

**STEVENS COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting
Official Proceedings
Tuesday, April 6, 2010
9:00 a.m.**

The regular meeting of the Stevens County Board of Commissioners was called to order at 9:00 a.m., Tuesday, April 6, 2010, by Chair Don Munsterman. Members in attendance were Staples, Kloos, Munsterman, Sayre and Watzke.

On a motion by Kloos, second by Staples and all members voting aye, the Board approved the agenda with additions.

On a motion by Sayre, second by Kloos and all members voting aye, the Board approved the minutes of the March 16, 2010, regular meeting.

Jennifer Wolf, staff counsel for Minnesota Counties Intergovernmental Trust (MCIT), presented the Annual 2010 report to counties, summarizing activities of the insurance program which covers Stevens County as well as 80 other counties. Wolf explained the changes to rate structures, among other differences in 2010 coverage.

Commissioner Kloos moved the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 100406-07

WHEREAS, West Central Minnesota Communities Action is a valued partner of Stevens County, and

WHEREAS, the cost and effectiveness of West Central Minnesota Communities Action's insurance program has both direct and indirect impacts on Stevens County and the citizens we all serve,

THEN BE IT RESOLVED, that the Stevens County Board hereby encourages MCIT to take all steps necessary to assure that West Central Minnesota Communities Action's MCIT membership is continued well into the future.

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

In accordance with the public hearing requirements of M.S. 103B, Stevens County Environmental Services Coordinator Bill Kleindl presented an overview of the proposed updates to the County's Comprehensive Local Water Plan, part of the 5 year review of the initial plan. There were two Stevens County township officials present and no comments were received.

Ag Inspector John Dosedall presented the 2009 annual report regarding his activities as well as the problems likely to occur this year.

Highway Engineer Brian Giese presented his monthly report and recommendations for actions.

On a motion by Kloos, second by Staples and all members voting aye, the Board authorized the County Engineer to prepare specs and plans, and advertise for bids for SAP 75-601-29; SAP 75-609-35; and SAP 75-618-14, with a projected bid award date of May 18, 2010.

On a motion by Kloos, second by Sayre and all members voting aye, the Board authorized Giese to withdraw its Highway Department policy to provide 50% of the costs of one approach for each parcel of ag land; the county will permit approaches in accordance with road safety issues but will not participate in costs.

On a motion by Kloos, second by Staples and all members voting aye, the Board accepted the petition for partial abandonment of a portion of County Ditch #43 within the NW ¼ Section 18, T124N; R42W; and petition filed March 22, 2010 by Loren Schmidgall and Jim Domnick, pursuant to M.S. 103E.805; the Board called for a public hearing on said petition at 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, May 4, 2010.

Giese reviewed some drainage concerns regarding Joint Ditch #2 along the Stevens/Swift County line, presenting the facts as preliminary information not requiring action by the Board. Giese also reviewed the 2009 Department Annual Report.

County Auditor-Treasurer Neil Wiese presented several issues for Board consideration.

On a motion by Watzke, second by Sayre and all members voting aye, the Board authorized payment of building project invoices in the total amount of \$560,197.38 to the various contractors as recommended by the project manager.

On a motion by Watzke, second by Sayre and all members voting aye, the Board authorized issuance of a 3.2 beer license to Pomme de Terre Golf Club for 2010.

Wiese presented information regarding the status of tax forfeited property in the City of Hancock wherein the city seeks to purchase a specific parcel downtown for purposes of permitting a bank business expansion project.

On a motion by Kloos, second by Staples and all members voting aye, the Board authorized sale of tax forfeited property, parcel number 21-0144-000 for \$1.00 and other valuable considerations for purposes of economic development in the City of Hancock subject to approval as to legality, by the County Attorney.

Commissioner Kloos was excused from the meeting to attend a personal matter.

On a motion by Staples, second by Munsterman, the Board authorized the Chairman and Coordinator to execute a settlement agreement between the county and RWF Enterprises, Inc. clarifying allocation of aged receivables upon the following vote: Staples, Munsterman, Sayre and Watzke voting aye; Kloos absent.

The Coordinator's report included an update on legislative status and the progress toward receipt of applications for the Coordinator's position.

Commissioner Sayre moved the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 100406-08
STATEMENT OF INTERDEPENDENCE

WHEREAS, citizens from all corners of Stevens County have come together to forge a brighter, more vibrant community through the fostering of Destiny Drivers as determined by the Steward members of Stevens Forward!; and

WHEREAS, an integral part of achievement of Destiny Drivers is the involvement of local units of government to cooperate with, participate in where appropriate, and offer oversight of the actions by citizens who seek to accomplish the goals of Stevens Forward!; and

WHEREAS, we recognize that units of government are catalysts for change; that the elected and appointed officials strive to achieve optimal use of human and fiscal resources while respecting and meeting the expressed needs of their often common constituents; and

WHEREAS, we are members of a Community greater than the sum of our own cities, townships, school districts or campus, and that we will prosper if we recognize that, while we are independent by law or local determination, we truly accomplish more when working with rather than against the best interests of our community when issues or opportunities cross our boundaries;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Stevens County Board of Commissioners hereby adopts this Statement of Interdependence on this 6th day of April, 2010 and pledges to work for attainment of the following ideals, opportunities and goals in coming days and years:

1. Communicate between and among these local units of government for the purpose of optimizing resources and forming when possible a unified front to assist one another in matters of legislation, rulemaking or other outside influences which will affect the well-being of the Community;
2. Share when feasible and practical: facilities, human resources, information technology and other materials goods or services in order to reduce costs and maximize efficiencies;
3. Foster positive attitudes and promote healthy, respectful intergovernmental relationships by meeting jointly on a periodic basis so that our individual or collective needs, challenges and opportunities may be communicated to one another and, when possible, be addressed mutually.

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

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:44 a.m. on a motion by Staples, second by Watzke and all members voting aye.

James Thoreen, County Coordinator

Don Munsterman, Chair