

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MARTIN
COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, APRIL 15, 2008
@ 9:00 A.M.

The regular meeting of the Martin County Board of Commissioners was called to order at 8:59 a.m. by Chairman Pierce.

Those present were Commissioners Donnelly, Schmidtke, Boler, and Potter. Also present were Scott Higgins, Martin County Coordinator, Terry Viesselman, Martin County Attorney, Rod Halvorsen, KSUM/KFMC Radio, Jennifer Brookens, Sentinel Newspaper, Kevin Peyman, Martin County Highway Engineer, Julie Walters, Administrative Assistant, and members of staff and public.

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

Motion by Commissioner Schmidtke, seconded by Commissioner Donnelly, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve the minutes of the April 1, 2008 regular Board of Commissioners meeting as presented. Carried unanimously.

Terry Viesselman, Martin County Attorney, was present and updated the Board about regulations regarding loose and dangerous dogs outside city limits. Viesselman stated there are four models of regulation to consider and he will continue moving forward on this issue.

Kevin Peyman, Martin County Highway Engineer, presented and recommended a Leased Land Agreement between Jerry Ploehn (Elm Creek Township) and Martin County for the purpose of stockpiling construction materials, placing equipment, and conducting activities associated with the construction of the bituminous surface on County State Aid Highway 37.

Motion by Commissioner Potter, seconded by Commissioner Boler, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, upon the recommendation of County Highway Engineer, hereby approve the Leased Land Agreement between Jerry Ploehn and Martin County for the purpose of stockpiling materials and equipment in conjunction of County State Aid Highway 37 Construction Project with the payment schedule for the leased land to be as follows: 2008 – Five (5) Acres at \$900.00/acre for a total of \$4,500.00; and 2009 – Five (5) Acres at \$900.00/acre for a total of \$4,500.00; and that the lessee will pay the lessor for both years lease (for a total of \$9,000.00) upon the execution of this agreement, and that no further payment for the five (5) acres will be made in 2009. Carried unanimously.

Peyman next updated the Board regarding the 10 Ton road posting for the two mile stretch of Trunk Highway 262 from Interstate 90 north to County State Aid Highway 53 in Granada, MN that was turned back effective April 1, 2008; and the costs associated with transmission repairs to Unit #31 motorgrader and discussed potential costs associated with additional years added to the equipment rotation schedule.

Pam Flitter, Zoning Official, reviewed her request for the addition of a position to the Planning and Zoning Department. Flitter stated the proposed position would be titled Planning and Zoning Technician with specific duties including maintenance of Septic System Database, new Subsurface Sewage Treatment Systems rule changes, and inspection of existing feedlots. Flitter stated that she, along with the county's Personnel Committee, is still working on completing the full job description as well as determining job grade and salary range.

Higgins stated that the Personnel Committee has met with Pam Flitter, Zoning Official, regarding the addition of a position to the Planning and Zoning Department and has recommended approval. After discussion,

Motion by Commissioner Schmidtke, seconded by Commissioner Donnelly, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve and authorize the Personnel Committee and Zoning Official to continue with the development and recruitment of a Planning and Zoning Technician position for the Martin County Planning and Zoning Department. Carried unanimously.

Kay Wrucke, Martin County Recorder, was present to recommend an increase for the Recorder's Office summer seasonal employee, from \$7.00/hour to \$8.00/hour. Wrucke is requesting the increase to keep the wage competitive for summer help and to close the gap to what the current incumbent hourly rate is for this type of work. Wrucke noted this position is a continuation of the data entry project for the Recorder's Office and is funded through the Recorder's Technology Fund.

Motion by Commissioner Potter, seconded by Commissioner Donnelly, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve the wage increase for Sara DeBoer, summer (seasonal) help for the Recorder's Office, from \$7.00/hour to \$8.00/hour, effective first pay period. Carried unanimously.

Rich Perrine, Martin SWCD Water Plan Coordinator, was present and stated he was notified that funding requested in the amount of \$70,000 for the Cooperative Weed Management Area program has been reduced to \$20,000 and still requires a county match of \$2,000. Perrine noted that the reduced funding will still provide education and organization in establishing a Cooperative Weed Management Area program and provide coordinated, cost effective control of invasive species while helping to manage native habitats. Perrine asked if the Board is still willing to contribute the match requirement with the reduction in funding.

Motion by Commissioner Schmidtke, seconded by Commissioner Potter, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve and accept the reduced program funding in the amount of \$20,000 with Martin County providing \$2,000 worth of in-kind match toward a Cooperative Weed Management Area Grant Program for the restoration of natural and conservation lands through invasive species removal and replanting with local species, through the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources. Carried unanimously.

Perrine continued reviewing the proposed Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) for the East Fork of the Des Moines River Watershed of which the Lake Okamanpeedan Watershed is located in Emmet, Jackson, and Martin Counties. Perrine went on to state a consideration of the proposed JPA is whether or not to assess dues from each county based on the amount of acres each has within the watershed. Perrine noted each county would be assessed at \$.01 per acre within the watershed and Martin County has 109,725.7 acres with payment of dues coming from the county budget or Water Plan funds.

Scott Higgins, Martin County Coordinator, stated the county attorney has approved the proposed Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) as to content and form and that a copy has also been sent to Minnesota Counties Insurance Trust (MCIT) for their review.

Motion by Commissioner Boler, seconded by Commissioner Schmidtke, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve and authorize Martin Soil and Water Conservation District to move forward with the proposed Joint Powers Agreement for the East Fork of the Des Moines River Watershed, of which the Lake Okamanpeedan Watershed is located in Emmet, Jackson, and Martin Counties; and to include the assessed dues from each county based on the amount of acres each county has within the watershed, and that Martin County has 109,725.7 acres within the Lake Okamanpeedan Watershed at \$.01/acre equates to \$1,097.26; and is contingent upon review of County Attorney and Minnesota Counties Insurance Trust (MCIT), particularly liability coverage's relating to working across state lines. Carried unanimously.

Greg Johanson, SWCD Program Specialist, presented an amendment to the 2008 AgBMP Loan Program for an additional \$110,000 with no county match required. The additional funding will be used for a number of different programs including Ag Waste Management and Septic Systems.

Motion by Commissioner Potter, seconded by Commissioner Schmidtke, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve and authorize Board Chair to sign amendment to Attachment A of the 2008 AgBMP Loan Agreement for \$110,000 additional dollars; with no county match requirement. Carried unanimously.

Higgins stated the City of Fairmont and Martin County will hold a joint auction for surplus city/county property. The auction expenses are shared between city and county and this year's auction is scheduled to be held Thursday, May 8, 2008 beginning at 5:00 p.m. at the City Shop area. Higgins noted the Coordinator's Office is currently gathering lists from each department of items to be placed on the auction and will present this list

for consideration at the regular Board of Commissioners meeting on Tuesday, May 6th, 2008.

Motion by Commissioner Donnelly, seconded by Commissioner Potter, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve and authorize participation in the 2008 City Auction and to dispose of county surplus items to be included in the auction to be held on Thursday, May 8th, 2008 beginning at 5:00 p.m. at the City Shop area. Carried unanimously.

Higgins opened discussion regarding recent JOBZ legislation and the potential elimination of the program that was started four years ago and provides state and local tax breaks to expanding businesses in outstate Minnesota.

Higgins stated the Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) is inviting Martin County to participate in the AMC Leadership Cohort Training Program beginning July, 2008 through April, 2009. The program would entail eight one day classes and one overnight class within the 5-6 county region. Participants for this region would include the counties of Martin, Brown, Nicollet, Sibley, Blue Earth, and Watonwan. Each county is allowed up to six individuals to participate at a cost of \$1,000 per individual (equates to \$125 per class for materials, speakers, and a meal). Higgins noted the objective of this leadership program is geared to develop leadership skills and capacity for county staff who have leadership potential and who may be preparing for an increased role within our organization. It would also enhance those who are currently in leadership roles in our county. After discussion,

No action taken on participation in the Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) Cohort and Leadership Program. The Board directed Coordinator to find out what interest there is from the Department Directors and to report back at the next regular Board meeting.

