

REGULAR MEETING AS POSTED
BECKER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
DATE: Tuesday, September 28, 2010 at 8:15 a.m.
LOCATION: Board Room, Courthouse

Agenda:

1. Meeting presided over by Chair Bellefeuille. Commissioners in attendance; also Acting Administrator, Nancy Grabanski and, Minute Taker, Christy Ramsey.
2. It was moved and seconded to approve the agenda (Salminen, Knutson), carried.
3. It was moved and seconded to approve the Minutes of September 14, 2010 with the following change: under Commissioner Knutson's Reports and Correspondence change the date of the countywide disaster drill was Wednesday, September 15th. Under Commissioner Nelson's Reports and Correspondence, change item number 3 to read as follows, attended a meeting of the Joint Power Board of MN Counties in Mahanomen. There was a discussion of all watershed projects including the Buffalo/Red River not being in the basin. (Schram, Salminen), carried.

Commissioners:

1. Open Forum:
 - a) Justin Klemetson, Walworth Township Chair, wanted to follow up on the resolution he presented in April on behalf of the Becker County Association of Township Officers against trading forfeited land for the Detroit Lakes Mountain Recreation acquisition. He stated that he still has not heard of anyone in favor of it. He invited the Commissioners to attend the fall Becker County Association of Township Officers meeting on Thursday, October 21st. Detroit Mountain will be on the agenda.
 - b) Arthur Yliniemi invited the Commissioners to attend the Becker County Association of Township Officers meeting on Thursday, October 21st. Commissioner Knutson asked Nancy Grabanski to send a letter of thank you to the Osage Township for the use of their facility for the information meeting about the east transfer station/highway out shop.
2. Reports and Correspondence:
 - a) Commissioner Knutson Reports:
 - i) Natural Resources Committee, discussed grooming being done by other entities (privatization) Chip will contact clubs around the area to see if they are willing to pick up more grooming.
Discussed options to gain access to 800 acres in Shell Lake Township.
Discussed what land will be looked at for sale, Chip will put a list of tax fortified land together.
NRM has a 1998 pickup that needs to be replaced. They are looking at a redesign of this department that may not require a replacement of this vehicle. It was also suggested to look at purchasing a used pickup and then trade with the maintenance department since their pickup is only 5 years old with low miles.
 - ii) Reported that the Fair Board was happy with this year's fair. Food sales were up. Passed out a thank you letter from the Becker County Ag Society.
 - iii) Attended the Joint Powers Board in Perham. Discussion was held regarding an EIS or EAW to addresses environmental issues; it was decided to do a voluntary EIS (Environmental Impact Statement).
 - b) Commissioner Schram Reports:

- i) Attend the Highway Committee Meeting and Highway 32 and 25. The shoulder has been redone with recycled asphalt.
- ii) Regarding the Historical Society, Commissioner Schram has been unable to attend the start of the meetings due to scheduling conflicts. Commissioner Schram asked if another Commissioner would be willing to attend the meetings as a liaison.
- iii) Attended Winter Trails Committee where they discussed possibility of clubs picking up additional trials to groom. Also discussed the purchasing of groomer and options available.
- iv) Commissioner Schram reported that he would like to attend the AMC Annual Conference in St. Cloud.
- v) Attended the West Central/Land Dancing Sky agency on Aging. It was approved to have Wolf Lake Klondike Café to provide senior meals.
- c) Commissioner Nelson Reports:
 - i) No report.
- d) Commissioner Bellefeuille Reports:
 - i) Attended the Association of MN Counties Indian Affairs Advisory Council meeting in Alexandria. He noted that Commissioner Schram also attended. They had invited Rural MN CEP. They did talk about a new Human Service Bill that will be coming up. Commissioner Schram said they also talked about counties being left out of the loop because of the regular communication between the tribes and the State.
- e) Commissioner Salminen Reports:
 - i) Attended the Natural Resources Committee where a new groomer was discussed for Commissioner Nelson's district. An option discussed was using a grant to purchase a new groomer. It was decided to wait and see what this winter is like. If the groomer that had been previously looked at is no longer available they would look at buying a new one. He reported that one reason the fund is built up is because of the mild winters we have had. If a new groomer was purchased there would be no funds to pay a part-time operator. Commissioner Salminen is in favor of having someone private take it over.
 - ii) Attend Lakeland Mental Health meeting. It was reported that the Mental Health industry is being hit by cuts. The GMAC program, ran through Human Services, funding is drying up. Discussed that the Shared Care Program is has funding issues and that help is needed from Sanford and Innovis to keep this benefit. Commissioner Nelson stated that while the program might be losing money, it is a cost savings to the people. Commissioner Salminen agreed that it is a beneficial program that has saved the county a lot of money.
- f) Acting County Administrator, Nancy Grabanski
 - i) Gave an update on the administrator vacancy. The positions closing date is October 6th. They have received 10 or so applications so far. She is expecting more to come in during the last week or so of the posting. The position has been advertized in several areas including the Metro, and Fargo-Moorhead (Jobs HQ), AMC, and NACO.
- g) Commissioner Nelson made a motion to approve the commissioners to attend the AMC Conference Meeting in December in St. Cloud. (Nelson, Knutson), Carried.

