



**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA
NOVEMBER 7, 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 Gary Kriesel, District 3
Commissioner Karla Bigham, District 4
Commissioner Michelle Clasen, District 5

Absent: Commissioner Stan Karwoski, District 2

Also Present: Kevin Corbid, County Administrator
John Ristad, Assistant County Attorney III
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 Clasen, to adopt the Consent Calendar as follows:

1. Approval of the October 17, 2023, and October 24, 2023, County Board meeting minutes.
2. Approval to appoint Derick Davis, Woodbury, to a partial term expiring December 31, 2024, as a District 5 Representative on the Historic Courthouse Advisory Committee.
3. Approval of **Resolution No. 2023-128** as follows:

**RESOLUTION APPROVING LAWS OF MINNESOTA 2023,
CHAPTER 64, ARTICLE 8, SECTION 15, PARAGRAPH (B)
RELATING TO TAX INCREMENT FINANCING DISTRICT No. 13**

WHEREAS, the City of Woodbury (the “City”) previously created Development District No. 1 (the “Development District”), pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Sections 469.124 through 469.134, as amended; and



WHEREAS, the City created Tax Increment Financing District No. 13 (the “TIF District”) within the Development District pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Sections 469.174 through 469.179, as amended; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature of the State of Minnesota (the “State Legislature”) passed a special law extending the duration of the TIF District by five years, pursuant to and as provided in Laws of Minnesota 2023, Chapter 64, Article 8, Section 15, paragraph (b) (the “Special Law”); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 645.021, subdivisions 2 and 3, and Section 469.1782, subdivision 2, the Special Law is effective upon approval by a majority vote of the governing bodies of the City, Washington County, Minnesota (the “County”), and Independent School District No. 833 (South Washington County Schools), Washington County, Minnesota and the filing of a certificate, including a copy of this resolution, in the form prescribed by the Minnesota Attorney General with the Minnesota Secretary of State; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the County (the “Board”) has determined that it is in the best interest of the County and its residents to approve the Special Law; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of Washington County, Minnesota that:

1. The Special Law is hereby approved.
2. The Clerk of the Board is hereby authorized and directed to file the certificate and a copy of this resolution, as approved, with the Minnesota Secretary of State as required by Minnesota Statutes, Section 645.021, subdivision 3, and Section 469.1782, subdivision 2.
3. County staff, the County’s advisors and legal counsel are authorized and directed to take any additional action necessary to implement the Special Law.
4. Approve a two-year contract extension, Amendment No. 2 of Contract No. 13923 with GovernmentJobs.com (NEOGOV).
5. Approve Contract No. 15878 with Pierson Wireless Corp. for \$899,781.18 for the period from the date of final signature through May 31, 2024.
6. Approve Contract No. 15992 with US eDirect, Inc. for \$497,900, for the period of five (5) years from November 7, 2023, to November 16, 2028.

7. Approval of **Resolution No. 2023-129** as follows:

**RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SALE OF TAX FORFEITED
LAND AT PUBLIC AUCTION**

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

WHEREAS, each year, property forfeits for the non-payment of property taxes, and the Property Records and Taxpayer Services Department, on behalf of the county board, works with the local municipalities and others to develop a plan to move the property into public ownership, or to sell the property and return it to the tax rolls; and

WHEREAS, the parcel listed on the Public Auction Listing as parcel 07.028.21.11.0041 in the City of Woodbury has been identified to be offered for sale to the general public through a public auction, and the attached terms for the sale have been developed; and

WHEREAS, the department will publish a notice once a week for two consecutive weeks of the public auction as required by law and will notify all adjoining owners of the lands to be auctioned.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the basic sale price of parcel 07.028.21.11.0041 appearing on the list filed with Property Records and Taxpayer Services department be approved and the authorization for public sale be granted, pursuant to Minnesota Statute [282.01](#); that the sale be held December 8, 2023 at 2:00 p.m., in Conference Room LL12, Washington County Government Center, Stillwater Minnesota, and the sale be for not less than the minimum sale price; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the sale date of December 8, 2023, is hereby confirmed and repurchase applications will no longer be accepted for the parcel listed on the 2023 Public Auction Listing as parcel 07.028.21.11.0041; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the terms of the sale be set forth in the attached document titled as Terms for the Sale.

