



**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA
MARCH 23, 2021**

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, via WebEx
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, via WebEx
Stephanie Kammerud, Administrative Assistant

Board Chair Lisa Weik announced that because of the COVID-19 Pandemic and Emergency Declaration issued by Minnesota Governor Tim Walz, and the Declaration of Emergency issued by the Washington County Board of Commissioners on March 17, 2020, some or all of the County Board members may participate by telephone or other electronic means, and the Board meeting will be conducted pursuant to and in compliance with Minnesota Statute 13D.021. Members of the public can attend the meeting in person, or view/monitor the meeting electronically from a remote location via live web stream.

Noted for the record:

1. That either the Washington County Board Chair or the County's chief Administrator has determined that an in-person meeting of the entire County Board may not be practical nor prudent because of the existing Pandemic and Emergency.
2. All County Board members participating in this meeting, whatever their physical location, can hear one another and can hear all discussion and testimony.
3. All members of the public present here today at the regular meeting location, if any, can hear all discussion and testimony and all votes of the members of the County Board.
4. At least one member of the County Board or the Chief Administrator of the County is physically present at the regular meeting location.
5. Each member of the County Board participating in this meeting by telephone or other electronic means is considered present at the meeting for purposes of determining a quorum and participating in all proceedings.
6. Proper notice of this meeting has occurred.
7. All votes will be conducted by roll call.

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

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

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

- A. Approval of the March 2, 2021, and March 9, 2021, County Board meeting minutes.
- B. Approval to appoint Jeneal Olsen, West Lakeland, to the Mental Health Advisory Committee as a NAMI Representative, to a partial first term expiring December 31, 2023.
- C. Approval to appoint Celia Wirth, Grant, to the Brown's Creek Watershed District to a partial first term expiring October 22, 2021.
- D. Approval to reappoint Klayton Eckles, Stillwater, to the Brown's Creek Watershed District to a second term expiring October 22, 2023.
- E. Approval of **Resolution No. 2021-033** as follows:

**ENDORISING APRIL 2021 AS CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT
PREVENTION MONTH IN WASHINGTON COUNTY**

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect is a complex and ongoing problem in our society, affecting many children in Washington County; and

WHEREAS, our children are our most valuable resources and will shape the future of Washington County; and

WHEREAS, child abuse can have long-term psychological, emotional, and physical effects that have lasting consequences for victims of abuse; and

WHEREAS, protective factors are conditions that reduce or eliminate risk and promote the social, emotional, and developmental well-being of children; and

WHEREAS, Washington County has dedicated individuals and organizations who work daily to counter the problem of child maltreatment and to help parents obtain the assistance they need; and

WHEREAS, effective child abuse prevention activities succeed because of the partnerships created between child welfare, education, health, community- and faith-based organizations, and businesses and law enforcement agencies; and



WHEREAS, communities must make every effort to promote programs and activities that create strong and thriving children and families; and

WHEREAS, we acknowledge that we must work together as a community to increase awareness about child abuse and continue to promote the social and emotional well-being of children and families in a safe, stable, nurturing environment; and

WHEREAS, prevention remains the best defense for our children and families.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington County Board of Commissioners hereby endorses the President of the United States' proclamation that the month of April 2021, to be the Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month in Washington County and urge all citizens to recognize this month by dedicating ourselves to the task of improving the quality of life for all children and families.

- F. Approval of the Washington County Child Protection Citizen Review Panel 2020 Annual Report.
- G. Approve the tentative agreement for the 2021 Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Minnesota TEAMSTERS Public and Law Enforcement Employees Union Local No. 320 Probation Officers.
- H. Approval of **Resolution No. 2021-034** as follows:

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUBMITTAL OF AN
APPLICATION AND REPORT TO THE MINNESOTA
POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY FOR LOCAL RECYCLING
DEVELOPMENT GRANT (LRDG)**

WHEREAS, MN Statute 115A.55 requires metropolitan counties to meet a 75% combined recycling and organics goal, and requires counties to develop and implement programs to reach recycling goals or require political subdivisions to develop and implement programs; and

WHEREAS, MN Statute 473.844 authorizes the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) to award grants for landfill abatement activities in the Twin Cities Metro Area through the Metropolitan Landfill Abatement Fund consisting of revenue derived from the landfill surcharge on metropolitan landfills; and

WHEREAS, part of the funds may be used for the Local Recycling Development Program (LRDP) for grants to metropolitan counties to pay



for planning, developing, and operating yard waste, composting and recycling programs; and

WHEREAS, funds may be used for new activities or to enhance or increase the effectiveness of existing activities; and

WHEREAS, counties shall provide support to maintain effective municipal recycling where it is already established; and

WHEREAS, the cities and townships in the county have established recycling programs; and

WHEREAS, funded activities are consistent with the metropolitan solid waste management policy plan and the county solid waste management master plan.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Washington County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the 2021 LRDG application, report of 2020 expenditures, and activities, and authorizes the Washington County Department of Public Health and Environment to submit the application with the report to the MPCA, as well as authorizes future amendments, applications, and reports to be reviewed and approved by the Washington County Department of Public Health and Environment Director.

- I. Approval to apply for North Star Touring Club grant in the amount of \$4,631 for the purchase of Nordic rocks cross-country skis for rental and program purposes at Cottage Grove Ravine Regional Park.
- J.
 - 1. Approval of Permanent Use of Fund Balance in an amount not to exceed \$74,700 from the Recorder's Equipment Fund 116 to fund two Special Project Land Survey Technician I positions.
 - 2. Approval of two full-time equivalent (2.0 FTE) Land Survey Technician I Special Project positions in the Department of Public Works.
- K. Approval of **Resolution No. 2021-035** as follows:

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE DECLARATION FOR RECEIVING
STATE GRANT FUNDS FOR IMPROVEMENTS OF EXISTING
PARKING AND TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS FOR
CENTRAL GREENWAY REGIONAL TRAIL AND LAKE ELMO
PARK RESERVE**

WHEREAS, Washington County is the recipient of certain state general obligation bonds appropriated by the Minnesota Legislature in Minnesota Session Laws of 2020, 5th Special Session, Chapter 3, Article 1, Section 17; and;

WHEREAS, on February 16, 2021 the Washington County Board of Commissioners accepted said funds known as Grant SG-12408 as reflected in the minutes thereof; and,

WHEREAS, under Section 2.05 of said Grant, Washington County represents it will record a declaration on the improved property for the use of these bond funds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Washington County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes its Chairperson and Administrator to execute on behalf of the County the Declaration and any other documents necessary for the County to complete the terms and conditions set forth in Grant SG-12408.

- L. Approve Grant Agreement No. 13993 between the Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division, and the Washington County Sheriff's Office in the amount of \$111,730.
- M. Approve Joint Powers Agreement No. 13949 with the City of Oak Park Heights, to provide fuel to the city for law enforcement services.
- N. Approve Agreement No. 13989 between Aviat Networks and Washington County, for phase two of the Public Safety Radio System microwave equipment project.
- O. Approve Grant Agreement No. 14007 between the Office of National Drug Control Policy and Washington County, in the amount of \$96,530.00 for the period of January 1, 2021, through December 31, 2022.

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

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

State Legislative Updates

Margaret Vesel from Larkin Hoffman provided a mid-session state legislative report. The 2021 Legislative Session began on January 5th, entirely remote. Virtual meetings have continued in the House, and the Senate is using a hybrid approach with in-person and video. On January 26th, Governor Tim Walz announced his proposed biennial budget of \$52.4 billion, which included new taxes and draws on reserves. It included extensive tax increases on top income earners,

corporations, and tobacco to support additional spending and tax breaks. Governor Walz also proposed several tax cuts including expanding the threshold for the state's first-tier tax bracket and an expanded working family tax credit. The Governor's proposed budget would be the largest in state history, and calls for additional spending for education, economic recovery, and working families.

On February 26th, Minnesota Management and Budget (MMB) released its February budget forecast, showing a projected surplus of approximately \$1.6 billion for the next two-year budget cycle. That was a nearly \$3 billion swing from the last budget forecast, released in early December 2020, that projected a nearly \$1.3 billion deficit. MMB credited increased tax collections, lower than expected state spending, and the federal COVID-19 stimulus package for the significant swing.

