

REGULAR MEETING AS POSTED  
BECKER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
DATE: Tuesday, September 10, 2002 at 8:30 a.m.  
LOCATION: Board Room, Courthouse All Present

#### Agenda

1. It was moved and seconded to approve the consent Agenda (Murray, Johannsen), carried.
2. The Minutes of August 27, 2002 were approved as presented on the Consent Agenda.

#### Open Forum

Bob Bristlin questioned the Holmes Jr. High Feasibility Study that was paid for by the County through its EDA Board. How many board members know what happened? When was the study done? Who's responsible for giving the money to the study? A Feasibility Study was also done by the City of Detroit Lakes? Commissioner Johannsen asked if it was a grant to start with. Commissioner Murray stated he didn't remember the exact circumstances about what we were told we would get with the feasibility study. That's what we would have voted on. Bob wondered since this came from taxpayers tax dollars, why can't the Boys Club get help? Commissioner Engebretson read from the EDA Minutes concerning Holmes Community Center. Commissioner Winter suggested having the County Attorney check the following: 1) The Feasibility Study for \$25,000; 2) Dates; 3) If the City already did the study. He added if found to be wrong, we should ask for the money back.

Lester Ristenen stated that he and his wife felt like victims of the County. The Chair turned the meeting over to the Vice Chair. Lester would like his property surveyed on the lakeside perimeters for exact locations. He also stated he would like the lakeshore restored to what it was. Commissioners Winter and Johannsen have seen the problem. Neighbors also have problems. Commissioners Murray and Winter had suggested having a survey done. Commissioner Engebretson had asked for a legal opinion from the County Attorney. In his opinion, the County Attorney stated that the expenditure by the County for this survey would have to be for a public purpose. Lester asked why he wasn't notified of the opinion? Commissioner Winter asked if the County were to order the survey, would the owners be willing to help pay for the costs? Lester didn't know why we should but couldn't speak for others, but did offer the \$50 it would take to file in tax court. Commissioner Murray suggested to re-submit to the County Attorney, and if we don't have records of what took place, we need to do this. Commissioner Winter suggested putting on the Agenda under Commissioners for action today. Commissioner Johannsen suggested having the County Attorney look at the issue with the Assessor present. The Vice Chair turned the meeting back to the Chair.

Bill Purdy asked if the requests from Open Forum of August 13 Board Minutes had been completed. He was assured that Steve Skoog, County Assessor, had responded to the Board and was setting up training for the Townships.

#### Joe Neitzke - Jail Concerns

1. Joe had three concerns: 1) Jail Issue; 2) Law Enforcement Center; 3) Moving of Courthouse Offices. Joe requested to have the Jail Issue on the November Ballot so the citizens could vote on having a new Jail. Commissioner Murray stated that he would need all the facts before he could support this. Commissioner Johannsen was in favor of the vote of the taxpayers. Commissioner Winter asked Keith Brekken, County Auditor, if this was a proper request and Keith replied that it has to be a binding type question, and we can't have an advisory vote. Commissioner Johannsen made the motion that the issue of the Jail/Law Enforcement Center/Courthouse be voted on by the citizens of Becker County. Motion died for the lack of a second.

Finance - Moved to the end of the meeting

Closed Meeting - 9:25 a.m. Personnel Issue Opened Meeting - 9:37 a.m.  
Auditor

1. There were no Licenses & Permits at this time.
2. 911 Committee Request. It was moved and seconded to concur with the E-911 Committee to move \$16,500 from Cash Balances to the E-911 Fund to cover expenses from 2001-2002 (Murray, Winter), carried. Patty Johnson will address the Management Team on E-911 charges.
3. It was moved and seconded to send a notice to all County Department Heads to make sure they put dates on all correspondences (Murray, Winter), carried.

#### Highway

1. It was moved and seconded to approve the Agenda as amended (Winter, Johannsen), carried.
2. It was moved and seconded to pass Resolution No. DOH 09-02-48, Bid Award Project SP 03-595-01, awarding the bid in the amount of \$486,904.24 to Sherbrooke Asphalt, Inc, low bid. The County Chair and County Auditor are hereby authorized and directed to enter into said contract on behalf of Becker County (Winter, Johannsen), carried.
3. It was moved and seconded to pass Resolution No. DOH 09-02-49, Project Acceptance for Project No. S.A.P. 03-602-03, and authorize final payment in the amount of \$6,296.07 to Central specialties, Inc. as the contract has been fulfilled (Murray, Seal), carried.
4. It was moved and seconded to approve payment for the installation of drain tile to repair from flood damage. This will be re-imbursed from FEMA (Winter, Murray), carried.
5. A construction update was given.

