

CLAY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Tuesday, May 15, 2007

8:30 a.m.

County Board Room – 3rd Floor – Courthouse

M I N U T E S

The Clay County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, May 15, 2007, with all commissioners present: Brunsvold, Campbell, Evert, McCarthy, and Waller.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion by McCarthy, seconded by Evert, and unanimously carried, the agenda was approved as presented.

APPROVAL TO RENEW MN CHILDREN'S HOME SOCIETY & FAMILY SERVICES LEASE

By consent agenda, the Board approved renewal of the Family Service Center office space leases for MN Children's Home Society: Suite 108C (82 sq.ft.) and Suite 305A (168 sq.ft.) at \$11.75 sq.ft. for the period 3/1/07-12/31/07.

AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENT WITH MOBILE ADS FOR ADVERTISING
ON CLAY COUNTY RURAL TRANSIT BUSES

By consent agenda, the Board authorized entering into a three year agreement with Mobile Ads, Bismarck, ND for advertising on the Clay County Rural Transit buses, with an estimated monthly income of \$350.00 for the four buses.

APPROVAL OF 2007 ABANDONED AUTO PROGRAM

By consent agenda, the Board approved the 2007 Abandoned Auto Program Memorandum of Understanding with Al's Auto, whereby Al's Auto will reimburse vehicle owners directly for pick up of their abandoned vehicles.

APPROVAL OF DETOX CENTER POLICY MANUAL

By consent agenda, the Board approved the 2007 policy changes for the Detox unit as recommended by Public Health administration and approved by the County Attorney's and Human Resources offices.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Moorhead City Manager Bruce Messelt was present to express his appreciation to the Board for their past working relationship. Mr. Messelt is leaving his position with the City of Moorhead for a position in the private sector.

CLOSED SESSION: CONSIDERATION OF EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE

On motion by Waller, seconded by McCarthy, and unanimously carried, the Board met in closed session at 8:35 a.m. for discussion of employee discipline (Mr. Kenton Jensen).

On motion by McCarthy, seconded by Waller, and unanimously carried, the meeting re-opened at 10:30 a.m.

INFORMATION UPDATE RE: LAKES COUNTRY SERVICE COOPERATIVE

Mr. Jeremy Kovash, Executive Director, Lakes Country Service Cooperative, was present to update the Board on the activities of the Lakes Country Service Cooperative, which serves school districts, cities, counties, other governmental agencies, and non-profits.

AWARD OF YEARLY SUPPLY BIDS

County Engineer David Overbo presented a tabulation of the bids which were opened May 8, 2007, for yearly Highway Department supplies:

Asphaltic Road Oils – No bids were submitted. This product will be purchased locally as needed.

Bituminous Mixture – On motion by McCarthy, seconded by Waller, and unanimously carried, the Board accepted all bids for which a bid bond or certified check were included: Aggregate Industries, Border States Paving, Inc., Central Specialties, Inc., and Northern Improvement Company. (Brock White and Team Lab did not submit bid bonds or certified checks with their bid document.)

Corrugated Metal Pipe & Pipe Arch Culverts – On motion by Evert, seconded by Waller, and unanimously carried, the Board accepted the bid from Johnston Fargo Culvert, Inc., the sole bidder, noting that the prices have not increased since last year.

Gravel Material - On motion by McCarthy, seconded by Evert, and unanimously carried, the Board awarded the bids for gravel material for 2007 as follows:

Dunham Gravel, Inc. – Township #'s 1-4, 9.

Fitzgerald Construction Co. – Township #'s 10 and 15.

Turner Sand & Gravel, Inc. – Township #'s 5-8, 11-14, 16-30.

Rental of Construction Equipment – On motion by Evert, seconded by McCarthy, and unanimously carried, the Board accepted the bids of the following contractors for rental of construction equipment (all bidders): Fitzgerald Construction Co., Larry's Excavating, Ziegler Construction, Strom Construction Services, Inc., Turner Sand & Gravel, Inc., H & S Contracting, Inc., Master Construction Co., Inc., Sellin Brothers, Inc., and Darvin Temanson.

TRUCK OVERWEIGHT PERMIT REQUEST FROM CW VALLEY CO-OP COMSTOCK

On motion by Waller, seconded by Evert, and unanimously carried, the Board amended the truck overweight permit of CW Valley Co-op, Comstock, to allow them to

travel West on CSAH 2 from MN Trunk Highway 75, another 2 miles to the State line (permit currently allows 80,000 lbs., .5 miles from elevator to MN Trunk Highway 75).

APPROVAL OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICES FOR WETLAND BANK

On motion by Waller, seconded by Evert, and unanimously carried, the Board approved execution of a Memorandum of Understanding with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Services, which identifies the responsibilities of both parties for the establishment and management of the Mitigation Bank (approximately 9 acres in Sec. 32, Goose Prairie Township). The mitigation bank was recently established for the CSAH 26 grading project and other future projects.

REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR BRIDGE PROJECT IN HAGEN TOWNSHIP

On motion by McCarthy, seconded by Waller, and unanimously carried, the Board authorized advertisement for bids for the bridge project, (SAP 14-599-79) in Hagen Township, June 5, 2007, 10:00 a.m.

REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO OFFER TRUCK DRIVER POSITION

County Engineer David Overbo briefly discussed his desire to offer a truck driver position on a higher salary level. In light of the fact that this item was not included in the printed agenda, the Board requested that Mr. Overbo place this item on the County Board agenda for discussion next week.

DISCUSSION RE: 2008 BUDGET PARAMETERS

Due to timing issues, discussion on this topic was postponed.

APPROVAL OF BILLS AND VOUCHERS

On motion by McCarthy, seconded by Waller, and unanimously carried, the bills and vouchers were approved for payment.

COMMITTEE REPORTS/COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE

County Administrator Vijay Sethi informed the Board that Minnesota Counties Insurance Trust (MCIT) has declined the County's request for reimbursement of costs incurred in connection with the defense of former County Attorney Lisa Borgen. The County Board may decide to appeal the decision.

County Administrator Vijay Sethi informed the Board that AMC has requested that Representative Paul Marquart be thanked for his opposition to the bill that would have imposed reverse referendum provisions on certain bills. He also clarified that the County has not taken an overall position on reverse referendums.

Mr. Sethi informed the Board that more analysis will be presented in connection with the proposed jail remodeling/expansion project before the next step is taken.

Commissioner Brunsvold expressed concern that the proposed jail project does not close the door on other projects that may need funding in the next few years (debt service and operating expenses at a new jail will be high).

Commissioner Brunsvold attended the feedlot training meeting, and expressed concern that the County does not have a system to inspect and identify problems with respect to these facilities. Commissioner Waller felt the feedlot training was beneficial and helped to provide correct information. Commissioner Evert felt the feedlot training was successful and positive with all the Planning Commissioners and three County commissioners present.

Commissioner McCarthy clarified that the Planning Commission is the entity to hold public hearings for feedlot issues, not the County Board.

The Greater FM Economic Development Corporation continues to work on possibilities involving the educational community.

Commissioner McCarthy shared the most recent audit and service plan from Lakes Country Service Cooperative.

Commissioner McCarthy attended the West Central Trails Planning meeting where the update of the 5-year plan and trail network connection were discussed.

Commissioner McCarthy attended the meeting of the Economic Development District for West Central MN in Glenwood.

The Moorhead Healthy Community Initiative group continues to meet to define and refine the board structure for expansion into Fargo and West Fargo.

Commissioner Waller advised that the Tracking & Scheduling Committee had heard a presentation regarding different methods to lease/own Highway equipment. Commissioner Campbell felt it is important that all the vendors understand that the County is looking at other options for equipment replacement.

Commissioner Evert attended an AMC teleconference regarding changes in delivery of Human Services.

County Administrator Vijay Sethi advised that the Planning Commission's public hearing this evening will be in the County Board room with live video feed to Meeting Rooms A and B for overflow attendance.

Work at the WesMin Resource Conservation District continues to move forward despite staffing issues.

Commissioner Evert advised that at the Futures Meeting in St. Paul, an informative presentation was made by Stearns County regarding their Criminal Justice Coordinating Committee. Stearns County has found numerous ways to defer people from jail, cutting incarceration by 1/3.

The individuals involved in the AMC Cohort Program will be making a presentation to the Board in the near future regarding their project which involves the provision of customer service.

Commissioner Campbell felt the jail trip to Bemidji (Beltrami County) and Crookston (Polk County) was informative. Beltrami County was successful in re-using a portion of their facility.

The Halsne family in Oakport Township recently lost their home to a fire and a benefit will likely be held in the near future.

JOINT MEETING WITH CLAY COUNTY HOUSING & REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

The Clay County Board of Commissioners met jointly with the Clay County Housing & Redevelopment Authority.

HRA Executive Director Dara Lee updated the County Board on numerous projects: Houge Estates, Agassiz Apartments, Section 8 Rentals, and Scattered Site Family Rentals. New programs were described: Permanent Supportive Housing, Shelter Plus Care with Voucher Assistance, Housing Choice Expansion, Family Self-Sufficiency Program, Section 8 Voucher to Purchase homes, and Boyer I and II.

Ms. Lee informed the County Board that the HRA is conducting a strategic plan which will be completed by August/September.

The HRA has identified an unmet need: an owner-occupied housing rehabilitation program. They hope to provide this program in an effort to revitalize the rural area. A match for funding would be available if the HRA initiated a tax levy.

The County Board suggested that the HRA develop a time table for this project and return to the County Board for consideration.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Kevin L. Campbell, Chair
Clay County Board of Commissioners

Vijay Sethi, County Administrator