

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ROSEAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

September 26, 2006

The Board of Commissioners of Roseau County, Minnesota met in the courthouse in the City of Roseau, Minnesota on Tuesday, September 26, 2006, at 8:30 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by County Board Chair Orris Rasmussen. Roll call was taken. Commissioners present were Mark Foldesi, Alan Johnston, Orris Rasmussen, Jack Swanson, and Russell Walker. Also present were members of the media.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Coordinator Harren informed the Board that the agenda before them was revised and includes the addition of a 9:00 am appointment with Environmental Officer Jeff Pelowski and discussion of the Minnesota MVST Constitutional Amendment. A motion was made by Commissioner Swanson, seconded by Commissioner Foldesi, and carried by unanimous vote to approve the revised agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion to adopt the consent agenda was made by Commissioner Johnston, seconded by Commissioner Walker, and carried by unanimous vote.

The Board, by adoption of its consent agenda, approved the proceedings of the September 12, 2006 Board meeting for publication.

The Board, by approval of its consent agenda, approved the compensatory time and holiday hour pay out of Melissa Skjerven in the amount of \$243.45.

The Board, by adoption of its consent agenda, approved an amendment to the 2006 MCIT Drug and Alcohol Testing Program Participation Agreement authorizing an increase in the drug test fee from \$36.50 to \$39.00 and the alcohol test fee from \$30.00 to \$32.50.

The Board, by adoption of its consent agenda, approved the Warroad Area Chamber of Commerce's "Application for Authorization for an Exemption from Lawful Gambling License" to hold a raffle in conjunction with the Springsteel Resort / Warroad Chamber Annual 2007 Fishing Derby.

The Board, by approval of its consent agenda, approved the revised quote from Radian Communication Services for all labor, materials, and equipment necessary to install a 200 foot self-supporting communication tower in the amount of \$142,106.

The Board, by approval of its consent agenda, approved the revised quote of JayEn Communications for the purchase and installation of the equipment for the new dispatch center in the amount of \$77,992.20.

The Board, by adoption of its consent agenda, received and approved the warrant payment list submitted by the Auditor's Office as follows:

AMOUNT	VENDOR NAME	AMOUNT	VENDOR NAME
677.48	ARROWWOOD RESORT & CONFERENCE	1147.48	BEAR GRAPHICS INC
331.66	CREATIVE FORMS & CONCEPTS	869.67	DISPLAY INDUSTRIES
2862.43	FARMERS UNION OIL CO-ROSEAU	1476.52	FARMERS UNION OIL CO-WARROAD
503.30	GENES BAR & GRILL	747.35	GRAINGER INC
468.17	GREENBUSH CITY	11025.10	JOHNSON OIL CO INC
6690.23	KLEIN MCCARTHY & CO LTD ARCHIT	380.70	LAB SAFETY SUPPLY, INC
738.00	MIDWEST MONITORING & SURVEILLA	970.49	MONTECH COMPUTERS
642.36	MULTI OFFICE PRODUCTS INC	2005.00	NETWORKING SPECIALISTS INC
4400.00	NORTHERN TECHNOLOGIES INC	353.06	QUILL CORPORATION
2235.00	RINKE-NOONAN LAW FIRM	581.09	ROSEAU CO COOP ASSN
458.01	ROSEAU CO HOME HEALTH CARE INC	581.28	ROSEAU CO MEDICAL TRAVEL
26398.62	STATE OF MINNESOTA DEPT OF COR	450.00	STERLING SOLUTIONS INC
580.38	STREIFF SPORTING GOODS	6838.72	SYNERGY GRAPHICS
4900.00	U OF MN EXTENSION SERVICE		
	35 PAYMENTS LESS THAN \$300	4,302.87	
	****	FINAL TOTAL.....	\$83,614.97 ****

And the summary of auditor warrants, as follows:

September 14, 2006	\$	460,564.60
September 21, 2006	\$	81,354.96
September 26, 2006	\$	5,000.00 (forthwith)

The Board discussed watershed board appointments. The Board agreed to defer appointments to the Two Rivers Watershed Board and the Roseau River Watershed Board to the October 10, 2006 Board meeting. A motion was made by Commissioner Johnston, seconded by Commissioner Walker and carried by unanimous vote to adopt the following resolution:

2006-09-05

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board does hereby appoint Gerald Phillipe and Jeff O'Donnell to three year terms on the Warroad River Watershed District Board with terms expiring September 19, 2009.

Coordinator Harren asked the Board if the Extension Service could place 4-H signs at the entrance and exit of the Roseau County Courthouse parking lot during the month of October. The Board by consensus approved placement of the signs.

