

The Pipestone County Commissioners met with Chairman Bruce Kooiman, Commissioners Luke Johnson, Les Nath, Jerry L. Remund and Daniel Wildermuth. County Administrator Sharon Hanson was also present. Chairman Kooiman called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Motion by Nath, seconded by Remund to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

1. Approve Minutes of August 11, 2015
2. Hospital Warrants in the amount of \$557,912.35

Motion carried unanimously.

AUDITOR WARRANTS PAYABLE

Motion by Remund, seconded by Nath to approve Auditor Warrant payable to Van Dyke Sanitation in the amount of \$8,953.43. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC SERVICES BUILDING RENOVATION BID

Building and Ground Supervisor Marc Hall joined the meeting to present a bid from Doom and Cuypers in the amount of \$48,398.00 that would reconfigure existing space in the Public Services Building to house four permanent offices versus the open offices that currently exist. Motion by Remund, seconded by Nath to accept the bid from Doom and Cuypers in the amount of \$48,398.00 with the amount to be reimbursed to the County through the annual lease agreement. Motion carried unanimously.

MN CARE TAX, SURPLUS COT AND AMBULANCE 2016 BUDGET

EMS Director Steve Ewing joined the meeting and presented background information on the Minnesota Care Tax that the Ambulance Service was recently audited by the Minnesota Department of Revenue and payment was due to the Minnesota Department of Revenue in the amount of \$13,653.92 for years audited 2009-2014. The Minnesota Care Tax is a tax on various types of providers of health care goods and services. Revenues from these taxes are used to pay for the Minnesota Care program, which provides state-subsidized health care coverage for low-income individuals. Director Ewing explained that not all ambulance services are required to pay

the Minnesota Care Tax, but since Pipestone County Ambulance has exceeded the employee wage threshold as per Minnesota Statutes 144E.001, subdivision 15, Pipestone County Ambulance must remit the Minnesota Care Tax. Motion by Nath, seconded by Wildermuth to approve Auditor Warrant payable to Minnesota Department of Revenue in the amount of \$13,653.92 for the MN Care Tax requirement and authorize EMS Director Steve Ewing to sign the Tax Liability Agreement between the Minnesota Department of Revenue detailing the MN Care Tax liability owed by the County. Motion carried unanimously. The Board expressed a desire to lobby for legislative appeal of this requirement for the 2016 legislative year.

Motion by Johnson, seconded by Nath to declare two ambulance cots as surplus property and authorize Director Ewing to make available for sale. Motion carried unanimously.

Director Ewing reviewed the 2016 ambulance budget.

EMPG GRANT, 2016 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT GRANT

Emergency Management Director Steve Ewing joined the meeting and presented for approval the annual Emergency Management Performance Grant Agreement. Motion by Remund, seconded by Johnson to approve the Emergency Management Performance Grant Agreement between Minnesota Homeland Security and Pipestone County that provides \$31,184 dollars for 2015 Emergency Management operations in Pipestone County. Motion carried unanimously.

Director Ewing reviewed the 2016 Emergency Management budget.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY 2016 BUDGET

Information Technology (IT) Director Bill Folger reviewed the 2016 IT budget.

COURT ADMINISTRATION 2016 BUDGET

Court Administrator Denise Brandel reviewed the 2016 Court Administration budget.

COUNTY SHERIFF KEITH VREEMAN, 2016 BUDGETS

County Sheriff Keith Vreeman reviewed the 2016 Sheriff, Dispatch, Jail and 911 budgets.

CENTRAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES

Discussion was held on having a committee of two commissioners meet with two City of Pipestone council members and possibly two Pipestone Area School District board members to discuss the future of the former Central School building which is currently in tax forfeited status.

August 25, 2015

Consensus of the Board appointing the Building Committee to meet with City of Pipestone and possibly Pipestone Area School District regarding former Central School.

ASSESSOR 2016 BUDGET

County Assessor Joyce Schmidt reviewed the 2016 Assessor budget.

PRIMEWEST JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT AMENDED AND RESTATED

An Amended and Restated Health Care Access Initiative Joint Powers Agreement between member counties of Primewest Health was presented for consideration in order to broaden the scope of activities of Primewest to include not only county-based purchasing, but commercial health coverage and administrative services to other county-based purchasing entities. Motion by Remund, seconded by Nath to approve the Amended and Restated Health Care Access Initiative Joint Powers Agreement between member counties of Primewest Health and authorize Board Chair signature. Motion carried unanimously.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Administrator Hanson provided an update on activities and next steps on the County budget with the discussion to continue at the September 8, 2015 Commissioner meeting.

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

Meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Bruce Kooiman
Pipestone County Board Chair

ATTEST:

Sharon Hanson
Pipestone County Administrator