

REDWOOD COUNTY, MINNESOTA

SEPTEMBER 21, 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 Dave Forkrud, Jim Salfer, Rick Wakefield and Denny Groebner and County Administrator Vicki Knobloch. Also present were Auditor/Treasurer Jean Price; Human Resources Coordinator Peter Brown; Economic Development Coordinator Briana Mumme; County Attorney Jenna Peterson; Technology Coordinator Paul Parsons; Highway Engineer Anthony Sellner, Maintenance Supervisor Jamie Larsen; County Assessor John Thompson, Assessor Joel Mertens; Crime Victim Service Coordinator Denise Kerkhoff; Sheriff Randy Hanson; SWHHS Deputy Director Nancy Walker, SWHHS Director Beth Wilmes and Southwest Initiative Foundation Philanthropy Manager Tiffany Barnard; Commissioner Van Hee was absent.

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

On motion by Groebner, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to approve the September 21st revised agenda.

Chair Salfer 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 Wakefield, the Board voted unanimously to approve the consent agenda.
 - September 7th minutes
 - Payment of bills as follows:

General Fund	\$ 123,192.28
Building Fund	\$ 6,986.28
Ditch Fund	\$ 14,832.18
Insurance Fund	\$ 370.88
Soil and Water Fund	\$ 11,628.00

- Bills exceeding \$2,000: Minnesota State Auditor \$32,952.50; CPT \$3,892.00; Renville County \$26,556.79; Fleet Services \$7,589.34; Law Office of Kenneth Wilson \$7,823.60; MEND Correctional Care \$4,042.83; Redwood County Highway Dept. \$4,000.52; Stop Stick \$2,256.00; Summit Companies \$2,261.25; Tersteeg's Holiday Market \$7,563.36; WOLD Architects \$6,986.28; L & S Construction \$2,362.50; Schmidt Construction \$7,566.00; Estebo, Frank & Munshower \$4,602.00.

EMPLOYEE INTRODUCTION

- Thompson introduced new Assessor Joel Mertens.

ROAD AND BRIDGE

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

Resolution Authorizing Agreement to State Transportation Fund
Local Bridge Replacement Program
Grant Terms and Conditions
SAP 064-607-047
September 21, 2021

The following Resolution was offered by Commissioner Groebner and moved for adoption at a Regular Meeting held on September 21, 2021 at the Redwood County Courthouse, Redwood Falls, MN:

WHEREAS, Redwood County has applied to the Commissioner of Transportation for a grant from the Minnesota State Transportation Fund for construction of Bridge No.64J63; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Transportation has given notice that funding for this bridge is available; and

WHEREAS, the amount of the grant has been determined to be \$82,906.00 by reason of the lowest responsible bid;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that Redwood County does hereby agree to the terms and conditions of the grant consistent with Minnesota Statutes, section 174.50, and will pay any additional amount by which the cost exceeds the estimate, and will return to the Minnesota State Transportation Fund any amount appropriated for the project but not required. The proper county officers are authorized to execute a grant agreement and any amendments thereto with the Commissioner of Transportation concerning the above-referenced grant.

- On motion by Forkrud, second by Wakefield, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Local Bridge Replacement Program (LBRP) Grant Agreement with MnDOT for SAP 064-607-047 in the amount of \$81,102.00.
- On motion by Forkrud, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to award SAP 064-607-047, CSAH 7 Bridge, and SAP 064-599-118, Johnsonville Township Bridge to Midwest Contracting in the amount of \$492,362.00.

Other Bids Received

Company	Bid Amount
Midwest Contracting	\$492,362.00
R & G Construction	\$494,546.00
Riley Brothers Construction	\$515,113.00
Landwehr Construction	\$526,458.30
Mathiowetz Construction Company	\$568,177.13
Ashwill Companies	\$591,858.00
Houle Excavating, LLC	\$594,990.50

