

**STEVENS COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting
Official Proceedings
Tuesday, October 7, 2008
9:00 a.m.**

The regular meeting of the Stevens County Board of Commissioners was called to order at 9:00 a.m., Tuesday, October 7, 2008, by Chair Neal Hofland. Members in attendance were Kloos, Munsterman, Sayre, Hofland and Watzke.

The agenda with additions along with the minutes of September 16, 2008, were approved on a motion by Munsterman, second by Watzke and all members voting aye.

Carolyn Engebretson presented an update on activities of the Red River Basin. Commissioner Kloos moved the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 081007-17

WHEREAS, the land and water resources within the Red River Basin are crucial to the health of the economy, the resilience and prosperity of communities, the health of fish and wildlife, and the well being, health and enjoyment of everyone who lives, works, and visits the basin. The complex geopolitical nature of the Red River Basin presents challenges to effective integrated land and water management. To overcome these challenges, we need to work together across boundaries in a spirit of cooperation and friendship to achieve common goals for land and water management. The Red River Basin Resolution is a good-faith agreement among basin residents and organizations and is not a legally binding document nor does it interfere with any existing laws, agreements, treaties, or policies;

WHEREAS, we recognize that our actions today impact the legacy we leave the next generation;

WHEREAS, we realize that working together allows us to develop and implement creative solutions to problems that work toward the betterment of the whole basin;

WHEREAS, the Red River Basin Commission (RRBC) is a unique organization that facilitates a cooperative approach within the basin as well established forum for identifying, developing and implementing solutions to cross boundary issues;

WHEREAS, the RRBC has developed the Red River Basin Natural Resource Framework Plan (RRB-NRFP) through in-depth basin-wide consultation as a guideline to help unite the basin in achieving a collaborative and cooperative approach to land and water management within the basin;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Stevens County hereby declares support for the RRB-NRFP in principle as a guideline for moving forward with a shared vision for the future;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Stevens County will do our part by implementing projects, programs, and actions in our area as we are able that will contribute to this shared vision.

Commissioner Sayre seconded the motion and all members voting aye, the motion carried.

County Coordinator Jim Thoreen presented to the Board a challenge regarding the 2009 Health Insurance transition. On a motion by Munsterman, second by Watzke, the Board approved a Transition Advance Program to offset financial hardships to employees paying January 2009 premium in November of 2008.

Thoreen presented for review a draft revision of the Personnel Policy provision regarding elected official's retirement health benefits. The Board took the proposal under advisement, requesting that the two Commissioners on the Health Advisory Committee review the draft and make recommendations.

Roger McCannon, representing Stevens Forward!, presented an update on the progress of that group's initiative. Stevens Forward! will make public its findings and work, on October 14th.

County Attorney Charles Glasrud presented a request for approval of a Joint Powers Agreement Amendment with the MCCC. On a motion by Kloos, second by Sayre and all members voting aye, the Board authorized the Chair and Coordinator to execute an Amendment with MCCC with the Joint Powers Agreement; the Board named IT Director Scott Busche as delegate and Glasrud as alternate delegate.

County Engineer Brian Giese offered his monthly report. At 10:00 a.m., the Engineer opened bids for CP 2008-1 the gravel crushing and stock piling and compiled the following bids:

| BIDDER | AMOUNT |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| Central Specialties, Inc. | \$105,222.00 |
| Kingsway Construction | \$99,684.00 |
| B. McNamara | \$98,832.00 |
| Morical Bros. | \$116,724.00 |
| Kimball Excavating | \$69,438.00 |

On a motion by Kloos, second by Munsterman and all members voting aye, the Board awarded the bid to Kimball Excavating, Houston, MN, in the amount of \$69,438.00 subject to review of the contract by the county attorney and review of the bidding computation by the County Engineer.

On a motion by Kloos, second by Sayre and all members voting aye, the Board authorized the County Engineer to place into the cue an order for the body equipment for a planned purchase of a tandem snow plow in 2009; the Engineer is to confirm the company's effect of a cancellation of such order.

On a motion by Munsterman, second by Watzke and all members voting aye, the Board authorized the County Engineer to apply for BWSR grant funding under that agency's drainage records modernization challenge grant program; the application is due October 31st, 2008; the county will be expected to provide in-kind match and/or some cash expenditure.

Mark Sneider, representing KMA Architectural firm, and Larry Filippi, representing Contegritty Project Management firm, presented an update on the progress of the building committee's work activities. Otter Tail Power Company representative Bill Klyve presented a rough estimate of a proposed geo-thermal heating and cooling system versus the standard natural gas roof top units and conventional air conditioning.

On a motion by Sayre, second by Munsterman and all members voting aye, the Board authorized hiring of an individual to temporarily fill the FMLA time for one of the full-time custodians.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:03 a.m. to attend the annual tour of County roads.

Jim Thoreen, County Coordinator

Neal Hofland