

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES – SUBJECT TO CORRECTIONS
LYON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
LYON COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER, MARSHALL, MN
March 3, 2009

9:00 a.m. - Meeting called to order by Chairman Stensrud. Members present: Fenske, Ritter, Goodenow, Nelson, Stensrud, County Administrator Stomberg, County Attorney Maes, Auditor / Treasurer VanOverbeke.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Approve Agenda

Stomberg – There are a couple of additions. Schroeder will present an RBA on phase 7 at 9:05 a.m. and at 9:45 Sorenson will be here to talk about the management contract and mental health transports. Ritter moved, seconded by Fenske to approve the agenda. All voted in favor.

	Per Diems	Expenses
Ritter	\$190.00	\$56.10
Nelson	\$200.00	\$152.35
Stensrud	\$100.00	\$26.00
Goodenow	\$300.00	-----
Fenske	\$100.00	-----

Consent Agenda:

1. Approve Minutes from February 17, 2009
2. Approve Commissioner Warrants
3. Approve Auditor Warrants
4. Approve Per Diems & Expenses
5. Suspend Residential Electronics Recycling Fee
6. Recycling Sheds Declared as Surplus property

Goodenow moved, seconded by Nelson to approve the consent agenda. All voted in favor.

Phase 7 Closure

Schroeder – This is just to go to approval to go to bid to close. Ritter moved, seconded by Goodenow to authorize advertising for bids and set the bid opening for April 15th, 2009 at 11:00 a.m. for the Landfill final cover construction project for Phase 7. All voted in favor.

Jail Update

Splett – We are finishing up on the masonry. Next week we will start bringing in some of the day room pods. As of this week we have skylights being installed today so we have natural day light. At the same time Chief Industries is here they are going to be installing the cell windows. Fenske – How is our contingency? Discussion.

Authorize Advertising for Bids – Aggregate Processing

Kanwar – The bid opening date would be April 6, 2009. This is for crushing. Goodenow moved, seconded by Fenske to approve advertising for the bids for crushing. All voted in favor.

Out of state travel request

Kanwar – These conferences really help. We have a new concrete road this summer. Currently we do not have one. It is mostly a training seminar. Goodenow – This isn't terribly expensive is it? Kanwar – No. If I had to guess about \$300. Fenske moved, seconded by Goodenow to approve the out of state travel request for Jim Thomasson to attend the Snow and Ice Conference & Exposition April 26-29, 2009 in Des Moines, Iowa. All voted in favor.

Letter to MNDOT

Kanwar – They had an acceleration lane. In the most recent revision they took out the acceleration lane. Goodenow – And that is in the process of redoing 23? Fenske – Did they give you a reason? Kanwar – This is a safety item it needs to be added back in. Fenske – That is to be done in 2010? Kanwar – Yes. Goodenow moved, seconded by Fenske to request the Board Chair and County Administrator to write a letter to MNDOT to show support for the construction of an acceleration lane at the intersection of CSAH 7 onto TH 23. All voted in favor.

Deficient Bridge Resolution

Kanwar – They are not listed in any order. Johnson – When you get below 50 it goes onto the list. Goodenow – So a 100 is a brand new bridge? Johnson – Yes. Fenske – Are any of them on the

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stimulus package? Kanwar – We have one on CSAH 3. Stensrud – Are there any roads? Kanwar – The first round they want only bridges. Kanwar – We have five bridges proposed and four were thrown out. Goodenow – Do we have to do a local funds match? Kanwar – With the stimulus no. Johnson – The only cost would be removing the old bridge. Stensrud – The chances of getting the one on 3? Kanwar – Very good. Goodenow – Are we going to be able to do it this summer? Discussion. Johnson – 3 is ready to go. Nelson moved, seconded by Goodenow to approve and authorize the Board Chair to sign the deficient bridge resolution. All voted in favor. (Resolution 09-09 on file at the County Administrator's office).

Variance Request Resolution on CSAH 27

Kanwar – We will be making a small design change. This would be to lower the speed limit from 30 to 20. Goodenow – What does the city think? Kanwar – They are okay with that. Ritter moved, seconded by Goodenow to approve and authorize the Chair to sign the variance request resolution. All voted in favor. (Resolution 10-09 on file at the County Administrator's office).

Public Works Cost Participation Policies Revision

Johnson – We pay for anything in the first 24 feet. Kanwar – The maximum is 10 feet. With the present structure the small cities have a small construction budget. It will be a small change maybe paying \$8,000 to \$10,000 per mile more. Goodenow – That does mean there are less projects we can do. Kanwar – We have to stay within our budget. This is going to increase the number of applications. Cities are building those lanes for us. Johnson – Do you need to have a public hearing? Maes – It is a policy so I don't see why. It is a modification. Fenske moved, seconded by Nelson to approve the policy modification as approved. All voted in favor.

Consider approval to hire summer help for Public Works Projects

Kanwar – I understand that we had a freeze on new hires. Nelson – I don't think the freeze would apply here because this has been the norm during those three months. I think it should be minimal and the 50 cent raise for the one last year should not be. Stensrud – I think overtime should be minimal. Nelson – How about the road mowing part? That is not the whole ditch it is for one swipe. It is a safety reason. Thomasson – We have run part time the last few years. It is mostly for safety. There is about 480 miles of road. Stensrud – To me that is very important. I asked if there is some chance of sharing help like with parks. Kanwar – We do that. The raise when someone comes back next year we can put a freeze on that. Stensrud – We have done that with everyone else. Nelson moved, Fenske to hire part time summer help for Public Works Projects as needed. Fenske – The number of employees is that the figure 8? Kanwar – Yes. It is up one from last year. Ritter – Just a thought. Maybe we should wait until the budget forecast comes out? Until the first meeting in April or the next meeting? Fenske – It is better to have a part time person then to have someone do overtime.

Voting in Favor:

Fenske
Goodenow
Nelson
Stensrud

Opposed:

Ritter

Motion carried 4 to 1.

2009 Appropriations

Stensrud – Minnesota Rural Energy has a request for \$3,000. Minnesota River Board for \$2,500 and the Southwest Initiative Foundation for \$7,600. First is the Arts and Humanities Council for \$2,000. Stomberg – Your option would be to grant the request, grant in another amount, or deny it. Stensrud – We paid all of these but the Southwest Foundation last year? Stomberg – Correct. Goodenow moved, seconded by Fenske to pay the \$2,000 appropriation to Southwest Minnesota Arts and Humanities. Ritter – I would like to see half of it sent now and the other half sent in May or June.

Opposed:

Fenske
Goodenow
Nelson
Stensrud
Ritter

Motion failed.

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Goodenow moved, seconded by Ritter to approve paying \$1,000 appropriation now to Southwest Minnesota Arts & Humanities and leaving the remaining \$1,000 on the list for later. All voted in favor.

Historical Society

Stensrud – Do you want to wait until April? Goodenow moved, seconded by Ritter to discuss the Historical Society quarterly appropriation at the March 17, 2009 meeting. All voted in favor.

Southwest Minnesota Energy Task Force

Stensrud moved, seconded by Goodenow to approve paying the 2009 annual appropriation of \$3,000 to the Southwest Minnesota Energy Task Force. All voted in favor.

Marshall Lyon County Library

Goodenow moved, seconded by Ritter to approve paying the March 2009 payment at the 2008 rate to the Marshall Lyon County Library. All voted in favor.

Minnesota River Board

Nelson – They are getting appropriations from legislature. Ritter – The dues are not due until June 1 of this year. Goodenow moved, seconded by Nelson to pay \$2,500 to the Minnesota River Board. All voted in favor.

