

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA
FEBRUARY 22, 2022**

WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS CONVENES

The Washington County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 9:00 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, via WebEx
Stephanie Kammerud, Administrative Assistant

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

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

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

1. Approval of the February 1, 2022, and February 8, 2022, County Board meeting minutes.
2. Approval to appoint Howard Markus, Woodbury, to a partial first term beginning February 22, 2022, through December 31, 2024, as the Citizen Member on the Groundwater Advisory Committee.
3. Approval to appoint Mathias Baden, Woodbury, to a partial first term beginning February 22, 2022, and ending on December 31, 2023, as the District 5 Representative on the Historic Courthouse Advisory Committee.
4. Approval to appoint Mike Yanda, as the DEED Representative, for a first partial term beginning February 22, 2022, and ending on December 31, 2024, on the Workforce Development Board.

5. Approval to appoint Jodie Monson, Stillwater, to a partial first term beginning February 22, 2022, and ending on December 31, 2023, as the District 3 representative on the Community Corrections Advisory Board.
6. Approval to appoint Dave Olson and Lacy Levine, Cottage Grove, to partial first terms, as the District 4 Representatives on the Parks and Open Space Commission.
7. Approval to appoint Tom Bader, Stillwater, to a partial first term expiring December 31, 2023, as the District 3 Representative on the Historic Courthouse Advisory Committee.
8. Approval of **Resolution No. 2022-013** as follows:

**2022 DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY TO MAKE ELECTRONIC
FUNDS TRANSFERS TO THE DIRECTOR OF ACCOUNTING
AND FINANCE DEPARTMENT OR THEIR DESIGNEE**

WHEREAS, an electronic funds transfer is defined in Minnesota Statutes 471.38 as a process of value exchange via mechanical means without the use of checks, drafts, or similar negotiable instruments; and

WHEREAS, a local government is authorized to make electronic funds transfers if it meets the eligibility requirements in state law; and

WHEREAS, one of the requirements is for the governing body to annually delegate the authority to make electronic funds transfers to a designated business administrator or chief financial officer or the officer's designee; and

WHEREAS, the county desires to utilize electronic funds transfers as authorized by statute.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of County Commissioners of Washington County delegates the authority to make electronic funds transfers to its Accounting and Finance Director, or their designee, as allowed under Minnesota Statutes 471.38.

9. Approve the reclassification of Eligibility Specialist to Social Services Supervisor.
10. Approval of 2022-2023 Contract No. 14621 with Country Services Inc. to provide case management services for persons with developmental disabilities.
11. Approve the tentative agreement for the 2022-2023 collective bargaining agreement with LELS Local #215 Deputy Sheriff Sergeant's Unit.

12. Approval of **Resolution No. 2022-014** as follows:

LIBRARY DONATIONS

WHEREAS, Washington County gratefully accepts donations, gifts, and bequests from public and private sources to enhance the programs and services it provides; and

WHEREAS, any gift, donation, or bequest becomes the property of Washington County; and

WHEREAS, the Washington County Board is authorized to approve donations, gifts, and bequests.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve the donation in the amount of \$2,394.56 from the Friends of Lake Elmo Library for the Washington County Library.

13. Approval of an application for a 1-4 day Temporary On-Sale Liquor License from the Greater Stillwater Chamber of Commerce for a special event at the Washington County Fairgrounds on June 18, 2022.
14. Approval of an application for a 1-4 day Temporary On-Sale Liquor License from the VFW Post 323 for a special event at the Washington County Fairgrounds, June 3, 2022, through June 5, 2022.
15. Approval of an application for renewal of an On-Sale and Sunday Liquor License for the Stoneridge Golf Club, in West Lakeland Township.
16. Approval of an application for renewal of an On-Sale and Sunday Liquor License for VR US Holdings DBA Afton Alps, in Denmark Township.
17. Approval of **Resolution No. 2022-015** as follows:

RESOLUTION TO ACQUIRE RIGHT-OF-WAY FOR RECONSTRUCTION ON COUNTY ROAD 65 FROM COUNTY HIGHWAY 10 TO COUNTY HIGHWAY 14 IN WEST LAKELAND AND BAYTOWN TOWNSHIPS

