

REDWOOD COUNTY, MINNESOTA

January 6, 2026

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

Present for all or portions of the meeting were Commissioners Dennis Groebner virtual attendance located at 250 Center St. Clements, MN, Bob Van Hee, Jim Salfer, Corey Theis, Rick Wakefield. County Administrator Vicki Kletscher, Administrative Assistant Sierra Fluck, Auditor/Treasurer Jean Price, County Engineer Nick Klisch, County Attorney Shannon Ness, Assistant County Attorney Marissa Pacheco, Recorder Amy Gewerth, Planning & Zoning Supervisor Jeanette Pidde.

Auditor-Treasurer Price called the Organizational Meeting to order asking for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Price then called for nominations for the Office of Chair of the Board for 2026. Salfer nominated Wakefield. After calling for additional nominations three times, Price called for a second on the nomination of Wakefield. Theis seconded, and in a roll call vote, the Board voted for Wakefield as the Board Chair for 2026.

Chair Wakefield then called for nominations for the 2026 Vice-Chair of the County Board. Theis nominated Salfer. After calling for additional nominations three times, Van Hee seconded, and in a roll call vote, the Board voted unanimously for Salfer as the Board Vice-Chair for 2026.

On motion by Salfer, second by Van Hee, in a roll call vote, the Board voted unanimously to approve the January 6th agenda.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

- On motion by Van Hee, second by Salfer, in a roll call vote, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:
 - December 16th Board Minutes.
 - Payment of bills.

General Fund	\$ 38,852.03
Building Fund	\$ 469.46
R & B Fund	\$ 561.09

- **Bills exceeding \$2,000:**

<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
ELAN CORPORATE PAYMENT SYSTEMS	10,397.84

Final Total: 10,397.84

<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
MINNESOTA ASSN OF SOIL & WATER CO	7,654.59
MN COUNTIES INTERGOVERNMENTAL T	3,701.00
SCHNEIDER GEOSPATIAL LLC	13,405.20
11 Payments less than 2000	4,708.70
Final Total:	29,469.49

BOARD CHAIR

- On motion by Salfer, second by Theis, in a roll call vote, the Board voted unanimously to authorize the Board Chair to act on behalf of Redwood County in case of emergencies.
- On motion by Theis, second by Van Hee, in a roll call vote, the Board voted unanimously to adopt Roberts Rules of Order as the County Board meeting procedural guide.

AUDITOR/TREASURER

- On motion by Van Hee, second by Theis, in a roll call vote, the Board voted unanimously to acknowledge notice of Price filing for Auditor-Treasurer position for the 2026 election year.
- On motion by Salfer, second by Theis, in a roll call vote with Theis, Salfer, Van Hee, Wakefield, and Groebner all voting aye, the Board adopted the following resolution:

MN Statute 118A.02 subd. 1 (a) The governing body of each government entity shall designate, as a depository of its funds, one or more financial institutions.

DESIGNATION OF DEPOSITORIES (for Deposit Accounts)

DEPOSITOR: County of Redwood
403 South Mill Street
Redwood Falls, MN 56283

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS: Old National Bank
Hometown Bank
Integrity Bank Plus
Minnwest Bank M.V.
U.S. Bank
Wanda State Bank
MAGIC Fund
Wells Fargo Advisors
Multi-Bank Securities

I, the undersigned Administrator of the County named above, hereby certify that the County of Redwood is organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the state of Minnesota as a corporation for profit, with its principal address at 403 South Mill Street, Redwood Falls, MN 56283.

Account Holder: County of Redwood is the complete and correct name of the Account Holder.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that at a meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the County of Redwood, duly and regularly called and held on January 6, 2026, at which a quorum was present and voting, the following resolutions were adopted:

RESOLVED, that the Financial Institutions named above at any one or more of its offices or branches, be and it hereby is designated as a depository for the funds of the County, which may be withdrawn on checks, drafts, advices of debit, notes or other orders for the payment of monies bearing the following appropriate number of signatures: Any one (1) of the following named officers or employees of the County (“Agents”), whose actual signatures are shown below:

Jean Price
Authorized Signer Printed Name

Vicki Kletscher
Authorized Signer Printed Name

And that the Financial Institution shall be and is authorized to honor and pay the same whether or not they are payable to bearer or to the individual order of any Agent or Agent’s signing the same.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Financial Institution is hereby directed to accept and pay without further inquiry any item drawn against any of the County’s accounts with the Financial Institution bearing the signature or signatures of Agents, as authorized above or otherwise even though drawn or endorsed to the order of any Agent signing or tendered by such Agent for cashing or in payment of the individual obligation of such Agent or for deposit to the Agent’s personal account, and the Financial Institution shall not be required or be under any obligation to inquire as to the circumstances of the issue or use of any item signed in accordance with the resolutions contained herein, or the application or disposition of such item or the proceeds of the item.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that any one of such Agents is authorized to endorse all checks, drafts, notes and other items payable to or owned by Redwood County for deposit with the Financial Institution, or for collection or discount by the Financial Institution; and to accept drafts and other items payable at the Financial Institution.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the above named agents are authorized and empowered to execute such other agreements, including, but not limited to, special depository agreements and arrangements regarding the manner, conditions, or purposes for which funds, checks, or items of the County may be deposited, collected, or withdrawn and to perform such other acts as they deem reasonably necessary to carry out the provisions of these resolutions. The other agreements and other acts may not be contrary to the provisions contained in this Resolution.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the authority hereby conferred upon the above named Agents shall be and remain in full force and effect until written notice of any amendment or revocation thereof shall have been delivered to and received by the Financial Institution at each location where an account is maintained. Financial Institution shall be indemnified and held harmless from any loss suffered or any liability incurred by it in continuing to act in accordance with this resolution. Any such notice shall not affect any items in process at the time notice is given.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that the persons named above occupy the positions set forth opposite their respective names and signatures; that the foregoing Resolutions now stand of record on the books

of Redwood County; that they are in full force and effect and have not been modified in any manner whatsoever.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

- On motion by Theis, second by Van Hee, in a roll call vote, the Board voted unanimously to approve the appeals contract with Smith and Johnson Law firm to cover appeals cases until a fifth Assistant County Attorney is hired.
- On motion by Van Hee, second by Salfer, in a roll call vote, the Board voted unanimously to approve hiring a Victim Witness Coordinator prior to D. Kerkhoff retirement for shadowing purposes.

