

REDWOOD COUNTY, MINNESOTA

SEPTEMBER 15, 2009

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

Present for all or portions of the meeting were Commissioners Lon Walling, Gary Dahms, Al Kokesch and John Schueller; Administrator Vicki Knobloch; Maintenance Specialist II Jerry Jenniges; Auditor-Treasurer Jean Price; AFSME Union Representative Matt Miller; Fiscal Supervisor I Lyn Rayburn; Nancy Vierstraete with Western Community Action; Mike Kearns of CAM; John McNamara of WOLD Architects; Recorder Joyce Anderson and Building Maintenance Supervisor Loren Gewerth.

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

No one was present for open forum.

On motion by Dahms, second by Walling, the Board voted unanimously to approve the revised agenda.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- On motion by Schueller, second by Dahms, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:
  - September 1, 2009, Board minutes.
  - September 8, 2009, Board minutes.
  - Payment of bills as follows:

Revenue Fund	\$ 86,461.41
Building Fund	\$ 153,036.01
Ditch Maintenance Fund	\$ 500.00
Solid Waste Fund	\$ 693.23

- Payment of PHS bills in the amount of \$10,305.96.
- Attendance at the following training:
  - Human Services Director Patrick Bruflat to attend Minnesota Association of County Social Service Administrator's Fall Conference in Nisswa at an estimated cost of \$525.00.
  - Assessor Kathy Hillmer to attend MAAO Fall Conference in Minneapolis at an estimated cost of \$625.00.

**EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION**

- The Board recognized Dispatcher/Jailer Amanda Jacobson for 5 years, Maintenance Specialist II Jerry Jenniges for 15 years and Collection Services Supervisor I Ann Bavier for 20 years of service to Redwood County.

**WESTERN COMMUNITY ACTION**

- Vierstraete updated the Board on the Emergency Shelter Program offered by Western Community Action which can place individuals/households in hotels for a short period of time. On motion by Walling, second by Dahms, the Board voted unanimously to approve Board Chair's signature on the Emergency Shelter Grant Program Certification of approval form.

**ADMINISTRATOR**

- On motion by Schueller, second by Walling, the Board voted unanimously to approve a Resolution Re-Appointing Jerry Lonneman, Rod Spronk, and Joe Weber to the Lincoln-Pipestone Rural Water System (LPRW) Board of Commissioners, which reads as follows:

**RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTING THREE COMMISSIONERS TO  
LINCOLN PIPESTONE RURAL WATER SYSTEM**

**RECITALS**

**WHEREAS**, the terms of Lincoln Pipestone Rural Water System Commissioners, Jerry Lonneman, Rod Spronk, and Joe Weber are scheduled to expire at midnight on December 31, 2009; and

**WHEREAS**, Jerry Lonneman, Rod Spronk, and Joe Weber have all agreed to serve another four-year term as a Commissioner on the Lincoln Pipestone Rural Water System; and

**WHEREAS**, the Redwood County Board of Commissioners believe that Jerry Lonneman, Rod Spronk, and Joe Weber are all valuable members of the Lincoln Pipestone Rural Water System Board of Commissioners and are worthy of re-appointment.

**RESOLUTION**

**BE IT NOW RESOLVED**, that the Redwood County Board of Commissioners hereby reappoint Jerry Lonneman, Rod Spronk, and Joe Weber to serve another four-year term on the Lincoln Pipestone Rural Water System Board of Commissioners pursuant to and provided for by Minnesota Statutes §116A et seq.

That the terms of Jerry Lonneman, Rod Spronk, and Joe Weber shall commence at 12:01 a.m. on January 1, 2010 and shall expire at midnight on December 31, 2013.

