

PROCEEDINGS OF THE
MARTIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 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 Potter, Schmidtke, and Donnelly. Commissioner District No. 1 is vacant. Also present were Scott Higgins, Martin County Coordinator, James Forshee, Martin County Auditor/Treasurer, Terry Viesselman, Martin County Attorney, Kevin Peyman, Martin County Highway Engineer, Jennifer Brookens, Sentinel Newspaper, Rod Halvorsen, KSUM/KFMC Radio, Julie Walters, Administrative Assistant, and members of staff and public.

Motion by Commissioner Donnelly, seconded by Commissioner Schmidtke, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve the agenda with the following additions: 8.11 Consider Office Space Needs; 8.12 Consider Continuation of the Martin County Mentoring Network; and delete 3.1 Review Minutes of October 18, 2011 regular Commissioners meeting. Carried unanimously.

Terry Viesselman, Martin County Attorney, was present and had nothing to report.

Commissioner Donnelly stated that Bruce Peters is willing to serve on the Extension Committee and fill the vacancy and remaining term ending December 31, 2013.

Motion by Commissioner Donnelly, seconded by Commissioner Potter, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve the appointment of Bruce Peters to the Martin County Extension Committee, to fill vacancy for the remainder of a three (3) year term ending December 31, 2013. Carried unanimously.

Kevin Peyman, Martin County Highway Engineer, stated that we have a shop hoist put in the budget for 2012 but the Highway Shop's hoist, however it no longer is in working condition. We will need to replace the hoist as soon as we can. The estimated cost is \$85,000. It is budgeted for next year. The shop hoist we have now or had was original to the building, which was built in 1965. We have gotten a lot of use out of it; but its non repairable anymore. After looking at a couple of different options, we have decided to go with a SKY. It is a state contract price. It's out of BENCO Equipment (Shakopee, MN) and the state contract price comes to \$86,606.00 plus sales tax in the amount of \$5,715.60 so basically \$92,321.60.

Pierce inquired if the cost included installation.

Peyman responded in the affirmative. The only thing is it's going to take some concrete work and we plan to do that ourselves. If we're going to keep servicing our own equipment to the level that we have been we will need some type of hoist.

Motion by Commissioner Schmidtke, seconded by Commissioner Donnelly, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve the purchase a SKY 200 Shop Hoist from BENCO Equipment from Shakopee, MN, from the State contract bid, in the amount of \$92,321.60 (includes tax). Carried unanimously.

Peyman informed the board that we are finishing up the crack filling on various roads, along with regular fall maintenance items. The road side mowing is pretty much done. We're starting to talk to landowners to construct either snow fences or build berms to keep the drifting snow off the various roadways.

Pierce inquired whether or not some of the landowner/operators would leave up a few rows of corn.

Peyman stated that we generally have not had a lot of luck with that. There is a program where the producer can actually be paid for the corn left in the field; but we haven't had a lot of takers on that. We've been more successful working with landowners to construct snow fence or build a berm in their fields.

Pierce suggested that this option should be pursued next year.

Peyman responded that it may be worth pursuing again.

Potter inquired of the new crack fill material that is being used on CR# 27.

Peyman stated that it is rubberized crack filler. It's a polymer based material and your objective is to get it in when the cracks are open as wide as they can be. This allows the material to stick better to the sides of the crack. The material will stretch when the crack opens or closes depending on the temperature. Purpose is to keep the water out from seeping under the road. This is called a mastic material. It is more like a blacktop mix except the gradation of the rocks are a lot smaller. Plus there's actually more strength in the material. CR #27 turned out to be a good test road for this new material because it is more heavily traveled. Not all the roads that crack have the type of cracking that would require this rubberized filler.

Jeff Markquart, Martin County Sheriff presented an amended version of the Public Safety Interoperable Communications (PSIC) grant agreement, for the interoperability with neighboring county's Public Safety Answering Point (PSA)) located across the border in Emmet County, Iowa and Kossuth County, Iowa. The term of each contract has been extended from August 15, 2011 to January 31, 2012. Grant dollar amounts have not changed.

Motion by Commissioner Potter, seconded by Commissioner Schmidtke, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve and authorize Board Chair and Martin County Sheriff to sign the Public Safety Interoperable Communications (PSIC) grant agreement amendments to establish basic interoperability with the State of Iowa, County of Emmet, Grant Contract No. 96000000396 in the amount of \$7,574.09

(no County Match required); and County of Kossuth, Grant Contract No. 96000000398 in the amount of \$7,815.55 (no County Match required); and is effective June 15, 2011 through January 31, 2012; and to approve and authorize Sheriff Jeffrey Markquart to sign reports and other documents related to the grant as required. Carried unanimously.