BE IT RESOLVED that Washington County proceed to purchase the permanent right-of-way, permanent road easements, permanent drainage and utility easements, and temporary easements necessary to improve County Road 65 between County Highway 10 and County Highway 14 in Baytown Township and West Lakeland Township, as shown on the attached map; located in Washington County, Minnesota.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the officers of said County, including the County Engineer, the County Administrator and the County Attorney, shall proceed and are hereby authorized to proceed to acquire, by negotiations and purchase and if necessary, the exercise of eminent domain; right-of-way to establish said permanent right-of-way, permanent easements, and temporary construction easements. Such officers are specifically authorized to take such action and execute such instruments and plats if any be necessary, to acquire said right-of-way and associated easements.

18. Approval of an agreement between the State of Minnesota, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, and Washington County, to provide a trail connection to Brown's Creek State Trail on State property.
19. Approval of Contract No. 14602 with DKJ Appraisal LLC, to complete appraisals on properties adjacent to the County Road 65 Improvement Project in West Lakeland and Baytown Townships.
20. Approval of **Resolution No. 2022-016** as follows:

**GRANT CONTRACT AGREEMENT BETWEEN
THE MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
AND THE WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chair of the Washington County Board of Commissioners and the County Administrator are hereby authorized to execute and sign a grant agreement with the Minnesota Department of Public Safety for the 2022-2023 Sex Trafficking Investigations Program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Washington County Sheriff, Dan Starry, is hereby authorized to execute and sign this agreement and any amendments thereto, as are necessary to implement this agreement on behalf of the Washington County Sheriff's Office.

21. Approval of **Resolution No. 2022-017** as follows:

**SERVICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE WASHINGTON
COUNTY JAIL AND SUMMIT FOOD SERVICES LLC**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chair of the Washington County Board of Commissioners and the County Administrator are hereby authorized to execute and sign an agreement with Summit Food Services LLC to provide the Washington County Jail with professional food services.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Washington County Sheriff, Dan Starry, is hereby authorized to execute and sign this agreement and any amendments thereto, as are necessary to implement this agreement on behalf of the Washington County Sheriff's Office.

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

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Microsoft Software Licensing Contract

Information Technology Director Renee Heinbuch presented a contract with SHI International Corporation in the amount of \$2,696,786.16 for purchasing Microsoft software subscriptions under the Microsoft Software Licensing Enterprise Agreement. Microsoft will be increasing rates effective March 1st, and this contract renewal locks in the pricing for Washington County for three years, with an annual obligation of approximately \$900,000 per year.

Ms. Heinbuch reported that during the pandemic, the county upgraded the software which provided more extensive security and searchability. This upgrade included other improvements, such as thread intelligence; data identification, classification, and retention rules; encryption; mobile telephony; audio conferencing; and cloud app security.

Commissioner Kriesel moved to approve the contract with SHI International Corporation in the amount of \$2,696,786.16, for the period of February 1, 2022, through January 31, 2025. Commissioner Karwoski seconded the motion, and it was adopted unanimously.

PUBLIC HEALTH & ENVIRONMENT

Clean Harbors Environmental Services Contract

Public Health & Environment Community Health Senior Program Manager Jeff Travis presented an amendment to Contract No. 12158 between Washington County and Clean Harbors Environmental Services Inc. for household hazardous waste management services.

Mr. Travis reported that Washington County has operated a household hazardous waste (HHW) program since 1989. From 1994 to 2009, the county operated the program at the HHW facility in Oakdale, and in September 2009, opened the Environmental Center in Woodbury.

Mr. Travis introduced two Public Health & Environment (PHE) staff who manage the Environmental Center, Environmental Operations Coordinator Adam Frederick, and Senior Environmental Specialist Ashley Larson. They manage the contracts, monitor contractor performance, plan remote and shredding events, manage program data, ensure regulatory compliance, develop promotional materials, and provide tours. They also partner with internal departments on recycling, hazardous waste management, and the Divert 70 program, and assist the Department of Property Records and Taxpayer Services with tax-forfeited properties.