- On motion by Groebner, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to sign contract with Midwest Contracting for SAP 064-607-047 and SAP 064-599-118.
- On motion by Forkrud, second by Wakefield, the Board voted unanimously to declare a 2002 Caterpillar Motor grader, unit #4067, excess property and authorize the sale or trade in of property.
- On motion by Wakefield, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to purchase a Motor grader from Ziegler in the amount of \$381,762.00 on State Contract #169637 with trade in of 2002 Caterpillar Motor grader, unit #4067, valued at \$75,830.00 for a total purchase price of \$305,932.00.
- On motion by Wakefield, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to purchase a skid loader from Ziegler Inc. in the amount of \$62,245.00 on State Contract #727-1019.
- On motion by Wakefield, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to purchase a Walk-n-Roll from Ziegler Inc. on State Contract #169637 in the amount of \$37,160.00.
- On motion by Forkrud, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to approve to contract up to 90 annual bridge safety inspections with Bolton and Menk up to \$34,108.00.
- On motion by Wakefield, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to transfer \$341,000.00 to the Road and Bridge Fund from Reserve Account #2869 Veteran Cemetery to fund the purchase of the Motor Grader and Walk-n-Roll.

SOUTHWEST HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

- Wilms and Walker presented an overview of the Human Services and Public Health Budget and Levy and the 2018 and 2019 Annual Reports.

SOUTHWEST INITIATIVE FOUNDATION

- Barnard presented an overview of the programs and grants awarded through their program.

AUDITOR/TREASURER

- On motion by Groebner, second by Wakefield, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:
 - Cash Balance Report
 - Investment Summary
 - Budget Reports, General Fund, Road and Bridge Fund; Human Services, Building Fund, Ditch Maintenance, Debt Service Fund; Health Fund; Insurance Fund; Solid Waste and Soil and Water Conservation District Fund.
 - August 2021 Disbursements in the amount of \$442,207.20.
 - Bills exceeding \$2,000: Preferred One \$8,690.38, \$6,267.21, \$5,175.23, \$43,648.88, \$26,976.96, \$9,350.14, \$10,561.08, \$3,470.35, \$15,725.45, \$10,615.08, Redwood Electric \$3,330.05; Redwood Falls Public Utilities \$9,718.81; Further \$7,989.24, \$2,650.62, \$7,989.24; BCBS \$2,218.50; MN Department of Revenue \$39,916.38; Redwood County License Center \$2,226.85; MN Commission of Finance \$5,550.00; Lucan Hardware \$9,534.66, \$9,060.00; Kartta Group \$2,500.00; Rustic Acres \$2,427.00; Delta Dental \$4,788.51; Sun Life \$2,208.04; Central Specialties \$147,972.84.
 - The Sub recipient and SLFRF Policy and Procedures was tabled to the October 5, 2021 board meeting.

- On motion by Groebner, second by Wakefield, the Board voted unanimously to order the sale of the list of non-conservation lands forfeited to the State for taxes.
- On motion by Forkrud, second by Wakefield, in a roll-call vote with Forkrud, Wakefield, Salfer and Groebner all voting aye, the Board adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION BY COUNTY BOARD AUTHORIZING AND FIXING TERMS OF SALE

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the parcels of land forfeited to the State for non-payment of taxes, appearing on the list filed with the County Auditor-Treasurer, which have been classified and appraised as provided by MN Statute 282.01, shall be offered for sale by the County Auditor-Treasurer; said sale to commence at 9:00 o'clock a.m. on October 26th, 2021, at the County Board Room of the Government Center and the County Auditor-Treasurer is hereby directed to publish a notice of sale as provided by law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the terms and conditions of the sale of tax forfeited land will be as follows:

PUBLIC SALE:

All tax forfeited land will be offered at a public sale and sold to the highest bidder. The minimum bid acceptable is the appraised value (basic sale price)

TERMS:

All sales shall be for **“Cash or Credit Card (2.49% consumer fee), Day of Sale”**. All sales are final and no provisions will be made for a refund or exchange. Checks will be made payable to **“Redwood County”**.

OTHER CHARGES (PAYMENT MADE AT TIME OF SALE):

1. State Deed charge of \$25 per deed.
2. State Assurance Fund – 3% of the purchase price.
3. State Deed Tax. The tax is based on the amount of the sale at the rate of \$3.30 for each \$1,000, with a minimum of \$1.65.
4. \$46 Recording Fee per deed.
5. \$50 Fee if well certificate is needed.

