

The Aitkin County Board of Commissioners met this 27th day of October, 2009 at 10:56 a.m. with the following members present: Chairperson J. Mark Wedel, Commissioners Galen "Tweet" Tveit, Brian Napstad, Laurie Westerlund, Paul Bailey, County Administrator Patrick Wussow, and Administrative Assistant Nicole Visnovec.

CALL TO ORDER

Motion by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Tveit and carried, all members voting yes to approve the October 27, 2009 agenda.

**APPROVED
AGENDA**

Motion by Commissioner Bailey, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund and carried, all members voting yes to acknowledge the October 20, 2009 meeting minutes.

**ACKNOWLEDGE
MINUTES**

Motion by Commissioner Napstad seconded by Commissioner Tveit carried, all members voting yes, to approve the Consent Agenda as follows: Correspondence File: A) October 20, 2009 – October 26, 2009; B) Approve Minutes: October 6, 2009 Board; C) Approve Water Management Plan; D) Approve Auditor Warrants – Total Appropriations \$1,045,580.68; E) Approve Commissioner Warrants – General Funds \$115,600.19, Road and Bridge \$40,252.62, Health and Human Services \$1,884.34, State \$680.00, Trust \$1,584.04, Forest Development \$8,560.47, Long Lake Conservation Center \$6,181.32 for a total of \$174,742.98: a) Approve Request for Public Hearing – Cave Liquors.

**CONSENT
AGENDA**

Motion for a resolution by Commissioner Bailey, seconded by Commissioner Tveit and carried, all members voting yes to approve supporting a fee increase for deputy registrars:

WHEREAS, the State of Minnesota established a public/private deputy registrar system to provide citizens convenient locations to conduct title registration services for motor vehicles and DNR recreational vehicles; and,

**RESOLUTION
102709-102
SUPPORTING A
FEE INCREASE
FOR DEPUTY
REGISTRARS**

WHEREAS, the State of Minnesota in 1949 established a user service fee on motor vehicle transactions to be retained by the deputy registrar to defray the cost of providing the local service; and,

WHEREAS, the State of Minnesota has shifted increased costs and responsibilities onto the deputy registrar such as regular replacement schedules of computers and associated electronic equipment, printing of previously supplied state forms, and expanded auditing tasks with additional risks and potential liability that was previously the responsibility of the State; and,

WHEREAS, the State of Minnesota now competes with deputy registrars for the retention of some user fees that were traditionally retained solely by deputy registrars; and,

WHEREAS, collectively the deputy registrar system handles over one billion dollars of state funds for the State of Minnesota annually on a cash basis only with considerable risk whereby dishonored checks are the responsibility of the deputy registrar in the full amount tendered after remitting the bulk of those funds to the State; and

WHEREAS, the user service fee that should fully support the cost of providing motor vehicle transactions no longer covers the operational costs to maintain most deputy registrar offices. Public deputy registrars must use property tax proceeds to subsidize this service. Rural areas with lower volumes are in jeopardy of losing service.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners

supports the State Legislature authorizing a more equitable recovery of dishonored payments at deputy registrar offices; and to achieve a greater retention of existing fees or a user service fee increase in the year 2010 to maintain local title and registration service to the citizens of Minnesota.

Motion by Commissioner Napstad seconded by Commissioner Tveit, all members voting that the Aitkin County Board as the Animal Control authority finds that the evidence presented for “Jada”, is sufficient, the Animal Control Authority therefore upholds the potentially dangerous dog designation.

Terry Neff, Environmental Services Director presented the board the draft mining and reclamation ordinance and it was conserved the first reading. The item will be brought back before the Board on November 17th, after public comment and review.

A memo will be sent to all employees from the Administrator discussing the budget situation, authorized by board consensus.

November 17th the budget discussion will be brought back before the board to consider the possible ideas of department heads regarding program cuts/revenue increasing options and other options.

During the meeting, the Board heard updates on the following committees: i) Budget Discussion, ii) Arrowhead Counties, iii) Snake River.

Motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Napstad and carried, all members voting yes to adjourn the meeting at 12:36 p.m. until Tuesday, November 17, 2009 at 9:00 a.m.

**POTENTIALLY
DANGEROUS DOG
DETERMINATION**

**DRAFT MINING &
RECLAMATION
ORDINANCE**

EMPLOYEE MEMO

**BUDGET
DISCUSSION**

**COMMITTEE
UPDATES**

ADJOURN

J. Mark Wedel, Chairperson
Aitkin County Board of Commissioners

Patrick Wussow, County Administrator