



**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA
JANUARY 3, 2023**

OATHS OF OFFICE

The Honorable Siv Mjanger, District Court Judge, administered the Oath of Office to newly re-elected Sheriff Dan Starry.

The Honorable Siv Mjanger, District Court Judge, administered the Oath of Office to newly elected County Attorney Kevin Magnuson.

County Attorney Kevin Magnuson administered the Oath of Office to newly re-elected District 2 County Commissioner Stan Karwoski.

Cottage Grove Mayor Myron Bailey administered the Oath of Office to newly elected District 4 County Commissioner Karla Bigham.

County Sheriff Dan Starry administered the Oath of Office to newly elected District 5 County Commissioner Michelle Clasen.

WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS CONVENES

The Washington County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 12:19 p.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 Karla Bigham, District 4
Commissioner Michelle Clasen, District 5

Also Present: Kevin Corbid, County Administrator
Sue Tice, County Attorney Civil Division Chief
Jennifer Ochocki, Coordinator to the County Administrator

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

ELECTION OF THE 2023 WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD CHAIR

County Administrator Kevin Corbid asked for nominations for 2023 County Board Chair.

Commissioner Miron moved to nominate Commissioner Gary Kriesel for 2023 County Board Chair. Mr. Corbid asked for further nominations; none were heard. Nominations were closed.



Mr. Corbid asked all those in favor of electing Commissioner Gary Kriesel as 2023 County Board Chair to signify by saying Aye. All commissioners were in favor, and the motion was adopted unanimously.

Commissioner Gary Kriesel was elected as 2023 County Board Chair.

ELECTION OF THE 2023 WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD VICE CHAIR

Board Chair Kriesel asked for nominations for 2023 County Board Vice Chair.

Commissioner Miron moved to nominate Commissioner Stan Karwoski for 2023 County Board Vice Chair. Commissioner Kriesel asked for further nominations; none were heard. Nominations were closed.

Commissioner Kriesel asked all those in favor of electing Commissioner Stan Karwoski as 2023 County Board Vice Chair to signify by saying Aye. All commissioners were in favor, and the motion was adopted unanimously.

Commissioner Stan Karwoski was elected as 2023 County Board Vice Chair.

SET 2023 BOARD MEETING DATES

The proposed 2023 board meeting dates indicate that the County Board will meet on Tuesdays, with 35 official board meetings scheduled in 2023, and 5 workshop only meetings. The board will not meet on any Tuesday which is a legal holiday. The County Board meetings will continue to begin at 9:00 a.m., with the exception of two meetings per year that are required to be evening meetings, per statute. The Board Chair can call an evening meeting or later start time, when necessary, to conduct business. County Board meetings may be added or canceled, as necessary, with proper public notice.

Commissioner Bigham moved to approve the 2023 board meeting dates as presented. Commissioner Clasen seconded the motion, and it was adopted unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

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

Commissioner Karwoski moved to recess for a reception for the elected officials. Commissioner Clasen seconded the motion, and it was adopted unanimously.

The County Board reconvened at 1:14 p.m.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Commissioner Clasen requested to pull Consent Calendar item B, regarding the newspaper bids, to be addressed as a separate item. Item B was removed from the Consent Calendar.

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

1. Approval of the December 13, 2022, and December 20, 2022, County Board meeting minutes.
2. Approve 2023 Memorial Day appropriations of \$100 each, upon request, for military service organizations.
3. Approve commissioner assignments to the Ramsey/Washington Recycling and Energy Board for 2023.
4. Approve Grant Agreement No. 221993 with the Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State in the amount of \$4,286.94 for the 2022 HAVA Election Security Grant (Phase 2) Agreement.

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

Resolution for the 2023-2025 Newspaper Publishing Bids

Commissioner Clasen asked if the board would consider adding publication of the election notices and public hearing notices in the St. Paul Pioneer Press.

County Administrator Kevin Corbid said that staff will research costs for adding publication of the election notices and public hearing notices in the St. Paul Pioneer Press, and will bring this back to the board for review.

