

REDWOOD COUNTY, MINNESOTA

June 7, 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 Rick Wakefield; Bob Van Hee; Jim Salfer; Dennis Groebner; and Dave Forkrud; Administrator Vicki Kletscher; County Attorney Jenna Peterson; Assistant Highway Engineer Jeff Bommersbach; Environmental Director Scott Wold; Economic Development Coordinator Briana Mumme; Broadband Coordinator Patrick Garry; Auditor-Treasurer Jean Price; Maintenance Supervisor Loren Gewerth; Emergency Management Director Jim Sandgren; Planning and Zoning Supervisor Nick Brozek; License Center Supervisor Amy Serbus; County Assessor John Thompson; Property Appraisers Jesse Jacobson; Brad Zimmer and Kim Wee Sit; Plum Creek Library Director Elizabeth Hoffman; Kevin Shoeberg; Paxton Township Representatives Tammy Houle; Rick Morris; Roger Pabst; Cameron Mauer; Randy Mages; Honner Township Representative Dennis Rothmeier; Redwood Falls Township Representative Steve Nelson; Vesta Township Clerk Barbara Schmidt; Vesta Township Representatives Char Lightfoot; Dallas Dolan; Gary Rohlik; Gary Schmidt; Sheridan Township Representative Gerald Senger; Brookville Township Representative Fred Dauer; Dennis Tauer and Michael Christensen; North Hero Township Representative Eugene Swanson; Charlestown Township Representative Cory Blomgren, Robert Ruppe and Amos Vogel.

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 June 7th meeting agenda.

Chair Salfer asked the Board members to identify any areas for which they had a Conflict of Interest. Wakefield identified a conflict in the Bills.

CONSENT AGENDA

- On motion by Wakefield, second by Forkrud, and excluding the bills from Rick Wakefield in the amount of \$390.00 and Lori Wakefield in the amount of \$390.00, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda.
 - May 17, 2022 Board Minutes
 - Out of State Travel Request to Jenna Peterson.
 - Payment of bills as follows:

General Fund	\$ 169,525.21
Building Fund	\$ 359,679.20
Ditch Fund	\$ 56,239.78
Solid Waste Fund	\$ 131.59
Road and Bridge Fund	\$ 1,379.14
Insurance Fund	\$ 300.00
Soil and Water Fund	\$ 2,005.01

- On motion by Van Hee, second by Groebner, with Wakefield abstaining due to a conflict of interest, the Board voted to approve the bills from Lori Wakefield in the amount of \$390.00 and Rick Wakefield in the amount of \$390.00.
 - Bills exceeding \$2,000.00: Kramer Attorney at Law \$25,920.00; Minnesota State Auditor \$17,080.75; Nyhart Company \$2,100.00; Election Systems & Software \$3,867.50; Counties Providing Technology \$4,010.00; Marco Technologies \$7,773.48; Renville County \$18,617.08; Fleet Services \$10,850.22; Galls \$11,847.43; Interstate Power Systems \$2,903.79; Motorola Solutions \$18,617.00; Dona Larkin \$3,000.00; TKDA \$3,906.75; SW Initiative Foundation \$5,302.00; Audio & Security Engineers \$45,000.00; Building Material Supply \$9,353.20; Chosen Valley Testing \$3,455.00; Contegrity Group \$30,615.63; Ford Metro \$25,636.70; G & R Controls \$6,555.00; Gag Sheet Metal \$40,696.61; Gunion Painting \$17,983.50; J & K Masonry \$19,838.85; Marshall Machine Shop \$9,500.00; Masters Plumbing, Heating and Cooling \$39,181.04; Molin Concrete \$7,857.92; Patriot Erectors \$5,229.75; Redwood County Highway Department \$2,463.81; Right-Way Caulking \$3,950.00; RTL Construction \$2,850.00; Southwest Sanitation \$2,420.66; Sussner Construction \$2,955.69; Thompson Construction \$49,385.20; TMI Systems \$31,014.65; Bolton & Menk \$3,691.00; H & S Tiling \$14,666.78; Hope Haven \$2,090.00; Kerkhoff Brothers \$2,542.28; Northland Erosion \$30,032.80; Elan Credit Card \$13,514.53.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

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

RESOLUTION DECLARING A STATE OF EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, the severe weather/flooding impacted the population of Redwood County and its cities; and

WHEREAS, the severe weather/flooding event has caused a significant amount of public property damage; and

WHEREAS, the Redwood County Department of Emergency Management requests the Redwood County Board of Commissioners to declare Redwood County in a STATE OF EMERGENCY for the severe weather/flooding event of 2022;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Redwood County Board of Commissioners declares Redwood County in a State of Emergency for conditions resulting from the severe weather/flooding event from May 8-13th, 2022.

