

WATONWAN COUNTY BOARD  
OCTOBER 20, 2020  
9:00 A.M.

The Watonwan County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on October 20, 2020 at 9:00 A.M. in the Community Room of the Human Services Building, City of St. James. The following Board members were present: Jim Branstad, Raymond Gustafson (9:10), Bill Miller, Bob Rinne and Kathleen Svalland. The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair Kathleen Svalland and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

George Eilertson of Northland Securities was present via Zoom to review refinancing bonds from 2013, which had been used for repairs at Human Services, the Courthouse, and the Resource Center. The call date is 2021, so the Board can consider refinancing the bonds, which are at 40-year historical lows. The 2013 bonds at 3.91% can be refinanced as low as 1%, at a projected savings of \$166,000 over the life of the bond. He requested approval of an agreement to retain Northland Securities as municipal advisor, with a projected bid opening on December 1.

Branstad moved, Svalland seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the Municipal Advisory Service Agreement with Northland Securities, Inc. at a fee of \$13,275.00.

Rinne moved, Miller seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to adopt the following:

RESOLUTION OF WATONWAN COUNTY, MINNESOTA, APPROVING A  
NOTICE OF SALE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF \$1,055,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION  
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN REFUNDING BONDS, SERIES 2021A

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of County Commissioners (the “Board”) of Watonwan County, Minnesota (the “Issuer”), as follows:

Section 1. Authority. A. Under and pursuant to the authority contained in Minnesota Statutes, Section 373.40 and Chapter 475, as amended (collectively the “Act”), the Issuer is authorized to issue general obligation bonds to refund bonds before their due dates, if consistent with covenants made with the holders thereof; and determined by the governing body to be necessary or desirable for the reduction of debt service cost to the Issuer or for the extension or adjustment of maturities in relation to the resources available for their payment.

B. The Issuer has previously issued its \$1,420,000 General Obligation Capital Improvement Plan Bonds, Series 2013A (the “Prior Bonds”), and wishes to refund the outstanding principal amounts of the Prior Bonds before the due dates thereof for the reduction of debt service cost to the Issuer and for the adjustment of maturities in relation to the resources available for their payment.

Section 2. The Bonds. The Board determines that it is necessary, expedient, and in the best interests of the Issuer’s residents that the Issuer, as permitted by the Act, issue, sell and deliver its General Obligation Capital Improvement Plan Refunding Bonds, Series

2021A (the “Bonds”), in one or more series, for the purpose of refunding the Prior Bonds and paying the costs of issuing the Bonds.

Section 3. Notice of Sale. The Issuer’s administrative staff is hereby authorized and directed to work with Northland Securities, Inc., municipal advisor to the Issuer, and Fryberger, Buchanan, Smith & Frederick, P.A., bond counsel, to solicit bids and arrange for the sale of the initial series of the Bonds in the amount of approximately \$1,055,000 in substantial compliance with the Notice of Sale attached hereto as Exhibit A, which Notice of Sale is hereby approved.

Section 4. Form and Terms of the Bonds. The form, specifications and provisions for repayment of the Bonds shall be set forth in a subsequent resolution of the Board.

Branstad moved, Svalland seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the Agenda as amended.

Sheriff Jared Bergeman was present regarding the Integrated Public Alert Warning System (IPAWS). If there’s a catastrophe in the County, such as missing child, leaks, road closings, etc. it will notify everyone coming into and out of the County. It works in conjunction with CodeRED which is needed for local announcements. Grant funds can be used for the first year, then there is a \$1200 annual maintenance fee.

Branstad moved, Gustafson seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the purchase of the IPAWS, pending grant funding.

Rinne moved, Branstad seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the minutes of the October 6 regular meeting.

Branstad moved, Svalland seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve payment of bills as audited and filed in the County Auditor/Treasurer's Office as follows by fund: General Fund—\$109,900.48; Solid Waste Fund—\$351.82; Library Fund—\$140.00; Ditch Fund—\$983.00; Agency Fund—\$660.00; and the Road and Bridge Fund—\$36,827.58; and to approve the September Disbursements Listing.

The September financials were reviewed.