Markquart continued with an update including current jail count of 27 in-house, 19 out of county, 1 in Little Rock, Arkansas that is getting transported up here so that will be 20 we'll have out so that's \$1,000 a day for people outside of our jail. We've got 14 on Electronic Home Monitoring; and I haven't heard any complaints about the food. So Hy-Vee has been doing a pretty good job the way it sounds.

Schmidtke inquired what is contributing to the high numbers right now.

Markquart responded that it is a little bit of everything.

Markquart stated that we are in need of part time jailers and that the Department is down to one part time jailer. We have not replaced a full time jailer to this point either. We wanted to see how things would operate without replacing the vacant jailer position.

Higgins stated that typically there is three or four part time jailer pool.

Markquart stated the amount of transporting the jailers need to do and this takes staff away from the jail.

Pierce inquired if it was more for arraignments that created the need for transporting inmates, further stating that we need to get the interactive video conferencing going an inquired of the hold up on something like this.

Markquart responded that is the courts as well as the public defenders that object to this type of video conferencing. The court personnel believe it is best to have the defendants in front of the judge in person. This will be a topic at the Sheriff's conference next month. The Sheriff's have talked a lot about in past years, but have made little progress trying to make this happen.

Potter inquired of hiring of the part time deputies and whether this would fit the need for the court security bailiff position for the courts and whether it would suffice the court.

Markquart informed the board he would be meeting with the judge tomorrow to find out what they really want. We are trying to balance the court security with a bailiff and they're really two separate positions.

Klanderud stated that we need to hire part time deputies to fill the gaps in our deputy schedule, but also consider using a part time deputy to be a court security person. We will know more after meeting with the judge. We currently only have one part time deputy.

Potter inquired if the court position would require a second part time position.

Klanderud responded if that is what the court decides they need that would be a good way to fill the position.

Donnelly stated to make sure it is mentioned of cost sharing this position.

Potter stated my understanding is that there is time when a bailiff does not fulfill the need for court security.

Klanderud responded that especially in today's society more often than not a bailiff isn't enough to protect the court room.

Markquart stated that Ceylon had their annual Halloween Party for the kids and we were able to fingerprint about 65 kids for their parents to have their prints.

Pierce inquired about the shared logger and new recording equipment related to the 800 MHz radio project and where this proposal is headed.

Markquart stated that they are still looking for prices. The vendor, who gave the presentation at one of the meetings, never gave a price. I would guesstimate the cost would be approximately \$280,000.

Klanderud stated that even though the region purchases a regional logger for the radio system, the county will still have to purchase its logger and recording system for our own dispatch center.

Markquart stated that the regional logger is only for the radio traffic. If a 911 call comes in to the county's dispatch center, we have the 911 call being recorded and the information going out on the radio being recorded by the regional logger, the two loggers would not have all the information from both loggers. We would need a system that would record both types of communications via the telephone and the radio.

Pierce inquired of the whole encryption issue with the use of these radios (800 MHz). Scanners are able to pick up these radio communications with 800 MHz as it did with analogue radio system. Are we not working toward having secure channels for these radios?

Markquart responded that he would agree. However there is pressure on Congress with the pressure from the press saying that they have a right to that information (i.e. to know what your SWAT teams are going to do in a raid. It would be best handled to give them a recording once the operation is completed. At this point, I don't like the options because the cost for encryption ranges from \$7 per radio and the other one is \$700 per radio.

Pierce stated that one of the bigger concerns is that cell phones are used a scanners.

Markquart stated state statutes do not allow you to have a scanner in your car; however, you can have your cell phone in your car. After further discussion,

Motion by Commissioner Potter, seconded by Commissioner Donnelly, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve and authorize the recruitment to fill replacement part-time Corrections Officer position(s) in the Martin County Sheriff's Office. Carried unanimously.

Autumn Larsen, Youth Intervention & Prevention Coordinator, was present to request permission to apply for a Title II Juvenile Justice Program Grant, which became available to apply for as a supplemental to for the Youth Intervention grant. It's a one time grant with no match required with a maximum allowable grant at \$60,000.

Motion by Commissioner Donnelly, seconded by Commissioner Potter, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve the application from the Martin County Youth Intervention Program for Title II Juvenile Justice Programs grant funding through the Minnesota Department of Public Safety, the Office of Justice Programs in an amount up to \$60,000. Carried unanimously.

