

REDWOOD COUNTY, MINNESOTA

October 3, 2017

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 Dennis Groebner, Lon Walling, Bob Van Hee, Jim Salfer, and Dave Forkrud. Also present were Administrator Vicki Knobloch; Attorney Steve Collins; Auditor/Treasurer Jean Price; Highway Engineer Keith Berndt; Planning and Zoning Supervisor Nick Brozek; Environmental Director Scott Wold; Economic Development Coordinator Briana Mumme; Human Resource Coordinator Peter Brown; Fair Board Members Jeff Potter; Kirby Josephson; City Administrator Keith Muetzel; Soil and Water Marilyn Bernhardson; LINC Representative Claire Meyers and Cindy LaBrie ; Bolton and Menk Engineer Bill Helget; Paul DeBlicek; Paul Schroeder; Art Anderson; Nancy Frank; Jeff Sandgren; John and Jim Buckley.

Chair Walling requested a moment of silence to honor the victims of the mass shooting in Las Vegas.

Chair Walling called the Meeting to order asking for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

On motion by Groebner, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

- On motion by Salfer, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda.
 - September 19, 2017 Board minutes
 - Payment of bills as follows:

General Fund	\$ 49,729.98
Ditch Maintenance Fund	\$ 5,347.65
Road & Bridge Fund	\$ 238.68
Insurance Fund	\$ 183.37

ENVIRONMENTAL

- On motion by Groebner, second by Salfer, the Board voted unanimously to set a public hearing for October 17th at 10:00 a.m. for the Buffer Ordinance Amendments.
- On motion by Groebner, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Request for Qualifications for the dam removal projects on the Cottonwood River.

DITCH AUTHORITY

- At 8:41 a.m., the Board entered into County Ditch Authority to consider a petition to delay the construction of a Lateral to connect to Lateral X of Judicial Ditch 36. Present for the discussion from Redwood County were Commissioners Walling, Forkrud, Van Hee, Groebner and Salfer, Administrator Knobloch, Auditor/Treasurer Price and Environmental Director Scott Wold.
- On motion by Walling, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to approve the petition to delay the construction of a lateral to connect to Lateral X of Judicial Ditch 36 for up to 90 days.
- Chair Walling declared Ditch Authority meeting adjourned at 8:44 a.m.

RECONVENE

- The Board reconvened into regular session at 8:44 a.m.

AUDITOR/TREASURER

- On motion by Groebner, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to approve County Engineer, Keith Berndt, as a new credit card holder.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- On motion by Van Hee, second by Salfer, the Board voted unanimously to extend a letter of support to United Community Action for a bus route in Redwood Falls.

LINC REDWOOD COUNTY

- Meyers and Mumme presented an update on the start of the new LINC program for the 2017-2018 year.

REDWOOD SOIL AND WATER

- Bernhardson and Wold provided maps of the identified areas of “Other Waters” as mandated by the Minnesota DNR regulations.
- On motion by Groebner, second by Salfer, the Board voted unanimously to adopt “Other Waters” as an addendum to the Redwood County Comprehensive Local Water Plan.

REDWOOD COUNTY FAIR BOARD

- Potter and Josephson presented an update of the 2017 County Fair along with a request to increase the 2018 annual appropriation from \$36,000 to \$40,000. The Board will take under consideration during the Budgeting process.

ROAD AND BRIDGE

- On motion by Van Hee, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to approve payment of Road & Bridge bills in the amount of \$137,531.69.
- On motion by Forkrud, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to authorize the letting date of November 9, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. for the Maintenance Contract for Belview/Delhi area.

- On motion by Walling, second by Salfer, the Board voted unanimously to approve a two month extension from October 1, 2017 to December 1, 2017 on the current GWL Gravel Contract.
- On motion by Forkrud, second by Walling, the Board voted unanimously to authorize the letting date on November 16, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. for SAP #064-608-028, Bridge Replacement on CSAH 8 in Gales Township.
- On motion by Forkrud, second by Salfer, in a 3-2 vote with Walling and Groebner voting nay, the Board voted to approve to fund \$219,500 for a Courthouse Square improvement project in conjunction with the City of Redwood Falls matching funds of \$219,500 and a \$1 million dollar Local Road Improvement Grant.
- Berndt and Helget presented other options on the CSAH 101/ Dekalb Street project. By Board consensus, Chair Walling tabled the decision to the October 17, 2017 board meeting and directed Bolton and Menk Engineer, Helget, to provide more concise costs for Option C and E or leave “as is.”
- The Board reviewed an option of initiating a local option sales tax. No decision was made.

