

REDWOOD COUNTY, MINNESOTA

May 5, 2020

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session at 8:30 a.m. in the Minn West Meeting Room in the Government Center, Redwood Falls, Minnesota.

Present for all or portions of the meeting were Commissioners Lon Walling, Bob Van Hee, Jim Salfer, Dave Forkrud and Denny Groebner; Administrator Vicki Knobloch; Highway Engineer Al Forsberg; RRRSWA Director Jon Mitchell; Environmental Director Scott Wold and Planning and Zoning Supervisor Nick Brozek.

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

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

General Fund	\$ 98,780.69
Ditch Maintenance Fund	\$ 9,445.81
Insurance Fund	\$ 418.23
Road and Bridge Fund	\$ (975.00)
Solid Waste Fund	\$ 18.40

- Bills exceeding \$2,000.00: City of Walnut Grove \$16,177.00; Estebo, Frank & Munshower \$2,065.00; Redwood Gazette \$10,178.68; Smith & Johnson \$3,000.00; KLGR \$2,444.00; City of Clements \$5,000.00; Carris Health \$2,439.00; Cellebrite \$3,700.00; CentraSquare Technologies; Fleet Services \$5,303.50; Marthaler Automotive \$22,313.39, Southwest Prairie Tech. Service \$3,400.00; Schmidt Construction \$2,816.00; TNT Construction \$3,550.00.

**REDWOOD COUNTY DITCH AUTHORITY**

- At 8:31 a.m., the Board entered into Redwood County Ditch Authority. Present for the meeting were Commissioners Walling, Forkrud, Groebner, Salfer and Van Hee, Environmental Director Scott Wold and Administrator Knobloch.
- On motion by Salfer, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to accept the Findings and Order for CD #20 as presented.

- On motion by Forkrud, second by Van Hee, in a roll-call vote with Groebner, Forkrud, Salfer, Walling and Van Hee all voting aye, the Board voted to order the Redetermination of Benefits for County Ditch #20 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 #20 and the Engineering Firm of Jones, Hauge and Smith to determine the watershed areas for County Ditch #20.
- There being no further business, Chair Walling declared County Ditch Authority meeting adjourned at 8:38 a.m.

### **RECONVENED**

- The Board reconvened into regular session at 8:38 a.m.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL**

- Wold updated the Board per Governor Walz Executive Order 20-48 in reference to private and public campgrounds.
- On motion by Forkrud, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to open the seasonal campground at Plum Creek Park, however, recreational campsites, bathrooms and common areas will remain closed until further notice.

### **PLANNING AND ZONING**

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

Whereas: On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization announced that the COVID-19 outbreak can be characterized as a pandemic; and

Whereas: President Donald J. Trump declared a national state of emergency on March 13, 2020, due to COVID-19; and

Whereas: Minnesota Governor Tim Walz declared a Peacetime Emergency in the State of Minnesota, with Emergency Executive Order 20-01, due to COVID-19; and

Whereas: Meat processing plants across the United States have been epicenters of the COVID-19 outbreak, which has negatively impacted their ability to keep up with demand for processing of livestock, including livestock raised by farmers in Redwood County; and

Whereas: If farmers are not able to get their livestock processed, some livestock may need to be euthanized; and

Whereas: Euthanized livestock carcasses must be disposed of in a manner that conforms to the State Board of Animal Health rule, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency rules, county ordinances, and county-issued Conditional Use Permits; and

Whereas: Many Redwood County Animal Confinement Feedlot Conditional Use Permits require carcasses to be rendered and/or prohibit disposal by burial; and

Whereas: Companies providing local rendering services may not be able to keep up with the increased demand for rendering, due to the disruption to the supply chain caused by COVID-19; and

Whereas: Redwood County wants to allow farmers who cannot obtain rendering services for their carcasses, and who cannot otherwise adequately dispose of their carcasses in a way that conforms to the terms and conditions on their Animal Confinement Feedlot Conditional Use Permits, to use alternative means of disposal that still safeguard the public health, safety, and welfare; and

Whereas: Minnesota Statutes 13D.021, Subdivision 1 states that public body meetings may be closed to the public if “attendance at the regular meeting location is not feasible due to the health pandemic or emergency declaration.”