Southwest Initiative Foundation

Stomberg – I think the last time there was a contribution was 2003. Nelson – This is the McKnight foundation. They say they will give you more money. They use the interest. Should we tax Lyon county people to put money into a fund? I would say no. Goodenow – They have stopped their granting. Nelson – And we have no representation. Ritter – Sandy Ludeman is on it. Nelson moved, seconded by Ritter to deny the appropriation request of the Southwest Initiative Foundation. All voted in favor.

Goodenow – There are other quarterly ones we should maybe put on. Public Health, RCRCA, and the Museum.

Management Contract

Sorenson – It just came out that the deficit is about 4.7 billion with the federal stimulus. Nelson – The stimulus was suppose to go to infrastructure. Sorenson – We would have expected updates from the Governor on Health and Human Services. Sorenson – The population threshold would only leave 3 or 4 that meet it. I understand the thinking behind it. Stomberg – I could see it happening if there were timelines on it. Discussion. Sorenson – The public health board decided last night to engage in the management contract with human services. We are working to improve the outcome of both agencies. To make sure process and operational management can get as much savings as we can. I am looking forward to it. I think it is going to be a good relationship. The positive thing for this region is going back to 1974 for those that put it together. Fenske – How did Public Health vote on this? Sorenson – It was a 6 to 1 in favor.

Mental Health Transports

Sorenson – I met with Dan DeSmet. We were looking at a discounted rate. The \$500 a transport will not be allowed by Medicaid. We looked at ambulance and Sheriff transports. We had a percentage of around 80%. We arrived at about \$30,000. The number of uninsured transports was around 15 to 18 where it would be the county or Human Services as the payer of last resort. The rate will be a commercial rate. It is like \$1,800 a trip but they have a lot of coverage. You will have Human Services and Lyon County working together. We will follow up with them. Stensrud – 80% are being covered under some type of insurance. Sorenson – You are seeing a decline in the number of transports. Discussion.

AMC District 8 Redesign Resolution

Ritter moved, seconded by Fenske to approve and authorize the Chair to sign the AMC District 8 Redesign Resolution. Fenske – We do have a meeting set up for March 27. We had five or six different items. All voted in favor. (Resolution 11-09 on file in the County Administrator's Office).

10:05 Meeting Recessed

10:20 Meeting Called back to order

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Maes – There were some bills that have been submitted for the Olga Franco case. The Judge ordered the Sheriff to pay for them. There are a lot more appointments in child support and CHIPS matters.

Reviewed Meeting Schedule

Commissioners Reports

Goodenow reported on Public Health, the Library and the Lyon County Development Corporation.

Ritter reported on Soil and Water, Amateur Sports, and the Airport Committee.

Nelson reported on RCRCA and the Regional Radio Board.

Fenske reported on PAC and Transit Advisory Committee.

Stensrud reported on PAC. I had brought up a wellness thing. We have some tobacco money. Goodenow – Where does the county expense come in? Stensrud – The hour off. Avera said three months would do it. They will do an assessment on what to do. What we are committing is a little bit of time. Ritter – Stomberg that money can be used for Wellness correct? Stomberg – Yes. You can't give it out as a bonus. It is restricted to wellness. Ritter – Why do they need time off of work? If they need to do this you do it after supper or at noon hour. I don't know we should be giving off more time they can take some vacation. Stensrud – I think it is something we can do. It is tough economic times they didn't get raises it is something we can do. Nelson – Is this a one time until the tobacco money is gone. Fenske – If it works there is probably enough money there for three different groups. Stensrud – The only reason I said if we give them time off of work is I want them to do it. I think we need to get it going fairly soon. Ritter – I still have a problem giving time off of work. I don't have a problem with spending the money. I have a problem with giving them the time off of work if they don't take vacation or something. Fenske – I would like to see it move forward.

Ritter moved, seconded by Goodenow to adjourn until 9:00 a.m. on March 17, 2009. All voted in favor.

Rodney Stensrud, Chairman

Attest: Loren Stomberg
Lyon County Administrator