

REGULAR MEETING AS POSTED
BECKER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

DATE: Tuesday, February 10, 2004 at 8:00 a.m.

LOCATION: Board Room, Courthouse Absent: Commissioner Engebretson
because of death in the family.

1. It was moved and seconded to approve the Agenda as amended (Seaberg, Bristlin), carried.
2. It was moved and seconded to approve the Minutes of January 27, 2004 as presented (Salminen, Seaberg), carried.

Finance

1. It was moved and seconded to approve the Claims with exceptions (Bristlin, Seaberg), carried.
2. Purchase Options: Discussion was opened concerning the purchase of Two Parcels of land adjoining the Human Services Building to be used as parking lots. The parcels became available and Jon Thomson, Becker County Housing Director, brought this to the attention of the EDA Board. They approved to have Jon move forward with the purchase agreement and look into the possibility of a MURL Grant to renovate the apartment building into a homeless shelter. Commissioner Salminen requested that all of the Boards be better informed, so they can make the best decisions for the County. He questioned the speed of this action and wanted more time for discussion before we go ahead with any projects. Commissioner Bristlin stated that he didn't have any more information than Commissioner Salminen when it was presented to the EDA Board. The Becker County Space Needs Committee has been working for some time on ideas for the county needs. Commissioner Winter stated, in defense of the EDA Office, the MURL Grant has worked in other instances. He asked if Commissioner Salminen would be in agreement with county parking needs. Brian C. Berg, County Administrator, stated that the county has tried to stay close to the downtown area as this helps to bring business. Commissioner Seaberg felt we should continue to look for other options for Courthouse parking.
3. It was moved and seconded to concur with the Finance Committee to move ahead with the purchase of the (2) homes on the purchase agreements from County Reserves, and to re-imburse EDA for the Ernest Money paid as part of the Purchase Agreements in the amount of \$2,000. (Bristlin, Seaberg), carried, unanimously.
4. It was moved and seconded to concur with the Finance Committee to approve the Personnel Request from the Recorders Office to advertise in-house to fill the Deputy Auditor position (Seaberg, Bristlin), carried.
5. Keith Brekken, Brian Berg, and Brad Wentz will meet to determine the easiest way to issue easement checks and satisfy the 1099 reporting requirements concerning Highway Easement Payments.

6. Ryan Tangen asked if the Board wanted to add anything to the information sheets sent out with the tax statements for 2004.

Auditor

John Bower, MCIT Insurance, presented its 2004 Member Report for Becker County. This is their 25th Anniversary, and they thank Becker County for 25 Years of Success. It was moved and seconded to accept the MCIT Report (Salminen, Bristlin), carried.

NRM

1. There were citizens in the audience that addressed the Board concerning the grooming scheduling of the Becker County Snow Trails. The Board expressed concerns to Chip Lohmeier, NRM, and have suggested ways to improve by replacing equipment as needed, perhaps adding a third groomer, better scheduling, and possibly contracting out more of the trail grooming. Brian C. Berg, County Administrator, stated that lack of snowfall has been a problem, but now that we have snow, we may need to look at running two shifts. Commissioner Winter asked if we should contract out more of the trail grooming, and asked about better signage. Commissioner Bristlin asked about repairs to the equipment, and do we need to invest more money in the trail system? We need to be prepared to keep the trails open, as the resort industry depends on this revenue. Commissioner Salminen understands the safety concerns of the times the groomers can run on the trails, and asked if a third groomer would help to shorten the time on the trails. Commissioner Seaberg addressed the need for two good groomers to do a good job, and suggested that we also need trail cleaning, as the resort industry needs our help in providing good trails.
2. It was moved and seconded to pass Resolution No. 02-04-1A, supporting the Parks & Recreation department application to the MN-DNR and the MN Recreational trail Users Association (MRTUA) for a TEA-21 Federal Highway Trust Fund Grant. Upon receipt of the grant, it will be used towards the purchase a new Trail Groomer (Salminen, Seaberg), carried.
3. It was moved and seconded to authorize Natural Resources Management to advertise for Bids for Tree Planting (Salminen, Seaberg), carried.

