

January 22, 2019

Pipestone County Commissioner Meeting
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The Pipestone County Commissioners met with Chairman Chris Hollingsworth, Commissioners Luke Johnson, Dan Wildermuth, Bruce Kooiman and Les Nath. County Administrator Steve Ewing was also present. Chairman Chris Hollingsworth called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

AGENDA

Motion by Kooiman, seconded by Johnson to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Hollingsworth, seconded by Johnson to approve the consent agenda as follows:

1. Approve Minutes
 - a. Commissioners Meeting 1/8/19
2. Auditor Warrants 1/8/19, 1/11/19, 1/18/19
3. Hospital Warrants in the amount of \$771,563.37

Motion carried unanimously.

DIANE BUCHER- BARREL RACING, FAIRGROUNDS

Diane Bucher, representing the Smokin Barrels group requested permission to use the county fairgrounds horse arena and Blue Building restrooms to host the 2019 barrel racing season. Ms. Bucher reported that the 2018 season was a success and wanted to have the races again this year. Tentative dates are May 18, June 15, July 6 and 27, August 17 and 31, September 7 and if needed October 12 as a makeup date. Motion by Kooiman, seconded by Nath to approve the request as presented with proper insurance documents filed with the County Administrator. Motion carried unanimously.

DAN LARSON, ADMINISTRATOR, MINNESOTA RURAL COUNTIES CAUCUS

Mr. Dan Larson, Administrator for Minnesota Rural Counties Caucus appeared to present information on the organization of 31 Minnesota counties that are currently members. Mr. Larson presented information on the organizations activities with the state legislature and state agencies. Annual dues to become a member are \$2,200. Motion by Johnson, seconded by Hollingsworth for Pipestone County to become a member of the Minnesota Rural Counties Caucus. Yeas: Johnson, Nays: Wildermuth, Hollingsworth, Kooiman, Nath. Motion failed.

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Commissioners agreed to review the information, speak with other commissioners in counties that have joined and possibly take action at a later date. Commissioners thanked Mr. Larson for the information and attending the meeting.

CATHY FESTE- PERSONNEL DIRECTOR

Personnel Director Feste requested board action to advertise for a full-time Appraiser in the Assessors Department. The position was budgeted for 2019. Depending on experience and level of Minnesota Assessor licensure the position would be either a Junior Appraiser or Senior Appraiser. Motion by Wildermuth, seconded by Kooiman to advertise for the full-time Appraiser position as requested. Motion carried unanimously.

PIPESTONE COUNTY MUSEUM 4TH QUARTER REPORT

Administrator Steve Ewing presented the Pipestone County Museum 4th Quarter report for Commissioners review and approval. Motion by Johnson, seconded by Nath to approve the report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

STEVE EWING– 4TH QUARTER BUDGET REPORT

Administrator Steve Ewing presented the board with the 4th Quarter Budget Report. 28 departments for the year 2018 were under 100% of their budgeted amounts, 5 departments were at 100% and 9 departments were over 100%. Total unaudited General Revenue Fund expenses for 2018 were \$7,879,370.23 and revenues were \$8,217,042.08. Total unaudited Road and Bridge Fund expenses for 2018 were \$6,315,476.61 and revenues were \$6,647,716.13. Commissioners wanted to discuss fund balances with Highway Engineer Bergman for future projects possibly at the annual 2019 Road and Bridge Hearing. Commissioners thanked Administrator Ewing for the report.

CARING HANDS DENTAL CENTER UPDATE

Administrator Steve Ewing requested board members be appointed to work on the Caring Hands Dental Center project. Board members agreed to have the Building and Grounds Committee members Wildermuth and Nath along with Administrator Ewing and Building and Grounds Supervisor Wayne Drew work on the dental center project.

Administrator Ewing presented a Letter of Representation from the Law firm of Dorsey and Whitney for legal services in regards to the required dental clinic Use Agreement which must be developed between Pipestone County and Caring Hands Dental for the proposed dental center construction using state bonding money that was approved by the 2018 State Legislature

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in the amount of \$500,000. Commissioners were concerned about the hourly costs of the proposed hourly rate of \$455 per hour for the primary attorney and \$355 per hour for her assistant. They wished to see a not to exceed amount instead of an hourly rate. Administrator Ewing will contact the firm for a revised agreement and bring back at the next board meeting. Administrator Ewing also reported that project budget information that was submitted to the State of Minnesota Department Employment and Economic Development (DEED) on behalf of the Caring Hands Dental Center Project satisfied their requirements and is being recommended for full funding of the \$500,000 General Obligation Grant.

CENTRAL SCHOOL PINK QUARTZITE STONE STORAGE

Administrator Steve Ewing reported that the City of Pipestone will be discussing the storage of pink quartzite stone from the demolition of the Central School building at their meeting tonight. Administrator Ewing spoke with Highway Engineer Nick Bergman about possibly storing several truckloads of the stone on county property. Engineer Bergman reported that stone could be stored at the old county landfill area if needed. The county would be responsible for the stone in storage. No further action was taken at this time pending the discussion and outcome of the Pipestone City Council meeting.

Motion by Johnson, seconded by Nath to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 10:13 AM.

Chris Hollingsworth
Pipestone County Board Chairman

ATTEST:

Steven Ewing
County Administrator

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