

REDWOOD COUNTY, MINNESOTA

OCTOBER 18, 2022

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

Present for all or portions of the meeting were Commissioners Bob Van Hee, Dave Forkrud, Jim Salfer, Rick Wakefield, Dennis Groebner and County Administrator Vicki Kletscher. Also present were County Engineer Anthony Sellner; Auditor/Treasurer Jean Price; County Attorney Jenna Peterson; Human Resource Coordinator Peter Brown; Environmental Director Scott Wold; Sheriff Randy Hanson, Recorder Joyce Anderson; Technology Coordinator Paul Parsons; Technology Support Specialist Brian Schulte; Tiffany Knott.

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

On motion by Wakefield, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to approve the October 18th 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 Groebner, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda.
- October 4th minutes.
 - Payment of bills as follows:

General Fund	\$ 121,285.37
Ditch Maintenance Fund	\$ 64,548.62
Building Fund	\$ 13,500.00
Soil and Water Fund	\$ 38,416.48

- Bills exceeding \$2,000: Baycom \$6,014.00; Cottonwood County \$3,150.00; Mend Correctional Care \$4,123.69; Redwood County Highway Department \$5,768.97; Tersteeg's Holiday Market \$10,580.62; Northland Business Systems \$2,495.85; G & R Electric \$29,170.86; Brey Tiling & Excavating \$2,355.00; Regents of U of MN \$20,330.28; A & W Furniture \$13,500.00; M. Behrends \$2,364.38; Houston Engineering \$4,000.00; Jones, Haugh, Smith \$12,740.00; Kerkhoff Brothers \$5,668.47; Bruce Ness \$3,740.00; Stantec Consulting \$31,045.75; TNT Construction \$64,548.62; Area II Mn River Basin Project \$11,929.75; John Goelz \$2,687.50; Great River Greening \$11,930.65; Casey Hultquist \$10,150.00.

**PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES
ACT TRANSITION PLAN**

- At 8:35 a.m., the Board entered into a Public Hearing in the matter of the Adoption of the Americans with Disabilities Act Transition Plan. Present for the Public Hearing were Commissioners Wakefield, Salfer, Forkrud, Groebner and Van Hee, Administrator Kletscher, Administrative Assistant Heidi Wersal, and Highway Engineer Anthony Sellner.
- Sellner presented the Affidavit of Publication.
- Sellner presented an overview of the Americans with Disabilities Act Transition Plan.
- There was no one present for public comments.
- On motion by Groebner, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Americans with Disabilities Act Transition Plan.
- Chair Salfer closed the Public Hearing for the Americans with Disabilities Act Transition Plan at 8:43 a.m.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE TITLE VI PLAN AND POLICY

- At 8:44 a.m., the Board entered into a Public Hearing in the matter of the Adoption of the Title VI Plan and Policy. Present for the Public Hearing were Commissioners Wakefield, Salfer, Forkrud, Groebner and Van Hee, Administrator Kletscher, Administrative Assistant Heidi Wersal, and Highway Engineer Anthony Sellner.
- Sellner presented the Affidavit of Publication.
- Sellner presented an overview of the Title VI Plan and Policy.
- There was no one present for public comments.
- On motion by Forkrud, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the revised Title VI Plan and Policy pending County Attorney approval.
- Chair Salfer closed the Public Hearing for the Title VI Plan and Policy at 9:00 a.m.

RECONVENE

- The Board reconvened into Regular Session at 9:00 a.m.

ROAD AND BRIDGE

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

**Resolution
County Road and County State Aid Design Standards**

WHEREAS, implementation of road and bridge design standards are necessary to ensure uniformity of driver expectations, enhancing transportation safety on public infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, our County Roads and Bridges and County State Aid Roads and Bridges will have established design standards, regardless of the type of project financing;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Redwood County Highway Department adopts the current State Aid Operations Chapter 8820 design standards from the current Minnesota Administrative Rules.

- On motion by Forkrud, second by Wakefield, the Board voted unanimously to award low bidder, Epoxy Company, LLC in the amount of \$29,106.00 to seal snowplow truck parking bays in the Redwood County Highway Shop.
- On motion by Van Hee, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to approve the final vehicle pricing and the purchase of (3) 2023 Chevy 3500's at \$49,191.80 each from Marthaler Chevrolet.
- On motion by Wakefield, second by Van Hee, in a roll-call vote with Salfer, Groebner, Forkrud, Wakefield, and Van Hee all voting aye, the Board adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION
REQUESTING THE RELEASE OF DISASTER ASSISTANCE ACCOUNT FUNDS

