

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ROSEAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

February 27, 2007

The Board of Commissioners of Roseau County, Minnesota met in the courthouse in the City of Roseau, Minnesota on Tuesday, February 27, 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 Alan Johnston, Mark Foldesi, Orris Rasmussen, Jack Swanson, and Russell Walker.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Approval of the Civil Process Clerk hire recommendation, acceptance of a grant from the State of Minnesota Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, and approval of E911 Committee purchase were added to the agenda. The 9:00 appointment with Department of Corrections Jail Inspector Diane Grinde and discussion on Crimestoppers was removed from the agenda. A motion was made by Commissioner Rasmussen, seconded by Commissioner Walker, and carried to approve the revised agenda. A motion to adopt the consent agenda was made by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Swanson, and carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Board, by adoption of its consent agenda, approved the proceedings of the February 13, 2007 regular board meeting.

The Board, by adoption of its consent agenda, approved the appointment of Mary Vatnsdal to the Northwest Regional Development Art Council.

The Board, by adoption of its consent agenda, approved Heather Johnson's Leave of Absence request.

The Board, by adoption of its consent agenda, approved the hire of Brandy Christian as regular part-time Civil Process Clerk.

The Board, by adoption of its consent agenda, accepted a grant from the State of Minnesota Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management in the amount of \$5,804.88 and authorized Chair Swanson to sign the grant contract on behalf of Roseau County.

The Board, by adoption of its consent agenda, approved the purchase of dispatch radio equipment, manuals and payment of Federal Communications Commission fees with the use of E911 funds in the amount of \$46,470.

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

WARRANTS APPROVED ON 2/27/2007 FOR PAYMENT 3/02/2007

AMOUNT	VENDOR NAME	AMOUNT	VENDOR NAME
3575.22	DONALD DAVIS	914.58	GRAINGER INC
3052.50	HEPPNER CONSULTING INC	707.66	LAKWOOD HEALTH CENTER
360.21	MATTSON PHARMACY INC	355.50	MIDWEST MONITORING & SURVEILLA
375.00	JASON MONSRUD	516.95	MULTI OFFICE PRODUCTS INC
799.05	NORTHERN TECHNOLOGIES INC	305.80	NW MN HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS
398.96	JEFF PARKER	1815.00	PB ELECTRONICS INC
1302.50	PRO-WEST & ASSOCIATES INC	415.80	PROFORM TECHNOLOGIES INC
563.17	R & Q CONTRACTING INC	319.78	RATWIK, ROSZAK & MALONEY, PA
518.00	ROSEAU AREA HOSPITAL HOMES INC	699.63	ROSEAU CO HOME HEALTH CARE INC
14915.94	ROSEAU CO HWY DEPT	1550.00	SAFETY COMPLIANCE SERVICES
4560.00	SETTER & ASSOCIATES LLC	759.38	SPIELMAN RADIO
363.35	THE TRIBUNE	3692.70	WEST GROUP PAYMENT CENTER
643.61	ZIEGLER INC		
	28 PAYMENTS LESS THAN \$300	3,351.04	
	****	FINAL TOTAL.....	\$46,831.33 ****

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

2-15-07	\$ 32,350.83
2-22-07	\$455,144.18
2-27-07	\$ 40.00 (Forthwith)

Commissioner Johnston acknowledged the 2006 budget to actual report provided by Auditor Anne Granitz and extended congratulations as well as a thank-you to Roseau County department heads for their part in exercising fiscal prudence and making this outcome possible. The Welfare and Environmental fund both had planned uses of reserves to meet their 2006 budget but were able to come in under budget, Welfare fund by \$104,115.17 and Environmental by \$53,036.99. The Revenue fund ended with a positive budget to actual of \$5,966.19 and the Road and Bridge fund ended with a positive budget to actual of \$269,161.07.

ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICER JEFF PELOWSKI APPOINTMENT

Environmental Officer Jeff Pelowski met with the Board. Mr. Pelowski presented a request to purchase 20 acres of Roseau County property in Enstrom Township. The Board discussed creating a policy on the establishment of property valuation when selling county property. Approximately one foot of top soil was removed from this particular piece of property to provide cover for the landfill. The Board agreed to set a minimum value for sale of this property at \$250 per acre, which is the lowest assessed value for agricultural property in Roseau County. A motion was made by Commissioner Foldesi, seconded by Commissioner Rasmussen, and carried to adopt the following resolution:

2007-02-05

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board does hereby approve the sale of Roseau County property legally described as T162N, R38, Section 9, SE ¼ , SE ¼ in Enstrom Township at a minimum value of \$5000.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board authorized Environmental Officer Jeff Pelowski to advertise this property for sale.

Mr. Pelowski reviewed the Environmental fund year-end reports and the Transfer Station year-end report. Mr. Pelowski noted that expenditures and revenue were off by 2% reflected in a \$52,000 positive balance over budget.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

John Howell and Rich McCarthy of Klein-McCarthy and Site Manager Arnold Pederson met with the Board to give an update on the jail and social service construction projects. The social service building is 85% complete and over budget by 3.3%. Three percent of that amount is the addition of a separate road entrance into social services from 6th Street. The jail is 58% complete and .9% over budget. Construction progress remains ahead of schedule on the social service building and on schedule for the jail. Cost is within the planned contingency.