On March 18th, Governor Walz released his supplemental budget, which maintains tax increases and increases spending. The new proposal maintains some tax increases for top income earners and economic relief for those hit hardest by COVID-19. It also includes two new tax cuts, already passed by the Republican-controlled Senate, that eliminates state income taxes on most of the money businesses received from PPP (Payroll Protection Program) loans (exempting the first \$350,000 from income for forgiven loan amounts) and tax relief for jobless Minnesotans who received additional federal unemployment assistance.

Updates on Washington County's legislative priorities were provided in Larkin Hoffman's report.

Washington County Historic Courthouse

The county is requesting \$2.5 million in state funds to match non-state funds to replace the deteriorating roof on the county's historic courthouse in Stillwater. Larkin Hoffman had this bill drafted in late 2020 based on preliminary estimates for the project. The bill, as introduced, included a \$2 million appropriation. This bill received a hearing in the House Capital Investment Committee on Thursday, March 18, 2021, where it was successfully amended by Rep. Shelly Christensen to include the correct \$2.5 million amount. The bill was laid over by Chairman Fue Lee (DFL-Minneapolis) for possible inclusion in a final omnibus capital investment bill.

The bill has not received a hearing in the Senate. The Senate has not held many hearings this year and is unlikely to have many hearings prior to the close of the 2021 session. New chairman, Tom Bakk (I-Cook) has stated his hesitancy to have a bonding bill this year due to last year's large bill. Sen. Bakk has stated that any bonding bill will be small and will not include many local projects. Larkin Hoffman is working with the county to have county delegation lawmakers and other bonding staff visit the courthouse on April 17, 2021.

Highway 36 and Lake Elmo Interchange

The county is requesting \$15 million in state funds to match existing non-state funds to construct a new interchange at Trunk Highway 36 and CSAH 17 (Lake Elmo Avenue). This project closely resembles the Highway 36/Manning Avenue interchange project the county received funding for in last year's bonding bill. Due to a delay in drafting with the Senate Counsel's office, this bill went to the Revisor's Office for final revision until March 19, 2021. The bill's chief authors should receive the revised version later this week. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, Larkin Hoffman will

have the chief authors introduce the bills in each body and county delegation members will be added as co-authors via floor motion. Given the project's timeline, and the likelihood of a smaller bonding bill, if any, this year, Larkin Hoffman will work to secure planning money for this project this year. Traditionally, planning and design money is approximately 10 percent of the overall project cost, about \$3 million.

4th Street Bridge

The county is requesting \$3.5 million to reconstruct the 4th Street Bridge over Interstate 694 in the City of Oakdale. The bill received a hearing in the House Capital Investment Committee on March 22, 2021, where it was laid over for possible inclusion in a final bonding bill. Commissioner Karwoski presented the bill to the committee with Rep. Tou Xiong.

The bill has not received a hearing in the Senate. It is unlikely the Senate will hear any local bills this year. Larkin Hoffman is coordinating a legislative visit to Washington County on April 17, 2021, where lawmakers and staff will hear a short presentation on this project.

St. Croix Bluffs Regional Park

The county is requesting \$500,000 to improve the boat launch and fishing pier at St. Croix Bluffs Regional Park in Denmark Township. This year is only the second year the county is attempting to obtain bonding money for its parks system. The project received visits from lawmakers in 2019 and was included in multiple iterations of the House's bonding bill during the 2020 regular session. The bipartisan nature of this bill puts it in a good position for the 2021 session and going into the 2022 bonding cycle.

The bill received a hearing in the House Capital Investment Committee on March 18th. Commissioner Johnson presented the bill with Rep. Jurgens. The bill was laid over for possible inclusion in an omnibus bonding bill. The bill has not received a hearing in the Senate. Larkin Hoffman is working with county staff to include a presentation of the project during a delegation visit on April 17, 2021.

Stonebridge Trail

The county is requesting \$3 million in state funding to construct a trailhead and trail connections from County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 5 (Stonebridge Trail) to the Brown's Creek State Trail. Due to a delay in drafting with the Senate Counsel's office, this bill was not sent to the Revisor's Office for a final version until March 19, 2021. The bill chief authors should receive the revision later this week. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, Larkin Hoffman will have the chief authors introduce the bills in each body and county delegation members will be added as co-authors via floor motion. Larkin Hoffman is working with county staff to include an overview of this project during the April 17, 2021 delegation visit at the courthouse.

