

September 6, 2022
Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting
Minutes

The Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, September 6, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. at the Cottonwood County Courthouse in Windom, MN. Present for all or portions of the meeting were: Commissioners Larry Anderson, Norman Holmen, Donna Gravley, Kevin Stevens, Tom Appel, County Attorney Nick Anderson, County Coordinator Kelly Thongvivong, Auditor/Treasurer Donna Torkelson, Kathy Marsh, Gale Bondhus, Kyle Pillatzki, Nick Klisch, Dan Quade, Jason Purrington, Paul Johnson, Gale Bondhus, Angie Piltaver, Greg Ous, Ann Wolf, Linda Fransen, Pam Gahler, Jason Nieson, Jon Diemer, Ray Sweetman, Don Williamson, Michael Johnson, Dennis Johnson, Lowell Warner, Bruce Byers, Michael Johnson, Colton Knudson, Scott Knudson, Klay Walinga, and Joel Alvstad.

Chairman Gravley called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Motion by Anderson, second by Holmen, unanimous vote to approve the agenda as amended. Motion by Stevens, second by Appel, unanimous vote to approve the minutes of the August 16, 2022, regular meeting and the August 23, 2022, work session.

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Greg Ous and Ann Wolf, MnDOT, presented information on the Capital Highway Investment Plan (CHIP) for 2023 - 2032. Ous and Wolf summarized the breakdown of the State Highway Investment Plan and the Performance Classifications. Ous and Wolf answered questions that the board had. Ous did state that striping of Highway 60 through Windom should be started today.

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Kyle Pillatzki, Solid Waste Administrator, presented bids for 2023 – 2027 recycling. The bids were as follows for the 5 year contract: Hometown Sanitation - \$995,000.00, West Central Sanitation - \$1,273,247.60, and Waste Management - \$1,966,320.84. Mike Johnson, Hometown Sanitation, did state that they would not have recycling bins for all Cottonwood County residences until approximately April 2023, but would find a way to work around that. Motion by Holmen, second by Anderson, unanimous vote to accept low bid from Hometown Sanitation in the amount of \$995,000.00 (\$199,000 per year) for the 2023 – 2027 recycling. Chairmen Gravley asked Mike Johnson to develop a plan for those residences that would not have a recycling bin for the first three months of 2023 and share with the board.

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Linda Fransen and Pam Gahler, Cottonwood County Historical Society, met with the board to review the year end report and their 2023 budget request. Gahler did state that there is a need for the HVAC system to be updated and some technology needs to be updated.

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Nick Anderson, County Attorney, informed the board that the MCAP program is going web-based and a ratification statement needs to be signed. Motion by Holmen, second by Stevens, unanimous vote to allow the Board Chair to sign the Board Ratification Statement between MCCC and Strategic Technologies Inc. for the time period of January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2025.

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Dan Quade, Jail/Dispatch Supervisor, met with the board to get approval of a Professional Service Agreement with Schneider Geospatial for GIS maintenance of the GIS/NextGen 911 system. Quade stated that Central Square Technologies is providing the maintenance currently, but that Schneider Geospatial is cheaper. Quade also stated that the funds for this expense will be taken from the 911 funds. Motion by Appel, second by Stevens, unanimous vote to approve the Professional Services Agreement with Schneider Geospatial, LLC., for GIS/NextGen 911 maintenance.

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Motion by Stevens, second by Anderson, unanimous vote to sign the 2023 Service Contract for SafeAssure as safety consultants and approve payment in the amount of \$8,444.42.

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Motion by Appel, second by Holmen, unanimous vote to approve signing of the FY2023 BWSR-MPCA SSTS Program Grant Agreement.

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Motion by Anderson, second by Holmen, unanimous vote to approve the Credit Card User Agreement as amended.

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Motion by Anderson, second by Stevens, unanimous vote to move Mitchell Chmielewski, Veterans Service Officer, to permanent full-time status effective September 14, 2022.

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Motion by Holmen, second by Stevens, unanimous roll call vote to approve September warrants, as follows:

County Revenue Fund	\$ 37,283.32
County Building Fund	\$ 310.56
Ditch Fund	\$ 14,894.39
Taxes & Penalties Fund	\$ 37.50
Road and Bridge Fund	\$504,525.96
Waste Abatement/Score Fund	\$ 135.00
Landfill Enterprise Fund	<u>\$ 5,310.15</u>
	\$562,496.88

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Motion by Stevens, second by Appel, unanimous vote to approve a per diem for Commissioners Holmen and Anderson for their attendance at the Wilmarth Excel Generating Plant tour on August 24, 2022.

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Consensus of the board is to schedule a budget work session to be held on Monday, September 19th at 8:30 a.m.

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Motion by Holmen, second by Stevens, unanimous vote to close the meeting at 10:34 a.m. to discuss strategy for upcoming labor negotiations. Present for the closed session were: Nick Anderson, Norm Holmen, Donna Gravley, Kelly Thongvivong, Larry Anderson, Kevin Stevens, Tom Appel, Donna Torkelson, and

Kathy Marsh.

Motion by Anderson, second by Appel, unanimous vote to open the closed session at 10:56 a.m.

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Motion by Stevens, second by Anderson, unanimous vote to recess as the County Board and to convene as the Ditch Authority.

Chairman Donna Gravley opened the public hearing regarding the Petition to Repair for Main Repair for County Ditch #35.

Cottonwood County Auditor/Treasurer Donna Torkelson reviewed the timeline of when notices were mailed.

Mike Johnson, Johnson Engineering Group, reviewed the Engineer's Report.

Chairman Gravley opened the public hearing for public comment. Comments were heard from: Lowell Warner, Bruce Byers, Scott Knudson, and Klay Walinga. Hearing no further comments, Chairman Gravley closed the public comment portion of the meeting.

Motion by Anderson, second by Holmen, unanimous vote to accept the Findings and Order as such or subsequently amended, and order that a contract be prepared and awarded for the repair of County Ditch #35 and under County Road 10 if needed.

Motion by Anderson, second by Stevens, unanimous vote to allow C&K Construction to work with the landowners to camera, as needed, other areas of County Ditch #35 to evaluate for issues.

Motion by Anderson, second by Stevens, unanimous vote to adjourn as the Ditch Authority and to reconvene as the County Board.

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There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:09 p.m.

Donna Torkelson, Auditor/Treasurer

Donna L. Gravley, Board Chair

Kelly Thongvivong, County Coordinator