

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ROSEAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

October 23, 2007

The Board of Commissioners of Roseau County, Minnesota met in the courthouse in the City of Roseau, Minnesota on Tuesday, October 23, 2007 at 8:30 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by County Board Chair Jack Swanson. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Commissioners present were Orris Rasmussen, Jack Swanson, Alan Johnston, Russell Walker and Mark Foldesi.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Gravelling Ditch 10 in Unorganized Clear River Township was added to the Consent Agenda. The Information Technology Position and Warroad Harbor were added to Discussion. A motion was made by Commissioner Foldesi, seconded by Commissioner Walker, and carried by unanimous vote to approve the amended agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

The Board, by adoption of its consent agenda, approved proceedings of the September 25, 2007 and October 9, 2007 Board Meetings.

The Board, by adoption of its consent agenda, approved the hire of Stephanie Walsh-Olafson as Extension Support Specialist.

The Board, by adoption of its consent agenda, approved the Roseau County prevention Coalition Quarter 1 Financial Statement.

The Board, by adoption of its consent agenda, approved advertising to fill the Victim Services Coordinator position vacancy at a .75 FTE.

The Board, by adoption of its consent agenda, approved advertisement to fill a regular full-time Dispatch/Jailer vacancy.

The Board, by adoption of its consent agenda, reappointed LaVern Voll to the Roseau River Watershed Board of Managers for a three-year term expiring October 19, 2010.

The Board, by adoption of its consent agenda, acknowledged the Life Care Medical Center name change and directed the County Coordinator to write a letter of congratulations on behalf of the Board.

The Board, by adoption of its consent agenda, approved the 2008 Employers Association Inc, preferred membership.

The Board, by adoption of its consent agenda, approved forthwith payment to D & J Radio Sales & Services. The work is funded through the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management Northern Border Communication Grant.

The Board, by adoption of its consent agenda, authorized gravelling Ditch No. 10 in Unorganized Clear River Township.

The Board, by adoption of its consent agenda, approved bills for payment as follows:

| WARRANTS APPROVED ON 10/23/2007 FOR PAYMENT 10/26/2007 | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| AMOUNT | VENDOR NAME | AMOUNT | VENDOR NAME |
| 350.48 | AMERIPRIDE LINEN & APPAREL SER | 1950.00 | ASSN OF MN COUNTIES |
| 1598.40 | CHARM-TEX INC. | 1250.00 | CRIMESTAR CORPORATION |
| 1387.04 | DEEP SURPLUS | 318.07 | TONY DORN INC |
| 3442.72 | FARMERS UNION OIL CO-LK BRNSN | 20027.70 | FARMERS UNION OIL CO-ROSEAU |
| 4847.44 | FARMERS UNION OIL CO-WARROAD | 509.54 | FLEET SUPPLY |
| 5281.48 | FRANK'S TV REPAIR | 1186.90 | GARTNER REFRIGERATION CO |
| 316.07 | GOPHER BEARING | 399.35 | GRAND FORKS WELDING & MACHINE |
| 836.53 | GREENBUSH IMPLEMENT CO | 2652.50 | HORNER PLUMBING & EXCAVATION |
| 7153.52 | JOHNSON OIL CO INC | 5906.59 | JOHNSTON FARGO CULVERT INC |
| 10542.00 | KAMAR SOLID WASTE FUND | 3123.15 | KENNEDY SCALES INC |
| 2564.38 | KIP & CHUCKS LOCK & KEY SHOP | 5725.30 | KLEIN MCCARTHY & CO LTD ARCHIT |
| 850.00 | LEAGUE OF MN CITIES | 2861.24 | M & R SIGN CO INC |
| 372.70 | MN COUNTIES COMPUTER COOP | 330.00 | MN COUNTIES INSURANCE TRUST |
| 2651.21 | MN DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION | 322.49 | MULTI OFFICE PRODUCTS INC |
| 1145.84 | NORTHLAND TIRE | 12780.00 | NORTHSTAR MATERIALS INC |
| 668.67 | PARADISE | 820.74 | POWER PLAN |
| 888.75 | PRO-WEST & ASSOCIATES INC | 1263.31 | QUILL CORPORATION |
| 8310.60 | R & Q CONTRACTING INC | 3803.75 | REESE RENTAL |
| 1693.70 | ROSEAU AREA HOSPITAL HOMES INC | 978.90 | ROSEAU CLEANING SYSTEMS |
| 8633.84 | ROSEAU CO COOP ASSN | 26666.79 | ROSEAU CO HWY DEPT |
| 625.00 | ROSEAU CO MEDICAL TRAVEL | 19729.43 | ROSEAU CO SOIL & WATER CONS |
| 330.99 | ROSEAU DIESEL SERVICE INC | 716.80 | ROSEAU FARM SERVICE |
| 508.65 | LORNA SANDVIK | 400.00 | STATE OF MINNESOTA BCA |
| 1038.38 | SWANSONS' REPAIR INC | 27413.94 | TRAFFIC MARKING SERVICE INC |
| 700.51 | THE TRIBUNE | 15150.00 | U OF MN EXTENSION SERVICE |
| 2621.66 | ZIEGLER INC | | |
| | | 68 PAYMENTS LESS THAN \$300 | 6,689.70 |
| | | **** FINAL TOTAL..... | \$232,336.75 **** |

