



WASECA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
September 3, 2024 - 9:30 AM
East Annex Public Meeting Room
300 North State Street – East Annex · Waseca, Minnesota 56093

The Waseca County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session on Tuesday, September 3, 2024, in the Commissioners' Room, 300 North State Street, Waseca, Minnesota. Members present were Chair Brian Harguth, DeAnne Malterer, Doug Christopherson, Brad Milbrath and Brad Krause.

Other members present were Michael Johnson, County Administrator; Beth Weimert, Administrative Coordinator; Tammy Spooner, Property and Election Services Director; Brian Tomford, Facilities Director; Sarah Berry, Public Health Director; Tina Wilson, Community Development Coordinator; Sheriff Jay Dulas; Maame Quarcoo, Senior Land Use Planner

Present Via Online Platform: Leah Cameron, Public Health Business Manager; Brandee Nelson, Dispatch

Bill Eckles, BevComm; Steve Kraus; Deb Bentley, Waseca County Pioneer; Sam Ziegler, Jennifer Grommes, Great River Greening

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Harguth called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m. A roll call was taken and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

2. Introduction of New Staff

Sarah Berry introduced 2 new staff members: Melissa Palma Hernandez, who is with us for the semester as an intern for social work, and Hannah Peterson, a new Social Worker for Public Health.

3. Approval of Agenda

Malterer requested removing the Krienke and Blue Jay Solar extension. There are clerical errors that needed correction. Johnson asked the board to consider the addition of a correction to the Board of Commissioners subcommittee list, correcting the names on joint ditch 1 with the joint ditch 5, where we were the minority shareholder vs. majority shareholder. Motion to approve the amended Waseca County Board of Commissioners agenda as listed above by Commissioner Milbrath, seconded by Commissioner Christopherson. Motion carried 5-0.

4. Presentations

a. Update on GreenSeam, LLC - Sam Ziegler

Sam Ziegler, GreenSeam with Greater Mankato Growth, presented information to the board of commissioners. Ziegler discussed the ecosystem, economic resilience, economic competitiveness, and investment value. Ziegler also discussed celebration of ag, rural forum, the state of ag and workshops. A 5-year plan was also discussed.

b. Update from Bevcomm - Bill Eckles

Bill Eckles, BevComm, discussed the round 10 grant, noting they are waiting to hear back from the Office of Broadband Development. Round 10 involves 163 homes and they are hoping to hear something by the end of September. Eckles noted round 9 was 492 homes and construction crews are going right now. This was 190 miles of cable. Construction crews are working currently and the estimate is that they will be at 150 miles by the time the ground freezes.

5. Approval of County Board Minutes

Motion to approve the Waseca County Board of Commissioners budget work session minutes of July 16, 2024, meeting minutes of July 16, 2024, budget work session of August 6, 2024, meeting minutes of August 6, 2024, budget work session of August 20, 2024, and meeting minutes of August 20, 2024, by Commissioner Krause, seconded by Commissioner Milbrath. Motion carried 5-0.

a. Waseca County Board of Commissioners Budget Work Session July 16, 2024

b. Waseca County Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes July 16, 2024

- c. Waseca County Board of Commissioner Budget Work Session August 6, 2024
- d. Waseca County Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes August 6, 2024
- e. Waseca County Board of Commissioners Budget Work Session August 20, 2024
- f. Waseca County Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes August 20, 2024

6. Consent Agenda

Motion to approve the consent agenda as presented by Commissioner Milbrath, seconded by Commissioner Malterer. Motion carried 5-0.

a. Approval of Bills

The following bills were audited and allowed:

AARON PULANCO	81.40
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	1,715.66
AMAZON PH	47.87
BARBARA J. BUKER	96.00
BOCKS SERVICE INC	69.50
BOMGAARS SUPPLY	610.93
BOMGAARS SUPPLY	506.94
BOMGAARS SUPPLY	1,093.93
BRITTON PLUMBING & HEATING LLC	11,801.68
BRUSH & WEED CONTROL SPECIALISTS INC	6,941.50
CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY COMPANY	3,083.03
CAPITAL ONE	69.45
CDW GOVERNMENT INC	101.98
CHARLES BENSON	80.94
CHRIS HOWARD	100.00
CHRISTOPHER LLOYD OSTERLOH	182.78
COLE'S ELECTRIC INC	383.75
CONTINENTAL RESEARCH CORPORATION	1,103.87
CRYSTEEL TRUCK EQUIPMENT	430.00
DISCOVER WASECA TOURISM	3,000.00
EXPRESS CARE INC	44.99
FASTENAL CO	103.20
GOVERNMENT FORMS AND SUPPLIES	808.06
HOTSY MINNESOTA	2,470.00
INNOVATIVE OFFICE SOLUTIONS LLC	937.67
J.J. KELLER & ASSOCIATES INC	79.21
JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL	457.81
JONES HAUGH & SMITH	930.00
L & L STREET ROD & SPORTS TRUCK	640.00
L&L PLUMBING LLC	373.50
LINDA LARES	100.00

