

PROCEEDINGS OF THE
MARTIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 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 Boler, Potter, Pierce, and Donnelly. Also present were Scott Higgins, Martin County Coordinator, James Forshee, Martin County Auditor/Treasurer, Jennifer Brookens, Sentinel Newspaper, Kevin Peyman, Martin County Highway Engineer, Rod Halvorsen, KSUM/KFMC Radio, 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 with one deletion: Approval of Minutes of the September 7, 2010 regular Board of Commissioners meeting. Carried unanimously.

Motion by Commissioner Donnelly, seconded by Commissioner Potter, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve the minutes of the August 25, 2010 Special Budget Workshop meeting. Carried unanimously.

Kevin Peyman, Martin County Highway Engineer, requested the purchase of a tractor mounted snow blower to replace their current 1999 snow blower that mounts on a Loader. The Loader mounted snow blower doesn't get used as much, due to the need to be used to push back intersections; then there isn't a Loader available to mount the snow blower on. With the purchase of a tractor mounted snow blower, we'd be able to have both Loaders going plus we would have the tractor mounted blower going, so we would actually gain the use of the snow blower and loader at the same time. The cost of a Pronovost tractor mounted blower, same make that Mn/DOT uses on all of theirs, is \$23,666.00 plus tax. Peyman stated he believes they can actually get the price down an additional \$3,000 if a less expensive chute is found. Peyman went on to state the 1999 mounted snow blower will be sold and has a current value in the lower thirty thousand dollar range. Peyman noted one drawback is we do not currently have a tractor that we could use with the tractor mounted snow blower so some of the sale proceeds would need to go toward a tractor when needed. Peyman stated that in talking with a local tractor dealers, Case IH would offer to rent a tractor to the County that would be used for the snow blower for \$.20 per horsepower hour and would allow us to keep the tractor all winter at our shop; and if it never gets used all winter we wouldn't have the cost for renting it. But, if we do use it we'd just pay at the end of the winter for how many hours we put on. Peyman went on to note that in the future, two of the county's mower tractors will be replaced with a little bigger mower tractor so it could be used as both a mower tractor and a snow blower tractor. Peyman recommends the purchase of a new tractor mounted blower for a cost not to exceed \$23,666.00 plus tax; and also approve selling the

old loader mounted snow blower either by auction (including on-line auction) or negotiate with MNDOT.

Motion by Commissioner Boler, seconded by Commissioner Donnelly, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve and authorize the purchase of a Pronovost Model P-1040 TRC Tractor Mounted Snow Blower in an amount not to exceed \$23,666.00 plus tax; and approve selling Unit #82 (1999 Used Loader Mounted Snow Blower with 55 hours). Carried unanimously.

Commissioner Donnelly congratulated Peyman on his innovative thinking.

Peyman presented a brief Highway Department update including frost boil fix on Northrop/Granada road; and that the scheduled paving project is due to start soon and will take approximately ten days.

Scott Higgins, Martin County Coordinator, stated the Blizzard Snowmobile Club has been awarded \$40,579.80 from the Department of Natural Resources for the maintenance of the Prairieland snowmobile trail and asked for board approval.

Motion by Commissioner Potter, seconded by Commissioner Pierce,

R-#33/'10

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING
FY2011 SNOWMOBILE MAINTENANCE GRANT AGREEMENT
FOR PRAIRIELAND TRAIL

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 maintain public trails; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Trails Assistance Program provides grants to local units of government for the 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 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 the Board Chair and/or Auditor/Treasurer to sign the Minnesota Trail Assistance Program FY2011 Grant Agreement in the amount of \$40,459.80 with an effective date of September 25, 2010 and expiration date of June 30, 2011.

Motion by Commissioner Potter, seconded by Commissioner Pierce, and was duly passed and adopted this 21st day of September, 2010.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MARTIN COUNTY, MN

Dan Schmidtke, Board Chair

ATTEST: _____
Scott Higgins, County Coordinator

Roll Call AYES: Commissioners Boler, Donnelly, Pierce, Potter, and Schmidtke.
NAYS: None. Resolution duly passed and adopted this 21st day of September 2010.

Commissioner Boler stated that a recent resignation on the Martin County Economic Development Authority Commission leaves an opening to fill for the balance of a three year term expiring December 31, 2012. Boler asked fellow Commissioners for suggestions to fill the Commissioner District One opening.

No action taken on appointment to the Martin County Economic Development Authority Commission.

