

# PROCEEDINGS OF THE ROSEAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

December 14, 2010

The Board of Commissioners of Roseau County, Minnesota met in the Courthouse in the City of Roseau, Minnesota on Tuesday, December 14, 2010, at 8:30 a.m.

## CALL TO ORDER

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

## APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion to approve the agenda as written was made by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Falk and carried unanimously.

## COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Board acknowledged Commissioner Johnston's receipt of the AMC Outstanding Public Service Award honoring him for his outstanding service as a County Commissioner.

## CONSENT AGENDA

A motion to adopt the Consent Agenda was made by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Falk and carried unanimously.

The Board by adoption of its Consent Agenda approved proceedings from the December, November 23, 2010, and November 30, 2010 Joint Board meeting; approved a Joint Powers Agreement with the State of Minnesota regarding the Recount Reimbursement; appointed Rod Kjersten to the Northwest Regional Library Board; accepted the resignation of Heavy Equipment Operator Ernest Meier; approved the Voluntary Time Off Policy for 2011; accepted the Independent Appraisal on the Land Asset Pilot Project Parcel Exchange by resolution #2010-12-04; approved resolution # 2010-12-05 to Authorize reconveyance of Parcel #41.3011200 and approved paying the bills as follows along with forthwith payments to APCO International in the amount of \$6,130.00; CDW Government in the amount of \$1,186.49; Jeff O'Donnell in the amount of \$2,730.00; Warroad Ready Mix in the amount of \$384.75 and Jeff O'Donnell in the amount of \$4,550.00:

### Warrants Approved for Payment 11/24/2010

| Vendor Name                 | Amount    |
|-----------------------------|-----------|
| Hoffman Dale & Swenson PLLC | 2,800.00  |
| Johnston Concrete Inc       | 300.00    |
| MN Energy Resources         | 993.77    |
| NW MN Mentoring Program     | 20,000.00 |
| Roseau Electric Coop Inc    | 550.76    |
| Storey Leslie               | 750.00    |

**7 Payments less than 300 \$762.11**

**Final Total: \$26,156.64**

### Warrants Approved for Payment 12/02/2010

| Vendor Name | Amount |
|-------------|--------|
|-------------|--------|

|                                    |           |
|------------------------------------|-----------|
| Anderson Law Office Steven A       | 318.75    |
| Butler/Aaron                       | 400.00    |
| Capital Guardian Trust Co          | 2,621.48  |
| Cenex Credit Cards                 | 2,391.48  |
| Geroy's Home & Appliance           | 1,615.96  |
| Law Enforcement Labor Services Inc | 742.20    |
| MN Child Support Payment Center    | 709.17    |
| MN Dept of Finance -Treas          | 1,166.00  |
| Nationwide Retirement Solutions    | 3,252.12  |
| Northern Resources Cooperative     | 1,967.29  |
| Select Account-VEBA                | 12,611.96 |

**2 Payments less than 300 \$341.78**  
**Final Total: \$28,138.19**

**Warrants Approved for Payment 12/09/2010**

| <b>Vendor Name</b>                     | <b>Amount</b> |
|--|---------------|
| Aflac                                  | 2,045.68      |
| Ameritas Life Insurance Corp           | 2,208.68      |
| Assurant Employee Benefits             | 1,342.52      |
| MN Mutual Life Insurance               | 1,932.01      |
| Mn Ncpers Group Life Ins               | 640.00        |
| NW MN Serv Coop-Blue Cross Blue Shield | 66,327.50     |

**1 Payments less than 300 \$135.91**  
**Final Total: \$74,632.30**

**Warrants Approved for Payment 12/09/2010**

| <b>Vendor Name</b>           | <b>Amount</b> |
|------------------------------|---------------|
| Alltel                       | 575.25        |
| Canon Financial Services Inc | 354.34        |
| Centurylink                  | 3,404.71      |
| ELITE VIDEO                  | 542.00        |
| Haugen Phd Lp/Mark L         | 750.00        |
| MN Dept of Finance -Treas    | 2,457.00      |
| Roseau City                  | 11,802.22     |
| Town Of Poplar Grove         | 2,317.50      |
| Wright Construction Co Inc   | 170,022.00    |