Ms. Vesel reported that Larkin Hoffman continues to work on Washington County's behalf at the Capitol and is in close contact with the county's delegation. Currently, there is an issue with transit funding from Metropolitan Council in the Governor's transportation package. Larkin Hoffman is in close communication with the delegation, other counties, and their lobbyists regarding this issue.

Federal Legislative Updates

Mike Erlandson from Downs Government Affairs provided a mid-session federal legislative report. Mr. Erlandson noted the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan passed by U.S. Congress and signed by President Joe Biden this month as the largest piece of legislation ever passed. Community Project funding is being discussed in the House and Senate, and U.S. Rep. Betty McCollum and her staff are looking forward to supporting Community Projects in the 4th Congressional Districts. The House Appropriations Committee extended the deadline for members to turn in their projects. The Republicans in the House had a closed vote and passed support for bringing back congressional earmarks. The House limited them to governmental entities and non-profits. The Senate has talked about allowing for-profits. Mr. Erlandson stated that estimates are that the American Rescue Plan will send \$8 billion to Minnesota. The state continues to talk about a major bonding bill. In Washington, D.C., there is discussion on a major transportation and infrastructure bill, in addition to the appropriations process that brought back Community Projects. There is discussion about including those in the transportation bill. Congress announced yesterday a proposal to put more money into water projects. Early census reports in Washington, D.C., seem to indicate that Minnesota will likely lose one of its congressional seats, going from 8 to 7, which would have a big impact on Minnesota.

Resolutions to Submit Land and Water Legacy Program Projects to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

June Mathiowetz, Senior Planner in the Office of Administration, presented two Land and Water Legacy Project funding applications to be submitted to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Natural & Scenic Areas Grant by March 31, 2021.

Ms. Mathiowetz presented the first project, a Land and Water Legacy Program (LWLP) project for Valley Creek Regionally Significant Ecological Area in Afton (Blasko property). Today's purpose is to review this LWLP project concept and partnership, and adopt a resolution to proceed with the state grant proposal. The Parcel IDs for this project are: 16.028.20.23.0005, 16.028.20.23.0006, 16.028.20.23.0007, 16.028.20.23.0011, and 17.028.20.14.0003; and approximately 19 acres.

The Valley Creek Corridor watershed is 14 square miles and the creek flows 10 miles from Woodbury to Afton, emptying into the St. Croix River. Valley Creek is one of 13 streams in the Twin Cities and one of only a few with naturally reproducing brook trout, the only trout species native to Minnesota, and also sustains brown and rainbow trout. Home to many Midwestern species, such as the bald eagle, peregrine falcon, and Karner blue butterfly, all on the federal list of threatened and endangered species. More than 20 endangered, threatened, and special concern species are present, including American brook lamprey, hooded warbler, and Blanding's turtle. Valley Creek flows into one of the world's premier mussel habitats; 41 mussel species live in the St. Croix watershed.

This project is a tributary to the St. Croix River, located in Afton on Valley Creek and in the Valley Creek Watershed District. Valley Creek is a high priority area in the LWLP project ranking; very



high for habitat quality; very high for entire bluff quality; high to low in low lands near road; will protect surface water; and likely protects groundwater. It is adjacent and near 1,800 acres protected by Belwin Conservancy and the Minnesota Land Trust, and located on the St. Croix River Flyway.

The project concept offers potential partnership between Washington County, Belwin Conservancy, the City of Afton, the Afton Historical Society, and the Minnesota DNR. Belwin will hold the fee title and provide ongoing maintenance and programming. Washington County will cover 50 percent of the conservation easement, seek state grant funding to cover the remaining 50 percent of the easement costs, hold and monitor the conservation easement, and cover other project costs, such as appraisal and archeological study, if needed. The City of Afton will contribute up to \$25,000 for certain project costs, such as assessments, management plan, and removal of structures.

The conservation easement allows for a small network of unpaved paths or foot trails, maintenance shed, enclosed portable restrooms, driveway and parking, habitat management, and public access through educational and historical programming; research and data collection will also occur.