WHEREAS, from 2018 through 2020, four state-declared disasters were proclaimed that affected Minnesota Counties. These disasters resulted in the need for federal assistance to repair county-owned roadways and bridges. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Emergency Relief (ER) Program declares that permanent emergency repairs are federally eligible for reimbursement at 80% with the remaining 20% to be a Local Public Agency (LPA) cost share; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes Chapter 12.221 subdivision 6 was revised in 2015 to include a clause to provide the LPA cost share for federal assistance from the FHWA ER Program under United States Code, Title 23, Section 125. The law was modified in 2015 to provide a more efficient distribution of funds to LPAs in the event of a declared disaster. This is the first time since the law was changed that local agencies have requested funds using this revised statute and process; and

WHEREAS, over the four disasters, fifteen counties were provided with FHWA ER funding and assurance that the associated 20% cost share would be provided from the Disaster Assistance Account (DACA); and

WHEREAS, requests for funding reimbursements for the ER-funded projects began in 2020 and have been denied by the Department of Public Safety (DPS); and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes Chapter 12.221, subdivision 6, clause 3 states that the local agencies are eligible for the 20% cost share from the DACA fund; and

WHEREAS, the fifteen Counties have expended an estimated \$3.3 million in the LPA 20% cost share since 2018 and have not been provided the pledged funding from the DACA Fund.

WHEREAS, the 20% cost share represents an additional property tax burden to local residents and has prevented Redwood County from using these funds on other needed resources.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of the County of Redwood, Minnesota, hereby requests that Governor Walz intercedes on their behalf to release the 20% LPA cost share of FHWA ER Program Funding from the DACA Fund.

EMPLOYMENT RECOGNITION

- The Board recognized Randy Hanson, Sheriff's Department, for 35 years of service to Redwood County and Joseph Probst, Highway Department, for 15 years of service to Redwood County.

SHERIFF

- Hanson presented the September Jail Population and Sentence to Serve Quarterly Report.

AUDITOR/TREASURER

- On motion by Wakefield, second by Van Hee, the Board voted to approve the following:
 - Cash Balance Report
 - Investment Summary
 - Budget Reports, General Fund, Road and Bridge Fund, Human Services Fund, Building Fund, Ditch Fund, Health Fund, Debt Service Fund, Insurance Fund, Soil and Water Conservation District Fund and Solid Waste Fund.
- September 2022 Disbursements in the amount of \$989,498.32.
- Bills exceeding \$2,000: Great Plains Natural Gas \$4,238.70, \$2,168.07; Redwood Falls Public Utilities \$4,238.70, \$9,786.39; Preferred One \$10,630.79, \$25,936.67, \$10,283.61, \$8,191.26, \$34,549.48, \$4,690.93, \$15,010.10; BCBS \$2,286.00; WEX Leap \$8,307.17, \$8,307.17; Redwood Electric Cooperative \$2,459.08; MN Dept. of Revenue \$106,341.80 \$7,860.00; Redwood County License Center \$3,723.35; Baier Construction \$4,993.85; Redwood Falls \$2,765.09; School District #2754 \$2,169.21; School District #2884 \$24,216.13; School District #2897 \$23,379.30; School District #2898 \$3,835.31; School District #640 \$25,040.34; SWHHS \$4,560.94; Charlestown Twp. \$5,363.08; Delhi Twp. \$8,169.49; Johnsonville Twp. \$2,125.36; Lamberton Twp. \$2,490.34; North Hero Twp. \$3,022.09; Paxton Twp. \$4,724.13, \$2,931.08; Sherman Twp. \$2,854.94; Vesta Twp. \$6,860.10; Bitker CR Share Trust \$7,950.00; G. Bitker \$3,750.00; J. Bitker \$7,950.00; S. Bitker \$8,550.00; Christensen Family Trust \$3,412.50; Debbaut Trust \$6,337.50, \$6,337.50; Garrison Trust \$7,800.00; Gilb Trust \$21,225.00; Kelly Trust \$7,800.00; MN Commission of Finance \$4,477.50; Netzke Trust \$8,550.00; Henry Smith \$2,063.00; Karen Stoeckman \$7,950.00; Christensen Trust \$2,559.38, \$2,559.37; Robert Christensen \$3,412.50; Redwood County A/T \$2,169.35; A & T Septic \$15,750.00; Baier Construction \$12,204.66; Delta Dental \$4,830.01; US Postal Service \$3,000.00; Baune Plumbing \$16,847.33; DLT Solutions \$28,012.48; Meadowland Farmers Coop \$25,023.34; R & G Construction \$76,490.23; Rinker Materials \$27,996.80, \$20,895.55; Sir Lines-A-Lot \$3,496.99; Bolton & Menk \$15,101.00; Everstrong Construction \$172,050.23.

