



**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA
DECEMBER 14, 2021**

WASHINGTON COUNTY REGIONAL RAILROAD AUTHORITY CONVENES

The Washington County Regional Railroad Authority (RRA) met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. in the Washington County Government Center, County Board Room. Present were Commissioners Miron, Kriesel, Weik, Karwoski, and Johnson. RRA Chair Johnson presided. Also present were Kevin Corbid, County Administrator; Susan Tice, County Attorney Civil Division Chief; Stephanie Kammerud, Administrative Assistant; and county staff. Official Proceedings of the Regional Railroad Authority are available in the Office of Administration.

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS CONVENES

The Washington County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 9:09 a.m. in the Washington County Government Center, County Board Room.

Present: Commissioner Fran Miron, District 1
 Commissioner Stan Karwoski, District 2
 Commissioner Gary Kriesel, District 3
 Commissioner Wayne Johnson, District 4
 Commissioner Lisa Weik, District 5

Also Present: Kevin Corbid, County Administrator
 Susan Tice, County Attorney Civil Division Chief
 Stephanie Kammerud, Administrative Assistant

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Board Chair Weik asked for comments from the public; none were heard.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Commissioner Karwoski moved, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, to adopt the Consent Calendar as follows:

1. Adopt 2022 commissioner assignments to committees, commissions, and joint powers boards, as follows:

COMMISSIONER FRAN MIRON, DISTRICT 1:

- Washington County
 - o Community Development Agency
 - o Groundwater Advisory Committee
 - o Personnel Committee

- Planning Advisory Commission (Alternate)
- Plat Commission (Alternate)
- Regional Railroad Authority
- University of Minnesota Extension Advisory Committee
- Association of Minnesota Counties
 - Environment and Natural Resources Advisory Committee
 - Extension Committee
 - Local Government Water Roundtable Advisory Committee
 - Agricultural and Rural Development Advisory Committee
- East Central Regional Juvenile Center (Alternate)
- Lower St. Croix Watershed Policy Committee
- Metropolitan Emergency Services Board
 - Metropolitan Emergency Services Board Executive Committee
- Metropolitan Mosquito Control District
- Minnesota Inter-County Association (MICA) (Alternate)
- Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy Board
 - Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy Board Partnership on Waste and Energy
- Rush Line Corridor Task Force

COMMISSIONER STAN KARWOSKI, DISTRICT 2:

- Washington County
 - Community Development Agency (Alternate)
 - Regional Railroad Authority
 - Workforce Development Board
 - Oversight Action Committee
- Association of Minnesota Counties
 - Board of Directors as District X Representative
 - Board of Directors, Bylaws Committee
 - Board of Directors, Finance Committee
 - Economic Development, Workforce, and Housing Policy Subcommittee
 - Transportation Policy Committee
- East Metro Strong Board
- Gold Line Corridor Management Committee
- Gold Line Executive Change Control Board
- Gold Line Joint Powers Board
- Metropolitan Emergency Services Board
- Metropolitan Transportation Advisory Board (TAB)
 - TAB Executive Committee
 - TAB Regional Solicitation Policy Workgroup
- Minnesota Inter-County Association
 - Minnesota Inter-County Association Executive Committee
- National Association of Counties (NACo)
 - Environment, Energy and Land Use Steering Committee
- Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy Board

COMMISSIONER GARY KRIESEL, DISTRICT 3:

- Washington County
 - Audit Advisory Committee
 - Historic Courthouse Advisory Committee
 - Law Library Board
 - Personnel Committee
 - Planning Advisory Commission
 - Plat Commission
 - Regional Railroad Authority
 - University of Minnesota Extension Committee
- Andersen Community Advisory Committee
- Lake Elmo Airport Advisory Commission
- Lower St. Croix Watershed Policy Committee (Alternate)
- Metropolitan Mosquito Control
 - Executive Committee
- National Association of Counties (NACo)
 - Veterans and Military Service
- Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy Board (Alternate)
 - Regional Haulers Licensing Board
- Veterans Campground on Big Marine Lake liaison

COMMISSIONER WAYNE JOHNSON, DISTRICT 4:

- Washington County
 - Community Corrections Advisory Board
 - Finance Committee
 - Groundwater Advisory Committee (Alternate)
 - Library Board
 - Parks and Open Space Commission
 - Regional Railroad Authority
 - Workforce Development Board (Alternate)
- Association of Minnesota Counties
 - Public Safety Policy Committee
- Metropolitan Library Service Agency (MELSA)
- Metro Alliance for Healthy Families (Alternate)
- Metropolitan Emergency Services Board (Alternate)
- Metropolitan Transportation Advisory Board (Alternate)
- Minnesota Inter-County Association (MICA)
- Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy Board
 - Budget and Facility Committee
 - Partnership on Waste and Energy (Alternate)
- Red Rock Corridor Commission