Auditor-Treasurer, Licenses and Permits

- a) There were no licenses or permits

Finance Committee Minutes, Ryan Tangen presented:

1. It was moved and seconded to approve the Claims with the over 90 day claims (1) MN Dept of Labor in the amount of \$60.00; and the Auditor's Warrants for 9/15/2010 in the amount of \$34,324.07 and for 9/21/2010 in the amount of \$176,905.80. (Knutson, Nelson), carried.
2. The Human Services claims were reviewed and it was recommended to approve as presented.
3. It was recommended by the Finance Committee to approve when presented Resolution 09.10.2C confirms the County's support for the City of Perham's Capital Assistance Program application for expansion and improvements of the PRRF and Resolution 09-10-2D accepts a State of Minnesota grant in the amount of \$50,000 for improving our rural recycling program.
4. It was recommended by the Finance Committee to be held until next meeting, Resolution 09-10-2E authorizing the purchase of a new trail groomer.
5. It was recommended by the Finance Committee to approve when presented Resolution 09.10.2A and Resolution 09-10-2B that accepts an operating grant in the amount of \$4,200 and authorizes the Veterans Service office to enter into a lease agreement with Marco.
6. It was recommended by the Finance Committee to approve when presented a Microfilm Reader/printer with an estimated cost of \$8,450 and a proposal for digitizing 27,000 microfilm images at an estimated cost of \$6,480. Both items will be funded from the Recorder's Equipment Fund. (Nelson, Knutson), carried.
7. It was recommended by the Finance Committee to approve when presented Resolution 09-10-2F authorizing the final acceptance and payment for SP 03-611-12 is the amount of \$91,684.89.
8. It was recommended by the Finance Committee to approve when presented a quote from Herzog Roofing in the amount of \$2,315 to repair the exercise area above the jail that has been leaking. (Salminen, Schram), carried.
9. A discussion about the possible acquisition of Lookout Rock Properties was held. The discussion focused on the availability and risk of outside funding.

Open discussion on D.L. Mountain. Guy Fischer presented along with Aaron Lauinger with DMRA, Inc.

1. Continuing the process of looking into the purchase of D.L. Mountain property.
2. DMRA handed out the preliminary draft of their 3-year Capital Improvement Plan.
 - a) They are proposing to partner with the county to purchase D.L. Mountain and develop a full regional park. The park would include a full-service ski area, year-round park, campground, trail system with cross country skiing, hiking, and mountain biking. The group would run the area while the county would retain ownership.
 - b) The Regional Park Grant would be the stronger option, providing matching grants for up to 60% and that per the grant proposal all facility would need to be completed within three years. The draft proposal for the three year project was estimated at 3.2 million dollars and the county would have to contribute \$340,000, these figures were based of the DMRA's estimates.
 - c) Commissioner Bellefeuille felt the decision has been made not to trade tax forfeited land to purchase the property. Commissioner Knutson asked why the county needs to be involved at all since they would only have to pay a small portion. Mr. Lauinger explained that the grants are not available to private groups; they have to partner with the County in order to be eligible for the state grants. The need to be under the County's liability because of the torts caps for governmental entities. Mr. Fischer explained that this is the time to discuss the options because the deadline for the grant is not until March, 31st, 2011. Commissioner Nelson asked if they went forward with a smaller vision would there be other grants available? Mr. Fischer noted that he assumes there might be but that would need to be

explored. Commissioner Nelson stated that they need to weigh the risks versus the rewards with this project and that he would like to see more involvement from the city.