Highway

1. It was moved and seconded to pass Resolution No. 02-04-1C, authorizing the County Engineer to advertise and hire temporary seasonal employees as follows: (3) long term seasonal employees with a maximum six month term: (2) for maintenance, (1) for construction; and (4) short term seasonal employees with a maximum three month term: (1) an auto body student from NWTC, (1) for maintenance and (2) for construction (Salminen, Seaberg). The motion was withdrawn. It was moved and seconded to pass Resolution No. 02-04-1C, as previously stated, but noted that in the future, any Personnel requests must go to the Finance Committee before coming the County Board (Salminen, Seaberg), carried.

Human Services

1. It was moved and seconded to approve the Agenda as amended (Salminen, Bristlin), carried.
2. It was moved and seconded to approve the Transit Claims (Salminen, Bristlin), carried.
3. It was moved and seconded to approve the Human Services Claims, with the Social Service Claims to be reviewed and signed when completed (Engebretson, Bristlin), carried.
4. It was moved and seconded to approve the purchase of Service Contract with Lakeland Mental Health and Detroit Lakes and Frazee Schools (Salminen, Bristlin), carried.
5. It was moved and seconded to approve the purchase of Service Contract with Stellher Human Services, Inc. for the provision of Family Community Support Services, CADI Case Management Professional Home Based, Mental Health targeted Case Management (Salminen, Bristlin), carried.
6. It was moved and seconded to accept the Family Services, Adult Services and Probation Placement Reports (Bristlin, Seaberg), carried.

Commissioners

1. Reports & Correspondence:
 - a. Township Re-imburements for Road Maintenance, Commissioner Winter
 - b. Detroit Lakes Airport Committee Meeting, Commissioner Salminen
 - c. Public Health Committee Meeting, Commissioner Bristlin
 - d. Preliminary Union Stewards and Business Agent Meeting, Brian C. Berg
2. No appointments at this time.
3. Commissioner Winter gave an update on forming a Flag Committee to look at having a Becker County Flag. Ms. Becker County had requested a State Flag at the ceremonies. Dennis Warling supplied the State Flag, and the question was asked about Becker County having a flag. Ms. Becker County agreed to serve on this Committee.
4. There was discussion, and agreement, of bringing back the Open Forum Item to the County Board Agenda, and it was decided to start the meeting at 8:15 a.m. to further accommodate those citizens wishing to express ideas and concerns. Approved by Consensus.
5. It was moved and seconded to approve Carolyn Engebretson and Harry Salminen attending the Lakeland Mental Health Meeting on February 23, 2004 (Seaberg, Bristlin), carried.

6. Commissioner Winter, Board Chair, asked Brian C. Berg to attend the Ag Extension Meeting in Moorhead if Roger Josephson is unable to attend.
7. Commissioner Winter mentioned Board Appointments to Committees. He asked that Board Members look at their Committee Assignments to see if they feel they want to change their appointments as to the number of committees they serve on.
8. Commissioner Bristlin discussed the need to see if land adjacent to the Courthouse can be purchased for additional parking for the Courthouse. Brian C. Berg, County Administrator, will check on the possibility and the costs. Brian will bring this to the Space Needs Committee. Commissioner Winter asked Commissioner Salminen if moving forward with the parking issue is agreeable with him, and he is in agreement. Commissioner Seaberg stated that we should move on this as soon as possible.
9. Training Session. Brian C. Berg, County Administrator, asked about having a training session with the Department Heads and the County Board. It was decided to have the Department Heads on the Agenda in the afternoon of the next County Board Meeting on Tuesday, February 24, 2004 for a training session. Approved by Consensus.
10. It was decided to request all departments to take minutes at committee meetings and forward copies to the County Board. Approved by Consensus.
11. A memorandum of acceptance of Land Trust Status for the White Earth Band of Chippewa and Norski Investors Limited (former Bad Medicine/Norski Property) was received by the Board Chair. No response is needed unless we have concerns.

Human Resources

1. It was moved and seconded to approve to settle a Grievance that was discussed in Closed Session at the December 23, 2003 Board Meeting in the amount of \$635.89 (Salminen, Seaberg), carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

/s/ Brian C. Berg
 Brian C. Berg
 County Administrator

/s/ Roger Winter
 Roger Winter
 Board Chair