

REDWOOD COUNTY, MINNESOTA

September 7, 2021

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 Jim Salfer, Rick Wakefield, Dennis Groebner, Bob Van Hee and Dave Forkrud. Also present were Administrator Vicki Kletscher; Highway Engineer Anthony Sellner; County Attorney Jenna Peterson; Human Resource Coordinator Peter Brown; Economic Development Coordinator Briana Mumme; Broadband Coordinator Patrick Garry; Environmental Director Scott Wold; Ditch Inspector Brent Lang; Planning and Zoning Supervisor Nick Brozek; Technology Coordinator Paul Parsons; Sheriff Randy Hanson; Soil and Water Resource Specialist Brian Pfarr; Baker Tilly Representative Doug Green; Drug Court Representative Grady Holtberg; Southern Minnesota Tourism Director Anne Johnson; Redwood County Fair Board Representatives Kirby Josephson and Jeff Potter; Summit Carbon Solutions Representatives via Zoom Meeting Quinn Slaven and Christy Bursven, EDA Committee Member Jen Goblish; Ron Irlbeck and Deb and Ken Mathiowetz.

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

Ron Irlbeck was present for Open Forum. Irlbeck expressed his concerns regarding the closure of the Wanda Highway Shop.

On motion by Groebner, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to approve the September 7th agenda.

Chair Salfer asked the Board members to identify any areas for which they had a Conflict of Interest. Wakefield identified a conflict of interest in the Abstract of Bills. Groebner identified a conflict of interest in the Road and Bridge bills and in the County Road 63 rehabilitation project.

CONSENT AGENDA

- o August 17th minutes.
- o Payment of bills as follows:

General Fund	\$ 112,038.04
Ditch Maintenance Fund	\$ 53,544.86
Building Fund	\$ 566,269.33
Road and Bridge Fund	\$ 148.83
Insurance Fund	\$ 655.13
Soil and Water Conservation	\$ 61,598.09
Solid Waste Fund	\$ 130.24

- On motion by Van Hee, second by Forkrud, and excluding the bills from Lori Wakefield in the amount of \$650.00 and Rick Wakefield in the amount of \$650.00, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda.
- On motion by Van Hee, second by Groebner, with Wakefield abstaining due to a conflict of interest, the Board voted to approve the bills from Lori Wakefield in the amount of \$650.00 and Rick Wakefield in the amount of \$650.00.
- Bills exceeding \$2,000: Smith & Johnson \$3,750.00; Taft Stettinius & Hollister \$2,892.86; Karpel Solutions \$9,000.00; Carris Health \$2,081.85; Renville County \$25,393.80; Galls \$2,859.20; Mend Correctional Care \$4,042.83; Watchguard Video \$4,970.00; Redwood County Historical Society \$20,000.00; Regents of University of MN \$2,078.05; Arnquist Carpets \$2,526.45; Chosen Valley Testing \$5,198.00; Contegritry Group \$28,911.52; Ford Metro \$141,023.70; G & R Controls \$29,482.75; Gag Sheet Metal \$5,225.00; J & K Masonry \$36,387.50; Kendell Doors \$3,974.40; Masters Plumbing \$8,740.00; Molin Concrete \$86,483.25; Patriot Erectors \$36,283.00; Plumbing & Heating of Willmar \$5,608.20; Schmidt Construction \$146,300.00; Sussner Construction \$3,901.56; Thompson Construction \$24,477.70; Kerkhoff Brothers \$4,508.46; Northland Erosion \$19,197.48; Parker & Sons \$4,718.95; Rinke-Noonan \$4,223.00; Schmidt Construction \$5,025.50; TNT Construction \$6,006.70; True North Steel \$5,513.00; Anthony Quade \$59,311.33.

PUBLIC HEARING – REDWOOD COUNTY DITCH AUTHORITY

- At 8:42 a.m., Redwood County entered into a Public Hearing for the 2022 proposed ditch levies. Present for the discussion were Commissioners Salfer, Forkrud, Van Hee, Groebner and Wakefield, Environmental Director Scott Wold, Ditch Inspector Brent Lang and Ken and Deb Mathiowetz.
- Wold presented the Affidavit of Publication.
- Wold presented the levies on 103E public ditches for 2022 and requested the approval of levies as published with the removal of levies for JD 24 B&R, JD 32 Lat B and JD 35 B&R.
- Chair Wakefield called for public comments:
 - Landowner Deb Mathiowetz asked what the tax increase for CD 24 was going to be for 2022. Wold explained the increase was set at .25%, which is 1/5th the levy that was applied in 2020. Wold will let them know the levy amount on their property after the public hearing.
- Chair Wakefield closed the hearing for public comments.
- On motion by Salfer, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to approve 2022 ditch levies as presented.
- There being no further business, Chair Wakefield declared Redwood County Ditch Authority adjourned at 8:50 a.m.