Greg Gellert, Blizzard Snowmobile club, was present to give an update and also to request Board approval for the grant application to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) – Minnesota Snowmobile Trails Assistance Program. Gellert stated this is a performance based, preliminary application and once the DNR has reviewed and awarded a grant dollar amount, it will be brought before the Board for acceptance and final approval.

R-#17/'08

RESOLUTION

Application from the Blizzard Snowmobile Club for Maintenance Funding for the Existing GIA Trail System:

WHEREAS, Martin County, Minnesota desires to apply for maintenance funding for an existing GIA Trail System and,

WHEREAS, by Law of 1975, Chapter 204, Sections 51 and 95, there was appropriated to the Commissioner of Natural Resources, as a grants-in-aid to Local units of government, funds for said purposes, and

WHEREAS, said Martin County will contract with the Blizzard Snowmobile Club, Inc. to apply for this funding to maintain said GIA Trail System.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Martin County Board of Commissioners approve of the application for maintenance funding for the existing GIA Trail, and that the Chairperson and/or the County Auditor/Treasurer be authorized to sign all documents relating to the program year.

Motion was made by Commissioner Boler, seconded by Commissioner Donnelly, and carried this 15th day of April, 2008.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MARTIN COUNTY, MN

Steve Pierce, Board Chair

ATTEST: _____
Scott Higgins, County Coordinator

Roll Call AYES: Commissioners Potter, Schmidtke, Donnelly, Boler, and Pierce.

NAYS: None. Duly passed and adopted this 15th day of April, 2008.

Higgins presented the Amended Findings of Fact and Order concerning installation of Southern Minnesota Municipal Power Agency (SMMPA) Electric Lines near JD #57. The amended Findings of Fact and Order specify and outline that Ulteig Engineers has agreed and is ordered to film the tile lines near the construction before and after construction to determine any impact on the tile lines; that SMMPA and Ulteig Engineers are responsible for any and all repairs to the tile line that are caused by the construction and installation of the electric lines; and that copies of the video tape are to be delivered to and kept in the Martin County Drainage Administration Office.

Motion by Commissioner Boler, seconded by Commissioner Potter, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve and authorize Board Chair to sign the Amended Findings of Fact and Order concerning installation of Southern Minnesota Municipal Power Agency (SMMPA) Electric Lines near JD #57 and that Ulteig Engineers has agreed and is ordered to film the tile lines near the construction before and after construction to determine any impact on the tile lines; that SMMPA and Ulteig Engineers are responsible for any and all repairs to the tile line that are caused by the construction and installation of the electric lines; and that copies of the video tape are to be delivered to and kept in the Martin County Drainage Administration Office. Carried unanimously.

The Board recessed at 10:02 a.m.

The Board reconvened at 10:15 a.m.

Motion by Commissioner Donnelly, seconded by Commissioner Potter, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve the payment of claims for the month of April, 2008 as presented; and includes the Martin County Highway Department claims as presented. Carried unanimously.

Warrants received and paid April 15, 2008 are registered on file in the Auditor/Treasurer's Office as follows:

Revenue Fund – Warrants Approved April 15, 2008	\$210,920.23
Enhanced 9-1-1 Fund	\$ 5.03
Recreation and Safety Fund	\$ 85.09
Economic Development	\$ 1,023.14
Solid Waste Management Fund	\$ 20,409.04
Law Library Fund	\$ 438.41
Martin County Transit Fund	\$ 41,343.50
Bank Building Fund	\$ 1,691.57
Forfeited Tax Fund	\$ 15.00
Grand Total	\$275,931.01
Martin County Ditch Fund – Warrants Totaled	\$ 21,372.21
Road and Bridge Funds Totaled	\$ 56,258.65

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

At this time, the Board welcomed and presented county government information to the 2008 Boy and Girl County participants.

Jane Hennagir, Minnesota Counties Insurance Trust (MCIT) Account Executive, was present to present and review the Annual MCIT 2008 Member Report for Martin County. The Martin County Board of Commissioners accepted the 2008 Minnesota Counties Insurance Trust (MCIT) Member Report.

With no further business to wit, Board Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 11:21 a.m.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MARTIN COUNTY, MN

Steve Pierce, Board Chair

ATTEST: _____
Scott Higgins, County Coordinator