

PROCEEDINGS OF THE  
MARTIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 17, 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 Pierce, Donnelly, Boler, and Potter. Also present were Scott Higgins, Martin County Coordinator, James Forshee, Martin County Auditor/Treasurer, Kevin Peyman, Martin County Highway Engineer, Terry Viesselman, Martin County Attorney, Jennifer Brookens, Sentinel Newspaper, Julie Walters, Administrative Assistant, 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 with the following addition: 8.9 Consider FY2011 Minnesota Trails Capital Improvement Grant Agreement – Blizzard Snowmobile Club. 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 July 6, 2010; July 20, 2010; and August 3, 2010 regular Board of Commissioners meetings. Carried unanimously.

Tim Penny, Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation (SMIF) President & CEO, was present to review the Foundation's contributions and assistance to various organizations and businesses in Martin County. Penny stated the Foundation is primarily an Economic Development Foundation working in the 20 county region in south central and south eastern Minnesota for approximately 25 years. Penny went on to state that in that course of time the Foundation has made well over \$40 million dollars worth of investments into this region. Penny noted the Foundation's key focus areas are Emerging Business including Bio Business; and the Emerging Workforce including Early Childhood Education and Career Exploration. In Martin County, the Foundation has provided financial assistance to many various projects in the county. Penny stated that historically Martin County has included the Foundation in the County's budget and asks for consideration in 2011.

The Board thanked Penny for his report.

Terry Viesselman, Martin County Attorney, was present and stated that overall crime in Martin County has been down in 2010; however, it has picked up a bit over the summer months. Viesselman went on to state that Martin County will have another sexual predator commitment in the future with the potential of a second. The County Attorney's Office is seeking timely filings of the commitments to save the County excess expenses.

Kevin Peyman, Martin County Highway Engineer, presented a Highway Department Update including a review of State Aid Allotments from 2001 to 2010. Peyman reviewed a summary of the allotments showing all the counties in the district including District 7 totals, and then the total state aid allotment totals for the state that goes to counties. In 2001 and 2002, Martin County is the 5<sup>th</sup> highest in allotment in the district. In 2010, Martin County is the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest in the district allotment; an increase of \$742,000 or 23% from 2002 to 2010. Peyman noted the counties of Blue Earth, Nicollet, and LeSueur are the only counties close to what Martin County has received and are what he considers growth counties due to fringe areas of the metro. Peyman noted the state aid funding is comprised of new vehicle sales tax, license tab fees, and gas tax, and can only be spent on county state aid highways, not on county gravel roads State Highways (ie Highway 15 or Highway 4).

Peyman next requested approval to purchase a used loader. Peyman stated the department's older 1991 Caterpillar Loader has 6,000 hours on it and is pushing 20 years old. The loader is beginning to have multiple problems, is losing power, and is not as reliable as it should be. A new loader runs approximately \$230,000. Peyman went on to state the Minneapolis Airport has a 2005 Caterpillar 950G Loader with 1500 hours on it at a cost of \$102,000 after trade in. After inspection, the loader is said to be in excellent shape and the bucket doesn't have a scratch on it. Peyman noted that approximately every five years, the Airport rotates out a number of fairly new model loaders. Peyman went on to note the Highway Department contacted some other dealers about used loaders; but didn't find anything comparable. While this item is not budgeted for, Peyman recommends purchasing the used loader for \$102,000 now and recoup some of the cost with less equipment purchases next year with the balance taken out of Highway fund balances.

Motion by Commissioner Boler, seconded by Commissioner Potter, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, upon the recommendation of the County Engineer, hereby approve the purchase of a used 2005 Caterpillar 950G Loader in the amount of \$153,000.00 less trade in of Unit #40 for \$51,000.00 from the Minneapolis Airport to be paid for out of Highway Fund Balances. Carried unanimously.