Now therefore be it resolved:

1. The County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Redwood County Zoning Administrator and other county employees to refrain from enforcing Animal Confinement Feedlot Conditional Use Permit conditions requiring or prohibiting specific methods of carcass disposal, for the term of this resolution as stated below.
2. Any Redwood County feedlot owner or operator whose Animal Confinement Feedlot Conditional Use Permit precludes certain forms of carcass disposal may present an alternative disposal plan for approval by the Redwood County Zoning Administrator, even though said disposal method does not meet the terms and requirements of the Animal Confinement Feedlot Conditional Use Permit, subject to the following requirements and conditions:
  - a. The feedlot owner or operator is not able to get rendering service; and
  - b. The alternative disposal method conforms to Minnesota Board of Animal Health and Minnesota Pollution Control Agency rules and requirements; and
  - c. The alternative disposal method and location is approved by the Zoning Administrator; and
  - d. The feedlot owner or operator allows the Zoning Administrator to access the alternative disposal site to conduct inspections of the site; and
  - e. The feedlot owner or operator continues to use rendering and/or other disposal methods that conform to the terms and conditions of the feedlot owner or operator’s Animal Confinement Feedlot Conditional Use Permit to the extent possible.
3. This resolution and the alternative disposal methods allowed thereunder will terminate upon the following events, whichever first occurs:
  - a. Declaration of the end of the national state of emergency declared by the President of the United States; or
  - b. Declaration of the end of the peacetime emergency declared by the Governor of Minnesota; or
  - c. December 31, 2020.

4. Termination of an alternative disposal method means that no additional carcasses may be disposed of in said method, but carcasses already disposed of via the alternative method may continue in that process. For example, carcasses disposed of via composting may continue to be composted until the composting process is complete, but no additional carcasses may be composted. Similarly, carcasses disposed of via burial may remain buried, but no additional carcasses may be buried.

**ROAD AND BRIDGE**

- On motion by Salfer, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to approve bills in the amount of \$104,967.96.
- Bills exceeding \$2,000.00: Bolton & Menk \$5,942.50; Braun Intertec \$4,960.00; Fatty Daddy Auto Repair \$5,609.62; Duininck Inc. \$26,837.14; Hoyt’s Oil and Convenience \$3,467.00; M-R Sign \$4,581.80; Meadowland Farmers Coop \$17,479.02; Newman Signs \$8,248.49; Oertel Architects \$4,460.00; Olsen Chain and Cable \$2,524.80; Redwood Tire Service \$3,743.00.
- On motion by Salfer, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to award SAP 064-594-002, Vesta LRIP Project, to Duininck, Inc. in the amount of \$689,711.00.

Other Bids Received:

Company	Base Bid Amount
Duininck, Inc.	\$ 689,711.00
Central Specialties, Inc.	\$ 992,290.30

- On motion by Van Hee, second by Salfer, the Board voted unanimously to award the bituminous road repair materials to the sole bidder, Jebro, Inc. in the amount of \$379,371.00.
- On motion by Groebner, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to award SAP 064-598-023 and SAP 064-599-116, County Road 57 and Three Lakes Township box culvert replacements, to R & G Construction Company in the amount of \$640,135.00.

Other Bids Received:

Company	Bid Amount
Midwest Contracting, LLC	\$ 674,066.80
Riley Brothers Construction	\$ 672,199.00
Landwehr Construction	\$ 647,096.00
R & G Construction Company	\$ 640,135.00
Central Specialties, Inc.	\$1,032,567.80

**COUNTY ATTORNEY**

- On motion by Salfer, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Amended Westlaw Contract to include the addition of a new County Attorney.

**REDWOOD-RENVILLE REGIONAL SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY**

- On motion by Groebner, second by Forkrud, in a 4-1 vote with Walling voting nay, the Board voted to approve the Score Grant Agreement for fiscal year 2020-2021 pending County Attorney approval.

**ADMINISTRATOR**

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

**A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE DONATION OF 5 GALLONS OF HAND  
SANITIZER FROM HIGHWATER ETHANOL, LLC**

**WHEREAS**, HIGHWATER ETHANOL LLC, wishes to donate 5 gallons of Ultra Guard Hand Sanitizer to Redwood County; and

**WHEREAS**, Redwood County will utilize the donation of 5 gallons of Ultra Guard Hand Sanitizer for the purpose of ongoing safety and sanitizing measures during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners appreciates the generosity of Highwater Ethanol, LLC in supporting Redwood County,

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners hereby approves the acceptance of 5 gallons of Ultra Guard Hand Sanitizer from Highwater Ethanol, LLC to Redwood County.

- Chair Walling acknowledged the confession of judgment for Parcel #90-297-0040 from Brett Anderson.
- Chair Walling acknowledged a letter of support sent to the MN Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) for the Youth Apprenticeship Readiness Grant Program that was requested by Southwest MN Private Industry Council.

**COMMISSIONERS ITEMS**

- Per Diems submitted by Commissioner Van Hee were removed from the agenda. No action taken.
- On motion by Salfer, second by Groebner, in a 4-1 vote with Van Hee voting nay, the Board approved to re-open Redwood County government offices to the public if Governor Walz opens up for non-essential business on May 18, 2020.

**COMMISSIONER REPORTS**

- The commissioners reported on meetings they attended:

Walling: Judicial Ditch work-fielding questions

Salfer: Nurse Family Partnership

Van Hee: AMC Transportation, Extension Committee

*Forkrud*: Extension Committee

**ADJOURN**

- There being no further business, Chair Walling declared the meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

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Lon Walling, Chair  
Board of County Commissioners

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Vicki Knobloch  
County Administrator