

REDWOOD COUNTY, MINNESOTA

OCTOBER 20, 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 Bob Van Hee, Dave Forkrud, Jim Salfer, Lon Walling, Dennis Groebner and County Administrator Vicki Knobloch. Also present were County Attorney Jenna Peterson; Auditor/Treasurer Jean Price; Human Resource Coordinator Peter Brown; Environmental Director Scott Wold; Economic Development Coordinator Briana Mumme; Veteran Service Officer Dustin Hunter, Technology Coordinator Paul Parsons. Present for Zoom meeting were Deputy Director of Memorial Affairs Dave Swantek, State Program Administration Manager Andy Gervais; Representatives from Collin Peterson's Office Meg Louwagie, Rebecca Solem and Sue Dieter.

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

On motion by Groebner, second by Salfer, the Board voted unanimously to approve the October 20th 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 Forkrud, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda.
- October 6th minutes.
 - Payment of bills as follows:

General Fund	\$ 248,449.63
Ditch Maintenance Fund	\$ 64,076.40
Insurance Fund	\$ 230.00
Building Fund	\$ 6,584.72

- Bills exceeding \$2,000: A.C.E. of SW Minnesota \$7,848.50; Smith & Johnson \$3,000.00; Seachange Print Innovations \$13,071.71; Real Vision Software \$3,000.00; Marco Technologies \$6,813.00; G & R Controls \$7,354.25; Mend Correctional Care \$3,963.55; Sabre Industries \$126,551.00; Tersteeg's Holiday Market \$7,089.13; Geo-Comm Corporation \$9,368.34; Ramsey County \$2,987.00; Reliance Telephone \$2,000.00; Regents of the University of MN \$23,920.58; Gag Sheet Metal \$2,500.00; WOLD Architects \$3,375.00; Mark Behrends \$2,410.20; L & S Construction \$13,284.00; Kendall Langseth \$2,724.60; Maas Construction \$4,696.83; Northland Erosion Control \$33,972.76; TNT Construction \$3,080.10.

REDWOOD COUNTY DITCH AUTHORITY

- At 8:31 a.m., the Board entered into Redwood County Ditch Authority. Present for Ditch Authority were Commissioners Walling, Groebner, Forkrud, Van Hee and Salfer, County Administrator Knobloch, County Attorney Peterson and Environmental Director Wold.
- On motion by Van Hee, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Franta Pit Lease Agreement in the amount of \$600.00/year.

RECONVENE

- The Board reconvened into Regular Session at 8:33 a.m.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

- The Board recognized Jennifer Scharfencamp, Highway Department, for 5 years of service to Redwood County and Joyce Anderson, Recorder’s Office, for 30 years of service to Redwood County.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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

RESOLUTION 2020-11

A RESOLUTION TO EXPEND CARES ACT FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR SHERIFF’S OFFICE EQUIPMENT

WHEREAS, Redwood County, in response to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 pandemic (COVID-19) is in need of portable radios for the County Sheriff’s Office to enable employees to work safely during the pandemic, and;

WHEREAS, County Sheriff has identified a necessary purchase of portable radios, and accessories and;

WHEREAS, the authority under the CARES Act allows this expenditure as follows:

1. The purchase of portable radios allows employees to utilize individual portable radios and would not require sharing with fellow employees. This allows a reduction of potential transmission of COVID-19 between employees; and
2. One third of the cost of the radios is budgeted in the 2020 budget in the amount of \$46,500, however the total cost was not budgeted for purchase prior to the pandemic, and;
3. The U.S. Treasury guidance has identified infrastructure/"assets" purchased related to COVID and during the permissible timelines can still be used ("retained") post-COVID;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the County Board of Commissioners is authorizing the purchase of portable radios and accessories, under state contract 20927 - MN DOT 119587 in an amount not to exceed \$132,192.50 and certifies that the funds appropriated from the CARES Act fund will be used only for the allowable uses as indicated in the Coronavirus Relief Fund Guidance for necessary expenditures, unbudgeted, unaccounted for expenses and incurred during the covered period.

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

RESOLUTION 2020-10

A RESOLUTION TO EXPEND CARES ACT CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUNDING TO SOUTHWEST HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

WHEREAS, Redwood County, in response to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 pandemic (COVID-19) and to provide financial support to Southwest Health and Human Services (SWHHS), as an established joint powers with Redwood County for public health and human services;

WHEREAS, disbursement of funds to meet payroll expenses for public health and human services whose services are substantially dedicated to mitigating or responding to the COVID-19 health emergency is an eligible use of funds per the U.S. Treasury, as outlined in the Coronavirus Relief Fund Frequently Asked Questions;

WHEREAS, the Redwood County CARES Act Fund Committee has collected an itemized use of funds from SWHHS for eligible expenditures beginning March 1, 2020 through September 30, 2020 for a total allocation of \$42,369.68 to Redwood County;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Redwood County Board of Commissioners is authorizing disbursement of funds up to \$42,369.68 for eligible expenses from March 1, 2020 to September 30, 2020 and certifies that the funds appropriated from the CARES Act Fund will be used only for the allowable uses as indicated in the Coronavirus Relief Fund Guidance for necessary expenditures.

- On motion by Forkrud, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to approve the purchase of the Page Builder Tool for the Redwood County website from RV Tech Solutions in the amount of \$1,250.00 pending County Attorney approval.
- On motion by Salfer, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to approve the University of Minnesota Extension Addendum for LINC Redwood County 2019-2020 program year pending approval by County Attorney.

AUDITOR/TREASURER

- On motion by Salfer, second by Groebner, the Board voted to approve the following:
 - Cash Balance Report
 - Investment Summary
 - Budget Reports, General Fund, Health Fund, Ditch Maintenance and Solid Waste Fund.