Restrictions include: no industrial, commercial, residential, or agricultural uses; no division, transfer of development rights; no new rights of way or mining; and no docks. State law prohibits continuation of a fish hatchery that is on the property.

Ms. Mathiowetz reported that the appraisal for the property was just received yesterday and will need more time for review before presenting in Executive (closed) Session.

Commissioner Johnson moved to adopt **Resolution No. 2021-036** as follows:

**RESOLUTION TO SUBMIT TO THE MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

BE IT RESOLVED that Washington County act as legal sponsor for the project contained in the Natural & Scenic Areas grant application to be submitted on March 31, 2021 and that June Mathiowetz is hereby authorized to apply to the Department of Natural Resources for funding of this project on behalf of Washington County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the applicant has read the Conflict of Interest Policy contained in the Natural and Scenic Areas Grant Program Manual and, upon discovery, certifies it will report to the State any actual, potential, or perceived individual or organizational conflicts of interest related to the application or grant award.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Washington County has the legal authority to apply for financial assistance, and it has the financial capability to meet the match requirement (if any) and ensure adequate construction, operation, maintenance and replacement of the proposed project for its design life.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Washington County has not incurred any development costs and has not entered into a written purchase agreement to acquire the property described in the Cost Breakdown section on this application.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Washington County has or will acquire fee title or permanent easement over the land described in the site plan included in the application.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, upon approval of its application by the state, Washington County may enter into an agreement with the State of Minnesota for the above-referenced project, and that Washington County certifies that it will comply with all applicable laws and regulations as stated in the grant agreement including dedicating the park property for uses consistent with the funding grant program into perpetuity.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that June Mathiowetz is hereby authorized to execute such agreements as are necessary to implement the project on behalf of the applicant.

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

Ms. Mathiowetz presented the second project, a Land and Water Legacy Program (LWLP) Conservation Easement for Carnelian Creek Regionally Significant Ecological Area (Scott/Kampfer properties). Today's purpose is to review this LWLP project concept for conservation easements on 108 acres in May Township, using LWLP funds, and adopt a resolution to proceed with the state grant proposal. The Parcel IDs for this project are: 09.031.20.22.0002, 09.031.20.22.0003, 09.031.20.23.0003, and 09.031.20.24.0001.

The property is at 16665 May Avenue North, in May Township. This is in the Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix Watershed District. Approximately half of project area is in a Regionally Significant Ecological Area and LWLP high priority area, the Carnelian Creek Corridor. It is in the state Wildlife Action Plan area and is at risk of fragmentation and loss.

The Carnelian Creek high priority area involves 2,690 total acres, including 1,912 acres of forest, woodlands, or shrublands, 730 acres of grassland and 1,690 acres of wetlands. There is a diverse upland and wetland complex connecting Big Marine, Big Carnelian, Square, Mud, Turtle, Long, Staples, Northern and Southern Terrapin, Mays, East and West Boot, and Bass lakes. Minnesota Land Cover Classification (MLCCS) classifies high-quality tamarack swamp, northern hardwood forest, oaks, aspen-birch, maple basswood, lowland hardwood, mixed hardwood swamp, poor fen, rich fen, alder swamp, willow swamp, wet meadow, graminoid bog, cattail marsh, dry prairie, medium tall grassland, grassland with sparse trees, open water, and slow moving linear stream. Minnesota Biological Survey identifies areas of biological significance and fourteen records of rare or significant plant community types, and plant and animal species. It is a known hotspot for Blanding's turtles, other reptiles and amphibians, red-shouldered hawks, and two plant species tracked by the Minnesota DNR.

The project location is adjacent to multiple county-owned parcels, Big Marine Park Reserve, and a county conservation area. The Manitou Fund property and Warner Nature Center are a mile to the southeast. There is road access on north-south May Avenue North; and County Road 4 on the northern property line. The northern parcel line is on the Glacial Hills Regional Trail Search Corridor.

The LWLP ranking for this property is very high for habitat and water bodies, and low for cultivated areas. There is an estimated 40 acres of forest/woodlands, 24 acres of open water, and more than 30 acres of grassland. It is in the DNR's Native Plant Communities area. Landowners report bears, deer, geese, raccoons, beavers, coyotes, fisher, bobcats; and endangered, threatened, or special concern species on or within one mile of the property; and, it will protect habitat and surface water, and likely protects groundwater.