Dan Whitman, Martin County Assessor, stated that he has received an application for abatement for property taxes from an individual. The individual has applied for a disabled homestead exemption three or four years back, and was denied because the rules are quite strict about how you qualify for this tax exemption. This year the individual was able to provide the documentation needed to qualify so at that time I granted them homestead. The individual is asking for the abatement retroactive for as far back as possible. I would recommend the Board deny this request. After discussion,

Motion by Commissioner Potter, seconded by Commissioner Donnelly, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby deny retroactive disabled homestead property tax abatement application received for Parcel No. 23.039.1350. Carried unanimously.

James Forshee, Martin County Auditor/Treasurer, 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 22, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. in the Commissioners Board Room.

Motion by Commissioner Donnelly, seconded by Commissioner Schmidtke,

RESOLUTION # 52 / 11

AUTHORIZING & FIXING TERMS OF TAX SALE:

BE IT RESOLVED, that all parcels of tax-forfeited land listed on the List of Tax-Forfeited Land #12 be classified as non-conservation land; that the basic sale price of each parcel on the List of Tax-Forfeited Land #12, 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 22, 2011, 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 #12 dated November 1, 2011.

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 Schmidtke, and carried.

Dated this 1st Day of November, 2011.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MARTIN COUNTY, MINNESOTA

Steven Pierce, Chairperson

ATTEST: _____
Scott Higgins
Martin County Coordinator

Roll Call AYES: Commissioners Potter, Schmidtke, Donnelly, and Pierce. NAYS: None. Resolution duly passed and adopted this 1st day of November, 2011.

Higgins stated the 2011 Annual Meeting of the Minnesota Counties Intergovernmental Trust (MCIT) will be held on Monday, December 5, 2011 at 4:00 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 and alternate are: Steve Donnelly, Delegate; and James Forshee, Alternate.

Motion by Commissioner Schmidtke, seconded by Commissioner Potter, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby appoint Steve Donnelly as the voting delegate and James Forshee as voting alternate to the 2011 Annual Meeting of the Minnesota Counties Intergovernmental Trust to be held on Monday, December 5, 2011 at 4:00 p.m. in Minneapolis, MN. Carried unanimously.

Higgins stated the Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) requests that each county provide voting delegates to the annual conference which will be held December 5-7, 2011 in Minneapolis; with by-laws allowing up to eight participants per county. Discussion ensued on who will be attending this year's conference.

Motion by Commissioner Schmidtke, seconded by Commissioner Potter, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve up to eight delegates to attend the Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) Annual Conference to be held December 5-7, 2011 in Minneapolis, MN, which include Steve Pierce, Steve Donnelly, Jack Potter, Dan Schmidtke, James Forshee, Kevin Peyman, Julie Walters, Scott Higgins. Carried unanimously.

Higgins stated that due to the resignation of the Martin County Mentoring Network Program Coordinator, the Personnel Committee met to discuss options or alternatives for the continuation of the Martin County Mentoring Network Program. The Program has 55 mentors with matches and about 12 waiting. After November 1st we will not have a coordinator in place to supervise the Mentoring program. We will need to cease operations from a risk management perspective. The Board is being asked to consider other alternatives for operation of the Mentoring program or continuing the Mentoring program as a county program and hiring a new Mentoring Coordinator.

Schmidtke stated that he believes it is an excellent program. Helen Rode did a great job and stated that he would like to see it continue. I don't want this to fall apart. I'm concerned what happens when she's done today and it's going to take us over a month to get anyone in place.

Potter stated that he felt the same way inquired if Ms. Rode could be talked into keeping contact with these people for a while longer maybe another 60 days.

Pierce concurred.

Donnelly stated the need to hire a new Mentoring Coordinator.

Pierce asked if there are any chances of getting her to stay during the transition period.

Higgins responded that he will talk with Ms. Rode if she is interested in staying for the interim until a new Mentoring Coordinator is hired. Higgins further stated that Ms. Rode has already offered to come back and orientate the new hire.

Pierce stated I think we are all on the same page regarding this. Pierce asked for input from Kinship representatives that were present.

Chief of Fairmont Police Greg Broolsma (Kinship) stated his applause for the county board to continue the county mentoring program stating that mentoring is one of the highest effective programs. It's just backed up by evidence and research that mentoring works.

