

PROCEEDINGS OF THE  
MARTIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 16, 2011  
@ 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 Steve Pierce.

Commissioners present were Boler, Potter, Schmidtke, and Donnelly. Also present were James Forshee, Martin County Auditor/Treasurer, Terry Viesselman, Martin County Attorney, Jennifer Brookens, Sentinel Newspaper, Kevin Peyman, Martin County Highway Engineer, Julie Walters, Administrative Assistant, and members of staff and public.

Motion by Commissioner Schmidtke, seconded by Commissioner Boler, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve the agenda with the following additions: 8.11 Consider Supplemental Boating Safety Grant Resolution & Agreement – Sheriff’s Office; 9.2 Consider Resolution Order Fixing Ditch Repair and Maintenance Levies and Assessments on JD #7 M&F for 2010; delete 3.1 Consider August 2, 2011 regular Board of Commissioners meeting minutes; and correct 8.8 Consider Acceptance of FY2012 Enhancement Grant – Veterans Service Office. Carried unanimously.

Terry Viesselman, Martin County Attorney, was present and stated the County Attorney’s Office is receiving training for ECharging, the electronic processing of citations, criminal complaints, incident referrals, and DWI administrative forms services. Viesselman noted that the County Attorney’s Office, along with the Martin County Sheriff’s Office and Fairmont Police Department, will be able to submit everything electronically by the end of the week.

Kevin Peyman, Martin County Highway Engineer, presented a department update including schedule of summer maintenance gravel hauling; and that is a year’s time the Highway Department hauls between 50,000 and 60,000 ton of gravel.

Commissioner Pierce presented and introduced a resolution approving personal property tax exemption for Southern Minnesota Municipal Power Agency (SMMPA). On March 15, 2011 the Martin County Board of Commissioners adopted a resolution supporting SMMPA’s request for legislation exempting the Fairmont Energy Center from personal property tax. As a result of that resolution and similar resolution from the City of Fairmont, the legislation passed. Fairmont Energy Station now qualifies for the exemption. SMMPA now requests support of a resolution confirming that the Board continues to support Fairmont Energy Station and its exemption from personal property taxation under that legislation.

Motion by Commissioner Donnelly, seconded by Commissioner Potter,

RESOLUTION  
APPROVING PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION PROVIDED BY  
MINNESOTA STATUTES 2010, SECTION 272.02, AS AMENDED BY FIRST  
SPECIAL SESSION LAWS 2011, CHAPTER 7, ARTICLE 5, SECTION 4, AND THE  
APPLICATION OF THE EXEMPTION TO A FACILITY OF SOUTHERN  
MINNESOTA MUNICIPAL POWER AGENCY WITHIN THE CITY OF FAIRMONT  
AND COUNTY OF MARTIN

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes 2010, Section 272.02, as amended by First Special Session Laws 2011, Chapter 7, Article 5, Section 4 (“Statute”), provides for the exemption from property taxation of attached machinery and other personal property that is part of an electric generation facility (“Facility”) that satisfies certain requirements provided by the Statute, provided that the exemption is approved by the governing bodies of the city and county in which the Facility is located; and

WHEREAS, Southern Minnesota Municipal Power Agency proposes to construct a Facility located within the City of Fairmont and County of Martin that satisfies the requirements provided by the Statute (“Proposed Facility”); and

WHEREAS, the Martin County Board of Commissioners, on March 15, 2011, adopted a resolution, a copy of which is attached hereto, supporting the enactment of the Statute and its application to the Proposed Facility;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Martin County Board of Commissioners, that the exemption of personal property provided by the Statute, and its application to the Proposed Facility (if the requirements provided by the Statute are satisfied), are hereby approved.

Motion by Commissioner Donnelly, seconded by Commissioner Potter, said resolution was duly passed and adopted this 16<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2011.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MARTIN COUNTY, MINNESOTA

\_\_\_\_\_  
Steve Pierce, Board Chair

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

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

NAYS: None. Resolution duly passed and adopted this 16<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2011.

Mike Humpal, City of Fairmont Assistant Administrator, was present and stated he has had conversations with Scott Higgins regarding grants for the Martin County Express

public transit system and wanted to discuss his thoughts on the process and make sure the Board understood that the City of Fairmont is in full support of the County applying to those grants and making public transit more available; especially in the establishment of some Park and Ride routes to some of our local area industry. Humpal went on to state we've got a lot of people working over in Jackson and Blue Earth and with gas prices the way they if we get something like this going it would be a real benefit not only to those employers but to local employees as well. Humpal noted that overall I think the more we look at our transit the more we should start looking at routes for our community. Humpal went on to note that he has been working with Scott Higgins and Commissioner Pierce off and on for a few months and put out a survey to area industries about the Park and Ride routes and the industries seem very supportive of this. I wanted to let the Board of Commissioners know that I think there is industry support for this project and there certainly is from the City of Fairmont.

