

REDWOOD COUNTY, MINNESOTA

APRIL 19, 2022

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session at 8:30 a.m. in the Commissioner’s Room in the Government Center, Redwood Falls, Minnesota.

Present for all or portions of the meeting were Commissioners Bob VanHee, Dave Forkrud, Jim Salfer, Dennis Groebner, Rick Wakefield and County Administrator Vicki Kletscher. Also present were Auditor/Treasurer Jean Price; Highway Engineer Anthony Sellner; Planning and Zoning Supervisor Nick Brozek; Environmental Director Scott Wold; County Attorney Jenna Peterson; Human Resource Coordinator Peter Brown; Property Appraiser Jesse Jacobson; Technology Coordinator Paul Parsons; Economic Development Coordinator Briana Mumme; Broadband Coordinator Patrick Garry; Redwood Falls City Administrator Keith Muetzel; Redwood Falls Mayor Tom Quackenbush; Serenity Suites Representatives Cathy Schwartz and Christopher Knoll; Maintenance Supervisor Jamie Larsen; Highway Specialist Roger Polkow and Durham Snider.

Chair Salfer called the meeting to order asking for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

On motion by Groebner, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to approve the April 19th agenda.

Chair Salfer asked the Board members to identify any areas for which they had a Conflict of Interest. There were none.

Snider was present for Open Forum stating his concerns regarding the “No Weapon” signs located in the entrance of the Government Center.

CONSENT AGENDA

- On motion by Groebner, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to approve the consent agenda.
 - April 5, 2022 minutes.
 - Payment of bills as follows:

General Fund	\$ 166,462.53
Ditch Fund	\$ 26,640.24
Building Fund	\$ 5,948.10
Solid Waste Fund	\$ 100.00

- Bills exceeding \$2,000.00: Runchey, Louwagie & Wellman \$2,050.00; CPT \$4,010.00; Dell Marketing \$2,345.00; Law Office of Kenneth White \$4,175.00; Smith & Johnson \$3,875.00; G & R Controls \$7,644.20; AT – Scene LLC \$3,150.00; Renville County \$13,793.42; MEND Correctional Care \$4,123.69; Redwood County Highway Department \$6,146.55; Tersteeg’s Holiday Market \$8,226.92; WOLD Architects \$5,148.10; Yellow Medicine County \$14,495.24; Robert Hanson \$2,142.04; Kenneth Langseth \$2,901.50.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

- The Board recognized Jesse Jacobson for 10 years of service, Jamie Larson for 5 years of service and Roger Polkow for 30 years of service to Redwood County.

PUBLIC HEARING – RE-DISTRICTING OF COUNTY COMMISSIONER DISTRICTS

- At 8:45 a.m., the Board entered into a Public Hearing to consider plans for redistricting of County Commissioner Districts in accordance with MN Statutes 375.01 to 375-025 based on population figures from the 2020 Federal Census to make sure that the people of each district are equally represented.
- Price presented the Affidavit of Publication for the notification of the public hearing.
- Price presented the County Commissioner District information.
- Salfer opened the hearing for public comment. No public comments were offered.
- Salfer closed the hearing for public comment.
- On motion by Wakefield, second by Groebner, in a roll-call vote with Forkrud, Salfer, Wakefield, Van Hee and Groebner all voting aye, the Board adopted the following resolution:

Resolution for Adoption of County Commissioner Districts

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes Chapter 375 establishes the procedure and requires a process for redistricting County Commissioner districts based on population figures from the Federal Census; and,

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute section 204B.135, subd. 2 requires that County Commissioner Districts be redistricted within 80 days of when the legislature has been redistricted or at least 15 weeks before the state primary election, whichever comes first; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to these statutes the 2020 Federal Census population figures shall be used to redistrict the Redwood County Commissioner Districts by April 26, 2022, and that Commissioner Districts shall be bounded by town, municipal, ward, city district, or precinct lines; and,

WHEREAS, the Redwood County Board of Commissioners has considered the possibility or potential for maximizing minority representation on the board of commissioners; and,

WHEREAS, Redwood County published a three week notice in the newspaper having the contract for publishing the commissioner’s proceedings for the county for 2022; and,

WHEREAS, Redwood County conducted a public meeting on redistricting on April 19, 2022:

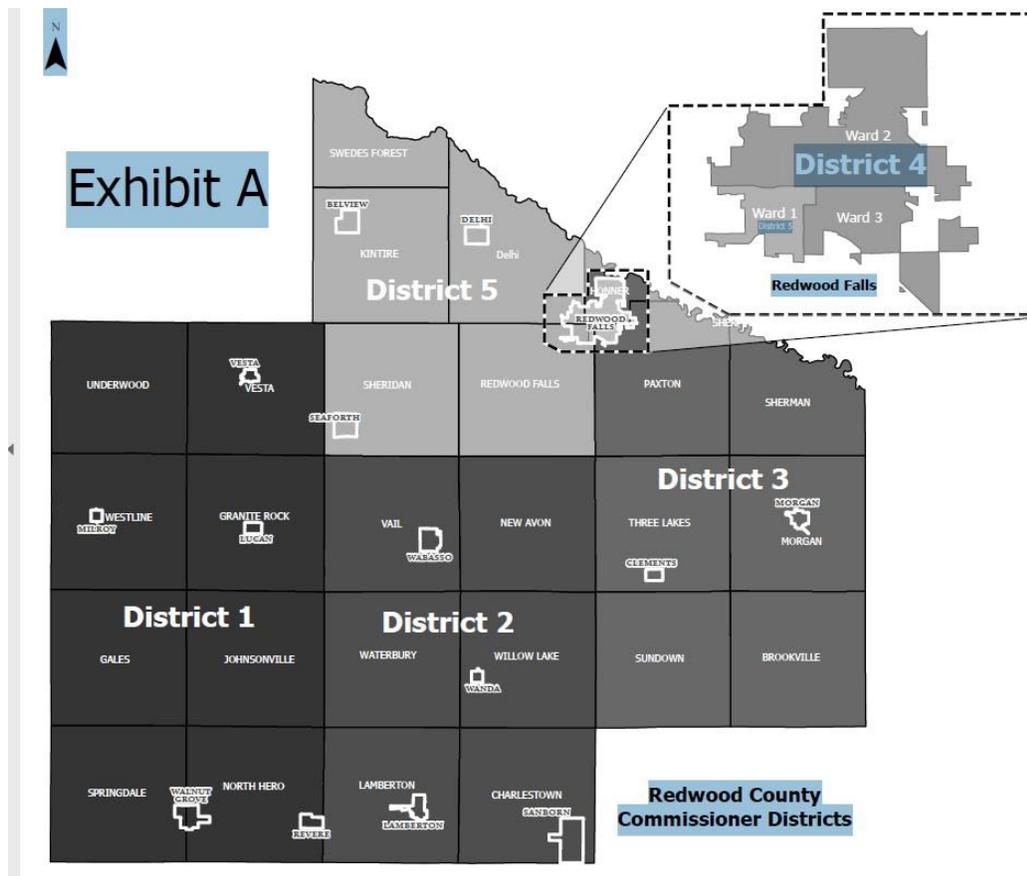
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Redwood County Board of Commissioners hereby redistricts the County of Redwood, following town, municipal, ward, city district, or precinct lines as reestablished in March 2022, and reestablishes the length of terms as follows:

- District 1 - Gales Township, Granite Rock Township, Johnsonville Township, City of Lucan, City of Milroy, North Hero Township, City of Revere, Springdale Township, Underwood Township, City of Vesta, Vesta Township, City of Walnut Grove, Westline Township (continuation of current term, 2024 Election)

- District 2 - Charlestown Township, City of Lamberton, Lamberton Township, New Avon Township, City of Sanborn, Vail Township, City of Wabasso, City of Wanda, Waterbury Township, Willow Lake Township (4-year term, 2022 Election)
- District 3 - Brookville Township, City of Clements, Honner Township, City of Morgan, Morgan Township, Paxton Township, Sherman Township, Sundown Township, Three Lakes Township (4-year term, 2022 Election)
- District 4 - City of Redwood Falls Ward 2, City of Redwood Falls Ward 3 (continuation of current term, 2024 Election)
- District 5 - City of Belview, City of Delhi, Delhi Township, Kintire Township, City of Redwood Falls Ward 1, Redwood Falls Township, City of Seaforth, Sheridan Township, Swedes Forest Township (Continuation of current term, 2024 Election)

BE IT RESOLVED that the County Administrator is directed to file the redistricting plan with the County Auditor by April 26, 2022, to be effective for the 2022 primary and general election and publish in the Redwood Gazette.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the districts are, for illustrative purposes, identified in a map of the county attached hereto and marked Exhibit A which by reference is hereby made a part hereof.