- d) Commissioner Knutson said that he is not sure what the public thinks about it and that he has not heard many in support. Commissioner Bellefeuille said he lives in a different part of the county and has received support for this project. He also noted that EDA's money is earmarked for this kind of project. Commissioner Nelson also said you can find quite a bit of support depending on how it is funded and what your risks are.

Closed Session

1. Commissioner Bellefeuille requested a motion to close the board meeting. It was moved and seconded to close the board meeting to consider offers of purchase for the property of commonly referred to as D.L. Mountain consisting of approximately 200 acres located within Erie Township as directed by the Board on July 13, 2010. (Nelson, Salminen), carried.
2. It was moved and seconded to open the session. (Nelson, Knutson), carried.

Human Services: Nancy Nelson Presented:

1. It was moved and seconded to approve all Human Services Monthly Reports. (Knutson, Salminen), Carried.
2. It was moved and seconded to approve Human Services Claims. (Salminen, Schram), carried.
3. It was moved and seconded to accept the Community Health Report. (Salminen, Knutson), carried.
4. It was moved and seconded to approve the Community Health Claims. (Salminen, Schram), carried.
5. It was moved and seconded to accept the Transit Ridership Report (Schram, Salminen), carried
6. It was moved and seconded to approve the Transit Ridership Claims. (Salminen, Schram), carried.

Planning and Zoning, Patty Swenson Presented:

1. Planning Commission Recommendations from September 21, 2010.
 - a) First Order of Business: Wayne and Lana Stoelting. It was moved and seconded to concur with Zoning to approve the change of zone from commercial to residential based on the fact that it is not longer used as commercial property. (Knutson, Schram), carried.
 - b) Second Order of Business: Leroy and Deborah Larson. It was moved and seconded to concur with zoning to approve the change of zone from commercial to residential based on the fact that it is compatible with the surrounding area, with the stipulation that if the sale to the Larson's does not go through, the property remains commercial with the addition that that either the property owner or the Power of Attorney for the property owner, must sign off on the change. (Nelson, Knutson), carried.
 - c) Third Order of Business: Aggregate Industries. It was moved and seconded to concur with Zoning to approve a conditional use permit for a sand and gravel operation as outlined in the application based on the fact that the use is compatible with the surrounding area. (Schram, Knutson), carried.
 - d) Fourth Order of Business-First Request: Stoffel Reitsma. This was tabled by that applicant at the Planning Commission meeting so he could obtain approval from the FAA and the DL Airport. The FFA does not have to give input until the structure is over 200'. Commissioner Salminen said the DL Airport does not have any input because the structure is so far from the airport. A neighbor to the applicant, Cindy Gray, expressed concern over the view of the tower and what negative affect it may have on her property value. She also is concerned that if this is allowed

it could set a precedence. Evan with Renewable Energy said the closest neighbor is 1300' and that exceeds all setback requirements. They are under a time constraint to get the permit. The construction must be completed by January 1st to receive a state grant. It was moved and seconded to bring this order of business back to planning and zoning. (Knutson, Schram), carried.

e) Fifth Order of Business-Second Request: Randy Freed. It was moved and seconded to concur with planning and zoning to approve a conditional use permit to allow commercial storage and storage condominiums on the property based on the fact that the use would not be detrimental to the surrounding area with the stipulation that approval must be obtained from the County Highway Engineer for access to the property. (Knutson, Salminen), carried.

f) Sixth Order of Business: Lee Carlson. It was moved and seconded to concur with Zoning to approve the certificate of survey for two tracts of land, one being 62,209 sq ft in size and one being 73,076 sq ft in size, with a remnant tract of 11.02 acres and a change of zone from agricultural to residential for the two newly created tracts based on the fact that it does meet the criteria of the Zoning Ordinance. (Knutson, Schram), carried.

g) Seventh Order of Business: Final Plat of McSweeney's Addition. It was moved and seconded to concur with Zoning to approve the final plat of McSweeney's Addition based on the fact that it does meet the criteria of the Zoning Ordinance. (Knutson, Nelson), carried.

h) Eight Order of Business: Informational Meeting. The next informational meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 14, 2010 at 8:00 a.m. in the Third Floor Meeting Room in the Original Courthouse.