COMMISSIONER LISA WEIK, DISTRICT 5:

- Washington County
 - Finance Committee
 - Library Park Association, Chair
 - Mental Health Advisory Council
 - Regional Rail Authority
 - Association of Minnesota Counties
 - Futures Committee
 - General Government Policy Committee
 - Gold Line Executive Change Control Board
 - Gold Line Corridor Management Committee
 - Gold Line Joint Powers Board
 - Greater MSP
 - Metropolitan Alliance for Healthy Families
 - Metropolitan Mosquito Control District (Alternate)
 - National Association of Counties (NACo)
 - International Economic Development Task Force
 - Rural Action Caucus Steering Committee
 - Transportation Policy Steering Committee (Vice Chair)
 - Ports Subcommittee
 - Women of NACo Leadership Network
 - Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy Board
 - Regional Hauler Licensing Board (Alternate)
2. Approval to reappoint John Waller, Hugo, to the Rice Creek Watershed District Board of Managers, for a sixth term expiring January 18, 2025.
 3. Approve Amendment No. 1 for Contract 13852 with Youth Service Bureau (YSB) in the amount of \$233,273 for the period of January 1, 2022, through December 31, 2022.
 4. Approve Amendment No. 1 for Contract No. 13853 with Satellite Tracking of People LLC (STOP) in the amount of \$150,000 for the period of January 1, 2022, through December 31, 2022.
 5. Approve Amendment No. 1 for Contract No. 13859 with Tubman in the amount of \$204,241 for the period of January 1, 2022, through December 31, 2022.
 6. Approve Contract No. 14463 with HealthPartners, Inc. to provide health plan coverage for county employees and retirees from January 1, 2022, through December 31, 2024.
 7. Approve Contract No. 14486 to renew the library service agreement between the Stillwater Public Library and the Washington County Library.

8. Approve Grant Agreement No. 14427 with the Board of Water and Soil Resources in the amount of \$184,014, for the period of January 1, 2022, through December 31, 2024.
9. Approve Contract No. 14487 with Washington Conservation District in the amount of \$260,000, for the period of January 1, 2022, through December 31, 2022.
10. Approve Grant Agreement No. 14480 with the Minnesota Department of Health in the amount of \$200,000 for COVID-19 Public Health Workforce through June 30, 2024.
11. Approval of **Resolution No. 2021-155** as follows:

**RESOLUTION APPROVING ELECTION EQUIPMENT
GRANT APPLICATION**

WHEREAS, Minnesota counties are responsible for administering elections, which includes the purchase and maintenance of supplies and election equipment, including accessible voting equipment; and

WHEREAS, it is essential for precincts to have functioning voting equipment so that voters are able to cast their ballot on equipment that is secure, accessible, accurate, and reliable; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota 2021 Legislature authorized \$2 million for the Voting Equipment Grant Account to assist counties, cities, towns, and school districts with the purchase of voting equipment; and

WHEREAS, to receive funding from the Voting Equipment Grant Account, counties must submit an application to the Minnesota Secretary of State before December 17, 2021.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Washington County approves its application for funding from the Voting Equipment Grant; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the County certifies that any funds awarded from the Voting Equipment Grant will be used only to purchase assistive voting technology, an electronic roster system, an electronic voting system, any individual component of an electronic voting system, or any other equipment or technology approved by the Secretary of State.

12. Approval of the plat of Manning Ridges in May Township.

13. Approval of **Resolution No. 2021-156** as follows:

**RESOLUTION TO ACQUIRE VACANT LAND KNOWN AS
PID 06.029.20.21.0002 AT THE INTERSECTION OF
MEMORIAL DRIVE NORTH AND 58TH STREET NORTH
IN THE CITY OF OAK PARK HEIGHTS**

WHEREAS, Washington County is interested in acquiring the property described herein at the intersection of Memorial Avenue North and 58th Street North in the City of Oak Park Heights, Minnesota as part of the potential future road extension of County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 15; and,

WHEREAS, the owners agree to sell the property to the County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Washington County proceed to purchase property at the intersection of Memorial Avenue North and 58th Street North a/k/a PID 06.029.20.21.0002 for the potential future road extension of County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 15 in the City of Oak Park Heights, Washington County, Minnesota.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Washington County Board of Commissioners hereby authorize its Chair and Administrator to execute on behalf of the County a Purchase Agreement and any other documents necessary for the County to effectuate the purchase to the property legally described as follows:

Lot 4, Block 1, Kern Center

For the sum of: \$545,570.00.