8. Approval of **Resolution No. 2023-130** as follows:

**RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PRIVATE SALE OF TAX
FORFEITED LAND TO ADJOINING LANDOWNERS
THROUGH SEALED BID**

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

WHEREAS, Property Records and Taxpayer Services Department, on behalf of the county board, works with the local municipalities and others to develop a plan to move the property into public ownership if there is a public use or purpose for the property, or to sell the property and return it to the tax rolls; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute 282.01 Subd. 7(a) states that the County Auditor may restrict the sale to owners of lands adjoining the land to be sold. The county auditor shall conduct the sale by sealed bid or may select another means of sale. The land shall be sold to the highest bidder and may be sold for less than its appraised value. All owners of land adjoining the land to be sold shall be given a written notice at least 30 days prior to the sale; and

WHEREAS, the parcel identified as 28.030.20.31.0078 in the City of Stillwater has been identified to be offered for sale to the adjacent landowners through a private sale; and the attached terms for the sale have been developed; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that the parcel identified cannot be improved, and the best use can be achieved by selling the parcel to the adjacent owner; and

WHEREAS, a written notice of the date, time, and location of the private sale will be mailed to all adjacent owners at least 30 days before the date of the sale;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington County Board of Commissioners directs the Department of Property Records & Taxpayer Services to sell parcel 28.030.20.31.0078 as a private sale to adjoining landowners on December 15, 2023, at 2:00 p.m., for not less than the basic sale price of \$1.00.

9. Approval of **Resolution No. 2023-131** as follows:

**RESOLUTION APPROVING THE REPURCHASE OF TAX
FORFEITED LAND BY HILLSBORO INLET LLC**

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 King’s Forest Hills parcels set, located in the City of Forest Lake, was forfeited for the non-payment of property taxes on July 18, 2022. The property was classified as non-homestead at the time of forfeiture; and

WHEREAS, the Property Records and Taxpayer Services Department received an Application for Repurchase of Tax Forfeited Property from Hillsboro Inlet LLC on November 7, 2022; and

WHEREAS, payment was received for the amount of all delinquent taxes and assessments computed under MS 282.251, together with all penalties, interests, and costs; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota statute 282.241 allows the repurchase of tax forfeited property when it corrects an undue hardship or injustice resulting from the forfeiture, or promotes the use of the lands that will best serve the public interest; and

WHEREAS, the Washington County Board of Commissioners finds the repurchase application does meet the criteria established in Minnesota Statute 282.241;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington County Board of Commissioners approves the request for repurchase of the following King’s Forest Hills parcels set by Hillsboro Inlet LLC:

City of Forest Lake
10.032.21.24.0053, 10.032.21.24.0054, 10.032.21.24.0055, 10.032.21.24.0056,
10.032.21.24.0057, 10.032.21.24.0058, 10.032.21.24.0059, 10.032.21.24.0060,
10.032.21.24.0061, 10.032.21.24.0062, 10.032.21.24.0063, 10.032.21.24.0064,
10.032.21.24.0065, 10.032.21.24.0066, 10.032.21.24.0068, 10.032.21.24.0069,
10.032.21.24.0070, 10.032.21.24.0071, 10.032.21.24.0072, 10.032.21.24.0073



10. Approval of **Resolution No. 2023-132** as follows:

**RESOLUTION TO RECOMMEND TO THE COMMISSIONER OF
REVENUE TO APPROVE THE CONVEYANCE OF TAX
FORFEITED LAND BY CONDITIONAL USE DEED
TO THE CITY OF AFTON**

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 282.01 Subd. 1a (e) provides that Nonconservation tax-forfeited land held in trust in favor of the taxing districts may be conveyed by the commissioner of revenue in the name of the state to a governmental subdivision for an authorized public use, if an application is submitted to the commissioner which includes a statement of facts as to the use to be made of the tract and the favorable recommendation of the county board. For the purposes of this paragraph, "authorized public use" means a use that allows an indefinite segment of the public to physically use and enjoy the property in numbers appropriate to its size and use, or is for a public service facility; and

WHEREAS, The City of Afton has requested a portion of tax forfeited land parcel 22.028.20.21.0010 be conveyed to the city for authorized public use (1) a road, or right-of-way for a road; 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;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington County Board of Commissioners recommend to the Commissioner of Revenue that the following conveyance by conditional use deed be approved as submitted by the governmental agency below.

City of Afton
Parcel 22.028.20.21.0010
Use #1- a road, or right-of-way for a road

11. Approve Grant Agreement No. 15970 with the Board of Water and Soil Resources for \$200,666 for the period from the date of final signature on the grant, through December 31, 2025.
12. Approve Agreement No. 15985 between Washington County and the City of Scandia, Minnesota, to provide law enforcement services to the city.

13. Approve Contract No. 15987 between Washington County and Dakota County to house detainees in the event of an emergency.

The motion was adopted 4-0 with a Roll Call vote as follows: Ayes, Commissioners Miron, Bigham, Clasen, and Kriesel. Nays, none.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Land and Water Legacy Program Top 10 Priority Areas Maps

June Mathiowetz, Senior Planner, and Serena Rath, Planner I, presented the Land and Water Legacy Program (LWLP) Top 10 High Priority Areas map for approval.

Ms. Mathiowetz reported that the LWLP was created in 2006 after a voter-approved \$20 million bond referendum to partner with landowners and organizations to purchase land or interests in land to keep them in their natural condition. To date, more than \$45 million has been invested in protecting high-quality natural areas and water on nearly 1,600 acres through 47 different projects in Washington County. This has involved \$17.5 million in investments by the county, matched with \$28 million in partnership funds. This program not only protects land and water, but also attracts significant outside investment into the county. Residents continue to signal in residential surveys and planning efforts that they value this work and its results. Parcel by parcel, this program makes new natural areas and parks accessible to all and protects wildlife.

The LWLP Top 10 High Priority Area comprises more than 17,000 acres, and includes:

1. Brown's Creek Central
2. Keystone Woods Corridor
3. Silver-Twin Corridor
4. Carnelian Creek Corridor
5. German Lake
6. Big Marine Lake North
7. Rice Lake Wetlands/Hardwood Swamps
8. Mississippi Bend
9. St. Croix Blufflands
10. Valley Creek Corridor

The areas serve to identify the highest priority land within the county for protection; provide a metric framework of priority for conservation easement acquisitions based on high-quality natural resource data; and identify larger corridors of greenspace throughout the county.

Commissioner Clasen moved to approve the map for the Land and Water Legacy Program Top 10 High Priority Areas. Commissioner Miron seconded the motion, and it was adopted unanimously.

Resolution for 2023 3rd Quarter Donations

Commissioner Miron moved to adopt **Resolution No. 2023-133** as follows:

2023 3rd QUARTER DONATIONS, GIFTS, AND BEQUESTS

WHEREAS, Washington County gratefully accepts donations, gifts, and bequests from public and private sources to enhance the programs and services it provides; and

WHEREAS, any gift, donation, or bequest becomes the property of Washington County; and

WHEREAS, the Washington County Board is authorized to approve donations, gifts, and bequests on a quarterly basis.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve donations and gifts of \$15,225.89 for the third quarter of 2023.

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

Resolution to Support Operation Green Light for Veterans

Commissioner Kriesel moved to adopt **Resolution No. 2023-134** as follows:

SUPPORTING OPERATION GREEN LIGHT FOR VETERANS

WHEREAS, the residents of Washington County have great respect, admiration, and the utmost gratitude for those who have selflessly served our country and this community in the Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, the contributions and sacrifices of those who served in the Armed Forces have been vital in maintaining the freedoms and way of life enjoyed by citizens; and

WHEREAS, Washington County seeks to honor individuals who have made countless sacrifices for freedom by placing themselves in harm's way for the good of all; and

WHEREAS, veterans continue to serve the community in the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, religious groups, civil service, and by functioning as County Veterans Service Officers in 29 states to help fellow former service members access more than \$52 billion in federal health, disability and compensation benefits each year; and

WHEREAS, approximately 200,000 service members transition to civilian communities annually; and

WHEREAS, studies indicate that 44-72 percent of service members experience high levels of stress during transition from military to civilian life; and

WHEREAS, active military service members transitioning from military service are at a high risk for suicide during their first year after military service; and

WHEREAS, the National Association of Counties encourages all counties, parishes and boroughs to recognize Operation Green Light for Veterans; and

WHEREAS, Washington County appreciates the sacrifices of the United States military personnel and believes specific recognition should be granted.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with designation as a Green Light for Veterans, Washington County hereby declares from November 6-12, 2023, a time to salute and honor the service and sacrifices of those transitioning from active service.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in observance of Operation Green Light, Washington County will display green lights in a number of its facilities from November 6-12, 2023.

