

August 29, 2023
Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners
Special Meeting
Minutes

The Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners met in special session on Tuesday, August 29, 2023, at 8:00 a.m. at the Cottonwood County Courthouse in Windom, MN. Present for all or portions of the meeting were: Commissioners Larry Anderson, Tom Appel, Norm Holmen, Kevin Stevens, Donna Gravley, County Coordinator Kelly Thongvivong, Kathy Marsh, Kelly Smith, Kay Gross, Jason Purrington, Jason Rupp, Tim Evers, and Joel Alvstad. .

Chairman Anderson called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Motion by Holmen, second by Gravley, unanimous vote to approve the agenda as amended.

* * * *

Motion by Stevens, second by Appel, unanimous roll call vote to amend resolution 23-08-22 by striking the amount of \$798,503.80 and inserting the amount of \$382,276.90.

* * * *

Commissioner Holmen gave an update on a CPT meeting that he attended. Commissioner Appel led discussion regarding the timeline for tax forfeiture demolitions and junk yard clean-ups and the lack of contractors available for these projects.

* * * *

Kay Gross, SWCD District Administrator, met with the board to review the 2024 proposed budget for SWCD and presented two grant agreements for approval. Motion by Gravley, second by Holmen, unanimous roll call vote to approve the Grant Proceed Disbursal Agreement between Des Moines River Watershed Partnership and Cottonwood County.

Motion by Appel, second by Stevens, unanimous roll call vote to approve the Grant Proceed Disbursal Agreement between Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance and Cottonwood County.

* * * *

Kelly Smith, Director of Information Systems, met with the board to review the IT proposed 2024 budget. Smith explained that he has two larger items on his proposed budget, (1) Networking Equipment Switches - \$8,965 and (2) additional storage - \$26,584.

Smith also presented a quote for software that he would like to purchase to protect against phishing emails. Smith presented a quote from SHI in the amount of \$3,192. Motion by Holmen, second by Stevens, unanimous roll call vote to purchase Check Point Software from SHI in the amount of \$3,192.

* * * *

Jason Purrington, Sheriff, and Jason Rupp, Jail Administrator, met with the board and reviewed the Sheriff's and Jail's proposed 2024 budgets. Purrington also stated that he will be receiving an appropriation of \$42,000 from the Department of Public Safety and \$217,599 of Public Safety Aid in 2024.

* * * *

The board then reviewed the rest of the 2024 proposed budgets and made a list of changes to be updated and questions for the Auditor/Treasurer to answer at

the September 5 board meeting. Chairman Anderson stated that the work session scheduled for August 31st will be canceled.

* * * *

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:51 p.m.

Donna Torkelson, Auditor/Treasurer

Larry Anderson, Board Chair

Kelly Thongvivong, County Coordinator