

REDWOOD COUNTY, MINNESOTA

FEBRUARY 4, 2020

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, Lon Walling, Bob Van Hee, Jim Salfer and Dennis Groebner; Environmental Director Scott Wold, County Attorney Jenna Peterson; Economic Development Coordinator Briana Mumme; Human Resource Coordinator Peter Brown; Planning and Zoning Supervisor Nick Brozek; Auditor-Treasurer Jean Price; Veteran Service Officer Dustin Hunter; GIS Specialist Christopher Burchfield; Highway Engineer Al Forsberg; Deputy Commissioner of Programs and Services Bradley Lindsay; Senior Administrator of Memorial Affairs Dave Swantek; Director of Veteran Programs; DNR Geologist Corrie Floyd; Chad Crotty, DNR Mineral Potential Manager Heather Arends, DNR Project Manager for Redwood County Greg Brick; SWHHS Ann Orren, Tom Werner; Tom Quackenbush; Redwood Falls City Administrator Keith Muetzel; Representatives from Collin Peterson's Office Jacki Anderson and Sue Dieter; Senator Gary Dahms; Doug Kerkhoff and Valerie Stephens.

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

Chair Walling asked the Board Members to identify any areas for which they had a conflict of interest. There were none.

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

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- On motion by Salfer, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:
  - January 21, 2020 Board minutes.
  - Payment of bills as follows:

Revenue Fund	\$ 22,355.74
Ditch Maintenance Fund	\$ 556.09
Road and Bridge Fund	\$ 784.00
Insurance Fund	\$ 470.25
Building Fund	\$ 280.00

- Bills exceeding \$2,000.00: Association of MN Counties \$2,300.00; Counties Providing Technology \$2,390.54, \$3,779.00; North American Systems \$6,360.00; Trimin Systems \$18,339.00; Alpha Wireless Communications \$14,538.00, 16,779.00; Fleet Services \$5,821.44; North Memorial Ambulance \$3,056.86; G & R Appliance \$4,390.00; Mathiowetz Construction \$117,573.19; Schmidt Construction \$14,692.50; MN Board of Water & Soil \$40,904.56;

**INTRODUCTION**

- Christopher Burchfield, GIS Specialist, was introduced to the Board of Commissioners.

**REDWOOD COUNTY DITCH AUTHORITY**

- At 8:33 a.m., the Board entered into Redwood County Ditch Authority. Present for the meeting were Commissioners Walling, Groebner, Forkrud, Salfer and Van Hee, Environmental Director Scott Wold and County Attorney Peterson.
- On motion by Forkrud, second by Salfer, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Franta Pit Cash Rent Lease Agreement.
- On motion by Groebner, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to approve the updated Drainage Policy and Guidance Document as presented.
- On motion by Groebner, second by Forkrud, in a roll-call vote with Groebner, Forkrud, Walling and Salfer all voting aye and Van Hee abstaining due to conflict of interest, the Board voted to order the Redetermination of Benefits for County Ditch #52 and appointed Mark Behrends, Robert Hanson, Dennis Distad, Joe Muschler, Bruce Ness, Kendall Langseth and John Thompson as viewers to redetermine and report the benefits and damages for County Ditch #52 and the Engineering Firm of Jones, Hauge and Smith to determine the watershed areas for County Ditch #52.
- On motion by Forkrud, second by Salfer, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the presented reduction in benefits for land with a perpetual easement during a redetermination of benefits.
- On motion by Salfer, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to add the Perpetual Easement Rate to the Drainage Policy and Guidance Document.
- There being no further business, Chair Walling declared the Ditch Authority meeting adjourned at 8:53 a.m.

**RECONVENED**

- The Board reconvened into regular session at 8:53 a.m.

**ENVIRONMENTAL**

- On motion by Salfer, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to approve revisions to the Plum Creek Cancellation Policy.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

- At 9:02 a.m., the Board entered into a Public Hearing for the proposed revisions to the Redwood County Code of Ordinances.
- Brozek presented the Affidavit of Publication. Present were Redwood County Commissioners Walling, Forkrud, Salfer, Van Hee and Groebner, Planning and Zoning Supervisor Nick Brozek and Environmental Director Scott Wold.
- Brozek presented the revisions to the Code of Ordinances for 2020.
- On motion by Salfer, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to approve ordinance amendments to Title XI, Business Regulations and Tobacco and Title XV, Land Use.
- Chair Walling declared the Public Hearing closed at 9:12 a.m.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

- On motion by Salfer, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Memorandum of Agreement with the First Children's Finance and Redwood County.
- On motion by Forkrud, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Flying Buttress Video Contract.