MARK SOMMERS	92.46
MATHESON	75.00
MCA (MN CORRECTIONS ASSOC)	400.00
MENARDS-MANKATO	64.68
MESSICK LAW PLLC	720.00
MIDWEST MOTOR SUPPLY CO INC	1,315.40
MN COMM OF TRANSPORTATION	5,742.75
NCH CORPORATION	1,375.73
PATTI SCHUCH	205.02
PHILLIP L SCHLEICHER	288.00
RAMSEY COUNTY FINANCE	1,460.00
RDO EQUIPMENT CO	1,231.24
REGENTS OF UNIVERSITY OF MN	20,162.00
RINKE-NOONAN ATTORNEYS AT LAW	703.00
RIVER BEND BUSINESS PRODUCTS	945.11
ROCKMOUNT RESEARCH & ALLOYS INC	575.42
RUSSELL J FREDERICK	252.45
SAFE-FAST INC	198.00
SAFETY KLEEN SYSTEMS INC.	1,380.66
SARAH HINIKER	107.20
SF ENTERPRISES LLC	5,110.50
SNAP ON INCORPORATED	76.57
SOUTHERN MINNESOTA INSPECTION CO LLC	297.80
STREAMLINE COMMUNICATIONS LLC	3,485.25
TECTA AMERICA CORPORATION	1,445.00
TESCH SERVICE CENTER INC	50.00
THIRTY YEAR VENTURES LLC	210.50
THOMAS SEXTON	81.07
TIMM'S TRUCKING INC	38,742.50
ULINE	753.15
US VENTURE INC	316.00
WASECA CO PIONEER	389.00
WASECA HARDWARE LLC	417.61
WASECA, CITY OF	17,059.82

b. Amendment to Agricultural use zone restrictive covenant- MoonFlower Farm LLC

Owner	PID	Acres Removed (from Ag Covenant)	Acres Remaining (in Ag Covenant)
Moonflower	06.008.0600	105.35	30
	06.009.0900	152.2	24

c. Extension of Zoning Permit for Jesse & Angela Tesdahl

Jesse and Angela Tesdahl a one (1) year extension to complete the construction.

d. ~~Conditional Use Permit Extension~~

e. Hidden Spring Lake Farm LLC Transfer of Development Rights

Under the Waseca County Unified Development Code (UDC) the County allows for a base density of one residential building unit

per quarter-quarter section of land. Under certain circumstances provided in the UDC, the County allows the base residential density to increase to up to eight units per quarter-quarter section of land with a corresponding transfer of development rights for each unit added over the base residential density threshold.

Waseca County received a request to transfer the residential development rights from a sending site to a receiving site which will be determined in the future. Both the sending and receiving sites are located in Freedom Township as shown below. The property is zoned A-1 Agricultural Protection District.

Site Data	Sending Site	Receiving Site
Owner/Applicant	Hidden Spring Lake Farm LLC	Hidden Spring Lake Farm LLC
PID No:	04.022.0700	04.022.0700
Legal Description	The Southwest Quarter (SW ¼) of the Southeast Quarter (SE ¼) of Section 22, Township 106 North, Range 24 West, Waseca County, Minnesota.	That part of the Southeast (SE1/4) of the Southwest (SW1/4) Section 22, Township 106 North, Range 24 West, Waseca County, Minnesota.

7. Action Items

a. Child Safety Seat Distribution Award

Sarah Berry, Public Health Director, noted that Public Health employs three staff members who are certified to install child safety seats. Blue Plus and South County Health Alliance provide child safety seats for families as a part of their insurance coverage.

There are still a number of families who reach out looking for this resource and who have difficulty affording an appropriate safety seat for transporting their children. The Minnesota Office of Traffic Safety makes seats available through the child safety seat distribution award for families in poverty, installed by certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians with related education at the time of installation. Funding for this award is primarily from the collection of fines from individuals cited for illegal or unsafe transportation of children in motor vehicles. 1,174 seats will be distributed across the state as a part of this round. Waseca County Public Health's allocation is two convertible seats. While the two child safety seats are provided at no cost, the education and installation are provided by our staff. We make every effort to capture this staff cost through medical billing if families have insurance. Billable time is approximately one hour per seat for an average cost of \$48.55/hour and a reimbursement approximation of \$120 per child safety seat.