And the summary of auditor warrants and forthwith payments, as follows:

| | |
|----------|--------------|
| 10-11-07 | \$350,349.51 |
| 10-18-07 | \$299,621.34 |

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES OFFICER

Environmental Services Officer Jeff Pelowski met with the Board to present quotes on a lighting project at the Roseau County Transfer Station. Mr. Pelowski informed the Board that four quotes were received and the low bid is from E & L Electric. Mr. Pelowski recommended awarding the contract to the low bid. Mr. Pelowski noted that he had budgeted \$8000 in the 2008 budget for completion of this project and that he will remove this item out of the 2008 budget. A motion was made by Commissioner Johnston, seconded by Commissioner Rasmussen, and carried by unanimous vote to adopt the following resolution:

2007-10-08

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board does hereby award a contract to E & L Electric in the amount of \$6,535 for a lighting project at the Roseau County Transfer Station.

Mr. Pelowski informed the Board that he has an opportunity to purchase 7000 cubic yards of clay from Industrial Services Contractors, Inc., Grand Forks, at a price of \$4.25 per yard delivered. Mr. Pelowski stated that this price is approximately half of the market rate and that he would like to bank it for use in top covering at the landfill and for use when the current landfill closes. The Board expressed some concern about space to store the clay and the quality of the product. ICS, Inc. Project Superintendent Ron Dazell stated that the agreement is that Roseau County can purchase as much as they want up to 7000 yards. Mr. Dazell further stated that the clay has all been tested and that the test results may be reviewed prior to purchase. A motion was made by Commissioner Johnston, seconded by Commissioner Foldesi, and carried to adopt the following resolution:

2007-10-09

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board does hereby authorize purchase of up to 7000 cubic yards of clay from Industrial Services Contractors, Inc. at the rate of \$4.25 per yard.

ROSEAU COUNTY DRUG COURT

Judge Donna Dixon and Law Clerk Nicole Bettendorf met with the Board to request support for a grant application to begin a DWI Drug Court in Roseau County. Judge Dixon explained that this program is for felony and gross misdemeanor DUI offenders with the focus on supervision and treatment rather than incarceration. Drug Court protocol is designed to increase offender accountability and change underlying behaviors through intensive supervision and treatment. Drug Courts have been active in Minnesota for the past five years and in other portions of the United States for a decade. Drug Court protocol has proven to be successful in reducing recidivism and overall crime. In 2005, in Roseau County, the cost of alcohol-related traffic crashes, fatalities, and injuries was \$2,344,800. Drug Court goals include reducing recidivism amongst substance abuse offenders, reducing substance abuse amongst offenders, assisting offenders in becoming productive citizens and increasing community awareness of substance abuse issue. Probation Officer Tim Kriesen who has worked with Judge LeDuc setting up drug courts in Koochiching and Lake of the Woods counties, spoke to the success of the drug court protocol. Mr. Kriesen advised the Board that drug courts are successful at addressing the heart of the problem and keeping people in communities. The budget for the first grant application is \$38,576.70. One third of this grant must be matched locally. Judge Dixon and Clerk Bettendorf stated that they have a number of funding ideas including drug court fees. County Attorney Lisa Hanson stated that this is a collaborative effort to provide rehabilitative support for county residents. Drug Courts have been successful at reducing recidivism and incarceration costs and are a no lose proposition. A motion was made by Commissioner Johnston, seconded by Commissioner Walker, and carried by a 3-2 vote with Commissioners Johnston, Swanson and Walker voting in favor and Commissioners Foldesi and Rasmussen opposed to adopt the following resolution:

2007-10-10

WHEREAS, alcohol is a contributing factor in many crimes which results in significant expense to Roseau County taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, the cost of alcohol-related traffic crashes, fatalities and injuries in Roseau County in 2005 was \$2,344,800; and

WHEREAS, the DWI Drug Court protocol focuses on accountability and changing underlying behaviors through collaboration, intensive supervision and treatment; and

WHEREAS, the DWI Drug Court protocol has proven to be effective in decreasing recidivism and reducing crime; and

WHEREAS, a DWI Drug Court Planning Team that intends to apply for grant funds to establish a DWI Drug Court in Roseau County has been formed;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Roseau County Board of Commissioners supports the establishment of a DWI Drug Court in Roseau County.

KLEIN MCCARTHY ARCHITECTS

Scott Feting and Mark Schneider of Klein McCarthy Architects met with the Board to discuss progress on the jail and social service projects. Mr. Schneider and Mr. Fetting are completing the punch list on the jail. Mr. Schneider informed the Board that the contractor has estimated they will be turning the building over to the county in three weeks. Mr. Schneider presented Change Order J-007 for the Board's approval. Nine items are included in the change order for a total cost of \$27,323.13. Upon approval of this change order, \$52,000 will remain in the contingency fund. Most items on the change order have been previously approved. A motion was made by Commissioner Rasmussen, seconded by Commissioner Walker, and unanimously carried to adopt the following resolution:

2007-10-11

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board does hereby approve Change Order J-007 in the amount of \$27,328.23.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board authorizes Board Chair Swanson to sign the change order on behalf of Roseau County.

Mr. Schneider discussed the quote in the amount of \$1,190 to place a water barrier on the east side of the former social service building where water is seeping into the basement. The Board discussed other alternatives including hard-scaping the entire space with asphalt or concrete. A motion was made by Commissioner Rasmussen, seconded by Commissioner Swanson, and carried to adopt the following resolution:

2007-10-12

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board does hereby approve the ICS, Inc. quote of \$1,190 for placement of a regulate on the east side of the former social service building.

Mr. Schneider discussed the need for a handrail on the main entrance in to the jail. This sidewalk is approximately 75 feet long and inclined. Commissioner Foldesi stated that this is a safety risk and that a handrail is a necessity. A motion was made by Commissioner Foldesi, seconded by Commissioner Rasmussen, and carried to adopt the following resolution:

2007-10-13

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board does hereby approve the ICS, Inc. quote of \$3,902.59 for placement of a galvanized handrail along the sidewalk to the main entrance to the Roseau County Detention Center.

The Board discussed the SimplexGrinnell quote to complete the safety, security, and control functionality of the doors in the courts and law enforcement areas. The original quote and work was done prior to completion of the Roseau County Detention Center design and additional doors and security items have been identified. A motion was made by Commissioner Rasmussen, seconded by Commissioner Johnston, and carried to adopt the following resolution:

2007-10-14

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board does hereby accept the SimplexGrinnell Quote in the amount of \$10,770 for the installation of a strike on door 10; the addition of door 6 into the security system; and the addition of four doors in the law enforcement center into the system.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board authorizes purchase of 100 fobs at a price not to exceed \$4.50 per unit.

The Board discussed the upcoming open house. The Board agreed to send invitations to the Department of Corrections, Senator Leroy Stumpf, Representative Dave Olin, all city councils in Roseau County, former sheriffs and the Jail Study Committee. The open house is scheduled for November 14, 2007 from 2:00 pm to 7:00 pm.

Commissioner Swanson advised the Board that Building Maintenance Supervisor Lenny Johnson had solicited quotes for painting of the interior of the courthouse. The Board agreed to defer action on the quotes till after the first of the year.

Commissioner Swanson recessed the meeting at 10:00 am. The meeting re-convened at 10:15 am.