Kathy Smith, Director – Martin County Soil and Water Conservation District, presented the Natural Resources Block Grant (NRBG) agreement effective July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2012. After review and consideration:

Motion by Commissioner Boler, seconded by Commissioner Potter,

R-#34/'10

RESOLUTION

BOARD OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES NATURAL RESOURCES BLOCK GRANT FOR FY2011:

WHEREAS, Martin County has a State approved comprehensive local water plan, which has been locally adopted pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Chapter 103B; and

WHEREAS, Martin County may assess a levy under its general levy authority to match such grants by BWSR pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 103B.335;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Martin County Board of Commissioners approves of Martin County entering into a Grant Agreement with the State of Minnesota to receive state funds for the implementation of its comprehensive local water plans in the amount of \$13,466; the administration of the wetland

conservation act in the amount of \$8,630; administration of the DNR shoreland program in the amount of \$2,973; MPCA County Feedlot Base Grant in the amount of \$44,525; and MPCA County Feedlot Performance Grant in the amount of \$2,832; BWSR/MPCA SSTS Base Grant in the amount of \$9,931; and MPCA SSTS Educational Stipend in the amount of \$1,500; with total grant amount of \$83,857 under the terms of the Grant Agreement and all statutory requirements; and

THAT THE Martin County Board of Commissioners authorizes the expenditure of cash and in-kind contributions to match the Natural Resources Block Grant as specified in Laws of Minnesota and the Grant Agreement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the Chairperson of the Martin County Board of Commissioners and the County Auditor or County Coordinator is authorized to execute the Grant Agreement together with all related documents.

Motion was made by Commissioner Boler, seconded by Commissioner Potter, and was duly passed and adopted this 21st day of September, 2010.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MARTIN COUNTY, MN

Dan Schmidtke, Board Chair

ATTEST: _____
Scott Higgins, County Coordinator

Roll Call AYES: Commissioners Pierce, Donnelly, Potter, Boler, and Schmidtke.
NAYS: None. Resolution duly passed and adopted this 21st day of September, 2010.

Smith next presented an Amendment to the 2010 AgBMP Loan Program allocation. The Amendment to Attachment A reflects a \$103,949 net increase to the Multi-Lender System for a total budget of \$177,949. The new dollar amount budgeted is scheduled to be loaned for Ag Waste Management and Conservation Tillage Equipment. The original budget was \$74,000 which \$55,000 had been loaned from the original agreement. Funds are to be committed to projects by December 31, 2010 or used by April 30, 2011.

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 Amendment to Attachment A of the 2010 AgBMP Loan Agreement for a total budget of \$177,949; a net increase of \$103,949 from the original 2010 agreement of \$74,000 to the Multi-Lender System; and to be loaned for the categories as listed in the Amendment. Carried unanimously.

Smith concluded with an invitation for the Board to attend the Water Plan meeting on Thursday, September 30th. Smith noted the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil

Resources will be reviewing the District's findings at 5:00 p.m. and the County's findings at 7:00 p.m.

Higgins stated that due to budget concerns, the County is looking to use existing staff to conduct feedlot inspections. As a result, the County will need to revise the existing Feedlot Inspections Service Agreement with Independent Contractor – Jerry Voyles. The Personnel Committee has met with Mr. Voyles, and is recommending the following changes to the Agreement.

- Three year agreement period effective January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2012 (Voyles has requested an additional year through 2013).
- The inspection fee will remain at the current level of \$250.00 per inspection.
- Up to 60 inspections per year, not to exceed \$15,000 per year, unless additional inspections are otherwise agreed upon by both the County and the Independent Contractor.

After careful review,

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 Feedlot Inspections Service Agreement between Martin County and Jerry Voyles as an Independent Contractor to perform Annual Feedlot Inspections for Martin County effective the calendar years of 2010 – 2012 in the amount of \$250 per inspection, up to 60 inspections per year; and not to exceed \$15,000 per year, unless additional inspections and payments are otherwise agreed upon by the County and the Independent Contractor. Carried unanimously.

Deb Mosloski, Martin County Drainage Administration, stated she has received word from Ron Ringquist, Ditch Viewer for Martin County, that we will be receiving the final reports for JD #116 (Martin County 89.43%, Blue Earth County 10.07%, and Faribault County .447%) and JD #82 (Martin County 83% and Blue Earth County 17%); and JD #6 and CD #59 (which are only in Martin County but the systems are in the same area as JD #82 and JD #116). Because the farmers are in the fields harvesting and doing fall work, Ringquist would like to have the landowner meetings the first week in November and the actual final hearing the second week in November. Mosloski suggested considering several dates since three counties are involved.

Commissioners suggested the dates of November 8th, 9th, and 10th and for Mosloski to check what dates work best for the other counties; and to see when the Truman Community Building is available.