Mr. Travis provided 2021 program data:

- 65,637 participants at Environmental Center and remote events;
- 654,119 pounds of household hazardous waste collected;
- 25,375 gallons of used oil;
- 1,402,990 pounds of e-waste collected;
- 581,427 pounds of recyclables collected;
- 273,128 pounds of kitchen scraps collected;
- 242,360 pounds of shredded confidential paper collected;
- 720,830 pounds of paint collected, of which 39% reused as free product;
- 513,974 pounds of Free Product given back to community.

Mr. Travis reported that the county has contracted with Clean Harbors Environmental Services Inc. for more than eight years for services at the Environmental Center. Clean Harbors has provided the county with highly-trained staff who provide excellent customer service. In addition to HHW services, under this contract, Clean Harbors provides logistics and operations support to PHE for the county's Public Health Emergency Preparedness program, which has been a valuable service during the department's pandemic response.

The current contract began January 1, 2019, and ran for three years, with two one-year renewal options. The county seeks to exercise the renewal option and Clean Harbors has requested a labor rate increase of 7.5%, which is estimated at \$69,000 annually. This amendment will extend the term of the contract to December 31, 2022.

Commissioner Weik moved to approve Amendment No. 2 to Contract No. 12158 between Washington County and Clean Harbors Environmental Services Inc. for household hazardous waste management services. Commissioner Miron seconded the motion, and it was adopted unanimously.

Contract Amendment to Minnesota Department of Health Grant

Public Health & Environment Deputy Director Jill Timm presented an amendment to Contract No. 10676 with the Minnesota Department of Health. Ms. Timm reported that home visiting services provide relationship-based services to support and foster positive parents, physical and mental well-being, and connections to community supports and resources. Ms. Timm noted that the county's robust teams of nurses have also been critical to the county pandemic responses.

Washington County has been a recipient of the federal Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) Grant since 2013. The current grant award was scheduled to end on February 28, 2022. This non-competitive amendment is an extension of funding for the remainder of 2022. This grant award was originally the result of a competitive response to fund evidence-based home visiting. Evidence-based home visiting includes interventions and other prescribed service delivery elements that have been researched and proven to achieve positive outcomes for families facing significant stress.

The Department of Public Health & Environment (PHE) has implemented the Healthy Families America model (HFA) since 2007, serving approximately 90-100 families at any point in time. In 2022, using this extended funding, PHE is transitioning to the Maternal Early Childhood Sustained Home-visiting (MECSH) model. Once fully implemented, it is anticipated that 150 or more families will receive service at any time.

The transition to a new model is the result of a robust review of existing systems and business processes. The transition will allow for less administrative burden on nurses and supervisors doing the work, significantly reducing excessive documentation demands and resulting in more time to serve families. The focus with families shifts to "adapt and self-manage," promoting self-sufficiency and increased use of community resources and supports. Ultimately, this results in a greater capacity to serve more families in the community. The MECSH model also eliminates re-accreditation fees and demands, and relies on the state's model license. The transition to this model is in line with metropolitan and statewide partners and does not result in any funding loss.

The Minnesota Department of Health will issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) this spring for a five-year grant to start in 2023, replacing the MIECHV funding. This extension funding of the MIECHV grant will run through December 31, 2022.

Commissioner Weik moved to approve Amendment No. 4 to Grant Agreement No. 10676 with the Minnesota Department of Health in the amount of \$556,536, for a new grant total amount of \$2,022,191, through December 31, 2022. Commissioner Karwoski seconded the motion, and it was adopted unanimously.

PUBLIC WORKS

Resolution – Purchase Land in May Township for Big Marine Park Reserve

Public Works Parks Director Sandy Breuer presented a resolution to acquire approximately 80 acres of vacant land in May Township from Kelley Land and Cattle Company, for inclusion into Big Marine Park Reserve. The purchase of this property is consistent with the conditions set forth in the Big Marine Park Reserve Master Plan.

This request was initiated by the property owner, who advised the county of their interest in selling the property. An appraisal and updated appraisal were completed and reviewed by the County Board in executive session. This property was determined appropriate for inclusion into Big Marine Park Reserve and staff were directed to move forward and present an offer based on the appraisal. An offer was made to the property owner based on the appraisal and it was accepted.