**10 Payments less than 300 \$871.79**  
**Final Total: \$193,096.81**

**Warrants Approved On 12/14/2010 for Payment 12/17/2010**

| <b>Vendor Name</b>                   | <b>Amount</b> |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|
| Alive Outdoor Services               | 3,284.58      |
| Black Box Corporation                | 3,083.54      |
| CDW Government Inc                   | 2,137.13      |
| Election Systems & Software Inc      | 9,910.87      |
| Farmers Union Oil Co-Lk Brnsn        | 4,038.07      |
| Farmers Union Oil Co-Warroad         | 4,479.96      |
| Goulet Construction                  | 15,715.45     |
| Graff Construction                   | 2,606.00      |
| Greenbush Sanitation Ltd             | 4,568.40      |
| Johnson Oil Co Inc                   | 5,967.48      |
| Johnston Fargo Culvert Inc           | 2,242.57      |
| Lifecare Medical Center              | 3,110.23      |
| Mar-Kit Landfill                     | 28,487.25     |
| MN Counties Computer Coop            | 2,979.20      |
| Northern Resources Cooperative       | 12,684.24     |
| Northland Comm & Tech College-Roseau | 3,357.62      |
| R & Q Contracting Inc                | 42,269.10     |
| Riverfront Station                   | 4,294.19      |
| Roseau Co Coop Assn                  | 9,431.50      |
| Roseau Co Hwy Dept                   | 24,101.37     |

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| Roseau County Ford                              | 3,138.44   |
| Sanitation Products Inc                         | 25,800.00  |
| Sjoberg's Inc                                   | 2,718.20   |
| USA Realty Trust                                | 115,000.00 |
| Ziegler Inc                                     | 20,050.44  |
| <b>123 Payments less than 2,000 \$47,355.38</b> |            |
| <b>Final Total: \$402,811.21</b>                |            |

## **PUBLIC HEARING – SMALL CITIES GRANT**

Chair Johnston recessed the regular Board meeting to open the public hearing to hear comments regarding the development of a Small Cities Grant application.

A motion to open the Public Hearing was made by Commissioner Johnston, seconded by Commissioner Falk and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Johnston called for written and public comment. There was none.

The Board discussed the Small Cities Grant application with Grant Writer John Wynne.

A motion to close the public hearing was made by Commissioner Swanson, seconded by Commissioner Falk and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Johnston called the regularly scheduled Board Meeting back to order.

A motion was made by Commissioner Swanson, seconded by Commissioner Foldesi and carried unanimously to adopt the following resolution:

2010-12-06

BE IT RESOLVED that Roseau County act as the legal sponsor for the project contained in the Application to be submitted on February 11, 2011 and that the Roseau County Board Chairman and County Coordinator are hereby authorized to apply to the Department of Employment and Economic Development for funding of this project on behalf of Roseau County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Roseau County has the legal authority to apply for financial assistance, and the institutional, managerial and financial capability to ensure adequate construction, operation, maintenance and replacement of the proposed project for its design life.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Roseau County has not violated any Federal, State or local laws pertaining to fraud, bribery, graft, kickbacks, collusion, conflict of interest or other unlawful or corrupt practice.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon approval of its application by the State, Roseau County may enter into an agreement with the State of Minnesota for the approved project, and that Roseau County certifies that it will comply with all applicable laws and regulations as stated in all contract agreements.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the County Board Chairman and County Coordinator, or their successors in office, are hereby authorized to execute such agreements and amendments thereto, as are necessary to implement the project on behalf of the Applicant.