ROAD AND BRIDGE

- On motion by Groenber, second by Wakefield, the Board voted unanimously to approve payment of Road and Bridge bills in the amount of \$185,849.85.
- Bills over \$2,000.00: Bolton & Menk #10,667.50; Chosen Valley Testing \$5,430.00; Diamond Mowers \$2,299.66; Duinink \$12,519.34; Electric Motor Company \$3,317.19;

Farmward Cooperative \$22,149.18; Flint Hills Resources \$2,755.50; Keck Tree Service \$3,000.00; Mielke Oil Company \$8,648.35; Newman Signs \$6,071.56; North Central International \$3,688.46; Renville-Sibley Cooperative \$3,000.00; RSS Group International \$3,748.64; Sign Solutions USA \$3,204.06; Truck Center Companies \$2,188.05; Widseth, Smith & Nolting \$68,865.68; Ziegler \$4,967.55.

- On motion by Wakefield, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Rate Schedule for work performed for outside governmental agencies.

ENVIRONMENTAL

- On motion by Van Hee, second by Wakefield, the Board voted unanimously to acknowledge the surcharge fee in the amount of \$350.00 on the purchase of a 2022 F-150 Truck purchase that was approved for purchase on 1-4-22.
- Wold informed the Commissioners that the Greater Minnesota Regional Park and Trails Commission will be conducting a survey of Plum Creek Park campground at no cost to Redwood County.

RECESS

- The Board recessed at 9:28 a.m. for Joint Ditch Authority with Lyon County.

RECONVENE

- The Board reconvened into regular session at 9:45 a.m.

PLANNING AND ZONING

- An application to open and operate a dog boarding and breeding kennel, Conditional Use Permit #5-22 filed by Celsie Piehl on the following described real property, situated in the County of Redwood, State of Minnesota, to wit: SE ¼ of SE ¼ of Section 33, Twp. 110North, Range 34, Brookville Township. On motion by Groebner, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to approve CUP #5-22 with (14) conditions as set forth by the Planning Commission.
- An application for an Interim Extraction Use Permit #6-22 filed by GWL Farms on the following described real property, situated in the County of Redwood, State of Minnesota, to wit: N ½ of the NW ¼ of Section 29, Twp. 110-N, Range 38 of Johnsonville Township. On motion by Groebner, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to approve Extraction Interim Use Permit #6-22 with (19) conditions as set forth by the Planning Commission and phasing the mining and reclamation into four phases at \$2000/acre for bonding.
- An application to operate an annual 2-night music and camping festival, Conditional Use Permit #7-22, filed by William Richards of the Wilder Pageant, on the following described real property, situated in the County of Redwood, State of Minnesota, to wit: SW ¼ of the NW ¼ of Section 25, Twp. 109N, Range 39W of Springdale Township. On motion by Forkrud, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to approve CUP #7-22 with (20) conditions as set forth by the Planning Commission.
- An application for an Interim Extraction Use Permit #8-22 filed by Jared Maas on the following described real property, situated in the County of Redwood, State of Minnesota, to wit: NW ¼ of Section 13, Twp. 110N, Range 39W of Gales Township. On motion by Forkrud, second by Wakefield, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Extraction Interim Use Permit #8-22 with (17) conditions as set forth by the Planning Commission.

PUBLIC HEARING – HONNER TOWNSHIP

- At 10:04 a.m., the Board entered into a Public Hearing to consider the alteration of the current boundary of Honner Township by attaching all of Honner Township to adjacent Paxton Township pursuant to Minn. Stat. §379.02 as the current population of Honner Township is currently too small to justify the continuation of its independent township form of government.
- Kletscher presented the Official Ad Proof and Affidavit of Posting.
- Attorney representing Honner and Paxton Township, Robert Ruppe, presented the Dissolution Order.
- Salfer opened the hearing for public comment. No comments were made.
- Salfer closed the hearing for public comment.
- On motion by Wakefield, second by Forkrud, in a roll-call vote with Salfer, Groebner, Forkrud, Wakefield and Van Hee all voting aye, the Board adopted the following dissolution:

**BEFORE THE REDWOOD COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS****ORDER**

WHEREAS, on May 3, 2022 a Petition for Change of Boundary (“Petition”) signed by more than twenty legal voters residing within Honner Township, Redwood County, was presented to the County Board of Commissioners of Redwood County and filed with the County Auditor-Treasurer; and

WHEREAS said Petition requests the County Board 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 population of Honner Township is currently too small in size to justify the continuation of its independent township form of government; and

WHEREAS, the County Board ordered a meeting to hear all interested parties and to act upon said Petition at 10:00 a.m. on the 7th day of June; 2022 at the Redwood County Government Center, 403 South Mill Street, Redwood Falls, Minnesota 56283.

WHEREAS, as required by Minn. Stat. § 379.03, a copy of the Petition and a copy of the Notice of Hearing were served upon Tammy Houle, Clerk of Paxton Township, and Michelle Thoof, Clerk of Honner Township; and

WHEREAS, as required by Minn. Stat. § 379.03, a copy of the Petition together with a copy of the Notice of Public Hearing on said matter were published and posted according to law in both Paxton Township and Honner Township; and

WHEREAS, all legal requirements regarding giving notice have been satisfied; and

WHEREAS said matter came on for hearing before the Redwood County Board of County Commissioners at 10:00 a.m. on June 7, 2022 at the Redwood County Government Center; and

WHEREAS the County Board of Commissioners having received testimony and evidence from all persons interested in the matter and having been advised of the merits of the Petition makes the following:

ORDER

1. That the Petition is in all respects legal, that notice of said hearing has been provided according to law and that all proceedings are in accordance with the laws of the State of Minnesota.
 2. That from and after August 1, 2022 that all lands located in Honner Township, more particularly described on attached Exhibit A are hereby attached to and made a part of Paxton Township in Redwood County, more particularly described on attached Exhibit B; that the boundary of Paxton Township is hereby altered to include the above-described lands located in the Township of Honner.
 3. That from and after August 1, 2022, all money, claims, or properties including real estate owned, held, or possessed by the former Honner Township, and any proceeds, special assessments or taxes levied by Honner Township, collected and uncollected, shall become the property of Paxton Township with full power and authority to use and dispose of for such public purposes as the Paxton Township Board of Supervisors deems best, subject to claims of creditors. This will include cash reserves and fund balances of Honner Township and all public property and equipment held by Honner Township.
 5. Honner Township's outstanding debt will become the financial obligation of Paxton Township.
 6. That all further proceedings shall be in accordance with the laws of the State of Minnesota.
- Chair Salfer closed the public hearing at 10:12 a.m.

MAINTENANCE

- On motion by Van Hee, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to declare old office equipment as excess property and dispose by sale or scrapping items.

AUDITOR-TREASURER

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

ESTABLISHING A COUNTY ABSENTEE BALLOT BOARD 2022 PRIMARY ELECTION

WHEREAS, Redwood County is required by Minn. Stat. § 203B.121, Subd. 1(a) to establish a County Absentee Ballot Board for the 2022 Primary Election; and

WHEREAS, this authorization will bring uniformity in the processing of accepting or rejecting returned regular absentee ballots to Redwood County Elections that would consist of deputy county auditors who have received training in the processing and counting of absentee ballots; and

WHEREAS, would consist of a sufficient number of election judges trained in the handling of absentee ballots and appointed as provided in Minn. Stat. § 204B.19 to Minn. Stat. § 204B.22 to specifically handle those absentee ballots requiring signature comparisons per Minn. Stat. § 203B.121, Subd. 2(b)(3) ; and

WHEREAS the County Absentee Ballot Board must begin this process 46 days prior to the 2022 Primary Election;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Redwood County Board of Commissioners hereby establishes the Redwood County Absentee Ballot Board and appoints deputy county auditors; Lisa Guggisberg, Rachel Woelfel and Julie Zimmermann, and the following election judges; Mary Bratsch, Tamara Houle, Jesse Jacobson, Denise Kerkhoff, Jacalyn Lueck, and Amy Serbus and authorizes the Redwood County Auditor/Treasurer to train and oversee the Redwood County Absentee Ballot Board for the 2022 Primary Election. The Redwood County Auditor/Treasurer is also given authority to hire and train additional election judges in an emergency situation.