The total purchase price of the property is \$1,268,900 and will be funded by the Land and Water Legacy Program (LWLP). A request will be made to the Metropolitan Council to reimburse the LWLP funds for 75% of the acquisition and costs in 2022.

Commissioner Miron moved to approve **Resolution No. 2022-018** as follows:

RESOLUTION TO PURCHASE 80 ACRES OF LAND ALONG 170TH STREET IN MAY TOWNSHIP FOR BIG MARINE PARK RESERVE

WHEREAS, Washington County is interested in acquiring the property described herein in May Township, Minnesota, for inclusion into Big Marine Park Reserve; and,

WHEREAS, the owners, Kelley Land and Cattle Company, agree to sell the property to the County.

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

The Southwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 5, Township 31 North, Range 20 West, Washington County Minnesota.

AND

The Southeast Quarter of Southeast Quarter of Section 6, Township 31 North, Range 20 West, Washington County, Minnesota.

Subject to existing easements of record.

For the sum of \$1,268,900.

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

Contract for County State Aid Highway 19 at Indian Boulevard Safety Improvement Project

Public Works Design Engineer Frank Ticknor presented a construction contract with Max Steininger Inc. for the County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 19 at Indian Boulevard Turn Lane Project.

This safety improvement project is on CSAH 19 (Keats Avenue North) at Indian Boulevard in the City of Cottage Grove. This project will replace the existing northbound bypass lane with a dedicated left-turn lane allowing left turning vehicles to turn outside of the through lane of traffic. This project is eligible and will be funded by transportation sales tax.

Commissioner Johnson moved to award the bid and authorize execution of Contract No. 14594 in the amount of \$695,129.76 with Max Steininger Inc. for the County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 19 at Indian Boulevard Turn Lane Project. Commissioner Miron seconded the motion, and it was adopted unanimously.

Contracts and Cooperative Agreements for County State Aid Highway 13 Pavement and Safety Improvement Project

Public Works Engineer II Andrew Giesen presented a construction contract and cooperative agreements for the County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 13 Phase 2 Pavement Management and Safety Improvement Project. This project is identified as RB-2623 in the Capital Improvement Plan. This project is the second phase of a larger project to improve the CSAH 13 corridor between CSAH 14 (34th Street) and 50th Street. This is a border road between the cities of Lake Elmo and Oakdale.

This project will be funded 85% by the county (highway state aid funds), 8% by the City of Oakdale, and 7% by the City of Lake Elmo.

Commissioner Karwoski moved to award the bid to and authorize execution of Contract No. 14598 in the amount of \$4,321,910.13 with Park Construction Company for the CSAH 13 Pavement and Safety Improvement Project. Commissioner Kriesel seconded the motion, and it was adopted unanimously.

Commissioner Kriesel moved to approve Cooperative Cost Agreement No. 14179 and Cooperative Maintenance Agreement No. 14180 between the City of Lake Elmo and Washington County for the CSAH 13 Pavement and Safety Improvement Project. Commissioner Karwoski seconded the motion, and it was adopted unanimously.

Commissioner Karwoski moved to approve Cooperative Cost Agreement No. 14181 and Cooperative Maintenance Agreement No. 14182 between the City of Oakdale and Washington County for the CSAH 13 Pavement and Safety Improvement Project. Commissioner Kriesel seconded the motion, and it was adopted unanimously.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Resolution - Land and Water Legacy Program Conservation Easement

Senior Planner June Mathiowetz presented a resolution to approve a Land and Water Legacy Program contribution for purchase of a conservation easement on 129 acres of the Science Museum of Minnesota's property in May Township, the final conservation easement, and authorization for the Board Chair and Administrator to execute related document.

Washington County and the Minnesota Land Trust (MLT) will place a co-held permanent conservation easement on 129 acres of high-quality rolling terrain with hardwood trees, restored tall grass prairie, tamarack swamp, fens, wetlands, ponds, and stream along the St. Croix River on the Science Museum of Minnesota's St. Croix Watershed Research Station. The appraised value of this property is \$2.2 million. Each party will contribute \$1,108,500, 50% of the conservation easement value.

This parcel is in northern Washington County in May Township, approximately one-half mile south of the City of Marine on St. Croix. It is close to William O'Brien State Park, Square Lake Regional Park, Wilder Forest, and Warner Nature Center.

