

REGULAR MEETING AS POSTED
BECKER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

DATE: Tuesday, March 23, 2004 at 8:15 a.m. All Present

Agenda

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 March 09, 2004 as presented (Salminen, Bristlin), carried.

Open Forum

1. Lester Ristinen, Becker County Taxpayers Assn., updated the Board on his request from the Assessor's Office not being available.
2. Leonard Heltemes, Detroit Lakes City Council, updated the Board on the request for warning sirens for the City of Detroit Lakes, with other cities in the county to have access to the warning system. The city has collected \$5,000 already and has plans to raise additional funds. Commissioner Engebretson stated that she had visited with Dan Holm, Becker County Emergency Management, about obtaining a grant. Dan Holm was present, and he updated the Board to the fact that the Homeland Security Funding will not be available until later in the year. Brian C. Berg, County Administrator, assured Board Chair Winter that Dan Holm was working with the City of Detroit Lakes. Commissioner Bristlin asked how much the City of Detroit Lakes was contributing. Leonard thought the City may contribute in the way of in-kind match dollars.
3. Bea & Bill Purdy, Birchmere Resort, spoke to the new assessments on their property and that they were raised. They serve on the Resort Preservation Committee and are concerned about the resorts in Becker County. They reported there are (2) bills in the House now as a result of the Committee, H.F. 3114 and H.F. 3118. Commissioner Winter asked if they would take minutes at their Committee meetings and send on to the Board.
4. Kent Wolf, spoke with concern over selling tax-forfeit lands of 5 acres or more in Burlington Twp. and would like to have the sale reconsidered to exclude these tracts. Development is overtaking every area of Becker County, and he feels we need to save green space for the future of Becker County.

Finance

1. Commissioner Engebretson asked why the Finance Committee Agenda was as long as the County Board Agenda. She wondered why department committees were needed if Finance could change a decision and departments were asked to bring requests too many times. Commissioner Bristlin stated that Finance is more thorough now than it's ever been. Board Chair, Commissioner Winter, stated that the Board also discusses Finance decisions. Commissioner Bristlin said I'm on other committees, and I do not feel too much time is spent on decisions. Do you want Finance to last only one hour? Commissioner Engebretson answered no, I expect you to go through everything with a fine tooth comb.
2. It was moved and seconded to approve the Claims with qualifications (Bristlin, Seaberg), carried.

3. It was moved and seconded to approve the Sheriff Department's Request for (8) Bullet Proof Vests for the cost of \$10,367.60, which can be reimbursed with state and federal grants (Bristlin, Salminen), carried.
4. The Finance Committee recommended to approve the Highway Request to purchase a 1-Ton Truck and will be considered under the Highway Agenda.
5. It was moved and seconded to concur with the Finance Committee to approve the purchase of (4) SKV600OSB Quick Pad Word Processors at the total cost of \$792 (Bristlin, Salminen), carried.
6. It was moved and seconded to concur with the Finance Committee to approve the purchase of Licensing for the Real Vision Imaging system used by Becker County in the amount of \$3,000 for 2004 (Bristlin, Salminen), carried.
7. The Personnel Request for Maintenance will be considered under Human Resources on the Agenda.
8. Parks & Recreation Request for Part-time Personnel at Dunton Locks will be considered under P&R later on the Agenda.
9. It was moved and seconded to concur with the Finance Committee to approve the transfer of funds in the amount of \$250,000 from Human Services to the General Fund/Designated (Bristlin, Salminen), carried. Commissioner Engebretson questioned what this would do to the Human Services Reserves. Ryan Tangen, County Treasurer, assured her that he had talked to Matt Casey, and all was in order.
10. The Cash Comparison and Investment Summary were reviewed.