DISCUSSION

The Board discussed the 2005 and 2006 Senior Medical Travel year-end reports. Veterans Service Officer Jeff Parker advised the Board that this non-profit agency is providing much needed medical travel for veterans and other county residents. In 2005, 295 residents participated in the service and the number increased to 346 in 2006. The program is in its 28th year and has twenty-one volunteer drivers. Volunteers are reimbursed at a rate of .44 cents per mile and do not receive any other remuneration for their service. Mr. Parker expressed concern that the program is providing a service at a loss and that the county cannot afford to lose this service. Mr. Parker stated that he has written a grant in the amount of \$2000 and encouraged the Board to do all they could to support this program. The Board concurred that Senior Medical Travel is an invaluable asset.

The Board discussed the pros and cons of hiring internal employees to provide custodial services versus continuing to outsource custodial work using professional service contracts. Data was presented that there is a cost saving of approximately 50% to outsource

custodial services. A motion was made by Commissioner Rasmussen, seconded by Commissioner Foldesi, and carried to adopt the following resolution:

2007-10-15

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board does hereby approve the professional service contract with Clene-Rite Janitorial Services, 307 East Vernon Ave. Fergus Falls, MN 56537 in the amount of \$823 per month.

The Board discussed the before 8:00 am snow removal on the sidewalks at the courthouse, law enforcement center, detention center and social service building. The County Coordinator was directed to publish notice that the Board is requesting quotes for this service and that liability insurance is required.

Commissioner Johnston informed the Board that changes in the individual septic system regulations are expected to come into effect in February of 2008. Under the new rules, residents will be required to get a permit for all septic systems, not just ones covered by the floodplain or shoreland ordinances and the county will be the permitting agency which will result in additional work for the Environmental Officer Jeff Pelowski. Mr. Pelowski noted that Roseau County currently has a compliant ordinance and that new regulation compliance is not anticipated until February 2010.

The Board acknowledged the advertisement and planned hire of a temporary part-time jailer/dispatch employee to provide coverage during the transition into the new detention facility and to cover shifts while the county fills the vacancy of Patricia Berg.

The Board acknowledged the advertisement and hire of a part-time employee to provide transcription and clerical support to the Sheriff's Office. The Sheriff's Office has outsourced this service for a number of years to independent contractors and the Sheriff's Office would like to formalize the position internally to safeguard confidentiality, provide consistency and insure that transcription is done in a timely manner.

The Board discussed the role and scope of the current information technology position. It was noted that this position was filled as a technician position but that the incumbent is performing system administrator tasks. Commissioners Johnston and Swanson have met with current staff and advised that the matter will be addressed in 2008. Coordinator Klein noted that a system administrator is critical to the operation of the county. Previous to hiring an internal IT position, system administration was done by an outside consultant. However, the needs of the county were not addressed systemically. The county currently out sources GIS, 911 addressing and updates and the county web site to consultants at an expense that is near the cost to create a second information technology position and bring the work in-house.

The Board discussed the potential uses of the old law enforcement center once it is vacated. Building Maintenance Supervisor Lenny Johnson has received a quote to repair the roof, however the expense of other maintenance items is still pending. The Board deferred action until more information is available.

BARTO-POLONIA TOWNSHIP

Luke Novacek, Brad Blawat, Neil Novacek and Kenny Chruszch met with the Board for an update on SD 95 and to express frustration that this matter is not moving forward. The Board

listened to their concerns. On July 18, 2007 a multi-agency meeting was held to discuss drainage and flooding concerns. At that meeting, five outcomes were agreed upon which are summarized as follows:

1. Roseau County Engineer Brian Ketring, Kittson County Engineer Kelly Bengston, and Two Rivers Watershed District Engineer Blake Carlson would meet and determine the scope and cost of conducting the survey. It was agreed that they would ascertain who could do it – whether or not Roseau County Highway Department staff could handle the project or whether it would have to be outsourced through a Request for Proposals.
2. Roseau County will take another look at the request by Polonia Township to remove one of the two culverts in place on the county line.
3. Roseau County will look at lowering the berm along Lateral 8 SD 72.
4. Kittson County will install a 36-inch culvert going west into Section 1 of Klondike Township.
5. TRWD Administrator will coordinate another meeting of this group after the survey has been completed to decide what the next steps should be.

