



**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA
JUNE 6, 2023**

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 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
 Stephanie Kammerud, Administrative Assistant

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

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

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

1. Approval of the May 16, 2023, and May 23, 2023, County Board meeting minutes.
2. Approval of **Resolution No. 2023-059** as follows:

**RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE SUBDIVISION OF
TAX FORFEITED LAND**

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute Chapter 282 gives the county board the authority to manage tax forfeited property that is located within Washington County, and

WHEREAS, the county board has the authority to either combine or split parcels of tax forfeited property when it is considered advantageous for sale purposes, and

WHEREAS, parcel 22.028.20.21.0010 described as; County Auditor's Plat No. 5 Lot 32 be split into two parcels, parcel A and parcel B, and



WHEREAS, parcel A will be described as in the attached Exhibit A, and

WHEREAS, parcel B will be described as in the attached Exhibit B.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington County Board of Commissioners hereby determines that parcel 22.028.20.21.0010 be subdivided into two parcels, parcel A and parcel B, and further described in the attached Exhibit A and Exhibit B.

3. Approval of **Resolution No. 2023-060** as follows:

**RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SALE OF TAX FORFEITED
LAND TO WASHINGTON COUNTY AND THE CITY OF
AFTON FOR AN AUTHORIZED PUBLIC PURPOSE**

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute Chapter 282 gives the county board the authority to manage tax forfeited property that is located within Washington County, and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute provides that tax forfeited land may be sold by the county board, for market value to a governmental subdivision of the state for any public purpose, and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute provides that tax forfeited land may be conveyed at no cost by the county board to a governmental subdivision of the state for any public purpose, and

WHEREAS, Washington County and the City of Afton have requested a parcel of tax forfeited land to be conveyed to them for an authorized public purpose, and

WHEREAS, Washington County Board of Commissioners has previously approved the split of parcel 22.028.20.21.0010 into two parcels, parcel A and parcel B described as; County Auditor's Plat No. 5 Lot 32, and further described in the attached Exhibit A and Exhibit B, and

WHEREAS, Washington County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the sale of a portion of parcel 22.028.20.21.0010 described in Exhibit A to Washington County for the purchase price of \$100.00 plus the extra cost of the recording fee, and

WHEREAS, Washington County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the conveyance of a portion of parcel 22.028.20.21.0010 described in Exhibit B to the City of Afton at no cost, plus the extra cost of the recording fee and the Conditional Use Deed fee.



NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Washington County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the sale of parcels A & B, further described in the attached Exhibit A and Exhibit B derived from the split of parcel 22.028.20.21.0010 to Washington County for the appraised value of \$100.00 plus the extra cost of the recording fee, and to the City of Afton at no cost plus the extra cost of the recording fee and the Conditional Use Deed fee.

4. Approval of an application for a 1-4 day Temporary On-Sale Liquor License from the Greater Stillwater Chamber of Commerce for a special event at the Washington County Fairgrounds on June 17, 2023.
5. Approval of **Resolution No. 2023-061** 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 during the 2023 Washington County Fair event at the Washington County Fairgrounds located at 12300 N, 40th Street, Stillwater, in Baytown Township from August 2, 2023, through August 6, 2023, 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 approves the application to conduct off-site gambling, pull tabs, from the Bayport American Legion Post 491 at the Washington County Fairgrounds located in Baytown Township and for it to be remitted to the Minnesota Gambling Control Board for their consideration.

6. Approval of **Resolution No. 2023-062** as follows:

**RESOLUTION TO GRANT A DRAINAGE EASEMENT TO THE
CARNELIAN-MARINE-ST. CROIX WATERSHED DISTRICT
OVER A PORTION OF WASHINGTON COUNTY
BIG MARINE PARK RESERVE**

WHEREAS, The Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix Watershed District (CMSCWD) intends to make certain water quality improvements for the benefit of Big Marine Lake by installing stormwater management facilities along public and privately held portions of 177th Street North in May Township; and

WHEREAS, in order to makes such improvements, a portion of the facilities will be located partially on property owned by Washington County (County) within the Big Marine Park Reserve; and

WHEREAS, the CMSCWD, with the support of the County, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR), May Township and adjacent private landowner, will regrade a portion of 177th Street, construct an infiltration basin and overflow basin in order to slow and filter stormwater runoff; and

WHEREAS, as part of this collaborative effort, the CMSCWD will need a drainage easement from the County for the drainage swale and basin along the north side of 177th Street within Big Marine Park Reserve; and

WHEREAS, there is no cost for this improvement by the County and maintenance will be done by the CMSCWD.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington County Board hereby authorizes its Board Chair and County Administrator to execute a Drainage Easement to the Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix Watershed District over a portion of Big Marine Park Reserve as described on the attached Exhibit A.