RECONVENE

- The Board reconvened into regular session at 8:50 a.m.

ROAD AND BRIDGE

- On motion by Forkrud, second by Wakefield, and excluding the bill from Turbes Ag Sales in the amount of \$860.00, the Board voted unanimously to approve Road and Bridge bills in the amount of \$ 350,490.35.
- On motion by Wakefield, second by Van Hee, with Groebner abstaining due to a conflict of interest, the Board voted to approve the bill from Turbes Ag Sales in the amount of \$860.00.
- Bills exceeding \$2,000: American Engineering \$16,404.85; Braun Intertec \$7,925.00; Central Specialties \$3,287.50; Cottonwood County Hwy. Department \$3,233.24; Duininck Inc. \$7,563.46; Farmward Cooperative \$25,883.42; GWL Farms \$97,476.25; H & L Mesabi \$19,890.00; Keck Tree Service \$2,900.00; Kimley-Horn & Associates \$9,338.58; Meadowland Farmers Coop \$16,028.22; MNDOT \$4,186.00; Newman Signs \$4,401.84; Redwood Tire Service \$7,182.00; Schmidt Construction \$8,590.86; Staples Oil \$17,919.89; Stonebrooke Engineering \$52,360.12; WSN \$21,056.75; Ziegler \$6,124.18.
- On motion by Forkrud, second by Groebner, in a 3-2 vote with Salfer and Van Hee voting nay, the Board voted to approve closing of the Wanda Highway Shop on December 31, 2021 or upon an anticipated retirement, whichever occurs later.
- On motion by Salfer, second by Forkrud, in a 4-0 vote with Groebner abstaining, the Board voted to authorize the improvement of CR 63 with local funds in 2022 or 2023.
- On motion by Groebner, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to authorized the adjustment of the education and qualification requirements to hire an Engineering Technician due to lack of applicants for the Senior Engineering Technician position.
- On motion by Groebner, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to authorize the advertisement of the Belview/Delhi area maintenance contract.

REDWOOD COUNTY FAIR BOARD

- Potter and Josephson presented the 2021 Redwood County Fair Report.

SOUTHERN MINNESOTA TOURISM

- On motion by Van Hee, second by Wakefield, the Board voted unanimously to approve the 2022 funding request in the amount of \$758.50.

BAKER TILLY

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

RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF
GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, SERIES 2021A,
IN THE PROPOSED AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF \$19,445,000

BE IT RESOLVED By the Board of Commissioners (the “Board”) of Redwood County, Minnesota (the “County”) as follows:

1. Background. It is hereby determined that:

- (a) CIP Bonds.

- (i) The County is authorized by Minnesota Statutes, Section 373.40, as amended (the “CIP Act”), and Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 475, as amended (the “Municipal Debt Act”) to finance certain capital improvements under an approved capital improvement plan by the issuance of general obligation capital improvement bonds payable from ad valorem taxes. Capital improvements include the acquisition or betterment of public lands, buildings, or other improvements within a county for the purpose of a County courthouse, administrative building, health or social service facility, correctional facility, jail, law enforcement center, hospital, morgue, library, park, qualified indoor ice arena, roads and bridges, public works facilities, fairground buildings, and records and data storage facilities, and the acquisition of development rights in the form of conservation easements under Minnesota Statutes,

Chapter 84C. Capital improvements do not include a recreation or sports facility building (such as, but not limited to, a gymnasium, ice arena, racquet sports facility, swimming pool, exercise room or health spa), unless the building is part of an outdoor park facility and is incidental to the primary purpose of outdoor recreation.

- (ii) The County prepared its 2019 – 2023 Redwood County Capital Improvement Plan (the “Capital Improvement Plan”), and the Board approved the Capital Improvement Plan on August 20, 2019, after a duly noticed public hearing. The County did not receive a petition requesting a referendum regarding the issuance of bonds pursuant to the Plan was filed with the County within 30 days after the public hearing in accordance with the CIP Act.

- (iii) Under the Capital Improvement Plan, the County is authorized to issue one or more series of general obligation capital improvement bonds to finance a portion of the improvements outlined in the Capital Improvement Plan (the “Capital Improvements”) in the maximum principal amount of \$10,500,000.