According to the County Land and Water Legacy Program criteria, the project ranks Very High for its location on the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway; High for habitat quality; and High for its water bodies including ponds, springs, perennial streams and unique wetland systems. It hosts approximately 9,100 feet of shoreline, including 1,500 feet of frontage on the St. Croix River and 3,000 feet on Spring Creek. The property hosts an array of wildlife including endangered, threatened, and species of special concern, on or within a mile of the property.

The project will protect drinking water through highly permeable soils, upland depressional areas and recharge wetlands that clean and continuously recharge ground water aquifers. Habitat and connectivity will also be protected through an important natural corridor of intact riverway, wetlands, wooded lands and grasslands resulting in more functional habitat for a wide variety of species. The open and natural character of the property provides scenic views enjoyed by the general public from Minnesota Highway 95/St. Croix Trail North and the backwaters of the St. Croix River. The property has a long history as a research site and beneficiary of ongoing quality stewardship by the Research Station staff.

The Phase I Environmental Assessment has been completed, debris has been removed from the property, and closing is scheduled in March 2022. Final easement terms include no change in allowable uses: limited residential use and restricted structures; no division; no mining; limited commercial and agriculture use; existing trails, roads, dock, structures; one additional dock/boat lift; vegetation management in alignment with management plan; hunting; and low-impact recreational activities, such as hiking, cross-country, skiing, and research.

Commissioner Miron moved to approve **Resolution No. 2022-019** as follows:

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE A LAND AND WATER LEGACY
PROGRAM PURCHASE OF A CONSERVATION EASEMENT ON
THE SCIENCE MUSEUM OF MINNESOTA'S PROPERTY
IN MAY TOWNSHIP**

WHEREAS, pursuant to Minnesota Statute Chapter 84C and Minnesota Statutes Sections 373.40 and 394.25, Washington County is authorized to acquire and improve land and interests in land for the purposes of preserving open space, including natural and scenic areas and agricultural land; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes Section 103A.201, which specifically promotes the protection of wetlands, and Minnesota Statutes Section 103A.202, which specifically declares that it is in the public interest to preserve the wetlands of this state to conserve surface waters, maintain and improve water quality, preserve wildlife habitat, reduce runoff, provide for floodwater retention, reduce stream sedimentation, contribute to improved subsurface moisture, and enhance the natural beauty of the landscape; and

WHEREAS, Washington County has enacted the Acquisition of Development Rights Ordinance #175 to establish a program for the preservation of open space, parks and public water, commonly referred to as the Land and Water Legacy Program and has established the policies, rules and official controls governing such acquisitions; and

WHEREAS, Washington County issues general obligation bonds to provide long-term stable funding to acquire land and interests in land for conservation purposes pursuant to the passage of the November 2006 Ballot Question: Preservation of Water Quality, Woodlands and Other Natural Areas; and

WHEREAS, Washington County has determined that the subject property referred to as The Science Museum of Minnesota's St. Croix Watershed Research Station Property (or "Property"), legally described in the attached "Exhibit A" and incorporated by reference into this resolution, meets the requirements of the Land and Water Legacy Program and that the Washington County Board of Commissioners considers the proposed land to merit protection; and

WHEREAS, Washington County and the Minnesota Land Trust seek to purchase a conservation easement over the Property as co-holders of the conservation easement; and

WHEREAS, On February 8, 2022, the Science Museum of Minnesota signed an Option Agreement, authorizing Washington County and the Minnesota Land Trust to purchase a conservation easement over the Property; and

WHEREAS, the Option Agreement states that Washington County and the Minnesota Land Trust will each send a formal letter indicating their intent to exercise the Option Agreement to the Science Museum of Minnesota, on or before March 31, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Washington County and the Minnesota Land Trust have expressed a desire to formally exercise the Option Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the natural features of this property will be stewarded according to a Habitat Management Plan approved by the County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Washington County Board of Commissioners approves a Land and Water Legacy Program contribution of \$1,108,500 toward the purchase of a conservation easement on The Science Museum of Minnesota's property as part of a financial partnership with the Minnesota Land Trust; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Washington County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes its Chairperson and Administrator to execute on behalf of the County all documents necessary to complete the purchase of a conservation easement on The Science Museum of Minnesota's property, including the signing of the formal Option Exercise Letter and all necessary closing documents.