14. Approval of **Resolution No. 2021-157** as follows:

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING SUBMITTAL OF APPLICATION
TO THE MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FOR FUNDING UNDER THE SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOLS
INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, in the 2019 and 2021 sessions, the Minnesota Legislature apportioned \$8 million to the Safe Routes to School Program, established in Minnesota Statute 174.40; and

WHEREAS, the funds are intended to supplement or replace aid for infrastructure projects under the federal Safe Routes to Schools Program; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Department of Transportation is responsible for the administration of the state Safe Routes to Schools Program and makes the funds available to communities through a competitive process; and

WHEREAS, this solicitation provides \$8 million in state funding for the development and implementation of infrastructure projects which will enable students to walk and bicycle to and from schools; and

WHEREAS, Washington County is proposing to submit an application to the Minnesota Department of Transportation as part of the Safe Routes to Schools Infrastructure 2021 solicitation for the following project:

1. Construction of a trail on the south side of 65th St S (County Road 74) between Meadow Grass Ave S and Hadley Ave S in the City of Cottage Grove.

WHEREAS, the aforementioned trail is a recommendation identified in Washington County's Safe Routes to School Engineering Plan (2016) for Cottage Grove Elementary School, to increase bicycle and pedestrian safety near Cottage Grove Elementary School.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Washington County Board of Commissioners authorizes submittal of the application listed above for Safe Routes to Schools Infrastructure Program funds.

15. Approval of **Resolution No. 2021-158** as follows:

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING SUBMITTAL OF APPLICATION
TO THE MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FOR FUNDING UNDER THE SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOLS
INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, in the 2019 and 2021 sessions, the Minnesota Legislature apportioned \$8 million to the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Program established in Minnesota Statute 174.40; and

WHEREAS, the funds are intended to supplement or replace aid for infrastructure projects under the federal Safe Routes to Schools Program; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Department of Transportation is responsible for the administration of the state Safe Routes to Schools Program and makes the funds available to communities through a competitive process; and

WHEREAS, this solicitation provides \$8 million in state funding for the development and implementation of infrastructure projects which will enable students to walk and bicycle to and from schools; and

WHEREAS, Mahtomedi Public Schools is a non-state aid school; and

WHEREAS, non-state aid schools must have a state aid city or county as the lead agency or sponsor; and

WHEREAS, Mahtomedi Public Schools, as a non-state aid entity, has requested sponsorship of this project by Washington County; and

WHEREAS, Mahtomedi Public Schools is proposing to submit an application to the Minnesota Department of Transportation as part of the Safe Routes to Schools Infrastructure 2021 solicitation for the following project:

1. Construction of a bicycle and pedestrian trail from the intersection of County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 12 and the driveway to Mahtomedi Middle and High Schools to the school buildings in the City of Grant.

WHEREAS, the aforementioned trail will create a safe bicycle and pedestrian connection between the schools and existing trails nearby; and

WHEREAS, Mahtomedi Public Schools understands that it will be responsible for all costs not covered by Safe Routes to School, including but not limited to, preliminary and final engineering, right-of-way acquisition, construction administration and inspection, utility construction, as well as costs above the Safe Routes to School award.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Washington County Board of Commissioners agrees to act as the Minnesota Department of Transportation sponsor for the project should Mahtomedi Public Schools be awarded Safe Routes to School funds, and that such sponsorship shall include acting as the fiscal agent on behalf of Mahtomedi Public Schools and facilitating the flow of funds between MnDOT and Mahtomedi Public Schools.

The motion was adopted 5-0 with a Roll Call vote as follows: Ayes, Commissioners Miron, Kriesel, Johnson, Karwoski, and Weik. Nays, none.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT

Director David Brummel presented an amendment to a grant agreement with the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) for COVID-19 response efforts and vaccination implementation. On May 4, 2021, the board approved the original grant agreement of \$1,315,950. These funds were used to reimburse the Department of Public Health and Environment (PHE) for costs associated with COVID-19 response efforts and vaccine clinics. As of October 1, 2021, PHE has expended \$883,000 of the original amount, and has recently surpassed administering more than 25,000 COVID-19 vaccine doses in Washington County. Mr. Brummel anticipates expending most of the original grant amount by the end of this year. This amendment will add \$1,198,250 to the original agreement.

Commissioner Karwoski moved to approve Amendment No. 1 to Grant Agreement No. 14067 with the Minnesota Department of Health in the amount of \$1,198,250 for COVID-19 response and vaccine implementation, through December 31, 2023. Commissioner Miron seconded the motion, and it was adopted unanimously.

PUBLIC WORKS

Building Services Capital Projects Manager Erik Jalowitz presented a cooperative agreement and letter of support for the design phase of the Central Park/R.H. Stafford Library project in the City of Woodbury. A cooperative funding agreement will establish the appropriate cost split for design and construction management services that will bring the project through design. The county and the city will share costs of remodeling the existing common area spaces within the building, while the city also plans to construct an addition to its condominium that will include a multi-purpose community gathering space to accommodate up to 350 people. The resulting cost split, due to the proposed scope, is the county paying 34% and city paying 66%. The county share for design and project delivery is estimated to be \$4 million. The cost split and overall project scope will be re-evaluated after each phase of design.