- Chair Salfer closed the Public Hearing.

AUDITOR/TREASURER

- On motion by Van Hee, second by Wakefield, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:
 - Cash Balance Report
 - Investment Summary
 - Budget Reports, General Fund, Road and Bridge Fund; Human Services Fund; Building Fund; Ditch Fund; Ditch Bond Interest Fund, Solid Waste Fund; Health Fund; Debt Service Fund; Insurance Fund; Soil and Water Conservation District Fund.
 - March Disbursements in the amount of \$702,841.26.
- Bills exceeding \$2,000.00: Great Plains Natural Gas \$2,649.81, \$3,839.51, \$6,104.99, \$3,419.38; Redwood Falls Public Utilities \$10,666.13, \$4,765.30; Further \$8,509.46, \$8,509.48; Preferred One \$12,114.52, \$3,331.17, \$32,569.01, \$6,419.33, \$13,921.98, \$7,809.06; BCBS of MN \$2,286.00; Paycom \$2,246.79; MN Department of Revenue \$28,948.99; US Postal Service \$3,000.00; Lamberton Public Library \$7,117.23; MN Valley Snow Riders \$23,908.25; MN Commission of Finance \$4,323.00; D. Moldan \$24,809.00; Morgan Public Library \$6,896.94; Redwood Falls Public Library \$20,339.73; Wabasso Public Library \$18,682.60; H. Landkammer \$28,408.00; \$2,262.00; R. Boettger \$5,416.00; Delta Dental \$4,756.00; Sun Life Financial \$2,385.51; C. Kieper \$13,040.00; M & K Bridge \$17,173.03; R & G Construction \$77,198.51; Duinink Inc. \$226,663.40.

PLANNING AND ZONING

- An application for an Extractional Interim Use Permit #2-22 filed by Brad Lund to operate an existing granite quarry/gravel pit on the following described real property, situated in the County of Redwood, State of Minnesota, to wit: 13.6 acre tract in SE ¼ of the NW ¼ of Section 24, Twp. 112N, Range 34W, Sherman Township. On motion by Forkrud, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to approve CUP #2-22 with (20) conditions as set forth by the Planning Commission.
- An application for an Extractional Interim Use Permit #3-22 filed by Schmidt Construction to operate an extraction pit on the following described real property, situated in the County of Redwood, State of Minnesota, to wit: NFR ½ of the NE ¼, except tracts, 29.56 acres of Section 3, Twp. 112N, Range 35W, Paxton Township. On motion by Van Hee, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to approve CUP #3-22 with (18) conditions as set forth by the Planning Commission.

ENVIRONMENTAL

- On motion by Wakefield, second by Van Hee, in a roll-call vote with Salfer, Van Hee, Forkrud, Wakefield and Groebner all voting aye, the Board adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION 2022-02

A RESOLUTION TO EXPEND CORONAVIRUS LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS UNDER THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FOR PLUM CREEK PARK ELECTRICAL INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADES

WHEREAS, Redwood County (“County”) received Federal Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds under the American Rescue Plan Act (“ARP”), to provide relief to the county impacted by the coronavirus disease 2019 (“COVID-19”);

WHEREAS, Redwood County Director, Scott Wold has identified a necessary expense to improve the electrical infrastructure at Plum Creek County Park;

WHEREAS, the authority under the ARP Act allows this expenditure, per the Final Rule published on January 6, 2022, 31 C.F.R § 35

§35.6(d) *Providing government services.* A recipient may use funds for the provision of government services to the extent of the reduction in the recipient's general revenue due to the public health emergency, calculated according to this paragraph (d). A recipient must make a one-time election to calculate the amount of the reduction in the recipient's general revenue due to the public health emergency according to either paragraph (d)(1) or (d)(2) of this section:

§35.6(d)(1) *Standard allowance.* The reduction in the recipient's general revenue due to the public health emergency over the period of performance will be deemed to be ten million dollars; or

WHEREAS, The Redwood County Board of Commissioners authorized Redwood County to expend American Rescue Plan Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds utilizing the Standard (Revenue Loss) Allowance at their Regular Board Meeting held on March 1, 2022;

WHEREAS, multiple bids were solicited for the upgrades and the low bid for the electrical infrastructure improvements at the park is \$63,990.00;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the County Board of Commissioners is encumbering \$63,990.00 to be used to complete the electrical upgrades and certifies that the funds appropriated from the ARP Act fund will be used only in a manner consistent with the Department of the U.S. Treasury guidance and incurred during the covered period.