- On motion by Walling, second by Dahms, the Board voted unanimously to authorize the Records Destruction for the Administrator's Office as presented.
- On motion by Dahms, second by Walling, the Board voted unanimously to approve Area II Delegate Schueller's signature on the Area II Addendum to the Joint Powers Agreement extending the effective period to June 30, 2010.
- Price and Knobloch presented the 2010 Preliminary Tax Levy for approval. On motion by Schueller, second by Dahms, the Board voted unanimously to set the Redwood County 2010 Preliminary Certified Tax Levy at \$11,318,479 (\$11,213,800 without Regional Library), a .85% decrease from 2009, with the adjusted tax levy for 2010 being set at \$10,584,934 (\$10,480,255 without Regional Library), after deducting County Aid and Public Employees Retirement Association Aid, representing a 0% increase from the 2009 Certified Levy. The County Aid decreased by 12.1%.

- Price and Knobloch requested setting the Truth in Taxation Hearing. On motion by Dahms, second by Schueller, the Board voted unanimously to set the hearing for Tuesday, December 1, 2009, at 6:00 p.m.
- On motion by Walling, second by Dahms, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Resolution in Support of the Tax Equity for Health Plan Beneficiaries Act of 2009, which reads as follows:

**Board Resolution in Support of the Tax Equity for Health  
Plan Beneficiaries Act of 2009, S. 1153 and H.R. 2625**

*To expand the Definition of Eligible Beneficiaries in order to Avoid*

*Forfeitures of Active Member's and/or Retiree's Health Savings upon Death*

**WHEREAS**, state and local governments nationwide have established irrevocable trusts with health reimbursement accounts to help employees pay for health insurance in retirement; and

**WHEREAS**, these arrangements are funded through employer contributions, including amounts in lieu of severance pay that may otherwise have been received as taxable wages; and

**WHEREAS**, the Internal Revenue Service issued Revenue Ruling 2006-36, which prohibits reimbursement of medical expenses of beneficiaries who are not tax dependents, regardless of whether the reimbursements are taxable, and requires forfeiture of individual accounts when active members and/or retirees die without spouses or legal tax dependents; and

**WHEREAS**, IRS Revenue Ruling 2006-36 disproportionately affects state and local government employees, including tens of thousands of public employees in Minnesota; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tax Equity for Health Plan Beneficiaries Act of 2009, introduced as S. 1153 and H.R. 2625, and included in the final markup of H.R. 3200, would allow these amounts to be used to reimburse medical expenses of adult children and other designated beneficiaries of retirees.

**BE IT RESOLVED:** Redwood County urges Members of the United States House of Representative Timothy Walz, John Kline, Erik Paulsen, Betty McCollum, Keith Ellison, Michelle Bachmann, Collin Peterson, James Oberstar, and of the United States Senate, Amy Klobuchar and Alan Franken, along with the U.S. Senate Finance Committee Members:

Democrats

Max Baucus, MT  
John D. Rockefeller IV, WV  
Kent Conrad, ND  
Jeff Bingaman, NM  
John F. Kerry, MA  
Blanche L Lincoln, AR  
Ron Wyden, OR  
Charles E. Schumer, NY  
Debbie Stabenow, MI  
Maria Cantwell, WA  
Bill Nelson, FL  
Robert Menendez, NJ  
Thomas Carper, DE

Republicans

Chuck Grassley, IA  
Orrin G. Hatch, UT  
Olympia J. Snowe, ME  
Jon Kyl, AZ  
Jim Bunning, KY  
Mike Crapo, ID  
Pat Roberts, KS  
John Ensign, NV  
Mike Enzi, WY  
John Cornyn, TX

to support the Tax Equity for Health Plan Beneficiaries Act of 2009 (the "Act"), as introduced in the Senate as S. 1153 and in the House of Representatives as H.R. 2625, and as included in the final markup of H.R. 3200, or any version thereof that allows active members and/or retirees to avoid forfeiture of health savings upon death through the designation of beneficiaries who may use any remaining balance for the reimbursement of their medical expenses.

- On motion by Dahms, second by Walling, the Board voted unanimously to authorize Board Chairs' signature on the contract with Gary Steinhaus Construction to erect the Redwood County/City of Clements Maintenance facility.