7. Approve a Cooperative Agreement with the Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix Watershed District for stormwater quality improvements to Big Marine Lake.
8. Approve Cooperative Agreements No. 15374 and No. 15375 between the cities of Lake Elmo and Oakdale and Washington County for the ongoing maintenance of three existing traffic signal systems located on County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 13, also known at various locations as Inwood Avenue North and Ideal Avenue North, at its intersections with CSAH 14 (34th Street), CSAH 10 (10th Street North), and 4th Street North and Hudson Boulevard, all on the boundary between the cities of Lake Elmo and Oakdale.
9. Approve Contract No. 15529 for \$197,780 with Hoffman & McNamara Co for the Highway 36 at Manning Avenue Landscaping Project.
10. Approve Site Lease Agreement No. 15261 between Washington County and the City of Stillwater.
11. Approve Grant Agreement No. 15562 with the Minnesota Department of Public Safety for \$119,578 for the Emergency Management Performance Grant Program.

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

LIBRARY

Resolution Proclaiming Summer at Your Library

Library Director Jacquie Kramer presented a resolution to proclaim June 1 through August 19, 2023, as Summer at Your Library. Ms. Kramer reported that the Washington County Library is celebrating its summer learning program, Summer at Your Library. This program includes events and activities to encourage kids, teens, and adults to make reading and learning part of their summer plans.

Commissioner Bigham moved to adopt **Resolution No. 2023-063** as follows:

SUMMER AT YOUR LIBRARY 2023 PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, libraries are at the heart of their cities, towns, counties, and communities, serving as accessible and inclusive places that foster a sense of belonging and connection; and

WHEREAS, today's libraries are finding creative ways to deliver services that are important to their communities, including books, technology, and lifelong learning opportunities; and

WHEREAS, libraries and librarians provide free access to diverse stories about people from all walks of life and credible information to help community members learn and grow; and

WHEREAS, from June 1 through August 19, 2023, Washington County Library will celebrate its Summer at Your Library program with an array of events and activities; and

WHEREAS, participation in summer library programs can neutralize summer learning loss and improve comprehension and memory skills for children and teens; and

WHEREAS, these programs and activities encourage library users of all ages to become lifelong readers and learners; and

WHEREAS, Washington County Library staff are working to offer programs that encourage community members to visit the library, connect with their neighbors, and learn something new.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim June 1 to August 19, 2023, as Summer at Your Library.

Commissioner Clasen 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.

PUBLIC WORKS

Contract for County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 14 and CSAH 24 Improvement Project

Engineer Andrew Giesen presented a construction contract for CSAH 14 (47th Street) and CSAH 24 (Osgood Avenue) Improvement Project in Baytown Township. This project is identified as #RB-2567 in the Capital Improvement Plan.

Mr. Giesen reported that CSAH 14 and CSAH 24 are minor arterials that serve regional traffic, including trucking and commuter traffic. The railroad crossing has high cross-slope elevations, making it difficult for vehicles to cross the tracks at the posted highway speed. The scope of this project includes intersection improvements, a new traffic light, reconstruction of the railroad crossing, adding dedicated turn lanes, and resurfacing the roadways.

Mr. Giesen reported that three bids were received, and Park Construction Company was selected as the lowest bid. This contract will be funded by State Aid (budgeted and unused/allocated).

Commissioner Kriesel moved to approve Contract No. 15565 for \$3,794,158.05 with Park Construction Company for the CSAH 14 and CSAH 24 Improvement Project. Commissioner Miron seconded the motion, and it was adopted unanimously.

Contracts for Historic Courthouse Exterior Improvement Project

Engineer Eden Rogers presented three contracts for the Historic Courthouse Exterior Improvement Project. This project is identified as #HC-1048-028 in the Capital Improvement Plan.

Ms. Rogers reported that this project includes roof, dome, and cupola repair, including carpentry repair, brick and mortar replacement/repair, waterproofing of windows, and concrete repair around the site at the Historic Courthouse. The Historic Courthouse will be closed to the public during the duration of the construction.

Ms. Rogers reported that bids for these projects were opened on May 18 and the following were selected as the lowest bids: Kellington Construction - carpentry, demo, and miscellaneous metals; Acme Tuckpointing and Restoration Company - masonry; CMR Construction and Roofing – metal panel and roofing. This contract will be funded by Capital Redirect.

Commissioner Miron moved to approve Contract No. 15568 with Kellington Construction for \$1,008,000 for the carpentry, demo, and miscellaneous metals work for the Historic Courthouse Exterior Improvement Project. Commissioner Bigham seconded the motion, and it was adopted unanimously.

Commissioner Kriesel moved to approve Contract No. 15567 with Acme Tuckpointing and Restoration Company for \$746,277 for the masonry work for the Historic Courthouse Exterior Improvement Project. Commissioner Karwoski seconded the motion, and it was adopted unanimously.

Commissioner Karwoski moved to approve Contract No. 15570 with CMR Construction and Roofing for \$1,267,625 for the metal panel and roofing work for the Historic Courthouse Exterior Improvement Project. Commissioner Bigham seconded the motion, and it was adopted unanimously.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Authorization to Transfer Ownership of Washington County Sheriff's Office K9 Beck to Deputy Steven Bell

Commander Tim Harris and Sgt. Ty Jacobson presented a request for ownership of K9 Beck to be transferred to Deputy Steven Bell. K9 Beck retired from active duty after nearly nine years of service with the Washington County Sheriff's Office. Deputy Bell has agreed to accept full ownership of Beck at no cost to the county and further agrees to accept liability and responsibility for the cost and care of Beck. Beck had many successes in Washington County and the Sheriff's Office thanks Beck and Deputy Bell for their dedicated service to the K9 division.

Commissioner Miron moved to transfer ownership of Washington County K9 Beck to his handler, Deputy Steven Bell. Commissioner Bigham seconded the motion, and it was adopted unanimously.

Sgt. Jacobson also recognized K9 officers whose K9 partners retired during the COVID-19 pandemic. Sgt. Allen Degel and K9 Vader, Sgt. Kevin Jadwinski and K9 Viking, and Deputy Clay Evens and K9 Maia were recognized for their hard work and dedication.

Recognition of 2023 Advisor of the Year

Commander Harris reported that Northern Star Exploring named Washington County Sheriff's Office Detective Sara Peulen as the 2023 Advisor of the Year. This award is presented by the Learning for Life Executive Committee, recognizing an individual who made remarkable contributions to their exploring post and the Exploring Program as a whole. For more than 24 years, Det. Peulen has dedicated a substantial portion of her career to serving as an Explorer advisor. In her time as an advisor, she has been a guide and mentor to countless youth, attended hundreds of meetings and competitions, and watched dozens of Explorers grow into deputies and leaders in law enforcement. Det. Peulen's selection for this award signifies her exceptional dedication and significant impact on the Minnesota Law Enforcement Exploring Program.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Resolution Supporting Congressional Designation of St. Croix National Heritage Area

Gayle Prest and Marty Harding, board members of North Woods and Water of the St. Croix Heritage Area, presented a resolution to support congressional designation of the St. Croix National Heritage Area.

National Heritage Areas (NHAs) are created by Congress through federal law to promote the conservation of natural, historic, scenic, and cultural resources, while sustaining the areas'

economic vitality. NHAs tell important stories that celebrate diverse heritage and provide a community-driven approach to heritage conservation and economic development. Since 1984, Congress has designated 62 NHAs in 35 states. NHAs must meet National Park Service criteria for their unique natural, cultural, and historical significance, and they are prohibited from land use and regulatory authority.

North Woods and Waters of the St. Croix Heritage Area (NWW) is a regional, grassroots initiative that has been working for more than 14 years to encourage the St Croix River Watershed's designation as an NHA to promote community development, tourism, and civic pride, and encourage conservation based on the St. Croix River Watershed's unique history and cultural resources. The watershed's area includes all or part of 18 counties and four tribal nations in Minnesota and Wisconsin. Through the work of NWW, the criteria for designation as a NHA has been met.

Commissioner Clasen moved to adopt **Resolution No. 2023-064** as follows:

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING NORTH WOODS AND WATERS
OF THE ST. CROIX NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA**

WHEREAS, the region defined by the St. Croix River and its tributaries meets the definition of a National Heritage Area (NHA): A place designated by Congress for its nationally distinctive landscape, with shared stories and traditions that contribute to our nation's diverse heritage; and

WHEREAS, more than 1,200 people throughout the region were engaged in a multi-year process to explore the feasibility of designation, and strong public support was expressed for the concept; and

WHEREAS, the feasibility study for North Woods and Waters of the St. Croix Heritage Area has met all ten National Park Service criteria for designation; and

WHEREAS, economic impact studies have shown that an NHA would help us build the regional economy using the natural, cultural, and historic heritage as a foundation; and

WHEREAS, an NHA would foster a sense of regional identity, brand the region for international tourism, and increase the region's competitiveness in seeking grants and attracting private investment; and

WHEREAS, a North Woods and Waters of the St. Croix National Heritage Area would create opportunities for communities and residents to work together across traditional boundaries for mutual benefit; and

WHEREAS, an NHA would help residents and visitors better understand, appreciate, and experience the region's special stories and places; and

WHEREAS, NHAs are community-based efforts that are managed by the local leaders and residents that live in them; and

WHEREAS, NHAs are living, working landscapes that honor traditional uses and support continued economic activity in the region; and

WHEREAS, NHAs do not acquire regulatory authority over zoning or land use, and do not infringe upon private property rights.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington County Board of Commissioners supports Congressional designation of the North Woods and Waters of the St. Croix National Heritage Area.