The Board discussed back-up power options for the courthouse complex. In the event of a power outage, the courthouse which houses the Emergency Operations Center and will soon house the Sheriff's Department does not have a back-up power source. The Board agreed to contract with electrical engineer Bruce Lugtug to study options and costs. A motion was made by Commissioner Johnston, seconded by Commissioner Swanson, and carried to adopt the following resolution:

2007-02-06

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board does hereby authorize Klein McCarthy & Co., Ltd to study options and costs for the provision of back-up power to the Roseau County Courthouse and return to the Board with a menu of options for a fee of \$2000.

The Board discussed a quote received from Simplex Grinnell to provide access control on six (6) doors in the social service building. A motion was made by Commissioner Johnston, seconded by Commissioner Swanson, and carried to adopt the following resolution:

2007-02-07

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board does hereby accept the quote from Simplex Grinnell in the amount of \$10,755 for providing a complete turn key solution for six (6) access control doors in the new social services building.

The Board discussed a number of courthouse renovation projects including designing storage space for the new election equipment, updating the filing system in the Auditor's Office, designing an office space for the Information Technology Specialist, and reorganization of space in the former Extension Suite. The Board directed Auditor Granitz to get a quote on the filing solution and directed Coordinator Klein to return with a quote for the workstations and shelving needs in the Extension Suite. The Board agreed to approve the Information Technology Specialist office solution presented by Rich McCarthy. A motion was made by Commissioner Johnston, seconded by Commissioner Walker, and carried to adopt the following resolution:

2007-02-08

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board does hereby approve building an office in the current computer room to accommodate the needs of the Information Technology Specialist.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Engineer Brian Ketring met with the Board. Mr. Ketring requested the Board approve the 2007 construction schedule. The Board agreed to defer approval of the 2007 construction schedule until it is known whether or not Department of Natural Resource funding will be available for the segment of CSAH No. 13 that is included in the schedule.

Mr. Ketring requested the Board approve a call for bids on the other three construction projects included in the 2007 schedule. A motion was made by Commissioner Johnston, seconded by Commissioner Walker, and carried to adopt the following resolution:

2007-02-09

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board does hereby approve a call for bids until 11:00 am on April 9, 2007 on the following projects:

1. SAP 68-602-37, CSAH No. 2, bituminous reclamation and surfacing from TH 89 east to CSAH No. 9.
2. SAP 68-634-04, CSAH No. 34 bituminous surfacing and aggregate shoulders from TH 11 east to Lake of the Woods County line.
3. SAP 68-674-07, CSAH No. 74 bituminous overlay from Lake Street north and west to railroad tracks

Mr. Ketring requested the Board approve an amendment to the 2007 MCIT Drug and Alcohol testing contract. Effective in 2007, the minimum random pool drug testing rate has been reduced for safety "sensitive drivers" of transit programs. The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) concluded their annual evaluation of required minimum testing rates. Based upon their review the FTA has determined that the minimum random pool drug testing rate for safety sensitive drivers of transit programs can be reduced from 50% to 20%. The FTA alcohol random test rate remains at 10%. The change in the MCIT contract reflects these changes. A motion was made by Commissioner Johnston, seconded by Commissioner Rasmussen, and carried to adopt the following resolution:

2007-02-10

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board does hereby approve changes to the 2007 MCIT Drug and Alcohol testing contract reducing the minimum random pool drug testing rate for safety sensitive drivers of transit programs from 50% to 20%

Mr. Ketring requested the Board approve the annual safety training for Highway Department employees. A motion was made by Commissioner Johnston, seconded by Commissioner Rasmussen, and carried to adopt the following resolution:

2007-02-11

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board does hereby approve the contract with Northland Community and Technical College for the provision of the 2007 Annual Refresher Training for Roseau County Highway Department employees at a rate of \$55 per participant.

Mr. Ketring requested the Board approve a four-year gravel contract with Lester and

Verna Grafstrom. A motion was made by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Rasmussen, and carried to adopt the following resolution:

2007-02-12

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board does hereby approve a four-year gravel purchase contract between Roseau County and Lester and Verna Grafstrom at a rate of \$.85 per yard.

BID OPENING

Department of Transportation Regional Supervisor Lu Tasa met with the Board to facilitate the bid opening on Federal Project: SP 68-606-10, CSAH NO. 6. Sealed bids were received until 11:00 am. Four bids were taken:

1. Central Specialties, Inc., (Alexandria)	\$970,169.79
2. Northern Paving, Inc. (Crookston)	\$860,793.00
3. North Star Materials (Bemidji)	\$810,108.07
4. Min-Dak Asphalt, Inc. (Newfolden)	\$878,600.70

A motion was made by Commissioner Johnston, seconded by Commissioner Foldesi, to adopt the following resolution:

2007-02-13

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board does hereby award the bid on SP 68-606-10, CSAH NO. 6 to the lowest responsible bidder, North Star Materials, Bemidji, in the amount of \$810,108.07, contingent upon MnDOT approval.

