

**STEVENS COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting
Official Proceedings
Tuesday, September 2, 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, September 2, 2008, by Chair Neal Hofland. Members present were Kloos, Munsterman, Hofland, Sayre and Watzke.

The minutes of the August 19, 2008, regular meeting were reviewed and approved along with the agenda addition of Sheriff Willis, on a motion by Kloos, second by Munsterman and all members voting aye.

Sheriff Willis presented a request for appointment of a replacement member to the Stevens County Radio Users Group. On a motion by Sayre, second by Kloos and all members voting aye, the Board appointed Justin Howe to fill the vacancy on the Central MN Radio Board's User Committee as Stevens County's representative.

County Auditor-Treasurer Neil Wiese presented the preliminary 2009 Budget and Levy. The Board requested development of alternatives for consideration later in the meeting.

County Coordinator Jim Thoreen discussed the Health Insurance Advisory Committee's proposal to appoint Comprehensive Health Services (CHS) as the County's 2009 Health Benefits Administrator. On a motion by Watzke, second by Sayre and all members voting aye, the Board tabled consideration of CHS until its next meeting on September 16, 2008.

Commissioner reports offered from several Commissioners. Sayre reported that the Regional Juvenile Detention Center in Moorhead has incurred an operating deficit in 2008; the RJDC may ask for additional funding.

County Engineer Brian Giese presented his monthly report. Commissioner Watzke moved the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION NO. 080902-15
CONTRACT 268**

WHEREAS, Contract No. 268 has in all things been completed, and the County Board being fully advised in the premises;

NOW, THEN, BE IT RESOLVED, That we do hereby accept said completed project for and in behalf of the County of Stevens and authorize final payment as specified herein.

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

Commissioner Kloos moved to authorize the County Engineer to advertise for bids for a gravel crushing contract; said bids to be received and opened on October 7, 2008. Commissioner Sayre seconded the motion and all members voting aye, the motion carried.

On a motion by Kloos, second by Watzke and all members voting aye, the Board authorized the Engineer to hire a temporary Highway Accountant to fill the temporary vacancy created by the forthcoming FMLA for Stephanie Buss.

Commissioner Watzke moved the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION NO. 080902-16
RESOLUTION ADOPTING PRELIMINARY
2009 BUDGET & LEVY**

WHEREAS pursuant to statute and rule of the Minnesota Department of Revenue, the county's 2009 Preliminary Budget and Levy must be adopted prior to September 15, 2008, and

WHEREAS, this Board recognizes that its levy may be adjusted to a lower sum at the time of final adoption in December, 2008;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Stevens County Board of Commissioners hereby adopts its preliminary budget as prepared by the Auditor-Treasurer's Office and dated September 2, 2008; that the preliminary levy be set at \$4,584,403 plus \$89,000 in special levies pursuant to Minnesota Laws 2008, Chapter 366, Article 3, Section 1, with the provision that the Auditor-Treasurer and Coordinator develop with Department Heads alternative budget proposals for 2009 which will have the effect of lowering the herein proposed local property tax levy; said alternatives to be presented to the County Board by December 1, 2008.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following summarizes the Preliminary 2009 Budget & Levy:

	Revenues	Capital Outlay	Other Expenditures	Total Expenditures	Reserve Spend Down	Net Outlay Levy
Revenue Fund Total	1,506,971	36,000	4,710,998	4,862,304	232,557	3,122,776
Road & Bridge	4,037,800	190,000	4,853,900	5,043,900	35,000	971,100
Human Services	1,221,299	8,000	2,745,838	2,753,838		1,532,539
Grand Totals	6,766,070	234,000	12,310,736	12,660,042	267,557	5,626,415
				Proposed Expenditures		12,660,042
				Program Aid for 2009		1,042,012
				Levy Necessary to Balance		4,859,960
				Proposed Reserve Spend Down		(267,557)
				Levy Increase over 2008		4,584,403
				Capital Outlay's		234,000

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

Pomme de Terre Watershed representatives Marilyn Bayerl and Shawn McNally presented a report on the status of the SSTS updates in the watershed.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

James Thoreen, County Coordinator

Neal Hofland, Chair