

PROCEEDINGS OF THE
MARTIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2008
@ 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 Pierce.

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

Motion by Commissioner Boler, 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 Donnelly, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve the minutes of the October 7, 2008 and October 21, 2008 regular Board of Commissioners meetings; and the minutes of the October 7, 2008 Special Board Meeting with noted changes. Carried unanimously.

Kevin Peyman, Martin County Highway Engineer, presented his recommendation for step increase for Scott Jones who has reached his employment anniversary date.

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 and authorize step increase according to union contract for Scott Jones, Crew Foreman, from Grade 14 Step 8 at \$23.45/hour to Grade 14 Step 9 at \$24.02/hour, effective November 15, 2008. Carried unanimously.

Peyman next presented a brief Highway Department update including recent repair work to CSAH 53 that will make winter maintenance easier.

Peyman continued with information regarding the installation of rail road crossing gates at the County Road 39 railroad crossing. Peyman stated we were notified that the crossing was approved for the gates. However, Union Pacific wanted some extra work done at the crossing before the gates were installed. Peyman went on to state the gates cover 90 percent of the driving lanes, but that the center median is not covered and they wanted us to put in a raised curb median in that center which is not only expensive but would be very difficult for snow plowing. Peyman noted that the heavy truck traffic from BioFuel Energy, which is right next to the crossing, also adds a degree of difficulty if the road were to have a raised curb median. Peyman went on to note a compromise has been reached and that delineator reflectors can be placed along the painted median, which

would make it more difficult for a driver to cut through and go around the gate. Peyman stated Union Pacific recently sent word to the State that they would accept the reflectors marking the center median leading up to the crossing and that the gates are set to be installed before winter.

Sheriff Gerhardt presented the monthly Sheriff's Office Update that included: the week of November 10-14 is Winter Hazard Awareness Week; the South Central Regional Radio Board had their kickoff meeting and out area meeting. Federal Engineering is currently conducting their assessment of our countywide radio system and we should expect three options by summer 2009; attended the 105th birthday celebration of Azelene Jaskulke; Sheriff Gerhardt is now serving on a committee with the Minnesota Sheriff's Association, looking at all the issues and associated costs with our State of Minnesota Mental Health System and the lack of available beds; recent article in the Sentinel Newspaper about the Minnesota Cold Case playing cards noting the unsolved Bontjes case; upcoming Regional Emergency Management meeting on November 12, 2008; The Sheriff's Office has two applicants for the MSA scholarships; and information on an Automated Vehicle Locator System – knowing where your fleet vehicles are at all times.

Rebecca Bentele, Victim Witness Coordinator, presented the Continuation Grant and resolution for the Victim Witness Program. Federal funds for this grant contract are provided under the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) for the purpose of providing funding to aid in the provision of direct services to victims of crime. Bentele stated the contract is effective October 1, 2008 through September 30, 2009 and is in the amount of \$85,291.00.

Motion by Commissioner Boler, seconded by Commissioner Donnelly,

R-#33/'08

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AGREEMENT

BE IT RESOLVED that Martin County, Victim Services, will enter into a cooperative agreement with the Office of Justice Programs in the Minnesota Department of Public Safety; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Federal funds for this grant contract are provided under the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) for the purpose of providing supplemental funding to aid in the provision of direct services to victims of crime. State funds for this grant contract are provided for the purpose of providing crime victim services to victims of child abuse, domestic violence, sexual assault, and other crimes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the State is in need of services to victims of crime; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Steve Pierce, Board Chair is hereby authorized to execute such agreements and amendments, as are necessary to implement the project on behalf of Martin County.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED upon a motion by Commissioner Boler, seconded by Commissioner Donnelly, and unanimously carried;

Said Resolution was adopted this 4th day of November 4, 2008.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MARTIN COUNTY, MN

Steve Pierce, Chair

ATTEST: _____
Scott Higgins, County Coordinator

Roll Call AYES: Commissioners Potter, Donnelly, Boler, and Pierce. NAYS: None. Duly passed and adopted this 4th day of November, 2008.

Scott Higgins, Martin County Coordinator, presented a services agreement with HR Advisors (Wes Pruett, Fairmont) that will allow the county to use HR Advisors for consultation on human resource issues as needed. Higgins stated services will include assistance with contract negotiations, policy development, training, and other related areas. Higgins noted the service fee is \$125/hour and went on to note the termination clause includes that the agreement may be terminated by either party with a ten (10) day written notice.

Motion by Commissioner Donnelly, seconded by Commissioner Boler, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve and authorize Board Chair to sign the agreement between HR Advisors, 1330 South State Street, Fairmont, and Martin County for consultant services in human resources matters as needed. Carried unanimously.

