

PROCEEDINGS OF THE
MARTIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2010
@ 9:00 A.M.

The regular meeting of the Martin County Board of Commissioners was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Schmidtke.

Commissioners present were Donnelly, Boler, Potter, and Pierce. Also present were Scott Higgins, Martin County Coordinator, James Forshee, Martin County Auditor/Treasurer, Jennifer Brookens, Sentinel Newspaper, Julie Walters, Administrative Assistant, Kevin Peyman, Martin County Highway Engineer, and members of staff and public.

Motion by Commissioner Pierce, seconded by Commissioner Donnelly, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve the agenda as presented. Carried unanimously.

Motion by Commissioner Potter, seconded by Commissioner Boler, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve the minutes of the February 2, 2010 regular Board of Commissioners meeting as presented. Carried unanimously.

Ron Morris, Ceylon First Responders, was present to ask the County Board for help in preserving Ceylon's Ambulance Service. Morris stated that Ceylon is at risk of losing its ambulance service putting rural lives in greater jeopardy. Most rural firefighters and Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT's) volunteering their service have lives and full time jobs outside of emergency work and in small towns that usually means working out of town. Morris went on to state the trouble began for Ceylon's ambulance workers in 2007 when they happened to receive two ambulance calls in one day. Most of the EMT's in Ceylon work outside of town so there were not enough of them to respond to the calls. Morris continued when an ambulance fails to respond, then the state gets involved. While there are enough EMT's to man the ambulance on evenings and weekends, we're really short on EMT's during the day. Morris noted we would like to contract with Sherburn Ambulance and Gold Cross, giving us coverage from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.; but state regulations make that difficult. Up there it's an all or nothing issue. If we go to just first responder status, then we're done. Once you lose the ambulance you never get it back. As first responders, Ceylon emergency workers can administer first aid and CPR, but can't transport patients to a hospital. Waiting for Gold Cross or Sherburn Ambulance could be a matter of life or death. Morris went on to note we have what's called a "golden hour" when someone is having a heart attack or stroke. When we have to wait for Gold Cross or Sherburn Ambulance to respond, that takes 40-45 minutes away from treating this patient and we are losing that golden hour where it's most likely we can save this life. Ceylon is not the only town facing these problems. Truman and Trimont EMT's face the same issue while Granada, Dunnell, and Welcome only have first responder status. Losing Ceylon's ambulance service would only put more pressure on

Sherburn emergency workers. Morris concluded it's not a matter of money, but help that the county could provide by showing its support.

Discussion ensued with commissioners in favor of lending their support as the state doesn't always realize what they are doing to the small communities. It was stated, that we're not the only county with small towns facing this. They (the state) make the rules up there and they don't even know what they've passed. The state board tends to dictate to the Legislature. In the metro area, it's all about liability and lawyers but they don't realize how that affects greater Minnesota.

A meeting with the EMS Board will be held at the Martin County Courthouse beginning at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, February 22nd to address the issue.

Motion by Commissioner Pierce, seconded by Commissioner Donnelly, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve the payment of claims for the month of February, 2010 as presented; and includes the Martin County Highway Department as presented.

Warrants received and paid February 16, 2010 are registered on file in the Auditor/Treasurer's Office as follows:

Revenue Fund – Warrants Approved February 16, 2010	\$113,697.85
Enhanced 9-1-1 Fund	\$ 884.72
Recreation and Safety Fund	\$ 1,610.43
Martin Co. Economic Development Authority	\$ 25,011.36
Solid Waste Management Fund	\$ 13,717.97
Law Library Fund	\$ 3,752.69
Martin County Transit Fund	\$ 38,185.40
Recorder's Technology	\$ 5,568.18
Bank Building Fund	\$ 5,280.93
Debt Service Fund	<u>\$206,358.75</u>
Grand Total	\$414,068.28

Road and Bridge Funds Totaled	\$ 66,687.39
Martin County Ditch Fund – Warrants Totaled	\$ 40,194.72

Commissioner Boler is submitting Calvin Saxton's name to serve on the Martin County Extension Committee and that Mr. Saxton is interested and willing to serve the Extension Committee representing Commissioner District 1.

Motion by Commissioner Boler, seconded by Commissioner Potter, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve the appointment of Calvin Saxton of Granada, MN to serve a three year term on the Extension Committee with term ending December 31, 2012. Carried unanimously.

Kevin Peyman, Martin County Highway Engineer, presented the County Parks Commission's recommendation to hire Gary Jacobsen as Seasonal Parks Caretaker. Peyman stated Jacobsen first held this position in 2009 and that the Seasonal Parks Caretaker position is the only paid parks position. Peyman went on to state that the Parks Commission is recommending a \$500 raise which would bring Jacobsen to \$12,500 for the full six months. The Parks Commission felt that in light of the fact that county employees received a zero percent increase in 2010, the county is absorbing health insurance premium increases so employees would not be going backwards in pay and felt strongly that with the great job Jacobsen has done, recommend the \$500 increase as Jacobsen has to purchase his own insurance. After much discussion and careful consideration,

Motion by Commissioner Pierce, seconded by Commissioner Boler, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve the hire of Gary Jacobsen for the seasonal position of County Parks Caretaker effective on or about April 14, 2010 and will continue for a full six (6) months at a monthly compensation (with required payroll deductions) of \$1,041.67 per pay period; and is not eligible for county benefits. Carried unanimously.

Peyman concluded stating that he will be setting up an informational meeting between the Martin County Commissioners and Jim Swanson and Doug Haeder of the Minnesota Department of Transportation in the near future; and presented a brief update on our winter weather road conditions.

Captain Jeff Markquart, Martin County Sheriff's Office, Mark Geerdes, Martin County Jail Administrator, and Tanya Skow, Martin County Assistant Jail Administrator, were present to recommend the hire of one replacement full-time and two replacement part-time corrections officers. The hires will bring the Martin County Jail back up to almost full strength leaving us short just one part-time position; and will help to alleviate overtime hours and pay. Wages for these positions will be paid by the FY09 Recovery Act Rural Law Enforcement Assistance: Enhancing Rural Corrections, Detention, and Jail Operations grant funding and will cover a two year period. After discussion,

Motion by Commissioner Pierce, seconded by Commissioner Potter, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve and authorize the hire of Amanda Sorensen as full-time Corrections Officer at \$17.33/hour effective February 17, 2010, and is eligible for full benefits per LELS Local No. 115 Union Contract, and is contingent upon successful background check; and approve and authorize the hire of Adam Wells and Chad McGowan as part-time Corrections Officers at \$15.96/hour effective February 17, 2010 not eligible for benefits; and contingent upon successful background checks. Carried unanimously.

Markquart continued with his request for recruitment to fill an open part-time deputy position in the Martin County Sheriff's Office. Markquart stated this is a replacement position and is normally held to 20 hours per week and that the part-time deputy position is on an on-call, as needed basis.

Motion by Commissioner Pierce, seconded by Commissioner Donnelly, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve and authorize the recruitment to fill a replacement part-time Deputy Sheriff position with the Martin County Sheriff's Office. Carried unanimously.

Forshee stated Martin County has received a proposal for accounting services by LarsonAllen, LLP for compiling the county's basic financial statements of Martin County for 2009. The fee for the compilation of the basic financial statements is estimated to be \$11,000 which is a decrease of 7% from the prior year quote.

Motion by Commissioner Pierce, seconded by Commissioner Donnelly, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve and authorize the Board Chair to sign an agreement with LarsonAllen, LLP for accounting services in the preparation of the necessary financial statements for the 2009 Audit. Carried unanimously.

Scott Higgins, Martin County Coordinator, and James Forshee, Martin County Auditor/Treasurer, stated that per Minnesota Statute 204C.31 the county canvassing board shall consist of the county auditor, the court administrator of the district court, the mayor or chair of the town board of the county's most populous municipality, and two members of the county board selected by the board from its members who are not candidates at the election. Board members eligible to serve on the county canvassing board are Commissioners Donnelly, Boler, or Potter. After discussion,

Motion by Commissioner Potter, seconded by Commissioner Donnelly, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, having the authority to appoint the Martin County Canvassing Board to include two members of the county board who are not candidates at the election, hereby approve and appoint Commissioner Jack Potter and Commissioner Gerald Boler (with Commissioner Steve Donnelly as alternate) to the 2010 Martin County Canvassing Board. Carried unanimously.

Higgins stated the Martin County Veterans Service Office has been approved to receive a CVSP Veterans Service Enhancement Grant from the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs in the amount of \$50,000 to enhance the operations of the County Veterans Service Office. Grant funds will be used for transportation purposes.

Motion by Commissioner Pierce, seconded by Commissioner Donnelly,

R-#11/10

RESOLUTION OF MARTIN COUNTY

BE IT RESOLVED, by Martin County that the County enter into the attached Grant Contract with the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs (MDVA) to conduct the following Project: FY10 CVSO Veterans Service Enhancement Project. This grant must be used to enhance the operations of the County Veterans Service Office under the Minn. Stat. §197.608 Subd. 4 (a), and should not be used to supplant or replace other funding.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Martin County that the County Veteran Service Officer, Douglas C. Landsteiner be authorized to execute the attached Grant Contract for the above-mentioned project on behalf of the County.

WHEREUPON the above resolution was adopted at a regular meeting of the County Board this sixteenth day of February, 2010.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MARTIN COUNTY, MN

Dan Schmidtke, Board Chair

ATTEST: _____
Scott Higgins, County Coordinator

STATE OF MINNESOTA
MARTIN COUNTY

CERTIFICATION

I, Scott Higgins, do hereby certify that I am the custodian of the minutes of all proceedings had and held by the County Board of said Martin County, MN, that I have compared the above resolution with the original passed and adopted by the County Board of said Martin County, MN at a regular meeting thereof held on the 16th day of February, 2010 at 9:00 a.m., that the above constitutes a true and correct copy thereof, that the same has not been amended or rescinded and is in full force and effect.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto placed my hand and signature this 16th day of February, 2010, and have hereunto affixed the seal of the County.

Scott Higgins, County Coordinator

SEAL

Roll Call AYES: Commissioners Potter, Boler, Donnelly, Pierce, and Schmidtke.
NAYS: None. Resolution duly passed and adopted this 16th day of February, 2010.

The Board gave their reports and reviewed their calendars of previous and upcoming meetings and activities.

With no further business to wit, Board Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 9:48 a.m.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MARTIN COUNTY, MN

Dan Schmidtke, Board Chair

ATTEST: _____
Scott Higgins, County Coordinator