**MINNESOTA DNR**

- Floyd and Arends presented information on the aggregate mapping project that will begin in Redwood County in the Spring of 2020 which is funded through a LCCMR grant.

**ROAD AND BRIDGE**

- On motion by Salfer, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to approve bills in the amount of \$70,179.74.
- Bills exceeding \$2,000.00: Bolton & Menk \$8,680.00; Duininck Inc. \$4,963.40; Kimley-Horn & Associates \$3,945.85; Meadowland Farmers Coop \$3,030.00; MN Dept. of Transportation \$2,908.15; Alpha Wireless \$3,828.00; Crysteel Distributing \$2,767.66; Farmward Cooperative \$24,399.87; H & L Mesabi \$9,549.00; Moore Engineering \$5,447.50; North Central International \$3,583.83; Snow Wheel Systems \$2,125.00; Widseth, Smith & Nolting \$2,719.87; Ziegler \$5,540.62.
- On motion by Groebner, second by Salfer, the Board voted unanimously to approve the final payment to Asphalt Surface Technologies for SAP 064-616-016 in the amount of \$1,282.84.
- On motion by Van Hee, second by Salfer, the Board voted unanimously to approve Out of State Travel Request for Matt Guetter for training in Fargo, ND in the amount of \$505.09.

**AUDITOR-TREASURER**

- On motion by Groebner, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to approve the State of Minnesota Office of the State Auditor Engagement Letter.

**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**

- Lindsay and Swantek provided an update on the proposed Veteran Cemetery in Redwood County. Redwood County is #1 on the list for the construction of a new veteran's cemetery, however, expansion projects on existing veteran's cemetery's always take precedence in funding.
- Representatives from Collin Peterson's Office expressed that Rep. Peterson is advocating for the Veteran's Cemetery in Redwood County and is writing a request for appropriations to increase funding for the project.
- Senator Dahms expressed his support for the project and urged constituents to let their Congressmen know the importance of this project.

**PERSONNEL**

- On motion by Salfer, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to acknowledge the resignation of Grey Jensen as Assistant County Attorney effective 2-7-20.

- On motion by Van Hee, second by Salfer, the Board voted unanimously to hire Amanda Heinrichs-Milburn as full-time Assistant County Attorney on the Non-union Salary Schedule at Grade 16, Step 1 at \$30.39/hour effective 2-7-20.
- On motion by Salfer, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to implement a retention incentive for the Assistant County Attorney position.

**COUNTY ATTORNEY**

- Kerkhoff and Stephens were present to discuss a public walking path that runs through the former highway shop property located at 635 West Bridge Street in Redwood Falls that will be auctioned off. City Officials were present and requested a permanent easement be established to ensure the walking path remains intact.
- On motion by Salfer, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to establish a permanent easement for 12.5’ on each side of the walking path on the former highway shop property located at 635 West Bridge Street in Redwood Falls. The City of Redwood Falls will continue maintenance on the walking path.
- On motion by Salfer, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to draft an Easement Agreement for 115.09 acre parcel of land located in Section 7, Redwood Falls Township to new landowner to allow access to the south side of the property.

**COMMISSIONER’S ITEMS**

- Commissioner Walling appointed Lori O’Leary to the Extension Committee.
- On motion by Forkrud, second by Salfer, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Amended Supporting Hands Nurse Family Partnership Joint Powers Agreement.

**COMMISSIONER REPORTS**

- The commissioners reported on meetings they attended:

Salfer: Nurse Family Partnership

Walling: Counties Providing Technology; Phone Meeting with State Auditor; Judicial Ditch #5 Meeting; Lyon County Refugee Meeting

Groebner: MN Rural Energy, Service Enterprises

Forkrud: Communication Board; A.C.E.; Refugee Resettlement phone calls

Van Hee: Southwest Regional Development Commission; Extension; Fair Board

**ADJOURN**

- There being no further business, Chair Walling declared the meeting adjourned at 12:37 p.m.

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Lon Walling, Chair  
Board of County Commissioners

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Heidi Wersal  
Administrative Assistant