Natural features of the property include native wetland plant communities, including wooded ephemeral ponds, sedge meadows, and cattail marshes. Woodlands southeast on the property were likely oak savanna that have transitioned to oak woodland. There are white, bur, red, and swamp oak present, along with black cherry, birch, red maple, and some ironwood and elm. Some native prairie species present in the grasslands include little bluestem, bergamot, and golden rod.

Parcel details include approximately 108 acres in the easement area. There are two landowners. There will be two five-acre building site exclusion areas created; former building site structures will be removed before closing. The landowners are interested in conservation grazing and haying, with plans to be developed. The elevation ranges from 940 to 990 feet.

Conservation easement allowances include: two five-acre exclusion areas for home sites; 1-2 outbuildings; hiking, cross-country skiing, horseback riding, camping, hunting, nature observation; hiking paths, conservation grazing, and haying are to be in designated areas with a defined number of animal units; and, vegetation management in accordance with the Stewardship Plan when it is undertaken.

Restrictions include: no industrial, mining, or residential development or use, and limited commercial uses; no structures, improvements, roads, alteration of shorelines or rights of way without county approval; no vehicles, except for habitat management or activities allowed in the easement.

This project offers potential partnership of 50% contribution from the county, and 50% grant contribution from the Minnesota DNR. The county's portion covers typical transactional costs and archeological study, if required. The county would hold and monitor the easement.

Commissioner Miron moved to adopt **Resolution No. 2021-037** as follows:

**RESOLUTION TO SUBMIT TO THE MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

BE IT RESOLVED that Washington County act as legal sponsor for the project contained in the Natural & Scenic Areas grant application to be



submitted on March 31, 2021 and that June Mathiowetz is hereby authorized to apply to the Department of Natural Resources for funding of this project on behalf of Washington County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the applicant has read the Conflict of Interest Policy contained in the Natural and Scenic Areas Grant Program Manual and, upon discovery, certifies it will report to the State any actual, potential, or perceived individual or organizational conflicts of interest related to the application or grant award.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Washington County has the legal authority to apply for financial assistance, and it has the financial capability to meet the match requirement (if any) and ensure adequate construction, operation, maintenance and replacement of the proposed project for its design life.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Washington County has not incurred any development costs and has not entered into a written purchase agreement to acquire the property described in the Cost Breakdown section on this application.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Washington County has or will acquire fee title or permanent easement over the land described in the site plan included in the application.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, upon approval of its application by the state, Washington County may enter into an agreement with the State of Minnesota for the above-referenced project, and that Washington County certifies that it will comply with all applicable laws and regulations as stated in the grant agreement including dedicating the park property for uses consistent with the funding grant program into perpetuity.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that June Mathiowetz is hereby authorized to execute such agreements as are necessary to implement the project on behalf of the applicant.

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

COVID-19 Hotel Sheltering Program Staffing Approval

County Administrator Kevin Corbid reported that the county began the Hotel Shelter Program in April 2020 in response to the Governor's Executive Order to keep people experiencing homelessness safe during the pandemic. The shelter is in two hotels and averages 50 households and 65-70 people at any given time. To date, it has served 112 households and 160 individuals.

Washington County contracted with Stepping Stone to support the needs of people while in shelter and assist them in pursuing more permanent housing options. Stepping Stone has not been able to hire enough staff for the COVID shelter. The Community Services Department is recommending that it be allowed to hire three special project social workers to support this work. Working with staff from Stepping Stone, these staff will assist the people being served in shelter to move out and into permanent housing.

The costs for the contract with Stepping Stone will be reduced because of the fewer staff providing services through Stepping Stone. The funds for these positions will come from the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) as described by the Washington County Community Development Agency staff in their recent presentation to the board. This request does not require any property tax dollars to fund these positions. Funding is available through September 2022.

