

REDWOOD COUNTY, MINNESOTA

FEBRUARY 16, 2021

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

Present for all or portions of the meeting were Commissioners Dave Forkrud, Rick Wakefield, Bob Van Hee, Jim Salfer and Dennis Groebner, County Administrator Vicki Knobloch-Kletscher, County Attorney Jenna Peterson, Auditor-Treasurer Jean Price, Sheriff Randy Hanson, County Engineer Anthony Sellner, Human Resource Coordinator Peter Brown, Technology Coordinator Paul Parsons, County Assessor John Thompson and Maintenance Supervisor Loren Gewerth.

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

On motion by Groebner, second by Van Hee, 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 was none.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- On motion by Groebner, second by Wakefield, the Board voted unanimously to approve the consent agenda.
  - February 2, 2021 Board minutes.
  - Payment of bills as follows:

General Fund	\$ 135,255.75
Ditch Maintenance Fund	\$ 80,961.59
Building Fund	\$ 7,208.15
Soil and Water Fund	\$ 1,180.50

- **Bills exceeding \$2,000:** Estebo, Frank and Munshower \$4,975.00; Jesse's Collision \$5,110.97, \$2,259.32; Safe Assure \$8,278.84; Smith & Johnson \$3,750.00; CPT \$3,892.00; Morris Electronics \$14,400.00; Thomson Reuters \$4,188.29; MEND Correctional \$4,042.83; Redwood County Hwy. Department \$2,355.11; SW MN Emergency Communications \$3,040.00; Tersteeg's Holiday Market \$7,281.69; Lambertson Public Library \$7,115.18; Morgan Public Library \$6,894.96; Plum Creek Library \$3,250.00; Redwood Falls Public Library \$20,333.25; Wabasso Public Library \$18,693.11; WOLD Architects \$7,208.15; L & S Construction \$10,374.00; Maas Construction \$2,393.42; Schmidt Construction \$67,694.09

**EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION**

- The Board recognized Jim Hildebrandt, Sheriff’s Office and Loren Gewerth, Maintenance Department for 30 years of service to Redwood County.

**SHERIFF**

- Hanson updated the Board on the Redwood County Jail Population for January, 2021 and the Sentence to Serve Quarterly Report.
- On motion by Van Hee, second by Groebner, in a roll-call vote with Van Hee, Groebner, Salfer, Forkrud and Wakefield all voting aye, the Board adopted the following resolution:

**A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE DONATION OF \$1000.00 FROM FARMERS UNION INDUSTRIES**

**WHEREAS**, FARMER’S UNION INDUSTRIES., wishes to donate \$1000.00 to Redwood County Sheriff’s Department and;

**WHEREAS**, the Sheriff’s Department will utilize the donation of \$1000.00 for the purpose of equipment; and

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

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners hereby approves the acceptance of \$1000.00 from Farmer’s Union Industries to Redwood County Sheriff’s Department, on behalf of the County.

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

**A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE DONATION OF \$100.00 FROM LEE AND JANE ZITZMANN**

**WHEREAS**, LEE AND JANE ZITZMANN, wish to donate \$100.00 to Redwood County Sheriff’s Department and;

**WHEREAS**, the Sheriff’s Department will utilize the donation of \$100.00 for the purpose of equipment; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners appreciates the generosity of Lee and Jane Zitzmann in supporting the Redwood County Sheriff’s Department;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners hereby approves the acceptance of \$100.00 from Lee and Jane Zitzmann to Redwood County Sheriff’s Department, on behalf of the County.

- On motion by Van Hee, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to approve the purchase of a 2021 Chevy 2500HD Silverado from Marthaler Chevrolet in the amount of \$24,445.81 plus tax, title and registration fees with trade-in of a 2004 Ford F350 valued at \$10,000.00, Quote received from State Contract of \$34,490.06.

