

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2014

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

**STATE OF MINNESOTA)
COUNTY OF DODGE)**

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATION OFFICE
MANTORVILLE, MN**

2014-24 C.O.W.

The Dodge County Commissioners met in Committee of the Whole December 23, 2014, in the Commissioner's Room at the Dodge County Courthouse Annex, Mantorville, MN, at 4:30 p.m. CST. Chair Rodney Peterson opened the meeting at 4:30 p.m. CST.

Meeting Convened

The Chair acknowledged those present:

Those Present

Members present: John Allen District #1
Tim Tjosaas District #2
Rodney Peterson District #3
David Erickson District #4
Steven Gray District #5

Members absent: None

Also present: Jim Elmquist County Administrator
Becky Lubahn Deputy Clerk

County Administrator Jim Elmquist presented for the Board's consideration the proposed 2015 fee schedule.

Proposed 2015 Fee
Schedule Reviewed

Mr. Elmquist noted the fees charged are to reflect costs associated with providing a service. Most changes are inflationary ones in nature and the primary reason for the increased costs. However, notable changes were listed as follows:

Assessor

AS5 – This charge was incorrectly reported in the past – the charge has always been \$500.

Recorder

UCC (Uniform Commercial Code) fees are no longer collected by the county. This is a state fee.

Transfer Station

ES5 – Will no longer take tonnage for calculating price - strictly yards now.

The Board will be asked to approve the 2015 fees during the regular meeting.

The County Administrator discussed with the Board committee appointments for 2015.

2015 Committee
Appointments
Discussed

Included in the Board packet was a copy of the 2014 committee assignments for reference purposes. Mr. Elmquist asked that the Board go through last year's assignments and determine who will serve on what committees in 2015.

The County Administrator pointed out the Board Chair sits on the Administration Committee and the Human Services Committee and there will no longer be a reporting committee for Human Services with the formation of the SDA.

It was noted the Administration Committee appointments will be made after the Chair and Vice Chair have been determined at the first meeting of the new year.

2015 Committee Appointments Discussed - Continued

The Board will be asked to approve the 2015 committee assignments at their statutory meeting Tuesday, January 6, 2015.

The Board discussed the proposed 2015 budget.

2015 Budget Discussion

Commissioner Peterson informed the Board that he had asked the County Administrator to provide an alternate 2015 budget resolution which included an additional \$50,000 in the Commissioner’s Contingency Fund.

It was clarified the proposed budget represents a 9% tax levy. The budget with the additional \$50,000 in contingency fund money represents a 9.4% tax levy.

Also clarified was the additional \$50,000 was intended for use by departments that need extra money. A Department Head that needs additional money would have to come to the County Board to request funds from this contingency fund.

Commission Gray reported he supports keeping the budget levy at 9%.

The County Administrator informed the Board there is currently \$30,000 in the Commissioner’s Contingency Fund.

The Board discussed the new custodial position and a possible start date for this position. Also discussed was the impact this position will have on the budget.

Commissioner Erickson stated he was happy with a 9% budget levy.

The Board discussed the Sheriff’s Office budget, radios, dispatch and future security needs.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 5:24 p.m. CST.

Meeting Adjourned

ATTEST:

**RODNEY PETERSON
CHAIR, COUNTY BOARD**

**BECKY LUBAHN
DEPUTY CLERK**

DATED: