

REDWOOD COUNTY, MINNESOTA

February 6, 2024

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 Dennis Groebner, Bob Van Hee, Jim Salfer, Dave Forkrud, Rick Wakefield. County Administrator Vicki Kletscher, Administrative Assistant Sierra Fluck, Sheriff Jason Jacobson, County Engineer Anthony Sellner, Highway Maintenance Superintendent Jamie Larsen, County Attorney Jenna Peterson, Environmental Director Nick Brozek, Land Use and Zoning Supervisor Jeanette Pidde, Economic Development Coordinator Briana Mumme, Interim Recorder Amy Gewerth, Human Resource Coordinator Peter Brown, Mike Landuyt, Wade Mathiowetz, Ed Iverson, Dan Henricksen, John Valentine, Raymond Rivera, Pam Jensen, Eugene Nelson, Neal Rohlik, Gary Rohlik, Steven Jordan, Tom Anderson, Jeremy Nerem, Bill Allie, Ginny Allie, Eric Linsmeier, Roger Baumann, Lisa Dallenbach, Rick Morris, Tammy Houle, Andrew Rigge, Lori Phillipp, Roger Pabst, Tony Kramer, Warren Kolander, Mary Bratsch, Dave Swedzinki, Kevin Bock, Jamie Rigge, Bruce Rigge, Brooke Guetter, Dave Jenniges, Ken Jenniges.

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

Open Forum- Eric Linsmeier- Rezoning Discussion
Citizens' concerns on State Flag Redesign

On motion by Van Hee, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to approve the February 6 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 Forkrud, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:
 - January 16th Board Minutes.
 - Payment of bills.

| | |
|------------------|---------------|
| General Fund | \$ 258,664.98 |
| Ditch Fund | \$ 430,095.41 |
| Solid Waste Fund | \$ 2,500.00 |
| Soil & Water | \$ 28,863.75 |
| State Revenue | \$ 380.00 |

- **Bills exceeding \$2,000:**

Vendor Name

Amount

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| ACE OF SOUTHWEST MINNESOTA | 9,298.00 |
| AMERICAN SOLUTIONS FOR BUSINESS | 3,594.85 |
| AREA II MN RIVER BASIN PROJECT | 24,013.75 |
| BEACH TRANSPORT INC | 143,433.24 |
| BOLTON & MENK INC | 2,371.00 |
| COUNTIES PROVIDING TECHNOLOGY | 4,740.00 |
| COUNTY OF BROWN | 219,679.90 |
| COUNTY OF LINCOLN | 2,500.00 |
| COUNTY OF RENVILLE | 20,258.00 |
| DS SOLUTIONS INC | 3,528.00 |
| FLEET SERVICES DIVISION-DEPT OF ADM | 7,351.16 |
| G & R CONTROLS INC | 10,085.00 |
| GALLS LLC | 2,582.78 |
| GRAFF CONSTRUCTION LLC | 2,535.00 |
| ISG | 3,140.09 |
| JESSE'S COLLISION & RESTORATION LLC | 4,404.87 |
| LAMBERTON PUBLIC LIBRARY | 3,942.19 |
| MAVERICK DRONE SYSTEMS LLC | 7,704.98 |
| MINNESOTA SHERIFFS ASSOCIATION | 6,636.01 |
| MORGAN PUBLIC LIBRARY | 7,374.75 |
| ONSOLVE LLC | 9,712.40 |
| PLUM CREEK LIBRARY SYSTEM | 3,250.00 |
| R & JW FARMS INC | 2,430.00 |
| REDWOOD FALLS PUBLIC LIBRARY | 20,614.60 |
| ROHLIK/JOHN W | 2,987.50 |
| RURAL MINNESOTA ENERGY BOARD | 2,500.00 |
| SCHMIDT CONSTRUCTION INC | 56,406.21 |
| SEACHANGE PRINT INNOVATIONS | 11,117.29 |
| SMITH & JOHNSON | 4,125.00 |
| SOUTHERN MN EMS EDUCATION LLC | 2,440.00 |
| SOUTHWEST SALES & SERVICE | 2,141.03 |
| SUMMIT FIRE PROTECTION | 2,307.00 |
| SW MN PRIVATE INDUSTRY COUNCIL INC | 3,440.00 |
| SW MN REGIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY BOAR | 5,000.00 |
| TOWNSHIP OF LAMBERTON | 21,346.88 |
| TRIMIN SYSTEMS INC | 22,292.00 |
| WABASSO PUBLIC LIBRARY | 21,104.96 |
| ZIEGLER INC | 4,118.52 |
| 46 Payments less than 2 0 0 0 | 21,586.15 |
| Final Total: | 708,093.11 |
| <u>Vendor Name</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
| ELAN CORPORATE PAYMENT SYSTEMS | 13,324.50 |
| Final Total: | 13,324.50 |
| <u>Vendor Name</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
| 3 Payments less than 2 0 0 0 | 613.81 |
| Final Total: | 613.81 |

