

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA
JANUARY 21, 2025**

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 Bethany Cox, District 3
Commissioner Karla Bigham, District 4
Commissioner Michelle Clasen, District 5

Also Present: Kevin Corbid, County Administrator
John Ristad, Assistant County Attorney Division Chief
Stephanie Kammerud, Administrative Assistant

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

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

CONSENT CALENDAR

Commissioner Bigham moved, seconded by Commissioner Clasen, to adopt the Consent Calendar as follows:

1. Approval of the January 7, 2025, County Board meeting minutes.
2. Approval to appoint Mr. Tim Hatten to a partial term on the Mental Health Advisory Council LAC as a District 3 Representative beginning January 22, 2025, and expiring December 31, 2026.
3. Approval to appoint Nathaniel Smith to a first term on the Community Development Block Grant Advisory Committee as a Private Sector Representative beginning January 22, 2025, and expiring December 31, 2027.
4. Approval to remove Commissioner Bigham from MELSA Board as the member for Washington County and appoint Commissioner Clasen as the member to the MELSA Board for Washington County.
5. Approve Amendment No. 1 to Contract No. 15238 with Securitas Technology to extend the period of the contract through June 30, 2025.

6. Approve Agreement No. 17107 between Washington County and the City of Oak Park Heights Police Department to embed a social worker with law enforcement from February 1, 2025, through January 31, 2027.
7. Approve Program & Rewards Administrative Agreement Between Washington County and HealthPartners Inc. for HealthPartners Health & Wellbeing Solutions and Employee Assistance Program (EAP) Services.
8. Approve Purchase Order No. 27800 with SHI in the amount of \$2,791,225.80 for the period of February 1, 2025, through January 31, 2028.
9. Set a public hearing on February 18, 2025, to submit the Washington County Groundwater Plan 2025-2035 Draft to the Metropolitan Council, State Agencies, and the Board of Water and Soil Resource for final review.
10. Approve licenses for the use of real property in the cities of Mahtomedi and Stillwater for the collection of household hazardous waste, and authorize execution by the Board Chair and County Administrator.
11. Approve Contract No. 17058 with Metre Inc. for the period of March 1, 2025, through July 16, 2026, to provide graphic design, marketing, and advertising services.
12. Approve Joint Powers Agreement between Scott County and Washington County to join a fleet management system consortium.
13. Approve Amendment No. 1 to Lease Agreement No. 16603 with the Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix Watershed District to lease office space at the Public Works North Shop location, through June 30, 2025.

The motion was adopted with a Roll Call vote as follows: Ayes, Commissioners Miron, Cox, Bigham, Clasen, and Karwoski. Nays, none.

Commissioner Miron moved to adjust the order on the agenda, to present Public Works item 5 first, then Attorney's Office item 4 after. Commissioner Clasen seconded the motion, and it was adopted.

PUBLIC WORKS

Resolution for Cooperative Agreement with Minnesota Department of Transportation

Ryan Hoefs, Engineer II, presented a resolution to enter into Cooperative Agreement No. 1058637 with the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for construction of the 58th Street Extension/County Highway 15 South Segment. Mr. Hoefs reported that this agreement is between Washington County, the City of Stillwater, and MnDOT. It will ultimately connect Manning Avenue with Stillwater Boulevard on the south side of Trunk Highway (TH) 36, including constructing a new section of the Central Greenway Regional Trail.

Mr. Hoefs reported the agreement will authorize the county to perform tree clearing and grading work. This will allow the tree clearing work ahead of the summer roosting season for the northern long-eared bats. Mr. Hoefs reported that early tree clearing and grading will allow the City of Stillwater to construct utility extensions under TH 36 and allow private utilities to be constructed beneath the future roadway, without impacting the road base. This agreement will also identify the easement transfer from MnDOT to Washington County upon completion.

Commissioner Cox moved to adopt **Resolution No. 2025-004** as follows:

**RESOLUTION FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY TO ENTER INTO
MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (MNDOT)
AGREEMENT NO. 1058637**

WHEREAS, Washington County has been planning for a frontage road to bridge the gap along County Road 15, on the south side of Trunk Highway (TH) 36, and

WHEREAS, this work will encroach within an existing MnDOT highway easement along the south side of TH 36, and

WHEREAS, Cooperative Agreement No. 1058637 will provide the County authorization to work within the MnDOT highway easement for grading and tree clearing activities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Washington County enter into MnDOT Agreement No. 1058637 with the State of Minnesota, Department of Transportation for the following purposes:

To provide for grading of a frontage road, with its 58th Street Extension/County Highway 15 South Segment project, along and adjacent to the south side of Trunk Highway No. 36 from Manning Avenue to a point 1600 feet to the east, under State Project No. 8204-93.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Board Chair and the County Administrator are authorized to execute the Agreement and any amendments to the Agreement.

Commissioner Miron seconded the motion, and it was adopted with a Roll Call vote as follows: Ayes, Commissioners Miron, Cox, Bigham, Clasen, and Karwoski. Nays, none.

ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

Resolution for Human Trafficking Awareness Month

County Attorney Kevin Magnuson presented a resolution to recognize January 2025 as National Human Trafficking Awareness Month. Human trafficking harms the welfare of communities, and county staff, along with community partners, have been working collaboratively for many years to fight this damaging crime in Washington County communities.

Commissioner Bigham moved to adopt **Resolution No. 2025-005** as follows:

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF JANUARY 2025
BEING NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING
AWARENESS MONTH**

WHEREAS, Washington County and its staff wishes to recognize that human trafficking of individuals is a problem in the community, affecting residents; and

WHEREAS, human trafficking is affecting residents, especially youth, throughout the county; and

WHEREAS, Washington County leadership has acknowledged that this is a community crisis that requires staff and resources to counter its negative impact; and

WHEREAS, the East Metro Human Trafficking Task Force in 2024 pursued 121 cases and tips, and charged 12 persons with human trafficking related offenses; and

WHEREAS, the East Metro Human Trafficking Task Force investigated 25 cases involving juveniles and juvenile runaways; and

WHEREAS, the task force will continue to make arrests following operations using advertisements that present people posing as minors to solicit those seeking to have sex with an underage person as well as focus on juvenile runaways; and

WHEREAS, the Washington County Board of Commissioners recognizes that community awareness is a major component of countering the negative impact that human trafficking has on the community; and

WHEREAS, the County Board wishes to encourage community-wide recognition of the matter of human trafficking and the ways in which community members may combat its prevalence.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington County Board of Commissioners recognizes January 2025 as National Human Trafficking Awareness Month; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Board wishes to encourage residents to learn about the matter in their community and work toward its elimination.

Commissioner Clasen seconded the motion, and it was adopted with a Roll Call vote as follows: Ayes, Commissioners Miron, Cox, Bigham, Clasen, and Karwoski. Nays, none.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

2024 4th Quarter Donations

County Administrator Kevin Corbid presented a resolution to accept donations for the 4th quarter of 2024.

Commissioner Miron moved to adopt **Resolution No. 2025-006** as follows:

2024 4th QUARTER DONATIONS, GIFTS, AND BEQUESTS

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 of Commissioners is authorized to approve donations, gifts, and bequests on a quarterly basis.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Washington County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve donations and gifts of \$6,430.56 for the fourth quarter of 2024.

Commissioner Cox seconded the motion, and it was adopted with a Roll Call vote as follows: Ayes, Commissioners Miron, Cox, Bigham, Clasen, and Karwoski. Nays, none.

Legislative Updates

Deputy County Administrator Jan Lucke presented two updates to the legislative platform, which was adopted on January 7, 2025. Ms. Lucke reported that for the Cottage Grove Ravine Regional Park Trail Lighting, the financial impacts were updated to fully capture the county's in-kind or matching fund contributions. Since the financial support request has not changed, no board action is needed.

Ms. Lucke reported that the second item is a change in the funding request for the State Bonding for Metropolitan Regional Park System. The 10 implementing agencies have increased their request from \$15 million to \$20 million. Therefore, Washington County will modify its position, and this change will be brought for board approval at the next meeting.

Ms. Lucke noted that the legislative reception will be January 29 from 6:00-7:30 p.m. at the Oakdale Discovery Center, and that commissioners have been meeting with legislators to discuss the county's funding requests.

Ms. Lucke reported that staff met with the Downs Government Affairs team regarding the FY2025 Community Project Funding requests. Tom Downs and Mike Erlandson believe FY2025 appropriations bills will be reintroduced as is with the Community Project Funding requests, and have suggested that county staff begin planning Community Project Funding requests for FY2026.

Ms. Lucke provided a potential resolution to endorse Federal legislation to reimburse body armor costs for all emergency responders. This item will be brought forward for consideration and discussion at the next board meeting.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioners reported on meetings and other events they attended. Please see archived livestreaming of the board meeting for full commissioner reports on the county's website washingtontcountymn.gov under "County Board of Commissioners."

BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

No board correspondence was received.

EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION

Commissioner Miron moved to move into Executive (closed) session. Commissioner Cox seconded the motion, and it was adopted unanimously.

The Board met in Executive (closed) attorney/client session, pursuant to Minnesota Statute 13D.05, Subd. 3(b), to discuss active litigation *Evans v. Washington County*, the time being 10:08 a.m. Present for the Executive session were Commissioners Miron, Karwoski, Cox, Bigham, and Clasen, and Kevin Corbid, Jan Lucke, Jennifer Wagenius, Angie Nalezny, Julie Sorrem, Kevin Magnuson, John Ristad, and Jeff Hentges and Vicki Hruby from MCIT.

The Executive session closed at 11:31 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Miron moved to adjourn. Commissioner Clasen seconded the motion, and it was adopted.

The County Board meeting adjourned at 11:33 a.m.

Attest:

Kevin Corbid

Kevin Corbid
County Administrator

Stan Karwoski

Stan Karwoski
County Board Chair