

## **PROCEEDINGS OF THE ROSEAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

October 7, 2008

The Board of Commissioners of Roseau County, Minnesota met in the Courthouse in the City of Roseau, Minnesota on October 7, 2008 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 Jack Swanson, Alan Johnston, Orris Rasmussen, Russell Walker and Mark Foldesi.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Sale of Duxsby Town Hall, MRCC enhancement, Senior Medical Travel, AMC – Minnesota Re-design Project, County Corrections Symposium, and Norland Road designation were added to discussion. A motion was made by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Rasmussen, and carried unanimously to adopt the agenda.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

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

Approval of the proceedings from the September 30, 2008 Board Meeting was deferred until the October 14, 2008 Board Meeting.

The Board, by adoption of its Consent Agenda, approved benefit payout to Harry Hamilton in the amount of \$11,950.72.

Board Chair Swanson recessed the regular Board Meeting to open a Public Hearing regarding a petition submitted by the Roseau River Watershed District to install a 24" culvert in an east-west configuration through County Road #139.

A motion was made by Commissioner Johnston, seconded by Commissioner Walker, and carried unanimously to close the public hearing. Public Hearing Minutes appear in a separate document.

### **MEETING OF THE BOARD AS THE STATE DITCH #69 AUTHORITY**

A motion was made by Commissioner Johnston, seconded by Commissioner Foldesi, and carried unanimously to open a meeting of the State Ditch No. 69 Ditch Authority.

The ditch authority discussed the petition from the Roseau River Watershed to install a 24" culvert in the East/West configuration through Roseau County Road #139 south of the intersection of County Road #10 for the purpose of accessing State Ditch #69. The Board discussed the recommendation of Attorney Kurt Deter per MN statute 103E.401. The statutory obligations of the county as a ditch authority were reviewed including the responsibility to consider the capacity of the outlet drainage system, and the requirement to state, by order,

the terms and conditions for use of the established drainage system as an outlet and to set the amount to be paid as an outlet fee. Additionally, it was discussed that the order must describe the property to be benefited by the drainage system and must state the amount of benefits. It was discussed that the outlet fee for a proposed drainage project must be stated in the order.

After further discussion, it was determined that the Board did not have adequate information to act on the petition before them.

Action on the petition was deferred to the October 14, 2008 regular Board meeting.

The Board agreed to appoint two Commissioners to meet with two Watershed Directors and the two attorneys to review the matter further and to determine a course of action. A meeting was set for Wednesday, October 8, 2008, at 7:00 am at the Roseau River Watershed District office. Attorney pat Moren agreed to attend in person and Attorney Kurt Deter agreed to be available by conference call.

Chair Swanson called for a motion to close the meeting of the Board as a Ditch Authority. A motion was made by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Johnston and carried unanimously to close the Ditch Authority portion of the meeting.

Chair Swanson re-opened the regular Board Meeting at 10:30 a.m.

## **DISCUSSION**

The Board discussed the resolution received from the MN Department of Transportation regarding the designation of State Highway 11 as a scenic byway. Roseau County previously approved this resolution.

The Board discussed the resignation of County Assessor Lorna Sandvik. A motion was made by Commissioner Johnston, seconded by Commissioner Walker and carried unanimously to accept the resignation of Lorna Sandvik. The Board authorized the Coordinator's office to advertise to fill this vacated position.

The Board discussed the two quotes received for a telephone survey which would be conducted to understand how television is received by the households in Roseau County. The Board agreed to review this information and discuss the matter further at the October 14, 2008 meeting.

The Board discussed a constituent concern regarding the sale of property in Pohlitz Township. Jan Ferrier is a landowner in Pohlitz Township who contacted Commissioner Foldesi regarding how the sale of the Duxsby Town Hall was conducted. Ms. Ferrier also voiced trespassing concerns to Commissioner Foldesi about the property that she owns surrounding the Town Hall. The Board noted that the County does not have the authority to direct the action of a township board.

The Board discussed the role of MRCC as it pertains to rural counties. The Board directed Coordinator Klein to draft a letter to the MRCC regarding ideas on how commissioners can assist the MRCC.

The Board discussed Senior Medical Travel. At the September 30, 2008 meeting, the Board had agreed to provide stop gap funding through the end of the year. Senior Medical

Travel Coordinator Gayle Gustafson notified the Board that the Senior Medical Travel program received an anonymous \$10,000 donation. Ms. Gustafson noted that this donation should sustain the program through November.

The Board discussed the AMC Minnesota Re-design project. Coordinator Klein was directed to utilize the redesign materials to draft a press release to local taxpayers with the goal of enhancing awareness of the legislature's lack of input from counties in their decision making process.

The Board discussed a corrections symposium on jail efficiencies scheduled for November 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> in St. Cloud. A motion was made by Commissioner Johnston, seconded by Commissioner Rasmussen and carried unanimously to authorize Commissioners Swanson and Walker to attend this meeting. Coordinator Klein was directed to invite Social Services Director Dave Anderson, Sheriff Jule Hanson, Jail Administrator Janice Anderson, County Attorney Lisa Hanson and Judge Dixon to attend.

The Board discussed the designation of Norland Road. The Board directed Engineer Ketring to research options and report back on October 14, 2008.

## **INSURANCE COMMITTEE**

Gwynne Roadfeldt and Patty Ignaszewski met with the Board to present the 2008 Insurance Renewal Information and the Insurance Committee's 2009 recommendations. It was reported that since changing to VEBA in 2003, Roseau County has had four years of decreases in experience ratings. This negative experience rating makes Roseau County eligible for a 0% increase in premiums in 2009. The Insurance Committee recommended that the County continue the VEBA Health Plan and leave the employee/employer contribution and VEBA account contribution at the 2008 amounts. The Insurance committee recommended adding a Medicare Supplement Plan for Retirees that are eligible and enrolled in Medicare Parts A & B. Premium for the Group Senior Gold Plan is \$349.50 per month for 2009. Retirees would continue to pay their premiums through the county; however, their claims would not count against our employee group experience rating. The Insurance Committee recommended that the County continue to provide TOP HEALTH monthly newsletters to all employees at an approximate annual cost of \$800. The Insurance Committee recommended continuing to contract with Select Accounts to manage 125 medical Flex monies and to leave the maximum employee medical flex amount at \$4,000. The Insurance Committee voted to change the Dental Insurance plan carrier to Ameritas Dental due to notification of a 25% increase. The Ameritas plan offers the same coverage as the Humana plan but there is no minimum participation required and lower premiums. A motion was made by Commissioner Foldesi, seconded by Commissioner Johnston and carried unanimously to adopt the following resolutions:

### 2008-10-01

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 2009 as recommended by the Insurance Committee;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the 2009 monthly insurance premium is \$255 for a single plan and \$600 for a family plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the employee contribution toward the health insurance premium for 2009 will continue at the 2008 rate of \$50.00 for single and \$100.00 for

family and the County will continue contributing \$74.00/single, and \$164.50/family monthly to employee VEBA accounts.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board hereby authorizes the change of Dental coverage from Humana to Ameritas Dental.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board does hereby approve a 2008 Health Fair and Flu Stop Clinic and approves flu shots and screenings for all employees and dependents.

The Insurance Committee informed the Board that they have received \$34,688.83 from the Northwest Service Cooperative for a 2006 plan year settlement. The committee would like to see these funds dedicated strictly for employee benefits, health and wellness. The Board requested a proposed budget for review at the October 14, 2008 meeting.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioner Swanson reported on the following committee meetings: Roseau River Watershed meeting, 10/1/08: Discussed culvert installation. LELS negotiations: Negotiated 2009 law enforcement contracts; Senator Norm Coleman visit, 10/6/08: Met Senator Coleman and constituents.

Commissioner Johnston reported on the following committee meetings: Minnesota Transportation Alliance, 10/2/08: Meet the candidate. AMC Board of Directors Meeting, 10/3/08: Discussed activities and issues related to the Association of MN Counties.

Commissioner Walker reported on the following committee meetings: TB Teleconference, 10/1/08: Discussed TB tax credit and received an update on the split state status. TB Planning meeting, 10/3/08: Received a DNR update on TB control issues.

Commissioner Mark Foldesi had no report.

Commissioner Rasmussen had no report.

Upon motion carried, the meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m. The Board will convene its next regular meeting at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, October 14, 2008.

Attest:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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Teresa Klein, County Coordinator  
Roseau County, Minnesota

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