

**TUESDAY, MARCH 13, 2012**

**APPROVED MINUTES OF THE  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING HELD**

**STATE OF MINNESOTA)  
DODGE COUNTY)**

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATION OFFICE  
MANTORVILLE, MN**

**2012-05 C.O.W.**

The Dodge County Commissioners met in Committee of the Whole March 13, 2012, in the Commissioner's Room at the Dodge County Courthouse Annex, Mantorville, MN, at 9:00 a.m. CDT. Chair Don Gray opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. CDT.

Meeting Convened

The Chair acknowledged those present:

Those Present

Members present:	Jane Olive	District #1
	Lyle Tjosaas	District #2
	Don Gray	District #4
	David Hanson	District #5
Members absent:	David Erickson	District #3
Also present:	Jim Elmquist	County Administrator
	Becky Lubahn	Deputy County Clerk
	Wendell Engelstad	County Assessor

County Assessor Wendell Engelstad provided the Board with a 2012 assessment summary.

2012 Assessment  
Summary

Mr. Engelstad distributed a handout that displayed 2012 land and site values and a 2011 to 2012 table that showed the percent of EMV changes.

The County Assessor noted that the table on page 1 represents the following changes to land and site values from the 2011 to the 2012 assessment:

1. Lowered the urban residential and commercial land and site values by -10%.
2. Lowered the rural residential and commercial land site values by -5%.
3. Raised the \$/CER value from \$58.50 to \$70.00 (+19.6%).
4. Lowered the CER floor for woods, waste, and pasture from 50 CER to 40 CER (-20%).

Mr. Engelstad reported that the changes to the land and site values also raised the depreciation percentages as follows:

Condition	From	To
Below Normal	50%	55%
Poor	60%	65%
Very Poor	70%	75%

2011 to 2012 percent EMV changes were discussed as shown on page 2 of the handout.

The County Assessor was asked to clarify the Agricultural/Rural Vacant Land codes.

The following code information was shared:

- HGA = House, Garage +1 Acre
- OB = Outbuilding
- 2a = Productive Land
- 2b = Non-Productive Land
- 2c = Managed Forest

2012 Assessment  
Summary -  
Continued

Commissioner Olive questioned if the figure listed for the City of Mantorville under Commercial was correct, it was listed at 13%.

Mr. Engelstad reported that this figure is correct and is likely due to the Intermediate School now being listed as commercial.

Commissioner Tjosaas questioned why the City of Kasson was listed at 18% for Industrial.

The County Assessor attributed this increase in part due to the expansion of the Greenway Coop.

Mr. Engelstad reported that farm land values have gone up and that the information shared will be for taxes payable in 2013.

The Board thanked the County Assessor for the information.

County Administrator Jim Elmquist discussed with the Board the proposed GIS Agreement.

GIS Agreement  
Discussion

For several months, Dodge County has been in discussions with Goodhue County to provide GIS services. One of the interests in doing so was reviewing their product/database, and having conversations with Goodhue staff it was evident they had the ability to handle multiple counties for this service. Previous to this, Dodge County had an employee responsible for GIS services but the individual left employment and the decision was to re-invest half of those hours into IT services and find collaboration opportunities for GIS. The proposed GIS Agreement is the result of the county's discussions in development of strategic planning which meets the county's goals on multiple levels (collaboration, technology, and technology investment).

After discussions between Goodhue and Dodge which included several department heads, it was determined that providing for the service would be a contract including staff time for their GIS employees to develop the infrastructure, the training of Dodge County departments on specific software uses, and host a site on Goodhue's servers for Dodge datasets which relates to another item on the agenda. Goodhue has also negotiated with a company called ESRI (design tool software for geographic information) for a licensing agreement allowing Dodge to fall under Goodhue's software contract at their rate. Previously, Dodge used an older edition of this software (ArcGIS) with a limited number of contracts for use by employees.

Year one will be the development of the infrastructure, training, installation of the Arch products, and the centralization of the datasets between counties. Year two will commence the hosting of the online mapping applications on Goodhue’s servers, migration of the datasets into Goodhue’s form, and going live via web access of the county’s software.

GIS Agreement Discussion - Continued

In previous years, Dodge County’s annual budget for GIS services was approximately \$85,000 which includes salary, benefits, and web-hosting. There are also outside departmental software costs that are not included in this number.

The Goodhue County Board of Commissioners has endorsed the contract to Dodge and believe this is a practical use of their GIS Department for collaboration purposes.

The County Administrator informed the Board that the cost of the GIS Agreement with Goodhue County is similar to what the county is paying for the Beacon Program now. The only difference is that the county will now have access to better information with the new agreement.

County Surveyor Lisa Hanni and Goodhue County GIS Specialist Sarah Schrader were available to comment on the proposed GIS Agreement.

Mr. Elmquist reported that Goodhue County has similar GIS Agreements with other entities.

Ms. Hanni informed the Board that Goodhue County has the same type of agreement with some of the cities within their county and a few other businesses.

The availability of internal datasets for county use and separate datasets for public use were discussed.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:28 a.m. CDT.

Meeting Adjourned

**ATTEST:**

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DON GRAY  
CHAIR, COUNTY BOARD

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BECKY LUBAHN  
DEPUTY CLERK

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DATED: