

REDWOOD COUNTY, MINNESOTA

January 16, 2018

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 Dave Forkrud, Jim Salfer, Lon Walling, Dennis Groebner and Bob Van Hee. Also present were Administrator Vicki Knobloch, County Auditor-Treasurer Jean Price; HR Coordinator Peter Brown; Environmental Director Scott Wold; 4-H Program Coordinator Stacy Johnson; Extension Technical Clerk Becky Kuelbs-Pautzke; Extension Educator Trisha Sheehan; Sheriff Randy Hanson; Technology Coordinator Paul Parsons; EDA Coordinator Briana Mumme; RRRSWA Director Jon Mitchell; United Community Action Director Cathleen Amick and Jerry Ludwig.

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

On motion by Walling, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to approve the 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 Groebner, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to approve the consent agenda.
 - January 2nd amended minutes
 - Out of State Travel – Stacy Gareis and Katie Salden
 - Payment of bills as follows:

Revenue Fund	\$ 420,511.92
Ditch Maintenance Fund	\$ 109,746.67
Solid Waste Fund	\$ 1,312.76
Health Fund	\$ 49,180.75
Insurance Fund	\$ 237.44

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

- The Board recognized Becky Kuelbs-Pautzke, Extension Department, for 30 years of Service.

REDWOOD COUNTY 4-H

- Johnson and Sheehan presented Jerry Ludwig with a Lifetime Achievement Award from Redwood County 4-H.

SHERIFF

- On motion by Van Hee, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to declare a 2011 Ford Crown Victoria as excess property and authorize the Sheriff’s Office to sell the property.
- On motion by Forkrud, second by Walling, the Board voted unanimously to purchase a 2018 Chevrolet Silverado pickup off the State Contract in the amount of \$33,725 plus tax and fees.
- On motion by Walling, second by Groebner, in a roll-call vote with Walling, Groebner, Salfer, Van Hee and Forkrud all voting aye, the Board adopted the following resolution:

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE DONATION OF \$1000 FROM FARMER’S UNION

WHEREAS, FARMER’S UNION, INC., wishes to donate \$1000 to Redwood County Sheriff’s Department and;

WHEREAS, the Sheriff’s Department will utilize the donation of \$1000 for the purpose of equipment; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners appreciates the generosity of Farmer’s Union in supporting the Redwood County Sheriff’s Department;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners hereby approves the acceptance of \$1000 from Farmer’s Union to Redwood County Sheriff’s Department, on behalf of the County.

- The Board voted reviewed the December Jail Report.

AUDITOR-TREASURER

- On motion by Walling, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following consent agenda: Cash Balance Report; Investment Summary; Budget Report: Revenue, Building, Ditch Maintenance, Ditch Bond Interest, Human Services and Solid Waste Funds; and December Disbursements in the amount of \$6,371,483.20.
- The Accounting and Procedures Policy was removed from the agenda.

LAKE REDWOOD REDEVELOPMENT

- On motion by Forkrud, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to approve a Letter of Support for the redevelopment of Lake Redwood.

TECHNOLOGY

- On motion by Van Hee, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to approve the renewal of the IBM Service Contract in the amount of \$3,137.19.

ENVIRONMENTAL

- On motion by Walling, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Engineering Contract for the Cottonwood River Dam Project with Houston Engineering

pending verification that all engineering fees will be paid through the grant even if the project does not get completed.

ADMINISTRATION

- On motion by Walling, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Law Enforcement Center Sewer Project contract with Javens Mechanical Contracting Company pending the start date on the contract and Department of Correction approval.
- On motion by Forkrud, second by Groebner, in a roll-call vote with Walling, Groebner, Salfer, Forkrud and Van Hee all voting aye, the Board adopted the following resolution:

Affirming Redwood County's support for state capital investments for regional behavioral health crisis program facilities and permanent supportive housing for people with behavioral health needs.

WHEREAS, Minnesota's mental health continuum of care is underdeveloped, creating harmful and expensive gaps in an individual's treatment; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota's mental health system does not have the capacity to consistently respond to the needs of individuals in crisis with appropriate treatment options; and

WHEREAS, individuals experiencing a mental health crisis are often diverted to jails and other facilities ill-equipped for their care while awaiting inpatient treatment; and

WHEREAS, individuals ready for discharge from inpatient treatment can be detained at inpatient facilities because there is a scarcity of supportive housing units to transition to; and

WHEREAS, the gaps in Minnesota's mental health system are not only damaging to individuals and their families, but also result in an inefficient use of taxpayer dollars; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota has an opportunity to improve its mental health continuum of care through investments in new permanent supportive housing and regional behavioral health crisis program facilities; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, Redwood County supports state capital investments for regional behavioral health crisis program facilities and permanent supportive housing for people with behavioral health needs.

Personnel

- On motion by Walling, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to hire Andrea Moldestad as the Full-time Program Assistant in the Restorative Justice effective 1-17-18 at Grade 8, Step 1 of the AFSCME Salary Schedule at \$15.70/hour.

RECESS

- The Board recessed at 9:45 a.m.

RECONVENE

- The Board reconvened at 10:00 a.m.

UNITED COMMUNITY ACTION

- Amick presented an overview of 2017.
- On motion by Walling, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to approve the United Community Action Partnership Transportation Agreement pending County Attorney approval.
- On motion by Van Hee, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to approve a Letter of Support for United Community Action.

REDWOOD-RENVILLE REGIONAL SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY

- On motion by Groebner, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to approve the 2018 Solid Waste Hauler Licenses for River View Sanitation, Southwest Sanitation, West Central Sanitation, Renville-Sibley Sanitation, R & E Sanitation and Waste Management of Minnesota, Inc.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

- The Commissioners reported on meetings they attended:

Salfer: Lake Redwood Bonding Committee Meeting, Economic Development, Childcare Meeting

Walling: Building Committee, Annual Township Meeting, Ditch Meeting

Groebner: Building Committee, Redwood-Cottonwood Rivers Control (RCRCA)

Van Hee: Redwood Falls City Council Meeting, Economic Development, Lake Redwood Bonding Committee Meeting, Technology Meeting, Southern Prairie Community Care, Childcare Meeting

ADJOURN

On motion by Van Hee, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the regular scheduled meeting at 11:11 a.m.

Jim Salfer, Chair
Board of County Commissioners

Attest: _____

Vicki Knobloch
County Administrator

REDWOOD COUNTY DITCH AUTHORITY

- At 11:22 a.m., Chair Walling requested Redwood County to enter into Redwood County Ditch Authority. Present for the meeting were Commissioners Walling, Salfer, Groebner, Forkrud and Van Hee, Administrator Knobloch, Auditor/Treasurer Price, Ditch Inspector Brent Lang and Environmental Director Scott Wold.
- A motion was made by Salfer to accept the Findings of Fact and Order for Douglas Dahms to grant an outlet into LAT 2D Judicial Ditch 36 described as the NE ¼ NE ¼ in Section 10, Township 110N, Range 36W, Willow Lake Township in Redwood County. Second made by Groebner. Motion Carried.

RECESS

- Ditch Authority recessed at 11:41 a.m.

RECONVENE

- Chair Walling reconvened into the Public Hearing at 1:01 p.m. for the Redetermination of Benefits for CD #23, 68, 68 LAT A, 41, 70, 93 and 42. Present at the public hearing were: Commissioners Walling, Salfer, Forkrud, Van Hee and Groebner. Vicki Knobloch, Administrator, Jean Price, Auditor-Treasurer, Brent Lang, Ditch Inspector and Scott Wold, Environmental Director, were also present. Ditch Viewers John Schueller, Kevin Vickerman, Luke Olson and land owners present for a portion of each hearing were Pearl Ziegenhagen, Margaret Eiler, Philip Nelson, Robert Boerboom, Steve Thram, Sharon Leopold, Bill Lightfoot, Char Lightfoot, Hilary Mohr, Randall Tietz and Jim Wiedemann.

COUNTY DITCH #23

- Walling presented purpose of Public Hearing.
- Jean Price indicated in accordance with Statute requirements that the notices of the public hearing was published for three consecutive weeks in the Redwood Gazette (official paper), Wabasso Standard, the Standard-Gazette & Messenger and Lamberton News, posted on the county website, on the bulletin board and the front doors of the Government Center. All landowners were mailed a property owner's report and notification of the public hearing as well.
- In accordance with M.S. 103E.351 Ditch Viewer's John Schueller, Luke Olson and Kevin Vickerman explained the process they took to redetermine the benefits of County Ditch 23. The system consists of approximately 11,519 ft. of tile. The tile size ranges from 14" to 6". Flow is generally from the NW to the SE, with the system providing drainage to parts of Sections 1 of Willow Lake Township and 5-8 of Sundown Township. County Ditch 23 outlets into Sleepy Eye Creek then into the Cottonwood River. Redetermined net benefits totaled \$93,914.86.
- Wold read written testimony by Steven Geis. Schueller and Walling addressed concerns stated by Geis.
- The Ditch authority then accepted public testimony. No landowner comments were made. Chairman Walling called for further comments three times. Chair Walling closed the hearing to public comment.
- On motion by Salfer, seconded by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Viewers' Report as presented with amendments to the Benefits and Damages Statement for

CD #23 and to recess the hearing to February 6, 2018 for consideration of the Findings and Order Approving the Redetermination of Benefits.

- The Public Hearing for CD #23 was closed at 1:36 p.m.

COUNTY DITCH #68

- Walling presented purpose of Public Hearing.
- Jean Price indicated in accordance with Statute requirements that the notices of the public hearing was published for three consecutive weeks in the Redwood Gazette (official paper), Wabasso Standard, the Standard-Gazette & Messenger and Lamberton News, posted on the county website, on the bulletin board and the front doors of the Government Center. All landowners were mailed a property owner's report and notification of the public hearing as well.
- In accordance with M.S. 103E.351 Ditch Viewer's John Schueller, Luke Olson and Kevin Vickerman explained the process they took to redetermine the County Ditch 68. The system consists of approximately 19,355 ft. of open ditch and 28,000 feet of tile. The tile size ranges from 18" to 6". Flow is generally from the SW to the NE, with the system providing drainage to parts of Sections 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23, and 27 of Willow Lake Township. County Ditch 68 outlets into JD36 then into the Cottonwood River. Redetermined net benefits totaled \$3,834,922.09 and 11.99 buffer easement acres to purchase at a cost of \$83,930.00.
- Written testimony by Steven Geis was submitted for the record.
- The Ditch authority then accepted public testimony. Margaret Eiler requested the tax consequences with the redetermination. All questions posed were answered to the satisfaction of the landowners present. Chairman Walling called for further comments three times. Chair Walling closed the hearing to public comment.
- On motion by Salfer, seconded by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Viewers' Report as presented with amendments to the Benefits and Damages Statement for CD #68 and to recess the hearing to February 6, 2018 for consideration of the Findings and Order Approving the Redetermination of Benefits, Acquiring Grass Buffer, Confirming Damages, and Directing Payment.
- Public hearing for County Ditch #68 was closed at 1:53 p.m.

COUNTY DITCH #68 LAT A

- Walling presented purpose of Public Hearing.
- Jean Price indicated in accordance with Statute requirements that the notices of the public hearing was published for three consecutive weeks in the Redwood Gazette (official paper), Wabasso Standard, the Standard-Gazette & Messenger and Lamberton News, posted on the county website, on the bulletin board and the front doors of the Government Center. All landowners were mailed a property owner's report and notification of the public hearing as well.
- In accordance with M.S. 103E.351 Ditch Viewer's John Schueller, Luke Olson and Kevin Vickerman explained the process they took to redetermine the benefits of County Ditch 68 LAT A. The system consists of approximately 9,800 ft. of open ditch and 900 feet of tile. The tile size ranges from 15" to 10". Flow is generally from the West to the East, with the system providing drainage to parts of Sections 15, 16, 17, 20, and 21 of Willow Lake Township. County Ditch 68 LAT A outlets into CD68 to JD36 then into the Cottonwood

River. Redetermined net benefits totaled \$1,598,839.15 and 6.91 buffer easement acres to purchase at a cost of \$48,370.

- Knobloch read written testimony by Steven Geis. Schueller and Walling addressed concerns stated by Geis.
- The Ditch authority then accepted public testimony. No landowner comments were made. Chairman Walling called for further comments three times. Chair Walling closed the hearing to public comment.
- On motion by Forkrud, seconded by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Viewers' Report as presented for CD #68 LAT A and to recess the hearing to February 6, 2018 for consideration of the Findings and Order Approving the Redetermination of Benefits, Acquiring Grass Buffer, Confirming Damages, and Directing Payment.
- Public hearing for County Ditch #68 LAT A was closed at 2:07 p.m.

COUNTY DITCH #41

- Walling presented purpose of Public Hearing.
- Jean Price indicated in accordance with Statute requirements that the notices of the public hearing was published for three consecutive weeks in the Redwood Gazette (official paper), Wabasso Standard, the Standard-Gazette & Messenger and Lamberton News, posted on the county website, on the bulletin board and the front doors of the Government Center. All landowners were mailed a property owner's report and notification of the public hearing as well.
- In accordance with M.S. 103E.351 Ditch Viewer's John Schueller, Luke Olson and Kevin Vickerman explained the process they took to redetermine the benefits of County Ditch 41. The system consists of approximately 1,050 ft. of open ditch and 73,197 feet of tile. The tile size ranges from 32" to 6". Flow is generally from the SW to the NE, with the system providing drainage to parts of Sections 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 10, 11, 15, 16 and 17 of Springdale Township. County Ditch 41 outlets into Lone Tree Creek then into the Cottonwood River. Redetermined net benefits from the January 10, 2018 amended report totaled \$2,154,480.53 and .75 buffer easement acres to purchase at a cost of \$5,175.
- Written testimony by Steven Geis was submitted for the record.
- The Ditch authority then accepted public testimony. Landowner Bob Boerboom discussed the watershed line and he has no tile hooked to that ditch but it floods into his property. Walling then requested public input on permanent easements. Bill Lightfoot described the history of his ditch and feels yield amounts are too high on his ditch. Chairman Walling called for further comments three times. Chair Walling closed the hearing to public comment.
- On motion by Groebner, seconded by Salfer, the Board voted unanimously to continue hearing for further information or amendments on Boerboom Property for CD #41 to February 6, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.
- Public hearing for County Ditch #41 was closed at 2:27 p.m.

COUNTY DITCH #70

- Walling presented purpose of Public Hearing.
- Jean Price indicated in accordance with Statute requirements that the notices of the public hearing was published for three consecutive weeks in the Redwood Gazette (official paper),

Wabasso Standard, the Standard-Gazette & Messenger and Lamberton News, posted on the county website, on the bulletin board and the front doors of the Government Center. All landowners were mailed a property owner's report and notification of the public hearing as well.

- In accordance with M.S. 103E.351 Ditch Viewer's John Schueller, Luke Olson and Kevin Vickerman explained the process they took to redetermine the of County Ditch 70. The system consists of approximately 32,400 feet of tile. The tile size ranges from 24" to 6". Flow is generally from the North to the South, with the system providing drainage to parts of Sections 9, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21 and 22 of Charlestown Township. County Ditch 70 outlets into Unnamed Creek then into the Cottonwood River. Redetermined net benefits totaled \$854,520.30.
- Knobloch read written testimony by Steven Geis. Walling addressed concerns stated by Geis.
- The Ditch authority then accepted public testimony. Landowner Hilary Mohr stated he receives no benefit from tile coming through. Landowner Steve Thram commented that his acres are newly assessed and all the water is being dumped on his acres and now he will have to pay for those costs as well. He mentioned that he would like to tile the property. Wold and Lang said according to Statute he has two options. Either petition acres into the system using a lateral or work with his neighbor and get an easement to hook into their system. Both Landowners were satisfied to the information they received from the Viewers and Ditch Authority. Chairman Walling called for further comments three times. Chair Walling closed the hearing to public comment.
- On motion by Groebner, seconded by Salfer, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Viewers' Report as presented with amendments to the Benefits and Damages Statement for CD #70 and to recess the hearing to February 6, 2018 for consideration of the Findings and Order Approving the Redetermination of Benefits.
- Public hearing for County Ditch #70 was closed at 3:14 p.m.

COUNTY DITCH #93

- Walling presented purpose of Public Hearing.
- Jean Price indicated in accordance with Statute requirements that the notices of the public hearing was published for three consecutive weeks in the Redwood Gazette (official paper), Wabasso Standard, the Standard-Gazette & Messenger and Lamberton News, posted on the county website, on the bulletin board and the front doors of the Government Center. All landowners were mailed a property owner's report and notification of the public hearing as well.
- In accordance with M.S. 103E.351 Ditch Viewer's John Schueller, Luke Olson and Kevin Vickerman explained the process they took to redetermine the benefits of County Ditch 93. The system consists of approximately 16,018 ft. of open ditch and 8,701 feet of tile. The tile size ranges from 20" to 8". Flow is generally from the North to the SE, with the lower end flowing North to SE, with the system providing drainage to parts of Sections 20, 21, 22, 27, 28, 29 and 33 of Underwood Township. County Ditch 93 outlets into JD 37 (Redwood River) then into the Redwood River. Redetermined net benefits totaled \$2,329,235.35 and 11.59 buffer easement acres to purchase at a cost of \$88,084.
- Written testimony by Steven Geis was submitted for the record.

- The Ditch authority then accepted public testimony. Landowner Bill Lightfoot stated he is being taxed two times with County and Township taxes. Requests County to establish percentage on permanent easements. Chairman Walling called for further comments three times. Chair Walling closed the hearing to public comment.
- Ditch Authority discussed a percentage reduction on the Benefits for the Ditch.
- On motion by Van Hee to continue hearing for CD #93. Motion failed due to a lack of a second.
- On motion by Salfer, seconded by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to continue hearing for further information or amendments for CD #93 to February 6, 2018 at 10:15 a.m.
- Public hearing for County Ditch #93 was closed at 3:30 p.m.

COUNTY DITCH #42

- Walling presented purpose of Public Hearing.
- Jean Price indicated in accordance with Statute requirements that the notices of the public hearing was published for three consecutive weeks in the Redwood Gazette (official paper), Wabasso Standard, the Standard-Gazette & Messenger and Lamberton News, posted on the county website, on the bulletin board and the front doors of the Government Center. All landowners were mailed a property owner's report and notification of the public hearing as well.
- In accordance with M.S. 103E.351 Ditch Viewer's John Schueller, Luke Olson and Kevin Vickerman explained the process they took to redetermine the benefits of County Ditch 42. The system consists of approximately 2,600 ft. of open ditch and 43,836 feet of tile. The tile size ranges from 34" to 8". Flow is generally from the West, SW to the East, with the system providing drainage to parts of Sections 18, 19, 20, 21, 28, 29, 30, 31 and 32 of North Hero Township and Sections 25 and 36 of Springdale Township and parts of the City of Walnut Grove. County Ditch 42 outlets into Pell Creek then into the Cottonwood River. Redetermined net benefits from the January 16, 2018 amended report totaled \$1,819,636.14 and 1.68 buffer easement acres to purchase at a cost of \$12,012.
- Written testimony by Steven Geis was submitted for the record.
- The Ditch authority then accepted public testimony. Landowner Randy Tietz stated there was a lot of tile breakage in Section 20. Lang was present to confirm that he does make a lot of repairs in that Section. Chairman Walling called for further comments three times. Chair Walling closed the hearing to public comment.
- On motion by Forkrud, seconded by Salfer, the Board voted unanimously to continue hearing for further information or amendments for CD #42 to February 6, 2018 at 10:30 a.m.
- Public hearing for County Ditch #42 was closed at 4:14 p.m.

Lon Walling, Ditch Authority Chair
Board of County Commissioners

Attest: _____
Vicki Knobloch
County Administrator