



**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA
MARCH 1, 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 Wayne Johnson, District 4
Commissioner Lisa Weik, District 5

Absent: Commissioner Gary Kriesel, District 3

Also Present: Kevin Corbid, County Administrator
Susan Tice, County Attorney Civil Division Chief
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 Miron moved, seconded by Commissioner Karwoski, to adopt the Consent Calendar as follows:

1. Set a public hearing on April 19, 2022, to consider plans for redistricting of county commissioner and soil and water conservation districts in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, Section 375.01 to 375.025 and 103C.311.
2. Approval of Contract No. 14637 with Rise to provide Day Support Services (formerly known as Day Training and Habilitation) and other related services for persons with disabilities, for the period of January 1, 2022, through December 31, 2023.
3. Approval of the plat of John See Estates.

4. Approval of **Resolution No. 2022-020** as follows:

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING SUBMITTAL OF APPLICATION
TO THE MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL
RESOURCES NO CHILD LEFT INSIDE GRANT PROGRAM FOR
THE PURCHASE OF ARCHERY EQUIPMENT AND
INSTRUCTOR TRAINING**

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) No Child Left Inside Grant aims to support and increase efforts to expand programming that connects youth to the outdoors; and

WHEREAS, the No Child Left Inside Grant will be distributed by the DNR; and

WHEREAS, Washington County parks focuses on providing outdoor experiences to all Washington County residents; and

WHEREAS, Washington County has recently supported the addition of a parks program coordinator focusing on equity; and

WHEREAS, studies have found a growing disconnect between youth and the outdoors; and

WHEREAS, Washington County is proposing to submit a grant funding request to the Minnesota DNR's No Child Left Inside Grant in an amount not to exceed \$8,0000; and

WHEREAS, Washington County is required to provide a 1:1 match for costs associated with the grant in an amount not to exceed \$8,000.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Washington County Board of Commissioners authorizes submittal of the application listed above for funding under the Minnesota DNR No Child Left Inside Grant Program.

5. Approval of Contract Amendment No. 2 of Contract No. 13983 with TKDA in the amount of \$28,439.22 for the St Croix Bluffs Regional Park Conference Cottage Project.
6. Approval of Contract No. 14626 with Kraft Mechanical, LLC in the amount of \$279,642 for the construction services for the Service Center Controls Replacement project.

The motion was adopted 4-0 with a Roll Call vote as follows: Ayes, Commissioners Miron, Karwoski, Weik, and Johnson. Nays, none.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Federal and State Legislative Updates

Deputy County Administrator Jan Lucke reported that yesterday the Gold Line Project office submitted its application for a full funding grant agreement from the Federal Transit Administration Capital Investment Grant Program. This application has been in the making for more than a decade and has reached this milestone faster than any other transitway in the region.

Ms. Lucke reported that the County Board met with U.S. Representative Betty McCollum virtually last week, outlining several federal funding requests this board is leading or supporting in 2022. The county's requests were very well received and support was pledged for every item. One of the projects highlighted in the meeting with Rep. McCollum is the Highway 8 Reconstruction Project, which is an important interregional corridor that serves a variety of transportation needs. Washington County is home to a one-mile segment of Highway 8 near Forest Lake. Ms. Lucke presented a draft letter of support for Chisago County's application for federal funding through the United States Department of Transportation's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant to make safety and mobility improvements in the Highway 8 corridor. Commissioners were in support of sending the letter.

For state legislative updates, Ms. Lucke requested to include a potential addition to Washington County's legislative platform. Ms. Lucke stated that included in the board packet is a one-page summary of a potential request for \$7.5 million in state funds, which would comprise 50% of the total funds needed to construct a new Northern Environmental Center. It would provide a drop-off location for household hazardous waste and recyclables. The facility will serve residents in northern Washington County, and through reciprocal use agreements, residents in neighboring counties. Commissioners were in support of adding this request.