Peyman continued the Highway Department is also looking into the purchase of a tractor mounted snow blower at an approximate cost of \$20,000; and trade-in or sell the 1999 loader mounted blower. More information will be provided at a future Board meeting.

Peyman stated the Highway Department has accepted the resignation of Steve Hungerholt, effective August 27, 2010 and asks the Board to do the same; and recommends advertising and recruitment to fill the vacancy of the Building Maintenance Technician position with the Martin County Highway Department.

Motion by Commissioner Pierce, seconded by Commissioner Boler, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby accept the resignation of Steve Hungerholt, Building Maintenance Technician for the Martin County Highway Department effective August 27, 2010; and authorize advertising and recruitment to fill

the vacancy of the Building Maintenance Technician position with the Martin County Highway Department. Carried unanimously.

Commissioner Pierce inquired if Martin County was awarded the ARRA grant monies for the installation of replacement and new energy efficient lighting at the Martin County Highway Department.

Peyman stated that it does not look like Martin County was awarded any of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding through the Minnesota Office of Economic Security for the installation of replacement and new energy efficient lighting at the Martin County Highway Department office and shop areas. However, Peyman went on to state that he is in the process of putting some numbers together for the purchase and installation of replacement and new energy efficient lighting anyway due to energy cost savings. Peyman will proceed with his proposal and present it to the Martin County Building and Purchasing Committee.

The Board discussed dates and times for the annual Road and Tax Forfeited Land Tour in order to put values on tax forfeited land in the County.

Motion by Commissioner Donnelly, seconded by Commissioner Potter, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby set the annual Road and Tax Forfeited Land Tour for Monday, August 30, 2010 beginning at 7:00 a.m. at The Ranch Restaurant in Fairmont, MN. Carried unanimously.

Scott Higgins, Martin County Coordinator, stated the County has received quotes for renewal of Martin County's voluntary employee long term disability plan and recommends switching from Assurant to The Hartford Company due to lower bid rates received from The Hartford Company, which are guaranteed for three (3) years. After review and discussion,

Motion by Commissioner Boler, seconded by Commissioner Donnelly, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, after careful review of the bid quotes for voluntary employee long term disability plan coverage, hereby approve and accept the bid received from The Hartford Company; and authorize the Board Chair and/or its designee to sign all necessary documents with The Hartford Company, guaranteed for three (3) years, effective January 1, 2011; and to offer to all eligible employees. Carried unanimously.

Higgins presented the annual resolution for public transportation service in Martin County. Higgins stated the projected operation budget for CY2011 is \$558,372 which is an approximate 3.8% increase over the CY2010 request; and noted that the actual approved budget for CY2010 was \$538,000. Higgins went on to state that Martin County is required to provide for 15% of all operational costs and 20% of all capital costs. Capital items included in the CY2011 budget are: one bus replacement at a projected cost of \$68,000; and an approximate 150 ft x 50 ft concrete apron at the Transit Facility at a projected cost of \$25,000.

Motion by Commissioner Pierce, seconded by Commissioner Potter,

R-#30/10

RESOLUTION  
MARTIN COUNTY TRANSIT SYSTEM  
CY2011

BE IT RESOLVED, that Martin County, MN enters into an Agreement with the State of Minnesota to provide public transportation service in Martin County, MN.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Martin County, MN agrees to provide a local share of fifteen percent (15%) of the total operating cost and twenty percent (20%) of the total capital costs for CY2011.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Martin County, MN authorizes the Chairman of the Martin County Board of Commissioners or the Martin County Coordinator to execute the aforementioned Agreement and any amendments thereto.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board Chairman or the County Coordinator is authorized to execute requests for reimbursement to the Minnesota Department of Transportation. Dated this 17<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2010.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MARTIN COUNTY, MN

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dan Schmidtke, Board Chair

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Scott Higgins, County Coordinator

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution is a true and correct copy of the resolution presented to and adopted by the Martin County Board of Commissioners at a duly authorized meeting thereof held on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2010 as shown by the minutes of said meeting in my possession.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Scott Higgins, County Coordinator

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

NAYS: None. Resolution duly passed and adopted this 17<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2010.