#### EDA

1. Open Public Hearing at 10:00 a.m. Scott Wilson read the amended Policy. No one from the public was present. The Public Hearing was closed.
  - a. The Board discussed the policy, and it was moved to pass the amended Policy with additional corrections, as approved by the County Attorney, that anyone hired should start at \$10 at the date of employment and to change No. 10 to read "within one year." (Winter), died for lack of second.
  - b. It was moved and seconded to approve the amended Business Subsidy Policy with changes, as approved by the County Attorney, that anyone hired should start at \$10 at the date of employment and to change No. 10 to read "within one year," and clarification of the wording "excluding the value of benefits" (Murray, Winter), carried. Johannsen voting nay. Engebretson voting yea. 4-1 vote.
2. It was moved and seconded to pass Resolution No. EDA 02-08-1A, requesting and recommending to the Board to include a Housing and Redevelopment Authority Tax Levy of .0144 in the 2003 budget for the purpose of funding the Becker County Loan Fund, with the amount of request reduced (Winter, Johannsen), carried. This motion was re-considered and the amount amended back to the original amount of \$235,000 (Winter, Murray), carried. Johannsen voting nay. Engebretson voting yea. 4-1 vote.

#### West Central Initiative

1. Mike Shreiner, Kim Embretson and Paul Sukke represented West Central Initiative and presented the Regional Plan and Program Update. It was moved and seconded to pass Resolution No. 09-02-1D, supporting the 2002 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for West Central Minnesota

(Winter, Seal), carried.

NRM

1. It was moved and seconded to approve to interview and hire a temporary replacement for the Receptionist/Secretary for NRM, Parks & Recreation, and the Highway Department. Position to start September 23, 2002 (Seal, Murray), carried.
2. It was moved and seconded to authorize the NRM Office to advertise for bids for the purchase of approximately 93,000 tree seedlings and white pine seed (Winter, Murray), carried.
3. It was moved and seconded to award the bid for a Rubber Tracked All Purpose Crawler with bucket, 72" Flail-Type Brush Mower and 12,000# Trailer to Freisen's Inc., low bid of \$38,521.30, less trade-in of \$14,000 for a total of \$24,521.30 (Murray, Seal), carried. Johannsen voting nay. Engebretson voting yea. 4-1 vote.
4. It was moved and seconded to approve the Winter Wonderland Snowmobile Trail Grant Agreement made between the State of Minnesota, acting through the Commissioner of Natural Resources, and the sponsoring Local Unit of Government Becker County. State cost is \$14,000 and shall remain in effect for (2) years from the date of signing or until all obligations have been satisfactorily fulfilled. Resolution No. NRM 09-02-1C authorizes the Board Chair and the County Auditor's signatures on this Grant on behalf of Becker County (Murray, Winter), carried.

Assessor

1. It was moved and seconded to deny a tax abatement to Parcel #06.8500.000, Cormorant Twp. \$30, based on the fact that the trailer tabs have to be displayed in a conspicuous manner (Murray, Seal), carried.
2. The following Abatements were approved on the Consent Agenda.

2002 Tax Payable

Parcel No.	Twn/City	Amount	Reason
19.0189.000	Lake View	\$ 38	Assessed Wrong
49.1792.000	Detroit Lakes	+ 808	Class 4d

County Attorney

1. The County Attorney updated the Board on the EDA Investigation.

Environmental Services

1. It was moved and seconded to approve the Agenda as presented (Seal, Murray), carried.
2. The minutes of the Environmental Services Advisory Committee included:
  - 1) Special Grants for Townships. It was moved and seconded to approve the requests as granted: Carsonville -Requested \$975 for fencing shed and dumpster to control garbage, approved \$732; Cormorant - Requested \$3,975 for management of compost, approved \$2,347 and Frazee Tri-Powers - Requested \$3,200 for management of compost, lease and salary, approved \$1,921 (Seal, Winter), carried.
  - 2) Education Grant Request. It was moved and seconded to approve the following request from the Roosevelt Education Committee - \$2,000 (Seal, Murray), carried.
3. The Minnkota Recycling Report was given.

