

REGULAR MEETING AS POSTED
BECKER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
DATE: Tuesday, January 24, 2012 at 8:15 a.m.
LOCATION: Board Room, Courthouse

Agenda/Minutes

1. a. Meeting presided over by Board Chair Knutson. All Commissioners in attendance; Auditor-Treasurer and Clerk, Ryan Tangen; and Minute Taker, Cindy Courneya.
- b. Pledge of Allegiance.
2. The Agenda was approved with no changes. (Skarie, Okeson), carried.
3. It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of January 10, 2012, with the requested changes. (Okeson, Nelson), carried.

Commissioners

1. Open Forum:
 - a. Willis Mattison, representing the Becker County Citizens for Responsible Recreation, addressed the Board with concerns over the interview and hiring process for the Natural Resource Management/Recreation Director position. Given the issues Becker County is dealing with in reference to the forests, recreation, and the Park and Recreation Ordinance that is in progress, he is requesting an open dialogue meeting be scheduled, to allow for clarity and transparency, as the County moves forward on these issues.
 - b. Ruth Bergquist, representing the Stewardship Association of Becker County addressed the Board in reference to Willis Mattison's concerns as stated and supported his request to hold an open dialogue meeting. She would also like to be present at this meeting.
 - c. Lanny Waalen, Becker County taxpayer, was also in support of an open dialogue meeting to address the issues as stated by Willis Mattison and Ruth Bergquist.
 - d. Commissioner Nelson acknowledged the importance of having a working session and noted that the Counties goals are very similar with their goals in relationship to the forests and recreation, with an ultimate goal of doing what is right for the County.
2. Reports and Correspondence:
 - a. Commissioner Skarie:
 - i. Reported on the following meetings: Review Board, Becker County Children's Initiative, Labor Management Committee (LMC), Environmental Affairs Committee, Lakeland Mental Health, Becker County Fair Board and also met with Ryan Tangen, Jon Thomsen, and Extension staff in reference Extension's move to another building. He also noted the Annual Lakeland Mental Health meeting is scheduled for February 27th at 11:00 a.m. in the Fergus Falls office.

- b. Commissioner Okeson:
 - i. Reported on the following meetings: Regional Radio Board, Drug Court Graduation, Economic Development/Housing Authority (EDA), Highway Committee, Detroit Lakes/Becker County Airport Committee, Pelican River Watershed District Advisory Board, and Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Summit. He also toured the proposed Extension location at the Workshop Building.
 - c. Commissioner Knutson:
 - i. Reported on the following meetings: Recreational Advisory Committee, Sheriff's Committee, Environmental Affairs Committee, Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Summit, Northwoods Trail Reapers Snowmobile Club and noted the club's annual dinner is scheduled for April 19, 2012.
 - ii. At the request of Commissioner Knutson, Willis Mattison presented information in reference to a presentation at the Recreation Advisory Committee (RAC) given by Arvan Matheny on the Round Lake Recreation Area Proposal. Mr. Matheny is a grad student in Natural Resource Management at Bemidji State University helping with the proposal. The proposal covers recreation and the citizens of the area. Mr. Matheny introduced a concept for broad based diverse outdoor recreation; a method for Recreational Advisory Committee planning. In two months he will provide a concept or design, and then a project proposal to the Recreation Advisory Committee.
 - d. Commissioner Schram:
 - i. Reported on the following meetings: Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Summit, West Central Development, Wild Rice Watershed District Advisory Board, Mahube Sub-Committee, Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Task Force, and Highway Committee.
 - e. Commissioner Nelson:
 - i. Reported on the following meetings: Economic Development/Housing Authority (EDA), and noted that the City of Lake Park held a long-term strategy meeting.
3. Appointments:
- a. It was moved and seconded to re-appoint Dan Aune to the Economic Development Board. (Nelson, Okeson), carried.
4. Becker County Township Officer Meeting Dates: Ryan Tangen presented:
- a. The Becker County Township Officer Meeting dates are scheduled for March 20th and October 18th. Once Ryan Tangen has received the official notification, he will send out invitations.

Finance Committee Minutes: Auditor-Treasurer, Ryan Tangen presented:

1. It was moved and seconded to approve the regular claims, over 90-day claims, and Auditor's Warrants:
 - a. Over 90-Day Claims:
 - i. Best Western in the amount of \$396.00 due to missing invoice.
 - ii. Farmer Brothers Coffee in the amount of \$226.69 due to missing invoice.
 - b. Auditor's Warrants: (Tuesday Bills):
 - i. 01/10/12 in the amount of \$64,176.86
 - ii. 01/17/12 in the amount of \$43,489.43(Okeson, Schram), carried.
2. It was recommended to approve when presented the Human Services Claims.
3. It was recommended to approve when presented Resolution 01-12-3B, to authorize the hiring of three (3) part-time employees for screening court visitors.
4. It was moved and seconded to approve the corrected version of Resolution 01-12-3A, to accept the Legacy Program Grant on behalf of the North Country Scenic Trail, and to authorize, if needed, wording to reference the 40 mile area in said resolution. (Nelson, Skarie), carried.
5. It was recommended to approve when presented Resolution 01-12-3D, to authorize the hiring of up to four (4) temporary seasonal employees for the Highway Department.
6. It was recommended to approve when presented Resolution 01-12-3C, to authorize the use of the Becker County website to advertise for the 2012 Highway construction bids.
7. The Becker County Workshop building will be a possibility for housing Extension, however, the building needs remodeling. The Economic Development Authority (EDA) Board has authorized up to \$14,000 for the project. Jon Thomsen will present later in the meeting.
8. Mr. Tangen will present the Cash Comparison and Investment Summaries for November and December at the next regularly scheduled Board of Commissioner's meeting on February 14th.
9. It was moved and seconded to approve the Synergy Graphics Election Services Agreement. (Okeson, Skarie), carried.
10. It was moved and seconded to establish the Surveyor's salary at \$8,900 per year for the remainder of the term ending January 2015. (Schram, Okeson), carried.
11. The job descriptions and financial analysis were presented for the Assessor and Environmental positions as separate positions. There will be further discussion at the next board meeting.
12. It was moved and seconded to approve the extension of the contract for Legal Services for Child Protection with Stuart Kitzmann, Kitzmann Law Office, to March 31, 2012, with the terms outlined in the original contract. (Schram, Skarie), carried.

Sheriff: Tim Gordon presented:

1. It was moved and seconded to approve Resolution 01-12-3B, to hire three (3) part-time Security Screeners. (Schram, Nelson), carried.

Natural Resource Management:

1. Resolution 01-12-3A, to accept the Legacy Program Grant on behalf of the North Country Scenic Trail was presented and approved earlier in the meeting.

Highway: Brad Wentz presented:

1. It was moved and seconded to add Lake Park Highway 10 Access Study Grant Application to the agenda. (Nelson, Okeson), carried.
2. It was moved and seconded to approve Resolution 01-12-3C, to authorize the County Engineer to advertise as follows: Initial advertisements in the Detroit Lakes Tribune stating the intent to utilize internet advertising and that all highway construction advertising for 2012 will be placed on the official Becker County web page and on the MNDOT site of www.dot.state.mn.us/stateaid using the EAdvert link. (Schram, Okeson), carried.
3. It was moved and seconded to approve Resolution 01-12-3D, to authorize the hiring of up to four (4) temporary seasonal employees for the Highway Department. (Okeson, Schram), carried.
4. It was moved and seconded to approve Resolution 01-12-3E, with the requested changes, to support the improvements associated with the Lake Park Highway 10 Access Study, and to act as the project sponsor for a grant application through the Local Road Improvement Program (LRIP) under the Routes of Regional Significance Funds. (Nelson, Skarie), carried.

Human Services: Donna Richgels presented:

1. It was moved and seconded to approve the reports for Adult Services, Child and Family, Community Health, Mental/Chemical Dependency (MCD), and Transit. (Nelson, Skarie), carried.
2. It was moved and seconded to approve the claims for Human Services, Community Health and Transit. (Nelson, Okeson), carried.
3. Donna Richgels presented an overview on Child Protection Services and noted that caseloads are currently high. They are seeing a resurgence of methamphetamine use and also an increase in serving transients from out of state, not just from other counties, and a good amount of time is spent with out of state placements.

Economic Development Authority/Housing Authority (EDA): Jon Thomsen and Ryan Tangen presented:

1. It was moved and seconded to approve moving forward with the relocation of Extension to the County Workshop Office and to accept the spending of up to \$14,000 of EDA Funds. (Nelson, Schram), carried.

Management Team: Ryan Tangen presented:

1. With the re-location of Extension to the Workshop Building, the Motor Vehicle Department will not be re-locating at this time. The Motor Vehicle Department vacancy

has been filled. The department will be extending hours, beginning February 1, 2012, with the office open from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, and Saturday, 9:00 a.m. until noon.

2. Ryan Tangen and Sheriff Tim Gordon presented an update on the draft of the Park and Recreation Ordinance. The current draft has been reviewed extensively by the County Attorney's office and Sheriff Tim Gordon, and from a legal standpoint is considered enforceable and at a good starting point. Board Chair Knutson is requesting the commissioners review the draft and report back to Ryan Tangen, for discussion at the Natural Resource Management meeting on Thursday, January 26th. Following the commissioner's review, the draft will be placed on the County website. Mr. Tangen noted a public hearing date will then need to be set and advertised.
3. Information will be brought to the next Board meeting for discussion on contracting of the Emergency Management Director position.
4. Discussion on the Environmental and Assessor positions will be brought to the next Board meeting.

Re-Districting: Ryan Tangen presented:

1. Ryan Tangen presented four different scenarios/options for re-districting and requested the commissioner's input. Discussion was held and options were explored, keeping in mind compactness, the borders not being obscured, consideration of who best meets the needs of the constituents within those borders, and the number of people in each district. The State has not finalized their re-districting and the City is still working on a few issues. There will be continued discussion on re-districting at the next and subsequent regularly scheduled Board of Commissioner's meetings, until completion in March or April of 2012.

The meeting was adjourned. Following the meeting, lunch was held at the American Legion in Detroit Lakes.

/s/ Ryan Tangen
Ryan Tangen
Auditor-Treasurer/Clerk

/s/ Larry Knutson
Larry Knutson
Board Chair