- (iv) It is necessary and expedient to the sound financial management of the affairs of the County to issue general obligation capital improvement plan bonds in the proposed aggregate principal amount of \$10,000,000 (the “CIP Bonds”), pursuant to the CIP Act and the Municipal Debt Act to provide financing for a portion of the Capital Improvements.

- (v) As required by the CIP Act, the County has determined that: (i) the expected useful life of the Capital Improvements to be financed with the CIP Bonds will be at least five (5) years; and (ii) the amount of principal and interest due in any year on all outstanding bonds issued by the County under the CIP Act, including the CIP Bonds, will not exceed 0.12 percent of the estimated market value of property in the County for taxes payable in 2021.

- (b) Refunding Bonds.

(i) The County previously issued its General Obligation Bonds, Series 2013A (the “Prior Bonds”), dated August 1, 2013 and issued on August 14, 2013, in the original aggregate principal amount of \$5,415,000, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Sections 641.23 (the “Law Enforcement Facility Act”) and 400.101, as amended (the “Solid Waste Facility Act”), and the Municipal Debt Act. The proceeds of the Prior Bonds were used to finance a portion of the cost of constructing a law enforcement center (the “Law Enforcement Center Project”) and a solid waste recovery facility for the County and Renville County (the “Recovery Facility Project”). The Prior Bonds are currently outstanding in the amount of \$2,760,000 and are callable on or after February 1, 2022.

(ii) The County is authorized by Minnesota Statutes, Section 475.67, subdivision 3, to issue and sell its general obligation bonds to refund obligations and the interest thereon before the due date of the obligations, if consistent with covenants made with the holders thereof, when determined by the Board to be necessary or desirable for the reduction of debt service costs to the County or for the extension or adjustment of maturities in relation to the resources available for their payment.

(iii) It is necessary and expedient for the reduction of debt service costs for the County to issue its general obligation bonds in the proposed aggregate principal amount of \$2,445,000 (the “Refunding Bonds”) pursuant to the Municipal Debt Act, the Law Enforcement Facility Act, and the Solid Waste Facility Act, to redeem and prepay the Prior Bonds on or after February 1, 2022.

(c) State Aid Bonds.

(i) Pursuant to the Municipal Debt Act, as amended, and Minnesota Statutes, Section 162.181, as amended (the “County State Aid Act”), the County is authorized to issue its general obligation bonds in anticipation of the allocation of county state aid funds. Such bonds may be issued in the amounts and on terms such that the amount of principal and interest due in any calendar year on the obligations, including any similar obligations of the county which are outstanding, shall not exceed 90 percent of the amount of the last annual allotment preceding the bond issue received by the county from the construction account in the county state-aid highway fund.

(ii) The last annual allotment of funds to the County from the Construction Account in the County State-Aid Highway Fund was \$3,132,815. The total amount of the County’s total of the preceding two years state-aid allotments is \$14,390,744.00.

(iii) The County has proposed to use the proceeds of general obligation bonds for the establishment, location, relocation, construction, reconstruction, and improvement of state-aid highways in the County in accordance with the County State Aid Act including the following projects: rehabilitation of CSAH 6 from MN 68 to TH 19, rehabilitation of CSAH 13 from South County Line to CSAH 2, rehabilitation of CSAH 7 from TH 19 to North County Line, rehabilitation of CSAH 5 from TH 14 to CR 57, rehabilitation of CSAH 10 from MN 68 to CSAH 30, rehabilitation of CSAH 46 from West County Line to 1 mile east of CSAH 8, rehabilitation of

CSAH 7 from South County Line to CR 26, reconstruction of CSAH from CSAH 11 to 305th Street (the “State Aid Project”).

(iv) It is necessary and expedient to the sound financial management of the affairs of the County to issue general obligation state aid bond in the proposed aggregate principal amount of \$7,000,000 (the “State Aid Bonds”), pursuant to the Municipal Debt Act and the County State Aid Act, to finance the State Aid Project.

(v) As required by the State Aid Act, the County has determined that: (i) the total amount of the State Aid Bonds will not to exceed the total of the preceding two years state-aid allotments; and (ii) the State Aid Bonds will not exceed ninety percent (90%) of the amount of the last annual allotment preceding the bond issue received by the county from the construction account in the county state-aid highway fund.

2. Sale of Bonds.

(a) It is necessary and expedient to the sound financial management of the affairs of the County to issue its General Obligation Bonds, Series 2021A (the “Bonds”), comprised of the CIP Bonds, the State Aid Bonds, and the Refunding Bonds described above in the proposed aggregate principal amount of \$19,445,000 pursuant to the Municipal Debt Act, the County State Aid Act, the CIP Act, the Law Enforcement Facility Act and the Solid Waste Facility Act. The principal amount of the Bonds is subject to adjustment in accordance with the official Notice of Sale (the “Notice of Sale”). The Bonds will be issued, sold, and delivered in accordance with the Notice of Sale attached hereto as EXHIBIT A.

(b) The County is authorized by Minnesota Statutes, Section 475.60, subdivision 2(9) to negotiate the sale of the Bonds, it being determined that the County has retained an independent municipal advisor in connection with such sale. The actions of the County staff and the County’s municipal advisor in negotiating the sale of the Bonds are ratified and confirmed in all respects.

3. Authority of Municipal Advisor. Baker Tilly Municipal Advisors, LLC is authorized and directed to negotiate the sale of the Bonds in accordance with the Notice of Sale. The Board will meet at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, October 5, 2021, to consider proposals on the Bonds and take any other appropriate action with respect to the Bonds.

4. Authority of Bond Counsel. The law firm of Kennedy & Graven, Chartered, as bond counsel for the County, is authorized to act as bond counsel and to assist in the preparation and review of necessary documents, certificates and instruments relating to the Bonds. The officers, employees and agents of the County are hereby authorized to assist Kennedy & Graven, Chartered in the preparation of such documents, certificates, and instruments.

5. Covenants. In the resolution awarding the sale of the Bonds, the Board will set forth the covenants and undertakings required by the Act.

6. Official Statement. In connection with the sale of the Bonds, the officers or employees of the County are authorized and directed to cooperate with Baker Tilly Municipal

Advisors, LLC and participate in the preparation of an official statement for the Bonds and to execute and deliver it on behalf of the County upon its completion.

DRUG COURT

- On motion by Van Hee, second by Wakefield, the Board voted unanimously to approve Drug Court testing funding in the amount of \$15,552.00 over the next two years.

SUMMIT CARBON SOLUTIONS

- Christy Brusven and Quinn Slaven presented a background on Summit Carbon Solutions and the proposed carbon pipeline project that would include approximately 25.16 miles of pipeline in Redwood County.

PLANNING AND ZONING

- An application for an Animal Confinement Feedlot, Conditional Use Permit #12-21, filed by Andrew Van Nurden to construct a hoop barn to house 140 goat/kid on an existing swine confinement feedlot on the following described real property, situated in the County of Redwood, State of Minnesota, to wit: E ½ of the NE ¼ of Section 32, Twp. 112N, Range 34W, Sherman Township. On motion by Forkrud, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to approve CUP #12-21 with (12) conditions as set forth by the Planning Commission.

TECHNOLOGY

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

A RESOLUTION TO EXPEND CORONAVIRUS LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS UNDER THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FOR MEDIA ENHANCEMENTS IN COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER BUILDING

WHEREAS, Redwood County (“County”) received Federal Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds under the American Rescue Plan Act (“ARP”), to provide relief to the county impacted by the coronavirus disease 2019 (“COVID-19”);

WHEREAS, County Technology Coordinator, Paul Parsons has identified a necessary purchase equipment and supplies to implement media communications in County-owned buildings;

WHEREAS, the authority under the ARP Act allows this expenditure, per the Department of the U.S. Treasury Frequently Asked Questions (“FAQ”) dated June 24, 2021; under Section 2.1:

What types of COVID-19 response, mitigation, and prevention activities are eligible? A broad range of services are needed to contain COVID-19 and are eligible uses, including vaccination programs; medical care; testing; contact tracing; support for isolation or quarantine; supports for vulnerable populations to access medical or public health services; public health surveillance (e.g., monitoring case trends, genomic sequencing for variants); enforcement of public health orders; public communication efforts; enhancement to health care capacity, including through alternative care facilities; purchases of personal

protective equipment; support for prevention, mitigation, or other services in congregate living facilities (e.g., nursing homes, incarceration settings, homeless shelters, group living facilities) and other key settings like schools; ventilation improvements in congregate settings, health care settings, or other key locations; enhancement of public health data systems; and other public health responses. Capital investments in public facilities to meet pandemic operational needs are also eligible, such as physical plant improvements to public hospitals and health clinics or adaptations to public buildings to implement COVID-19 mitigation tactics.