## Human Services

1. It was moved and seconded to approve the Human Services agenda (Seal, Murray), carried.
2. It was moved and seconded to approve the Transit Claims on the Consent Agenda.
3. It was moved and seconded to approve the Human Services Claims on the Finance Agenda.
4. It was moved and seconded to approve the Purchase of Service Contract for Lakeland Mental Health COLA increase (Winter, Johannsen), carried.
5. It was moved and seconded to approve the State of Minnesota Research Grant with the Department of Family Child Research (Seal, Murray), carried.
6. It was moved and seconded to approve the Purchase of Service Contract with Perham Memorial Home Care (Johannsen, Seal), carried.
7. It was moved and seconded to accept the Family Services, Adult Services and Probation Placement Reports (Seal, Johannsen), carried.

## Human Resources

1. Closed Session at 1:00.            Negotiations            Open Session
2. Removed Benefits from the Agenda.
3. It was moved and seconded to pass Resolution No. P 09-02-1B, to advertise and hire to fill a permanent part-time position as Custodian Helper in the Building Maintenance Department (Murray, Seal), carried.

## Finance

1. It was moved and seconded to concur with the Finance Committee to approve the County Attorney's request to purchase Computer Equipment, (2) computers and monitors for \$1,200 each, and (2) ViewSonic monitors at \$335. each. Total cost, including tax, will be approximately \$3,270 (Murray, Winter), carried.
2. It was moved and seconded to concur with the Finance Committee to approve the renewal of the County Attorney's lease for office space from the Lincoln Professional Center at \$8.72 per sq. ft., totaling \$23,407.68. The lease is for one year beginning January 1, 2003 and terminating on December 31, 2003 (Murray, Seal), carried.
3. It was moved and seconded to concur with the Finance Committee to approve the Purchase of a printer at \$7,000, a laser measuring device at \$1,000, a computer for the GIS station at \$1,800, and a copy machine for the Assessor's Office at \$2,100, with a transfer from the professional services line to the capital outlay line in the Assessor's Budget, and to transfer funds to purchase an Arcview License at \$900, and a 19" monitor at \$400 for the Auditor's Office (Murray, Winter), carried.
4. It was moved and seconded to approve the Claims: Regular, Human Services and Transit (Winter, Seal), carried.
5. It was moved and seconded to approve to transfer \$4,000 from the DARE Account to the Contingency Fund as a correction (Seal, Murray), carried.

Commissioners

1. The Budget 2003 was discussed and reviewed. It was moved and seconded to set the Becker County 2003 Tax Levy at \$13,275,498 (Winter, Murray), carried. Johannsen voting nay. 4-1 vote.
2. The Administrator Application Procedure was discussed. The Administrative Team narrowed the field from 36 to 11 to be considered for the Administrative Position. Commissioner Johannsen suggested to continue with the Administrative Team concept rather than an Administrator. Commissioners Murray and Seal could not support management by committee. Commissioners Winter and Engebretson were supportive of hiring an Administrator. Jim Mulder, AMC, will help with the interview process, which was set for the week of September 30. Commissioners were asked to provide their calendars to Ryan Tangen so interviews could be set up.
3. Commissioner Winter will bring information to the next meeting for consideration of the Board to determine the status of EDA/HRA Director, Scott Wilson.
4. It was moved and seconded to approve any Commissioner's attendance at the AMC Annual Conference in Duluth, MN on December 9-11, 2002 (Murray, Winter), carried.
5. It was moved and seconded to approve any Commissioner's attendance at the Regional Focus Meeting at County Inn Suites on October 03, 2002 (Murray, Winter), carried.
6. It was moved and seconded to have the County Attorney, Assessor, Highway Engineer and Roger Winter, Commissioner, meet and make a recommendation to the Board on what the county position should be concerning Lester Ristinen's request to have the County survey his property in question (Murray, Johannsen), carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

/s/ Keith Brekken  
Keith Brekken  
County Auditor

/s/ Carolyn Engebretson  
Carolyn Engebretson  
Board Chair