

BROOKINGS COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING

Tuesday, May 5, 2009

The Brookings County Board of County Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, May 5, 2009 with the following members present: Donald Larson, Alan Gregg, Mary Negstad, Deanna Santema and Dennis Falken.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Larson called the meeting to order.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda for the May 5, 2009 commission meeting was approved without objection from the board.

CONSENT AGENDA

The consent agenda was approved without objection from the board.

The consent agenda consisted of the minutes from the April 28, 2009 commission meeting.

Welfare Matters: case #09-034 for compromise/settlement was approved; case #09-058 for Avera McKennan was denied; case #08-127 for Avera McKennan was denied; case #09-066 for rent was approved; case #09-067 for rent was approved.

Travel/Education Requests: Stephanie Vogel and Jason Meusberger to attend a professional development series "Adjustment to Change" hosted by the Young Professionals group with Brookings Area Chamber of Commerce on May 5, 2009 at the Swiftel Center; Laurie Tangen to attend Master Gardener Training May 8, 2009 and May 15, 2009 in Sioux Falls, SD; Rose Stee to attend Program Planning for South District Youth Development April 28, 2009 in Madison, SD; Jacob Brehmer to take CAA test with SD DORR staff April 27, 2008 in Webster, SD; Lionel Torgrude and Irene Pierce to attend the County Welfare Officials summer workshop June 24-25, 2009 in Pierre, SD.

Personnel Action Notices: voluntary resignation-Dwight Kahler; position change-Jacob Brehmer from Appraiser I to Appraiser II at \$15.02.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Highway Superintendent Larry Jensen informed the board that a new truck for the department will be arriving soon and the truck that is being replaced was transferred to the Weed Department. He updated the board on the bridge project on County Road 17. Jensen also discussed signage along county and township roads.

Sheriff Marty Stanwick updated the board on the current jail population, SCRAM usage and those on the 24/7 program. He also gave the board a memorandum he had provided to all Sheriff's Department employees regarding precautions taken in response to the swine flu outbreak. Stanwick informed the board that he is in the process of making a courthouse security plan and hopes to have it implemented by June. He discussed mobile data now available to deputies in their vehicles. Stanwick also discussed the shortage of face masks and concerns with the Emergency

Management Department. Commissioner Larson discussed a bill in legislation regarding incarceration and a person's health benefits.

Weed Supervisor Gary Egeberg informed the board that the seasonal weed specialists started on April 23rd. He updated the board on an upcoming ATV training session, the mosquito grant, the weed grant, and the truck transfer from the Highway Department.

Extension Educator Jon Kieckhefer updated the board on the paint exchange, the drain tile workshop, concerns with fertilizer costs, and planting changes in the county.

ROUTINE BUSINESS

Motion by Gregg, seconded by Negstad, to approve the following Automatic Supplement for unanticipated expenses incurred and reimbursement made to Brookings County. Department: Commission; Amount: \$1,848.06, receipt #00028932; Reason: reimbursement for NACo travel by SDACC from line 101-3-369-0000 to line 101-4-111-420. Roll call vote: Gregg "aye," Negstad "aye," Santema "aye," Falken "aye," Larson "aye." Motion carried.

REGULAR BUSINESS

Motion by Santema, seconded by Falken to approve Petition #09-058: a Petition for Compromise & Settlement of a County Lien. Deputy States Attorney Mark Kratochvil gave the board background information and said that County Welfare Director Lionel Torgrude is in support of the petition and recommends approval. Commissioner Falken noted that dates need to be corrected on the petition. Roll call vote: Negstad "aye," Santema "aye," Falken "aye," Gregg "aye," Larson "aye." Motion carried.

Motion by Falken, seconded by Negstad to approve Resolution #09-19: a Resolution Authorizing the Release of a County Aid Lien on Real Property with payment of \$1,500.00. Roll call vote: Santema "aye," Falken "aye," Gregg "aye," Negstad "aye," Larson "aye." Motion carried.

Motion by Gregg, seconded by Negstad to approve and authorize Chairperson Larson to sign Resolution #09-20: a Resolution Extending Weight Limit Enforcements on Brookings County Highways. Highway Superintendent Larry Jensen provided background information on the resolution and recommended approval. Roll call vote: Falken "aye," Gregg "aye," Negstad "aye," Santema "aye," Larson "aye." Motion carried.

Resolution #09-20

A RESOLUTION EXTENDING WEIGHT LIMIT ENFORCEMENTS ON BROOKINGS COUNTY HIGHWAYS

WHEREAS, Seasonal climatic changes can be detrimental to our highways, and

WHEREAS, based upon highway and climatic conditions an extension of seasonal weight limits is warranted through May 31, 2009.

WHEREAS, the Brookings County Board of County Commissioners, desires the enforcement of weight limitation of Brookings County Roads as set forth and posted by the Brookings County Highway Superintendent.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: The limits on Brookings County Highways shall be set as six (6) and seven (7) ton per axle weight, on all asphalt surface roads, during spring thaw period and when limit signs are in place; and

That the South Dakota Highway Patrol be and hereby is authorized and requested to enforce weight limitations on Brookings County Roads.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the penalty for the violation of the load restrictions shall be set forth in SDCL 32-22-55.

Vote of Brookings County Commission: 5 AYE 0 NO

Dated this 5th day of May, 2009.

Donald L. Larson
Chairperson, Brookings County Commission

ATTEST:

Vicki Buseth
County Finance Officer

Motion by Negstad, seconded by Falken to approve and authorize Chairperson Larson to sign Agreement #09-30: an application made by Sioux Valley Energy for Occupancy of Right of Way of County Highway 77, in Section 26, Township 109N, Range 50W, Brookings County, SD. Highway Superintendent Larry Jensen provided background information and recommended approval. Roll call vote: Gregg "aye," Negstad "aye," Santema "aye," Falken "aye," Larson "aye." Motion carried.