Commissioner Miron moved to authorize the Community Services Department Head, with approval from the County Administrator, to hire additional staff on a special project basis to support the COVID Hotel Shelter program through September 30, 2022. Commissioner Karwoski seconded the motion and it was adopted 4-0 with a Roll Call vote as follows: Ayes, Commissioners Miron, Johnson, Karwoski, and Weik. Nays, none.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioners reported on meetings and other events that 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.

EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSIONS – ADMINISTRATION

Board Chair Weik stated the next item on the board agenda is item #7. County Administration is requesting that this item be removed from today's agenda and potentially be added to a subsequent board agenda. Commissioner Johnson moved to remove item #7 from today's agenda. Commissioner Miron seconded the motion, and it was adopted 4-0 with a Roll Call vote as follows: Ayes, Commissioners Miron, Johnson, Karwoski, and Weik. Nays, none.

Board Chair Weik stated the next two items on the agenda, items #8 and #9, are listed as Executive (Closed) Sessions. Both are for the review of appraisals related to the county's possible purchase of conservation easements on property owned by separate owners.

The first, agenda item #8, is related to property identified as Parcel IDs: 09.031.20.22.0002, 09.031.20.23.0003, and 09.031.20.24.0001.

The second, agenda item #9, is related to property identified as Parcel ID 09.031.20.22.0003.



Pursuant to Minnesota Statute Section 13D.05, subdivision, 3(c), these meetings may be closed to the public. Each appraisal will be discussed in a separate closed session.

Commissioner Karwoski moved to convene in Executive (Closed) Session. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion, and it was adopted 4-0 with a Roll Call vote as follows: Ayes, Commissioners Miron, Johnson, Karwoski, and Weik. Nays, none.

The Board met in Executive Session to review the appraisal for the property located at Parcel IDs 09.031.20.22.0002, 09.031.20.23.0003, and 09.031.20.24.0001, the time being 11:18 a.m. Present for the Executive Session were Commissioners Weik, Karwoski, Johnson, and Miron. Also present were Kevin Corbid, County Administrator; Jan Lucke, Deputy County Administrator; Jennifer Wagenius, Deputy County Administrator; Susan Tice, County Attorney Division Chief; Jessica Oertel, Assistant County Attorney III; June Mathiowetz, Senior Planner; Tina Simonson, Communication/Planning Manager; Wayne Sandberg, Public Works Deputy Director/County Engineer; Sharon Price, Property Acquisition Manager; Stephanie Kammerud, Administrative Assistant. The Executive Session concluded at 11:35 a.m.

The Board met in Executive Session to review the appraisal for the property located at Parcel ID 09.031.20.22.0003, the time being 11:35 a.m. Present for the Executive Session were Commissioners Weik, Karwoski, Johnson, and Miron. Also present were Kevin Corbid, County Administrator; Jan Lucke, Deputy County Administrator; Jennifer Wagenius, Deputy County Administrator; Susan Tice, County Attorney Division Chief; Jessica Oertel, Assistant County Attorney III; June Mathiowetz, Senior Planner; Tina Simonson, Communication/Planning Manager; Wayne Sandberg, Public Works Deputy Director/County Engineer; Sharon Price, Property Acquisition Manager; Stephanie Kammerud, Administrative Assistant. The Executive Session concluded at 11:45 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Miron moved to adjourn. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion and it was adopted 4-0 with a Roll Call vote as follows: Ayes, Commissioners Miron, Johnson, Karwoski, and Weik. Nays, none. The County Board meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

BOARD WORKSHOP WITH PROPERTY RECORDS AND TAXPAYER SERVICES

The Board met in workshop session to review assessment year 2021/pay 2022 property valuations. Present for the workshop were Commissioners Miron, Karwoski, Johnson, and Weik. Also present were Kevin Corbid, Jan Lucke, Jennifer Wagenius, and county staff.

BOARD WORKSHOP WITH PUBLIC WORKS

The Board met in workshop session for an update on the county's Cost Participation Policy #8001. Present for the workshop were Commissioners Miron, Karwoski, Johnson, and Weik. Also present were Kevin Corbid, Jan Lucke, Jennifer Wagenius, and county staff.



Attest:

DocuSigned by:
Kevin Corbid
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Kevin Corbid
County Administrator

DocuSigned by:
Lisa Weik
2BB6324A826E467...
Lisa Weik
County Board Chair