PUBLIC HEARING

- Chair Salfer called Public Hearing to order.
- Kletscher presented affidavits of publication.
- On motion by Forkrud, second by Wakefield, in a roll call vote with Salfer, Wakefield, Forkrud, and Van Hee all voting aye, with Groebner absent, the Board adopted the following resolution:

WHEREAS the office of the Redwood County Recorder is currently an elective office; and

WHEREAS the Redwood County Recorder resigned effective January 31, 2024, and the resignation has been accepted; and

WHEREAS the office of County Recorder has become vacant due to resignation within the meaning of Minn. Stat. § 351.02(2); and

WHEREAS the County Board of Commissioners wants to ensure that the individual holding this position in the years and decades to come possesses the skills and/or experience necessary to properly carry out the responsibilities of this position; and

WHEREAS, the County Board has considered making the position in order to accomplish this objective and to allow for oversight; and

WHEREAS the office of Redwood County Recorder may be made an appointive office by resolution of the County Board of Commissioners pursuant to Minn. Stat. §375A.1205, subd. 6; and

WHEREAS at the February 6, 2024, meeting of the Redwood County Board of Commissioners provided an opportunity for public comment on the Board's decision.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 375A.1205, the Redwood County Board of Commissioners shall render the office of Redwood County Recorder appointive, effective March 7, 2024.

Commissioner Groebner left the meeting at 9:47

COUNTY ATTORNEY

- On motion by Van Hee, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to approve \$100 donation to the MCAA Education Fund that provides Redwood County attorneys with the credits they need to maintain licenses.
- On motion by Van Hee, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Cooperative Agreement with the state of MN for child support representation and services.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- On motion by Bob, second by Salfer, the Board voted unanimously to approve Redwood County EDA Revolving Loan Fund loan documents for Mindy, Body, Spirit Wellness, LLC in the amount of \$55,000.
- On motion by Forkrud, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to Set Public Hearing for the CDBG-CV Broadband Project Overview for March 5, 2024, at 9:15 a.m.
- On motion by Wakefield, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to approve Service Contract with Bolton and Menk, Inc. to conduct comprehensive countywide housing study in the amount of \$34,840.00.

SHERIFF

- On motion by Van Hee, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to approve the out of state travel request for deputies Alex Esser and Taft Anderson to attend basic swat training in Des Moines, Iowa May 5-10, 2024, at a cost of \$2,800.00.
- On motion by Forkrud, second by Salfer, the Board voted unanimously to approve the revised Brown Lyon Redwood Renville Drug Task Force joint powers agreement.
- On motion by Van Hee, second by Wakefield, the Board voted unanimously to approve the purchase of new bunk beds and shelving for work release in the amount of \$10,115.00.

Other Bids Received:

| <u>Company</u> | <u>Bid Amount</u> |
|----------------|-------------------|
| Max Secure | \$41,562.26 |

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

WHEREAS, SCOTT GOODYEAR wishes to donate \$1000.00 to Redwood County Sheriff's Office and;

WHEREAS, the Sheriff's Office will utilize the donation of \$1000.00 for the purpose of a K9 program and/or equipment; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners appreciates the generosity of Scott Goodyear in supporting the Redwood County Sheriff's Office;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners hereby approves the acceptance of \$1000.00 from Scott Goodyear to the Redwood County Sheriff's Office, on behalf of the County.

