

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ROSEAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

April 10, 2007

The Board of Commissioners of Roseau County, Minnesota met in the courthouse in the City of Roseau, Minnesota on Tuesday, April 10, 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 Mark Foldesi, Orris Rasmussen, Jack Swanson, Alan Johnston, and Russell Walker.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Approval of a liquor license for Warroad Estates Golf Course, and 2008 Budget Planning Discussion were added as items to the 8:45 Auditor Appointment. Approval of the River Oaks Plat was removed from the consent agenda and placed under Discussion Items to allow more time for questions. Far North Transit Property Tax was added to discussion. Two temporary part-time and one status changes in the Sheriff's Department were added to the consent agenda. A motion was made by Commissioner Rasmussen, seconded by Commissioner Johnston, and carried to approve the amended agenda.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

The Board, by adoption of its consent agenda, approved the proceedings of the March 27, 2007 regular board meeting.

The Board, by adoption of its consent agenda, acknowledged the status change of Jennifer Berggren to include part-time deputy as well as part-time dispatch jailer.

The Board, by adoption of its consent agenda, acknowledged the hire of Kelly Brekke as a temporary part-time deputy.

The Board, by adoption of its consent agenda, acknowledged the hire of Alisha Robertson as a temporary part-time deputy.

The Board, by adoption of its consent agenda, approved the Roseau County Prevention Coalition 3rd Quarter Fiscal Report.

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

WARRANTS APPROVED ON 4/10/2007 FOR PAYMENT 4/13/2007			
AMOUNT	VENDOR NAME	AMOUNT	VENDOR NAME
417.37	AMERIPRIDE LINEN & APPAREL SER	324.25	ROBERT ANDERSON M.D.
360.74	BALLARD MOTOR CO	1552.80	BERGAN TRAVEL INC
614.20	BLIZZARD BLADE	867.15	CONSOLIDATED PLASTICS CO INC
499.52	CONSTRUCTION BULLETIN MAGAZINE	2875.50	D & J RADIO SALES & SERVICE
1748.89	FARMERS UNION OIL CO-LK BRNSN	5560.01	FARMERS UNION OIL CO-ROSEAU

1870.75	FARMERS UNION OIL CO-WARROAD	888.27	GEROY'S BUILDING CENTER INC
519.65	GRAND FORKS GROCERY FOOD SERV	601.23	GREENBUSH IMPLEMENT CO
1803.24	H & L MESABI INC	6405.57	HEPPNER CONSULTING INC
760.43	HILLYARD HUTCHINSON	720.00	LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING SERVI
706.73	M & R SIGN CO INC	681.15	MATHISON COMPANY
3907.89	MN COUNTIES COMPUTER COOP	600.00	MN OFFICE OF ENTERPRISES TECH
5545.20	MULTI OFFICE PRODUCTS INC	2673.83	NORTHLAND TIRE
732.61	QUILL CORPORATION	832.15	RATWIK, ROSZAK & MALONEY, PA
1371.48	RIVERFRONT STATION	590.30	ROSEAU AUTO PARTS INC
458.65	ROSEAU AUTO VALUE	489.45	ROSEAU CLEANING SYSTEMS
901.37	ROSEAU CO CASH FUND	3796.37	ROSEAU CO COOP ASSN
18053.40	ROSEAU CO TREASURER	396.98	ROSEAU DIESEL SERVICE INC
2272.01	ROSEAU ELECTRIC COOP INC	5715.64	SIMPLEX GRINNELL LP
12393.87	SPIELMAN RADIO	510.00	U OF MN
15150.00	U OF MN EXTENSION SERVICE	1950.00	VOYAGEURS COMTRONICS CORP
2790.10	WEST GROUP PAYMENT CENTER		
	58 PAYMENTS LESS THAN \$300	7,122.66	
	****	FINAL TOTAL.....	\$118,031.41 ****

And the summary of auditor warrants, as follows:

3-29-07	\$ 481,488.74
4-05-07	\$ 16,584.23

AUDITOR APPOINTMENT

Auditor Anne Granitz met with the Board. Ms. Granitz requested the Board approve a one-year liquor license for Warroad Recreation, Inc. A motion was made by Commissioner Johnston, seconded by Commissioner Walker, and carried to adopt the following resolution:

2007-04-01

BE IT RESOLVED that a one-year on-sale intoxicating liquor license, with license fee set at \$500, and an addition of 20 percent, or \$100 fee, set by the Lake Town Board, and a Sunday license, with license fee set at \$125, is granted to Warroad Recreation, Inc. (Trade Name – Warroad Estates Golf Course). The Board recommends that said license be approved by the Alcohol and Gambling Enforcement Director.