Steve McDonald, MIS Director, presented a request to purchase two scanners and two licenses from Crabtree Companies in the amount of \$7,023.56. McDonald stated one of

the scanners will be used in the Coordinator's Office and the other will be housed at present in the MIS Office and will be loaned out to other county offices for use as needed in order to scan documents into the County's document imaging management system (Laserfiche).

Motion by Commissioner Potter, seconded by Commissioner Boler, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, after receiving and reviewing the quote from Crabtree Companies, Inc. (Laserfiche) for scanner and required license and maintenance support in the amount of \$7,023.56, hereby approve the purchase of two scanners from Crabtree Companies, Inc, and required licenses for the Coordinator's Office and MIS Department. Carried unanimously.

Higgins stated the Department of Natural Resources Minnesota Trails Assistance Program has awarded the Prairieland Trail a Capital Improvement Grant for FY2011 in the amount of \$5,100 to be used for Center Creek Bridge Refurbish on snowmobile trails. The effective date of this grant is August 25, 2010 through June 30, 2012.

Motion by Commissioner Pierce, seconded by Commissioner Donnelly,

R-#31/'10

## RESOLUTION

### Minnesota Snowmobile Trail Assistance Program FY2011 Capital Improvement Grant Agreement

WHEREAS, this Agreement is made between the State of Minnesota and Martin County as it relates to the establishment of the Prairieland Trail; and

WHEREAS, Martin County desires to establish, construct and rehabilitate public trails; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Trails Assistance Program provides Capital Improvement grants to local units of government for construction and maintenance of recreational trails pursuant to the Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 84.83; and

WHEREAS, the Blizzard Snowmobile Club on behalf of Martin County has submitted the Capital Improvement application and resolution by the local government authorizing the proposed trails; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Martin County Board of Commissioners approve and authorize Board Chair and Auditor/Treasurer to sign the Minnesota Snowmobile Trail Assistance Program FY2011 Capital Improvement Grant Agreement in the amount of \$5,100.

Motion by Commissioner Potter, seconded by Commissioner Boler, was duly passed and adopted this 17<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2010.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MARTIN COUNTY, MN

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Dan Schmidtke, Board Chair

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Scott Higgins, County Coordinator

Roll Call AYES: Commissioners Potter Boler, Donnelly, Pierce, and Schmidtke.  
NAYS: None. Resolution duly passed and adopted this 17<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2010.

Deb Mosloski, Drainage Administration, presented her recommendation to order the redetermination of and appoint viewers for JD #49. After discussion by the Drainage Authority,

Motion by Commissioner Potter, seconded by Commissioner Donnelly,

R-#29/'10

ORDER REDETERMINATION OF JD #49  
AND APPOINTING VIEWERS

WHEREAS, the Martin County Board of County Commissioners hereby determines that the original benefits or damages determined in drainage proceedings for Martin County Ditch No. 49 do not reflect present day land values or that the benefited or damaged areas have changed.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED, that:

Ron Ringquist  
402 Valley View Dr.  
Redwood Falls, MN 56283

Brad Hinrichsen  
d/b/a Hinrichsen Appraisal LLC  
53097 100<sup>th</sup> Street  
Blue Earth, MN 56013

Milow Holland  
64532 400<sup>th</sup> Street  
Butterfield, MN 56120

Alternate: Charles Bowers  
78799 335<sup>th</sup> St.  
Madelia, MN 56062

Three disinterested residents of the state, be and hereby are appointed viewers to redetermine and report the benefits and damages and the benefited and damaged areas of Martin County Ditch No. 49.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that the viewers, after taking an oath to faithfully perform their duties as viewers and, after having received from the County Drainage Office (Auditor/Treasurer), certified copies of the order appointing them as viewers and of the order designating the time and place of their first meeting, proceed with their work as such viewers pursuant to law and make and file their report with the Auditor at the earliest possible date.

