

REDWOOD COUNTY, MINNESOTA

JULY 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 Van Hee, Dave Forkrud, Dennis Groebner, Rick Wakefield, Jim Salfer, and County Administrator Vicki Kletscher. Also present were Auditor/Treasurer Jean Price; County Attorney Jenna Peterson; Highway Engineer Anthony Sellner; Economic Development Coordinator Briana Mumme; Broadband Coordinator Patrick Garry; Environmental Director Scott Wold; Human Resource Coordinator Peter Brown; Assessor John Thompson; License Center Supervisor Amy Serbus; Chief Deputy Jason Jacobson; Plum Creek Library System Director Elizabeth Hoffman; Southwest Regional Development Communication Specialist Jessica Welu; Southwest Regional Development Development Planner Rosemary Bruce-White ; Redwood Area Chamber Director Anne Johnson; Redwood Area Chamber Community Development Director Shannon Guetter; Lincoln-Pipestone Rural Water Director Jason Overby; Lincoln-Pipestone Rural Water Board Member Mitch Kling; A.C.E. Coordinator Ann LeBrun; A.C.E. Director Michelle Baumhoefner; David Drown Associate Shannon Sweeney, Representatives from Friends of the Casey Jones Trail State Association Jakob Etrheim and Bruce Johnson; Redwood Falls City Administrator Keith Muetzel; Maria Harms; Craig and Beth Piette.

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

On motion by Van Hee, second by Wakefield, the Board voted unanimously to approve the July 19<sup>th</sup> revised agenda.

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

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- On motion by Wakefield, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to approve the consent agenda, July 5<sup>th</sup> minutes.
  - Payment of bills as follows:

General Fund	\$ 107,707.66
Building Fund	\$ 3,302.02
Ditch Fund	\$ 8,297.75
Insurance Fund	\$ 300.00

- Bills exceeding \$2,000: ACE of SW MN \$7,986.75; Seachange Print Innovations \$10,335.50; G & R Controls \$7,354.25; Schmidt Construction \$2,466.63; Renville County \$24,498.98; Mend Correctional Care \$4,123.69; Redwood County Hwy. Department \$5,893.56; Tersteeg’s Holiday Market \$10,491.85; Regents of the University of MN \$19,237.25; WOLD Architects \$3,302.02; Bolton & Menk \$7,700.00.

**EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION**

- The Board recognized Jason Jacobson, Sheriff's Department, for 20 years of service to Redwood County, Briana Mumme, Economic Development, and Lisa Reynolds, Sheriff's Department for 5 years of service to Redwood County.

**PLUM CREEK LIBRARY SYSTEM**

- Hoffman presented an overview of the Plum Creek Library System.
- On motion by Van Hee, second by Wakefield, the Board voted unanimously to approve the funding request in the amount of \$3,250.00 to supplement the operating expenses for the 2023 budget year.