County Auditor Treasurer Kelly Pauling reviewed the following requests for CARES Act funding: City of Darfur, \$3,582.72 toward cellular water meters, saliva testing requests of \$15,000 for Butterfield Odin Schools, \$1,500 for St. James Schools to be determined by the CARES Committee, and internet service \$5,661.00 for St. James School District for adult basic education.

Branstad moved, Svalland seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the CARES Act funding requests as presented.

Public Works Director Teal Spellman was present and reviewed the following proposals to design the replacement of Township Bridge 4009.

<u>VENDOR</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Erickson Engineering	\$38,000.00
Stonebrooke	\$46,270.00

Branstad moved, Gustafson seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve accepting the proposal of Erickson Engineering in the amount of \$38,000.00 for engineering services for the replacement of Bridge 4009 in Madelia Township.

Spellman reviewed a Tile Crossing Agreement on CR 125 for Sarah Fast for a connection to Rural Water.

Miller moved, Svalland seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the Tile Crossing for Sarah Fast.

The following quotes were received for the purchase of an adjustable desk for TMT:

<u>VENDOR</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Staples	\$2,080.00
K-Log. Inc.	\$2,103.50

Miller moved, Branstad seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve accepting the quote of Staples in the amount of \$2,080.00 for the purchase of an adjustable desk for the TMT office.

Miller moved, Gustafson seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve a Services Agreement with Houston Engineering, Inc. for additional services to prepare a professional presentation for 1W1P, to be covered by grant funds.

Metro Sales, Inc. had a barely used copier available for the County Recorder's Office for \$3,425.00. The price for the same unit on the State bid was \$7,223.

Branstad moved, Miller seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve accepting the quote of Metro Sales, Inc. in the amount of 43,425.00 for the purchase of a used Ricoh MP C3003 copier for the County Recorder's Office

Branstad moved, Rinne seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the MVAC Notice of Funds Available 2020 #4 for a decrease in SNAP Support Services of \$550.00, and 2021 #2 for an increase of \$999.00 for SNAP Support services and E&T Services.

Miller moved, Svalland seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve annual pay step increases for Tamara Colon, Carol Stradtman, Virgil Goltz, Kristine Jaycox, Mary Jo Schroeder, Gayle Culbertson, Julie Kelley, Rick Bak and Nick Mathistad.

Branstad moved, Svalland seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the Phased Retirement in good standing of Dispatcher Supervisor Susan Hunstad, with 20+ years of service.

Gustafson moved, Rinne seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve advertising in-house for the position of Dispatcher Supervisor.

Svalland moved, Branstad seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the appointments of Michael Ackerman and Shelby Seifert as 911 Dispatchers.

Miller moved, Rinne seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the retirement in good standing of Emergency Management Director Julie Peterson, with 22+ years of service.

Branstad moved, Gustafson seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve advertising for the position of Emergency Management/Safety Director, up to 40 hours per week to be pending completion of a revised job description.

Svalland moved, Gustafson seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve appointing Commissioners Miller and Branstad as MCIT voting delegates for the annual meeting.

Miller moved, Branstad seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve the Association of Minnesota Counties Annual Conference voting delegates list to include all County Commissioners, Auditor/Treasurer Kelly Pauling, Human Services Director Naomi Ochsendorf and Public Works Director Teal Spellman.

Vice-Chair Svalland was designated to present County information at the AMC regional meeting.

I.T. Director Jeff Tetzloff was present via Zoom to discuss the new Firewall that was approved at the previous meeting. There was an issue with VPN licensing, none of which worked for the County. He reviewed a revised quotation from Shi in the amount of \$73,950.00 which included all of the necessary components.

Branstad moved, Miller seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to approve accepting the revised quotation from Shi in the amount of \$73,950.00 for the firewall upgrades.

Rinne moved, Branstad seconded and the motion passed unanimously, to adjourn at 10:10.

Raymond Gustafson, Chairman  
Watonwan County Board

Lisa Schumann, Deputy Clerk  
Watonwan County Board

ATTEST: Kelly Pauling  
Watonwan County Auditor/Treasurer