

REGULAR MEETING AS POSTED
BECKER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
DATE: TUESDAY, November 18, 2014 at 8:15 a.m.
LOCATION: Board Room, Courthouse

Agenda/Minutes

1. Meeting was brought to order by Board Chair Okeson. Commissioners in attendance: Okeson, Grimsley, Knutson, and Skarie; County Administrator, Jack Ingstad; and Minute Taker, Cindy Courneya. Absent: Commissioner Nelson.
2. Pledge of Allegiance.
3. It was moved and seconded to approve the agenda with the following changes: Under Commissioners: Number 6: Change Date of Ag. Issues Forum to December 17, 2014 and Add: Number 13: Discussion with Fire Chiefs on ARMER Radio System. (Knutson, Grimsley), carried.
4. It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of October 28, 2014 with the requested change. (Knutson, Grimsley), carried.
5. It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of November 4, 2014 with the requested change. (Knutson, Skarie), carried.

Commissioners

1. Open Forum: There was no one present.
2. Reports and Correspondence: The Commissioners reported on the following meetings:
 - a. Commissioner Knutson: Environmental Affairs Committee and Natural Resources Committee.
 - b. Commissioner Okeson: Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Task Panel Meeting, Re-Design Committee, Becker County Board of Adjustments, Canvassing Board, Highway Committee, Transit meeting with Wadena County.
 - c. Commissioner Grimsley: Human Services Committee, Transit, and Finance Committee.
 - d. Commissioner Nelson: Not present.
 - e. Commissioner Skarie: Environmental Affairs Committee, Human Services Committee, and attended Human Services – Child Protection meeting.
3. Appointments: The two (2) appointments for the Cormorant Watershed District Manager positions were tabled and will be considered at the next Board meeting of December 16, 2014.
4. The Budget Hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, December 2, 2014 at 6:01 p.m. in the Board Room of the Courthouse.

5. It was noted that all of the commissioners will be attending the Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) Annual Conference on December 8-9, 2014 at the River's Edge Convention Center in St. Cloud, Minnesota, with December 7th as a travel date.
6. Due to a scheduling conflict, the date for the Ag. Issues Forum has been changed to Wednesday, December 17, 2014.
7. A brief discussion was held in reference to the holiday tea which will be held during the regular board meeting on December 16th, with direction to move forward with planning and with the commissioners paying for the cost.
8. Discussion was held on posting public notifications on the county website for committee or board positions that need citizen appointments and the commissioners were in favor of this.
9. It was moved and seconded to approve the 2015 CHIPS contract with Attorney, Nathaniel Welte, with the required revisions to the contract as presented, and to authorize the County Administrator, Jack Ingstad, to execute said contract and the remaining CHIPS contracts as they are received. (Skarie, Grimsley), carried.
10. A brief discussion was held on the possible transfer of Becker County Housing to the Detroit Lakes Housing Redevelopment Authority (HRA). County Administrator, Jack Ingstad, reported that Gordy Grabow, Executive Director for the Detroit Lakes HRA, met with the Finance Committee and has provided two contracts for review. It is the consensus of the Finance Committee and the Detroit Lakes HRA to continue moving forward with the process, with an anticipated deadline of January 1, 2015 for the transfer. Once the final work out of the contract is completed, Mr. Ingstad may hold another Re-Design meeting prior to bringing it forward to the Board for final approval.
11. It was moved and seconded to appoint Board Chair Okeson and Vice-Chair Grimsley to the Elected Official Salary Setting Committee and for the committee and County Administrator, Jack Ingstad, to meet with the elected officials individually the first week of December. (Knutson, Skarie), carried.
12. Wolf Lake Fire Chief, Dale Hillukka, presented information and a request on behalf of the Fire Departments and Rescue Squads for the county to assist them with the costs to purchase radios for the upcoming switch by Becker County to the ARMER radio system. The Fire Departments will once again be applying for the AFG grant which is due December 5, 2014. They are requesting a 10% match as a funding commitment from the County. Currently their plan is to apply for 50% of the \$920,750.00 needed, roughly \$449,616.00, but with no final amount decided upon at this point.

Different options were discussed including the possibility of the County leasing radios to the fire departments and rescue squads. Mr. Ingstad noted that the legalities for leasing

would have to be researched. Discussion followed with no action taken today. It was the consensus of the Board that additional information is needed before any commitment can be made by the County, however, the Board encouraged the fire departments to apply for the grant. Board Chair Okeson reiterated the need for more information and for further budget discussions in respect to the balance of reserves, before they can commit a dollar amount.