**AUDITOR/TREASURER**

- On motion by Forkrud, second by Groebner, 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; Solid Waste Fund; Insurance Fund; Health Fund; Debt Service Fund; Soil and Water Conservation District Fund.
  - June 2022 Disbursements in the amount of \$13,079,446.21.
  - Bills exceeding \$2,000: Great Plains Natural Gas \$3,510.94; Redwood Falls Public Utilities \$8,592.53, \$2,428.66; Preferred One \$4,812.33, \$20,415.31, \$34,862.79, \$28,811.91, \$7,551.73, \$8,309.80, \$18,189.06, \$15,041.11, \$11,264.67; Further \$8,767.59, \$8,767.59; BCBS of MN \$2,286.00; MN Dept. of Revenue \$67,101.91; Redwood County License Center \$2,516.35, \$2,235.31, \$2,062.38; RRRSWA \$348,640.21; City of Belview \$95,399.61; City of Clements \$32,862.94; City of Delhi \$27,454.07; City of Lamberton \$487,570.32; City of Lucan \$70,878.05; City of Milroy \$100,138.84; City of Morgan \$224,631.76; City of Redwood Falls \$1,720,989.36; City of Revere \$30,585.27; City of Sanborn \$90,165.31; City of Seaforth \$23,532.77; City of Vesta \$95,790.10; City of Wabasso \$333,619.04; City of Walnut Grove \$161,253.53; City of Wanda \$29,482.55; Lincoln-Pipestone Rural Water \$3,981.62; Red Rock Rural Water \$9,929.43; SD 2190 \$7,107.87; SD 2754 \$184,595.14; SD 2884 \$230,794.26; SD 2897 \$604,011.64; SD 2898 \$116,614.91; SD 2904 \$27,600.86; SD 635 \$83,828.67; SD 640 \$290,228.79; SD 85 \$95,540.23; SWHHS \$1,607,227.52; SW Regional Development Commission \$31,918.82; Brookville Twp. \$50,645.35; Charlestown Twp. \$28,943.67; Delhi Twp. \$41,196.72; Gales Twp. \$29,948.35; Granite Rock Twp. \$40,913.08; Honner Twp. \$7,883.47; Johnsonville Twp. \$55,568.94; Kintire Twp. \$43,174.85; Lamberton Twp. \$48,656.36; Morgan Twp. \$54,143.05; New Avon Twp. \$44,783.72; North Hero Twp. \$42,008.12; Paxton Twp. \$51,468.63; Redwood Falls Twp. \$63,092.84; Sheridan Twp. \$44,212.36; Sherman Twp. \$39,495.83; Springdale Twp. \$49,186.24; Sundown Twp. \$62,228.34; Swedes Forest Twp. \$32,549.69; Three Lakes Twp. \$39,817.17; Underwood Twp. \$47,484.61; Vail Twp. \$34,754.33; Vesta Twp. \$41,557.16; Waterbury Twp. \$42,110.79; Westline Twp. \$33,163.55; Willow Lake Twp. \$47,563.74; MN Commission of Finance \$4,872.50; Delta Dental \$4,580.01; MN Valley Snow-riders \$4,781.65; Zimmermann Maintenance \$3,306.01; Asphalt Surface Technologies \$36,007.87; Central Specialties \$3,367,821.34; Duinck, Inc. \$894,722.16; Everstrong Construction \$172,796.45.
  - The Board directed Price to present investment options at the August 2, 2022 board meeting.
  - Commissioner Salfer and Groebner were appointed to the Canvassing Board for the Primary election on August 9, 2022.
  - Commissioner Forkrud and Wakefield were appointed to the Canvassing Board for the General Election on November 8, 2022.

**SOUTHWEST REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

- A motion was made by Van Hee to approve a funding request in the amount of \$1,500.00 for trail system strategic planning. The motion failed due to a lack of a second.

**REDWOOD AREA CHAMBER**

- On motion by Forkrud, second by Wakefield, in a 4-1 vote with Salfer opposing, the Board approved a funding request to Explore Southwest Minnesota in the amount of \$1,000.00 and Southern Minnesota Tourism in the amount of \$771.25.

**CASEY JONES STATE TRAIL**

- On motion by Van Hee, second by Wakefield, the Board voted unanimously to move the funding request in the amount of \$1,000.00 from the Friends of the Casey Jones Trail State Association to the 2023 budgeting process where a decision will be made at a later date.

**LINCOLN PIPESTONE RURAL WATER**

- Jason Overby and Mitch Kling presented the 2021 Annual Report.

**ASSESSOR**

- On motion by Van Hee, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Assessment Agreements with Three Lakes Township and Redwood Falls Township.

**PUBLIC HEARING FOR TAX ABATEMENT, PARCEL #88-766-0020**

- The Public Hearing was opened at 10:30 a.m.
- Chair Salfer presented the Affidavit of Publication.
- Sweeney presented the project overview for the Snug as a Bug Childcare.
- The Public Hearing was opened for public comments. Maria Harms presented her plans for the Childcare Center along with construction timeline.
- Chair Salfer closed the hearing for public comment at 10:45 a.m.
- On motion by Forkrud, second by Van Hee, in a roll-call vote with Forkrud, Van Hee, Salfer, Wakefield and Groebner all voting aye, the Board adopted the following resolution:

**REDWOOD COUNTY, MINNESOTA****RESOLUTION APPROVING  
PROPERTY TAX ABATEMENT FOR CERTAIN PROPERTY  
LOCATED IN THE CITY OF REDWOOD FALLS**

BE IT RESOLVED by the County Board (the “Board”) of Redwood County, Minnesota (the “County”) as follows:

Section 1. Recitals.