Motion by Commissioner Donnelly, seconded by Commissioner Potter,

R-#35/'11

RESOLUTION  
JARC (Job Access and Reverse Commute)  
CY2012

BE IT RESOLVED, that Martin County, MN enters into an Agreement with the State of Minnesota to receive a Section 5316 (Job Access and Reverse Commute – JARC) grant to improve access to transportation services to employment and employment-related activities for welfare recipients and eligible low-income individuals.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Martin County, MN agrees to provide a local share of 20% of net capital costs for JARC Capital, Planning and Marketing projects, and 50% of net operating costs for JARC operating projects.

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 County Coordinator is authorized to execute requests for reimbursement to the Minnesota Department of Transportation.

Dated this 16<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2011.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MARTIN COUNTY, MN

\_\_\_\_\_  
Steve Pierce, 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 16<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2011 as shown by the minutes of said meeting in my possession.

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

Roll Call AYES: Commissioners Potter, Schmidtke, Donnelly, Boler, and Pierce.  
NAYS: None. Resolution duly passed and adopted this 16<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2011.

James Forshee, Martin County Auditor/Treasurer, stated that Gofer Landfill is owned by Martin County is the subject of a Landfill Cleanup Agreement between the County and the Commissioner of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA). The MPCA used proceeds from the sale of State general obligation bonds for capital costs of environmental response actions that MPCA undertook at the Landfill beginning in 2004 and again in 2005. In order to assure that the requirements of Minn. Stat. 16A.695 and the Order are carried out with respect to all State Bond Financed Property, the Minnesota Management and Budget (MMB) Commissioner requires that a Declaration be recorded on the property records indicating that any sale of the property may be subject to the MMB Commissioner's approval. Because two separate bond appropriations were used to pay for the environmental response actions, two Declarations must be signed and recorded. Forshee noted that the County Attorney has reviewed the Declarations and approves them as to content and form.

Motion by Commissioner Schmidtke, seconded by Commissioner Boler, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve and authorize Board Chair to sign the State of Minnesota General Obligation Bond Financed Property Declarations for Gofer Landfill Restricted Property legally described as Lot 6, Section 6, Township 103 North, Range 30 West of the Fifth Principal Meridian; and that the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency will provide for the recording of the Declarations. Carried unanimously.

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.

Consensus of the Board is to set the annual Road and Tax Forfeited Land Tour for Thursday, September 1, 2011 beginning at 7:00 a.m. at The Ranch Restaurant in Fairmont, MN. Carried unanimously.

Forshee presented the annual resolution for public transportation service in Martin County. Forshee stated the projected operation budget for CY2012 is \$572,766.00 which is an approximate 2.5% increase over the CY2011 request (\$558,508.00); and noted that the actual approved budget for CY2011 was \$538,000. Forshee 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 CY2012 budget are: one bus replacement at a projected cost of \$74,000.00.

Motion by Commissioner Boler, seconded by Commissioner Donnelly,

R-#34/'11

RESOLUTION  
MARTIN COUNTY TRANSIT SYSTEM  
CY2012

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 CY2012.

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 16<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2011.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MARTIN COUNTY, MN

\_\_\_\_\_  
Steve Pierce, 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 16<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 Potter, Schmidtke, Donnelly, Boler, and Pierce.

NAYS: None. Resolution duly passed and adopted this 16<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2011.

Forshee stated the Martin County Veteran's Service Office has received notification that Martin County is eligible to receive a CVSO Operational Improvement Grant for FY2012 in the amount of \$2,800.00. Funds must be used to enhance the operations of the County Veteran's Service Office and should not be used to supplant or replace other funding.

Motion by Commissioner Schmidtke, seconded by Commissioner Potter,

R-#38/'11

RESOLUTION  
AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF  
COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE  
OPERATIONAL IMPROVEMENT GRANT

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Martin County Board of Commissioners that Martin County, MN, enter into the attached Grant Contract with the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs (MDVA) to conduct the following program: County Veterans Service Office Operational Improvement Grant Program. This grant must be used to enhance the operations of the County Veterans Service Office under Minn. Stat. 197.608 Subd. 4 (a), and should not be used to supplant or replace other funding.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Martin County Board of Commissioners, that Doug Landsteiner, Martin County Veterans Service Officer, and Board Chair, be authorized to execute the attached Grant Contract for the above-mentioned Program on behalf of Martin County, MN.

Motion by Commissioner Schmidtke, seconded by Commissioner Potter, said resolution was duly passed and adopted this 16<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2011.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MARTIN COUNTY, MN

---

Steve Pierce, Board Chair

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

STATE OF MINNESOTA

MARTIN COUNTY, MINNESOTA

I, Scott Higgins, do hereby certify that I am the custodian of the minutes of all proceedings had and held by the Martin County Board of Commissioners of Martin County, MN, that I have compared the above resolution with the original passed and adopted by the Martin County Board of Commissioners of Martin County, MN at a regular meeting thereof held on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2011 at 9:00 a.m., that the above constitutes a true and correct copy thereof, that the same has not been amended or rescinded and is in full force and effect.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto placed my hand and signature this 16<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2011, and have hereunto affixed the seal of the Martin County, MN.

---

Scott Higgins, County Coordinator

(SEAL)

Roll Call AYES: Commissioners Boler, Donnelly, Schmidtke, Potter, and Pierce.  
NAYS: None. Resolution duly passed and adopted this 16<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2011.

Forshee stated the terms of Steve Pierce and John Hovick, who currently represent Martin County and serve on the South Central Minnesota Multi-County HRA Board, will expire on September 30, 2011. The South Central Minnesota Multi-County HRA is asking if these individuals will be reappointed or if there will be the appointment of new commissioners to fill these positions on the South Central Minnesota Multi-County HRA Board of Directors.

Motion by Commissioner Schmidtke, seconded by Commissioner Potter, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve and authorize the re-appointment of Steve Pierce and John Hovick to the South Central Minnesota Multi-County HRA Board of Directors with term beginning October 1, 2011 and term ending September 30, 2012. Carried unanimously.

Commissioner Boler opened a brief discussion regarding citizen appointments to the Human Services Board and voting rights on financial matters.

Forshee reviewed CY2012 Preliminary Budget information and stated that with suggested reductions during the August 2, 2011 work session we are now at a 3.82% preliminary levy for CY2012. Forshee continued a preliminary levy needs to be established by September 15<sup>th</sup> with the final number due in December. After discussion,

Consensus is to set a second CY2012 Budget Workshop Date of September 6, 2011 after the regular Board of Commissioners meeting.

Forshee presented his request to assign Judicial County Ditch #350 to the new ditch system in Cedar Township. Forshee stated this new system is a joint ditch between Martin, Jackson, Cottonwood, and Watonwan counties, and all counties will refer to this system by the same number.

Motion by Commissioner Potter, seconded by Commissioner Schmidtke, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, acting as the Drainage Authority for Martin County, hereby assigns Joint County Ditch No. 350 to the new ditch system in Cedar Township named Cedar Run Creek. Carried unanimously.

Forshee stated that Ditch #9009 – JD #7 M&F was inadvertently omitted from the 2010 Resolution but was levied and proper notifications were sent as required.

Motion by Commissioner Schmidtke, seconded by Commissioner Boler,

R-#40/11

### **RESOLUTION**

#### **ORDER FIXING DITCH REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE LEVIES AND ASSESSMENTS ON COUNTY, JOINT COUNTY, AND JUDICIAL DITCHES OF MARTIN COUNTY, MN:**

WHEREAS, ditch repair and maintenance expenditures having been made, or to be made, on various County, Joint County, and Judicial Ditches located wholly or partly within Martin County, MN and it appearing that there are not sufficient funds to the credit of the ditches to finance said repairs and maintenance expenditures; therefore the Martin County Board of Commissioners do hereby, by resolution; levy and assess the following ditch fund accounts to pay for current expenditures for repairs and maintenance or to reimburse other funds where monies have been or will be loaned to the ditch fund, or for the designated purpose of payments on future repair and maintenance expenditures, and

WHEREAS, the various drainage system levy and assessments hereby made by the County Board of Commissioners shall be apportioned and assessed pro rata upon all lands, corporations, and municipalities which have participated in the total benefits theretofore determined; and such levy and assessments for repairs and maintenance of any one ditch system be limited in any one calendar year based upon pro rata percentage of the original calendar year based upon pro rata percentage of the original benefits of that particular drainage system thereof in Martin County, MN under the provisions of Minnesota Statutes Annotated 103-E.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Martin County Board of Commissioners of Martin County, MN that the following County, Joint County, and Judicial ditches hereby levied and assessed in the amounts so indicated as sufficient to take care of their obligations for repairs and maintenance heretofore made, or to be made, and equal installments be spread and made payable where necessary, with and made payable where necessary, with and as apart of the Real Estate Taxes in the indicated as follows, to-wit:

**DITCHES LEVIED FOR ONE YEAR PAYABLE 2011 :**

<b>NUMBER</b>	<b>DITCH</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
9009 **	JD #7 M & F	\$ 40,000.00

Upon motion by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_, and carried, said resolution was duly passed and adopted this 16th day of August, 2011.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Steven Pierce, Chairman**

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**James Forshee**  
**Martin County Auditor/Treasurer**

**\*\*The above drainage system was inadvertently omitted from the 2010 Resolution but levied and proper notifications sent as required. \*\***

Roll Call AYES: Commissioners Schmidtke, Potter, Boler, Donnelly, and Pierce.  
NAYS: None. Resolution duly passed and adopted this 16<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2011.

Forshee stated the Sheriff's Office has been granted a supplemental federal boating safety sub grant in the amount of \$4,958.00 to cover equipment and supply expenses incurred for boating safety activities. The effective date of the grant is July 21, 2011 and expires December 15, 2011.

Motion by Commissioner Potter, seconded by Schmidtke,

R-#39/'11

**R E S O L U T I O N**

**AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF BOATING SAFETY  
SUPPLEMENT GRANT AGREEMENT**

BE IT RESOLVED, that Martin County enter into a grant agreement with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources for the program entitled County Boat and Water Safety in the supplemental grant amount of \$4,958.00 to cover equipment and supply expenses incurred for boating safety activities effective July 21, 2011 and expires December 15, 2011.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Sheriff Jeff Markquart, Chairman of the Board of Commissioners Steve Pierce, and Auditor/Treasurer James Forshee, are hereby authorized to execute and sign such grant agreement on behalf of Martin County.

Motion made by Commissioner Potter, seconded by Commissioner Schmidtke, and duly adopted this 16<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2011.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MARTIN COUNTY, MN

---

Steve Pierce, Board Chair

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

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

NAYS: None. Resolution duly passed and adopted this 16<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2011.

Forshee presented warrants and Highway Department bills to be paid August 16, 2011. Forshee stated last month there was an invoice for trapping of beavers that was not paid and that same invoice in the amount of \$350.00 is included with this run of bills for consideration. Forshee reviewed replies from a number of counties regarding bounty's placed on beaver or current county policies. Counties that replied are paying anywhere from \$25 - \$75 for beaver removal with an average of \$50 per beaver; and some counties do not pay for removal. Forshee recommends paying the invoice owed for beaver trapping(s) and to draft a county policy to address future trapping(s) and if the county will pay for the trapping and removal, any necessary permits, and insurance coverage. After discussion,

Motion by Commission Schmidtke, seconded by Commissioner Potter, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve payment of claims for the month of August, 2011 as presented; and includes the Martin County Highway Department as presented.

Warrants Received and paid August 16, 2011 are registered on file in the Auditor/Treasurer's Office as follows:

Revenue Fund – Warrants Approved August 16, 2011	\$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
Total	\$342,567.72

Road and Bridge Funds Totaled	\$324,134.87
Martin County Ditch Fund – Warrants Totaled	\$ 35,955.02

The Board reviewed the CY2011 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Transit Budget Report; the Martin County EDA-IGNITE business Facilitation Final Performance Report FY11; and information gathered from other counties regarding beaver trapping(s).

Commissioners presented their Board member reports.

Commissioner Potter stated he attended the AMC Policy meetings August 3-4 and ARMER Radio meeting.

Commissioner Schmidtke stated that he attended the Park Board meeting at East Chain on August 10; and Prairieland on August 12.

Commissioner Boler stated that he attended a tile meeting on August 9<sup>th</sup>, the only thing different from the rest.

Commissioner Donnelly stated he attended the AMC Policy Committee meetings in St. Paul on August 4<sup>th</sup>; and Prairieland on August 12<sup>th</sup>.

Commissioner Pierce stated he attended an ARMER Radio meeting on Tuesday, August 9 regarding the radio upgrades and \$2 million dollars that Martin County will have to come up with.

Discussion on the ARMER Radio upgrades continued regarding bonding for the upgrade, new application for grant funding (Martin County was not granted funding on a previous grant application), and if the narrow band requirement is mandated.