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

Legislative Updates

Deputy County Administrator Jan Lucke reported on federal legislative updates. Last week was the National Association of Counties (NACo) Legislative Conference, which was attended by Commissioners Johnson, Karwoski, and Weik. Commissioners re-enforced Washington County's request for 2022 funding for nearly \$240 million in Capital Investment Grant funds from the Federal Transit Administration for the Gold Line Bus Rapid Transit Project, federal funding for the Highway 36/Lake Elmo Avenue interchange, and a joint request with the City of Cottage Grove for the realignment of County Road 19A and 100th Street to serve a rapidly growing business park in the southern part of the county.

Ms. Lucke reported that the courts released redistricting boundaries last week. District 2, currently held by U.S. Representative Angie Craig, has a greater portion of Washington County, stretching as far north as the cities of Newport and Woodbury. District 4, currently held by U.S. Rep. Betty McCollum, continues to stretch to the St. Croix River. The biggest change is District 6, currently held by U.S. Rep. Tom Emmer, which retreats to the west, withdrawing from Washington County, and District 8, currently held by U.S. Rep. Pete Stauber, stretches to the south into Washington County. In summary, Washington County's representation in Congress will include Districts 2, 4 and 8, currently held by representatives Craig, McCollum, and Stauber, in addition to senators Amy Klobuchar and Tina Smith.

Ms. Lucke introduced Larkin Hoffman Government Relations Director Margaret Vesel to report on state legislative updates.

Ms. Vesel reported that redistricting was announced on February 15th and will be the cause for movements and retirements within the Legislature. The legislative session began on January 31st and the House has had several hearings. The February forecast will be announced next week and Minnesota is facing a historic biennial budget surplus of approximately \$8 billion. There is also \$1.5 billion of ARPA funds that the Legislature and Governor agreed to set aside for the 2022 legislative session for the Legislature to decide how to distribute. This is the second year of the biennium session, which typically is reserved for bonding and policy. This is a historic election year, as all of the 201 legislators are on the ballot, as well as the executive branch and the constitutional officers. The first bill deadline is March 25th, the second is April 1st, and the third is April 8th. The Legislature will be on break beginning April 9th and will return on April 18th. The Legislative Session ends on May 23rd.

COVID-19 Update

County Administrator Kevin Corbid announced that staff was notified that effective February 28th, guidance on mask wearing in county facilities will be changing from required to recommended.

Public Health and Environment Director David Brummel informed the board that the COVID-19 case rate in Minnesota and Washington County continues to drop, and Washington County currently has 320 cases. New hospital admissions have dropped, and there is an increase in open hospital beds.

Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) Board of Directors

County Administrator Kevin Corbid requested a board action to appoint a commissioner as an alternate on the AMC Board of Directors. Commissioner Karwoski currently serves as the delegate for the AMC Board of Directors, and Commissioner Johnson has offered to serve as alternate. Commissioner Miron moved to appoint Commissioner Johnson as alternate. Commissioner Kriesel seconded the motion, and it was adopted unanimously.

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 Karwoski moved to adjourn. Commissioner Weik seconded the motion, and it was adopted unanimously. The County Board meeting adjourned at 11:32 a.m.

BOARD WORKSHOP WITH PUBLIC WORKS

The Board met in workshop session for an update on the status of the METRO Gold Line construction and options to advance work. Present for the workshop were Commissioners Johnson, Weik, Miron, Karwoski, and Kriesel. Also present were Kevin Corbid, Jan Lucke, Jennifer Wagenius, county staff, and outside agencies.

BOARD WORKSHOP WITH PUBLIC WORKS

The Board met in workshop session for a review of county-owned transit facilities. Present for the workshop were Commissioners Johnson, Weik, Miron, Karwoski, and Kriesel. Also present were Kevin Corbid, Jan Lucke, Jennifer Wagenius, county staff, and outside agencies.

Attest:

Kevin Corbid

Kevin Corbid
County Administrator

Wayne A. Johnson

Wayne A. Johnson
County Board Chair