Ms. Granitz informed the Board that our current contract with MAXIMUS for the provision of Roseau County's central services cost allocation plan is expired will expire in April. Ms. Granitz has solicited quotes for this service and has received two. MAXIMUS provided a quote for a three year contract at a rate of \$3,612 for year one and \$3,540 for the next two years for a contract total of \$10,692. Government Management Group, Inc. submitted a quote for a three year contract at a rate of \$3,500 per year for a contract total of \$10,500. Ms. Granitz recommended the Board award the contract to Government Management Group, Inc. A motion was made by Commissioner Johnston, seconded by Commissioner Walker, and carried to adopt the following resolution:

2007-04-02

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board does hereby accept the quote of Government Management Group at a rate of \$3, 500 per year for the preparation of the County's 2006, 2007, and 2008 indirect cost allocation plans.

Commissioner Johnston addressed the Board and Auditor Granitz stating that he would like to begin the 2008 budget planning process as soon as possible. Commissioner Johnston requested the Board add an hour to the next meeting agenda to provide adequate time to discuss this planning process and develop a county department budget management policy.

RIVER OAKS SECOND ADDITION PLAT APPROVAL

Mike Baumgartner met with the Board to request approval of a plat in the River Oaks Subdivision. The Board asked if the River Oaks Drive road issue in the subdivision had been resolved. Mr. Baumgartner informed the Board that Stafford and Malung townships had met and agreed upon a plan and had the road repaired including re-ditching, adding a culvert and adding additional gravel. The road is now in good condition. A motion was made by Commissioner Rasmussen, seconded by Commissioner Walker, and carried to adopt the following resolution:

2007-04-03

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board does hereby approve the River Oaks Second Addition plat located in Stafford Township submitted by Michael and Sandra Baumgartner.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Site Manager Arnold Pederson met with the Board to give an update on the jail and social service construction projects. Project continues on schedule with no major issues.

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION TELECONFERENCE

Minnesota Department of Corrections Senior Detention Facility Inspector met with by Board via telephone to discuss transition planning for occupancy of the new jail. Mr. Thompson strongly encourage the county have a Transition Team in place consisting of three to five people including the jail administrator and two or three seasoned jail staff and a deputy or other law enforcement staff. He stressed the work of this committee is a full time job over the course of the building project. They are charged with re-writing all policies and procedures for the new facility and developing and planning the training needed to prepare staff to work in the new facility. Roseau County will be transitioning from a linear style jail to an indirect supervision form of inmate supervision which is an entirely different form of inmate management. This requires training. Mr. Thompson recommended having all jail staff go through the Chapter 2911 required training. Mr. Thompson also recommended thorough training on the new control system. Mr. Thompson reviewed the Facility Occupancy Inspection Checklist and noted there is typically a two week to two month transition stage between the time a building is completed and the pre-occupancy preparation and training is complete and the facility is ready to receive inmates.

LAVERN VOLL APPOINTMENT

LaVern Voll met with the Board to request the Board consider re-determination of ditch benefits in Roseau County. Mr. Voll noted that benefits have not been reviewed since they were initially determined between 1919-1929. Mr. Voll added that there have been changes in water flow since the ditches were built and benefits were determined. Commissioner Walker discussed his concern regarding the cost. He noted that it would cost the tax payers of Roseau County between \$3 and \$5 dollars per acre to do this project. Commissioner Rasmussen advised Mr. Voll that even if the county re-determined benefits and his benefit were re-

determined, it would not likely result in a cost saving to him but rather a shift in which system he was paying in to Commissioner Rasmussen questioned whether it was worth opening matters relating to the ditch systems and weighed in that he felt it was better to let matter stand. Mr. Voll acknowledged that he understood the Board's position and thanked the Board for their time. Coordinator Klein will do some research as to what other counties are doing related to re-determination of ditch taxes.

COUNTY ATTORNEY OFFICE

County Attorney Lisa Hanson met with the Board. Ms. Hanson requested the Board approve a status change for the Victim Service Program Coordinator Position. The job description was rewritten and evaluated by Employers Association, Inc. at a Grade 7 (450 points) up from a Grade 6 (400 points). Ms. Hanson requested the grade change be made retroactive to the first pay period of the current incumbent. A motion was made by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Foldesi to approve the grade change for the Victim Service Program Coordinator Position from a Grade 6 to a Grade 7 retroactive to July 10, 2006.

Ms. Hanson presented a copy of the compliance check and administrative penalty ordinance that was passed by the Roseau City Council in February. Ms. Hanson presented the Board with a copy of an advertisement that will be placed in the local papers regarding the cost of underage drinking. Ms. Hanson noted that it has recently come to her attention that this is a budget issue for Roseau County. Ms. Hanson reviewed the impact on the County budget and the cost to the constituents of Roseau County of the provision of one bottle of liquor to an underage youth in our county this past winter. As we are working to do more with less, we need to find ways that we can proactively save money as well. Keeping alcohol out of the hands of minors is one simple solution. Access and enforcement of existing laws are the two most effective ways to do that. Ms. Hanson invited the Board to review the ordinance presented in detail and urged them to adopt it at their earliest opportunity. Coordinator Klein was directed to advise the Warroad, Badger, and Greenbush City Councils that the Board is considering passing an ordinance similar to the City of Roseau ordinance and invite their feedback. The matter will be placed on the April 24, 2007 agenda for further consideration.

Ms. Hanson provided a legal opinion to the Board prepared by Assistant County Attorney Mike Grover on the topic of potential liability of installing metal deters in the courthouse that not staffed at all times when the courthouse is open to the public. Mr. Grover's opinion is that the county would be immune from liability under the doctrine of statutory immunity because the decision is a planning level decision that involves questions of public policy.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Engineer Brian Ketring met with the Board. Mr. Ketring requested the Board approve a contract for bituminous reclamation and bituminous surfacing on CSAH No. 2 from TH 89 to CSAH NO. 9. A motion was made by Commissioner Rasmussen, seconded by Commissioner Johnston, and carried to adopt the following resolution:

2007-04-04

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board does hereby award a contract to Northstar Materials, Inc. in the amount of \$1,248,199.09 for SAP-602-37, CSAH No. 2.

Mr. Ketring requested the Board approved a contract for bituminous surfacing and aggregate shouldering on CSAH No. 34 from TH 11 east to the Lake of the Woods County line and bituminous overlay on CSAH No. 74 from Lake Street north and west to the railroad track on the NE side of Warroad. A motion was made by Commissioner Foldesi, seconded by Commissioner Rasmussen, and carried to adopt the following resolution:

2007-04-05

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board does hereby award a contract to Northern Paving in the amount of \$941,423.63 for SAP 68-634-04, CSAH No. 34 and SAP 68-674-07, CSAH No. 74.

Mr. Ketring requested the Board approve a call for bids on a bridge replacement project on old TH 32 in the City of Greenbush. A motion was made by Commissioner Foldesi, seconded by Commissioner Rasmussen, and carried to approve a call for bids on SAP 68-597-01 on May 21, 2007 at 11:00 am.

Engineer Ketring informed the board that he has scheduled approval of the county road realignment plan on the April 24, 2007 Board agenda. Mr. Ketring presented the Board with quotes to publish a county map. Mr. Ketring has met with Commissioner Swanson and have discussed selling advertising on the map to capture the publishing cost. County Attorney Lisa Hanson will research the legalities and get an opinion to the Board before the April 24, 2007 regular meeting.

Mr. Ketring reminded the board that his appointment is up in May. Commissioner Swanson and Commissioner Rasmussen will meet with Mr. Ketring to discuss the terms of his reappointment.

Coordinator Klein presented the Board with two correspondences received from Mr. Jim Jenson use of certain products in highway construction products. Mr. Ketring responded in brief given he had not previously reviewed the correspondence. Mr. Ketring noted that one key reason had to do with safety. Mr. Ketring will meet with Commissioner Foldesi and respond in detail to Mr. Jenson's questions.

Mr. Ketring was asked if he could assess the portion of the courthouse parking lot that is not being resurfaced as part of the construction project for damage and put together a cost estimate to bring the old part of the parking lot up to the new parking lot standard.

DISCUSSION

The Board discussed submitting a letter to the editor regarding specific details of transportation funding and the impact on local property taxes if a new funding is not included in this years transportation bill. The Board supports a comprehensive transportation funding package including an increase in the gas tax which would shift the growing burden on building and maintenance of roads away from income and property tax to a user tax. A draft letter was reviewed. A motion was made by Commissioner Johnston, seconded by Commissioner Rasmussen, and carried to submit the letter to the local papers.

It was noted that Commissioner Johnston and Engineer Ketring will be attending the Transportation Rally sponsored by the Transportation Alliance in St. Paul on April 12, 2007.

The Board acknowledged their full support of Roseau County's presence at this very important event.

The Board discussed correspondence from Kurt Deter regarding proposed changes to the Wetland Conservation Act. Mr. Deter advised the Board to follow the rule changes closely and to actively educate the agricultural community about how these changes will affect them once the changes have been finalized. If the new proposal goes into effect, the Farm Program Exemption will be removed from Wetland Conservation Act. It will also change the process that farmers use to complete their 1026 form to be in compliance. The Board discussed the need to have more direct impact in the development of natural resource related legislation. Currently there is no representative from Roseau County on the AMC Natural Resource Legislative Committee. The Board concurred that they would like to see Environmental Officer Jeff Pelowski appointed to this committee and will work during the summer policy planning session to accomplish this.

The Board discussed the "25 by 25" initiative whereby a commitment is made to produce 25% of our own energy resources domestically from agricultural products by the year 2025. After discussion a motion was made by Commissioner Swanson, seconded by Commissioner Foldesi and carried by a 4-1 vote with Commissioners Swanson, Walker, Rasmussen and Foldesi in favor and Johnston opposed to adopt the following resolution:

2007-04-06

WHEREAS, Roseau County supports the "25 by 25" initiative and, in connection therewith, promoting the increased production of renewable energy by the agricultural community; and

WHEREAS, having an affordable, reliable, and plentiful energy supply is critical to our economy, as well as our national and international food supply; and

WHEREAS, current and future risks to U.S. energy security are mounting while domestic and global energy demands are growing exponentially; and

WHEREAS, Roseau County, Minnesota has tremendous renewable energy resources; and

WHEREAS, the development of a broad spectrum of renewable energy sources, including wind power, bio-diesel, biomass, methane digesters, ethanol, and solar, benefits the environment and will have a direct economic benefit to agricultural landowners and rural communities; and

WHEREAS, rural communities and agriculture sectors will experience multiple benefits, including establishing additional markets for agricultural commodities; increasing farm income; creating added-value uses for crops, livestock, and their byproducts; more productive use of marginal lands; the resolution of air, water and soil quality problems that may arise from agricultural operation; improving wildlife habitat; and creating many new job opportunities; and

WHEREAS, solar and wind energy can be captured on the vast land areas managed by U.S. agriculture, and technology and production capabilities allow America's farmers and ranchers to play a major role in ensuring a fully sustainable U.S. energy system; and

WHEREAS, American agriculture is well-positioned to play an expanded role in the development and implementation of new energy solutions, and with appropriate technological innovation incentives and investments, America's farms and ranches can become the factories that produce a new generation of fuels to help meet the nation's energy needs; and

WHEREAS, "25 by 25" is an agriculturally-led initiative that envisions America producing 25% of its energy from agriculture by the year 2025 while continuing to produce abundant, safe, and affordable food and fiber; and

WHEREAS, agriculture's role as an energy producer will have a positive effect on national security and trade imbalances, and will serve as a catalyst for rural development in Roseau County;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Roseau County Commissioners support of the vision of "25 x 25" whereby agriculture will provide 25% of the total energy consumed in the United States by the year 2025, while continuing to produce abundant, safe, and affordable food and fiber.

The Board discussed putting into practice the principles of the 2007 AMC Cities, Counties and Schools Legislative Conference by finding ways to increase local collaboration and partnership. The Board discussed inviting representation from the Warroad, Roseau, Badger, and Greenbush city councils and school boards and the Roseau County Township Association Board to be included on the Board agenda on a rotating basis. Coordinator Klein was directed to write a letter to the various other local units of government soliciting their interest and feedback.

The Board discussed inviting Pro-West & Associates, Inc President and CEO Annette Theroux to Roseau to develop a data sharing policy. Pro-West developed and maintains Roseau County's GIS data base. The County is frequently asked to sell or share the data but does not have a formal policy. The Board concurred that a policy was needed in order to be consistent and fair. Ms. Theroux will meet with the Technology Committee to develop a draft policy and will meet with the Board at the next Board meeting to review the proposed policy.

The Board discussed a concern submitted by Far North Transit director Steve Butler. Far North Transit has not previously paid property tax because they have rented space. They did not pay property tax in 2006 because property tax is based on values from the previous year and the Far North Transit building was still under construction at that time. Commissioner Johnston stated that he believed that Far North transit would meet the criteria for a non-profit property tax exemption. Coordinator Klein was directed to contact Mr. Butler and inform him of the possible exemption. Assessor Lorna Sandvik will forward the forms to Mr. Butler.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Board heard the following committee and other meeting reports: i.) NWRD Committee on Aging; ii.) Building Committee; iii.) Far North Transit; iv.) Roseau River Watershed; v.) Two Rivers Watershed Board Meeting; vi.) Two Rivers Watershed bid opening on Ross Impoundment ; vii.) Sheriff's Committee; viii.) Roseau County Committee on Aging; ix.) AMC Joint Counties, Cities, and School Legislative Conference; x.) MAPCED; xi.) Roseau County Leadership, Planning and Team Building Retreat; xii.) Joint Powers Natural Resource Board; xiii.) Transportation Alliance; xv.) AMC Transportation Policy Committee; xv.) AMC General Policy Committee, xvi.) MRCC; and xvii.) AMC Legislative Steering Committee.

Upon motion carried, the meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m. The Board will convene its next regular meeting at 8:30 a.m. on April 24, 2007.

Attest:

Date: _____

Teresa Klein
County Coordinator

Jack Swanson
Board Chairman