PLUM CREEK LIBRARY SYSTEM

- Hoffmann presented an overview of the Plum Creek Library Services.

LICENSE CENTER

- On motion by Wakefield, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to award the copier contract to Marco in the amount of \$117.04 monthly due to past reliability.

Other Bids Received:

Marco	\$117.04 monthly with 4,200 prints included
Coordinated Business Systems	\$91.73 monthly with 3,200 prints included

BROADBAND

- Mumme and Garry presented a proposal from Nuvera to develop an application to the State DEED Border-to-Border Grant Program to deploy fiber to portions of Willow Lake, Sundown, and Brookville Townships. No action was taken.
- Mumme and Garry presented an update on the Arvig Border-to-Border Project in the Paxton Township and the cities of Wanda, Wabasso, Belview, Walnut Grove, Vesta, Morgan, Clements, and Seaforth. No action was taken.
- Chair Salfer directed Mumme and Garry to seek additional funding from cities and townships included in both projects to meet the local match of the applications and provide a formal funding request from Redwood County on July 19, 2022.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

- On motion by Wakefield, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to award the copier contract to Marco in the amount of \$95.13/month.

Other Bids Received:

Marco	\$95.13/month with 2,310 copies included
Coordinated Business Systems	\$93.49/month plus \$.0066 per copy

- On motion by Forkrud, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to approve the 60 month copier contract with Marco in the amount of \$95.13 per month.

Commissioner Van Hee exited the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

COUNTY ASSESSOR

- On motion by Groebner, second by Wakefield, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Assessment Agreement between the City of Lamberton and Redwood County pending County Attorney approval.
- County Assessor, Thompson, presented information to establish Redwood County as a True County.

VESTA TOWNSHIP TRUE COUNTY

- Barbara Schmidt, Vesta Township Clerk, and other Township residents were present to discuss their concerns with proceeding with True County.

ADMINISTRATION

- On motion by Wakefield, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to acknowledge the Justice Center building project change orders totaling \$6,146.66.

Gag Sheet Metal	\$ 2,297.00
Kendell Doors & Hardware	\$ 2,266.94
Masters Plumbing, Heating, Cooling	\$ 2,158.97
RTL Construction	\$ 7,901.98
Twin City Acoustics	\$ 2,000.00
RTL Construction	\$ 1,174.29
Marshall Machine Shop	\$ 2,619.00
Duininck, Inc.	\$ (14,498.00)
Marshall Machine Shop	\$ (1,785.00)
Masters Plumbing, Heating and Cooling	\$ 1,085.09
Patriot Erectors	\$ 3,097.50
RTL Construction	\$ 1,623.64
Schmidt Construction	\$ (3,794.75)
Total Change Orders	\$ 6,146.66

- On motion by Forkrud, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Southwest Minnesota Innovation and Opportunity Act Joint Powers Agreement.
- On motion by Groebner, second by Wakefield, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Minnesota Snowmobile Trails and Assistance Program Maintenance and Grooming Application.

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

**RESOLUTION FOR MN VALLEY SNOW RIDERS-REDWOOD GRANT
REDWOOD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

BE IT RESOLVED that Redwood County act as the legal sponsor for an application for funding to the State of Minnesota Department of Natural Resources for the Maintenance of snowmobile trails managed by MN Valley Snow Riders-Redwood.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon approval of its application by the state, Redwood County may enter into an agreement with the State of Minnesota for the above-referenced project and that it will comply with all applicable laws and regulations as stated in the agreement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chair of the Redwood County Commissioners is authorized to sign such an agreement with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Auditor-Treasurer is authorized to serve as the fiscal agent for the above-mentioned project.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

- The commissioners reported on meetings they attended:

Salfer: Western Mental Health, Southwest Health & Human Services, Ribbon Cutting for Housing Development, ACE Volunteer Luncheon

Wakefield: Counties Providing Technology, Plum Creek Library Board, Southwest Health & Human Services, RCRCA/Area II, Ribbon Cutting for Housing Development; Communication Board

Forkrud: Planning and Zoning

Van Hee: Fair Board, Extension

Groebner: Mn Valley Rail Authority, Southwest Regional Solid Waste Commission, Rural Minnesota Energy Board, Ribbon Cutting for Housing Development

ADJOURN

- There being no further business, Chair Salfer declared the meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

Jim Salfer, Chair
Board of County Commissioners

Attest: _____
Vicki Kletscher
County Administrator