

**MINUTES OF THE
OTTER TAIL COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Otter Tail County Courthouse
Commissioners' Room, Floor 1-B
Tuesday, November 5, 2002
9:30 a.m.**

Call to Order

The Otter Tail County Board of Commissioners convened Tuesday, November 5, 2002, at 9:33 a.m. at the Otter Tail County Courthouse with Dennis Mosher, Chair; Malcolm Lee, Vice-Chair; Syd Nelson, Roger Froemming, and Bob Block present.

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Froemming, second by Nelson, and unanimously carried to approve the County Board agenda of November 5, 2002, with the following change:

9:35 a.m. – Safety Director, Tiny Holm, canceled

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Lee, second by Block, and unanimously carried to approve the County Board minutes of October 22, 2002, as presented.

Approval to Pay Bills

Motion by Nelson, second by Lee, and unanimously carried to approve payment of County Board bills per Attachment A of these minutes.

Extension Committee Meeting

Motion by Nelson, second by Block, and unanimously carried to authorize the Extension Committee members to attend a University of Minnesota Extension meeting scheduled at 5:45 p.m. in Barrett, MN on November 21, 2002.

Position Reclassification

Motion by Lee, second by Mosher, and unanimously carried to approve reclassification of the Clerk Typist II (job #1506) position in the Court Services Office from a Compensation Grade 7 to a Compensation Grade 8, as recommended by MAXIMUS. The reclassification is effective September 1, 2002.

Approval of Dental Plan Modification

County Coordinator, Larry Krohn, presented a recommendation from the Labor Management Committee for modification of the County's current dental plan. Motion by Block, second by Froemming, and unanimously carried to increase the per person, per year maximum from \$500 to \$750 effective January 1, 2003, for all employees electing to enroll in the dental plan. If, after the 2-year "lock-in" period, an employee elects to cancel the dental coverage and then, re-enter the plan at a later date, the benefit maximum will be \$500. The premium for the dental coverage effective January 1, 2003, will increase from \$25 to \$26 for the single coverage and from \$58 to \$60 for the family coverage.

Coalition of Lake Associations

Allan Haugrud, Coalition of Lake Associations Representative, presented a handout regarding shoreland ordinance review. Mr. Haugrud requested approval of a resolution for a zero percent phosphorus limit in lawn fertilizer within the shoreland area. Other lakeshore development issues

were discussed. The shoreland recommendations presented will be reviewed by the Planning Commission along with other suggestions for change to the SMO next January and February of 2003.

Ditch No. 21, 32, & 49

Ditch No. 21:

Ditch Inspector, Randy Wasvick, reported that DNR Hydrologist, Terry Lejcher, approved removal of beaver dams and trees in the Ditch System; however, an Engineer's study would be required before cleaning out any portion of the system. Mr. Wasvick will proceed with removal of beaver dams and trees to get some water moving. He will research the possibility of an Engineer's study and the approximate cost, which could increase the cost of clean out from \$10,000 to \$15,000.

Ditch No. 32:

Mr. Wasvick briefed commissioners regarding an area of land owned by the Koch Waterfowl Foundation. Discussion followed regarding the wetland area and the neighboring property.

Ditch No. 49:

Mr. Wasvick reported that County Ditch No. 49 is located in Inman Township (Sec 4, 5, & 8) and Deer Creek Township (Sec. 33 & 34). Some of the owners of this hunting property would like to clean out a portion of this Ditch System. There are protected waters in this Ditch System; therefore, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) would need to approve a clean out. Mr. Wasvick stated that he told the individuals wanting to do this work not to proceed. If the wetland has existed for over 25 years, the wetland cannot be removed. Mr. Wasvick will research this issue further with the DNR.

Recess & Reconvene

At 10:42 a.m., Chairman Mosher declared the meeting of the Otter Tail County Board of Commissioners recessed for a short break. The meeting was reconvened at 10:50 a.m.

Approval of Agreement for Professional Services

Motion by Lee, second by Block, and unanimously carried to authorize the Highway Engineer's signature to execute an agreement between the County of Otter Tail and Anderson Land Surveying, Inc. for services to reset the right of way monuments removed for construction on County Road 24 west of Erhard.

Tuition Assistance Agreement

Motion by Nelson, second by Froemming, and unanimously carried to authorize agreements between Otter Tail County and Wade J. Bugbee and Craig A. Rintala that provide MnDOT Certification training contingent upon employment with the Otter Tail County Highway Department for the next construction season.

Minnesota State Transportation Fund Resolution For Construction of County Bridge No. 56J14 Project No. S.A.P. 56-650-06 Otter Tail County Resolution No. 2002-58

Commissioner Nelson offered the following and moved for its adoption:

WHEREAS, Otter Tail County has applied to the Commissioner of Transportation for a Grant from the Minnesota State Transportation Fund for the construction of County Bridge No. 56J14 (Project No. S.A.P. 56-650-06) over Willow Creek, And;

WHEREAS, the amount of the grant has been determined to be \$81,688.00 by reason of lowest responsible bid.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the County of Otter Tail does hereby affirm that any cost of the bridge in excess of the grant will be appropriated from the funds available to the County of Otter Tail, and that any grant monies appropriated for the bridge but not required, based on the final estimate, shall be returned to the Minnesota State Transportation Fund.

Commissioner Froemming seconded the motion and upon being put to vote, the resolution was adopted unanimously.

Adopted at Fergus Falls, Minnesota, this 5th day of November, 2002.

Dated: _____ OTTER TAIL COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Attest: _____ By: _____
Larry Krohn, Clerk Dennis R. Mosher, County Board Chair

Telephone System Equipment

Motion by Lee, second by Nelson, and unanimously carried to approve purchase of equipment to backup the telephone system billing data in the amount of \$200.

Joint Petition Approved

Motion by Lee, second by Block, & unanimously carried to authorize the signing of a Joint Petition to the Bureau of Mediation Services to include the Court Security Officer and Sentence-to-Service positions in the appropriate collective bargaining unit.

NACO Participation

Mr. Krohn reported that the membership dues for participation in the National Association of Counties for CY2003 is \$998.00. Motion by Mosher, second by Lee, and unanimously carried not to participate in the National Association of Counties organization for CY2003.

Dog Bite Hearing Findings

Motion by Lee, second by Nelson, and unanimously carried to authorize the Chair's signature to execute the Findings and Order for the dog named Danny owned by Mary Munden.

Adjournment

At 11:23 a.m., Chair Mosher declared the meeting of the Otter Tail County Board of Commissioners adjourned until Tuesday, November 12, 2002.

Dated: _____ OTTER TAIL COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Attest: _____ By: _____
Larry Krohn, Clerk Dennis R. Mosher, County Board Chair

CB/kd