- On motion by Groebner, second by Wakefield, the Board voted unanimously to award the electrical bid for Plum Creek Park upgrade to the electrical service of the seasonal campground sites to G & R Electric in the amount of \$63,990.00 utilizing American Rescue Plan funds.

REDWOOD COUNTY DITCH AUTHORITY

- At 9:03 a.m. the Board entered into Redwood County Ditch Authority.
- Present were Redwood County Commissioners Wakefield, Groebner, Salfer, Van Hee and Forkrud, Administrator Kletscher, Planning and Zoning Supervisor Nick Brozek and Environmental Director Wold.
- On motion by Forkrud, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Jim Weidemann as a viewer for CD 52, Lat 87 for the Redwood Falls Port Authority petition to use a drainage system as an outlet for a municipality.
- On motion by Salfer, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to award the bid for ditch repairs on JD #36 to MNL Inc. in the amount of \$499,954.00 to be funded with FEMA disaster aid funds.

Other Bids Received:

Company	Bid Amount
MNL Inc.	\$ 499,954.00
GM Contracting Inc.	\$1,279,639.30
S.J. Jacobs & Sons	\$1,690,662.00
Sunram Construction Inc.	\$ 873,764.00
Mathiowetz Construction	\$ 758,444.94

- On motion by Forkrud, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to award the bid for ditch repairs on JD #33 to MNL Inc. in the amount of \$153,928.00 to be funded with FEMA disaster aid funds.

Other Bids Received:

Company	Bid Amount
MNL Inc.	\$ 153,928.00
S.J. Jacobs & Sons	\$ 364,060.00
Schmidt Construction	\$ 311,660.00
MSB Excavating & Tiling LLC	\$ 290,287.50
GM Contracting Inc.	\$ 219,260.05
Sunram Construction Inc.	\$ 208,056.00
Mathiowetz Construction	\$ 167,895.85

- On motion by Groebner, second by Salfer, the Board voted unanimously to award the bid for Riprap supply on JD #36 to Mathiowetz Construction in the amount of \$1,546,382.87 to be funded with FEMA disaster aid funds.

Other Bids Received:

Company	Bid Amount
Sunram Construction	\$1,681,972.00
Mathiowetz Construction	\$1,546,382.87

- On motion by Salfer, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to award the bid for Riprap supply on JD #33 to Schmidt Construction in the amount of \$290,635.00 to be funded with FEMA disaster aid funds.

Other Bids Received:

Company	Bid Amount
Mathiowetz Construction	\$375,519.30
Sunram Construction	\$346,094.00
Schmidt Construction	\$290,635.00

- Chair Wakefield declared the Redwood County Ditch authority adjourned at 9:13 a.m.

RECONVENED

- The Board reconvened into Regular Session at 9:13 a.m.

ADMINISTRATOR

- On motion by Wakefield, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to approve the publication of the Redwood County Connection Spring newsletter.
- The Board reviewed the March 2022 Jail Population and Sentence to Service Quarterly Report.
- On motion by Groebner, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Addendum II to the Agreement between the University of Minnesota and Redwood County for Providing Extension Services for a Summer Coordinator position.
- On motion by Wakefield, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to acknowledge the Justice Center change orders totaling \$3,098.06 as listed:

Floor to Ceiling Store	\$ (752.42)
Gunion Painting, LLC	\$ (5,300.00)
J & K Masonry	\$ 1,643.00
Marshall Machine Shop	\$ 1,335.00
Thompson Construction	\$ (1,992.50)
TMI Systems Corporation	\$ (1,178.00)
Schmidt Construction	\$ 9,342.98

- On motion by Forkrud, second by Groebner, in a roll-call vote with Salfer, Forkrud, Van Hee, Wakefield and Groebner all voting aye, the Board adopted the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION SETTING PUBLIC HEARING
FOR TOWNSHIP BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT**

WHEREAS, certain persons, all of whom are voters residing in Honner Township, have petitioned the Redwood County Board of Commissioners to consider the alteration of the current boundary of Honner Township by attaching all of Honner Township to adjacent Paxton Township, Redwood County, pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 379.02 as the current population of Honner Township is currently too small in size to justify the continuation of its independent township form of government. Petitioners further requested that the County Board transfer all of the assets of the Township of Honner to Paxton Township; and