CONDITIONS:

Sales are subject to existing leases, if any, to building restrictions appearing on record at the time of forfeiture; to easement obtained by any governmental subdivisions or agency thereof for any public purpose; to all applicable laws and ordinances, and to the condition that the appraised value does not represent as a basis for future taxes. Buyer is purchasing property **“AS IS”**.

Local improvement constructed, but not yet assessed, must be assumed by the purchaser.

Reassessment of cancelled improvement assessments may be made in accordance with M.S. reading, in part, as follows:

M.S. 429.071 - Subd. 4. REASSESSMENT, TAX-FORFEITED LAND.

When a parcel of tax-forfeited land is returned to private ownership and the parcel is benefited by an improvement for which special assessments were canceled because of the

forfeiture, the municipality that made the improvement may, upon notice and hearing as provided for the original assessment, make a reassessment or a new assessment as to the parcel in an amount equal to the amount remaining unpaid on the original assessment.

M.S. 435.23 REASSESS TAX-FORFEITED LAND BACK IN PRIVATE OWNERSHIP.

Any municipality, political subdivision, or other public authority may make a reassessment or new assessment pursuant to section 429.071, subdivision 4, notwithstanding that the original assessment may have been made pursuant to other general law or a special law.

M.S. 444.076 TAX-FORFEITED LAND RETURNED TO PRIVATE OWNERSHIP; CHARGES.

When tax-forfeited land is returned to private ownership and the land is benefited by a public improvement for which special assessments were canceled because of the forfeiture, the municipality or other public authority that made the improvement may impose fees or charges for the use or availability of the improvement or for connections therewith in an amount not to exceed the amount remaining unpaid on the canceled assessment. The municipality may make the fees or charges a charge against the owner, lessee, occupant, or all of them and may certify unpaid fees or charges to the county auditor with taxes against the property for collection as other taxes are collected.

IMPORTANT: To find out if a particular tax forfeited parcel may be assessed or re-assessed please contact the local municipality the parcel is located in.

PROHIBITED PURCHASERS:

The County Auditor per MN Statute 282.016 has the authority to prohibit a person or entity from purchasing a tax forfeited property if that person or entity owns property within the county for which there are delinquent taxes owing. A person prohibited from purchasing property must not directly or indirectly have another person purchase it on behalf of the prohibited purchaser for the prohibited purchaser's benefit or gain.

STRAW BUYERS:

Straw buyers are prohibited from purchasing or bidding on a tax forfeited property for the previous owner as described in MN Statute 282.241 for an amount less than the sum of all delinquent taxes and assessments computed under MN Statute 282.251, together with penalties, interest, and costs, that accrued or would have accrued if the parcel of land had not forfeited to the state.

RESTRICTIVE COVENANT:

Per MN Statute, Secs. 103F.535 and 282.018, Subd. 2.; parcels containing a restrictive covenant means the parcel has been determined to be a non-

forested marginal land or wetland. The deed will include this restrictive covenant language and will preclude enrollment of the land in a state-funded program providing compensation for conservation of marginal land or wetlands.

TITLE:

The purchaser will receive a “receipt” at the time of purchase and will receive a deed from the State of Minnesota through the Commissioner of Revenue at a later date. The law provides that this conveyance shall have the force and effect of a patent from the State. Any further legal work is the responsibility of the purchaser.

BOUNDARIES:

Redwood County is not responsible for locating boundaries on Tax Forfeited Lands. Information regarding Tax Forfeited Lands may be obtained in the office of the Redwood County Auditor/Treasurer, 403 S Mill St, Redwood Falls, MN 56283. Telephone (507)637-4013.

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

RESOLUTION

ESTABLISHING A UOCAVA ABSENTEE BALLOT BOARD

WHEREAS, Redwood County is required by Minnesota Statutes 203B.121, Subd. 1 to establish a UOCAVA Absentee Ballot Board effective for the November 2, 2021 elections; and

WHEREAS, this board will bring uniformity in the processing of accepting and rejecting returned UOCAVA absentee ballots in Redwood County; and

WHEREAS, the UOCAVA Absentee Ballot Board would consist of a sufficient number of deputy county auditors trained in the processing and counting of UOCAVA absentee ballots;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Redwood County Board of Commissioners hereby establishes a UOCAVA Absentee Ballot Board that would consist of deputy auditors to perform the task.