RECORDER

- On motion by Salfer, second by Van Hee, in a roll call vote, the Board voted unanimously to acknowledge notice of Gewerth filing for the County Recorder position for the 2026 election year.

PLANNING & ZONING

- On motion by Van Hee, second by Wakefield, in a roll call vote, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Conditional Use Permit #12-25 for J. Schwartz for an animal confinement feedlot expanding the existing feedlot in section 36 of New Avon Township.

ROAD & BRIDGE

- On motion by Salfer, second by Van Hee, in a roll call vote, the Board voted unanimously to approve meal reimbursement for N. Klisch in the amount of \$27.78.
- On motion by Theis, second by Salfer in a roll call vote with Groebner, Salfer, Wakefield, Theis, and Van Hee all voting aye, the Board adopted the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Minn. Statute #331A.12, allows a county to use its website as the publication for transportation contracts;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the County of Redwood designates publication for transportation contracts on the County website, <https://redwoodcounty-mn.us/>, in place of or in addition to any other required form of publication,

FURTHERMORE, each year after designating publication on the County website, the County of Redwood must publish in a qualified newspaper in the jurisdiction and on the website notice that the County will publish any advertisements for bids on its website,

FURTHERMORE, that any dissemination by alternative means must be in substantially the same format and for the same period of time as a publication would otherwise be required under Minn. Statute #331A.12 Subd.3,

FURTHERMORE, a political subdivision that publishes notice on its website must ensure that a permanent record of publication is maintained in a form accessible by the public per Statute #331A.12 Subd.4.

- On motion by Theis, second by Van Hee, in a roll call vote, the Board voted unanimously to authorize Highway Engineer to advertise Construction and Maintenance projects.
- On motion by Van Hee, second by Wakefield, in a roll call vote, the Board voted unanimously to authorize Highway Engineer to pay miscellaneous permit fees for projects as required in 2026.
- On motion by Theis, second by Salfer, in a roll call vote, the Board voted unanimously to approve software maintenance and protection for engineering survey equipment at the Highway Department with Frontier Precision in the amount of \$5,484.50, on State Contract # 278552.
- On motion by Theis, second by Van Hee, in a roll call vote, the Board voted unanimously to authorize the County Engineer to apply for Carbon Reduction Program grant for 3 electric pickups.
- On motion by Wakefield, second by Van Hee, in a roll call vote, the Board voted unanimously to authorize the County Engineer to apply for PROTECT grant to install cured pipe liners.

ADMINISTRATION

- On motion by Van Hee, second by Wakefield, in a roll call vote, the Board voted unanimously to approve the 2026 Elected Officials out of State Travel Policy.
- On motion by Van Hee, second by Wakefield, in a roll call vote, the Board voted unanimously to approve the 2026 County Fee Schedule.
- On motion by Wakefield, second by Theis, in a roll call vote, the board voted unanimously to approve the 2026 Reimbursement Policy.
- On motion by Wakefield, second by Salfer in a roll call vote with Groebner, Salfer, Wakefield, Theis, and Van Hee all voting aye, the Board adopted the following resolution:

WHEREAS, at the January 6, 2026 meeting prior to the first date on which applicants can file for offices of Attorney, Auditor-Treasurer, Recorder and Sheriff, the Board of Commissioners shall set by resolution the minimum salary to be paid those officers for the term next following.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Redwood County Board of Commissioners that the following annual minimum salary to be paid the elected official for the term next following:

MN Statutes 384.151	County Auditor/Treasurer	\$107,744
MN Statues 385.373		
MN Statutes 388.18	County Attorney	\$135,720
MN Statutes 386.015	County Recorder	\$92,372
MN Statutes 387.20	County Sheriff	\$135,720

BOARD CHAIR

- On motion by Theis, second by Van Hee, in a roll call vote, the Board voted unanimously to approve the 2026 committee appointments.

CLOSED SESSION

- Entered Closed Session at 9:41 a.m.
- Out of Closed Session at 9:49 a.m.
- On motion by Saler, second by Theis, in a roll call vote, the Board voted unanimously to approve ratification of 2026-2027 Contract with LELS Union Local #404 Licensed Officers.

Personnel

- On motion by Theis, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to hire Michael Madden Assistant County Attorney on Non-Union and Department Head Salary Schedule Grade 18 Step 1 at \$51.80, effective January 5, 2026, and acknowledged the retirement of Denise Kerkhoff Crime Victim Services Coordinator, effective January 30, 2026.

COMMISSIONERS

- The commissioners reported on meetings they attended.

Wakefield: Southwest Health & Human Services, Plum Creek Library System, AFSCME Negotiations

Salfer: AFSCME Negotiations, Town Hall meeting

Van Hee: Town Hall meeting, Renewable Energy

Theis: Town Hall Meeting, Planning & Zoning

ADJOURN

- There being no further business, Chair Wakefield declared the meeting adjourned at 9:56 a.m.

Rick Wakefield, Chair
Board of County Commissioners

Attest: _____
Vicki Kletscher
County Administrator