The first phase of design is schematic design and the county share of the costs for this phase is expected to be \$150,000. This project is budgeted in the 2023 Bond. The city will act as the fiscal agent for this project and will execute the contracts with the chosen architect and construction management firm.

The City of Woodbury is requesting \$15 million in state funds for its addition, and requests a letter of support from the Washington County Board of Commissioners to include in the request to the state.

Commissioner Karwoski moved to approve a cooperative funding agreement between the City of Woodbury and Washington County for Central Park remodel professional services. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion, and it was adopted unanimously.

Commissioner Karwoski moved to approve a letter of support of the City of Woodbury's requested appropriation of \$15 million in state funds for the City of Woodbury's remodel of Central Park. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion, and it was adopted unanimously.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Resolution to Adopt the 2022-2026 Capital Improvement Plan

Public Works Deputy Director/County Engineer Wayne Sandberg presented a resolution to approve the 2022-2026 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).

Mr. Sandberg reported that the 2022-2026 CIP contains 79 projects or programs for a total of \$352 million in planned investment in infrastructure for parks and land, public facilities, roads and bridges, and transit. On November 30, 2021, a public hearing was held to receive public comments on the CIP. Comments include six comment letters received from the cities of Cottage Grove, Hugo, Lake Elmo, Woodbury, and Oak Park Heights, and the Rice Creek Watershed District. Response letters have been drafted to be sent after today's meeting.

Mr. Sandberg reported on the changes to the CIP. Project RB-2627 will be split into two separate projects: County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 15 at 30th Intersection, and CSAH 15/CSAH 10 to CSAH 14. This project is planned improvements to Manning Avenue, and it contemplated two separate improvements to be done in two separate years. RB-2627 will remain, and becomes just the project located at CSAH 15 at 30th Intersection with stoplight installation scheduled for 2022. A new project, RB-2684, will be added, which is CSAH 15/CSAH 10 to CSAH 14 Corridor Management, and will add safety improvements, such as center turn lanes at key intersections in 2025.

In addition, Mr. Sandberg reported on four new projects that are being recommended.

RB-2685 – County Road (CR) 19A/100th Street Alignment

This new project is for design work to implement the Southwest Arterial Study recommendations. The study was completed in early 2021, and the study plans for an east-west county highway to serve Cottage Grove, connecting to County Highway 19 interchange at U.S. Highway 61. This area serves industrial, commercial, and residential areas, and connects to Grey Cloud Island Regional Park. Industrial growth is happening rapidly in this area. The latest development proposal is the Cottage Grove Logistics Center, which is 253 acres and 3.4 million square feet of building space, to be used as a distribution center. Adding RB-2685 will allow the county to move toward implementing the findings and plans in this study.

RB-2686 CSAH 20 and Pioneer Drive Study

This new project is for a preliminary design study at CSAH 20 and Pioneer Drive intersection. This is an important intersection at Jamaica Avenue (CSAH 20), Military Road (CSAH 20), and Pioneer Drive, and it is a border connection between Cottage Grove and Woodbury. Development has been proposed throughout this area, and the preferred plan is to build a roundabout at this intersection. There are challenges on the design of the roundabout, as to where exactly it should be located, and how all the streets should come together. The timing is right to do some of this planning now so that as development fills in, the county does not miss an opportunity. Preliminary design for a roundabout intersection is needed, and this will ensure securing right-of-way and developing a timeline for construction.

RB-2687 CSAH 19/Trunk Highway (TH) 61 to Dale Road Study

With recent expansion of CSAH 19 from Bailey Road to Dale Road, the next phase is to the south, Dale Road to U.S. Highway 61. This new project is a study to evaluate and plan for access locations, right-of-way widths, stormwater management, Central Greenway Trail implementation, and a timeline for construction.

RB-2688 Radio Drive Pedestrian Management Study

This new project is a study to develop a management plan for pedestrian accommodations along Radio Drive, south of Interstate 94. This is a very busy section of Radio Drive, featuring six lanes of traffic, with double and triple left-turn lanes. The area features mostly commercial development, and, more recently, hotels and townhomes. In general, this area has heavy traffic, and crossing this roadway can be challenging and intimidating for pedestrians and other non-motorized users. Washington County recently constructed a new pedestrian overpass over I-94, which connects this area of Woodbury to the cities of Oakdale and Lake Elmo. This study would explore how the county manages pedestrian movement in the area, and how it could be improved. This study will include the concept of a grade separated pedestrian overpass over Radio Drive and its feasibility with the land use and development in the area.

In conclusion, Mr. Sandberg stated there were no changes to the 2022 budget and no projects were removed from the draft CIP to accommodate these additions. The changes presented reflect local community and county priorities, and other comments that did not result in a change can be discussed when re-engaging communities while continuing to update the CIP annually.

Commissioner Miron moved to approve **Resolution No. 2021-159** as follows:

ADOPTION OF THE 2022-2026 WASHINGTON COUNTY CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

WHEREAS, the Washington County Board of Commissioners has formulated the 2022-2026 Washington County Capital Improvement Plan which covers a five-year period from the date of its adoption and sets forth the estimated schedule, timing, and details of the specific capital improvements by year, the estimated cost; the need for the particular improvement; and the sources of revenue to pay for the improvements; and

WHEREAS, the Washington County Board of Commissioners released the draft version of the proposed 2022-2026 Washington County Capital Improvement Plan to the communities of Washington County on October 19th, 2021 for the purpose of receiving written comments; and

WHEREAS, the Washington County Board of Commissioners, after public notice, conducted a public hearing on November 30th, 2021 for the purpose of receiving public comments on the proposed 2022-2026 Washington County Capital Improvement Plan; and

WHEREAS, in passing upon the aforesaid Plan, the County Board of Commissioners has considered the following for each project to be funded with Capital Improvement Bonds:

- 1) The condition of the County's existing infrastructure, including the projected need for repair or replacement;
- 2) the likely demand for the improvement;
- 3) the estimated cost of the improvement;
- 4) the available public resources;
- 5) the level of overlapping debt in the County;
- 6) the relative benefits and costs of alternative uses of the funds;
- 7) operating costs of the proposed improvements; and
- 8) alternatives for providing services more efficiently through shared facilities with other counties or local government units.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Washington County Board of Commissioners adopts the proposed 2022-2026 Washington County Capital Improvement Plan which is attached hereto.

Commissioner Kriesel seconded the motion, and it was adopted 5-0 with a Roll Call vote as follows: Ayes, Commissioners Weik, Kriesel, Johnson, Karwoski, and Miron. Nays, none.

Adoption of the 2022 Fee Schedule, Policy 1032

Deputy County Administrator Jan Lucke reported that on November 30, 2021, proposed changes to the Washington County Fee Schedule for 2022 were presented at a public hearing, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 373.41. There were no comments received from the public regarding the changes to the fee schedule.

Ms. Lucke followed up on questions from commissioners at the public hearing.

Commissioner Johnson had asked about the use of flash drives available for purchase in the library. Amy Stenftenagel, Library Director, confirmed that patrons sign an internet use policy agreement before using public computers, and those computers are completely separate from the county network. The flash drives pose no legal or security risk.

Commissioner Miron had asked a question about the 2% increase of septic fees. David Brummel, Public Health and Environment Director, confirmed that staff are performing field work in-person during the final inspection stage that occurs after the remote work. The process is working better for residents and inspectors, and the county has not yet seen a reduction in program costs or staff time.

All commissioners had expressed strong support for the Sheriff's Office recommendation to reduce the fee for Permit to Carry for active military, veterans, and active/retired law enforcement, which includes correctional officers and U.S. Federal Marshals.

All changes were included in the board agenda packet, and no further changes have been requested. If approved today, the changes will be effective January 1, 2022.

Commissioner Karwoski moved to approve the county's 2022 Fee Schedule, Policy No. 1032. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion, and it was adopted unanimously.

Resolution to Establish 2022 County Redistricting Principles

Deputy County Administrator Jennifer Wagenius presented a resolution establishing redistricting principles to guide the County Board's decennial redistricting process. This resolution follows board workshops on redistricting, the posting of draft redistricting principles on the county's website, beginning October 19, 2021, and a public hearing on the proposed principles on November 30, 2021. As part of the public hearing, board members heard in-person testimony and received written comments. The principles presented for approval today are similar to those passed during the last decennial redistricting process, and follow the proposed principles that were established in October.

Commissioner Johnson requested a modification of the first principle, changing the number of districts to read 5 or 7 commissioner districts, with no municipality having a majority of commissioners.

Commissioner Karwoski said he would be open to leaving it open to 7 commissioners, if there were some indication from the community that residents are being underserved. Commissioner Karwoski asked if it is stated as 5 in the resolution, is it binding if the board later finds that it wants to have 7 members.

Ms. Wagenius said that if the board sets redistricting principles, that they are required to follow the principles as established.

Attorney Sue Tice reaffirmed that once principles are adopted, they are binding upon the redistricting process. Ms. Tice stated legal options for action are that the board could move to pass the resolution as is, or move with a proposed change or deletion, and see if there is a second in support of said motion, and a vote can be taken. Another option is to table the adoption of the redistricting principles.

Commissioner Miron moved to adopt **Resolution No. 2021-160** as follows:

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING WASHINGTON COUNTY 2022 REDISTRICTING PRINCIPLES

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes Chapter 375 establishes the procedure and process for redistricting County Commissioner districts based on population figures from the Federal Census; and

WHEREAS, the Washington County Board of Commissioners wishes to adopt principles to guide their redistricting process; and

WHEREAS, Washington County conducted a public meeting on the redistricting principles on November 30, 2021; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Washington County Board of Commissioners will use the following principles for the adoption of a County Redistricting Plan:

- **Number of Districts:** The County will have 5 Commissioner Districts with a single commissioner for each district.
- **Population Deviation:** Commissioner Districts will meet the population deviation required by state statute, unless doing so is not possible because of the lack of authority to split precincts.
- **Contiguous Territory:** Each Commissioner District shall be composed of contiguous territory.
- **Regular and Compact in Form:** Commissioner Districts must be regular and compact in form to the extent practicable considering the geography of the county and the existence of other principles.
- **Relationship to Other Boundaries:** Commissioner Districts will be drawn using town, municipal, ward or precinct lines established by the cities and townships.
- **State and Constitutional Standards:** The County Redistricting Plan shall conform with all applicable statutory and constitutional standards.
- **Dividing of Political Subdivisions:** The County Redistricting Plan will avoid the dividing of political subdivisions unless necessary to meet the principle of equal population.
- **Public Notice and Participation:** At least three weeks in advance of acting to redistrict the county board will publish notice of the date, time, and location of meetings at which redistricting will be considered. There will be public notice of all meetings related to redistricting and the opportunity for public input throughout the process.
- **Preserving Communities of Interest:** Commissioner Districts should attempt to preserve communities of interest, i.e., areas with similarities of interests, including but not limited to, ethnic, geographic, economic, social and cultural interests where that can be done in compliance with the other principles.
- **Minority Representation:** Commissioner Districts shall not be drawn with either the purpose or effect of denying or abridging the voting rights of any county citizen on account of race, ethnicity, or membership in a language minority group.

- **Incumbents:** Commissioner Districts shall not be drawn for the purpose of protecting or defeating incumbents and should not result in either undue incumbent protection or excessive incumbent conflicts.
- **Staggered Terms:** In determining which commissioner districts will have 2-year terms to allow for staggered terms as required by the law, the county board shall consider which commissioner districts were given 2-year terms as part of the previous two redistricting plans and rotate the 2-year terms equally amongst the given districts.

Commissioner Kriesel seconded the motion, and it was adopted 4-1 with a Roll Call vote as follows: Ayes, Commissioners Weik, Kriesel, Karwoski, and Miron. Nays, Commissioner Johnson.

2022 Budget and Levy

County Administrator Kevin Corbid presented resolutions adopting the 2022 budgets and levy. These are the final steps for adoption of the county's 2022 budget. The county budget is the guiding financial document for the new year, and a reflection of the county's priorities for service delivery. The process starts in March, with the review and adoption of principles for staff to use in creating a recommended budget. Department staff work within each county unit or division to develop a budget proposal, gathering input from their teams, reviewing both expenditure and revenue history and projections, and determine the service delivery needs at the functional level.

By June, departments have developed proposals and meet with the Office of Administration. The fruits of those efforts are the County Administrator's recommended budget that is presented to the board in July. Following that action, departments present their portion of the recommended budget to the board in workshops in July and August. All of these workshops were open to the public and were available online and through cable access television.

In September, the County Board acted to adopt a proposed budget and levy. In November, proposed property tax notices were mailed to property owners in the county. On November 30, 2021, the County Board held the required budget meeting. Again, all of these meetings and actions occurred in meetings open to the public.

Today, the board is asked to take the final step in this journey. After adopting a 0% levy increase in 2021, the resolution presented today is to adopt a county property tax levy in 2022 that is a 5.34% increase from 2021. The levy increase proposed for the Washington County Community Development Agency is similar at a 4.8% increase, and the proposed levy for the Regional Railroad Authority is a 0% levy increase. If adopted today, a 5.34% county property tax levy would lead to a flat tax rate when compared to 2021, and a declining tax rate when compared to 2020. The tax impact on a median-valued home in the county that is experiencing a 2.7% increase in valuation would see a \$24 increase in the county tax. Looking back an additional year to account for the extraordinary circumstances in 2020, from 2020 to 2022, the county tax is flat under the budget the County Board is proposing.



The budget helps to set the priorities of the organization about what services are needed for the organization to meet its vision and mission. The budget continues to fund its core services, functions, and mandated services, prioritizing the delivery of high-quality services to a growing community, and protecting the county's financial health. It provides ongoing technology improvements and funds cybersecurity efforts, provides for wage settlements for employees who did not receive base wage adjustments last year, and funds critical positions throughout the organization. The budget continues to maintain the county's roads and facilities, and takes steps to reduce the county's reliance on debt. In totality, this budget reaffirms the board's commitment to make Washington County a great place to live, work, and play.