Holli Arp, University of Minnesota Extension Service Regional Director-Worthington, was present to recommend the proposed agreement between the University of Minnesota and Martin County for providing Extension programs locally and employing Extension staff. Arp stated the proposed agreement increases the 4-H Program Coordinator position from 75% to a 100% time, working exclusively in Martin County at an annual cost of \$64,900.00. Arp stated the University will be responsible for providing salary and fringe benefits, enhanced programming from regional extension educator staff, program supervision, travel (mileage, meals, and lodging), in-service training within program area, payroll, and accounting services. The County agrees to provide local support for this position including, but not limited to, office space, telephone, computer, network connections for email, and other communications, software, support staff, and other

general office supplies. The term of this Agreement shall be January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2011.

Arp continued that the Extension Committee met and talked at length about some of the possibilities for growing 4-H in Martin County and was in agreement and recommends moving forward with a full-time 4-H Program Coordinator. Arp stated she spoke with James Forshee about budget numbers and it was determined that a full-time 4-H Program Coordinator will be able to be funded within the proposed 2009 budget numbers. Arp noted a 4-H Summer Intern position is still in the budget along with the full-time 4-H Program Coordinator. After discussion,

Motion by Commissioner Pierce, seconded by Commissioner Boler, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve and authorize Board Chair to sign the Agreement between the University of Minnesota and Martin County for providing Extension programs locally and employing full-time 4-H Program Coordinator staff in the amount of \$64,900.00 for a three year term beginning January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2011. Carried unanimously.

Higgins presented a resolution authorizing the public sale of tax forfeited land in the county. The resolution sets the terms and conditions, date and time of sale. The sale is set for Tuesday, November 25, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. in the Commissioners Board Room.

Motion by Commissioner Donnelly, seconded by Commissioner Boler,

RESOLUTION #32 / 08

AUTHORIZING & FIXING TERMS OF TAX SALE:

BE IT RESOLVED, that all parcels of tax-forfeited land listed on the List of Tax-Forfeited Land #9 be classified as non-conservation land; that the basic sale price of each parcel on the List of Tax-Forfeited Land #9, that is on file with the Martin County Auditor/Treasurer, be approved and authorization for a public sale of this land be granted, pursuant to M.S. 282.01; that the sale will be held at 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, November 25, 2008, by the Martin County Auditor/Treasurer, in the Commissioners Room, 1st Floor in the Martin County Courthouse, 201 Lake Avenue, Fairmont, Minnesota, beginning and not less than the basic sale price; and that all sales shall be full payment and on the terms set forth on the List of Tax-Forfeited Land #9 dated November 6, 2008.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the conditions and terms of the public sale shall be as described in the list contained herein and approved by the Martin County Board of Commissioners.

Motion was made by Commissioner Donnelly, seconded by Commissioner Boler and carried.

Dated this 4th Day of November, 2008.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MARTIN COUNTY, MINNESOTA

Steve Pierce, Chairperson

ATTEST: _____
Scott Higgins
Martin County Coordinator

Roll Call AYES: Commissioners Potter, Boler, Donnelly, and Pierce. NAYS: None.
Duly passed and adopted this 4th day of November, 2008.

Higgins stated the 2008 Annual Meeting of the Minnesota Counties Insurance Trust (MCIT) will be held on Monday, December 8, 2008 at 1:00 p.m. An election will be held for two seats on the MCIT Board of Directors. The MCIT Bylaws provide for the designation of official voting delegates and alternates. Current voting delegate is Steve Donnelly and alternate is James Forshee.

Motion by Commissioner Potter, seconded by Commissioner Boler, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby reappoint Steve Donnelly as voting delegate and James Forshee as voting alternate to the 2008 Annual Meeting of the Minnesota Counties Insurance Trust to be held on Monday, December 8, 2008 at 1:00 p.m. in Duluth, MN. Carried unanimously.

Higgins stated Minnesota Statutes require that bids be taken for Official County Newspaper for the publication of notices, minutes, etc., and it is time to once again advertise for bids to all known newspapers in Martin County in order to designate the official newspaper for Martin County for the year 2009.

Motion by Commissioner Boler, seconded by Commissioner Donnelly, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve and authorize the Martin County Coordinator's Office to advertise for bids for designation of the official newspaper for Martin County for the year 2009. Bid opening will be held on Tuesday, December 16, 2008 at the regular Board of Commissioners meeting. Carried unanimously.

Higgins reviewed information pertaining to the STS Third Quarter Report; the Southern Minnesota Regional Roundtable Schedule; the 2009 Feedlot Program Grant Award Schedule; and the upcoming Meeting the Global Climate Challenge luncheon meeting to be held Tuesday, November 18th, 2008 at the AmericInn Conference Center in Mankato, MN.

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 11:10 a.m.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MARTIN COUNTY, MN

Steve Pierce, Chair

ATTEST: _____
Scott Higgins, County Coordinator