COMMISSIONERS	VOTE			
Rick Wakefield	Yes___	No___	Absent___	Abstain___
Jim Salfer	Yes___	No___	Absent___	Abstain___
Dennis Groebner	Yes___	No___	Absent___	Abstain___
Bob VanHee	Yes___	No___	Absent___	Abstain___
Dave Forkrud	Yes___	No___	Absent___	Abstain___

TECHNOLOGY

- On motion by Wakefield, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Information Technology Support Contract with the Child Advocacy Center.

CRIME VICTIM SERVICES

- On motion by Wakefield, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to approve the 2021-2023 Crime Victim Services Grant Agreement in the amount of \$140,000.00.

SHERIFF

- Reviewed the August 2021 Jail Population.
- On motion by Groebner, second by Wakefield, the Board voted unanimously to award the Voice Logging Recording System to Northland Business Systems in the amount of \$18,709.12.

All Bids Received:

Company	Bid Amount
Northland Business Systems	\$18,709.12
Eventide	\$20,945.00

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- On motion by Wakefield, second by Salfer, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Revolving Fund Loan Agreement with South Forty Meat Market in the amount of \$26,000.00.
- Mumme updated the Board on the American Rescue Plan Fund Balance.
- On motion by Forkrud, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Southwest Initiative Foundation Grant Agreement in the amount of \$10,000.00 to offset the cost of the service contract with Engen Associates for the preliminary analysis and design work for a potential childcare center.

ADMINISTRATOR

- On motion by Forkrud, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Redwood County Procurement Policy.
- On motion by Groebner, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Law Library Lease Agreement in the amount of \$1,200.00 with the City of Redwood Falls.
- On motion by Forkrud, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following change orders in the Justice Center: Change Order #1 to Gunion Painting in the amount of (\$70.00), Change Order #2 to Ford Metro in the amount of (\$3,574.00, Change Order #2 to Kendell Doors & Hardware in the amount of \$256.26, Change Order #2 to Sussner Construction in the amount of \$295.00
- On motion by Groebner, second by Wakefield, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Change Order in the Government Services Building to Meier Electric in the amount of (\$1,312.50).
- On motion by Wakefield, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to certify the 2022 Preliminary Levy at \$14,971.471.00 with the adjusted tax levy for the 2022 budget set at \$14,277,930.00 representing a 5.3% increase from the 2021 levy. The Truth in Taxation meeting is set for November 30, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

Personnel

- On motion by Groebner, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to promote Taft Anderson from full-time Custody Officer to full-time Deputy Sheriff effective 9-22-21 at Deputy 1 LELS pay scale, Step 1 at \$22.77 per hour effective October 4, 2021.
- On motion by Groebner, second by Wakefield, the Board voted unanimously to hire Austin Lasky as full-time Custody Officer at Step 1 of the LELS non-licensed Pay Scale, Custody Officer Grade, at \$19.77 per hour effective September 22, 2021.
- On motion by Groebner, second by Forkrud, the Board voted unanimously to hire Tyson Reynolds as full-time Custody Officer at Step 1 of the LELS non-licensed Pay Scale, Custody Officer Grade, at \$19.77 per hour effective September 27, 2021.
- On motion by Forkrud, second by Salfer, the Board voted unanimously to approve the 2022 life insurance rates with Sun Life.
- On motion by Salfer, second by Wakefield, the Board voted unanimously to approve the 2022 health insurance rates.
- On motion by Wakefield, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to set the 2022 Cafeteria Contribution rates.
- On motion by Wakefield, second by Groebner, the Board voted unanimously to set the 2022 VEBA Contribution amounts at \$125 monthly for Family, Employee and Dependents and Employee and Spouse and Single.
- The commissioners reported on meetings they attended:

Groebner: Redwood/Renville Regional Solid Waste Authority; MN Valley Regional Rail Authority

Wakefield: Plum Creek Library System

Salfer: Southwest Health and Human Services; Nurse Family Partnership; Economic Development Authority; AMC Fall Conference; Western Mental Health; Ditch Meeting

Forkrud: Redwood/Renville Regional Solid Waste Authority

ADJOURN

- There being no further business, Chair Salfer declared the meeting adjourned at 11:32 a.m.

Attest: _____
Vicki Knobloch
County Administrator

Jim Salfer, Board Chair
Board of Commissioners