HUNTERS FOR HUNTERS & MN CATTLEMENS ASSOCIATION

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

WHEREAS, in February 2022, Minnesota's gray wolf once again became a federally protected threatened species and under current federal guidelines, where wolves may only be taken in defense of human life; and,

WHEREAS, Hunters for Hunters and the Minnesota Cattlemen's Association have concerns regarding wolf hunting and trapping seasons and ask that wolf management be returned to the State of Minnesota; and,

WHEREAS, there is significant and increasing conflicts between whitetails, livestock and wolf population throughout the State of Minnesota; and,

WHEREAS, Redwood County Board of Commissioners is in support of the State of Minnesota establishing hunting and trapping seasons on wolves immediately once wolves are removed from Federal protection; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Redwood County Board of Commissioners is in support of sending a letter requesting Senator Any Klobuchar to vote for wolves to be removed from Federal protection and that wolf management be returned to the State of Minnesota

SUMMIT CARBON SOLUTION

- Mathiowetz discussed the concerns of residents with the Board the Summit Carbon Solutions project.

DITCH AUTHORITY

- Entered into Ditch Authority at 11:35 a.m.
- On motion by Forkrud, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to Set the Final Hearing for Redetermination of CD 25 for March 5, 2024, at 9:30 a.m.

RECONVENE

- The Board reconvened into Regular Session at 11:35 a.m.

ENVIRONMENTAL

- On motion by Forkrud, second by Salfer, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Interim Use Permit #1-24 for Robert Pagel to operate a gravel pit in Section 18 of Underwood Township.
- Brozek updated the Board on the sale of the Plum Creek Park Gator that was placed up for auction on MinnBid and sold for \$8,100.
- On motion by Salfer, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to declare the 2012 Ford F-150 super cab excess property and placed for sale by auction on MinnBid.

ROAD & BRIDGE

- On motion by Wakefield, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to approve Road & Bridge January 2024 bills in the amount of \$26,469.32.

| <u>Vendor Name</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|---------------------------------|------------------|
| CRYSTEEL TRUCK EQUIPMENT INC | 2,510.01 |
| MN TRANSPORTATION ALLIANCE | 2,808.00 |
| OLSON CHEVROLET | 2,611.34 |
| SALFER WELDING MFG & REPAIR LLC | 2,274.70 |
| 34 Payments less than 2000 | 16,265.27 |
| Final Total: | 26,469.32 |

- On motion by Salfer, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to approve the updated purchase price of 2024 Ford F550 4x4 diesel from Weelborg Ford in the amount of \$66,124.40.

- On motion by Forkrud, second by Wakefield, the Board voted unanimously to approve the updated purchase price of 2024 Ford F600 4x2 diesel from Weelborg Ford in the amount of \$66,878.40.
- Sellner discussed with the Board the Historical Roadway Information over the past 10 years from 2007 to present highlighting roads that have received pavement rehabilitation.
- On motion by Van Hee, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to approve the purchase of 44,850 pounds of crack seal materials from White Cap LP at \$0.64/pound plus freight on MN State Contract No. 229195
- On motion by Forkrud, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to approve the final payment to Everstrong Construction Inc for Project 22-2 Township bridge replacements in the amount of \$92,565.22.
- On motion by Salfer, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to approve the final payment to Knife River for Construction Project 22-12 in the amount of \$210,392.22.
- On motion by Forkrud, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to approve the quote from Lamberton Heating and Plumbing Inc. in the amount of \$4,913.80 to make repairs to the County shop in Lamberton. No other bids were able to be obtained.
- On motion by Forkrud, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to approve the quote from Anderson Electric in the amount of \$8,937.27 to make repairs to County Shop in Lamberton. No other quotes were able to be obtained.
- On motion by Forkrud, second by Salfer, the Board voted unanimously to approve the quote from Andy's Masonary LLC in the amount of \$48,200 to make repairs to County shop in Lamberton.

