

WATONWAN COUNTY BOARD  
APRIL 6, 2021  
9:00 A.M.

The Watonwan County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on April 6, 2021 at 9:00 A.M. in the Community Room of the Human Services Building, City of St. James. The following Board members were present: Jim Branstad, Dillon Melheim, Bill Miller, Jim Pettersen and Bob Rinne. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Branstad moved, Pettersen seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the minutes of the February 24 special meeting and March 16 regular meeting.

Melheim moved, Pettersen seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the Agenda as amended.

Land Management Director David Haler and Feedlot Technician Amanda Lang were present to review the 2020 County Feedlot Officer Annual Report. It was noted that they scored 100% on everything.

Pettersen moved, Miller seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the Chairman's signing of the Feedlot Annual Report.

Haler reported that there was over \$71,000 in extra Feedlot funding that needed to be spent by the end of 2021. They proposed purchasing a Jeep Grand Cherokee or similar vehicle.

Branstad moved, Melheim seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve obtaining bids for a new vehicle for Land Management.

Discussion was held regarding progress on a solar power ordinance. The Board requested a draft ordinance by June 1.

SWCD Assistant Manager Chad Hildebrand reviewed the buffer implementation grant. BWSR has to spend funding by 2023. He noted that there hadn't been an aerial fly-over recently, and that may be an allowable expenditure. By general consensus the Board authorized pursuing the grant funding.

Branstad moved, Melheim seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve payment of bills as audited and filed in the County Auditor/Treasurer's Office as follows by fund: General Fund—\$19,161.84; Solid Waste Fund—\$6,801.75; and the Road and Bridge Fund—\$52,120.80.

Branstad moved, Melheim seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the appointment of Lucy Ammann to the Extension Committee.

Rinne moved, Miller seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to adopt the following:

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING A DONATION TO THE COUNTY

WHEREAS, the County of Watonwan is authorized to accept donations pursuant to M.S. § 465.03 for the benefit of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, Schwarz Farms has contributed a cash donation of \$100 for the Sheriff’s Department to purchase supplies for community outreach, and Harbor Freight has contributed \$200 for the purchase of tools.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Watonwan County Board of Commissioners hereby accepts the donations of \$100 and \$200 to be used as specified.

County Auditor/Treasurer Kelly Pauling reviewed an Auditor’s Lien Statement regarding Joint County Ditch No. 350 M,J,W&C. Watonwan’s portion was \$185,000. She recommended assessments against affected parcels for 20 years at 4% interest.

Pettersen moved, Miller seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve setting the assessment at 4% interest over 20 years.

Auditor/Treasurer Pauling reviewed 2021 Ditch Assessments where the Ditch account fell too low. She recommended allowing payments over 3 years at 4%.

Miller moved, Pettersen seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the 2021 Ditch Assessments with the option of 4% interest payable over 3 for assessments over \$500:

<u>DITCH NUMBER</u>	<u>ASSESSMENT</u>
CD #64	\$21,195.00
JD #7BE&W	\$41,701.00
JD #12W&C	\$ 8,505.00
JD #14 B&W	\$13,681.00

Public Works Director Teal Spellman was present and reviewed the only bid received for Seal Coat Aggregate, FA-2 Granite from Gordy Serbus & Sons Gravel in the amount of \$22.00/ton.

Branstad moved, Rinne seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve accepting the bid of Gordy Serbus & Sons Gravel LLC in the amount of \$22.00/ton for the purchase of 3,118 tons of FA-2 Granite for a total of \$68,596.00.

The following bids were received for bituminous material for sealing and fog sealing:

<u>VENDOR</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	
	<u>CRS-2P</u>	<u>CSS-1H</u>
MEIGS Paving		
Asphalts & Emulsions	\$455.00	\$268.00
Jebro, Inc.	\$457.50	\$277.50
Flint Hills Resources	\$465.00	\$231.00

Miller moved, Melheim seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve accepting the bid of MEIGS Paving Asphalts & Emulsions in the amount of \$455.00/ton for the purchase of 441 tons of CRS-2P for a total of \$200,655.00, and the bid of Flint Hills Resources in the amount of \$231.00/ton for the purchase of 148 tons of CSS-1H for a total of \$34,188.00.

The following quotes was received for dust control for the Base-One Project on CR 117:

<u>VENDOR</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Freeborn County Coop Oil	\$0.94/gallon
SW Dust Treatment	\$1.24/gallon

Pettersen moved, Melheim seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve accepting the quote of Freeborn County Coop Oil in the amount of \$0.94/gallon for one application of Dust Control for the Base-One Project on CR 117, for a total cost of \$11,919.20.

Up to \$15,000 was budgeted in the Fairgrounds budget allocated for bleacher rental. Spellman recommended that the Fair Board handle the bleacher rental and be reimbursed. By general consensus, the Board agreed to the recommendation.

Branstad moved, Pettersen seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve a Drainage Tile/County Road Crossing Agreement with Wayne Smith to bore an 8" tile under CR 109 in Section 29 of Fieldon Township.

Branstad moved, Pettersen seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the training request submitted by Teal Spellman.

Pettersen moved, Melheim seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the appointment of Dylan Meine to the position of Light Equipment Operator.

Branstad moved, Rinne seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the Mayo Agreement for the Mayo ambulance to provide Telephone Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Services for 911.

The building committee went through the Resource Center. They recommended moving forward with getting quotes for turning the Food Shelf space into offices, as well as door swipes, and a handicap accessible door.

Miller moved, Melheim seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve issuing a Sunday Liquor License to South Fork Golf, LLC.

Branstad moved, Rinne seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve annual pay step increases for Adam Butler, Michelle Knudson, and Celina Mosser.

Melheim moved, Pettersen seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the satisfactory completion of probationary period by Laura Quiring.

Branstad moved, Miller seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the retirement in good standing of Carol Stradtman from the position of Detention Officer.

Miller moved, Pettersen seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve advertising for the position of full-time Detention Officer.

Rinne moved, Branstad seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the appointment of Juan Mora to the position of part-time Branch Library Assistant for Madelia Branch Library.

Commissioner Melheim reported that the south commercial building at the Fairgrounds had structural issues, and was not being used during the fair. Members were encouraged to go out and take a look.

The following quotes were received for a standing desk for Investigator Adam Butler, to be reimbursed by Human Services:

<u>VENDOR</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Evodesk	\$1,891.50
Uplift	\$2,259.00

Branstad moved, Pettersen seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve accepting the quote of Evodesk in the amount of \$1,891.50 for the purchase of standing desk.

Branstad moved, Rinne seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to close the meeting at 10:50 pursuant to M.S. § 13D.05, Subd. 2. (3) for discussion of welfare data. Human Services Director Naomi Ochsendorf was present.

Branstad moved, Pettersen seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to open the meeting at 10:54.

Pettersen moved, Miller seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve hiring Patrick Casey to handle a legal matter on behalf of a Human Services client.

Melheim moved, Pettersen seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to adjourn at 10:55.

Bill Miller, Chairman  
Watowan County Board

Lisa Schumann, Deputy Clerk  
Watowan County Board

ATTEST: Kelly Pauling  
Watowan County Auditor/Treasurer