- September 2020 Disbursements in the amount of \$1,398,519.90.
- Bills exceeding \$2,000: Preferred One \$6,201.66; \$11,316.96; \$10,137.87; \$8,314.32; \$25,652.07; \$12,468.71; \$6,528.60; Further \$7,160.44; Redwood Electric Company \$3,472.25; Redwood Falls Public Utilities \$9,455.87; BCBS of MN \$2,155.50; Wells Fargo \$245,000.00; MN Dept. of Revenue \$47,040.90; U.S. Postmaster \$3,000.00; City of Redwood Falls \$11,691.58; MN Dept. of Transportation \$2,000.00; Redwood County License Center \$2,525.75; MN Commission of Finance \$5,178.00; Delta Dental \$3,557.84; Gary Kerkhoff Construction \$6,518.11; Sun Life Financial \$2,094.59; City of Lucan \$13,395.36; City of Revere \$10,534.36; City of Seaforth \$5,709.81; City of Wanda \$3,816.95; Charlestown Township \$3,000.00; City of Morgan \$165,123.37; Duininck Inc. \$140,386.48; R & G Construction \$450,884.29; Jebro Inc. \$56,396.78; Weltsch Equipment \$41,553.08.
- On motion by Van Hee, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to purchase the Omni Ballot Disability Voting Machines in the amount of \$20,020.00 to replace four outdated Automark disability voting machines which will be funded from the 2020 Voting Equipment Grant of \$7,911.85 and \$12,108.15 from the Election Designated Account.

ADMINISTRATOR

- On motion by Salfer, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Child's Place Equipment Lease Agreement.
- Knobloch presented the September Jail Population.
- On motion by Salfer, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to rescind the Resolution to appoint John Thompson as County Assessor that was adopted on October 6, 2020.
- On motion by Forkrud, second by Van Hee, in a roll-call vote with Walling, Groebner, Salfer, Van Hee and Salfer all voting aye, the Board adopted the following resolution:

REDWOOD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS APPOINTMENT OF COUNTY ASSESSOR

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes §273.061 declares that the terms of office as County Assessor shall begin on January 1 of every fourth year after 1973; and

WHEREAS, Kathy Hillmer, Redwood County Assessor retired from her position effective July 31, 2020 thereby creating a vacancy of the office of the County Assessor; and

WHEREAS, the County Administrator has recommended to the County Board of Commissioners that John Thompson be appointed as replacement; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the County Board of Commissioners of Redwood County, Minnesota, that John Thompson is hereby appointed as full time County Assessor for Redwood County, Minnesota to fill the unexpired term of Kathy Hillmer effective September 21, 2020 through December 31, 2020; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Department of Revenue and included with the personnel file held by the County Administrator's Office.

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

RESOLUTION

APPOINTING JOHN THOMPSON AS REDWOOD COUNTY ASSESSOR FOR A FOUR YEAR TERM EFFECITIVE

January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2024

WHEREAS, John Thompson, Redwood County Assessor was appointed on September 21, 2020 to fill the unexpired term of County Assessor Hillmer by her retirement on July 31, 2020 thereby creating a vacancy of the office of the County Assessor; and

WHEREAS, the County Administrator has recommended to the County Board of Commissioners that John Thompson be appointed as County Assessor for a four (4) term; and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners in and for the County of Redwood, Minnesota, that, in accordance with Minn. Stat. §273.061 that John Thompson, Accredited Minnesota Assessor (AMA) be and hereby is appointed to Redwood County Assessor;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Department of Revenue and included with the personnel file held by the County Administrator's Office.

- On motion by Van Hee, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to authorize the County Administrator to approve change orders on the Court Security Building Project and the Government Services Building Project, not to exceed \$10,000.00.
- On motion by Salfer, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to authorize the Building Committee to approve change orders on the Court Security Building Project and the Government Services Building Project in excess of \$10,000.00 but not to exceed \$25,000.00.

Personnel

- On motion by Forkrud, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to approve the County Cafeteria Contributions for 2021.
- On motion by Salfer, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to approve the health insurance rates for 2021.

STATE VETERAN CEMETERY UPDATE

- Representatives from the Department of Veterans Affairs and Representative Collin Peterson's staff joined the Redwood County Commissioners in a Zoom meeting to discuss the announcement that the US Department of Veteran Affairs National Cemetery Administration has accepted the grant application from the State of Minnesota for a State Veterans Cemetery project to be located in Redwood County.
- On motion by Forkrud, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to approve an official statement for press release with regards to the Veterans Cemetery Project:

“The Redwood County Commissioners extend their appreciation to the Federal and State Legislators, along with the State Veterans Affairs Team, Commissioner Larry Herke, Landowners Bob LeSage, and Dean Swigert, and County Staff for their ongoing advocacy and support to bring this long awaited project to fruition. We are just thrilled to know the site will serve the Veterans and their families of Southwest Minnesota! Additionally, thanks to all past and present employees and elected officials that have helped bring this project to fruition.”

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

- The commissioners reported on meetings they attended:

Groebner: Redwood-Renville Regional Solid Waste Authority, Redwood Soil and Water Conservation District, Judicial Ditch Meeting

Van Hee: Restorative Justice, Southwest Regional Development Commission, Technology Committee

Walling: Redwood-Renville Regional Solid Waste Authority; Judicial Ditch Meeting

Forkrud: A.C.E. of Redwood Falls

ADJOURN

- There being no further business, Chair Walling declared the meeting adjourned at 11:04 a.m.

Lon Walling, Chair
Board of Commissioners

Attest: _____
Vicki Knobloch
County Administrator