

Minutes

Dodge County Board of Commissioners

March 3, 2014

Present: Dan McCranie, Chairman
William T. Howell, Jr., Vice-Chairman, Commissioner District 1
Terry Niblett, Commissioner District 2
Karen Cheek, Commissioner District 4

Also Present: John Harrington, County Attorney
Bobby Peacock, County Manager
Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk

Absent: Brian Watkins, Commissioner District 3

The Dodge County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, March 3, 2014, in Suite 101 of the Dodge County Courthouse Annex.

Chairman Dan McCranie called the meeting to order and noted the absence of Commissioner Watkins due to his marriage and being out of town for his honeymoon. He led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag followed by the devotional and prayer given by Commissioner Cheek.

Elected Officials / Department Heads

Sheriff Lynn Sheffield addressed the board with a request for two vehicles to replace a vehicle wrecked during the weekend and one out of service. He said his department did not replace any vehicles last year and he was requesting to purchase two (2) vehicles for the investigators at a cost of approximately \$13,000. Commissioner Cheek asked what type vehicles he had found and he replied a 2005 Chevrolet Colorado with 81,000 miles and a 2004 Ford with 51,000 miles. Commissioner Niblett asked the sheriff if he had money in the budget for the purchase and he said the SPLOST has money allotted to his department for vehicles but that money would not be available until October 1st. Commissioner Niblett then asked if the purchase could be made and reimbursed from SPLOST funds after October 1st. The county manager and county attorney replied yes. Commissioner Niblett then made a motion to allow the purchase of the two vehicles for the Sheriff's department seconded by Commissioner Howell. Commissioners Howell, Niblett, and Cheek voted in favor of the purchase and the motion carried.

It was decided to discuss the Sheriff Department firing range (Item A-Old Business) while the sheriff was present to answer questions. Commissioner Niblett asked if the firing range would be

completely under the Sheriff Department control and the sheriff answered yes. Commissioner Cheek asked about the cost and prep and the sheriff replied the only cost to the county would be to build the Bern and that would be done using county equipment. He said the targets would be provided by his department. Commissioner Howell asked about the agreement with the Sportsman Club and the sheriff said there were no objections. Commissioner Cheek asked if there would be a fence and the sheriff answered there was a fence there but it was not a very good one. The county attorney reminded the board that the proposed site was a former landfill and caution would need to be used to make sure there was no deep digging and it might be safer to bring in dirt. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the firing range proposal seconded by Commissioner Niblett. All voted in favor of the motion.

Approval of Minutes

Chairman McCranie called for any additions, corrections or deletions to the minutes of the February 17, 2014 meeting presented in printed form to the board members. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve as presented seconded by Commissioner Howell. Commissioners Howell, Niblett, and Cheek voted in favor of the motion and it passed.

Old Business

B. Tax Penalty Waiver Request

County Attorney Harrington passed out a memorandum, diagram and history of the tax matter involving the sale and transfer of property from the Harrell Estate to Wal-Mart. He said the Wal-Mart attorneys incorrectly filed the PT61 form and the error wasn't discovered until a title search was done during the sale of property to Tractor Supply Company. He said the Harrell Estate had paid the property tax due but there was interest and penalties due in the amount of \$1,087.16. He said the board could waive the interest and penalty, leave the interest and penalty owed, or write down the interest and penalty to the date of the repayment to Wal-Mart on November 19, 2012 in the amount of \$170.24. Commissioner Niblett said the error occurred through no fault of the tax payer and he made a motion to readjust the amount of interest and penalty owed to \$170.24. Commissioner Howell seconded the motion and the vote was in favor of approval.

C. Legacy Woods Road

County Manager Peacock told the board members that he had inspected the paved road in the Legacy Woods subdivision and would recommend that the county accept the road. Commissioner Cheek made a motion to accept the road seconded by Commissioner Howell. Commissioners Niblett, Howell and Cheek voted in favor of the motion.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the accounts payable check list seconded by Commissioner Cheek. The vote was unanimous to approve.

B. Hospital Board Appointments

Commissioner Niblett asked that the matter be tabled until the next meeting with all commissioners present. Both Cheek and Howell agreed and seconded the motion to table. All voted in favor of the motion.

C. CDBG Resolution

The county manager said a resolution had to be approved for a Community Development Block Grant application in the amount of \$500,000. Commissioner Cheek asked the purpose of the grant and the answer was to improve drainage to county roads and would require a match from the county. He said the use of county equipment in the project would be the match.

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the resolution seconded by Commissioner Cheek. The vote was unanimous to approve.

Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Cheek read a letter she had received from property and homeowners on Liberty Street regarding problems with storm drains being stopped up and causing septic systems in the area to back up. She made a motion to start the process to apply for a grant for Liberty Street to insert drain fields to alleviate the problem. Commissioner Howell seconded the motion and all voted in favor of approval.

County Manager Report

The county manager had nothing to report and there were no questions.

Public Comments

Mr. Wendell Oxley spoke about road conditions in the Gresston Road and Oxley-Garrett Road areas. He asked for consideration for improvements including paving of the road.

Adjourn

Commissioner Howell made a motion to adjourn seconded by Commissioner Niblett. The vote was unanimous to adjourn.