a public works/recycling meeting, Private Industry Council, Pioneerland Library, and Rural Minnesota Energy Board. Mr. Anderson reported on Southwest Regional Solid Waste Commission, Countryside Public Health, Labor Management Committee, and shared some correspondence.

There were no citizens present to be heard.

Pat Lubeck and Jan Peterson, with the Yellow Medicine Historical Society, requested the County's assistance in relocation of their buildings. They have initiated a fundraising campaign and estimate relocation costs at approximately \$150,000. Mr. Sherlin suggested that the County consider a 2% levy in 2008 to support their effort. Mr. Johnson thought that a matching grant may be appropriate. They will keep the Board informed of their progress.

Everett Bain and Mark Rustand, representing area funeral homes, presented information on County funerals. They currently receive \$2,600 for a standard funeral and \$1,500 for a cremation. There has been no increase since 1998. They were requesting \$3,300 for burials and \$2,150 for cremations, plus other fees and costs.

**09-26-06-02** Motion by Mr. Sherlin and second by Ms. Remiger to pay an all-inclusive amount for County burials of \$3,900 for standard burials and \$2,250 for cremation burials. Carried.

Sheriff Bill Flaten had several issues for the Board.

**09-26-06-03** Motion by Mr. Johnson and second by Mr. Antony to hire Sue Lavoie as a full-time Corrections Officer. Carried.

A fund balance of \$14,852.21, that was originally collected and used to provide local weather radar, was discussed. MVTV will now be providing the needed weather information and no future charges to increase the fund are anticipated. ICS initiated the fund years ago.

**09-26-06-04** Motion by Mr. Johnson and second by Mr. Antony to transfer the \$14,852.21 fund balance to ICS for their disposition. Carried.

Mr. Flaten noted that the jail inspection went very well and he congratulated all involved on doing a great job. He will be looking further into dispatch fees and reporting back to the Board. Mutual aid agreements were reviewed.

**09-26-06-05** Motion by Mr. Antony and second by Ms. Remiger to approve

Police Department Mutual Aid Agreements with the cities of Clarkfield, Echo, Canby, and Granite Falls. Carried.

No bids were received for the removal of the Thoma house.

**09-26-06-06** Motion by Mr. Johnson and second by Mr. Sherlin to rent the Thoma house. Carried, with Ms. Remiger and Mr. Sherlin opposed.

Terms for the rental will be developed and presented at a later date.

Three bids were opened for the rental of the former landfill property for a term of 6 years. Bids received were: Babe Gatchell - \$501; Mark Westfield - \$224; and Kyle and Pamela Weber - \$992.

**09-26-06-07** Motion by Mr. Sherlin and second by Mr. Antony to accept the Weber bid of \$992 per year for 6 years for the rental of the former landfill property. Carried.

It was noted that tillable acres should be determined prior to the next bid letting for the site.

**09-26-06-08** Motion by Mr. Antony and second by Ms. Remiger to open the public hearing on the County's 5-Year Road Plan at 2:16 PM. Carried.

Engineer Andy Sander and Assistant Engineer Steve Schaub presented the 2006 through 2011 road construction plan. There were no public comments offered. Mr. Anderson closed the hearing at 2:40 PM.

**09-26-06-09** Motion by Mr. Sherlin and second by Ms. Remiger to adopt the County 5-Year Road Plan as presented. Carried.

**09-26-06-10** Motion by Mr. Sherlin and second by Ms. Remiger to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, State Aid Projects 87-599-113 and 87-599-115 have in all things been completed and the County Board being fully advised in the premise.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the County of Yellow Medicine hereby accepts said completed project for and in behalf of the County of Yellow Medicine and authorizes final payment to Landwehr Construction, Inc in the amount of \$7,818.35 for the final contract amount totaling \$140,825.04.

Carried.

Functional classification of County roads was discussed. Mr. Sander will prepare a resolution on the Highway 7 proposed reclassification for the next meeting.

SWCD Director Lou Ann Nagel, Farm Bill Assistant Jared Brower, and District Technician Curt Johnson brought the Board up to date on their activities.

A request to present long-term care and disability insurance to County employees was considered. As previous requests have been rejected, the Board concurred to continue that practice. The Frank's record as the County's agent of record was discussed. The Labor Management Committee does not believe that the Franks have lived up to their proposal to provide services and would like to see them replaced. Mr. Sherlin will discuss the issue with the Franks.

The Board ranked candidates for appointment to the County's Ordinance Revision Task Force.

**09-26-06-11** Motion by Mr. Sherlin and second by Mr. Antony to appoint Patrick Johnson, Gordon Palm, Wayne King, and Trish Olson to the Ordinance Revision Task Force. Carried.

**09-26-06-12** Motion by Mr. Sherlin and second by Mr. Johnson to approve Commissioner's Warrants as presented totaling \$91,565.77 and acknowledge review of

Auditor's Warrants as presented totaling \$87,925.42. Carried.

Mr. Antony noted that the County needs to be working on adoption of a wind energy ordinance, as it is becoming a big issue for southwest Minnesota.

Mr. Johnson discussed possible amendment of the July 25, 2006 Board minutes, as there have been some who have taken issue with how the County Ditch #9, Lateral D minutes were recorded. The Board decided to let the minutes stand as approved.

Mr. Anderson adjourned the meeting at 3:30 PM.

Witness:

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Lynn Anderson, Chairman

Attest:

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Carolyn Sherlin, Auditor/Treasurer