

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA
MAY 6, 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.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Miron moved to approve the County Board meeting agenda for May 6, 2025. Commissioner Cox seconded the motion, and it was approved.

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

1. Approval of the April 15, 2025, and April 22, 2025, County Board meeting minutes.
2. Approval to appoint Brian McCoy to a partial term on the Board of Adjustment and Appeals/Planning Advisory Committee as a District 5 Representative starting May 7, 2025, and expiring December 31, 2025.
3. Approval to appoint Jeanie Strohfus to a partial term on the Washington County Extension Committee as a District 4 Representative starting May 7, 2025, and expiring December 31, 2026.

4. Approval of Amendment No. 1 to Grant Contract No. 15753 with the Minnesota Department of Human Services to extend the grant term and add \$700,000 in funds for the term of July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2027.
5. Approve updated Grant Contract No. 17341 with the Minnesota Department of Children, Youth and Families for Fraud Prevention Investigation funding in the amount of \$295,258 for a term of July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2027.
6. Approval of **Resolution No. 2025-041** as follows:

LIBRARY DONATION

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 \$30,000 from the Anonymous Donor for the Washington County Library.

7. Authorize the withdrawal of \$11,033.00 from the Marine on St. Croix Library Jordan Bequest Fund to be transferred to the Marine Library Association to support library services to the Marine on St. Croix area.
8. Approval of an application for renewal of an On-Sale and Sunday Liquor License for the Outing Lodge in Stillwater Township.
9. Approval of an application for a 1-4 day Temporary On-Sale Liquor License from the Greater Stillwater Chamber of Commerce for the Annual Food Truck Extravaganza on June 14, 2025, at the Washington County Fairgrounds, 12300 N. 40th Street, in Baytown Township.
10. Approval of **Resolution No. 2025-042** as follows:

RESOLUTION APPROVING AN APPLICATION TO CONDUCT OFF-SITE GAMBLING FOR BAYPORT AMERICAN LEGION POST 491

WHEREAS, an application has been received from the Bayport American Legion Post 491 to conduct off-site gambling (Pull-Tabs) activities on September 20, 2025, during the Yellow Ribbon Randy Kopesky Field of

Bands event at the Washington County Fairgrounds located at 12300 N. 40th Street, Lake Elmo, Minnesota in Baytown Township; and

WHEREAS, Minn. Stat. 349.165 requires the permit to be approved by the County Board of Commissioners by resolution and remitted to the Minnesota Gambling Control Board for their consideration.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Washington County Board of Commissioners accepts the application to conduct off-site gambling, pull tabs, from the Bayport American Legion Post 491 at the Washington County Fairgrounds located at 12300 N. 40th Street, Lake Elmo, Minnesota in Baytown Township, and for it to be remitted to the Minnesota Gambling Control Board for their consideration.

11. Approval of an application for a 1-4 day Temporary On-Sale Liquor License from the Washington County Agricultural Society during the Washington County Fair, July 30, 2025, through August 2, 2025, at the Washington County Fairgrounds, 12300 N. 40th Street, Stillwater, Minnesota in Baytown Township.
12. Approval of an application for a 1-4 day Temporary On-Sale Liquor License from the Washington County Agricultural Society during the Washington County Fair, August 3, 2025, at the Washington County Fairgrounds, 12300 N. 40th Street, Stillwater, Minnesota in Baytown Township.
13. Approval of **Resolution No. 2025-043** as follows:

**AFTON BAYPORT LAKELAND LIONS CLUB
LAWFUL GAMBLING EXEMPTION RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, Afton Bayport Lakeland Lions Club has made an application to the Minnesota Gambling Control Board for the exemption from certain requirements contained in Minnesota Statute 349.166 sub.1, in order to conduct bingo at the Washington County Fairgrounds, 12300 - 40th Street North, Lake Elmo, Minnesota 55042. The event will take place during the Washington County Fair from July 30, 2025, through August 3, 2025; and

WHEREAS, Baytown Township has been notified that the organization is applying for an exempted gambling activity within the township limits; and

WHEREAS, the Gambling Control Board requires acknowledgement by the County for a gambling permit located in a township.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington County Board of Commissioners does not oppose issuance of exemption consistent with the application and further acknowledges the exempt permit may be granted with no waiting period.

14. Approval of **Resolution No. 2025-044** as follows:

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE
INTO AN AGREEMENT FOR
CLEAN WATER PARTNERSHIP LOAN PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, Washington County currently operates a low interest loan program for septic and well replacements; and

WHEREAS, demand remains high for providing additional loans to eligible property owners; and

WHEREAS, the Washington County Board adopted a resolution (2025-018) on March 11, 2025, to apply for the Clean Water Partnership Loan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Washington County Board of Commissioners that it hereby designates the Director of Public Health and Environment, or other staff as delegated, as Project Representative for the implementation of the Washington County Subsurface Sewage Treatment Systems (SSTS) Loans project. The Project Representative, or their delegate, shall have the authority to represent Washington County in all Project matters that do not specifically require action by the Board.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Washington County Board of Commissioners that, as Project Sponsor and a Loan Sponsor, the County enters into the attached Minnesota Clean Water Partnership Project Loan Agreement along with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency to conduct the Washington County SSTS Loans project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Washington County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the Minnesota Clean Water Partnership Project Loan Agreement for the above referenced Project is approved and executed by the Washington County Board of Commissioners.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Washington County Board of Commissioners that, the Director of Public Health and Environment be authorized to execute loan disbursement requests for the above referenced project to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency on behalf of the Organization.

15. Approval of **Resolution No. 2025-045** as follows:

ACCEPTING THE OFFER OF THE MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY TO PURCHASE A TAXABLE GENERAL OBLIGATION WATER REVENUE NOTE, SERIES 2025, IN THE ORIGINAL AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF \$750,000 AND PROVIDING FOR ITS ISSUANCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH A CLEAN WATER PARTNERSHIP LOAN AGREEMENT

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners (the “Board”) of Washington County, Minnesota (the “County”), as follows:

Section 1. Recitals.

(a) The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (the “MPCA”) is authorized pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Sections 103F.701 through 103F.755, as amended (the “Clean Water Partnership Law”), to provide loans to political subdivisions of the State of Minnesota (the “State”) to fund eligible costs of the construction of facilities to protect and improve surface and ground water in the State through its Clean Water Partnership Loan Program (the “Program”).

(b) The County is authorized by the Clean Water Partnership Law to borrow money from the MPCA for certain eligible activities and to issue its general obligation notes or other obligations for the purpose evidencing its obligation to repay such a loan. The County has applied for a loan from the MPCA pursuant to the Program (the “Loan”) to finance upgrades to non-compliant subsurface sewage treatment systems in the County (the “Project”).

(c) The MPCA has offered to make the Loan to the County in the amount of \$750,000 or so much as is to be disbursed and repaid in accordance with the terms of the Clean Water Partnership Loan Agreement (the “Project Loan Agreement”) between the County and the MPCA, in substantially the form now on file with the County Administrator and attached hereto as EXHIBIT A. The Project Loan Agreement, as executed by the County and MPCA, is incorporated herein by reference.

(d) The County is authorized to issue its obligations pursuant to the Clean Water Partnership Law, Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 475, as amended, and Minnesota Statutes, Section 115.46, as amended (collectively, the “Act”), for the purpose of financing the construction of the Project.

(e) In accordance with Section 475.60, subdivision 2(4) of the Act, the County is authorized to issue obligations to a board, department or agency of the State by negotiation and without advertisement for bids and the MPCA is, and has represented that it is, a board, department or agency of the State.

(f) Contracts for the Project have been or will be made by the County with the approval of the MPCA and all other State and federal agencies of whose approval is required.

Section 2. Acceptance of Offer; Payment; Denomination.

(a) The County hereby accepts the offer of the MPCA to purchase the Taxable General Obligation Note, Series 2025 (the "Note"), to be issued by the County in the original aggregate principal amount of \$750,000, and to pay therefor the par amount of the Note as provided below, and the sale of the Note is awarded to the MPCA. Payment for the Note is to be disbursed in installments as eligible costs of the Project are reimbursed or paid, all as provided in the Project Loan Agreement.

(b) The Note is to be issued in the aggregate principal amount of \$750,000, originally and nominally dated as of the date of delivery, as a fully registered Note without coupons. The Note will be in the denomination of the entire principal amount thereof, numbered No. R-1, and will mature in installment amounts as specified in EXHIBIT B attached hereto. So long as the repayments are made on time, the Note shall accrue interest at the rate of 1.50% per annum. In the event that the County does not make its regularly scheduled payments, the Note shall accrue interest at the rate of 4.00% per annum on the principal balance owed commencing on the date repayment is due and continuing until the payment is received by the MPCA.

(c) The Note is subject to redemption and prior payment as provided in the Project Loan Agreement.

(d) Principal in the installment amounts set out in the Note are payable by wire transfer, or if by check or draft of the County or its designated registrar, mailed the last business day prior to the payment date (each June 15 and December 15) to the registered holder thereof at the holder's address as it appears on the bond register at the close of business on the fifth day (whether or not a business day) immediately preceding the payment date. The County Auditor-Treasurer is hereby appointed as the initial registrar, transfer agent, authenticating agent, and paying agent of the County with respect to the Note.

Section 3. Date. The Note will be a fully registered negotiable obligation, dated as of date of delivery and issued forthwith. The Note shall be issued in substantially the form attached hereto as EXHIBIT B.

Section 4. Execution; Approving Legal Opinion. The Note is to be executed on behalf of the County by the manual or facsimile signatures of its Chair and County Administrator and is to be authenticated by the manual signature of the County Auditor-Treasurer, acting as authenticating agent of the County. In the event of disability or resignation or other absence of any of such officers, the Note may be signed by any officer who is authorized to act on behalf of such absent or disabled officer. If an officer whose signature will appear on the Note ceases to be such officer before the delivery of the Note, such officer's signature will nevertheless be valid and sufficient for all purposes, the same as if such officer had remained in office until delivery.

The County Administrator is authorized and directed to obtain a copy of the proposed approving legal opinion of Kennedy & Graven, Chartered, Minneapolis, Minnesota, as bond counsel to the County, and to cause the opinion to be printed on or accompany the Note.

Section 5. Delivery; Application of Proceeds. The Note when so prepared and executed will be delivered by the County Administrator to the MPCA prior to any disbursements pursuant to the Project Loan Agreement, and the purchaser is not obliged to see to the proper application thereof.

Section 6. Note Fund and Accounts. There shall be maintained a separate fund in the County treasury designated as the Taxable General Obligation Note, Series 2025 Fund (the "Note Fund"). The County Auditor-Treasurer will establish and maintain financial records of the receipts and disbursements relating to the Project in accordance with this resolution. The County Auditor-Treasurer and all municipal officials and employees concerned therewith will establish and maintain financial records of the receipts and disbursements of the Note Fund, including without limitation an account therein for the deposit of the fees and assessments charged to property owners under the Project in accordance with this resolution. There will be maintained in the Note Fund, in addition to any accounts previously created, the following two separate accounts:

(a) A Capital Account to which will be credited all proceeds from the sale of the Note. The Note is the only source of money to be credited to the Capital Account. It is recognized that the sale proceeds of the Note are received in reimbursement for costs expended on the Project or in direct payment of such costs, and that accordingly the money need not be placed in the Capital Account upon receipt but may be applied immediately to reimburse the source from which the expenditure was made. Money in the Capital Account is to be used solely for the purpose of paying for the cost of constructing the Project, including all costs enumerated in Section 475.65 of the Act, provided that such money may only be expended for costs and expenses which are permitted under the Project Loan Agreement. Upon completion of the Project and the payment of the costs thereof, any surplus is to be transferred to the Debt Service Account.

(b) A Debt Service Account into which are irrevocably pledged or credited (i) fees and assessments charged to property owners under the Project in an amount sufficient, with other legally available money, to pay the principal of and interest, if any, on the Note when due; (ii) all collections of taxes which may hereafter be levied for the payment of the principal of and interest, if any, on the Note; (iii) all investment earnings on money held in the Debt Service Account; (iv) any amounts transferred from the Capital Account; and (v) any amounts authorized under the Clean Water Partnership Law and any other money which is properly available and is appropriated by the County Board to the Debt Service Account. The money in this account may be used only to pay or prepay the principal of the Note and to pay interest, if any on the Note and any other obligations hereafter issued and made payable from this account.

(c) Excess fees and assessments charged to property under the Washington County Septic System Replacement Initiative after payment in full of the Note may be used for any proper municipal purpose.

Section 7. Coverage Test; Pledge of Net Revenues; Excess Revenues. It is found, determined and declared that the fees and assessments charged to property owners, and property values of properties subject to special assessment

liens under the Project are sufficient in amount to pay 105% of the principal of and interest, if any, on the Note when due, and such revenues and property are pledged to the payment of the Note, but solely to the extent required to meet, with other pledged sources, 105% of the principal and interest requirements of the Note as the same become due.

Section 8. Pledge to Produce Revenues. In accordance with the Act, the County hereby covenants and agrees with the holder of the Note that it will impose and collect fees and assessments charged to property owners under the Project at the times and in the amounts required to produce net revenues adequate to pay all principal and interest when due on the Note.

Section 9. General Obligation Pledge. The full faith and credit and taxing powers of the County will be and are irrevocably pledged for the prompt and full payment of the principal of and interest on the Note as the same respectively become due. If the fees and assessments charged to property owners under the Project appropriated and pledged to the payment of principal of and interest on the Note, together with other funds irrevocably appropriated to the Debt Service Account referred to in Section 6 hereof, are at any time insufficient to pay such principal and interest when due, the County covenants and agrees to levy, without limitation as to rate or amount, an ad valorem tax upon all taxable property in the County sufficient to pay such principal and interest as the same become due. If the balance in the Debt Service Account is ever insufficient to pay all principal and interest, if any, then due on the Note and any other obligations payable therefrom, the deficiency will be promptly paid out of any other funds of the County which are available for such purpose, and those other funds may be reimbursed, with or without interest, from the Debt Service Account when a sufficient balance is available in that account.

Section 10. Certificate of Registration. The County Administrator is authorized and directed to file a certified copy of this resolution with the County Auditor-Treasurer and to provide the certificate required by Section 475.63 of the Act.

Section 11. Project Loan Agreement. The provisions of this resolution relating to the Note are intended to be consistent with the provisions of the Project Loan Agreement, and to the extent that any provision in the Project Loan Agreement is in conflict with this resolution as it relates to the Note, that provision controls. The execution and delivery of the Project Loan Agreement by the Chair and County Administrator and payment thereunder in accordance with this resolution are hereby authorized and ratified. The Project Loan Agreement must be attached to the Note if the holder of the Note is any person other than the MPCA.

Section 12. Records and Certificates. The officers of the County are hereby authorized and directed to prepare and furnish to the MPCA and to the attorneys approving the legality of the issuance of the Note certified copies of all proceedings and records of the County relating to the Note and to the financial condition and affairs of the County, and such other affidavits, certificates and information as are required to show the facts relating to the legality and marketability of the Note as the same appear from the books and records under their custody and control, or as otherwise known to them, and all such certified copies, certificates and

affidavits including any heretofore furnished, are to be deemed representations of the County as to the facts recited therein.

Unless litigation has commenced and is pending questioning the Note, revenues pledged for the payment of the Note, or the organization of the County or the incumbency of its officers, the Chair, County Administrator and County-Auditor-Treasurer are hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver to the MPCA at the closing a suitable certificate as to absence of material litigation, and the County Auditor-Treasurer is authorized and directed to execute and deliver to the MPCA at the closing a certification as to payment for and delivery of the Note.

Section 13. Designation of Project Representative. The Board hereby designates the Director of Public Health and Environment, or other staff as delegated, as the person responsible for representing the County in all matters which, in accordance with the terms of the Project Loan Agreement, do not specifically require action by the County. The Board hereby designates the Director of Public Health and Environment, or other staff as delegated, as the person responsible for executing all requests for disbursements of the Loan under the Project Loan Agreement on behalf of the County.

Section 14. Electronic Signatures. The electronic signature of the Chair, the County Administrator, the County Auditor-Treasurer and/or the Director of Public Health and Environment to this resolution, the Project Loan Agreement, and any certificate authorized to be executed hereunder shall be as valid as an original signature of such party and shall be effective to bind the County thereto. For purposes hereof, (i) “electronic signature” means (a) a manually signed original signature that is then transmitted by electronic means or (b) a signature obtained through DocuSign or a similarly digitally auditable signature gathering process; and (ii) “transmitted by electronic means” means sent in the form of a facsimile or sent via the internet as a portable document format (“pdf”) or other replicating image attached to an electronic mail or internet message.

Section 15. Severability. If any section, paragraph or provision of this resolution is held to be invalid or unenforceable for any reason, the validity or unenforceability of such section, paragraph or provision will not affect any of the remaining provisions of this resolution.

Section 16. Headings. Headings in this resolution are included for convenience of reference only and are not a part hereof, and do not limit or define the meaning of any provision hereof.

16. Authorize the execution and delivery of the general obligation note related to the Clean Water Partnership loan program, and related certificates and documents.
17. Approve Loan Agreement No. 17350 with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency to receive Clean Water Partnership loan funding.
18. Approve Purchase Order No. 27880 in the amount of \$308,553 with Titan Machinery using State Contract Number 239131 for an 821G Case Loader for the North Shop.

19. Approve Joint Powers Agreement No. 16908 with the City of Lake St. Croix Beach for the purpose of providing a Mass Community Notification System, known as CodeRED.

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

PUBLIC HEARING – PUBLIC WORKS

Proposed Washington County Parks and Open Space Commission Ordinance

The public hearing opened at 9:03 a.m.

Board Chair Karwoski presented a brief overview of today's public hearing to consider the repeal of Washington County Parks and Open Space Commission Ordinance #17 and #75, and the enactment of Parks and Open Space Commission Ordinance #220 to replace them. The proposed new ordinance will modify, clarify, and update several provisions of the previous ordinances. This public hearing is being held pursuant to the requirements contained in Minnesota Statute Section 398.34.

Parks Director Alex McKinney presented the proposed updates for the Parks and Open Space Commission Ordinance. Mr. McKinney provided background on current Park Ordinances #17 and #75, which are both still on record. Ordinance #17 was approved in 1978, and amended to Ordinance #75 in 1989. However, the original ordinance was never repealed. Ordinance #75 does not align with Washington County Policy #6006 (Advisory Boards, Commissions, and Committees), which allows for a 10-member commission. Currently, 12 members serve on the Parks and Open Space Commission. It does not address the need for voices of residents who may not currently use parks, and does not mention the need for resident oversight of voter approved referendums impacting conservation easements and park land acquisitions.

Mr. McKinney reported that Policy #6006 was adopted by the Washington County Board of Commissioners as the governing policy for citizen commissions. The policy does not align with current ordinance on a variety of items including, noting that new classifications of memberships can only be created by the County Board, no permanent county employee can serve as a voting member of a commission, County Board commissioners will serve as contact members without voting privileges, and there are no term limits on membership for commissions.

Mr. McKinney reviewed the proposed updates:

- Update to 12-member commission and board commissioner;
- Removal of term limit to match Policy #6006;
- Update duties and functions to include: support Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, including participation in training to cultivate a park system that is available and accessible to all; and review and make recommendations regarding land acquisition and conservation easements associated with voter approved referendums to Washington County;
- Removal of Sections 3, 4, and 5 from the ordinance;
- Addition of Policy #6006 Section to ordinance, to allow for changes to the ordinance if the policy is updated.

Mr. McKinney reviewed the timeline leading to today's public hearing. The Parks and Open Space Commission voted to update the ordinance in January 2025. A board workshop was held on March 18, 2025, to discuss with the County Board. A public notice to announce the public hearing date was published in the newspaper for three weeks and posted on the county website. Mr. McKinney reported that no comments have been received.

Mr. McKinney concluded that a resolution will be on a future County Board meeting agenda to repeal existing Ordinances #17 and #75, and adopt new Ordinance #220.

Board Chair Karwoski asked for comments from the public regarding the updates to the Parks and Open Space Commission Ordinance. No comments were made.

There being no further members of the public who wished to speak, Chair Karwoski asked for a motion to close the public hearing. Commissioner Cox moved to close the public hearing. Commissioner Bigham seconded the motion, and it was adopted.

The public hearing closed at 9:11 a.m.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Resolution for Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month

Cat Piepho, Accounting and Finance Director and member of the Asian American and Pacific Islanders Alliance Employee Resource Group (ERG), presented a resolution proclaiming the month of May 2025 as Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month in Washington County. Ms. Piepho announced that to celebrate Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, the ERG will be hosting an event, "Honoring Our Past, Embracing Our Future" for county employees on May 13, 2025.

Commissioner Bigham moved to adopt **Resolution No. 2025-046** as follows:

ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH

WHEREAS, in 1992, President George H.W. Bush permanently designated for commemoration the month of May as Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month; and

WHEREAS, Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month is a month-long commemoration of the history and achievements of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander communities celebrate with festivals, educational programs, and other activities that center on cultural history; and

WHEREAS, here in Washington County, the Asian Alliance Employee Resource Group will host a celebration on Tuesday, May 13 with the theme of, “Honoring Our Past, Embracing Our Future.” This will be a deep dive through storyboards and an employee panel on what it means to be AAPI, how our social identity and histories shape who we are today, and how we can use that knowledge to lead in every aspect of our lives.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim the month of May 2025 to be Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, and extends its appreciation to the employees of the Asian and Pacific Islanders Alliance Employee Resource Group for hosting the “Honoring Our Past, Embracing Our Future” event for county employees on May 13, 2025.

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.

COMMUNITY SERVICES/PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT

Resolution for Mental Health Awareness Month

Social Services Supervisor Anne Rooney and Senior Community Health Specialist Lisa Wong presented a resolution to proclaim May 2025 as Mental Health Awareness Month in Washington County. Ms. Wong and Ms. Rooney summarized some of the work that county staff provides to communities to advocate and educate for mental health and well-being of all.

Commissioner Miron moved to adopt **Resolution No. 2025-047** as follows:

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, May is Mental Health Awareness Month, an opportunity for Washington County to uplift mental health as an essential part of overall well-being and promote resources and opportunities for individuals, families, and communities to flourish; and

WHEREAS, nearly 1 out of 3 students in 8th, 9th and 11th grade in Washington County reported struggling with their mental health for six months or longer; and

WHEREAS, mental health challenges affect all people regardless of age, sex, gender, race, ethnicity, religion, or economic status; and

WHEREAS, those who experience trauma, racism, xenophobia, transphobia, poverty, forms of oppression, violence, and prejudices, face a heavier mental health burden because of these harms; and

WHEREAS, prevention, early intervention, and access to quality care are crucial for managing mental health conditions and improving quality of life; and

WHEREAS, people recover when provided accessible, person-centered, culturally responsive services and support in their communities; and

WHEREAS, everyone has a role in building supportive and resilient communities through collaboration, mutuality, and growth; and

WHEREAS, Washington County reaffirms its commitment to improve the conditions that influence quality of life and positive mental health outcomes of residents; and

WHEREAS, we encourage all those who live, work, and play in Washington County to:

- Educate themselves and others about mental health conditions, treatment options, and available resources;
- Challenge stigma by speaking respectfully and inclusively about mental health;
- Seek help if they are struggling with their mental health and encourage others to do the same;
- Support organizations that provide mental health services and advocacy;
- Create safe and supportive environments for open conversations about mental health;
- Foster a community where everyone feels empowered to prioritize their mental well-being and seek help when needed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington County Board of Commissioners proclaims May 2025 as Mental Health Awareness Month in Washington County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Washington County Board of Commissioners continues its commitment to partner with our community to ensure that all mental health services are accessible, person-centered, and culturally appropriate for all residents.

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.

PUBLIC WORKS

Change Orders for the County Highway 33 Reconstruction Project

Construction Engineer Allan Brandt presented three change orders for the County Highway (CH) 33 Reconstruction Project. Mr. Brandt reported that the project encompasses CH 33, between CH

32 (220th Street) and CH 2 (Broadway Avenue) in the City of Forest Lake. The project also included resurfacing and trail construction on County Highway 2.

Mr. Brandt reported the work included full reconstruction of the road base, constructing curb/gutter and adding turn lanes on CH 33, stormwater improvements, installing corridor lighting, constructing off-street multi-use trails, and adding a new entrance to Menards. The project also included a city watermain extension and resurfacing of CH 2 from the county line to 19th Street. Challenges during construction centered on high groundwater levels, creating difficulty in constructing the road base. The groundwater level was exacerbated by extremely wet spring and summer weather.

The contract was awarded to Eureka Construction for \$5,269,606.90. Construction started in May 2024 and was completed in November 2024. The project carried a 7% construction contingency of \$368,872.

During construction, there were 17 change orders necessary to complete the work. Change orders 1 through 13 were approved administratively in accordance with County Policy. Change Orders 14 through 17 require County Board authorization, due to the cumulative value of all change orders exceeding the budgeted 7% contingency.

Change Order 14 for \$9,603.00 is for the addition of pedestrian crossing indicators and push buttons at the intersection of County Highways 33 and 2. In addition, a signal interconnect handhole needed to be relocated, due to a proposed fire hydrant placement.

Change Order 15 for \$42,587.25 is for additional paving. The southern 700 feet of CH 33 was resurfaced within the last 10 years, but was showing signs of wear. The engineer determined that this area should be resurfaced as part of the project to gain efficiency and savings, placing the entire CH 33 corridor pavement on the same maintenance and replacement schedule.

Change Order 16 for \$20,535.23 is for a bituminous density and smoothness incentive earned by the contractor. The contract requires bituminous density testing to ensure proper compaction, which leads to increased pavement longevity.

Change Order 17 for \$118,227.10 is for a partial quantity reconciliation. This adjusts pay item quantities to those measured in the field and allows payment to the contractor for work completed.

The cost of the Change Orders will be paid with County Transportation Sales Tax and Local Contributions.

Commissioner Miron moved to approve Change Orders 14, 15, 16, and 17 for Contract No. 16287 with Eureka Construction in the total amount of \$190,952.58 for the County Highway 33 Reconstruction Project. Commissioner Bigham seconded the motion, and it was approved.

Trunk Highway 61/County State Aid Highway 8 Improvements and Budget Amendment

Engineer Ryan Hoefs presented three requests related to road construction along Trunk Highway (TH) 61, between the two County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 8 segments. Washington County, in partnership with the City of Hugo and the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT), is leading this project to improve pedestrian mobility and traffic operations along TH 61. This project is identified as Capital Improvement Plan project #RB-2805.

Mr. Hoefs reported that the construction contract includes traffic signal revisions, pedestrian crossings, left turn lane, and culvert replacement. There were six bids received for this contract, and Public Works recommends Bituminous Roadways for the bid award.

Funding will be provided through a combination of Transportation Advancement Account (TAA) Safety and Trails funds, TAA Preservation funds, and local funds. Funding for these construction expenses will come from the MnDOT Local Partnership Program Grant, State Aid, and Local Contributions. A cost share agreement with the City of Hugo covers agreed-upon costs to the city for construction and design engineering. The budget amendment is for an increase in the Local Contribution budget and a decrease in the State Aid budget, based on the cost share agreement with the city.

Commissioner Miron moved to approve Contract No. 17337 in the amount of \$1,045,293.95 with Bituminous Roadways for construction along TH 61 for improvements between the two CSAH 8 segments. Commissioner Cox seconded the motion, and it was approved.

Commissioner Miron moved to approve Cooperative Cost Share Agreement No. 17220 between the City of Hugo and Washington County for improvements along TH 61. Commissioner Bigham seconded the motion, and it was approved.

Commissioner Miron moved to approve a budget amendment to move \$58,400 from State Aid to Local Contribution. Commissioner Karwoski seconded the motion, and it was approved.

Construction Contract for the Park Grove Library Project

Senior Project Manager Mandy Leonard presented a contract for construction management services for the Park Grove Library project, off of 80th Street and Hemingway Avenue in the City of Cottage Grove. The project is in the design phase with Alliance Architects, with construction starting in early 2026.

Ms. Leonard reported that a Request for Proposals was posted for Construction Management Services as Advisor for the Park Grove Library project. The scope of work will include cost estimating, constructability review, work scopes, bidding assistance, general conditions and site oversight throughout the project, and project close out. There were seven proposals received, and Public Works recommends Kraus-Anderson for this contract.

The current budget is funded with Capital Investment and Mission Directed Budget, with a proposed budget amendment of \$193,100. This project also has a proposed future budget, which includes 2027 Bond funding.

Commissioner Bigham moved to approve Contract No. 17265 in the amount of \$783,982.00 with Kraus-Anderson Construction for Construction Management Services as Advisor on the Park Grove Library Project. Commissioner Cox seconded the motion, and it was approved.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Legislative Updates

Deputy County Administrator Jan Lucke reported that last week, a letter was sent to the Minnesota State Legislature from Minnesota Inter-County Association (MICA), Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC), and Minnesota Rural Counties (MRC), regarding the House, Senate, and Governor's budget proposals. The letter urges leaders to consider the seriousness of the budget proposals, and the real impact these policies will have on communities, clients, and taxpayers across the state. The letter includes a table, which outlines the collective financial impact of the proposals. It indicates that the costs will be shifted from the State to local property taxpayers, as counties will not be able to reduce service costs or reduce the number of employees required to deliver the services. The letter calls on both bodies to continue serious discussion regarding the Minnesota African American Family Preservation and Child Welfare Disproportionality Act. The letter also expresses appreciation for bipartisan support for investments in the SSIS (Social Service Information Systems) that provide the support for all child protection work.

Ms. Lucke reported that Washington County Community Services Director Jennifer Castillo and Division Manager Sarah Amundson sent a letter emphasizing the critical need for SSIS funding to Minnesota Senator Karin Housley, who is a member of the Child Protection Task Force.

Ms. Lucke reported that yesterday, a letter was sent to legislators from the Metropolitan Area County Commissioner Members of AMC District 10 Board of Directors. This letter expresses concerns regarding the proposed budget shifts to counties, and focuses on the impact of more than \$100 million in collective cost shifts, affecting the seven county metropolitan areas.

Ms. Lucke provided updated State and Federal bill trackers.

County Board Meeting Process Update

County Administrator Kevin Corbid noted a change of protocol during County Board meetings. Per statute, a printed copy of the agenda will be available in the County Board Room, and an electronic device will be available to view all contracts being approved on the agenda. The agenda and device will be available for public review at the dais. There will continue to be a paper copy of the agenda and comment cards outside of the entrance to the County Board Room.

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 washingtoncountymn.gov under "County Board of Commissioners."

BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

No board correspondence was received.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The County Board meeting adjourned at 11:04 a.m.

BOARD WORKSHOP WITH ADMINISTRATION

The board met in workshop session to discuss slogan development. Commissioners Miron, Karwoski, Cox, Bigham, and Clasen. Also present were Kevin Corbid, Jan Lucke, Jennifer Wagenius, and county staff.

Attest:

Kevin Corbid

Kevin Corbid
County Administrator

Stan Karwoski

Stan Karwoski
County Board Chair