Coordinator Harren requested the Board consider paying Pat Novacek a small consulting fee as a token of appreciation for the time he spent advising the county on their telephone system. A motion was made by Commissioner Swanson, seconded by Commissioner Walker, and carried by unanimous vote, to pay Pat Novacek a \$500 consultation fee.

Environmental Officer Jeff Pelowski met with the Board. Mr. Pelowski reported on the September 20, 2006 Solid Waste Committee meeting. Mr. Pelowski noted that Commissioner Swanson was elected chair of the committee and Dick Soderberg was elected vice-chair. Mr. Pelowski informed the Board that after a lengthy discussion, the Solid Waste Committee unanimously voted to recommend the Board approve the amended MarKit contract. A motion

was made by Commissioner Swanson, seconded by Commissioner Johnston, and carried by unanimous vote, to adopt the following resolution:

2006-09-06

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board does hereby approve the amended MarKit contract and authorize Commissioner Rasmussen to sign the contract on behalf of Roseau County.

Mr. Pelowski told the Board that one abatement request had come before the Solid Waste Committee and they had voted unanimously to approve it. A motion was made by Commissioner Swanson, seconded by Commissioner Foldesi, and carried by unanimous vote to adopt the following resolution:

2006-09-07

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board does hereby approve the Methodist Church of Roseau's Solid Waste Management Application for Abatement, reducing their 2006 solid waste assessment from \$35.00 to \$0.00.

Mr. Pelowski told the Board that the committee discussed at length the rates and charges for solid waste management in Roseau County. In 2005 the ordinance that regulates these charges was amended, reducing the residential service fee assessment from \$45.00 to \$35.00. The committee expressed concern that this reduction is forcing the fund balance to be spent down at a rate that will deplete the account by 2010. Mr. Pelowski explained that the account needs to be preserved to fund replacement equipment, unplanned environmental mandates, and to serve as a savings account for landfill closure. It is anticipated that the current demolition landfill will be at capacity and need to be closed by the year 2021 at an estimated cost of \$475,000. If the fee remains at \$35.00 for the two year period of the current ordinance, the fund balance will be reduced from \$624,000 to \$320,000. The concern of the Solid Waste Committee is that if the county waits until 2008 to act, the fee will have to increase higher than \$45.00 to replenish the fund and to meet other rising waste management costs. Commissioner Foldesi noted that there is a misunderstanding amongst tax-payers as to the intent of the solid waste assessment. When it was added to their taxes, they understood it to be temporary and specific to raise the necessary funds to close the landfill. Mr. Pelowski acknowledged that there is misunderstanding regarding this. He noted that when the solid waste assessment was going to be placed on the property tax bill public hearings were held all over the county and only 45 people attended. He stated the information distributed clearly explained how the assessment would be used. Unfortunately, many people did not get the facts. The assessment was initially inflated to raise the necessary money to fund the cost of closing the landfill. Once the necessary money was raised to close the landfill, the fee was cut in half with the remaining assessment funding the cost of the household hazardous waste program, KaMaR Recycling, the Transfer Station and Demolition Landfill. Mr. Pelowski stated that the Solid Waste Committee voted unanimously to recommend that the Board revise the Solid Waste Ordinance returning the residential service fee to \$45.00 effective January 1, 2007 and address future fee schedule concerns before approving the Solid Waste Ordinance that will become effective in 2008. Commissioner Swanson stated that he was in support of approving the Solid Waste Committee's recommendation to revise the residential fee and raise it back to \$45.00. He noted this decision requires the county to hold a public hearing which would provide an opportunity to inform and educate the public on how solid waste fees are determined and to clear up any remaining misunderstanding. A motion was made by Commissioner Swanson, seconded by Commissioner Johnston, and carried by unanimous vote to adopt the following resolution:

2006-09-08

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO AMEND ORDINANCE
NOTICE OF HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that it is the intention of the Roseau County Board of Commissioners to amend Roseau County Ordinance No. 31 which is entitled "An Ordinance Establishing Rates and Charges for Solid Waste Management Services".

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that in order to consider public comments upon the proposed amendment there will be a public hearing on Tuesday, October 24, 2006, at 11:00 o'clock a.m., in the Commissioner's meeting room #180 at the Courthouse in the City of Roseau.

The public is invited to attend and to testify at this hearing.

JAIL SOCIAL SERVICE CONSTRUCTION PROJECT UPDATE

Architects John Howell and Rich McCarthy met with the Board to give an update on the construction project. Mr. Howell reported that progress has slowed. Mr. Howell noted that ICS is behind schedule in construction and in changes in cost. Klein-McCarthy has repeatedly requested costs for changes and in some cases ICS is 30 or 60 days behind. Mr. McCarthy noted that this was addressed on Monday, September 25th at their progress coordination meeting. Mr. McCarthy requested to be scheduled on the October 10, 2006 agenda so they could update the Board.