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

Communications Team Awards

Tina Elam, Communications Manager, presented two awards received by the Communications Team in the Office of Administration. The Minnesota Association of Government Communicators (MAGC) hosted its annual Northern Lights Awards Ceremony in June 2023, and the Communications Team received the Silver Award and the Bronze Award. The Communications Team members include Jacqueline Johnson, Brian Kaufenberg, Yvonne Klinnert, and Ching Lo.

Ms. Elam reported that the Silver Award was for the category of Logo, Icon, or Icon Sets. The team created custom icons that appeal to both internal and external audiences, aiming to be inclusive and adding visual literacy in county communication.

Ms. Elam reported that the Bronze Award was for the category of Public Information Project for the sex trafficking awareness campaign. Washington County has partnered with internal departments and community partners for many years to fight this damaging crime in county communities. Ultimately, the goal was to serve as a trusted source of information and offer support to help survivors, schools, shelters, organizations, and individuals stay safe and aware.

Board Meeting Change

County Administrator Kevin Corbid requested to change the Workshop Only meeting on November 21, 2023, to a regular, official County Board meeting, to provide an opportunity to conduct an Executive (closed) session for labor negotiations.

Commissioner Bigham moved to change the November 21 meeting to an official County Board meeting. Commissioner Miron seconded the motion, and it was adopted unanimously.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioners reported on meetings and other events they attended. Please see archived livestreaming of the board meeting for full commissioner reports at www.co.washington.mn.us, under "County Board."

BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

No board correspondence was received.

EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION – PUBLIC WORKS

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

The Board met in Executive (closed) session, the time being 10:09 a.m. Pursuant to Minnesota Statute §13D.05 subd. 3(c), this Executive (closed) session is to review the appraisal for a portion of property PID 27.027.21.11.0001 in regards to the potential purchase for inclusion into Cottage Grove Ravine Regional Park. Present for the Executive session were Commissioners Miron, Kriesel, Bigham, and Clasen, and Kevin Corbid, Jan Lucke, Jennifer Wagenius, Andrew Jackola, Alex McKinney, Sharon Price, Wayne Sandberg, and Stephanie Kammerud.

The Executive session closed at 10:16 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The County Board meeting adjourned at 10:19 a.m.

BOARD WORKSHOP WITH PUBLIC HEALTH & ENVIRONMENT

The board met in workshop session for an overview of the proposed 2024 budgets for the Washington Conservation District and Washington County watershed organizations. Present for the workshop were Commissioners Miron, Kriesel, Bigham, and Clasen. Also present were Kevin Corbid, Jan Lucke, Jennifer Wagenius, county staff, outside agencies, and residents.

BOARD WORKSHOP WITH PUBLIC WORKS

The board met in workshop session to discuss the Parks maintenance facility and Community Corrections storage facility at Lake Elmo Park Reserve, and the bidding solicitation options for a new facility. Present for the workshop were Commissioners Miron, Kriesel, Bigham, and Clasen. Also present were Kevin Corbid, Jan Lucke, Jennifer Wagenius, and county staff.

BOARD WORKSHOP WITH ADMINISTRATION

The board met in workshop session to review the draft 2024 County Board meeting dates. Present for the workshop were Commissioners Miron, Kriesel, Bigham, and Clasen. Also present were Kevin Corbid, Jan Lucke, Jennifer Wagenius, and county staff.

BOARD WORKSHOP WITH ADMINISTRATION

The board met in workshop session to discuss the Metropolitan Council Governance Task Force. Present for the workshop were Commissioners Miron, Kriesel, and Bigham. 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