

REDWOOD COUNTY, MINNESOTA

November 7, 2023

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, and Dave Forkrud, Dennis Groebner, County Administrator Vicki Kletscher, County Attorney Jenna Peterson, Administration Assistant Sierra Fluck, Environmental Director Nick Brozek, Zoning Supervisor Jeanette Pidde, County Assessor Jesse Jacobson, Economic Development Coordinator Briana Mumme, Redwood Falls City Administrator Keith Muetzel, County Veteran’s Service Officer Roger Zollner, Maintenance Director Loren Gewerth, Assistant County Engineer Jeff Bommersbach.

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 November 7<sup>th</sup> agenda.

Chair Salfer asked the Board Members to identify any areas in which they had a conflict of interest, there were none.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- On motion by Wakefield, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:
  - October 17<sup>th</sup> board minutes.
  - Payment of bills.

General Fund	\$ 238,691.20
Building Fund	\$ 1,853.80
Ditch Fund	\$ 24,438.75
Soil & Water	\$ 3,353.00
Road & Bridge Fund	\$ 991.55
Insurance	\$ 770.76

- Bills exceeding \$2,000:

**Warrants Approved for Payment 11/13/2023.**

<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
ELAN CORPORATE PAYMENT SYSTEMS	13,134.52
<b>Final Total:</b>	<b>13,134.52</b>

**Warrants Approved On 11/07/2023 For Payment 11/13/2023.**

<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
BLOMEKE CONSTRUCTION INC	5,776.55
CENTRACARE HEALTH SYSTEM	2,150.75
COUNTY OF NOBLES	3,435.00

COUNTY OF RAMSEY	2,388.00
COUNTY OF RENVILLE	34,909.03
FLEET SERVICES DIVISION-DEPT OF ADM	7,529.58
G & R CONTROLS INC	7,996.25
HOPE HAVEN INC	2,300.00
ISG	3,395.76
JENSEN/CORY	3,353.00
PICTOMETRY INTERNATIONAL CORP	141,952.00
SMITH & JOHNSON	4,000.00
STANTEC CONSULTING SERVICES INC	10,718.36
61 Payments less than 2 0 0 0	26,976.25
<b>Final Total:</b>	<b>256,880.53</b>

### Warrants Approved On 11/07/2023 For Payment 11/13/2023.

<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
BENCO EQUIPMENT - ST CLOUD	7,036.72
BLACKSTRAP INC	2,381.78
BOLTON & MENK INC	13,724.50
BRIANS TREE SERVICE LLC	8,689.00
DUININCK INC	41,406.40
KECK TREE SERVICE	36,750.00
M-R SIGN CO INC	2,141.02
MIELKE OIL COMPANY INC	2,070.75
MN DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION	9,416.21
NORTH CENTRAL INTERNATIONAL INC	2,079.90
REDWOOD COUNTY AUD-TREAS	4,681.00
SCOTTS LAWN SERVICE and SNOW REM	2,260.00
TURBES AG SALES & SERVICE LLC	3,800.00
WEELBORG FORD INC	2,261.18
WELTSCH EQUIPMENT INC	3,625.17
WIDSETH SMITH NOLTING & ASSOCIATE	93,041.25
41 Payments less than 2 0 0 0	19,398.12
<b>Final Total:</b>	<b>254,763.00</b>

### CLOSED SESSION

- Entered into Closed Session at 8:32 a.m.
- Ended Closed Session at 8:45 a.m.
- On motion by Forkrud, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to waive any conflict of interest related to Taft's representation of Walmart in the Walmart matters.
- On motion by Wakefield, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Taft Retainer Agreement for Representation in the Walmart tax appeal.

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- On motion by Van Hee, second by Wakefield, the Board voted unanimously to rescind First Children's Finance Memorandum of Agreement- Minnesota to conduct financial modeling consultation services.
- Mumme & Muetzel updated the Board on the Westlake Properties Project for the redevelopment of Elm Street Homes with a Deadline of November 15<sup>th</sup> and the Red Sky Lofts Project for the redevelopment of the former Redwood Area Hospital with a projected completion date of March 2024.

- On motion by Wakefield, second by Forkrud, with Groebner opposing, the Board voted to Table the Countywide Comprehensive Housing Study Proposal to the December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Board meeting.

### **VETERANS SERVICES**

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

WHEREAS, the residents of Redwood County have great respect, admiration, and the utmost gratitude for all of the men and women who have selflessly served our country and this community in the Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, the contributions and sacrifices of the men and women who served in the Armed Forces have been vital in maintaining the freedoms and way of life enjoyed by our citizens; and

WHEREAS, Redwood County seeks to honor these individuals who have paid the high price for freedom by placing themselves in harm's way for the good of all; and

WHEREAS, Veterans continue to serve our community in the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, religious groups, civil service, and by functioning as County Veteran Service Officers in 29 states to help fellow former service members access more than \$52 billion in federal health, disability and compensation benefits each year; and

WHEREAS, Approximately 200,000 service members transition to civilian communities annually; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 20 percent increase of service members will transition to civilian life in the near future; and

WHEREAS, studies indicate that 44-72 percent of service members experience high levels of stress during transition from military to civilian life; and

WHEREAS, Active Military Service Members transitioning from military service are at a high risk for suicide during their first year after military service; and

WHEREAS, the National Association of Counties encourages all counties, parishes and boroughs to recognize Operation Green Light for Veterans; and

WHEREAS, the Redwood County appreciates the sacrifices of our United State Military Personnel and believes specific recognition should be granted; therefore be it

RESOLVED, with designation as a Green Light for Veterans County, Redwood County hereby declares during November through Veterans Day, November 11th 2023 a time to salute and honor the service and sacrifice of our men and women in uniform transitioning from Active Service; therefore, be it further

RESOLVED, that in observance of Operation Green Light, Redwood County encourages its citizens in patriotic tradition to recognize the importance of honoring all those who made immeasurable sacrifices to preserve freedom by displaying a green light in a window of their place of business or residence.

#### **MAINTENANCE**

- On motion by Van Hee, second by Wakefield, the Board voted unanimously to approve repairs to the south side awning of Government Center from G&J Awning and Canvas, Inc in the amount of \$6,900.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL**

- On motion by Wakefield, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to approve Conditional Use Permit #11-23 for the Rosewood Hutterian Brethren to construct an additional home in the project area of farm site in Lamberton.
- On motion by Van Hee, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Assignment and Assumption of Obligations in which Northern Con-Agg's reclamation obligations under Conditional Use Permit #20 are assigned to Jerome and Donna Leibl, pursuant to Extraction Interim Use Permit \$7-23.
- On motion by Forkrud, second by Wakefield, with Salfer opposing, the Board voted to approve purchase of new 2024 Polaris Ranger 1000 ESP for Plum Creek County Park from Parallel Ag in the amount of \$21,721.03 and to list the 2018 John Deere Gator 835E on MN Bid to be sold.
- On motion by Groebner, second by Wakefield, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Grant Agreement with BWSR for the following: 2024 and 2025 Shoreland, Local Water Management, and Wetland Conservation Act Grants: 2024 Low-income Septic Grant, Septic Aid for staff time totaling in the amount of \$120,230 pending County Attorney approval.
- Brozek updated the Board on the status of FEMA Reimbursements.

Van Hee left the meeting at 9:35 a.m.

#### **ROAD AND BRIDGE**

- On motion by Wakefield, second by Salfer, excluding the bill with Turbes Ag Sales in the amount of \$3,800, the Board voted unanimously to approve the road and bridge October bills in the amount of \$254,779.03.
- On motion by Forkrud, second by Wakefield, with Groebner abstaining due to a conflict of interest, the Board voted to approve the bill from Turbes Ag Sales in the amount of \$3,800.
- On motion by Forkrud second by Groebner, in a roll call vote with Salfer, Wakefield, Forkrud, and Groebner all voting aye the Board adopted the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, the Redwood County Highway Department would like to submit a project for Local Road Improvement Program Funds; and

WHEREAS, CSAH 7 will be rehabilitated through the City of Belview in 2025 or if LRIP funds are received CSAH 7 will be reconstructed through the City of Belview to include a

10-ton pavement design, ADA compliant pedestrian ramps, sidewalk and curb and gutter and LED street lighting at intersections;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Redwood County, Minnesota will pursue grant funds through the MnDOT State Aid for Local Road Improvement Program for said purpose; and

FURTHERMORE, that the Redwood County Highway Engineer is hereby authorized to act as agent on behalf of this project; and

FURTHERMORE, Redwood County approves the project and pledges support to fund engineering, right-of-way, inspection and other non-LRIP eligible costs as well as LRIP-eligible items in excess of the LRIP grant amount.

Seconded by Commissioner Groebner and the same being put to a vote was duly carried. This Resolution shall be effective immediately and without publication.

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

WHEREAS, the City of Wabasso is a city with a population under 5,000; and

WHEREAS, the City of Wabasso would like to submit a project on Front Street for Local Road Improvement Program (LRIP) Funds; and

WHEREAS, the City of Wabasso has requested Redwood County be the sponsoring agency; and

WHEREAS, the City understands that it will be responsible for all costs not covered by LRIP including but not limited to consultant engineering, right of way acquisition, construction administration and inspection, utility construction, as well as construction costs above the LRIP award;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Redwood County agrees to act as sponsoring agency for a Local Road Improvement Program Project identified on Front Street and has reviewed and approved the project as proposed; and

FURTHERMORE, Sponsorship includes a willingness to secure and guarantee the local share of costs associated with this project and responsibility for seeing this project through to its completion, in compliance of all applicable laws, rules and regulations; and

FURTHERMORE, the Redwood County Highway Engineer is hereby authorized to act as agent on behalf of this applicant.

Seconded by Commissioner Wakefield and the same being put to a vote was duly carried. This Resolution shall be effective immediately and without publication.

- On motion by Groebner, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to approve the final payment to M&R Paving & Excavating for the CR 63 Reconstruction Project in the amount of \$5,000.
- On motion by Groebner, second by Wakefield, the Board voted unanimously to approve the final payment to M&K Bridge Construction for contract 22-11(SAP 064-599-121 & SAP 604-599-123 Bridge Replacements) in the amount of \$53,209.60.
- On motion by Forkrud, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to approve the final payment to Morris Sealcoat & Trucking, Inc. for contract 23-1 (SAP 064-030-018; seal coat) in the amount of \$66,224.90.

### **ADMINISTRATION**

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

WHEREAS, Jay Tackle'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, 2023; and

WHEREAS, Paul Johnson's 4-year term as a Commissioner on the RRRWS Board of Commissioners is scheduled to expire at midnight on December 31, 2023; and

WHEREAS, on September 14, 2023, the RRRWS Board of Commissioners unanimously adopted a Motion which recommends that Jay Tackle and Paul Johnson each be re-appointed to another 4-year term on the RRRWS Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, the County Board of Commissioners believe that Jay Tackle and Paul Johnson are qualified to act as Commissioners on the RRRWS Board of Commissioners and are both worthy of re-appointment.

- Local Homeless Prevention Aid Service Agreement Discussion was held. Board will review draft Agreement at their December 12<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### ***Personnel***

- On motion by Groebner, second by Wakefield, the Board voted unanimously to approve Promotion of Luke Dellwo to Full Time Shop Supervisor for the Highway Department on Salary Schedule at Grade 13/Step 1 at \$29.11 per hour effective November 13, 2023.

### **COMMISSIONERS**

- Commissioners reported on meetings they attended.

Salfer: Southwest Health & Human Services, Nurse Family Partnership, AMC District 8

Forkrud: Planning & Zoning.

Wakefield: Southwest Health & Human Services, One Watershed One Plan, Plum Creek Library, AMC District 8

Groebner: MN Valley Regional Rail Authority, AMC District 8

**ADJOURN**

- There being no further business, Chair Salfer declared the meeting adjourned at 10:34 a.m.

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Jim Salfer, Chair  
Board of County Commissioners

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Vicki Kletscher  
County Administrator