Char Kahler (Kinship) provided a brochure about Kinship stating that Kinship is a mirror of what Martin County Mentoring is all about. We have worked well together in the past and I'm encouraged by the Board's direction in keeping the program going. Kinship is willing to work with the county with the approval of the Kinship board. We're willing to

do whatever it takes because we so value what the volunteers give and it's such a low cost thing for us as taxpayers to do for long term for these kids that saves the County money in the long run because we have dedicated volunteers. I'm already getting calls from the Martin County Mentoring mentors who want to continue but are very they're up in the air and concerned about the fact that they are no longer covered by insurance. We've never had an insurance claim, but you know that's disconcerting to those mentors; and wonder if they could just be folded into Kinship.

Potter inquired of the concern on the insurance issues and would be required for the Martin County Mentoring to continue with the insurance

Higgins stated that we have already notified the mentor and the mentees that without the supervision in place we are not able to continue under the guides of the county. We did encourage that the relationship to continue but they'd be on their own. I've had a couple calls myself that they are going to continue their relationship anyway. We need to make sure we are covered from a risk management standpoint.

Motion by Commissioner Schmidtke, seconded by Commissioner Donnelly, Be it Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, hereby approve the recruitment of a Coordinator for the Martin County Mentoring Network, to ask former Coordinator to stay on until new Mentoring Coordinator is hired, let the mentors and mentees know we are continuing the program; and to work with Kinship to see how they can continue to work together to keep the program going. Carried unanimously.

Pierce stated that obviously we hope we can talk with Ms. Rode into staying in position; an option maybe is to suspend for thirty days and if volunteers want to spend time with their mentees that's their business. They just won't be under direct supervision but that may be an option.

Higgins stated that would be best and stated that I don't believe you lose the program in 60 days.

Deb Mosloski, Drainage Specialist for Martin County stated that when Mike was updating the information for JD #1 he noticed some errors on the original final order and basically it's just correcting those errors. The errors include, JD #1 isn't in Rutland Township so the original order had tile that was in Rutland Township on the Viewer's Report. There's some tile that was abandoned that should not have been and there was tile that was not abandoned that should have been recorded. I think Branch H should be and there's like 600 feet on Branch J otherwise the other sections are just township name.

Motion by Commissioner Schmidtke, seconded by Commissioner Potter, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, acting as the Drainage Authority for Martin County, hereby approve the new Findings of Fact and Order for the Redetermination of Benefits for JD #1. Carried unanimously.

Chuck Brandl, Engineer with I&S Engineering, Inc., along with Mike Forstner have been working together on repair of an outlet for JD #25 Oxbow out there.

Forstner stated it is just to extend the open ditch to get back to the creek. The creek eroded away from the Ditch System.

Mosloski stated that Kurt did write up a petition I talked to Maynard Jagodinski last week and I thought he was going to have it here by today.

Pierce inquired if that was for JD #25?

Mosloski responded in the affirmative further stating that the petition was expected before today's meeting.

Potter inquired if everything else was in order.

Mosloski responded in the affirmative. Otherwise, we would be delayed until the next board meeting.

Brandl stated we have reviewed the project with the DNR too.

Schmidtke stated that if the DNR and everybody is good with this and to get it all realigned and hooked we should probably proceed contingent upon receiving the petition.

Motion by Commissioner Schmidtke, seconded by Commissioner Potter, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, acting as the Drainage Authority for Martin County, hereby accept the Petition for the Repair of an Outlet for JD #25; contingent upon receipt and final examination of the Petition. Carried unanimously.

Higgins stated the Jail Food Service contract was up for renewal end of this year; and the County had advertised for bids for proposals for inmate food service to the Martin County Jail at three (3) meals a day on a per meal bid basis with an alternate bid including two (2) hot meals; for the period of two years covering January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2013. Bids were received, opened, and reviewed as follows:

<u>Bid Received From</u>	<u>Bid Amount</u>	<u>Alternate Bid (2 Hot Meals)</u>
Hy-Vee Food Store	\$3.75	\$3.75

Motion by Commissioner Schmidtke, seconded by Commissioner Potter, for \$3.75 per meal for two cold and one hot or two hot and one cold meal with Hy-Vee Food Store of Fairmont, MN:

R#53/'11

RESOLUTION
ACCEPTING AND AWARDING BID FOR INMATE FOOD SERVICE FOR THE
MARTIN COUNTY JAIL for TWO YEAR PERIOD
JANUARY 1, 2012 to DECEMBER 31, 2013

WHEREAS, pursuant to an advertisement for bids for proposals for Inmate Food Service to the Martin County Jail; and

WHEREAS, bids were received on a per meal basis for the period of two years covering January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2013; and

WHEREAS, Bids were received, opened, and reviewed, and the following bids were received complying with the advertisement:

<u>BIDDER</u>	<u>BASE BID</u>	<u>ALT. BID</u>
1. Mayo Clinic Health System – Fairmont	\$0.00	\$0.00
2. Hy-Vee Food Store – Fairmont	\$3.75	\$3.75
3. Lakeview Health Services – Fairmont	\$0.00	\$0.00
4. Gerhardt’s Catering – Fairmont	\$0.00	\$0.00
5. Nancy Jo’s Catering – Truman	\$0.00	\$0.00
6. Green Mill/Holiday Inn Fairmont	\$0.00	\$0.00

WHEREAS, it appears the low bid is from Hy-Vee Food Store, and after having carefully reviewed each bid proposal, the Board believes that the bid proposal from Hy-Vee Food Store meets the bid expectations, requirements, and concerns as follows:

- delivery of food three times each day,
- freshness of food would be greater due to be delivered three times each day rather than stored
- county’s liability of food handling and storage minimized
- provides flexibility due to sudden increase and decrease of inmate population (due to arrests and releases)

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED on a motion by Schmidtke, seconded by, Potter,

1. That the Martin County Board of Commissioners after due considerations of the bids received, approves and authorizes the Chair to sign the necessary Food Service contracts with Hy-Vee Food Store, on behalf of Martin County for the above referenced Inmate Food Service to the Martin County Jail according to the plans and specifications therefore approved by the County Board of Commissioners and on file in the office of the County Coordinator in the amount of \$3.75 per meal,

ADOPTED by the Martin County Board of Commissioners this 1st day of November, 2011.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MARTIN COUNTY, MN

Steve Pierce, Board Chair

ATTEST: _____
Scott Higgins, County Coordinator

Roll Call AYES: Commissioners Potter, Schmidtke, Donnelly, and Pierce. NAYS: None. Resolution duly passed and adopted this 1st day of November, 2011.

Chuck Brandl, I&S Engineering, presented the cost estimate report for the re-route of JD #367. Brandl stated we met two weeks ago and we got out and surveyed it last week. JD #367 the portion being looked at is between that county road #14 all the way up to a spot here east of Pierce Lake which is the end of an improvement. We surveyed this portion of it, I believe Mike Forstner and Rich Perrine walked it and worked through the alignment. We followed that, tweaked it slightly, based on the survey, got the original ditch profile into our survey matched into the improvement that was done ten years ago, matched into the culvert and the crossing and did determine that yes there were areas that were in need of repair, they were higher than the original grade especially once you got south of County Road #118. There were spots close to a foot that needed to be cleaned out. So we ran the profile and determined how much material we'd have to move to do the repair in this alignment and that's what this cost estimate includes. There's a little bit of urgency with this because as you can see by the photo this is a pretty wet area and they'd like to do the repair this fall if possible because we're as dry as we're going to get right now.

Brandl further stated that we looked at the cost estimate, got the number for how much material we have to move and instead of lineal feet of ditch I turned it into cubic yards of excavation. Then we've got other items that need to be done – reseeding through this area, there's some connections, some tile that come in, connections to kind of the center of the basin, connections to the old ditch. Once you add all of that up including a proposed crossing for Mr. Small he'd like a crossing so we included that cost as well. That's probably one of your highest costs in the project because of the area is pretty low. The capacity at this point, it is a 7 foot tall by 11 foot wide culvert we'd have to put a couple culverts, adding all that up, it was at just under \$87,000.00 and I added a 10% contingency just cause it's pretty quick. We have to finish up a few plans, which would put us at approximately \$95,000. From a legal standpoint public bidding once you're over \$100,000 you're supposed to publicly bid it. We are under that so looking up and 103E when an estimate is under \$100,000 you can get quotes to do a project. So I guess because of the urgency of this and the dry conditions with an estimate at this point I'd recommend that quotes be obtained for this work so we can get out and do it fairly quickly. One other step that has to happen in talking with the DNR is they'd like a DNR waters permit so we would apply for that immediately you know we'd be waiting on that

to start. But I think Leo Getsfried also knows the urgency of this and if we can get him that here this week

Schmidtke inquired the necessity for the DNR permit.

Brandl responded that he believes it is due to the close connection to the lakes.

