

MINUTES OF PINE COUNTY BOARD MEETING

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, March 2, 2010 10:00 a.m. Pine County Courthouse Boardroom

Chairman Carlson called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Present were Commissioners, Steven Chaffee, Stephen Hallan, Ed Montbriand and Curt Rossow. Also present was Clerk to the County Board, County Coordinator Mark LeBrun.

Chairman Carlson asked for a moment of silence.

Chairman Carlson thanked those who showed support during his recent illness and hospitalization.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Chairman Carlson called for public comment. No comment made.

Commissioner Montbriand moved to adopt the amended agenda, Commissioner Chaffee seconded. Motion carried.

Commissioner Rossow moved to approve the minutes of the February 16, 2010 regular county board meeting. Commissioner Hallan seconded. Motion carried.

Commissioner Hallan moved to approve the consent agenda, Commissioner Chaffee seconded. Motion carried.

Minutes of Boards, Committees and Board Memos, Newsletter

1. Soil & Water Conservation District January 26, 2010 meeting minutes and February 23, 2010 meeting agenda.
2. East Central Regional Library Board January 11, 2010 meeting minutes.
3. County Land Surveyor's monthly report, February 2010.

****CONSENT AGENDA****

Auditor

1. February Disbursements

Revenue Fund	\$ 363,204.98
Human Services Fund	\$ 205,084.72
Road and Bridge Fund	\$ 139,604.33
Land Management Fund	\$ 350.00

Auditor-continued

2. Approve 2009 Gas Tax Distribution to Townships.
3. Application for Abatement - John Cochran, 420 2nd Ave NE Pine City, PID 42.5679.000 pay 2010.
4. Application for Abatement –
Melvin & Barbara Carter, 27224 Brook Park Rd. Brook Park, PID 06.0226.000 pay 2010
Dennis Westling, 12142 Bean Rd, Hinckley PID 15.0067.000 pay 2009
Amanda Juhl, 3022 Main St. Willow River, PID 47.5064.000 & 47.5075.001 pay 2010
Sherry Lucht, 16963 Cross Lake Rd, Pine City PID 08.0423.002 pay 2010

****REGULAR AGENDA****

Coordinator

Commissioner Hallan introduced Jessica Paulson of the Beyond the Yellow Ribbon Campaign and briefly explained the premise of the program. Ms. Paulson explained to the Board that the program is in its conception stage and is geared toward assisting families of Troops. Ms. Paulson also stated the city of Pine City is in the process of becoming a Yellow Ribbon City, but at a recent meeting, great interest was shown for many other cities and communities within the county. Ms. Paulson stated the program is interested in getting additional representatives in order to spread the program throughout the county. The County Board thanked Ms. Paulson for presenting and stated their support. (Contact information may be obtained by contacting the County Coordinator's office at 320-591-1620)

Probation

Probation Director Terryl Arola presented a request for training for herself at MACPO Leadership Training at a cost of \$40. Commissioner Hallan motioned to approve the training request as presented. Commissioner Montbriand seconded, motion carried.

Coordinator

Coordinator Mark LeBrun stated he met with the city of Pine City regarding construction of a bike trail with federal funding available through a congressional bill appropriation. Coordinator LeBrun stated the County could serve as the trail's fiscal agent as the city does not meet criteria. City Administrator Don Howard stated the city is asking for the county to serve as fiscal agent and for volunteered time with construction or inspecting of the trail.

Commissioner Hallan stated his support of the project, stating that the county has no designated trail system aside from road shoulders south of Hinckley. Commissioner Hallan motioned to proceed with this project with Pine County acting as Fiscal Agent. Commissioner Chaffee seconded, motion carried.

Coordinator LeBrun informed the Board that Pine City, under the terms of the lease agreement, has requested authorization to sublet a portion of their appropriated space to the Pine City Chamber. City Administrator Don Howard reiterated that the Chamber approached the City with the request. City Administrator Howard stated the city can accommodate the space need but is seeking the County's authorization. Commissioner Montbriand motioned to authorize the sublease in accordance with Lease Agreement language. Commissioner Hallan seconded. Commissioner Hallan stated that the Historical Society was interested in occupying space within the old courthouse. City Administrator Howard stated the city has a utilization for all of the space they have leased. Motion carried.

Coordinator LeBrun led discussion regarding the redesign proposal, P.A.C.T. (Partnership, Accountability, Creativity and Transparency) that the Association of Minnesota Counties has announced. Commissioner Hallan stated he feels it is an attempt by the State, rather than raise taxes, to redefine how services can be provided and by whom. Coordinator LeBrun stated this has been the County's concern with unfunded mandates. Chairman Carlson urged the Board to attend the upcoming legislative meeting.

Coordinator LeBrun stated he was contacted by Dana Raines, Onanagozie RC&D Council Director with information on an available energy grant. Coordinator LeBrun has reviewed utility costs of certain county facilities and stated the grant deadline is March 3rd. Coordinator LeBrun stated the match funding would be 20% and recommended submitting the old courthouse as the facility. Consensus to have the Coordinator proceed with the grant application.

Commissioner's Report

Commissioner Hallan led discussion regarding HF 3060 Co-authored by Representative Bill Hilty. Commissioner Hallan stated he sent a letter outlining concerns the County has with the proposed bill and heard back from each Representative and Senator Tony Lourey who stated there is no companion bill at this time and will most likely not be heard this year. Consensus of Board to invite local legislators to a Committee meeting for further discussion.

Commissioner Hallan also stated there is a bill introduced in both House and Senate allowing for tax-exemption on ARMER equipment.

Discussion regarding the Chisago County board decision opposing the site of the proposed power plant. Consensus to contact LS Power to express Pine County's interest. Chairman Carlson called for a ten-minute recess before convening into closed session.

Commissioner Hallan motioned to proceed with closed session at 11:42 a.m. to discuss labor negotiations. Commissioner Rossow seconded. Motion carried.

Commissioner Rossow motioned to conclude closed session at 12:59 p.m. Commissioner Hallan seconded. Motion carried.

Upcoming Meetings Announced

Arrowhead Counties Association meeting, Wednesday February 17, 2010, 6:00 p.m.
Hampton Inn, Duluth, MN

Management Team meeting, Tuesday, February 22, 2010, 9:00 a.m. Jury Assembly room,
Pine County Courthouse, Pine City, MN

Northern Lights Express meeting, Wednesday February 24, 2010, 10:00 a.m. Boardroom,
Pine County, Courthouse Pine City, MN

With no further business Chairman Carlson adjourned the County Board meeting at 1:00 p.m., until the next scheduled County Board Meeting on March 16, 2010 at 1:00 p.m. in the Public Health Building Conference room.