1.01. The County is considering granting a property tax abatement (the “Abatement”) in order to financially assist in the construction of a new childcare facility in the City of Redwood Falls (the “Project”) located on the (“Abatement Property”) and identified by parcel identification number 88-766-0020, all pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Sections 469.1812 through 469.1815, as amended (the “Act”).

1.02. Pursuant to Section 469.1813, Subdivision 1 of the Act, if the benefits to the County of the proposed Abatement at least equal the costs to the County of the proposed Abatement, the County may grant an abatement of all or a portion of the taxes imposed by the County on an affected parcel of property.

1.03. The developers that are proposing to construct and operate the new childcare facility have indicated that financial assistance provided through the abatement is necessary to make the project cost effective and financially feasible.

1.05. On the date hereof, this Board conducted a duly noticed public hearing on the Abatement, at which the views of all interested persons were heard.

Section 2. Findings.

2.01. This Board finds and determines that the public benefits to the County from the Abatement will be at least equal to the costs to the County of the Abatement, because (a) the property is presently vacant and the construction of the Project will result in additional tax base within the County, and (b) the proposed project will offer additional childcare services in the County which are needed; and (c) the proposed project will result in the creation of additional jobs within the County.

2.02. This Board finds and determines that the Abatement is in the public interest and confers public benefits for the reasons described in Section 2.01 hereof.

Section 3. Actions Ratified; Abatement Approved.

3.01. This Board ratifies all actions of the County's staff and consultants in arranging for approval of this Resolution in accordance with the Act.

3.02. Subject to the provisions of the Act, the Abatement is approved and adopted subject to the following terms and conditions:

- (a) The term "Abatement" is further defined to mean the County's share of the real property taxes generated from the Abatement Property, in the amounts described in this Section:
  - (i) The County shall abate its respective share of the taxes received that are attributable to the Project, commencing with taxes payable during the year 2024 (the "County Abatement"). The County shall annually abate a maximum of \$3,779 in property taxes attributed to the Project. The abatement term shall be 15 years.
  - (ii) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, the Abatement payable on any August 1 and subsequent February 1, combined, will not exceed the amount produced by extending the County's total local tax rate for the applicable year against the total net tax capacity of the Abatement Property as of January 2 in the prior year less the total net tax capacity of the Abatement Property as of January 2, 2022.
  - (iii) In accordance with Section 469.1813, Subdivision 8 of the Act, in no year shall the Abatement, together with all other abatements approved by the County under the Act and paid in that year, exceed the greater of 10% of the County's net tax capacity for that year or \$200,000.

- (b) This Resolution may be modified only with the prior written approval of the County, and any modification is subject to Section 469.1813, Subdivision 7 and Section 469.1814, Subdivision 4 of the Act.
- (c) In accordance with Section 469.1815 of the Act, the County will add to its levy in each year during the term of the Abatement the total estimated amount of current year Abatement granted under this Resolution.

3.03. The Board Chair and the County Administrator are authorized and directed to execute and deliver any agreements, certificates or other documents that the County determines are necessary to implement this Resolution.

#### **LICENSE CENTER**

- On motion by Van Hee, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Marco Copier Contract in the amount of \$117.04/monthly.

#### **A.C.E. OF SOUTHWEST MINNESOTA**

- Baumhoefner and LeBrun presented an annual program update.
- On motion by Groebner, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to approve the 2023 appropriation request in the amount of \$34,878.00.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL**

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

#### **RESOLUTION FOR GREATER MINNESOTA REGIONAL PARKS AND TRAILS GRANT APPLICATION**

Resolution approving a Greater Minnesota Legacy Grant application to the Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Commission and Minnesota Department of Natural Resources for the *Plum Creek Park Campground Expansion and Beach Improvement Project*.

WHEREAS, Redwood County has the right and authority to sponsor a grant funding request to the Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Commission (GMRPTC).