***Personnel Action Items:***

- The authorization to hire Maintenance Specialist I position was tabled to the October 6, 2009, Board Meeting.
- On motion by Walling, second by Dahms, the Board voted unanimously to approve the revised Environmental Office Part-Time Technical Clerk job description as written, with no change in grade.

**AUDITOR-TREASURER – JEAN PRICE**

- On motion by Schueller, second by Walling, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Redwood County Investments as submitted.
- On motion by Walling, second by Schueller, the Board voted unanimously to approve the cash balance report for August 31, 2009.
- On motion by Schueller, second by Dahms, the Board voted unanimously to approve the budget report.
- On motion by Schueller, second by Walling, the Board voted unanimously to approve the August 2009 disbursements in the amount of \$687,404.64.

**HUMAN SERVICES**

***Consent Agenda***

- On motion by Schueller, second by Walling, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following consent agenda:
  - Budget report.
  - Out of Home Placement report.
  - Licensing report.
  - Caseload Summary.
  - Social Welfare & Special Projects Funds transactions and balances.
  - Human Services expenditures of current month in the amount of \$198,865.72 and Director's action expenditures subsequent to last month's Board meeting in the amount of \$18,698.52.

**CAM & WOLD ARCHITECTS**

- Kearns and McNamara presented the Redwood County Law Enforcement Center (LEC) /Jail Addition and Remodeling Contract Documents for the Board's review. On motion by Schueller, second by Dahms, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Law Enforcement Center/Jail Addition and Remodel construction documents.

- On motion by Schueller, second by Walling, the Board voted unanimously to authorize bid letting for the Law Enforcement Center (LEC)/Jail Addition and Remodel, contingent upon acceptance of the Law Enforcement Center.
- The Board reviewed quotes submitted for the move of the Courthouse Offices to the Government Center and the Sheriff's Office to the Courthouse.
- On motion by Walling, second by Schueller, the Board voted unanimously to award the bid to Granite City Moving & Storage, Inc. in the amount of \$20,840.00 for moving the Courthouse Offices to the Government Center, to be paid from the Building Fund. A second quote was submitted by Instant Install Inc., but did not meet required specifications.
- On motion by Dahms, second by Schueller, the Board voted unanimously to award the bid to Granite City Moving & Storage, Inc. in the amount of \$7,128.00 for moving the Sheriff's Office to the Courthouse, contingent upon acceptance of the Law Enforcement Center (LEC)/Jail Addition and Remodel project bids, to be paid from the Building Fund. A second quote was submitted by Instant Install Inc., but did not meet required specifications.
- On motion by Walling, second by Dahms, the Board voted unanimously to approve the change order from St. Aubin Drywall for material and labor to finish the Government Center south wall employee entrance at a cost of \$962.00.
- Gewerth presented quotes for systems testing and balancing for the Government Center. On motion by Schueller, second by Dahms, the Board voted unanimously to award the bid to low bidder Balancing Professionals Inc. in the amount of \$9,864.00 for the Government Center systems testing and balancing, to be paid from the Building Fund. All bids received were as follows:

<b>Name of Business</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>
Balancing Professionals Inc.	\$ 9,864.00
Mechanical Data Corporation	\$ 11,220.00
Systems Management & Balancing of Minnesota	\$ 28,975.00

- Kearns presented quotes submitted for raising the surface of the carpet inserts in the lobby of the Government Center. Dahms motioned to remove the carpet tiles, lay down cement Board and reinstall the carpet tiles, the motion died for lack of a second.

## COMMISSIONERS

- The commissioners reported on meetings they attended.

### Schueller

- RC & D Council

### Walling

- Highwater Ethanol Grand Opening
- Redwood/Renville Joint Recycling
- EDA/Pioneer Public TV

Dahms

- Soil & Water (SWCD)
- Southwest Initiative
- Old Sod Days

Kokesch

- Gilfillan-Fall Festival and Scenic By-Way
- Circle Sentencing

**ADJOURN**

- There being no further business, Chair Kokesch declared the meeting adjourned at 12:35 p.m.

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Al Kokesch, Chair  
Board of County Commissioners

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