Motion by Commissioner Schmidtke, seconded by Commissioner Potter, Be It Resolved that the Martin County Board of Commissioners, acting as the Drainage Authority for Martin County, hereby accept the engineers report for determination of cost estimate in the amount of \$95,000 for the re-route of JD #367, and authorize obtaining quotes to complete the project repair. Carried unanimously.

Higgins stated the Board is being asked to consider and authorize moving the payroll to a private office. This would provide privacy for those employees who wish to speak about their personal benefits, work comp. issues, leaves, etc. Depending on the direction the board sets for the Mentoring Program, the Personnel Committee is recommending the following office moves: Payroll to Solid Waste Office (located near the Coordinator's Office); Solid Waste Coordinator to Extension/P and Z Office or Prairieland Facility.

Schmidtke stated the need to move payroll into a private office needed to be done before now and stated that the Solid Waste Coordinator could either work out of her home or office out of the Prairieland facility. It is very important to get payroll to a private office with the personal information dealt with as part of her job.

Pierce inquired whether there would be room in the Auditor/Treasurer office, stating there are a couple of large spaces in that office that could be split up.

Forshee stated that he did not think in splitting the offices, you would get the privacy that you want to accomplish.

Donnelly stated that the Building committee looked at that option during its last meeting and did not think it was a good option.

Higgins suggested that the workroom next to the Coordinator's Office could be remodeled to place an office in that space.

Schmidtke inquired if the 4-H Coordinator was in the back office in the PZ/Extension area.

Higgins responded that there are two staff members in that area, the 4-H Coordinator and Extension Nutrition Educator.

Higgins stated that there is a request for the 4-H Coordinator to move into the office where the Mentoring Coordinator was located.

By consensus the Board stated the need to keep working to get payroll in a private office and the other office situations taken care of.

The Board reviewed information received from the Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation – Celebrating 25 Years; AMC Local Government Redesign Innovation Sessions; and Minnesota Department of Education for Local Library Services.

Commissioners presented their Board member reports:

Commissioner Potter stated he attended the Human Services meeting on Wednesday, October 19th; Economic Development meeting with the City of Fairmont on Thursday, October 20th; Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) District meeting on Wednesday, October 26th; Market Value Exclusions Discussion at City Hall on October 27th; and retirement open house for Linda Shaw (Human Services) on October 28th.

Commissioner Schmidtke stated he attended a ditch hearing.

Commissioner Pierce stated he went up to EMS and Radio Board on Thursday, October 27th.

Commissioner Donnelly stated he has nothing different to add.

Commissioner Potter stated he'll just add that last week was very quiet I only had three calls pertaining to ditches.

Dan Whitman, Martin County Assessor, stated that the Mentoring Program is pretty dear to me and I was going to unofficially maybe offer to oversee the Mentoring program in the interim period if you would like. I've been a mentor in the past I was a guardian ad litem for years.

Pierce stated his appreciation to Whitman.

Commissioners reviewed their calendars of upcoming meetings and activities: November 1st – Labor Management Committee meeting at 1:30 p.m.; November 2nd Martin County Leadership Day at Fairmont Elementary School and Human Services Exec. meeting; November 7th – EDA Meeting at 5:15 p.m.; November 8th – Election Day; November 9th – Department Directors meeting at 8:30 a.m. and Iowa Lakes Regional Water meeting at Jackson, MN; November 11th – Veteran's Day (Courthouse Closed) and Prairieland meeting; November 14th – 4-H Banquet at the Sherburn Community Hall starting at 5:30 p.m. with meal at 6:00 p.m.; November 15th – regular Board of Commissioners meeting at 9:00 a.m.

Commissioner Pierce stated he will be gone from November 6th through November 17th so I will not be here for that board meeting on the 15th.

Higgins informed the board that STEP Inc. has requested to use the county's wash bay out at the transit building to wash their vehicles.

Pierce stated that he can see all kinds of issue that would come up if this were allowed.

Donnelly inquired where the STEP vehicles are washed now.

Higgins responded that he did not know.

Pierce stated that we probably should have official action to deny at meeting if that is in order.

Higgins stated that the State Patrol is looking for additional office space and is willing to lease the space. We are looking to expand a couple of offices in the LEC and have received a quote from Christensen Lumber. We will need to have the City Building Inspector review the project before we move forward.

With no further business to wit, Board Chair adjourned the meeting at 10:15 a.m.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MARTIN COUNTY, MN

Steve Pierce, Board Chair

ATTEST: _____
Scott Higgins, County Coordinator