### **BOVINE TB LIAISON – DAVE GRAFSTROM**

Bovine TB Liaison Dave Grafstrom met with the Board as requested to present a proposal for continued work with Roseau County. Mr. Grafstrom requested input from the Board regarding possible submission of a grant application to the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council. This council was established by the legislature with the responsibility of providing annual recommendations to the legislature on how the dedicated sales tax funds should be used. The council makes recommendations to the legislature on appropriations of money from the Outdoor Heritage Fund that are consistent with the Constitution and state law and that take into consideration the outcomes of, including, but not limited to, the Minnesota Conservation and Preservation Plan, that directly relate to the restoration, protection, and enhancement of wetlands, prairies, forests, and habitat for fish, game, and wildlife, and that prevent forest fragmentation, encourage forest consolidation, and expand restored native prairie. Mr. Grafstrom presented an idea for a habitat improvement plan in the Bovine TB Core zones. Roseau County is currently contracting with Northland Community & Technical College to provide approximately 80 hours a month of time. Mr. Grafstrom noted that he thought it would take him approximately that amount of time during the months of January, February and March of 2011 to gather information to prepare this grant. He noted that after the grant was submitted that time could be reduced. Commissioner Swanson stated that he felt it was vital to the outcome of the bovine TB eradication campaign to continue the liaison position. A motion was made by Commissioner Johnston, seconded by Commissioner Swanson and carried unanimously to adopt the following resolution:

2010-12-07

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board does hereby authorize entering into contract with Northland Community & Technical College for the provision of up to 80 hours a month plus expenses of employee Dave Grafstrom's time for Bovine TB eradication liaison work.

Mr. Grafstrom notified the Board that through the efforts of local hunters, sharp shooters will not be used this winter. Helicopters will be used to conduct a research project to collar 18 deer in an effort to track their travelling patterns. This will be a two year project conducted by the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Forestry.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Commissioner Falk reported on the following committee meeting(s): Meeting with Randy Prachar regarding the Roseau Lake Project, 11/29/10; Joint County Board meeting with Kittson County, 11/30/10; Roseau River Watershed District meeting, 12/1/10; Public Meeting on 2011 Budget and Levy, 12/1/10; Building Committee meeting, 12/3/10; The Association of Minnesota Counties Annual Conference, 12/6/10 – 12/8/10 Highway Committee meeting 12/13/10 and Public Meeting on 2011 Levy and Budget, 12/13/10.

Commissioner Foldesi reported on the following committee meeting(s): Joint County Board meeting with Kittson County, 11/10/10; KaMaR Board meeting 12/13/10; Joint County Board Meeting with Kittson County, 11/30/10; Public Meeting on 2011 Budget and Levy,

12/1/10; Highway Committee meeting, 12/13/10 and Public Meeting on 2011 Levy and Budget, 12/13/10.

Commissioner Johnston reported on the following committee meeting(s): Joint County Board meeting with Kittson County, 11/30/10; Public Meeting on 2011 Budget and Levy, 12/1/10; Northwest Regional Development TAC meeting, 12/2/10; Minnesota Rural Counties Caucus, 12/5/2010, the Association of Minnesota Counties Annual Conference, 12/6/10 – 12/8/10; SSTS AC, 12/9/10 and Public Meeting on 2011 Levy and Budget, 12/13/10.

Commissioner Swanson reported on the following committee meeting(s): County Veteran Service Officer job interviews, 11/23/10; Roseau Economic Development Authority, 11/24/10; Public Health Committee meeting, 11/29/10; Joint County Board meeting with Kittson County 11/30/10; Roseau River Watershed District Board meeting, 12/1/10; Minnesota Local Government Innovation and Redesign Committee, 12/1/10; Community Justice Coordinating Committee meeting, 12/1/10; Public Meeting on 2011 Budget and Levy, 12/1/10; Northern Counties Land Use Coordinating Board, 12/2/10; Building Committee meeting, 12/3/10; Association of Minnesota Counties Annual Conference, 12/6/10 – 12/8/10; Collaborative Governance Council, 12/10/10; KaMaR Board, 12/13/10 and Public Meeting on 2011 Levy and Budget, 12/13/10.