Upon motion by Commissioner Potter, seconded by Commissioner Donnelly, and unanimously carried, said resolution was duly passed and adopted this 17<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2010.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MARTIN COUNTY, MN

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Dan Schmidtke, Board Chair

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Scott Higgins, County Coordinator

Roll Call AYES: Commissioners Pierce, Boler, Donnelly, Potter, and Schmidtke.  
NAYS: None. Resolution duly passed and adopted this 17<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2010.

Mosloski updated the Board regarding the final hearing on the JD #47 Improvement Project. Mosloski stated that in a recent conversation with Kevin Bittner, Project Engineer with Bolton & Menk, Inc. The final hearing can't be held until it is approved by the Engineer, and the Engineer can't approve the final until all work is complete, and the work won't be completed until the crops in the areas affected are out this year.

Joseph (Joe) E. Brown, Sr., Superintendent of Fairmont Area Schools-ISD No. 2752 was present and introduced himself to the Board.

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

Warrants Received and paid August 17, 2010 are registered on file in the Auditor/Treasurer's Office as follows:

Revenue Fund – Warrants Approved August 17, 2010	\$187,414.70
Enhanced 9-1-1 Fund	\$ 10.53
Recreation and Safety Fund	\$ 3,062.78
Martin Co. Economic Development Authority	\$ 258.00
Solid Waste Management Fund	\$ 16,931.18
Law Library Fund	\$ 3,210.56
Martin County Transit Fund	\$ 44,729.47
County Attorney's Forfeiture	\$ 17.52
Recorder's Technology	\$ 5,000.00
Ind. Sewage Treatment Sys. Loan Fd (ISTS)	\$ 21,867.41
Bank Building Fund	\$ 5,453.78
Debt Service Fund	\$ 53,621.25
Forfeited Tax Fund	\$ 990.54
	<u>          </u>
Total	\$342,567.72
Road and Bridge Funds Totaled	\$324,134.87
Martin County Ditch Fund – Warrants Totaled	\$ 35,955.02

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

Higgins reviewed the top five priorities identified at the recent strategic planning session. The top Five Priority Areas are: Increase/Expand Use of Technology; Increase Cross County and Regionalization/Collaborative Efforts; Continue Economic Development Authority (EDA) in the county; Public Relations; and to create internal Efficiencies within the county's offices. Higgins stated all areas need to be addressed and is hopeful in the next five years Martin County can accomplish something in each of the priority areas.

Commissioners reflected on the major impacts in economic development Martin County has seen over the last few years with the two ethanol plants, wind farms, and bean processing plant. Commissioners suggest drafting a letter to the Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) outlining the many economic development accomplishments in Martin County for recognition at the December conference, in addition to submitting award applications.

The Board recessed at 10:46 a.m.  
The Board reconvened at 10:49 a.m.

James Forshee and Scott Higgins reviewed the preliminary departmental budget request with the Board stating that the initial request was an 11.9% increase over CY2010. This increase equates to a total levy of \$11,504,818 or a \$1,220,343 increase over the CY2010 levy. Total requested expenditures of \$19,993,659 and total revenues (excluding levy) of

\$9,183,376. Forshee stated that there are levy limits placed on cities and counties this year and we have projected the levy limit to be \$10,768,655. There was continued discussion and review of various departmental budget requests. After further review and discussion, by consensus of the Board, there were a number of reductions to Depts. and added revenue that reduced the preliminary budget by \$464,450.

Consensus of the Board is to set a second CY2011 Preliminary Budget Workshop at noon on Wednesday, August 25, 2010 in the Commissioners Board Room.

With no further business to wit, Board Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 11:41 a.m.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MARTIN COUNTY, MN

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Dan Schmidtke, Board Chair

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Scott Higgins, County Coordinator