Auditor

1. Resolution No.03-04-2A:
 - a. It was moved and seconded to pass Resolution 03-04-2A, authorizing a Tax-Forfeit Land Sale on May 1, 2004 (Engebretson, Bristlin), motion was withdrawn due to discussion about Burlington Twp. Parcels: 03.002.000, 03.004.000 and 03.005.000. (100 acres).
 - b. A motion was then made to establish a Committee to look at the larger tracts of land (Salminen), motion died for lack of a second.
 - c. A motion was made and seconded to remove all parcels over 40-acres for 1-year for consideration and preparation and a Public Hearing (Engebretson, Salminen), Bristlin voting nay, Seaberg voting nay, Winter voting nay, motion failed.
 - d. Commissioner Bristlin was under the assumption the Land Sale Committee had made their decisions on Burlington Twp. Parcels. He made a motion to take these parcels off the sale (Bristlin), motion died for lack of a second. We should take each one individually and do a separate vote. He requested the minutes from the Land Sale Committee Meetings.

- e. It was moved and seconded to take the Burlington Twp. Parcels: 03.002.000, 03.004.000 and 03.005.000 (100 acres) off the Tax-Forfeit Land Sale (Bristlin, Seaberg), carried. Commissioner Engebretson asked why a suggested Public Meeting didn't happen, and it is great to have the public here at this meeting to discuss things.
 - f. A motion was made to remove all parcels over 39-acres for 1-year (Engebretson), motion died for lack of a second.
 - g. It was moved and seconded to take the (3) large tract items on the sale one at a time, with input on each one of them (Bristlin, Seaberg), carried.
 - h. It was moved and seconded to remove the 240-acre tract from the sale for 1-year (Engebretson, Salminen), Bristlin voting nay, Seaberg voting nay, Winter voting nay, motion failed.
 - i. It was moved to keep the 240-acre tract on the Resolution and approve the sale (Bristlin), motion died for lack of a second.
 - j. It was moved to remove the Burlington Twp. Parcels (100-acres) from the sale and move on the rest of the sale (Bristlin), motion died for lack of a second.
2. It was moved and seconded to approve Resolution 03-04-2B, Public Purpose sale of Tax-Forfeit Property for Governmental Acquisitions, Sec. 6734 (Engebretson, Salminen), carried.
 3. It was moved and seconded to pass Resolution 03-04-II, Taylor/Swift Property, Frazee, MN., setting the sale for July 1, 2004 (Salminen, Engebretson), carried.
 4. It was moved and seconded to approve the following Licenses & Permits (Engebretson, Salminen), carried.

New 2 A.M. License Applications: David Howard, DeRoxe Club, Lake Eunice Twp.; Randal Johnson, Randy's Lake Eunice, Lake Eunice Twp.; Michael Reep, Mike's Pit Stop, Inc., Pit 6-11, Lake Eunice Twp.; Margaret Hanson-Sturdevant, Margo's Resturant & Bar, dba. Corner Cantina, Lake View Twp.; Gerald Hanson, Charlie's Bar & Supper Club, Height of Land Twp.; Joy M. McNamara, county 17 Club, Lake View Twp.; Ernest Swanson, Swanies Resort, Cormorant Twp.

New On/Sale, including Sunday Sales License Application: Resort Management Corporation, dba. Forest Hills Golf & RV Resort, Audubon Twp (New Owners).

Renewals-On Sale Liquor, including Sunday: Gerald L. Hanson, Charlie's Bar & Supper Club, Height of Land Twp.; Randal W. Johnson, Delhelm, Inc. dba. Randy's Lake Eunice, Lake Eunice Twp.; Patricia J. Maloney, The Pub, Cormorant Twp.; Cynthia Knoll, Mr. Of Osage, Inc. dba. Tommy's Bar, Detroit Twp.; Wayne M. Crawford, Sunlite Bar & Grill, Detroit Twp.; Michael A. Reep, Mike's Pit Stop, Inc. dba. Pit 6-11, Lake Eunice Twp.; Richard M. Lynch, Hotel Shoreham, Inc., Lake View Twp.

Renewals – Combination On/Off Sale Liquor: including Sunday: Lance P. Highman, Northern Inn, Toad Lake Twp.; Joy M. McNamara, County 17 Club, Lake View Twp.

