

REDWOOD COUNTY, MINNESOTA

JULY 5, 2011

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 Sharon Hollatz, Al Kokesch, John Schueller, Lon Walling and Priscilla Klabunde; Administrator Vicki Knobloch; County Attorney Steve Collins; Environmental Director Jon Mitchell; Sheriff Randy Hanson; Highway Engineer Willy Rabenberg; Fiscal Supervisor I Lyn Rayburn; Public Health Director Genie Simon

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

On motion by Hollatz, second by Kokesch, the Board voted unanimously to approve the July 5 agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

- On motion by Schueller, second by Hollatz, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following:
 - Amended June 7, 2011 minutes.
 - June 21 minutes
 - Payment of bills by fund as follows:

Revenue Fund	\$ 73,999.99
Building Fund	\$ 1,790.50
Ditch Maintenance Fund	\$ 2,818.52
Solid Waste Fund	\$ 4,330.55
Debt Service Fund	\$ 76,463.75

ADMINISTRATOR

- On motion by Klabunde, second by Kokesch, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Data Practices Policy for 2011.
- On motion by Kokesch, second by Schueller, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following resolution:

**Resolution in Support of \$15,000,000 2012 Bonding Bill for the
Minnesota Valley Regional Rail Authority Rail Rehabilitation and Capital
Improvement Project**

WHEREAS, the County of Redwood is served by the Minnesota Valley Regional Rail Authority's rail line; and,

WHEREAS, the County of Redwood recognizes the growing importance of rail traffic to ease congestion on our state and local highways; and,

WHEREAS, the County of Redwood recognizes the economic development potential for Redwood County and all communities along the 94-mile rail line that extends from Norwood Young America in Carver County to Hanley Falls in Yellow Medicine County; and,

WHEREAS, the rail line is vital to many businesses including the agricultural industry in Carver, Sibley, Renville, Redwood, and Yellow Medicine Counties; and,

WHEREAS, parts of the current track are more than 100 years old and in poor condition and needs continued rehabilitation funding; and,

WHEREAS, bridges and trestles along the track will also need to be upgraded to accommodate heavier loads,

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Valley Regional Rail Authority is requesting \$15,000,000 to be included in the State of Minnesota's 2012 bonding bill for continued rehabilitation of the track and capital improvements from Norwood Young America to Hanley Falls, MN, and;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE REDWOOD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, REDWOOD COUNTY, STATE OF MINNESOTA, THAT THE COUNTY STRONGLY SUPPORTS THE CAPITAL REQUEST MADE BY FOR THE MINNESOTA VALLEY REGIONAL RAIL AUTHORITY FOR TRACK REHABILITATION.

- On motion by Schueller, second by Kokesch, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Out of State Travel Request from County Attorney, Steve Collins to attend Prosecutor Training in Reno, Nevada August 2-5, 2011.
- On motion by Schueller, second by Kokesch, the Board voted unanimously to approve Real Estate Purchase Agreement for the ARMER Tower, Vesta site in the amount of \$6,167.12

Personnel Items

- On motion by Klabunde, second by Kokesch, the Board voted unanimously to approve the resignation of Assistant County Attorney, Eric Silvia effective July 29, 2011.
- On motion by Hollatz, second by Kokesch, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Authorization to Post for Vacant Position for Assistant County Attorney.
- On motion by Kokesch, second by Hollatz, in a four to one vote with Schueller voting nay, the Board voted to revise the promotion for Darren Hacker. In accordance with personnel policy 3.10.2, Hacker was placed at Grade 10 Step 3 \$16.51, effective June 1, 2011.

Commissioner Items:

- Board Chair Walling appointed Marie Meyers as County Delegate to the Help Me Grow Committee.
- Commissioner Kokesch updated the Board on the 2011 County Employee Picnic on July 27.
- State Shutdown discussion was held. Rayburn, Human Services, and Simon, Public Health commented on how their departments are affected.
- Knobloch stated that Probation Office staff were deemed essential and no lay-offs were necessary. Road projects have been placed on hold due to no state supervision.

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Recycling and Solid Waste:

- Mitchell updated the Board on the annual skid loader trade.

Planning and Zoning

- Mitchell presented recommendation from the planning commission.
- A Conditional Use Permit #09-11 for Redwood County to construct and operation of one (1) Allied Radio Matrix for Emergency Response (ARMER) telecommunications tower. The ARMER tower will be constructed and operated on the following described property, situated in the county of Redwood, State of Minnesota, to wit: SW1/4 SE1/4 of Section 25, Township 112N, Range 39W, Underwood Township. On motion by Schueller, second by

Klabunde the Board voted to unanimously to approve CUP #09-11 of Redwood County to construct and operate an ARMER telecommunications tower with twenty-six (26) conditions as set forth by the Planning Commission.

- An Application for Extraction Conditional Use Permit #10-11 for Lowell Gryting for the extraction, processing, and stockpiling of gravel on the following described property, situated in the County of Redwood, State of Minnesota, to wit: E1/2 SE1/4 SW1/4 & W1/2 SW1/4 SE1/4 of Section 17, Township 114N, Range 37W, Swedes Forest Township. On motion by Hollatz, second by Schueller the Board voted unanimously to approve CUP #10-11 of Lowell Gryting for gravel extraction with twenty (20) conditions as set forth by the Planning Commission.

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

- Triplett presented the Field Site Affiliation Agreement with Walden University for graduate student internship. On motion by Klabunde, second by Hollatz the Board voted to unanimously approve the Field Site Affiliation Agreement with Walden University.

ROAD & BRIDGE

- On motion by Schueller, second by Klabunde, the Board voted unanimously to approve payment of Road & Bridge bills in the amount of \$65,189.41
- Rabenberg updated the Board on recent storm damage.