Commissioner Clasen moved to adopt **Resolution No. 2023-001** as follows:

AWARD OF 2023-2025 NEWSPAPER PUBLICATION BIDS

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute 375.12 requires advertisement for bids for county legal printing and awarding of bids at the first board meeting of the year; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute 331A.06, Subd. 5, allows for publication contracts for no longer than three years; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to bid advertisement, newspaper publication bids were received until 2:00 p.m., December 7, 2022, for the following publications:

- 1) Official Board Proceedings in Summary Form
- 2) Legal Notices
- 3) Delinquent Real Estate Tax List
- 4) Financial Statement (first and second publication)



WHEREAS, timely bids were received from Sentinel Publications/Country Messenger, Press Publications/The Citizen, and the St. Paul Pioneer Press; and

WHEREAS, Washington County newspaper publishing awards are based on lowest index number for all bids; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to authority contained in Minnesota Statute 331A.12, the Public Works Department may designate the Washington County website as the official publication of transportation projects legal notices.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington County Board of Commissioners hereby awards newspaper publication contracts for a term of three years as follows:

- 1) Official Proceedings in Summary Form (Board minutes in summary form): **Country Messenger**
- 2) Legal Notices: **Country Messenger**
- 3) Notice and List of Real Estate Remaining Delinquent: **Country Messenger**
- 4) First Publication of the Financial Statement for the years ending December 31, 2022, 2023, and 2024: **Country Messenger**
- 5) Second Publication of the Financial Statement to be distributed as an insert: **St. Paul Pioneer Press**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that notwithstanding the three-year publication contracts, the county shall continue to publish yearly notice of publication of transportation projects on its website, as required by Minnesota Statute 331A.12.

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

ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

Resolution Recognizing January 2023 as Human Trafficking Awareness Month

Tricia Loehr, Assistant County Attorney III, presented a resolution to recognize January 2023 as Human Trafficking Awareness Month. Ms. Loehr reported that the Washington County Attorney's Office, Sheriff's Office, Community Services, Community Corrections, Public Health & Environment, and other community partners have been working collaboratively for many years to fight this damaging crime in county communities. Ms. Loehr stated this resolution is to shed more light on this crime, bring awareness to the community, and provide survivors with resources and the knowledge that Washington County is a community of support.

Commissioner Miron moved to adopt **Resolution No. 2023-002** as follows:

**RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF JANUARY 2023
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, sex trafficking is a form of human trafficking and 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 Sex Trafficking Task Force in 2022 recovered 15 trafficked victims, charged four traffickers, arrested 36 people for solicitation of a minor for sex, and pursued 73 cases and tips; and

WHEREAS, one out of 50 Washington County students in grades 9 and 11 reports having traded sex or sexual activity to receive money, food, drugs, alcohol, a place to stay, or something else; and

WHEREAS, the task force continues to make arrests following operations using advertisements that present people posing as minors to solicit those seeking to have sex with an underage person; and

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

WHEREAS, the County Board wishes to encourage community-wide recognition of the matter of sex 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 2023 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 Bigham seconded the motion, and it was adopted 5-0 with a Roll Call vote as follows: Ayes, Commissioners Miron, Karwoski, Bigham, Clasen, and Kriesel. Nays, none.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Federal Legislative Update

Deputy County Administrator Jan Lucke reported that U.S. Congress passed the 2023 Omnibus Bill, which includes Community Project funding. Ms. Lucke reported that last year, Washington County received \$1 million in Community Project funding for the Central Greenway multiuse project. This year, Washington County will receive funding for 20 hybrid electric squad cars and a patrol boat, totaling \$1.6 million. This project was submitted by U.S. Representative Betty McCollum, with strong support from U.S. Senator Amy Klobuchar and U.S. Senator Tina Smith. Ms. Lucke acknowledged Washington County staff Laura Perkins, Sara Allen, and Lyssa Leitner, who helped prepare the request to Congress.

State Legislative Update

Ms. Lucke reported that Minnesota House and Minnesota Senate members are being sworn in today. Commissioners have been provided with updated member information and their assigned committees, and meetings are being scheduled. Washington County will be hosting a legislative reception on January 12, 2023, at the Machine Shed in Lake Elmo.

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.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The County Board meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

BOARD WORKSHOP WITH PUBLIC WORKS

The board met in workshop session to review options to continue civil construction of the METRO Gold Line under the proposed Letter of No Prejudice #2 (LONP). Present for the workshop were Commissioners Miron, Karwoski, Kriesel, Bigham, and Clasen. Also present were Kevin Corbid, Jan Lucke, Jennifer Wagenius, and county staff.

Attest:

Kevin Corbid

Kevin Corbid
County Administrator

Gary Kriesel

Gary Kriesel
County Board Chair