Resolution Certifying the Adopted Property Tax Levy for Washington County Payable 2022

Commissioner Miron moved to adopt **Resolution No. 2021-161** as follows:

RESOLUTION CERTIFYING ADOPTED PROPERTY TAX LEVY FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY PAYABLE 2022

The Washington County Board of Commissioners does hereby certify to the Washington County Auditor-Treasurer the following adopted tax levy for payable 2022:

Washington County \$121,806,800

Commissioner Karwoski seconded the motion, and it was adopted 5-0 with a Roll Call vote as follows: Ayes, Commissioners Weik, Kriesel, Johnson, Karwoski, and Miron. Nays, none.

Resolution Certifying the Adopted Tax Levy for the Washington County Regional Railroad Authority Payable 2022

Commissioner Johnson moved to adopt **Resolution No. 2021-162** as follows:

RESOLUTION CERTIFYING ADOPTED TAX LEVY FOR THE WASHINGTON COUNTY REGIONAL RAILROAD AUTHORITY PAYABLE 2022

The Washington County Board of Commissioners does hereby certify to the Washington County Auditor-Treasurer the following adopted tax levy for payable 2022:

Regional Railroad Authority \$660,000

Commissioner Karwoski seconded the motion, and it was adopted 5-0 with a Roll Call vote as follows: Ayes, Commissioners Weik, Kriesel, Johnson, Karwoski, and Miron. Nays, none.

Resolution Adopting the Washington County 2022 Budget

Commissioner Karwoski moved to adopt **Resolution No. 2021-163** as follows:

RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE WASHINGTON COUNTY ADOPTED BUDGET FOR PAYABLE 2022						
OPERATING FUNDS	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE OTHER THAN LEVY	FUND BALANCE Contrib/(Use)	GROSS LEVY	STATE AID (CPA)	CERTIFIED LEVY
General	\$147,399,400	\$77,725,100	\$1,050,600	\$70,724,900	\$10,173,900	\$60,551,000
Community Services	\$52,309,200	\$30,152,600	\$0	\$22,156,600	\$0	\$22,156,600
Library	\$8,729,400	\$384,700	\$0	\$8,344,700	\$0	\$8,344,700
Parks	\$4,222,900	\$2,069,700	\$0	\$2,153,200	\$0	\$2,153,200
Public Works	\$24,701,000	\$15,725,700	\$0	\$8,975,300	\$0	\$8,975,300
Subtotal:	<u>\$237,361,900</u>	<u>\$126,057,800</u>	<u>\$1,050,600</u>	<u>\$112,354,700</u>	<u>\$10,173,900</u>	<u>\$102,180,800</u>
CAPITAL PROJECT FUNDS						
Capital Parks Projects	\$4,285,100	\$3,535,100	\$0	\$750,000	\$750,000	\$0
Capital Projects - Other	\$18,776,800	\$13,336,600	\$0	\$5,440,200	\$100,000	\$5,340,200
Capital Repairs	\$1,250,000	\$1,250,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Capital Road & Bridge	\$37,150,000	\$38,225,000	\$1,225,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$0
Subtotal:	<u>\$61,461,900</u>	<u>\$56,346,700</u>	<u>\$1,225,000</u>	<u>\$6,340,200</u>	<u>\$1,000,000</u>	<u>\$5,340,200</u>
DEBT SERVICE FUNDS						
Debt Service - General	\$15,458,700	\$2,355,800	\$0	\$13,102,900	\$0	\$13,102,900
Debt Service - Referendum	\$1,147,400	(\$35,500)	\$0	\$1,182,900	\$0	\$1,182,900
Subtotal:	<u>\$16,606,100</u>	<u>\$2,320,300</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$14,285,800</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$14,285,800</u>
Total Adopted 2022 Budget:	<u>\$315,429,900</u>	<u>\$184,724,800</u>	<u>\$2,275,600</u>	<u>\$132,980,700</u>	<u>\$11,173,900</u>	<u>\$121,806,800</u>
Total Washington County Adopted 2022 Levy:				<u>\$132,980,700</u>	<u>\$11,173,900</u>	<u>\$121,806,800</u>

Commissioner Miron seconded the motion, and it was adopted 5-0 with a Roll Call vote as follows:
Ayes, Commissioners Weik, Kriesel, Johnson, Karwoski, and Miron. Nays, none.

