

# ROSEAU COUNTY COORDINATOR

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: January 10, 2006:

RE: **Roseau County Board of Commissioners Meeting**

Contact: County Coordinator Trish Harren

The Roseau County Board of Commissioners met in regular session today. Trail Administrator Rick Kerner reported that grooming of snowmobile trails were delayed in December due to a late release of grant funds by the DNR, and coordinating grooming so close to the holidays. Trails within wooded areas are reportedly in good condition, while the condition of trails in fields and open areas remain contingent on wind and weathering. The public is invited to contact the County Board with comments on trail observations and conditions.

The Northwest Minnesota Mentoring program is a "model program", according to the Minnesota Department of Human Services. Program Co-Director Brenda Artzen reported that although only 16 of 41 grant applications within Minnesota will be awarded in 2006, Roseau County expects to receive word of their grant continuation by the end of next week. Northwest Minnesota Mentoring plans to add a teen AA program as well as provide more preventative education aimed at youth for alcohol and drugs, including education on the growing problem of methamphetamine production and use.

Commissioner Orris Rasmussen gave a report on his involvement to help keep the Workforce Center in Roseau. State plans were to eliminate the office in Roseau and direct clients to the Workforce Center in Thief River Falls. Rasmussen attended a meeting with state, city, and private industry representatives in Roseau last month. Rasmussen reported the state seemed ready to make the decision until hearing the concerns expressed at the meeting. The decision is now being reconsidered while local representatives gather information and statistics on the need to keep this service in Roseau.

Assistant County Attorney Lisa Hanson reported that the ATV Ordinance is on track. A list of roads to be designated was submitted to the DNR for their review and no negative feedback was received. The proposed ordinance will be published for public comment and a public hearing scheduled in late February. Subsequent plans include developing a trail map for distribution throughout the county and including the map on the Roseau County website.

A pre construction conference was held as part of the regular Board meeting. Architect Rich McCarthy of Klein-McCarthy and Industrial Contract Services (ICS) Project Manager Al Seydel reviewed a number of pre-construction details including finalization of the construction contract. If weather holds, ICS may begin site work in early February. Arne Pederson was introduced as the owner representative on the jail and social services building contracts. Mr. Pederson served in this capacity during the construction of the new courthouse in 1996.