#### **AUDITOR-TREASURER**

- On motion by Groebner, second by Wakefield, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following consent agenda: Cash Balance Report; Investment Summary; Budget Reports: General Fund, Building, Human Services, Ditch Maintenance, Ditch Bond Interest; Health Fund; Debt Service Fund; Insurance Fund; Soil and Water Conservation District and Solid Waste Funds and January Disbursements in the amount of \$1,411,163.53.
- Bills exceeding \$2,000.00: Preferred One \$10,799.31, \$19,763.55, \$23,261.35, \$34,853.04, \$18,345.74, \$9,450.89, \$30,219.03; Redwood Falls Public Utilities \$6,647.42; Further \$7,559.60, \$7,559.60; BCBS \$2,218.50; Paycom \$2,744.77; MN Commission of Finance \$4,558.65, \$6,159.00; MN Dept. of Revenue \$27,430.75; US Postmaster \$3,000.00; RRRSWA \$26,877.04; Belview \$4,923.88; Lamberton \$17,113.95; Lucan \$3,560.82; Milroy \$4,240.09; Morgan \$16,194.51; Redwood Falls \$37,356.89; Sanborn \$3,509.71; Vesta \$16,388.34; Wabasso \$8,896.84; Walnut Grove \$20,532.25; Red Rock Rural Water System \$2,474.13; SD \$2754 \$14,168.96; SD #2884 \$10,653.25; SD #2897 \$46,509.94; SD #2898 \$14,122.83; SD #2904 \$3,139.22; SD #635 \$10,440.75; SD #640 \$25,661.53; SD #85 \$5,005.88; SWHHS \$48,100.89; Brookville Twp. \$2,117.36; Delhi Twp. \$2,922.84; Johnsonville Twp. \$4,506.89; Sherman Twp. \$2,006.82; Willow Lake Twp. \$2,049.59; Delta Dental \$3,694.42; Northland Lumber \$2,500.00; SWHHS \$57,210.25; Sun Life \$2,187.82; MCIT \$103,451.00; Zimmermann Maintenance \$9,996.75; Duininck \$598,763.84.
- On motion by Groebner, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to approve the 2020 Reserves and Designations Fund Balances and authorize Price and Knobloch to make any additional changes as necessary and to make transfer from the General Fund to any negative Ditch Fund balances to end 2020.
- On motion by Forkrud, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Depository Pledge Agreement with Bremer Bank.

#### **ASSESSOR**

- On motion by Forkrud, second by Wakefield, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Assessor's Department Redwood County Policy on Sales Chasing.

#### **ROAD AND BRIDGE**

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

### **Resolution of Sponsorship from Sponsoring Agency**

The following Resolution was offered by Commissioner Van Hee and moved for adoption at a Regular Meeting held on February 16, 2021 at the Redwood County Courthouse, Redwood Falls, MN:

WHEREAS, the City of Lucan is a city with a population under 5,000; and

WHEREAS, the City of Lucan would like to submit a project for Local Road Improvement Program Funds; and

WHEREAS, the City of Lucan has requested Redwood County be the sponsoring agency;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Redwood County, Minnesota agrees to act as sponsoring agency for a Local Road Improvement Program Project identified as First Street, Second Street, Third Street, & Fourth Street from Main Street / CSAH 10 to Elm Street and Elm Street from Second Street to Fourth Street in the City of Lucan and has reviewed and approved the project as proposed. Sponsorship includes a willingness to secure and guarantee the local share of costs associated with this project and responsibility for seeing this project through to its completion, with compliance of all applicable laws, rules and regulations;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Redwood County Highway Engineer is hereby authorized to act as agent on behalf of this applicant.

Seconded by Commissioner Wakefield and the same being put to a vote was duly carried. This Resolution shall be effective immediately and without publication.

- On motion by Van Hee, second by Wakefield, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Cooperative Agreement between the City of Lucan and Redwood County to act as the fiscal agent for a Local Road Improvement Program Grant funds.
- On motion by Forkrud, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to hire Schmidt Construction to crush 6,500 tons of aggregate material at a cost of \$32,250.00.
- On motion by Van Hee, second by Wakefield, the Board voted unanimously to purchase a Caterpillar Motor Grader from Ziegler, Inc. in the amount of \$381,762.00 less trade in of a 1997 Caterpillar valued at \$55,450.00 off State Contract 169637.
- The purchase of a walk and roll packer was tabled to 3-2-21 board meeting.
- On motion by Groebner, second by Wakefield, the Board voted unanimously to purchase a Road Widener from Ziegler, Inc. in the amount of \$61,345.00.
- On motion by Salfer, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to purchase a Schulte Windrower from Weltsch Equipment in the amount of \$10,079.00.

- On motion by Wakefield, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to declare 24 Motorola radios excess equipment and authorized disposal by sale of the radios.
- On motion by Forkrud, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to declare a 1997 Caterpillar Motor Grader, unit number 4976, excess property and authorized to trade in the property with the purchase of the new Caterpillar Motor Grader.

### TECHNOLOGY

- On motion by Van Hee, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to approve Quote #281-4 in the amount of \$9,485.78 for the door systems for the Government Services Building from Integrated Protection Systems.
- On motion by Van Hee, second by Wakefield, the Board voted unanimously to approve Agreement for Professional Services with Integrated Protection Systems in the amount of \$27,400.92.

### COUNTY ATTORNEY

- County Attorney Peterson presented an overview of 2020.

### ADMINISTRATOR

- On motion by Groebner, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to award the garbage service contract to R & E Sanitation in the amount of \$166.40 monthly for 36 months.