Motion by Gregg, seconded by Santema to approve and authorize Chairperson Larson to sign Agreement #09-31: an application made by R & L Splicing for Occupancy of Right of Way of County Highway 42, in Section 1, Township 112N, Range 48W, Brookings County, SD and also Section 6, Township 111-112N, Range 47W, Brookings County, SD. Highway Superintendent Larry Jensen provided background information and recommended approval. Roll call vote: Negstad "aye," Santema "aye," Falken "aye," Gregg "aye," Larson "aye." Motion carried.

Motion by Santema, seconded by Gregg to approve and authorize Chairperson Larson to sign Agreement #09-32: a Memorandum of Understanding with South Dakota State University for the sharing of Geographic Information System Data. Commission Assistant Stephanie Vogel provided background information and said that GIS Technician Jason Meusberger recommends approval. Roll call vote: Santema "aye," Falken "aye," Gregg "aye," Negstad "aye," Larson "aye." Motion carried.

Commission Assistant and Human Resources Director Stephanie Vogel presented the Commission Assistant/Human Resources Report.

Vogel provided correspondence regarding the Mayor Munsterman and Council Member Brunner reception; the agenda for the quarterly meeting of the Sioux Valley Commissioners Association; Brookings Bike to Work Week informational flier; the Planning & Zoning Commission Agenda; and the Regional Infant and Child Mortality Review Committee 2008 Final Report. Vogel updated the board on the SHRM conference, the PUC conference, the Commission/HR intern position, supervisor training webinars, and the Deputy Commission Assistant opening.

Deputy States Attorney Mark Kratochvil informed the board that he and States Attorney Clyde Calhoun will be out of the office Wednesday through Friday while attending the States Attorney's Conference.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

Commissioner Gregg discussed the space needs task force meeting and the pandemic table top exercise.

Commissioner Negstad had no report.

Commissioner Santema discussed the pandemic table top exercise and the dedication of the Electrical Engineering/Computer Science building at SDSU.

Commissioner Falken had no report.

Commissioner Larson discussed the BEDC meeting, the seed lab groundbreaking on the Innovation Campus, the Rural Action Caucus Fly-In and the space needs task force meeting.

Commissioner Santema had questions about the space needs task force meeting. She said she feels like it is a good thing to have all the entities involved, but that the commissioners need to work on the space needs issue as well. She said that they cannot put the county's space needs solely onto the task force and not do anything as a board. Santema said that from what she has heard from the two task meetings that have been held, not much has been accomplished. Commissioner Falken said that the reason the task force was put together was to find a suitable location, not to decide what type of building will be built. Commissioner Santema said that she does not believe the task force should be touring facilities to see if they are appropriate for the county. Commissioner Negstad said that she agrees with Falken and Santema and that the end result will be made by the five commissioners, not by the BEDC. She said the BEDC can make their suggestions, but the board is responsible for how the tax payers' money is handled.

Commissioner Gregg, a member of the task force, said that they are concentrating on a location, but that the public would like a combined location for both the city and county, so they are looking for a location that would be compatible for both. He said that for an issue that has been going on since 1988, waiting a couple months should not be a big deal and that the task force is trying to meet every couple weeks. Commissioner Santema said that the city has no intention of doing anything right now, but the county has needs immediately, and if there is no togetherness, then the county needs to move forward.

Commissioner Gregg said that the board has a motion on the floor to build new, but the task force has been asked to find a location. Gregg asked if current buildings are no longer an option. Santema said that she made the motion in October of 2007 to build new with a site and price to be determined, but then the city got involved with possibly joining and the discussions and options have varied. Gregg said that he was misdirected, that he did not realize that they were only looking for a site to build new. He thought the 1921 Building or former bank building were still options. Commissioner Negstad said that after the board looked at the cost to purchase and remodel the bank and the 1921 Building, they would be better off building new and getting exactly what they want.

Commissioner Larson, a member of the task force, said that the task force fully understands that whatever decision is made will have a long-term impact and that they also have to consider other opportunities if they become available. Commissioner Gregg said that it has been good to get other ideas from outside individuals. And Larson also said that the task force will be coming to this board with recommendations.

Commissioner Falken said that the priority is to find a location, but if that is not possible, then he would not be against looking at current facilities to renovate. He said that we would like to stay close to the courthouse, but that may not be a possibility. Falken also said that the commission wanting to do something to eliminate our space needs is more important to this board than it is to the task force.

Commissioner Santema said that they have to keep the economy in mind now too. She said that the county owns the parking lot; they should build on the parking lot, which would not require purchasing a whole lot, although parking issues would need to be discussed. Larson said that there really aren't many stones left unturned with the task force discussions.

Commissioner Falken said that the county has money dedicated to this project. He wants to know the city's timeframe to have money to put into this. Commissioner Gregg said that the city is

helping us find a location, but whether they're involved in the project really hasn't been discussed. He also noted that a couple council members are not interested in combining the two entities. Falken said that the city wants to be careful to not lose retail space.

Commissioner Gregg finished by saying he is pleased with the way things are going on the task force. Commissioner Santema said that the board needs to talk these things out and give the task force input and continue to keep working on finding a solution. Commissioner Larson said that recommendations from the task force will be forthcoming.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chairperson Larson declared the meeting adjourned until 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, May 12, 2009.

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Stacy Steffensen
Deputy Finance Officer
Brookings County Finance Office