

SYNOPSIS OF COUNTY BOARD MEETING
December 1, 2010

Members present: Seeboth, Berg, Lochner, and Potter along with Administrator Enter and County Attorney Hinnenthal.

M/Lochner, S/Berg, to accept the Minutes of 11-23-10 and authorize publication of the Synopsis of same, carried.

M/Lochner, S/Potter, to authorize the payment General Government claims in the amount of \$64,036.08 (subject to a \$761.50 repair attributed to JD#9), carried.

M/Potter, S/Berg, to accept and order filed the reports on county drainage ditch matters, carried, with Lochner dissenting.

M/Lochner, S/Potter, to authorize six (6) Drainage Ditch Repair requests, carried.

M/Potter, S/Lochner, to approve regular employee status for Matt Steffen, MW II, and for Cindy Marti, Assessment Technician, carried.

M/Lochner, S/Berg, to accept and file the Highway Dept. Monthly Construction Projects Update and Maintenance Projects Update, carried.

M/Berg, S/Potter, to authorize the purchase of the following computer equipment in the state contract amounts: Two (2) Dell OptiPlex 780 Minitower Computers @ \$864.23/each; two (2) Dell 24" Flat Panel Monitors @ \$240.00/each; and two (2) Dell AX 510 Stereo Soundbar speakers @ \$31.32/each; plus sales tax in the amount of \$156.13, for a total amount of \$2,427.23, with funding provided by Water Plan funds through the Natural Resources Block Grant, carried.

M/Lochner, S/Berg, to approve the use of SCORE funds for the publication of an educational recycling/green newspaper insert on recycling, new recycling coordination, waste and other environmental topics that affect the citizens of Brown County, carried.

The County Board further reviewed the 2011 Committee Memberships and by consensus, agreed to consider the final draft listing at the next County Board meeting.

Correspondence C-1 thru C-7 were accepted and filed.

Seeboth reported on the Help Me Grow committee and on Child Care information.

M/Berg, S/Potter, to approve the following Family Services Dept. legislative proposals for the legislator visits in the December Board meetings as relates for the 2011 legislative session: Welfare Fraud Issues - Medical Assistance, Cash Assistance, EBT Cards, Food Support Eligibility, Restructuring of the Welfare Fraud Unit; Collections Issues; and Budget Issues, carried.

Calendars were coordinated for the next two week period.

At 5:30 PM, Chairman Seeboth recessed the Regular meeting to reconvene at 6:00 PM this date in the District Courtroom.

At 6:00 PM, Chairman Seeboth reconvened the Regular Meeting to conduct the 2011 Proposed Budget and Levy Public Hearing in the 3rd floor District Courtroom of the Brown County Courthouse located in New Ulm, MN. Commissioners Seeboth, Berg, Lochner, and Potter were in attendance, along with County Administrator Enter, County Attorney Hinnenthal, Auditor/Treasurer Helget, and Administrative/Personnel Assistant Koch. Also in attendance were fifteen (15) Brown County department heads and staff; four (4) members of the general public; and media representative Fritz Busch of the Journal.

Chairman Seeboth convened the 2011 Proposed Budget and Levy Public Hearing. Informational handouts were distributed to those in attendance prior to the meeting.

At 6:01 PM, Administrator Enter presented Brown County's proposed budget for 2011, reviewing the handouts as provided. The proposed 2011 Brown County levy noted was \$11,427,170 which reflected a 5.0% increase from the 2010 levy in the amount of \$10,883,019. The Brown County Summary Budget Statement noted adopted 2010 and proposed 2011 revenues by fund and department, with the 2011 Brown County Budget Revenues projected at \$26,486,283. The adopted 2010 and proposed 2011 expenditures by

fund and department were also presented in chart and graph form, with the proposed 2011 Expenditures budgeted at \$26,486,283 which represented a 6.8% decrease from 2010. The proposed 2011 Expenditures by category as a percentage of total budget were noted as follows: 18.3%-General Government; 6.2%-Public Health Nursing; 34.0%-Human Services; 20.7%-Road and Bridge; 0.6%-Conservation/Natural Resources; 1.6%-Culture/Recreation; and 18.6%-Public Safety.

Administrator Enter addressed additional budget information as follows: Projected Brown County Employer Costs for employee compensation/benefits for 2011 totaling \$13,918,951 or 52.6% of the total proposed budget; Comparison of estimated market values for total agriculture properties and total non-agriculture properties. Administrator Enter also noted that preparation of the budget is a lengthy process and departments continually look for ways to limit the need for property taxes by seeking grants and reviewing departmental activity.

At 6:15 PM, Chairman Seeboth called for testimony from the public regarding the proposed 2011 Brown County Budget and levy. There was no testimony from the general public received.

Chairman Seeboth expressed thanks to those in attendance, and also thanked the department heads and staff for their efforts in preparing the draft 2011 budget and for controlling expenditures in 2010. It was noted that the County Board will consider adoption of the final payable 2011 property tax levy and budget at the regular County Board Meeting at 9:30 AM on Tuesday 12-14-10 in Room 204 of the Brown County Courthouse.

There being no further business, Chairman Seeboth adjourned the Public Hearing and the Regular Meeting at 6:17 PM.

The Official Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 1, 2010 are on file in the County Administrator's Office and may be viewed during normal business hours, M-F, 8AM-5PM. Correspondence and requests for additional information may be directed to the County Administrator's E-Mail Address: cntyadm@co.brown.mn.us Home Page Address: www.co.brown.mn.us