#### Other Bids Received:

Company	Bid Amount
R & E Sanitation	\$166.40/month
Waste Management	\$260.00/month
West Central Sanitation	\$340.00/month

- On motion by Groebner, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Municipal Solid Waste Disposal Agreement with R & E Sanitation for 36 months.
- On motion by Salfer, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to approve the budget adjustment for the 2020 EDA Development Grant Program carryover in the amount of \$7,846.00 into 2021.
- On motion by Van Hee, second by Groebner, in a roll-call vote with Van Hee, Groebner, Forkrud, Salfer and Wakefield all voting aye, the Board adopted the following resolution:

#### **Resolution Opposing MPCA's MN Clean Car Rule**

WHEREAS, Redwood County is responsible for providing essential government services such as transportation infrastructure and solid waste management that promote a vibrant community;

WHEREAS, Redwood County works tirelessly to be good stewards of our tax dollars and provide these programs in a cost-effective and efficient manner;

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) is in the process of adopting California's Low-Emission Vehicle (LEV) and Zero-Emission Vehicle (ZEV) mandates, which are expected to phase-out the sale of fuel-powered passenger vehicles by 2035;

WHEREAS, the adoption of these rules is being conducted by rulemaking, which limits the scope of the discussion to a narrow set of issues, precluding a broader policy debate on the economic development, transportation, energy, and waste disposal impacts of the policy. The proposed rule and process for adopting it also fail to address many of the Minnesota-specific concerns related to our county's demographics and climate.

WHEREAS, the MPCA's own documents show that the plan to mandate California's LEV and ZEV standards is likely to increase the cost of all light- and medium-duty vehicles sold in Minnesota by an average of \$1,139;

WHEREAS, the MPCA estimates the rule will displace 674 million gallons of fuel by 2034, before the phasing out of fuel-powered vehicles, but the MPCA's documents do not address the long-term consequences on our county's transportation revenues [or the impacts on our local ethanol plant/biofuels industry];

WHEREAS, batteries in electric vehicles weigh ten-times as much as batteries in vehicles with internal combustion engines and include more toxic elements, exposing our county to increased disposal costs and liabilities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Redwood County opposes the MPCA's attempt to adopt California's mandates through rulemaking without consulting the Legislature; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Redwood County encourages the Walz administration to withdraw its proposed rulemaking and bring a proposal to the Legislature where a more comprehensive policy can be considered; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Redwood County stands ready to advise the Governor, his administration, and our regional Legislators on proactive methods to achieve the goals raised by Governor Walz without adversely impacting our ability to provide public services; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that Redwood County will advocate against this rulemaking to ensure that our concerns about increased costs, lost transportation revenues, and battery waste are contemplated and mitigated.

- On motion by Salfer, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to authorize the Auditor-Treasurer to issue a County credit card to County Engineer Anthony Sellner.

- On motion by Van Hee, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to transfer \$188,005 from the Building Fund to the Road and Bridge Fund to pay for the salt shed.

*Personnel*

- On motion by Forkrud, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to hire Jody Becker-Bloemke as full-time License Center Technician effective February 22, 2021 at Grade 8, Step 1 at \$16.91/hour on the AFSCME Salary Schedule.
- On motion by Groebner, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to hire Dominic Castellano as full-time Deputy Sheriff effective March 1, 2021 at Deputy 1, Grade/Step 1 at \$22.77/hour on the 2021 LELS Licensed Officers Salary Schedule.
- On motion by Groebner, second by Wakefield, the Board voted unanimously to promote Sandi Wertish from full-time Account Technician to full-time Assessment Technician in the Assessor’s Office effective February 17, 2021 at Grade 10, Step 4 at \$21.43/hour on the AFSCME Salary Schedule which will take effect on February 22, 2021.
- On motion by Van Hee, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to transfer Roxanna Gutierrez from part-time Custody Officer to full-time Custody Officer effective February 17, 2021

**COMMISSIONERS**

- The Commissioners reported on meetings they attended.

Wakefield: RCRC/A Area II, Judicial Ditch Meeting with Brown County

Van Hee: Restorative Justice, Primewest; UCAP; Technology Meeting; Southwest Regional Development Commission; Redwood County Fair Board

Salfer: Economic Development; State Community Health Service Advisory Board

Groebner: Redwood-Renville Regional Solid Waste Authority; Soil and Water Conservation District; Judicial Ditch Meeting with Brown County

Forkrud: Redwood-Renville Regional Solid Waste Authority; Judicial Ditch Meeting with Brown County

**ADJOURN**

- There being no further business, Chair Salfer declared the meeting adjourned at 11:48 a.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jim Salfer, Chair  
Board of County Commissioners

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