Renewals – Off/Sale Liquor: Gary D. Hesteness-Otis, Inc., Cormorant Bottle Shop, Cormorant Twp; Marvin E. Erdmann, the Flyway, LLC, dba. The Boondocks, Height of Land Twp.

Renewals – Wine (On/Sale only) and Strong Beer: Fred W. Bower, Cedar Crest Resort, Maple Grove Twp.; Christine M. Longfors, Osage Bait & Tackle, Osage Twp.

Renewals – On/Off Sale Combination 3.2 Beer Licenses: Fred W. Brower, Cedar Crest Resort, Maple Grove Twp.; Robert W. Miller, Frazee golf, Inc., Burlington Twp.; Kathleen chase, Shell Lake Resort & Campgrounds, Shell Lake Twp.; Richard Lesage, Ice Cracking Lodge, Round Lake Twp.; Wayne M. Crawford, Sunlite Bar & Grill, Inc., Detroit Twp.; David C. Howard, DeRoxe Club, Lake Eunice Twp.; David L. Buelow, Jolly Fisherman Resort, Round Lake Twp.; Allen J. Chirpich, The Hideaway Resort, Shell Lake Twp.; Ernest H. Swanson, Swanies Resort, Cormorant Twp.; Christine M. Longfors, Osage Bait & Tackle, Osage Twp.; Richard J. Bartelt, Four Corners, Erie Twp.; Timothy J. Eischens, Two Inlets Country Store, Two Inlets Twp.; Roger L. Nelson, Elbow Lake store & Bar, Round Lake Twp.; Michael D. Schumann, Rainbow Resort, Inc., Eagle View Twp.; Randy A. Blanford, Tamarac Resort & Campground, Sugar Bush Twp.

Renewals – Off/Sale 3.2 Beer Licenses: Bill D. Christlieb, Osage Country Market, Osage Twp.; Marvin E. Erdmann, The Flyway LLC – dba. The Boondocks, Height-of-Land Twp.; Cynthia L. Knoll, Mr. Of Osage, Inc., dba. Tommy’s Bar, Detroit Twp.; Gerald L. Hanson, Charlie’s Bar & Supper Club, Height of Land Twp.; Randal w. Johnson, Randy’s Lake Eunice, Lake Eunice Twp.; Michael A. Reep, Mike’s Pit Stop, Inc. dba.: Pit 6-11, Lake Eunice Twp.; Richard B. Sherbrooke, Lakes Center Store, LLC, Lake Eunice Twp.; Shirley A. Kalberer, County 6 Amoco & Bait, Lake View Twp.; Richard B. Sherbrooke, cormorant Store, Inc., Cormorant Twp.; Lance P. Highman, Northern Inn, Toad Lake twp.; David L. Coalwell, Highway 59 Store, Detroit Twp.; Richard M. Lynch, Hotel Shoreham, Inc., Lake View Twp.

Renewal – On/Sale 3.2 Beer License: Jack E. Wagenman, Cormorant Lakes Sportsman’s Club, Lake Eunice Twp.;

Seasonal Tobacco License Renewal, 5/01/04 – 10/31/04: Richard M. Lynch, Hotel Shoreham, Inc., Lake View Twp.

5. It was moved and seconded to approve a Gambling Premise Permit Application: Holy rosary Catholic Church for operations at the Detroit Lakes Country Club in Lake View Twp. (Engbretson, Salminen), carried.

Highway

1. It was moved and seconded to pass Resolution No. 03-04-2E, Roadside Mowing Quotes, authorizing the County Engineer to award the contracts for roadside mowing for Area RM2 – Southwest and Area RM4 – South Central to Mike Splonskowski, low bidder (Salminen, Engbretson), carried.
2. It was moved and seconded to concur with the Finance Committee by passing Resolution No. DOH 03-04-2F, to approve a purchase off of the State Bid, a 4x4 Crew Cab, 1-Ton Diesel Truck with 2cy dump body and hydraulic lift gate (Bristlin, Salminen), carried.