Mr. Howell discussed the proposed social service entrance. He noted that they have an estimate from their engineer, but they still have not received a price from ICS. After discussion, the Board agreed to defer action.

Mr. Howell provided sketches of the revised access control walls for Court Administration and the County Attorney's office. A motion was made by Commissioner Swanson, seconded by Commissioner Foldesi, and carried by unanimous vote to approve the revised design and direct Klein-McCarthy to prepare an RFP.

Social Service Supervisor Pat Roth asked how many parking spaces were planned for social services. Klein McCarthy informed her that 50 had been specified. Ms. Roth asked for the move in date. Klein McCarthy reported that the occupancy date had slipped back to late February or early March.

Coordinator Harren told the Board that SimplexGrinnel intends to begin the courthouse access control project on Monday, October 2, 2006. With this system, sixteen of the courthouse doors will be operated electronically and the remaining doors will continue with keyed access. Roseau County opted to provide its own server for the access control software and this server needs to be in place by October 5, 2006 so the software can be loaded. A decision also needs to be made regarding who will manage the access system. The Court Administrator's Office managed the system when only three doors were on the system. Now that the system is expanding to include doors beyond the court system, it does not make sense to ask a state managed office to oversee the security system that is courthouse wide. The Auditor's office currently handles the distribution of keys and has agreed to house the server and manage the system once it is up and running. Due to the demands of the upcoming general election, Auditor

Granitz cannot spare any of her regular full-time staff to do the data entry, but could have her part-time staff do this. A motion was made by Commissioner Swanson, seconded by Commissioner Foldesi, and carried by unanimous vote, to adopt the following resolution:

2006-09-09

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board does hereby designate the management of the SimplexGrinnel access control system to the Auditor's Office.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board authorizes Auditor Granitz to utilize part-time staff hours to implement the system.

Assistant County Attorney Lisa Hanson met with the Board. Ms. Hanson is running unopposed for County Attorney and the Board requested that Ms. Hanson discuss the need to re-fill the assistant county attorney position. Ms. Hanson informed the Board that the case filing in Roseau County closely parallels Pennington County and Pennington County has had two full-time attorneys for over 30 years. Ms. Hanson told the Board that having a second attorney in-house is both necessary and cost effective. Outsourcing legal work is substantially more expensive than the wage and benefits paid to a county attorney. Having two attorneys allows the county attorney to put more time into preparing for cases, increasing the likelihood that a case will settle with a guilty plea and not go to trial, saving the county thousands of dollars in expert witness fees and other court related expenses. A second attorney has allowed much of the civil work that was once outsourced to be handled internally and in a timely manner. Ms. Hanson informed the Board that the County Attorney's office prosecutes for all area law enforcement agencies including Highway Patrol, the Roseau Police Department, the Warroad Police Department, the Greenbush Police Department, the Department of Natural Resources, and the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension,. Their case load would only be minimally affected by a change in sheriff regardless of their law enforcement philosophy. In addition to prosecution, the county attorney's office handles guardianships, civil commitments, child protection, juvenile delinquency, forfeitures, child support, and civil matters including reviewing all county contracts and providing legal advice to department heads and the Board. In addition, the office supervises multiple grants.

INSURANCE COMMITTEE

The Insurance Committee met with the Board. It was reported that since changing to VEBA in 2003, Roseau County has had multiple years of decreases in experience ratings. This negative experience rating makes Roseau County eligible for an 8.7% decrease in premium in 2007 which calculates out to a savings of \$57,000. The Insurance Committee recommended that the County continue the VEBA Health Plan and leave the employee/employer contribution and VEBA account contribution at the 2006 amounts. The Insurance Committee recommended that the County continue to provide TOP HEALTH monthly newsletters to all employees at an approximate annual cost of \$600. The Insurance Committee recommended continuing to contract with Select Accounts to manage 125 medical Flex monies and to leave the maximum employees medical flex amount at \$4,000. The Insurance Committee recommended that quotes be solicited for dental insurance and employees be given the option to participate in this 100% employee sponsored benefit. A motion was made by Commissioner Johnston, seconded by Commissioner Swanson and carried by unanimous vote to adopt the following resolution:

2006-09-10

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board hereby authorizes the continuation of the NW Minnesota Service Cooperatives' VEBA Health Plan and the VEBA accounts for Roseau County for the year 2007 as recommended by the Insurance Committee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the 2007 monthly insurance premium is \$268.50 for a single plan and \$631.50 for a family plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the employee contribution toward the health insurance premium for 2007 will continue at the 2006 rate of \$50.00 for single and \$100.00 for family; the County contribution will be \$218.50 for single employee coverage and \$531.50 for family employee coverage; and the County will continue contributing \$74.00/single, and \$164.50/family monthly to employee VEBA accounts.