Captain Corey Klanderud, Martin County Sheriff's Office, stated the Sheriff's Office is recommending the hire of Christopher Vasvick as full-time Deputy Sheriff for the Martin County Sheriff's Office. Klanderud noted this position would replace the full-time position vacant due to the retirement of Deputy Chuck Poppe. Klanderud went on to note that with Vasvick's four years of full-time experience it is our recommendation to hire him at the two year step with the starting wage at \$22.27/hour per LELS #136 Union Contract.

Motion by Commissioner Schmidtke, seconded by Commissioner Donnelly, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve and authorize

the hire of Christopher Vasvick as replacement full-time Deputy Sheriff for the Martin County Sheriff's Office at an effective of September 11, 2011 at \$22.27/hour (Step 2 Wage and Benefit scale); and is eligible for full benefits per LELS Local No. 136 Union Contract. Carried unanimously.

Jeff Markquart, Martin County Sheriff, opened discussion concerning the difference in compensation and benefits when a new employee is hired at a wage greater than Step 1. Markquart stated that record keeping is quite cumbersome when the wage and benefits aren't at the same level. After further discussion,

Consensus of the Board is to review this subject at the next regular Board of Commissioners meeting on September 6, 2011 when the County Coordinator is present to enter into the discussion.

Klanderud stated the Martin County Sheriff's Office is currently receiving training for ECharging for the electronic submission of all of our documents. All charges will go automatically on-line to the County Attorney's Office, up to Court, and from Court to the Judge. The ECharging process will be on-line by the end of the week.

Sheriff Markquart concluded with current jail population at 21-22 in-house; and they are getting set up and ready for the Martin County Fair.

Commissioners reviewed their calendars of upcoming meetings and activities: August 16<sup>th</sup> – Joint meeting with Martin County Historical Society Board beginning at noon at the Martin County Historical Society; August 17<sup>th</sup> – Human Services Executive Board; August 19<sup>th</sup> – Commissioner Schmidtke will be at the Martin County Fair to present the Farm Family of the Year Award to the Lawrence Sukalski family at 3:00 p.m.; Commissioners inquired if they had received their invitation to the 4-H Appreciation Breakfast at the fairgrounds; August 23<sup>rd</sup> - Tile meeting at 10:00 a.m. in Huntley on JD #40, Human Service Advisory Board at 5:30 p.m.; August 24<sup>th</sup> – Human Services meeting at Blue Earth, Mediation at 2:00 p.m.; August 25<sup>th</sup> – 11:00 a.m. Hanratty & Associates/Medica meeting at the Holiday Inn in Fairmont; August 30<sup>th</sup> – South Central Service Coop Insurance Health Insurance Renewal Meeting in Mankato; August 31<sup>st</sup> – Right-to-Know Training in the LEC Basement meeting room at 8:15 a.m., 9:30 a.m., and 10:45 a.m.; September 1<sup>st</sup> – Annual Forfeited Land and Road Tour at 7:00 a.m., and JD #28 meeting at 1:30 p.m.; September 5<sup>th</sup> – Labor Day Holiday, Courthouse Closed; September 6<sup>th</sup> – regular Board of Commissioners meeting at 9:00 a.m. and Budget Workshop following the regular meeting.

Commissioner Schmidtke stated that he has received numerous complaints about the native plantings around the courthouse. Not everyone knows these are natural wildflowers and think they are weeds. This is a beautiful courthouse...why don't we have beautiful shrubs and flowers. If these (plantings) were growing up in somebody's field, they'd spray them. With so many complaints I think we need to consider something else. There's a good place for these plantings but I don't think it's around the courthouse.

Forshee stated that Martin Soil and Water Conservation District have spent a good deal of time here this summer watering and cleaning things up in the native planting beds.

Commissioner Pierce stated we went from shrub and flower landscaping to the native plantings and many think how nice it looks.

Commissioner Potter stated this has been a big effort by Martin Soil and Water Conservation District with collecting native planting seeds; and now they're getting inquiries from other Soil and Water's in other counties to supply seeds for this same purpose.

Commissioner Pierce stated that perhaps some alternate landscaping can be looked at when the sidewalk replacement project is underway.

Commissioner Boler asked if the current Commissioner districts will be changing. Forshee stated the City of Fairmont is working on that right now. None of the changes appear to be more than 10%; therefore our districts are okay.

With no further business to wit, Board Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:50 a.m.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MARTIN COUNTY, MN

---

Steve Pierce, Board Chair

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