Ms. Lucke reported that the Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) Legislative Conference is this week, March 2 – 3, 2022. Commissioners Johnson and Karwoski are planning to attend, as well as she is, and County Administrator Kevin Corbid, and Public Works Director Wayne Sandberg.

COVID-19 Update

Public Health & Environment Director David Brummel reported that on Friday, February 25th, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) rolled out updated COVID-19 Community Level metrics to guide individual and community level COVID-19 prevention strategies. Community Levels are ranked Low, Medium, and High. The new metrics were developed using 18 months of data from the COVID-19 pandemic, which assessed trends in cases, hospital capacity, and illness. Based on this data review, the new metrics place a focus on reducing medically significant illness and minimizing the ongoing strain on the healthcare system. Changes are based on high levels of vaccination and high levels of population immunity from vaccine and infections that have greatly reduced the risk of medically significant disease, hospitalization, and death for most people.

The new metrics are based on three indicators: new COVID-19 hospital admissions per 100,000 population in the past seven days; percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied by COVID-19 patients; and total new COVID-19 cases per 100,000 population in the past seven days.

Mr. Brummel stated that Washington County is currently in the Low level. Prevention strategies for Low level are to stay up-to-date with COVID-19 vaccines and get tested if you have symptoms. The same strategies follow Medium level, and, in addition, if a person is at high risk for severe illness, they should talk to their healthcare provider about whether they need to wear a mask and take other precautions. High level should follow the same prevention strategies as Low and Medium, with the addition of wearing a mask indoors in public.

Regardless of COVID-19 Community Level, a person should wear a mask if they have symptoms of COVID-19, a positive COVID-19 test, or exposure to someone with COVID-19. The Mask Travel Guidance is still in place until March 18th. Mr. Brummel also encouraged those who feel more comfortable wearing a mask in public situations to continue to do so.

County Administrator Kevin Corbid stated that the county will continue to support individual employee's decisions to mask or not to wear a mask. The county will continue to provide masks for employees and for the public to wear if they choose to.

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

No board correspondence was received.

EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION – HUMAN RESOURCES

Commissioner Weik moved to move into Executive (closed) Session. Commissioner Karwoski seconded the motion, and it was adopted unanimously.

The Board met in Executive (closed) Session, the time being 10:09 a.m., to discuss labor relations strategy, pursuant to Minnesota Statute Section 13D.03, Subd. 1(a). Present for the Executive Session were Commissioners Weik, Karwoski, Johnson, and Miron, Kevin Corbid, Jan Lucke, Jennifer Wagenius, Sheriff Dan Starry, Chief Deputy Doug Anschutz, Human Resources Director Angie Nalezny, and Human Resources Deputy Director Paula Graff.

The Executive Session closed at 11:10 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Miron moved to adjourn. Commissioner Karwoski seconded the motion, and it was adopted unanimously. The County Board meeting adjourned at 11:13 a.m.

BOARD WORKSHOP WITH ADMINISTRATION

The Board met in workshop session to consider a new Land and Water Legacy Program project on the Mississippi Dunes in Cottage Grove. Present for the workshop were Commissioners Johnson, Weik, Miron, and Karwoski. Also present were Kevin Corbid, Jan Lucke, Jennifer Wagenius, and county staff.

BOARD WORKSHOP WITH ADMINISTRATION

The Board met in workshop session to review the newly established state and congressional legislative districts. Present for the workshop were Commissioners Johnson, Weik, Miron, and Karwoski. Also present were Kevin Corbid, Jan Lucke, Jennifer Wagenius, and county staff.

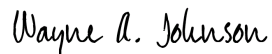
BOARD WORKSHOP WITH ADMINISTRATION

The Board met in workshop session to discuss 2023 budget development, guidelines, and principles. Present for the workshop were Commissioners Johnson, Weik, Miron, and Karwoski. Also present were Kevin Corbid, Jan Lucke, Jennifer Wagenius, and county staff.

Attest:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kevin Corbid".

Kevin Corbid
County Administrator

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Wayne A. Johnson".

Wayne A. Johnson
County Board Chair