13. Continuation of 2015 Budget Discussion: County Administrator, Jack Ingstad, presented an overview and summary on the "Highlights of Becker County's 2015 Budget". Mr. Ingstad reported that the County's bond rating is at AA again; one step away from the top rating. He also noted that Becker County is financially strong and will only see a slight increase in the levy for this year. Discussion followed with information presented by the department heads on their budget and position requests. Commissioner Grimsley commented that any position requests approved for 2014 that have not been filled and are not being advertised, will not be included in the 2015 budget, that they will have to go through committee first. The Budget Hearing, as noted earlier, will be held on Tuesday, December 2, 2014 at 6:01 p.m. in the Board Room of the Courthouse, with the final adoption of the 2015 Final Budget and Levy set for Tuesday, December 16, 2014.

Auditor-Treasurer: Mary Hendrickson presented:

1. Licenses and Permits:
 - a. It was moved and seconded to approve Resolution 11-14-2E, as presented, to approve the Gambling Application for Exempt Permit to conduct a Raffle for the Sanford Health Foundation North, on January 31, 2015, for operations at the Roadhouse Bar & Grill, 11740 County Highway 5, Lake Park, MN, in Cormorant Township. (Skarie, Knutson), carried.

Finance Committee: Mary Hendrickson presented:

1. It was moved and seconded to approve the Regular Claims, Auditor's Warrants, and Over-90-Day Claims, as presented:
 - a. Auditor's Warrants (Tuesday Bills):
 - i. 10/31/2014 in the amount of \$268,972.84.
 - ii. 11/14/2014 in the amount of \$49,322.58.
 - b. Over 90-Days:
 - i. Deli Marketing in the amount of \$18,499.95 – bill was sent to wrong address.
 - ii. Alliance Pest protection in the amount of \$75.00 – invoice received late.(Grimsley, Knutson), carried.
2. Highway is requesting to purchase a GPS system for surveying at a cost of \$30,000.00. There is approximately \$20,000 in the 2014 Highway budget and it was suggested that an additional \$10,000.00 could come from the 2015 budget. It was recommended to have full board discussion before moving forward. A brief discussion was held, with the

commissioners recommending that this be presented to the Highway Committee first and to then return to the Board on December 16th with their recommendations. This item will be discussed later in the meeting during the time that Highway is on the agenda.

Lake Agassiz Regional Library (LARL) - Potential Loss of Representation on LARL Board: Paul Bursik and Mary Haney presented:

1. Paul Bursik and Mary Haney requested input and guidance from the commissioners on the proposal by the LARL Executive Committee to change the bylaws, to reduce the size of the Board of Trustees from 24 to 15, with Becker County to lose two (2) of its four (4) representatives. The LARL Board is set to vote on this motion on November 20th. Discussion followed with feedback from the commissioners in favor of the proposed change. Board Chair Okeson reiterated the Board's support to reduce the size of the LARL Board of Trustees, as presented.

Human Services: Christy Ramsey presented:

1. It was moved and seconded to approve the MDH-Childhood Immunizations Grant application, as presented. (Skarie, Grimsley), carried.
2. It was moved and seconded to approve the Human Services Claims, as presented, for Human Services and Transit. (Grimsley, Skarie), carried.

Highway: Brian Sheppard presented:

1. It was moved and seconded to approve Resolution 11-14-2A, to authorize and direct the Highway Department to purchase off state bid as per the capital improvement request, a diesel tandem truck chassis and additional equipment to include hydraulic system, hoist, gravel box, one way snowplow, underbody blade, snow wing, tailgate sander, and warning light system compatible with said diesel tandem truck chassis, at an estimated cost of up to \$175,290.00. (Okeson, Knutson), carried.
2. It was moved and seconded to approve Resolution 11-14-2B, to approve the transfer of \$127,233.00 from the Municipal Construction Account into the Regular Construction Account, as presented. (Knutson, Skarie), carried.
3. It was moved and seconded to approve Resolution 11-14-2C, with the requested changes, to authorize and direct the Highway Department to relocate the radio repeater to the Holmesville Tower site for a price not to exceed \$9,259.36.
4. It was moved and seconded to approve Resolution 11-14-2D, as presented, to authorize and direct the Highway Department to solicit and obtain right-of-way appraisals for parcels along County Highway 7 resulting in damages from the proposed bridge project in Lake Park, MN. (Okeson, Knutson), carried.
5. It was moved and seconded to approve the purchase of a GPS Unit at a cost of up to \$30,000, to be used for surveying. (Okeson, Skarie), carried.

Being no further business, Board Chair Okeson adjourned the meeting.

Jack Ingstad
Jack Ingstad
County Administrator

John Okeson
John Okeson
Board Chair