

PROCEEDINGS OF THE
MARTIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, AUGUST 3, 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 Potter, Pierce, Donnelly, and Boler. Also present were Scott Higgins, Martin County Coordinator, James Forshee, Martin County Auditor/Treasurer, Brad Gerhardt, Martin County Sheriff, Rod Halvorsen, KSUM/KFMC Radio, Kevin Peyman, Martin County Highway Engineer, Megan Alexander, Sentinel Newspaper, and Julie Walters, Administrative Assistant.

Motion by Commissioner Donnelly, seconded by Commissioner Potter, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve the agenda with the following: Add 8.12 Consider Out of State Travel Expense – Coordinator’s Office; and Delete 3.1 Review Minutes of July 6, 2010 Regular Board of Commissioners meeting. Carried unanimously.

James Forshee, Martin County Auditor/Treasurer, stated that Michael & Bridget Inc. d/b/a Bridgets Bucksnot’s Brew Ha Ha & Grill in Jackson, MN has applied for a Temporary On Sale 3.2% License for August 6-7, 2010 for the Cornstalk Festival held near Dunnell, MN. Forshee stated the Treasurer’s Office has the application and fee and has received the required certificate of insurance.

Motion by Commissioner Pierce, seconded by Commissioner Boler, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve and authorize temporary 3.2% On Sale Liquor License for Michael & Bridget Inc. d/b/a Bridgets Bucksnot’s Brew Ha Ha & Grill of Jackson, Minnesota for August 6 and August 7, 2010 for the Cornstalk Festival held at 437 40th Ave., Dunnell, Minnesota. Carried unanimously.

Brad Gerhardt, Martin County Sheriff, presented the monthly Sheriff’s Office Update including the Department of Corrections will attend the regular Board of Commissioners meeting on Tuesday, September 7th to answer questions regarding the Martin County Jail inspection report; upcoming ALSTOCK memorial ride and block party in Granada, MN in memory of Al Sandberg; Working on part-time deputy hire; and looking towards Carver County 8 day hold juvenile detention and possibly longer juvenile detention in Dakota County.

Gerhardt next stated that due to the retirement of Sue Austin, the Martin County Sheriff’s Office recommends advertising to fill a part-time Communications Officer position. Gerhardt stated that if they were to bring up someone from part time to full time, it would create an opening for a part-time position and would request that the board approve filling that vacancy as well as the full time vacancy.

Motion by Commissioner Boler, seconded by Commissioner Potter, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve and authorize advertising to fill both a full time and a part-time Communications Officer position with the Martin County Sheriff's Office. All those voting in favor: Commissioners Potter, Pierce, Donnelly, and Boler. NAYS: Commissioner Schmidtke. Motion passed.

Michelle Bell, Corrections Officer with the Martin County Sheriff's Office, presented electronic home monitoring fee increases for newer equipment and better technology for monitoring; with administrative fees ranging from \$4.00 to \$8.50 per day depending on the client's equipment. Bell reviewed the proposed fee increases and equipment including the "Scram" a bracelet that tests alcohol use based on perspiration at a cost of \$17.50 per day; and the "Mems" which photographs clients in their home as they are tested for alcohol use at a cost of about \$15.50 per day; or the "Active GPS" which allows better monitoring, especially for juveniles, and eliminates the need to install landlines for people who don't have home phones at a cost of \$21.00 per day. Bell stated that when given the choice between sitting in jail and electronic home monitoring, people come up with the money to pay for the monitoring equipment. Bell noted it is a hardship for some, but it's cheaper than holding them in jail; and expects offenders will pay for the improved convenience of newer and better technology.

Equipment	MMS Price	County Price	Proposal	Administrative Fee
RF Only	\$10.50	\$15.50	\$15.50	\$5.00
RF w/SBR (mems)	\$12.50	\$17.50	\$17.50	\$5.00
RF w/Scram	\$17.00	\$21.00	\$25.00	\$8.00
SBR only (mems)	\$10.50	\$15.50	\$15.50	\$5.00
Scram only	\$12.50	\$17.50	\$21.00	\$8.50
Active GPS	\$16.00	\$21.00	\$21.00	\$5.00
Active GPS w/alcohol monitoring	\$18.00	\$23.00	\$23.00	\$5.00
Active GPS w/scram	\$21.50	\$26.50	\$26.50	\$5.00
RF only cell unit	\$14.00	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$6.00
Alcohol Monitoring Only Cell Unit	\$14.00	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$6.00
Alcohol Monitoring w/RF Cell Unit	\$16.00	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$4.00

Jeff Hochstein and Chris Rogers with Midwest Monitoring & Surveillance were present and stated their equipment costs are increasing due to the newer technology and additional costs associated with that technology. Midwest Monitoring & Surveillance has held prices steady for many years and will continue to do so where applicable; allowing the Martin County Sheriff's Office more options and the opportunity to use the best device possible. Most equipment is generally available at all times.