WHEREAS, the County Auditor-Treasurer has declared that the “Petition For Change of Boundary” to be signed by the required number of legal voters; and

WHEREAS, this declaration in conformity to Minnesota Statutes Chapter 379.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Redwood County Board of Commissioners will consider the petitioned for alteration of the current boundary of Honner Township by attaching all of Honner Township to adjacent Paxton Township, Redwood County, pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 379.02 at a public hearing to be held on the 7th day of June 2022, at 10:00 a.m. at the Redwood County Government Center located at 403 South Mill Street, Redwood Falls, Minnesota 56283, and the County Board shall give notice as provided in Minnesota Statutes § 379.03.

- On motion by Van Hee, second by Wakefield, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Liquor License to TMB Sports Club.

Personnel

- On motion by Forkrud, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to approve the transfer of Angela Hannemen from Part-time Dispatcher to Full-time Dispatcher effective May 16, 2022.

SERENITY SUITES

- Serenity Suites Representatives Cathy Schwartz and Christopher Knoll presented an overview of operations per the tax abatement terms with Redwood County.

CITY OF REDWOOD FALLS

- Keith Muetzel and Tom Quackenbush presented an overview of a new development in the City of Redwood Falls.

ROAD AND BRIDGE

- On motion by Groebner, second by Van Hee, in a roll-call vote with Salfer, Van Hee, Forkrud, Wakefield and Groebner all voting aye, the Board adopted the following resolution:

**Resolution
Redwood County Opposes Gas Tax Holiday**

WHEREAS, Redwood County Road and Bridge Construction and Maintenance Program is funded by a local levy, local option one half percent sales tax, local option wheelage tax, federal and state grants to the maximum extent available and the **Highway Users Tax Distribution (HUTD) Fund**, which includes **gas tax**, license fees, motor vehicle sales tax, and auto parts sales tax; and

WHEREAS, the **HUTD Fund provides 67% of Redwood County's Road and Bridge construction and maintenance funding** during a given year, or \$6.6M out of \$9.9M, excluding Federal funds and state grants when available; and

WHEREAS, Redwood County has \$49M in roadway and bridge projects funded for the next five years however is still **short \$30.6M** to properly maintain our transportation infrastructure to prevent closures, road postings or conversion of asphalt roadways back into gravel roadways; and

WHEREAS, The Constitutionally-dedicated HUTD user fee provides a significant amount of the revenue we rely on to fix our roads and bridges and **opposes a gas tax holiday**; and

WHEREAS, the Redwood County Board is concerned that a policy to reduce or establish a gas tax holiday will establish a precedent for future gas tax suspensions during times of economic distress or when fuel prices are deemed too high, thereby severely undercutting a major source of revenue for road and bridge repair;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Redwood County Board of Commissioners **opposes a gas tax holiday**.

- On motion by Van Hee, second by Wakefield, with Groebner abstaining due to a conflict of interest, the Board voted to award CR 63, Clements Construction Project, to M.R. Paving and Excavating in the amount of \$485,024.21.

Other Bids Received:

Company	Bid Amount
M.R. Paving and Excavating	\$485,024.21
Duininck, Inc.	\$570,136.25
R & G Construction	\$586,968.57
Central Specialties, Inc.	\$613,068.33

- On motion by Van Hee, second by Wakefield, with Groebner abstaining due to a conflict of interest, the Board voted to authorize the Board Chair and Administrator to sign CR 63, Clements Construction Project contract with M.R. Paving and Excavating.
- Sellner presented an overview of the District 8 2022 construction projects.

COMMISSIONERS REPORTS

- The commissioners reported on meetings they attended.

Groebner: Redwood-Renville Regional Solid Waste Authority, JD 15 Meeting with Lyon County

Salfer: JD 15 Meeting with Lyon County

VanHee: Southwest Regional Development Commission, JD 15 Meeting with Lyon County, Fair Board, UCAP

Wakefield: JD 15 Meeting with Lyon County, RCRCA/Area II

Forkrud: Redwood-Renville Regional Solid Waste Authority, JD 15 Meeting with Lyon County, Insurance Committee Meeting, Safety Committee Meeting

ADJOURN

- There being no further business, Chair Salfer declared the meeting adjourned at 11:43 a.m.

Attest: _____
 Vicki Kletscher
 County Administrator

 Jim Salfer, Board Chair
 Board of County Commissioners