

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ROSEAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
EMERGENCY MEETING

August 8, 2007

The Board of Commissioners of Roseau County, Minnesota met in the courthouse in the City of Roseau, Minnesota for an EMERGENCY MEETING on Wednesday, August 8, 2007 at 10:00 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by County Board Chair Jack Swanson. Commissioners present were Jack Swanson, Alan Johnston, Orris Rasmussen and Russell Walker. Commissioner Foldesi was excused.

A motion was made by Commissioner Johnston, seconded by Commissioner Walker, and carried to approve the agenda.

CHIEF DEPUTY TERRY BANDEMER

Chair Swanson invited Chief Deputy Terry Bandemer to explain to the Board the situation that precipitated the Emergency Board Meeting.

Chief Deputy Bandemer explained to the Board that on the evening of Monday, August 6, 2007 the main sewer line in the Roseau County Jail became plugged causing flooding of the jail. All inmates had to be transported to other county jails for housing. On Wednesday, two different agencies attempted to clear the plug in the sewer line but were unable to do so. A piece of grinder equipment actually broke off in the line during one attempt. Chief Deputy Bandemer stated that the good news is that a third plumbing company came in and at 6:00 am today was able to clear the line. Chief Deputy Bandemer stated that a trustee, sentence to service staff and jail staff were working to clean up the jail and that he anticipated that inmates would be able to be moved back later in the day.

Chief Deputy Bandemer stated the matter is being formally investigated and the report will be turned over to the County Attorney's Office for possible criminal charges.

Chair Swanson asked if this incident would be covered by insurance. Coordinator Klein stated that she had spoken with Minnesota Counties Insurance Trust (MCIT) and was informed that a claim needs to be completed and in all likelihood the expense to remove the clog and repair the problem would be covered by insurance, minus the county's deductible. Chief Deputy Bandemer and Coordinator Klein will work together and submit the claim to MCIT.

The Board discussed possible solutions to prevent this type of incident in the future. Chief Deputy Bandemer stated that new inventory practices will be implemented and the structural design of the new jail facility will prevent an incident of this magnitude from occurring. Chief Deputy Bandemer added that security will be enhanced in the new jail facility which will make it easier to observe inmate behavior more consistently.

The Board acknowledged Chief Deputy Bandemer for his efficient and effective management of this incident.

Upon motion carried, the meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m. The Board will convene its next regular meeting at 8:30 a.m. on August 14, 2007.

Attest:

Teresa Klein County Coordinator
Roseau County, Minnesota

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