The Insurance Committee informed the Board that additionally they recommend that the Board dedicate a portion of the premium savings to a wellness program and offer a Health Fair for employees that would include the flu shot, health screenings, and additional wellness presentations. Coordinator Harren noted that Roseau Area Hospital and Homes has hired a Wellness Coordinator who could help coordinate the health fair and that the City of Roseau would be interested in co-participating and hosting the event at the Roseau City Center. County employees who subscribe to the county health insurance receive their flu shots free of charge and city employees can be fully reimbursed for their flu shots. The primary cost of the health fair would be glucose screening and whatever portion of cholesterol screening the county was willing to pay. A motion was made by Commissioner Swanson, seconded by Commissioner Walker, and carried by unanimous vote to adopt the following resolution:

2006-09-11

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board does hereby approve a 2006 Health Fair in conjunction with the City of Roseau.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Engineer Ketring met with the Board. Mr. Ketring requested the Board approve payment to Paras Construction for post construction work performed on Center Street. A motion was made by Commissioner Swanson, seconded by Commissioner Walker, and carried by unanimous vote to adopt the following resolution:

2006-09-12

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board does hereby approve payment to Paras Construction in the amount of \$5,000, forthwith.

Mr. Ketring informed the Board that he has scheduled a meeting to meet with DNR Regional Director Mike Carol and the DNR Regional Hydrologist to discuss ditch work in Roseau County and requested that two commissioners accompany him to the meeting. Commissioner Walker and Foldesi volunteered to attend.

The Board briefly discussed a request from Lyle Sunne to lease Roseau County property.

The Board discussed the proposed Minnesota Motor Vehicle Sales Tax MVST Constitutional Amendment. The Board agreed to pass a resolution in support of the passage of the proposed amendment. A motion was made by Commissioner Swanson, seconded by Commissioner Johnston, and carried by unanimous vote to adopt the following resolution:

2006-09-13

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Roseau County Board supports passage of the proposed amendment to the Minnesota Constitution dedicating all the motor vehicle sales tax revenue to transportation with at least 40% of the revenue for public transit assistance and no less than 60% of the revenue for highway purposes.

The Board discussed motorized access on a trail/roadway in unorganized Juneberry Township. Engineer Ketring has researched ditch records to determine whether this area was established as a roadway. If it was, then an easement exists. If not, a road establishment process would have to be done as there are five landowners along that segment including three private landowners, the State Department of Natural Resources and the Nature Conservancy Minnesota Chapter 79.93. The Board agreed to contact Northwest Regional Development Commission Transportation program staff Troy Schroeder for assistance with this project.

Commissioner Foldesi advised the Board that he had received a bill from Polonia Township in the amount of \$19,000 for the 50% cost share of a joint road project between Polonia Township and unorganized Juneberry Township. Foldesi stated that he authorized the work, but did not anticipate that the cost would be this high. He stated he intended to review the bill in more detail and noted that there was \$24,000 in the account.

COMMUNICATIONS CONSULTANT

Communications Consultant Pat Novacek met with the Board. At the Board's request, Mr. Novacek had received and reviewed two quotes to provide equipment and installation for upgrading telephones and service to Roseau County to support the new construction and change in operation locations. Mr. Novacek provided the Board with a detailed comparison of the two quotes. Mr. Novacek recommended the Board choose Wikstrom Telephone Company, Inc. of Karlstad as its vendor and recommended inviting Wikstrom to the next Building Committee meeting to further refine the quote. A motion was made by Commissioner Johnston, seconded by Commissioner Swanson, and carried by unanimous vote to adopt the following resolution:

2006-09-14

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board does hereby select Wikstrom Telephone Company, Inc. of Karlstad as its telephone vendor.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board accepts the proposal for the new social service building, new jail and relocated sheriff's office in the amount of \$37,146.55.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board accepts the quote for the equipment and installation of an interactive video system for \$16,263.00 and room monitoring equipment in two locations with video and voice for \$5,188.08.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board is deferring action on the courthouse (\$28,084.66) and highway department (\$16,162.61) telephone system upgrade at this time.

Upon motion carried, the meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m. The Board will convene its next regular meeting at 8:30 a.m. on October 10th, 2006.

Attest:

Date: _____

Teresa Harren
County Coordinator

Orris Rasmussen
Board Chairman