On August 24, 2007 an inspection of the area was conducted and a survey plan was agreed upon. On August 28, 2007, Barto and Polonia Township representatives met with the Board where an update on the project including the inspection report was given. County Engineer Brian Ketring informed Barto-Polonia representatives that the survey has been done but that the results are pending. He reminded representatives that a number of requested items have been completed and that as agreed, once the survey is completed, a follow up multi-jurisdictional meeting will be called to review the findings.

SKAGEN TOWNSHIP

Skagen Township Chair Dwight Lange and Supervisor Cliff Hamann met with the Board to discuss the sale price on four tax forfeited parcels that Skagen Township has requested to purchase privately from the county. By statute, town boards may preempt the sale of tax-forfeited parcels. On behalf of the Skagen Town Board, Mr. Lange requested that the Board lower the sale price by 20% on three parcels and by 50% on the fourth parcel. County Auditor Anne Granitz explained that the timber value is included in the sale price and that is required by statute that the county include that value as part of the sale price. The total sale price includes the timber value and the appraised value. The Board requested to take the matter under advisement and consult with the County Assessor. Mr. Lange and Mr. Hamann were invited to schedule an appointment on the November 13, 2007 Board agenda.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Engineer Ketring met with the Board. Mr. Ketring presented a memorandum of understanding from the Minnesota Department of Transportation regarding exchange of services. The previous agreement has expired and needs to be renewed. A motion was made by Commissioner Johnston, seconded by Commissioner Walker, and carried to adopt the following resolution:

2007-10-16

WHEREAS, The Minnesota Department of Transportation wishes to cooperate closely with local units of government to coordinate the delivery of transportation services and maximize the efficient delivery of such services at all levels of government; and

WHEREAS, the Mn/DOT and local governments are authorized by Minnesota Statutes §§ 471.59, 174.02, and 161.20 to undertake collaborative efforts for the design, construction, maintenance and operation of state and local roads; and

WHEREAS, the parties wish to be able to respond quickly and efficiently to such opportunities for collaboration, and have determined that having the ability to write “work orders” against a master contract would provide the greatest speed and flexibility in responding to identified needs;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the County of Roseau enter into a Master Partnership Contract with the Minnesota Department of Transportation, a copy of which was before the Board.
2. That the Board Chair is authorized to execute such contract and any amendments thereto.
3. That the County Engineer is authorized to negotiate work order contracts pursuant to the Master Contract, which work order contracts may provide for payment to or from Mn/DOT, and that the County Board Chair may sign such work order contracts on behalf of the County without further approval by the Board.

Mr. Ketring presented proposed ditch budgets and levies for discussion and approval. A motion was made by Commissioner Foldesi, seconded by Commissioner Johnston, and carried to adopt the following resolution:

2007-10-17

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING 2008 DITCH LEVIES AND BUDGETS

WHEREAS, the Roseau County Board of Commissioners has reviewed and considered budgets for the ditch systems located in Roseau County; and

WHEREAS, the Roseau County Board of Commissioners deems it necessary that the following amounts be levied on ditch systems as stated below;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the County Auditor is directed to spread one-year levies on the following ditches for repairs and maintenance for the year 2008:

| <u>Ditch</u> | <u>Year 2008 Levy Percentage of Assessed Benefits</u> |
|---------------------|---|
| County Ditch No. 5 | 25% |
| County Ditch No. 6 | 10% |
| County Ditch No. 7 | 25% |
| County Ditch No. 9 | 25% |
| County Ditch No. 10 | 20% |
| County Ditch No. 11 | 25% |

| | |
|-----------------------|-----|
| County Ditch No. 13 | 25% |
| County Ditch No. 17 | 20% |
| County Ditch No. 18 | 10% |
| Judicial Ditch No. 19 | 20% |
| County Ditch No. 20 | 20% |
| County Ditch No. 21 | 25% |
| County Ditch No. 22 | -0- |
| County Ditch No. 23 | 25% |
| County Ditch No. 24 | -0- |
| County Ditch No. 25 | 20% |
| County Ditch No. 26 | 25% |
| Judicial Ditch No. 33 | 20% |
| Judicial Ditch No. 61 | 15% |
| Judicial Ditch No. 62 | -0- |
| State Ditch No. 63 | 15% |
| State Ditch No. 69 | 25% |
| State Ditch No. 72 | 20% |
| State Ditch No. 87 | 10% |
| State Ditch No. 90 | 20% |
| State Ditch No. 91 | 25% |
| State Ditch No. 95 | 20% |
| State Ditch No. 20 | 25% |

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the 2008 ditch budgets are hereby approved and are on file in the office of the Roseau County Auditor.