Kenneth Johnson, Elkton Twp, Clay County, gave an update to the Board regarding a Township Road Crossing Hay Creek and correspondence from the Buffalo-Red River Watershed District. Commissioner Winter thanked Kenneth for coming to the Board and said he would speak with John Hanson.

Human Services

1. It was moved and seconded to approve the Transit Claims (Salminen, Seaberg), carried.
2. It was moved and seconded to approve the Human Services Claims (Salminen, Bristlin), carried.
3. It was moved and seconded to accept the Public Assistance Applications (Salminen, Bristlin), carried.

Human Resources

1. It was moved and seconded to pass Resolution No. 03-04-2D, approving the Becker County Workplace Violence Prevention Policy (Salminen, Engebretson), carried.
2. It was moved and seconded to approve Level One Training for all employees of Becker County. Level one consists of review of policy, prevention and deescalation of violence. (Salminen, Engebretson), carried.
3. It was moved and seconded to pass Resolution No. 03-04-2C, approving the Becker County Safety Policy 03-01 Personal Protective Equipment – Protective Footwear. This policy will supercede prior County resolutions/policies regarding protective footwear (Salminen, Bristlin), carried.
4. It was moved and seconded to pass Resolution No. 03-04-2B to convert the full-time Head Custodian Position to (3) part-time custodian positions due to the retirement of the Head Custodian, (2) part-time custodians will be hired after April 30, 2004 and (1) part-time custodian as of December 1, 2004 (Bristlin, Salminen), carried.
5. It was moved and seconded to appoint Nancy Grabanski, Director, Human Resources, as the HIPPA Privacy Officer for Becker County (Salminen, Bristlin), carried.

Commissioners

1. Reports & Correspondence:
 - a. Tax-Forfeit Land Sale, Commissioner Seaberg. Discussion followed: Dallas Flynn spoke against the 100 acre Burlington Twp. parcel being on the land sale. He asked to have this parcel removed from the sale for 1-year to do a study. He stated that taxpayers like to see land stay as is to keep from development. Commissioner Seaberg thought this land would make a good park. He agrees with Mr. Flynn that he would like the Board to consider holding this land back from the sale for more information, and he reports that there is access to the land. He feels that this is land to be used by all citizens of Becker County not just adjoining owners. Commissioner Salminen feels we should spend more time deciding on putting the larges parcels on the land sale. He would like to see comparison done on benefits to the county if sold vs. use by timber sales, use of resources, tourism access. He urged the board to be more far-sighted and taking more time when making decisions about larger pieces of land with resources. Commissioner Bristlin asked why the feelings were stronger for this 100 acres than the other acres? We should be getting some input from the City of Detroit Lakes. He asked if a study wasn't done before placing this area on the sale. Commissioner Engebretson asked about the Becker County Comprehensive Plan that we approved where it speaks to preserving land

for nature. She thinks a 1-year study should be done concerning the larger tracts of land on the sale. Brian C. Berg, County Administrator, stated that legally land held to manage will be turned back to the public. Keith Brekken, County Auditor, stated that parcels with a public access can be pulled from the land sale. Keith also he stated he had talked to the City and they were not interested in a park. Commissioner Bristlin asked why the 240 acre parcel was different from the 100 acre parcel. Mark Lohmeier, Administrator, NRM, answered that the 100 acre parcel is residential and is used by the landowners surrounding for various recreational uses, while the larger 240 acre parcel is not residential and is used mostly for hunting. Sally Haukon spoke to long-term planning and is concerned about carbon requestation and that leaving the trees helps to absorb carbon.