TECHNOLOGY

- On motion by Wakefield, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to approve the KnowB4 renewal subscription for three years in the amount of \$10,281.60.
- On motion by Wakefield, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Real Vision Software Support renewal in the amount of \$3,300.00 to be funded from the Recorder's Equipment Fund.
- Parsons and Schulte presented different options for publicizing board meetings to the public. Retention Policies will be reviewed by the County Attorney.

ADMINISTRATOR

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

**RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING THE APPOINTMENT OF
SHELLEY SWEETMAN AND GARY SCHIMBENO
TO THE RED ROCK RURAL WATER SYSTEM BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

WHEREAS, Shelley Sweetman's 4-year term as a Commissioner on the Red Rock Rural Water System ("RRRWS") Board of Commissioners is scheduled to expire at midnight on December 31, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Gary Schimbeno's 4-year term as a Commissioner on the RRRWS Board of Commissioners is scheduled to expire at midnight on December 31, 2022; and

WHEREAS, on July 14, 2022 the RRRWS Board of Commissioners unanimously adopted a Motion which recommends that Shelley Sweetman and Gary Schimbeno each be re-appointed to another 4-year term on the RRRWS Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, the County Board of Commissioners believe that Shelley Sweetman and Gary Schimbeno are qualified to act as Commissioners on the RRRWS Board of Commissioners and are both worthy of re-appointment.

NOW BE IT NOW RESOLVED, that the Redwood County Board of Commissioners hereby recommends that Shelley Sweetman and Gary Schimbeno be appointed to the Red Rock Rural Water System Board of Commissioners pursuant to and provided for by Minnesota Statutes §116A et seq. for a 4-year term which shall commence on January 1, 2023, and shall expire at midnight on December 31, 2026.

- On motion by Forkrud, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to approve the 2023 State of Minnesota Grant Contract Agreement, Snowmobile Grant-In-Aid Program Maintenance and Grooming Grants in the amount of \$94,438.03.
- On motion by Groebner, second by Wakefield, the Board voted unanimously to approve the 2023 Medical Examiner Contract Agreement with River Valley Forensic Services.
- On motion by Wakefield, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to approve the 2022 Fall Redwood County Connection newsletter.

Personnel

- On motion by Wakefield, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to set the 2023 health insurance rates with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota which represents a 2% increase from 2022.
- On motion by Van Hee, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to approve the County Cafeteria Contributions for 2023.
- On a motion by Van Hee, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to set the 2023 Health Insurance premiums for COBRA participants.

- On motion by Van Hee, second by Wakefield, the Board voted unanimously to set the VEBA contribution rates at \$125.00/month for Family, Employee & Dependents, and Employee and Spouse and Single Plan.
- On motion by Forkrud, second by Wakefield, the Board voted unanimously to approve the 2023 dental rates with Met Life.
- On motion by Groebner, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to approve the 2023 BCBS MN Sr. Gold/MedicareBlue RX renewal plan for Redwood County retirees.
- On motion by Groebner, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to hire Priscilla Wheeler-Vetsouvanh as full-time Correctional Officer effective 10-31-22 on the Correctional Officer, LELS non-licensed Officer Salary Schedule at Step 4, \$22.12/hour due to experience.

ENVIRONMENTAL

- On motion by Forkrud, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to approve to transfer \$52,559.26 of Aquatic Invasive Species funds to the Highway Department for the purchase of a 2023 3500 Chevy Pickup to be used as a mobile AIS billboard.

REDWOOD COUNTY DITCH AUTHORITY

- At 10:50 a.m. the Board entered into Redwood County Ditch Authority to present the Findings and Order for the Petition to outlet JD #31, Lateral F and the Redetermination of Benefits for CD #50. Present for the meeting was Commissioners Forkrud, Salfer, Groebner, Wakefield and Van Hee, County Administrator Kletscher, Administrative Assistant Wersal and Environmental Director Wold.
- On motion by Salfer, second by Van Hee, in a roll-call vote with Groebner, Salfer, Van Hee, Forkrud and Wakefield all voting aye, the Board approved the Findings and Order for JD #31, Lateral F, to use as an outlet filed by DMK Farms LLP.
- On motion by Van Hee, second by Salfer, in a roll-call vote with Groebner, Salfer, Van Hee, Forkrud and Wakefield all voting aye, the Board approved the Findings and Order for the redetermination of benefits of CD #50.
- Chair Wakefield adjourned Redwood County Ditch Authority at 10:56 a.m.

RECONVENED

- The Board reconvened into Regular Session at 10:56 a.m.

COMMISSIONERS ITEMS

- Chair Salfer appointed the five commissioners, County Administrator, County Engineer and Environmental Director as voting delegates for the Association of Minnesota Counties meetings.

ADJOURN

- There being no further business, Chair Salfer declared the meeting adjourned at 11:04 a.m.

Jim Salfer, Chair
Board of Commissioners

Attest: _____
Vicki Kletscher
County Administrator