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.

Resolution for Participation in the 2023 Performance Measurement Program

Kelli Matzek, Senior Planner in the Office of Administration, presented a resolution for the State Standard Measures Program, authorizing the County Administrator to file a declaration to participate with the Office of the State Auditor.

Ms. Matzek reported that Washington County has had a longstanding commitment to performance measurement and continuous quality improvement, and has participated in the State's Standard Measures Program since 2011. To receive the per capita reimbursement for 2023, the county must approve a resolution stating that Washington County has adopted 10 model performance measures.

Commissioner Bigham moved to adopt **Resolution No. 2023-065** as follows:

PARTICIPATION IN THE 2023 PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Legislature created the Council on Local Results and Innovation in 2010, setting it in state law; and

WHEREAS, the Council on Local Results and Innovation released a standard set of performance measures for counties that will aid residents, taxpayers, and state and local elected officials to determine the effectiveness of counties in providing services and measure residents' opinions of those services; and

WHEREAS, the County Board began the county's participation in the voluntary standard measures program in 2011; and

WHEREAS, a county that chooses to participate in the standard measures program for 2023 may be eligible for a reimbursement of 14 cents per capita in county government aid, not to exceed \$25,000; and

WHEREAS, counties must file a report with the Office of the State Auditor by July 1, 2023, with a declaration adopting and implementing performance measures developed by the Council on Local Results and Innovation; and

WHEREAS, the county has a longstanding commitment to performance measurement and continuous quality improvement that focuses on outcome goals and performance results; and

WHEREAS, the county has implemented a local performance measurement system, including the use of measurement and reporting to help plan, budget, manage, and evaluate programs and processes; and

WHEREAS, the county is implementing an internal quality improvement plan with a framework for countywide quality improvement work, which includes setting targets, measuring progress, reporting on progress, and making improvements; and

WHEREAS, the county will report the results of the 10 adopted measures from this program to residents by posting the results on the county's website; and

WHEREAS, the county will continue to communicate the results of its performance measurement and improvement program with residents through the use of public meetings, news releases, website postings, and an annual report to the County Board and residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Washington County Board of Commissioners adopts 10 Model Performance Measures for Counties and authorizes the County Administrator to file the declaration to participate in the 2023 Performance Measurement Program and to file the Performance Measurement Review with the Office of the State Auditor by July 1, 2023.

Commissioner Clasen 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.

WTS Minnesota – Women to Watch Award

Public Works Director Wayne Sandberg reported that WTS Minnesota is a group of transportation professionals committed to the mission of transforming the transportation industry through the advancement of women. In April, WTS Minnesota held its annual recognition luncheon, and Public Works Fleet Manager Laura Kearns was chosen as the 2023 WTS Minnesota Women to Watch award for her exemplary work as Washington County's Fleet Manager.

Ms. Kearns has been instrumental in organizing and improving workflow processes. Ms. Kearns has initiated additional checks and balances by updating the parts room, and added barcoding that has resulted in a more accurate inventory of all parts used on county equipment. Ms. Kearns oversees the county's six fuel depots throughout the county by ensuring that state and federal regulations are met. Ms. Kearns works collaboratively with departments throughout Washington County, and she is the only female fleet manager within the seven-county metropolitan area.

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

Board correspondence was received and placed on file.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the County Board meeting adjourned at 10:32 a.m.

BOARD WORKSHOP WITH PUBLIC HEALTH & ENVIRONMENT

The board met in workshop session to discuss the proposed 2024 and 2025 Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy Board (R&E Board) budgets. Present for the workshop were Commissioners Miron, Karwoski, Kriesel, Bigham, and Clasen. Also present were Kevin Corbid, Jan Lucke, Jennifer Wagenius, and county staff.

BOARD WORKSHOPS WITH PUBLIC WORKS

The board met in workshop session for a presentation from East Metro Strong's Executive Director Will Schroeer. Present for the workshop were Commissioners Miron, Karwoski, Kriesel, Bigham, and Clasen. Also present were Kevin Corbid, Jan Lucke, Jennifer Wagenius, outside agencies, and county staff.

The board met in workshop session for an update on the Household Hazardous Waste North and Yard Waste project. Present for the workshop were Commissioners Miron, Karwoski, Kriesel, Bigham, and Clasen. Also present were Kevin Corbid, Jan Lucke, Jennifer Wagenius, and county staff.

BOARD WORKSHOP WITH PROPERTY RECORDS AND TAXPAYER SERVICES

The board met in workshop session to review assessment year 2023 local appeals and adjustments in preparation for the County Board of Appeal and Equalization meeting. 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