Motion to accept two convertible child safety seats from the Minnesota Office of Traffic Safety for distribution as a part of their child safety seat distribution award by Commissioner Malterer, seconded by Commissioner Christopherson. Motion carried 5-0.

b. Goose Lake Park Enhancement

Brian Tomford, Facilities Director, discussed the Goose Lake Park enhancement. Tomford introduced Jennifer Grommes from Great River Greening. Funds for this would come from the Heritage Fund.

Motion to approve the request to work with Great River Greening on the Goose Lake Park Enhancement by Commissioner Milbrath, seconded by Commissioner Christopherson. Motion carries 5-0.

c. Res 2024-27: Letter of Commitment for Local Match of Federal EDA Infrastructure Grant

Michael Johnson, County Administrator, discussed the letter of Commitment for Local Match for the Federal EDA Infrastructure Grant for the lower portion of the Community Services building. Motion to adopt Resolution 2024-27 the Commitment of Local Match should the grant be awarded by Commissioner Krause, seconded by Commissioner Christopherson. Motion carried 5-0.

Resolution 2024-27: Commitment of Funding for Local Match of Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance Program Amending Resolution 2024-21

WHEREAS, the State of Minnesota is experiencing increased demand for high-skilled laborers; and

WHEREAS, this need is especially impactful in rural counties that are simultaneously battling declining and aging populations; and

WHEREAS, Waseca County has experienced economic hardship due to business closures and relocations; and

WHEREAS, a Workforce Development Center focusing on regional upskilling of the existing workforce and providing intuitive career pathways for those entering the workforce can help offset some of these hardships; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Economic Development Authority has competitive grant funds for the construction of Workforce Development Centers; and

WHEREAS, Waseca County has underutilized space in the lower level of the Community Services Building located at 1000 West Elm, Waseca, Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, Waseca County has proposed partnerships with multiple institutions of higher education in the Workforce Development Center that will allow for a unique delivery of credit and non-credit opportunities; and

WHEREAS, local industry, schools, chambers and federal legislators have provided letters of support to acquire funding for a Workforce Development Center; and

WHEREAS, the construction cost for the Workforce Development Center is estimated not to exceed \$3.0 Million; and

WHEREAS, Waseca County will request federal match of up to 80% of the project cost but recognizes it could receive less and is planning for the more conservative match of 70%.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Waseca County Board of Commissioners authorizes up to \$900,000.00 of local

match to be spent on construction of a Workforce Development Center.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the identified funds for local match will be expended out of the following accounts and in the following amounts:

- 25-067-1001 CARES - \$300,000.00
- 25-052-1001 ARPA - \$300,000.00
- 11-118-6611 Building Improvements - \$300,000.00

d. Cancellation of Conditional Use Permit - ConAgra Foods Packaged Foods LLC

Maame Quarcoo, Senior Land Use Planner, The County Board approved the Conditional Use Permit to construct a 195' monopole for a wireless communications tower and an equipment shelter on Elizabeth M. Williams Trustee's property on July 11, 2008. The property was approximately 63.35 acres at the time of recording the Conditional Use Permit. In 2022, the building site (which is approximately 4.26 acres) was subdivided from the rest of the parcel. The wireless communications tower is currently PID 06.004.0500 and as such the building site (now PID 06.004.500) should no longer be encumbered by the conditions of the conditional use permit.

Motion to approve the proposed cancellation of the CUP by Commissioner Malterer, seconded by Commissioner Krause. Motion carried 5-0.

e. Committee Assignments

Johnson discussed changes that need to occur on the Board Committee Assignments. The change includes changing commissioners Krause/Christopherson/Malterer from joint county ditch 1 with Commissioners Harguth and Christopherson for joint county ditch 5.

Motion to approve the joint county ditch assignments by Commissioner Malterer, second by Commissioner Milbrath. Motion carries 5-0.

f. Conditional Use Permit Extension

Krienke project and Blue Jay project had typos in decommissioning bond numbers of \$35,000.00 but should have been \$45,000.00. This was a clerical error. Motion to correct the clerical error, changing \$35,000.00 to \$45,000.00 by Commissioner Malterer, seconded by Commissioner Milbrath. Motion carried 5-0.

8. Administration

a. Administration Update

Michael Johnson, County Administrator, provided administrative updates to the board.

b. Human Resources Announcements

Michael Johnson, County Administrator, provided updates to the board regarding recent Human Resource announcements.

c. Community Development Update

Tina Wilson, Community Development Coordinator, provided an update to the board of commissioners.

9. Commissioner Reports

The Waseca County Board of Commissioners in attendance at today's meeting shared commissioner reports.

10. Adjourn

Having no further county board business, Commissioner Christopherson moved and Commissioner Krause seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 11:34 a.m.

Brian Harguth, Chairperson
Waseca County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Beth Weimert, Clerk
Waseca County Administration