No action taken on setting a public hearing date for various Joint County and County Ditches.

Diana Madsen, Community Options Advocate with Second Harvest Heartland, stated Second Harvest is a nonprofit food bank located in St. Paul. We actually have a service area of the Twin Cities metro area most of west central and southwest Minnesota. And

so we partner with food shelves, community dining sites, soup kitchens, and so forth that serve low income residents and we distribute food that is donated to us. So that's the primary focus of our work. Right now we are actually starting a new initiative to take a look at working with communities to end hunger. And so what I wanted to share with you today, statistics for Martin County related to hunger among low income residents. The estimated 2009 population in Martin County was around 21,000. The number of people in the 185% of the federal poverty guidelines in Martin County was about 5,649 people. Martin County has a missing meals gap of 19% or over a million meals compared to a state average of 12%. And when you take a look at the number of people that are enrolled in food supports 1,440 people are enrolled as of 2009 statistics in Martin County but there's an eligible 2900 and so we have a 49% participation rate.

The reason I bring this data to you is that I believe it is time to convene a broad cross-section of leaders to begin discussing long term strategies to bring food security to our low income neighbors, friends, and relatives in Martin County; focusing on improving the access to emergency food within the County, increasing the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) participation within the County and add federal dollars into the local economy, and to increase the underused public nutrition program particularly focusing on summer feeding programs.

Madsen asked if he Board would consider appointing a liaison to attend the meetings and support the efforts of Second Harvest Heartland.

Commissioner Boler stated that a goal of this meeting should be to get Martin County, one of the richest Agriculture counties in the country, to get off this 25% of people not getting the right amount of food.

Commissioner Schmidtke informed Madsen that someone will be at the meeting.

Steve Enderle, Swine Specialist for Crystal Valley Co-op in LaSalle, MN, was present and provided information on Operation Main Street; a community outreach effort to educate people in the State of Minnesota about advances in the pork industry and what they mean to the state's economy, jobs, economic development and the environment. Enderle's presentation takes a look at modern pork production; an industry that has changed more in the last 30 years than any other sector of animal agriculture. Today, the Minnesota pork industry contributes \$6 billion to the state's economy annually and employs 22,500 workers. Enderle touched on how the pork industry has changed; modern pork production; the economic impact of the pork industry; pork's leadership in the global food marketplace; critical issues for the pork industry; and the future of the pork industry.

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 September, 2010 as presented; and includes the Martin County Highway Department as presented.

Warrants Received and paid September 21, 2010 are registered on file in the Auditor/Treasurer's Office as follows:

Revenue Fund – Warrants Approved September 21, 2010	\$ 99,994.55
Park & Recreation Fund	\$ 14,433.40
Enhanced 9-1-1 Fund	\$ 5,809.80
Recreation and Safety Fund	\$ 102.43
Martin County Economic Development Authority	\$ 695.00
Solid Waste Management Fund	\$ 17,929.08
Law Library	\$ 2,284.60
Martin County Transit Fund	\$ 43,718.54
Ind. Sewage Treatment Sys. Loan FD (ISTS)	\$ 47,085.73
Building – CIP – Fund	\$ 27,930.77
Bank Building Fund	\$ 2,460.77
Total	\$262,444.67
Road and Bridge Funds Totaled	\$165,598.73
Martin County Ditch Fund – Warrants Totaled	\$ 19,638.00

Motion by Commissioner Donnelly, seconded by Commissioner Boler, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby move into a closed session per Minnesota Statutes 13D.03 at 10:08 a.m. Carried unanimously.

Those present were Commissioners Potter, Pierce, Schmidtke, Donnelly, and Boler. Also present were Scott Higgins, Martin County Coordinator, James Forshee, Martin County Auditor/Treasurer, and Julie Walters, Administrative Assistant.

Motion by Commissioner Pierce, seconded by Commissioner Potter, to go back into open session at 10:20 a.m. Carried unanimously.

No action taken on discussion of Union negotiation strategies.

The Board reviewed the South Central Service Cooperative's September 1, 2010 meeting summary; and invitation to Red Rock Center's Five Year Anniversary Celebration; and draft Legislative Letter of Support in obtaining federal funding to help pay for the construction of a new water plant for the City of Fairmont.

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

Higgins and the Board of Commissioners discussed obtaining quotes for waste collection; Martin County Economic Development Commission Authority's DEED Grant; and the possibility of Martin County hosting an upcoming Soil and Water meeting for the Minnesota River Board.

With no further business to wit, Board Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MARTIN COUNTY, MN

Dan Schmidtke, Board Chair

ATTEST: _____
Scott Higgins, County Coordinator