Assessor: Abatements

1. It was moved and seconded to approve the abatement for (1) PIN 19.1008.000 in Lake View Township for \$546. (Nelson, Salminen), carried.

Environmental Services, Steve Skoog

1. It was moved and seconded to approve Resolution 09-10-2C to pledge its support for the City of Perham's Capital Assistance Program (CAP) application for expansion and improvement of the PRRF. (Nelson, Knutson), carried.

2. It was moved and seconded to approve Resolution 09-10-2D to accept a grant from the Office of Energy Security for up to \$50,000 to assist in conversion/update of the Becker County rural recycling program. (Nelson, Schram), carried.

3. Steve Skoog along with Nancy Nelson presented an informational plan for the future direction of the Becker County Recycling Program. The Department is seeking direction from the Board of Commissioners on:

a) How the recyclable commodities are collected (source separated vs. dual or single stream collection systems). Single stream is mixing all recyclable commodities together in a container. Dual stream collection would require each site to have a container for rigid materials (glass, steel and aluminum cans, and plastics) and one for fiber products (cardboard and mixed paper). Source separated collection would require separate containers for plastic, mixed paper, cardboard, glass and metals.

b) If the County should develop infrastructure to process and market recyclable materials (currently outsourced) using Becker County Workshop staff. Look for ways to develop a facility at the transfer station site that would enable the county to direct market recyclable commodities and to increase the type of commodities being recycled in an effort to maximize the revenue stream for Becker County. Human Services is mandated to provide opportunities of employment for the MFIP and disabled populations. These opportunities are provided through the Becker County Workshop and could be expanded to include the

recycling program. The current Workshop facility is not large enough to provide any more services.

- c) If the County should partner with neighboring Counties in regards to the collection and marketing of the recyclable commodities. This may include commodities that are not currently being recycled such as electronic waste, mattresses, books and clothing

Park and Recreation; Mark Lohmeier presented:

1. It was moved and seconded to remove the Capital Equipment Request at Mr. Lohmeier request, Resolution 09-10-2E. (Knutson, Nelson), carried.
2. It was moved and seconded to approve the Forest Riders Snowmobile Club Recreational Trail Permit Renewal. (Nelson, Salminen), carried.

Veteran Services, Lauri Brooke

1. It was moved and seconded to approve Resolution 09-10-2A, CVSO Operational Improvement Grant in the amount of \$4,200.00. (Schram, Salminen), carried.
2. It was moved and seconded to approve Resolution 09-10-2B, contract for a new copier.
3. Lauri reported that there is now a Military Life Counselor in the office.

Sunnyside Nursing Home

1. Janet Green and Blaine Gamst requested consideration for the following:
The Equitable Cost Sharing Program has been offered to the publically owned nursing homes to allow the governmental owner to contribute funds to the operation of the facility and receive a federal match. The program runs from January 1, 2011 to September 30, 2015. Participation is voluntary and if you enter the program it is for the full duration. The suggested increase is \$5.00 per day resulting in \$71,000 additional revenue and would require an annual contribution of \$28,000 to \$30,000 from the county. The dead line for the application is September 30, 2012. It moved and seconded to approve the Equitable Cost Sharing Program. (Nelson, Schram), carried.

Highway, Brad Wentz Presented:

1. Mr. Wentz spoke about the five year plan and the need to look at prioritizing projects. He extended an invitation to the commissioners to go on a tour of the roads. It was moved and seconded to depart from the Highway Department on October 13th at 8:00 a.m. (Nelson, Knutson), carried. Commissioner Nelson extended an invitation to the press to attend.
2. Construction update. The North Washington – they are pouring this week and they have until the end of this week to finish the pouring. The final intersection might be completed Monday. October 8th is the date it must be open to through traffic.
3. It was moved and seconded to approve Resolution 09-10-2F, to accept said completed project; S.P.03-611-12, for and on behalf of the County of Becker and authorize final payment in the amount of \$91,684.89 to be prepared by the County Engineer. (Knutson, Nelson), carried.

Closed Session

1. It was moved and seconded to close the session to discuss union negotiations. (Knutson, Nelson), carried.
2. It was moved and seconded to open the session. (Nelson, Knutson), carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was recessed for lunch.

/s/ Nancy Grabanski
Nancy Grabanski
Acting County Administrator

/s/ John Bellefeuille
John Bellefeuille
Board Chair