Other Bids Received:

| <u>Company</u> | <u>Bid Amount</u> |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| JT Egner Construction | \$111,379.91 |

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

WHEREAS, the City is applying for a Safe Routes to School Planning Grant; and

WHEREAS, the City is seeking to have the existing conditions analyzed, and further a previous Walk Audit; and

WHEREAS, the City is seeking to conduct more public outreach to identify needs and wants of the community; and

WHEREAS, the City is looking to identify infrastructure needs and other improvements to encourage and allow students to continue walking and riding bikes to school; and

WHEREAS, Redwood County supports sponsorship requirements needed for the City to execute Safe Routes to School Grants.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, Redwood County supports the City of Lamberton's Safe Routes to School application and efforts to create a long-term safe route to school vision with a holistic and community driven approach.

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

WHEREAS, the Lower Sioux Indian Community in the State of Minnesota ("Community") is applying for a RAISE Grant for the CSAH 2 Road and Shared Use Path Improvement Project; and

WHEREAS, Redwood County supports this project as it will serve both the area transportation network and the Community for many years; and

WHEREAS, the project will enhance traffic operations and safety in the region, boost mobility, reduce congestion, spur economic activity and growth, and improve the quality of life for all those who use the area transportation system; and

WHEREAS, the project includes reconstruction of CSAH 2 from CSAH 11 to 305th Street, pavement rehabilitation from Morgan to CSAH 11 and from 305th Street to CSAH 24, will create a 10-ton pavement network, install pedestrian crossings and construct an important trail segment; and

WHEREAS, the project will exceed requirements and intentions for the RAISE grant program, addressing equity, climate change, tribal needs, safety, economic strength and infrastructure needs, among many other initiatives; and

WHEREAS, Redwood County has invested hundreds of thousands of dollars in maintaining the CSAH 2 corridor and has invested \$360,499 into contracted design of the reconstruction segment in order to advance the project.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, Redwood County strongly supports this grant application and the local commitments that are required to fully execute the grant.

ADMINISTRATION

- On motion by Forkrud, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Solid Waste Haulers License for the Purple Roll-Off.

Personnel

- On motion by Salfer, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to hire Rexton Lund as a Full Time Correctional Officer for the Redwood County Sheriff's Department and be placed on the LELS Union Salary Schedule Grade CO/Step1 at \$23.45 per hour, effective February 7, 2024.

- On motion by Van Hee, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to hire Melody O' Leary as a Part Time License Center Technician and be placed on the AFSCME Union Salary Schedule Grade8/Step 1 at \$20.21 per hour, effective February 7, 2024.

COMMISSIONERS

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

WHEREAS, the 2023 Legislature created a State Emblems Redesign Commission in the Laws of Minnesota, Chapter 62, Article 2, Section 118 the purpose of which is to redesign the official state flag and official state seal, and

WHEREAS, the Redesign Commission was charged with bringing recommendations on the redesign to the Legislature by no later than January 1, 2024, and

WHEREAS, the official seal of the State of Minnesota has remained unchanged since 1858; the current official state flag was created in 1957 with minor modifications done in 1983, and

WHEREAS, the official state flag and seal are not only symbols of our state, but also of our history and both the current official state flag and official state seal contain historical information on our farming background, Native American heritage and the co-existence that is part of the rich history of our state, and

WHEREAS, there is a substantial public cost associated with making this change that does not advance the public interest, including every deputy badge, seals in every courtroom and County Board Rooms across the state at substantial public expense, and

WHEREAS, the public reaction to the proposed designs has thus far been overwhelmingly negative.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Redwood County Board of Commissioners hereby urges our legislative delegation and the Governor to reject the work of the State Emblems Redesign Commission.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Redwood County Board of Commissioners hereby urges our legislative delegation and the Governor to retain the existing state seal and state flag as the official emblems for the State of Minnesota.

- The commissioners reported on meetings they attended.

Salfer: Nurse Family Partnership, Southwest Health and Human Services

Wakefield: Southwest Health and Human Services, One Watershed One Plan, Plum Creek Library System, Counties Providing Technology, Emergency Communication Board, Redwood-Cottonwood Rivers Controls Area II.

Forkrud: A.C.E, Planning & Zoning.

Van Hee: Prime West, Excel Energy, Homeless & Hungry

ADJOURN

- There being no further business, Chair Salfer declared the meeting adjourned at 12:18 p.m.

Attest: _____
Vicki Kletscher
County Administrator

Jim Salfer, Chair
Board of County Commissioners