Chair Swanson informed Mr. Ketring that the Board had received a request from townships to itemize billing by road segment. Mr. Ketring agreed to work on a format that would be acceptable.

ROSEAU COUNTY FAIR BOARD APPOINTMENT

Roseau County Fair Board Secretary Selvin (Buddy) Erickson, Jr. met with the Board and reviewed the 2006 Fair Board Annual report. Mr. Erickson extended a thank-you to the Board for their continued support of the Roseau County Fair and their 2007 appropriation. Commissioner Rasmussen commended the Fair Board for their work to make the fair one of the best in the state.

The Board discussed having a county booth at the 2007 fair. The Board concurred that it would be a good idea and agreed to establish a committee to further discuss this matter.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Board heard the following committee and other meeting reports: i.) NW MN Household Hazardous Waste; ii.) Building Committee; iii.) E911 Committee; iv.) Flood Mitigation Task Force; v.) Joint Powers Natural Resource Board; vi.) DNR TB Meeting; vii.) Soil & Water; viii.) Community Round Table; ix.) Two Rivers Watershed Impoundment Project Operating Plan Review Meeting; and x.) Township Officers Annual Meeting.

DISCUSSION

The Board discussed the transportation legislation that is currently being considered. A motion was made by Commissioner Rasmussen, seconded by Commissioner Johnston, to adopt the following resolution:

2007-02-14

WHEREAS, all Minnesota counties benefit from an efficient and adequately funded transportation system that offers diverse modes of travel; and

WHEREAS, due to budget constraints, counties are increasingly deferring maintenance on their 30,000 miles of county state aid highways, 15,000 miles of county roads, and over 7,000 bridges; and

WHEREAS, local cost participation requirements for trunk highway projects are putting undue pressure on county highway budgets; and

WHEREAS, the main source of funding, County State Aid Highway Funding, is declining and property taxes and local bonding are having to shoulder more of the burden; and

WHEREAS, the recently approved constitutional amendment that phases in dedication of 100 percent of the motor vehicle sales tax (MVST) for transportation purposes will address only a fraction of the transportation funding needs in Minnesota, and total MVST revenues are not meeting projections; and

WHEREAS, transportation analysts in consultation with the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) estimate Minnesota will have to invest an additional \$1.5 billion per year in transportation infrastructure for the next ten years in order to meet identified needs; and

WHEREAS, transportation infrastructure maintenance and improvement costs significantly contribute to rising property taxes; and

WHEREAS, lack of state funding has delayed regionally significant road construction and reconstruction projects across Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota's transportation system is failing to meet the capacity needs necessary to sustain population growth and promote economic development; and

WHEREAS, congestion, inefficient transportation systems and lack of transportation choices lead to greater dependence on foreign oil, increased environmental degradation, and economic disadvantages for Minnesota's businesses and residents; and

WHEREAS, many rural roads are not built to modern safety standards and are not meeting the needs of industries that depend on the ability to transport heavy loads; and

WHEREAS, current funding for roads and transit systems across all government levels in Minnesota is inadequate, and this under-investment hinders Minnesota's economic competitiveness

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Roseau County Board of Commissioners requests that in 2007 the Minnesota Legislature pass a comprehensive transportation funding package that permanently increases dedicated funding for transportation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Roseau County Board of Commissioners requests that in 2007 Governor Tim Pawlenty allow a comprehensive transportation funding package that permanently increases dedicated funding for transportation that is passed by the Legislature to become law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Roseau County Board of Commissioners supports funding options including, but not limited to, the following:

- An increase in the gas tax of 10 cents phased in over a two year period.
- Indexing of the gas tax;
- Increases in vehicle registration taxes;
- Trunk highway bonding of \$100 million per year over a 10-year period;
- General obligation bonding for local roads and bridges;
- Authority for counties to levy up to a ½ percent increase in the state sales tax dedicated for transportation purposes; and
- Authority for counties to levy up to \$20.00 wheelage fee; and
- Authority for counties to impose a transportation impact fee; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Roseau County Board of Commissioners defines a comprehensive transportation funding package as an initiative that permanently increases dedicated funding for state and local road and transit systems in Greater Minnesota and the Metropolitan Area.

The Board discussed Management Team meetings and agreed that they would like to be scheduled on a rotation to participate in one meeting a month. The Board further concurred that they would like to attend some of the training sessions and would like to plan a bi-annual full management team meeting where all department heads and all commissioners were present. Coordinator Klein agreed to facilitate this.

Coordinator Klein advised the Board that the Juneberry Township road matter had been resolved. Ms. Klein stated that the damage award had been accepted by the Sikorski family. Ms. Klein stated that this was a good learning experience for the Board and extended her gratitude to the Sikorski family for agreeing to this resolution. Commissioner Foldesi formally commended County Attorney Lisa Hanson for her work on this matter.

Upon motion carried, the meeting adjourned at 1:20 p.m. The Board will convene its next regular meeting at 8:30 a.m. on March 13, 2007.

Attest:

Date: _____

Teresa Klein
County Coordinator

Jack Swanson
Board Chairman