WHEREAS, the installation of audio, video and control systems will allow County staff to safely and effectively host virtual meetings with the public in the Commissioner Board Room and Learning Center;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the County Board of Commissioners is authorizing the purchase of a file management system, not to exceed \$106,386 and certifies that the funds appropriated from the ARP Act fund will be used only in a manner consistent with the Department of the U.S. Treasury guidance and incurred during the covered period.

ENVIRONMENTAL

- On motion by Wakefield, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to approve the 2021 Lake Laura Dam Report.

REDWOOD SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

- On motion by Groebner, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to approve \$10,000.00 funding to the Springdale 19 Water Retention Project from the Buffer Funds.

REDWOOD COUNTY DITCH AUTHORITY

- At 1:21 p.m., Redwood County entered into a Redwood County Ditch Authority. Present for the meeting were Commissioners Wakefield, Salfer, Groebner, Van Hee and Forkrud; Environmental Director Scott Wold and County Administrator Vicki Knobloch-Kletscher.
- On motion by Salfer, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to accept the petition from the Redwood County Highway Department to use CD 24 as an outlet for a storm sewer system installation, appoint Jim Wiedemann as Ditch Viewer and set a public hearing for October 5, 2021 at 11:30 a.m.
- On motion by Groebner, second by Salfer, the Board voted unanimously to accept the petition from the Redwood Falls Port Authority for the partial abandonment of CD 22A and set a public hearing for October 5, 2021 at 11:35 a.m.
- On motion by Groebner, second by Van Hee, the Board voted unanimously to remove \$33,382.71 in engineering and legal expenses currently assessed to JD 91 Redwood and Yellow Medicine Counties and apply the expense to all drainage systems as a general expense and order that all future costs incurred with the DNR challenge will be paid as a general ditch expenses.
- On motion by Groebner, second by Salfer, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Agreement for Professional Services with Stantec/WENCK in the amount of \$363,470.00 to be funded with FEMA assistance funds for construction observation.
- There being no further business, Chair Wakefield declared Redwood County Ditch Authority adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- On motion by Van Hee, second by Salfer, the Board voted unanimously to award \$5,000.00 to the City of Redwood Falls through the Tax Forfeited Blight Removal Grant Program for PID 88-865-0040 contingent on the City of Redwood Falls successfully acquiring the property through the tax forfeited sale.
- On motion by Wakefield, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to approve a contract with Engan Associates in the amount of \$10,000.00 for the preliminary analysis and design work of a potential child care center. Southwest Initiative Foundation will fund the initial cost through a grant in which Redwood County will serve as the fiscal host.

PERSONNEL

- On motion by Forkrud, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to hire Joel Mertens as Property Assessor at Grade 11/Step 1 of the AFSCME Union Scale at \$21.30/hour effective September 20, 2021.

ADMINISTRATION

- On motion by Forkrud, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Rural Minnesota Energy Board Joint Powers Agreement.
- On motion by Van Hee, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Justice Center Change Orders #2 to Gag Sheet Metal in the amount of (\$3,639.01), Change Order #1 to Sussner Construction in the amount of \$1,121.00; Change Order #3 to RTL Construction in the amount of \$448.80; Change Order #2 to Masters Plumbing in the amount of \$401.08, Change Order #3 to Gag Sheet Metal in the amount of (\$2,521.00, Change Order #2 to Community Electric in the amount of \$1,225.00, Change Order #3 to J & K Masonry in the amount of \$1,451.00, Change Order #1 to Kendall Doors in the amount of (\$6,435.00) and Change Order #3 to Community Electric in the amount of (\$3,947.05).
- On motion by Van Hee, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Government Services Building Change Orders #3 to Kendall Doors in the amount of \$2,226.40, Change Order #8 & #10 to Meier Electric in the amount of \$471.00 and (\$3,600.00), Change Order #2 to Northern Woodwork in the amount of \$325.00, Change Order #5 to Northwest Drywall in the amount of \$6,600.00, Change Order #3 & 4 to Plumbing and Heating of Willmar in the amount of \$966.00 and \$1,005.00, Change Order #7 & 8 to Sussner in the amount of (\$732.25) and \$935.00.
- The Board held discussion on the 2022 Levy and Budget.
- The Board held discussion with EDA Coordinator Mumme and Broadband Director Garry on the ARP Funds for a Broadband Program.

ADJOURN

- There being no further business, Chair Salfer declared the meeting adjourned at 2:58 p.m.

Jim Salfer, Chair
Board of County Commissioners

Attest: _____
Vicki Knobloch-Kletscher
County Administrator