Resolution Adopting the Washington County Regional Railroad Authority 2022 Budget

Commissioner Johnson moved to adopt **Resolution No. 2021-164** as follows:

RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE WASHINGTON COUNTY REGIONAL RAILROAD AUTHORITY ADOPTED BUDGET FOR PAYABLE 2022						
<u>SPECIAL REVENUE FUND</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>OPERATING TRANSFERS AND REVENUE OTHER THAN LEVY</u>	<u>FUND BALANCE Contrib/(Use)</u>	<u>GROSS LEVY</u>	<u>STATE AID (CPA)</u>	<u>CERTIFIED LEVY</u>
Regional Railroad Authority	\$699,600	\$124,000	\$84,400	\$660,000	\$0	\$660,000
Total Adopted 2022 Budget:	<u>\$699,600</u>	<u>\$124,000</u>	<u>\$84,400</u>	<u>\$660,000</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$660,000</u>
Total Washington County Regional Railroad Adopted 2022 Levy :				\$660,000	\$0	\$660,000

Commissioner Karwoski seconded the motion, and it was adopted 5-0 with a Roll Call vote as follows: Ayes, Commissioners Weik, Kriesel, Johnson, Karwoski, and Miron. Nays, none.

Resolution Consenting to the Adopted Property Tax Levy for the Washington County Community Development Agency Payable 2022

Commissioner Miron moved to adopt **Resolution No. 2021-165** as follows:

RESOLUTION CONSENTING TO THE ADOPTED PROPERTY TAX LEVY FOR THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY PAYABLE 2022

Pursuant to Minnesota Statute section 469.033 subdivision 6, the Washington County Board of Commissioners hereby consent to the special tax levy of the Washington County Community Development Agency in an amount not to exceed:

Washington County Community Development Agency \$5,680,360

Commissioner Karwoski seconded the motion, and it was adopted 5-0 with a Roll Call vote as follows: Ayes, Commissioners Weik, Kriesel, Johnson, Karwoski, and Miron. Nays, none.

Amendment to Contract with Downs Governmental Affairs LLC

Deputy County Administrator Jan Lucke reported that Downs Government Affairs LLC has been providing the county with federal government relations services since January 2020. The contract was executed in January 2020 for a two-year term for \$60,000 each year, and is nearing the end of the term. Services are provided to Washington County by Tom Downs, owner of Downs Government Affairs LLC, based in Washington, D.C. Downs Government Affairs LLC partners with Aurora Strategic Advisors based in Minneapolis, and owned by Mike and Dawn Erlandson.

Washington County has been pleased with the services provided by the Downs and Erlandson team. They were successful in getting the St. Croix River Valley included in the Water Resources Development Act, a coveted place to be for future flood mitigation funding. They have also been shepherding several community funding projects through the new earmark process, which is now delayed until final appropriations in February 2022. Currently, they are working on a strategy to pursue funding for the Highway 36 and Manning interchange, and possible other transportation projects through the recently passed Infrastructure and Jobs Act.

Downs held its contract fee flat in 2021. Amendment No. 1 proposes a 5% increase in fee in 2022, for a total amount of \$63,000, and a 5% increase in 2023, for a total amount of \$66,150. The next two years are expected to be very active as the county targets federal funding for the Gold Line Bus Rapid Transit, and other funding pursuits.

Commissioner Karwoski moved to approve Amendment No. 1 to Contract 13079 with Downs Government Affairs LLC for federal lobbyist services, through December 31, 2024. Commissioner Miron seconded the motion, and it was adopted unanimously.

Greater MSP – Finalist in Build Back Better Regional Challenge

County Administrator Kevin Corbid reported that Greater MSP has been selected as a finalist in the U.S. Economic Development Administration's (EDA) \$1 billion Build Back Better Regional Challenge, a federal program within the American Rescue Plan that aims to boost economic pandemic recovery and rebuild American communities. Mr. Corbid stated that Greater MSP worked with regional partners to submit a proposal titled The Bold North BioInnovation Center. There were 529 total applications submitted, and Greater MSP was one of 60 selected to move onto Phase 2 of the process.

North Central Institute of Transportation Engineers (NCITE) Award

Public Works Director Don Theisen announced that County Traffic Coordinator Adam Bruening has been selected as NCITE Transportation Professional of the Year. Mr. Bruening was selected for his outstanding contributions to the organization and profession. Mr. Bruening has been leading the Traffic Operations & Maintenance Committee for more than 22 years, and is one of the original founders of the committee. Mr. Theisen commended Mr. Bruening's contributions to the profession, and added that he is also one of the people on scene when there are emergencies, such as a flooded road, or fallen traffic signal.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioners reported on meetings and other events they attended. Please see archived web streaming of the board meeting for full commissioner reports at www.co.washington.mn.us, under "County Board."

BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

Board correspondence was received and placed on file.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Kriesel moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Karwoski, and it was adopted unanimously. The County Board meeting adjourned at 11:21 a.m.

Attest:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin Corbid".

Kevin Corbid
County Administrator

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lisa Weik".

Lisa Weik
County Board Chair