ADMINISTRATOR

- On motion by Forkrud, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to approve the amended Procurement Policy.
- The Minnesota Trails Assistance Program Maintenance Grant Agreement was tabled to the October 17, 2017 meeting as the Board directed Collins to draft an agreement with the local snowmobile clubs to be approved at the same time.
- On motion by Groebner, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to extend a letter of support in support of the Minnesota Valley Regional Rail Authority TIGER grant application.
- On motion by Groebner, second by Salfer, in a roll call vote with Van Hee, Groebner, Walling, Forkrud and Salfer all voting aye, the following resolution was adopted:

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A TIGER GRANT APPLICATION FOR MINNESOTA VALLEY REGIONAL RAIL AUTHORITY

WHEREAS, The Minnesota Valley Regional Rail Authority serving five counties owns and maintain 94 miles of rail, and provides service for shippers on a larger regional basis, and

WHEREAS, THE ongoing and growing demand for shipping by rail is increasing, and

WHEREAS, the joint venture relations with other rail lines opens additional markets to other parts of the United States, and

WHEREAS, MVRRA knows from first-hand experience what restoration of this rail line means to our city/county. It has been demonstrated already on the portions of the line that have been rehabilitated that safe, reliable and dependable rail service is the catalyst for new, private capital investment in buildings structures that grow business and stimulate our regional economy, and

Whereas, new private investment in business expansion increases the tax base for our local schools and government services, resulting in lower tax rates for everybody, and

Whereas, healthy and growing industry means new, good paying jobs for our citizens, and

Whereas, increased employment means more spending in our local economy and at our Main Street businesses, and

Whereas, a safe and dependable rail line means fewer long distance trucks on our streets and highways, and

Whereas, access to the Twin Cities terminal means better access to multiple national and international markets, better prices, and better freight rates, and

Whereas, this means more money stays in our local, regional and state economies, which is a winning combination for everyone, and

Whereas, MVRRA has been a recipient of State Bond funds, and Federal Rail Administration funds since 2002 totally \$31M which has been used for 34 miles of track rehabilitation,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Redwood County Board of Commissioners strongly supports this project and MVRRA's application funding request for \$20M under the Federal TIGER grant program to secure further funding to complete rail and bridge rehabilitation from Winthrop to Morton, Minnesota, with and additional \$4M in 2017 bonding funds from the State of Minnesota

On motion by Forkrud, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Land Purchase Agreement (All of that part of the Southeast Quarter (SE ¼) of Section Twenty (20), Township One Hundred Eleven (111) North, Range Thirty-six (36) West which lies within a distance of fifty feet to the Northwest of the following described center line: beginning at a point on the south side of said Section Twenty (20) distant 715.0 feet west of the Southeast corner thereof, thence running east along said section line for a distance of two feet; thence deflect to the left of an 8', 0" curve, delta angle 89' 42", for a distance of 1121.3 feet; thence on tangent to said curve for a distance of 1207.7 feet, and there terminating. Said point of termination being on the east section line of said Section 20, 725.6 feet south of the east quarter corner of said Section 20, together with all that tract of land lying and being between the above described center line and the east line of said section Twenty (20) and the south line of said Section Twenty (20), excerpting therefrom, however, any and all of the above described tract of land lying wholly within the Northeast quarter (NE ¼) of the Southeast quarter (SE ¼) of said Section. Said tract containing three and ninety – one hundredths (3.91) acres.) with Andrew Schiller in the amount of \$18,001 pending approval of County Attorney.

Personnel Action Items:

- On motion by Groebner, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to approve a 4% increase in 2018 dental rates.
- On motion by Van Hee, second by Salfer, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Health insurance rates for 2018 with no change in rates.
- On motion by Salfer, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to set the monthly county cafeteria contributions for 2018 with no change in rates.

- On motion by Van Hee, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to set the employer VEBA account contribution amounts at \$125 monthly.
- On motion by Salfer, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to set the 2018 Temporary and Seasonal Summer pay scales.
- On motion by Van Hee, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to set rates for short term disability, accident and critical illness insurance for 2018 with no change in rates.
- On motion by Salfer, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to acknowledge the resignation of Steve Collins as County Attorney effective October 20, 2017.
- On motion by Forkrud, second by Salfer, the Board voted unanimously to acknowledge the rescinded resignation of Jenna Peterson from Full-time Assistant County Attorney.
- On motion by Van Hee, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Jenna Peterson as County Attorney effective October 21, 2017 on the 2017 non-union salary scale, Grade 21, Step 1 at \$42.81/hr, \$87,734.40/year.

RECESS

- The Board recessed at 12:04 p.m. for lunch.

RECONVENED

- The Board reconvened at 12:30 p.m.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

- The Commissioners reported on meetings they attended:

Groebner: St. Charles/RADC, Lyon County Landfill Annual Meeting, MN Valley Rail Authority, Rural MN Energy Board, Redwood Area Development Committee, Friends of Gilfillan, Historical Society

Forkrud: Southwest Health and Human Services, Explore SW Minnesota, Parks and Trails Committee, Communication Board

Walling: Lyon County Landfill Annual Meeting, Planning and Zoning, Elected Officials Meeting, Insurance Committee Meeting, True County update

Van Hee: Southern Prairie Community Care, County Assessor Meeting,

Salfer: Southwest Health and Human Services, Nurse Family Partnership, Western Mental Health, Assessor Meeting, Public Health Fall Policy Meeting, Elected Officials Meeting, State Community Health Service Advisory Board

ADJOURN

- There being no further business, Chair Walling declared the meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

Lon Walling, Chair
Board of County Commissioners

Attest: _____
Vicki Knobloch
County Administrator