VETERAN SERVICE OFFICER

- On motion by Klabunde, second by Hollatz, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Beyond the Yellow Ribbon Resolution.

Resolution in Support of Beyond the Yellow Ribbon Project

WHEREAS, The men and women of the Armed Forces are being called to combat duty with increasing frequency. In addition to remembering their courageous service, we must not forget the unsung heroes in the war on terror: the spouses, children and other family members whose many sacrifices support the defense of this great Nation; and

WHEREAS, The spouses and families of our deployed service members bear an enormous burden of concern and support for loved ones serving in harms way, while continuing to perform the daily tasks needed to sustain their families on the home front; and

WHEREAS, Redwood County is a County that encourages its military members, spouses, and families, giving them a peace of mind in knowing they have the appreciation, love, and support of this community.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE REDWOOD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, REDWOOD COUNTY, STATE OF MINNESOTA, THAT THE COUNTY STRONGLY SUPPORTS THE BEYOND THE YELLOW RIBBON PROJECT, AND OUR MILITARY MEMBERS, FAMILIES, AND VETERANS OF RECENT OR PAST CONFLICTS

REDWOOD COUNTY DRAINAGE AUTHORITY

- On motion by Kokesch, second by Schueller, the Board voted unanimously to call the Drainage Authority Meeting to order at 10:42 a.m.
- On motion by Kokesch, second by Schueller, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Walling as Drainage Authority Chairman.

- On motion by Kokesch, second by Schueller, the Board voted unanimously to approve the following Order for Redetermination:

**STATE OF MINNESOTA
REDWOOD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
AS DRAINAGE AUTHORITY**

In the Matter of County Ditch #106) **ORDER FOR REDETERMINATION**
) **OF BENEFITS AND APPOINTMENT**
) **OF VIEWERS**

The Redwood County Board of Commissioners, as Drainage Authority for County Ditch No. 106 (hereinafter, the “Drainage Authority”), has historically been approached by various property owners who are benefitted by the numerous ditch systems within Redwood County. The Drainage Authority has held a series of informal meetings, received information from the public, and has also received information from the County Ditch Inspector, Brent Lang, and the County Auditor/Treasurer, Jean Price. Based upon this information, the Drainage Authority has determined that the benefits of the county-wide ditch system, as a whole, do not reflect reasonable present day land values. As a result, it is the Drainage Authority’s intention, over a period of years, to examine each ditch system within Redwood County to determine whether a redetermination of benefits is appropriate. With respect to the above-referenced ditch, based upon the information received, the Drainage Authority makes the following Findings and Order:

FINDINGS:

1. County Ditch #106 was established in 1938, and the benefits for County Ditch #106 were originally determined to be \$35,854.25.
2. The original benefits set for County Ditch #106 have not been redetermined.
3. That the original benefits determined in the drainage proceeding do not reflect reasonable present day land values.
4. That the parcels included in the original determination of benefits have been subdivided since 1938.
5. That the benefitted areas have changed since the original determination of benefits.
6. That the principles of determining benefits contained in Minnesota Statutes §103E provide for a larger area being benefitted than was originally determined.
7. Given the extremely low value of the original benefits, and the levy limits imposed by Minnesota Statutes §103E on repair assessments, it is difficult to generate adequate funds to complete repairs, if necessary.

ORDER:

1. There shall be a redetermination of benefits of County Ditch #106.
 2. That Jim Weidemann, Bill Moldestad, and Duane Bendixen are appointed as Ditch Viewers for the redetermination of benefits, with John Cunningham as an alternate viewer.
 3. The redetermination of benefits shall proceed following the requirements and procedures set forth in Minnesota Statutes §103E.351.
- Chair Walling closed the meeting on County Ditch #106.
 - Attorney Collins presented discussion on Judicial Ditch #15 Petition for Improvement. A Notice of Collection Action was reviewed, and by general consensus, the Board accepted

the one-time payment of \$1,663.97 to the Drainage Authority from Mr. Richard Vroman, Petitioner, as final satisfaction of his obligations.
There being no further business, the Ditch Authority adjourned at 10:52 a.m.

COMMISSIONERS

- The commissioners reported on meetings they attended.
 - Hollatz
 - Senior Expo
 - Walling
 - Introduction of Lynelle Groebner, Administrative Assistant, County Administrator's Office
 - Springdale Township Water Retention Project, Watershed Special Levy District \$309,000 Project Cost
 - Klabunde
 - Public Employee Relations
 - Schueller
 - Coteau des Prairie (RC & D Council)
 - Kokesch
 - Blue Print for Public Health
 - AMC FUTURES
 - Budget/Finance

CLOSED SESSION – NEGOTIATIONS

- At 11:30 a.m., on motion by Schueller, second by Hollatz, the Board voted unanimously to enter into closed session for the purpose of discussing negotiations. Present were the five Commissioners, Collins, and Knobloch. The closed session ended at 12:02 p.m.
- On motion by Klabunde, second by Kokesch, in a four to one vote with Schueller voting nay, the Board voted to approve the 2011 AFSCME Courthouse Labor Agreement.
- On motion by Hollatz, second by Klabunde, the Board voted in a four to one vote with Schueller voting nay, to approve a one-time lump sum payment of \$175.00 to all full-time non-union employees, (prorated for part-time employees), including department heads and elected officials, excluding Board of Commissioners and an additional \$25.00 per month cafeteria contribution to non-union employees enrolled in Family Health Plans, effective July, 2011.

ADJOURN

- There being no further action items, Chair Walling declared the meeting adjourned at 12:16 p.m.

Lon Walling, Chair
Board of County Commissioners

Attest: _____

Vicki Knobloch
County Administrator