2. Appointments:
 - a. It was moved and seconded to appoint Harry Salminen to the Community Health Advisory Committee (Bristlin, Seaberg), carried.
 - b. It was moved and seconded to appoint John Tompt to the Board of Adjustments as recommended by Commissioner Seaberg (Salminen, Bristlin), carried.
3. Commissioner Winter is setting up a County Assessing Committee and has chosen the following members to serve on this Committee: Kathleen Frolich, Shelly Dillon, Dave Schiller, Steve Skoog, and Lester Ristinen. It was moved and seconded to have each Commissioner appoint a Township representative from their District (Bristlin, Salminen), carried.
4. It was moved and seconded to approve any Commissioner's attendance at the University of Minnesota's Extension Economy Meeting on April 08, 2004, in Moorhead (Salminen, Bristlin), carried.
5. It was moved and seconded to approve any Commissioner's attendance at the University of Minnesota's Extension Services Workshops on April 20, 2004 at MSCTC - Detroit Lakes (Bristlin, Salminen), carried.
6. Extension/ Nancy Forsaker Johnson:
 - a. Nancy gave an update on Extension on the selection of the new 4-H Coordinator and the new NRE Tech Advisor, Will Yliniemi. It was moved and seconded to approve to have Becker County share Will on an 80-20% share. Payment will be made directly to Hubbard County. Commissioner Bristlin asked if Will would be available to contact if needed and was assured that he would be available (Salminen, Engebretson), carried.
 - b. It was moved and seconded to authorize the County Board Chair and County Administrator to sign the Memorandum of Agreement between Becker County and Hubbard County for sharing the Extension Service position NRE Tech Advisor (Engebretson, Seaberg), carried.
 - c. Nancy Forsaker Johnson talked about the new 4-H Coordinator for Becker County, Staci Slykerman, and how well she works with the 4-H members. There is a new Farm Information Line that Extension developed for agricultural producers and will be available statewide around April 1, 2004. This toll free number is 1-800-232-9077 and will be staffed Monday through Friday from 8:30 to 1:30 p.m.

Environmental Services

1. It was moved and seconded to approve the Agenda as amended (Salminen, Bristlin), carried.
2. It was moved and seconded to approve an amendment to the Environment Services Grant, Emergency Services, granting additional time for the satisfactory completion of Grant Contract 2000-8462 for State and Local All-Hazards Emergency Operations Planning (Salminen, Bristlin), carried.
3. It was moved and seconded to approve a Recycling Contract between Becker County and Beverage Wholesalers, Inc., a Minnesota Corporation, doing business as Minnkota Recycling. The contract is for (5) years, starting April 1, 2004 and terminating March 31, 2009 (Salminen, Engebretson), carried.

Sheriff

1. John Steinhaus was recognized for his 11-years of service to the Becker County Sheriff's Office. John was presented a plaque from the Sheriff's Office and one from Becker County thanking him for his service.

Parks & Recreation

1. It was moved and seconded to concur with the Finance Committee to pass Resolution 03-04-2G to hire a temporary part-time Tramway Operator for the Parks & Recreation Department (Salminen, Bristlin), carried.
2. It was moved and seconded to concur with the NRM Committee to approve a change in the policy regarding charging interest on timber overruns. The proposed policy is to offer a 30-day grace period from the date any timber scale created an overrun in the County's timber sale tracking software program. Upon the creation of an overrun, a letter will be sent to the contractor informing him of the date the overrun was created and the date that interest on the overrun will begin to accrue (Salminen, Seaberg), carried.
3. It was moved and seconded to concur with the Parks & Recreation Department's recommendation to renew the contract with Luxury Landscaping and Lawn Care, LLP for grounds maintenance as outlined in the 2003 contract. The contract is a single-season contract, renewable for (2) additional seasons and this is the second season (Salminen, Bristlin), carried.
4. Commissioner Bristlin was disappointed that the Finance Committee was accused of taking too much time, while there were no minutes from the Land Sale Committee Meetings. He feels information should be provided to the Board on choices made by the committee and how they voted. Commissioner Winter asked for information on how the proceeds from the Land Sale were distributed to Townships and other entities. He stated that there was a possibility we could address the Land Sale at the next Board Meeting if all the information had been received.

5. Brian Berg, County Administrator, spoke to the Board concerning the events of this Board Meeting. He suggested that we need to pay special attention to respect each other at our Board Meetings and to be aware that previous motions were concluded before making another motion. This would be most helpful to my office as we record the meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was recessed for lunch and will be adjourned after lunch.

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

/s/ Roger Winter
Roger Winter
Board Chair