Commissioner Walker reported on the following committee meeting(s): Joint County Board meeting with Kittson County, 11/30/10; Public Meeting on 2011 Budget and Levy, 12/1/10; Minnesota Rural Counties Caucus, 12/5/10; Association of Minnesota Counties Annual Conference, 12/6/10 – 12/8/10; Minnesota Counties Intergovernmental Trust, 12/7/10 and Public Meeting on 2011 Levy and Budget, 12/13/10.

## **HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT ENGINEERS REPORT**

Highway Engineer Brian Ketring met with the Board to discuss 2011 budget items. Engineer Ketring notified the Board that the Highway Department will not be replacing the vacated motor grader operator at this time.

The Board publically recognized and thanked Heavy Equipment Operator Ernest Meier for his 34 1/2 years of service to Roseau County.

## **REPRESENTATIVE DAN FABIAN**

Representative Elect Dan Fabian met with the Board to discuss 2011 legislative session priority issues for Northern counties.

## **ROSEAU RIVER WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA MANAGER RANDY PRACHAR**

Randy Prachar met with the Board to discuss a flood control project related to the Roseau Lake Bottom. Mr. Prachar informed the Board that this project is in its very early stages and today's visit is just a way of introducing the Board to proposed plans for a wildlife flood control project. Mr. Prachar suggested the Board approve the formation of a Citizen Advisory Committee as a first step in the project to make sure that the public is involved in the process from the beginning. A motion was made by Commissioner Swanson, seconded by Commissioner Falk and carried unanimously to adopt the following resolution:

2010-12-08

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board does hereby authorize the formation of a Citizen Advisory Committee to gather information and input on a potential wildlife flood control project in the old Roseau Lake bottom area including acreage at or below the 1030 elevation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board appoints Commissioners Foldesi and Falk to the committee and authorizes them to select committee members.

## **DISCUSSION**

The Board discussed the 2011 budget and levy. The preliminary budget & levy was approved on September 14, 2010. Commissioner Johnston proposed that the Board maintain the 3.6% or \$229,243 levy set in September but redistribute the amounts. He proposed that \$300,000 be moved from the Revenue Fund to the Road & Bridge Fund. A motion was made by Commissioner Johnston, seconded by Commissioner Swanson, and carried with a 3-2 vote with Commissioners Walker and Foldesi opposed to approve the following resolution:

2010-12-09

BE IT RESOLVED, that the payable 2011 Proposed Property Tax Levy for Roseau County is hereby approved as follows:

| <u>Fund</u>         | <u>Levy</u>    |
|---------------------|----------------|
| Revenue             | \$3,293,653    |
| Road & Bridge       | 1,200,000      |
| Welfare             | 1,630,000      |
| <u>Debt Service</u> | <u>473,700</u> |
| Total               | \$6,597,353    |

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the proposed budgets for the year 2011 – incorporating the proposed levy shown above – are hereby approved as follows:

| <u>Fund</u>                    | <u>Revenues</u>    | <u>Expenditures</u> | <u>Net Budget</u> |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Revenue                        | \$6,166,232        | \$6,372,333         | -\$206,101        |
| Road & Bridge                  | 8,384,159          | 8,079,418           | 304,741           |
| Welfare                        | 3,251,192          | 3,321,782           | -70,590           |
| <u>Debt Service</u>            | <u>461,346</u>     | <u>445,386</u>      | <u>15,960</u>     |
| Tax Supported<br>Funds – Total | \$18,262,929       | \$18,218,919        | \$44,010          |
| Environmental                  | <u>\$1,129,896</u> | <u>\$1,122,676</u>  | <u>\$7,220</u>    |
| Total All Funds                | \$19,392,825       | \$19,341,595        | \$51,230          |

The Board discussed 2011 elected official salaries. A motion was made by Commissioner Swanson, seconded by Commissioner Falk and carried with a 4 – 1 vote with Commissioner Walker opposed to pass the following resolution:

2010-12-10

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board does hereby approve the 2011 Elected Official Salaries as follows:

|           |             |
|-----------|-------------|
| Auditor   | \$58,950.94 |
| Treasurer | \$65,859.07 |
| Sheriff   | \$58,950.94 |
| Attorney  | \$79,165.34 |
| Recorder  | \$60,225.93 |