Mr. Ketring advised the Board that an updated bridge resolution is needed for the new bridge in Greenbush. A motion was made by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Rasmussen, and carried to adopt the following resolution:

2007-10-17

WHEREAS, the County of Roseau has applied to the Commissioner of Transportation for a grant from the Minnesota State Transportation Fund for the construction of Bridge No. 68J26, S.A.P. 68-597-01, on local Municipality of Greenbush Road over the South Branch of Two Rivers; and

WHEREAS, the amount of the grant has been determined to be \$369,731.70 by reason of the lowest responsible bid;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the County of Roseau does hereby affirm that any cost of the bridge in excess of the grant will be appropriated from the funds available to the County of Roseau, and that any grant monies appropriated for the bridge but not required, based on the final estimate, shall be returned to the Minnesota State Transportation Fund.

The Board discussed the quote from Kip & Chuck's Lock and Key Shop to provide master locks in twelve offices in the new Sheriff's Office and three other doors in the courthouse. A motion was made by Commissioner Rasmussen, seconded by Commissioner Swanson, and carried to adopt the following resolution:

2007-10-18

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board does hereby approve the Kip and Chuck's Lock and Key Shop quote in the amount of \$5,128.56

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioner Swanson reported on the October 5, 2007 Extension Support Specialist Interviews; the October 18, 2007 Law Library Committee, an October 19, 2007 non-county Department of Employment and Economic Development meeting he attended; and an October 22, 2007 Building Committee meeting.

Commissioner Johnston reported on Warroad harbor concerns.

Commissioner Foldesi reported on a September 20, 2007 Roseau River Watershed meeting, a September 24, 2007 Highway Committee meeting, a October 5, 2007 Joint Ditch 95 meeting, a October 8, 2007 KaMaR meeting, and a October 22, 2007 Quinn County Board meeting. Commissioner Foldesi noted that he will be unable to attend the November 19, 2007 Middle-Snake-Tamarac Rivers Watershed District meeting and asked if another Commissioner could attend in his place. The County Coordinator was directed to let the Watershed District know that Commissioner Foldesi will be unable to attend and to find an alternate if possible.

Due to time constraints, Commissioners Rasmussen and Walker deferred their committee reports to the November 13, 2007 Board meeting.

The Board discussed attendance at the Minnesota Emergency Readiness Education & Training Communication meeting in Bemidji on October 30, 2007. Coordinator Klein was directed to notice this training as a Committee of the Whole meeting.

The Board discussed the date and time to jointly host a public meeting in Warroad on the Lake of the Woods Water Sustainability International Joint Commission Initiative. The Board agreed to schedule the public meeting on November 29, 2007 at 10:00 am.

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Minnesota DNR Lands & Minerals Supervisor Cindy Buttleman, Bemidji; DNR Wildlife Regional Supervisor Paul Telander, Bemidji; DNR Regional Forester Dave Thomas, Bemidji; and Regional Director Mike Carroll met with the Board to continue discussion on trading county owned land for state owned land. This land trade is being pursued to facilitate land asset management for both the county and the state. The Board agreed to move forward with an application for land exchange on a small scale including two to three parcels and then assess how well the process works for both parties before moving ahead with further land exchanges. This process is very inclusive and the town boards and individual landowners will be provided an opportunity for input. Both the County and the DNR will continue to review parcels to be considered for exchange.

Dave Thomas advised the Board that the timber is declining in status on a number of the tax-forfeited land parcels in Roseau County and encouraged the county to consider holding a timber sale so that re-growth could be pursued. Mr. Thomas stated that the DNR would be

willing to conduct the timber appraisals on the parcels and provide recommendations. The Board agreed to follow through on this matter.

Upon motion carried, the meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m. The Board will convene its next regular meeting at 8:30 a.m. on November 13, 2007.

Attest:

Teresa Klein, County Coordinator
Roseau County, Minnesota

Jack Swanson, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners
Roseau County, Minnesota