

**WADENA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS EMERGENCY MEETING**  
**JUNE 25, 2010/3:00 P.M.**

The Wadena County Emergency Board of Commissioners Meeting was held on Friday, June 25, 2010, at the Wadena County Courthouse in the Commissioners Room at 415 Jefferson St. S., Wadena Minnesota. The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Chairman William Stearns.

Present: Commissioners Lane Waldahl, Rodney Bounds, Dave Schermerhorn, Ralph Miller, Auditor/Treasurer Char West, Highway Engineer Ryan Odden, Wadena County Solid Waste Director Mike Hanan and County Assessor Lee Brekke. Also present were Rod O’Hotto, MCIT Claims Adjuster, Sheldon Monson and Jeff Nardelo, Wadena County Agriculture Society, Dan Labat, USDA representative.

Chairman Stearns informed those in attendance that the purpose of the Emergency Meeting was to discuss and take possible action in response to the Wadena County Disaster Recovery Effort.

Rod O’Hotto, MCIT Claims Adjuster, reviewed with the Board the initial Wadena County Fairgrounds Loss Recap Report which reflected the insurance claim for the repair and replacement of Wadena County Fairgrounds buildings insured by Wadena County. He informed the Board that up to 25% was allowable for debris removal, if incurred.

Sheldon Monson, Agriculture Society representative, informed the Board that he had arranged for a structural engineer to review the damaged buildings. He presented the Board quotes for the removal of Tornado debris at the County Fair Grounds.

-Waln Excavating	No total
-Schaefer Auto	\$86,340 to \$99,291 (not bid)
-Kern & Tabery, Inc.	\$160,300 just estimate
-Hough	\$125,000 to \$176,000
-Young Excavating	base bid \$79,000 plus \$10,000 for 4-H building including hauling

Mr. Monson pointed out that Young Excavating provided a firm quote of \$89,000 which was the low quote; the contractor also agreed to work with the Agriculture Society to remove the undamaged metal gates and pens from the Cattle Barn. He presented a detailed damage and destruction report of the Fairground buildings.

Motion by Waldahl, seconded by Schermerhorn, to approve the low bid of \$89,000 from Young Excavating for the removal of Tornado debris at the Wadena County Fair Grounds, motion carried.

Chairman Stearns commented that the Agriculture Society had discussed the possibility of selling off the south portion of the County Fairgrounds property along Highway 10 and moving the Fairgrounds back.

Discussion was held regarding the possibility of not rebuilding Fairground buildings along the valuation Highway 10 frontage and take time to plan the future redevelopment of the Fairgrounds.

Mr. O’Hotto pointed out that the MCIT insurance proceeds could be combined for the purpose of rebuilding one large building at the Fairgrounds and MCIT allowed up to two years for building replacement with the opportunity to request an extension if necessary. He added that the combined County and Agriculture Society insurance coverage for debris removal should be sufficient to cover the expense of Fairgrounds debris removal.

Chairman Stearns commented that there was minor damage to the Administration building that needed to be repaired before the Fair.

Jeff Nardello, Agriculture Society Representative, pointed out that the Agriculture Society did order the re-roofing to repair the Cattle Barn.

Motion by Miller, seconded by Schermerhorn, to approve the re-roofing and repair the Cattle Barn, not to exceed \$41,000.00 and use Sentence To Serve labor, motion carried.

Discussion was held regarding the actual materials cost and the need to use this dollar amount in the Board motion and the requirement of obtaining two quotes for purchases.

Mr. Nardello reported that the materials cost was approximately \$9,000.

Motion by Miller, seconded by Schermerhorn, to rescind the previous motion, “Motion by Miller, seconded by Schermerhorn, to approve to re-roof and repair the Cattle Barn, not to exceed \$41,000.00 and use Sentence To Serve labor, motion carried.”, motion carried.

Motion by Waldahl, seconded by Schermerhorn, to authorize the Agriculture Society to spend up to \$20,000 for materials to repair the Cattle Barn, motion carried unanimously.

Ryan Odden, Highway Engineer, requested Board approval of an Amendment to the Highway Department’s contract with the Minnesota Department of Transportation and authorization for the Highway Department to assist the Sentence To Service crews at the Fairgrounds.

Motion by Waldahl, seconded by Schermerhorn, to approve Amendment #1 to the Master Partnership Contract between the State of Minnesota and Wadena County to include Emergency Services, motion carried.

Motion by Schermerhorn, seconded by Miller, to approve the Wadena County Highway Department’s assistance to the Sentence to Serve crews at the Wadena County Fairgrounds, motion carried.

Lee Brekke, County Assessor, presented the Board with a MN Department of Revenue Disaster Relief Flow Chart that outlined the process in determining whether Wadena County taxpayers would be eligible for the State's Local Option Disaster Abatement Program, the Homestead Disaster Credit Program or the Local Option Disaster Credit Program. He added that participation in these Programs was based on County Board approval. Mr. Brekke pointed out that to date the property in the Tornado area had not been declared a qualifying disaster or emergency area so at this time Wadena County property owners did not qualify for these programs.

Mike Hanan, Solid Waste Director, requested Board approval to hirer two temporary full-time employees to assist with the additional duties at the Debris Management Site.

Motion by Schermerhorn, seconded by Waldahl, to approve the hiring of two Solid Waste emergency temporary full-time employees for up to 67 days, to assist in the operations at the Transfer Station and Debris Management Site, motion carried.

Mr. Hanan recommended that the hours of operation of the Debris Management Site remain from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. through July 3, 2010, the Site would be closed July 4<sup>th</sup> and July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2010 and reopen July 6<sup>th</sup> with the possibility of an adjusted schedule.

Mr. Odden informed the Board that he had assigned a Highway Maintenance dozer operation to the Debris Management Site, which could continue for a week or so.

Dan Labat, USDA, offered their full support and resources. He pointed out that USDA was not a disaster relief agency but investment agency which may be an option to consider during reconstruction.

Chairman Stearns recessed the Emergency Board of Commissioners Meeting at 3:55 p.m. to be reconvened at the St. Ann's Catholic Church at 4:00 p.m.

Chairman Stearns reconvened the Emergency Board of Commissioners Meeting at 4:00 p.m. at the St. Ann's Catholic Church, Wadena, MN.

The Board received Tornado Disaster information from Congressman Jim Oberstar, Senator Dan Skogen, Representative Mark Murdock and other City and County representatives.

Chairman Stearns adjourned the Emergency Board of Commissioners Meeting at 5:00 p.m.

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Charleen West, Auditor/Treasurer

William Stearns, Chairman