Commissioner Boler asked how many clients on average are in the Electronic Home Monitoring system. Boler noted he hopes we (the County) can continue to use electronic home monitoring because of the cost savings to the county.

Bell stated 14 at present. Bell went on to state that if clients violate the conditions of their electronic home monitoring or fail to promptly pay their Midwest Monitoring bill, they are taken into custody.

Motion by Commissioner Pierce, seconded by Commissioner Boler, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve and authorize the new administrative fee increases for Electronic Home Monitoring service equipment enhancements as presented: RF Only at \$15.50 with \$5.00 Admin Fee; RF w/SBR (mems) at \$17.50 with \$5.00 Admin Fee; RF w/Scram at \$25.00 with \$8.00 Admin Fee; SBR only at \$15.50 with \$5.00 Admin Fee; Scram only at \$21.00 with \$8.50 Admin Fee; Active GPS at \$21.00 with \$5.00 Admin Fee; Active GPS w/alcohol monitoring at \$23.00 with \$5.00 Admin Fee; Active GPS w/Scram at \$26.50 with \$5.00 Admin Fee; RF Only Cell Unit at \$20.00 with \$6.00 Admin Fee; Alcohol Monitoring Only Cell Unit at \$20.00 with \$6.00 Admin Fee; and Alcohol Monitoring w/RF Cell Unit at \$20.00 with \$4.00 Admin Fee. Carried unanimously.

Kevin Peyman, Martin County Highway Engineer, presented a review and update of the CY2009 Martin County Highway Department Annual Financial Report.

Motion by Commissioner Pierce, seconded by Commissioner Donnelly, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby receive and file the Martin County Highway CY2009 Annual Financial Report. Carried unanimously.

Peyman reviewed information on Mn/DOT's recommendation to install and maintain flasher lights at the intersection of County Road 26 and State Highway 263 by Welcome, Minnesota by the end of September, 2010. Peyman noted the flashers will be interchangeable and will be either LED's or stand-alones and not a four-way stop. Peyman also noted that Mn/DOT has some preliminary speed study information concerning Highway 15 from May of this year, and will find out more about the speed study at a later date.

Don Reffer, B&W Control Specialists of Algona, IA presented an update of maximum costs for continued tree and brush maintenance of various county drainage ditch systems in 2010. After discussion,

Motion by Commissioner Potter, seconded by Commissioner Boler, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, acting as the Drainage Authority for Martin County, hereby approve the B&W Control Specialists, Inc. quote for tree and brush control along the listed open drainage ditches in Martin County for 2010; the quotes being a total maximum as follows:

<u>Ditch No.</u>	<u>Maximum Cost</u>
JD #48	\$ 1,000.00
CD #1	\$ 3,000.00
JD #50	\$ 3,500.00
JD #59	\$ 2,000.00

CD #47	\$ 750.00
JD #98	\$ 4,500.00
JD #9	\$ 2,000.00
JD #85	\$ 3,500.00
JD #82	\$ 4,000.00
JD #3	\$ 3,500.00
JD #8	\$ 2,500.00
JD #1	\$ 2,000.00
JD #28	\$ <u>5,500.00</u>
Total	\$37,750.00

Carried unanimously.

Rebecca Bentele, Victim Witness Coordinator, was present to update the Board on the funding request for Martin County's Domestic Abuse Offender Program. Bentele stated she was originally going to ask the Board to help pay the program's counseling facilitator for the remainder of 2010 and request \$13,000.00 for 2011 for assurance to the program facilitator that he will be paid one way or another. The additional funding from the county would ensure that if an offender fails to pay for the counseling, the facilitator would not be short changed. Bentele stated that currently if the offender doesn't have the money to pay every week, then they've violated their probation and rather than pay for the counseling, some offenders opt to sit in jail. Bentele went on to state that domestic abuse is a big problem in Martin County and it is important that offenders get help to minimize the likelihood of repeated incidents. Bentele noted the success rate for participants who complete the program is above 70%. Failure to stop the abuse also impacts children, who are more likely to grow up and continue the violent cycle. Bentele went on to note that perhaps a sliding fee scale might be an option to improve participation and affordability. Bentele concluded that at this time she was not yet ready to ask the Board for a specific dollar amount as she has begun talking to other providers to see what they may be able to offer and what other options are out there.

Lowell Spee stated the need for Martin County to continue to support and promote the domestic abuse program. Having watched other communities that have worked to boost offenders' participation in counseling programs, their jail costs have gone down as a result.

Stephanie Busiahn, Director of the Fairmont Convention & Visitor's Bureau (CVB) and the County's representative to the Southern Minnesota Tourism Association (SMTA) updated the board on the activities of the Fairmont CVB along with the SMTA. Busiahn noted that in Martin County the Leisure and Hospitality Industry generates \$29,050,563.00 in gross sales. With that, it also generates \$1,833,444.00 in state sales tax and generates 866 jobs in Martin County. Busiahn also requested the Board consider CY2011 budget allocations for the CVB in the amount of \$3,000.00 and the SMTA in the amount of \$.05 cents per capita.

Motion by Commissioner Donnelly, seconded by Commissioner Potter, Be It resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby receive and file the CY2011 Appropriation Request from the Fairmont Convention & Visitor's Bureau in the amount of \$3,000.00 and the Southern Minnesota Tourism Association in the amount of \$.05 cents per capita. Carried unanimously.

Higgins stated in review of the current board members of the South Central Minnesota Multi-County HRA, it has come to our attention that the terms of Steve Pierce and John Hovick, who currently represent Martin County, will expire on September 30, 2010. The South Central Minnesota Multi-County HRA is requesting the reappointment of Pierce and Hovick, or the appointment of new commissioners to fill these positions on the South Central Minnesota Multi-County HRA Board of Directors.

Motion by Commissioner Boler, seconded by Commissioner Potter, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve and authorize the reappointment of Steve Pierce and John Hovick to the South Central Minnesota Multi-County HRA Board of Directors with term beginning October 1, 2010 and term ending September 30, 2011. Carried unanimously.

Higgins stated Doug Landsteiner, Martin County Veterans Service Officer is requesting approval for out of state travel to Grand Rapids, Michigan on August 11-13, 2010 to pick up and drive the new Sprinter Van back to Fairmont. Travel expenses will include transportation, meals, and lodging.

Motion by Commissioner Potter, seconded by Commissioner Pierce, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve and authorize the out of state travel request for Doug Landsteiner to travel to Grand Rapids, Michigan on August 11-13 to pick up and drive the new VSO sprinter van back to Fairmont, Minnesota; and includes transportation, meals, and lodging expenses not to exceed \$900.00. Carried unanimously.

Higgins presented his request for out of state travel to attend the Rural Public & Intercity Transportation Conference October 24-27, 2010 in Burlington, Vermont. Higgins stated that a scholarship request in the amount of \$1,500.00 has been submitted to Mn/DOT's Rural Transit Assistance Program for airfare, meals, accommodations, and registration fee in the amount of \$1,500.00.

Motion by Commissioner Boler, seconded by Commissioner Potter, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve and authorize the out of state travel request for Scott Higgins to attend the Rural Public & Intercity Transportation Conference October 24-27, 2010 in Burlington, Vermont. Carried unanimously.

Higgins stated Employee Recognition Day will be held on Tuesday, September 21st, 2010 beginning at 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and recommends closing county offices during that time so all employees may attend the recognition program.

Motion by Commissioner Donnelly, seconded by Commissioner Boler, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve the annual employee recognition day to be held on September 21, 2010 and to approve and authorize the closing of all county offices, including the County Library System, with the exception of Law Enforcement (due to the nature of work) from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 21st, 2010 so all county employees may attend the annual Employee Recognition Program. Carried unanimously.

Higgins continued requesting that a date and time be set for a CY2011 Preliminary Budget Workshop.

Consensus of the Board is to set a CY2011 Preliminary Budget Workshop immediately following the next regular Board of Commissioners meeting on Tuesday, August 17th, 2010 in the Commissioners Board Room. Carried unanimously.

Commissioners reviewed the CY2010 Second Quarter Budget Report and MCIT Dividend Report.

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

Motion by Commissioner Donnelly, seconded by Commissioner Potter, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve and authorize per diems and expenses for Commissioners to attend the AMC Leadership Summit to be held August 11-13, 2010 in Walker, Minnesota. Carried unanimously.

With no further business to wit, Motion by Commissioner Pierce, seconded by Commissioner Donnelly, to adjourn the meeting. Carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 10:56 a.m.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MARTIN COUNTY, MN

Dan Schmidtke, Board Chair

ATTEST: _____
Scott Higgins, County Coordinator