WHEREAS, Redwood County has a right and authority to act as Legal Sponsor for the State Grant Application (the "Application") and will work with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources ("DNR"), in developing a Grant Agreement relating to the funding which may be awarded by the GMRPTC.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That Redwood County certifies it has read and understands the Office of Grants Management [Conflict of Interest Policy 08-01](#), will maintain an adequate Conflict of Interest Policy and monitor and report any actual, potential, or perceived conflicts of interest to the GMRPTC and DNR.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Redwood County confirms all of the information in its Application and further confirms that it has no expectation of, or entitlement to, reimbursement of costs incurred prior to grant agreement execution date and, if applicable, it has not entered into a written purchase agreement to acquire property described in its Application if grant funds are to be used for the purchase.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Redwood County is applying for funding in the amount of \$1,000,000.00 and is committed to providing a local cash match in the amount of \$100,000.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Redwood County agrees that it will comply with all applicable laws, regulations and requirements as stated in the Grant Agreement with the DNR, including dedicating the park property for uses consistent with the grant agreement into perpetuity or for trails, committing to maintain the

trails for a period of not less than twenty (20) years, and dedicating all land acquired under the project for uses consistent with the grant agreement into perpetuity.

BE IT FURTHER UNDERSTOOD, that the GMRPTC will confirm at such time that it has made the award of funds authorizing a Grant Agreement to be developed between the DNR and Redwood County.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Environmental Director, Scott Wold, is hereby authorized to execute such grant agreements as are necessary to implement the project on behalf of the applicant.

### ROAD AND BRIDGE

- On motion by Forkrud, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to award the 2022-2023 season salt purchase to Blackstrap, Inc. in the amount of \$92.50/ton.

#### Other Bids

Company	Bid Amount
Blackstrap, Inc.	\$92.50/ton
Central Salt	\$102.49/ton
Johnson Feed, Inc.	\$93.25/ton
Compass Minerals	\$114.09/ton

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- The Engagement Letter with David Drown Associates was removed from the agenda.
- Garry and Mumme provided a broadband project update.

### ADMINISTRATOR

- The Board reviewed the June Jail Population and Sentence to Service Quarterly Report.
- On motion by Groebner, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Redwood County Agricultural Society Lease Agreement for temporary excess furniture storage.
- The Service Agreement with Matt Johnson was removed from the agenda.
- On motion by Groebner, second by Wakefield, the Board voted unanimously to acknowledge the Justice Center changes orders:

Ford Metro Change Order #7	\$364.80
Community Electric Change Order #11	\$1,354.50
RTL Construction Change Order #12	\$3,991.68
Sussner Construction Change Order #6	\$1,437.26

- On motion by Forkrud, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to award the Justice Center furniture quote to Henricksen in the amount of \$121,437.32.

#### Other Bids Received:

Company	Quote	Notes	Missing/Corrections
A & W Furniture	N/A	Bid not submitted due to Scheduling concerns	
Fluid Interiors	\$132,832.90		
General Office Products	\$139,079.00		
Henricksen	\$121,437.32		

- On motion by Forkrud, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to award A & W Furniture to move from the old courthouse to the new Justice Center in the amount of \$13,500 and authorize Board Chair and Administrator signature on the contract. No other bids were received.

*Personnel*

- On motion by Van Hee, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to promote Katelyn Torgerson from Full-time Patrol Sergeant to Deputy II/Investigator at the LELS Licensed Officer, Deputy II Pay Scale at Step 6, \$29.65/hour effective July 25, 2022.

**COMMISSIONER REPORTS**

- The Commissioners reported on meetings they attended:

Salfer: Economic Development; Road and Bridge Tour

Wakefield: RCRC/CA/Area II

Forkrud: Redwood-Renville Regional Solid Waste Authority

Groebner: Redwood-Renville Regional Solid Waste Authority; Redwood County Soil and Water Conservation District

Van Hee: Southwest Regional Development Commission annual meeting

**ADJOURN**

- There being no further business, Chair Salfer declared the meeting adjourned at 12:08 p.m.

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Vicki Kletscher  
 County Administrator

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Jim Salfer, Chair  
 Board of County Commissioners