The Board discussed the stipend the Treasurer receives as compensation for doing Vital Statistics. In 2000 the state assumed responsibility for court administration, and that office could no longer do the vital statistics as it is a county function. The Board asked County Treasurer Diane Gregerson if she would like to take vitals. Treasurer Gregerson agreed to do so and the Board offered to compensate Ms. Gregerson \$3000 for the additional responsibility of administering vital statistics. Since 2000 this amount has not been increased. The Board requested Treasurer Gregerson identify the tasks involved and amount of time required to administer and perform vital statistics and return to the Board on December 28, 2010 with that information.

The Board was given an update by Commissioners Foldesi and Falk on the Highway Department Employees Association Negotiation Update. The Highway Department requested the Board consider a .50/hour wage increase for the first year and an increase not to exceed 1% per year for years two and three based on the consumer price index. The proposed contract would also include a 50:50 health insurance premium cost share guaranteed for years 2011-2013.

Commissioner Johnston recessed the regular Board meeting.

A motion was made by Commissioner Swanson, seconded by Commissioner Falk, and carried unanimously to adopt the following resolution:

2010-12-11

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Open Meeting Law, Minn. Stat. § 13D.03, subd. 1(b) states that “the governing body of a public employer may by a majority vote in a public meeting decide to hold a closed meeting to consider strategy for labor negotiations, including negotiation strategies or developments or discussion and review of labor negotiation proposals, conducted pursuant to sections 179A.01 and 179A.25”; and

WHEREAS, it would be detrimental to the interests of the County for the Board to hold a public discussion regarding this matter;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Roseau County Board of Commissioners as follows:

1. The County Board hereby closes this meeting pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 13D.03, subd. 1(b);

2. The specific subject to be discussed, pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 13D.01, subd. 3, is *Highway Department Employees Association labor negotiation strategy*.

Commissioner Johnston reconvened the regular Board meeting.

No formal action was taken on the proposal. The Board directed labor relations committee members Commissioner Falk and Commissioner Foldesi to go back to the Highway Department Employees Association and advise them that the Board is not willing to vote on the proposal as presented and to continue negotiations.

University of Minnesota 4H Coordinator Sandi Weiland met with the Board. Ms. Weiland presented the Board with a proposal to increase Extension support time by 250 hours for the year 2011. This would allow support staff to work 20 hours per week throughout the year and increase to full time over the summer months of June-August when programming needs increase significantly. A motion was made by Commissioner Johnston, seconded by Commissioner Swanson and carried unanimously to adopt the following resolution:

2010-12-12

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board does hereby authorize an increase in University of Minnesota Extension support staff time by 250 hours for the year 2011.

The Board discussed options for the recently purchased Beito buildings and property. The Building Committee solicited informal quotes to get an estimate on the cost to renovate the east building and to remove walls in the car wash to accommodate parking and storage. It is the recommendation of the building committee to remove the walls from the car wash building to allow for this building to be used for vehicle storage and social service parking and for the west building to be sold on bids. Discussion continued on how the west building could be used for storage only. A motion to put out a request for bids on renovating the car wash building to include the removal of the interior walls and painting of the exterior tin was made by Commissioner Swanson, seconded by Commissioner Falk and carried unanimously. The Highway Department will be asked to handle the RFP.

Commissioner Johnston was asked to continue to serve on the SSTS Advisory Committee as a private citizen. He is currently the only county representation on the committee. The Board deferred action to January 4, 2011 Board meeting. The Board concurred that this is an important committee for Roseau County to stay involved with.

The Board deferred nomination of the One Woman 2011 candidate to the December 28, 2010, Board meeting.

Upon motion carried, the Board adjourned the regular meeting at 1:45 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for December 28, 2010 at 8:30 a.m.

Attest:

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Teresa Klein, Board Clerk  
Roseau County, Minnesota

\_\_\_\_\_  
Alan Johnston, Chair  
Board of County Commissioners  
Roseau County, Minnesota