

The Anoka County Board of Commissioners held a regularly scheduled board meeting in Room #705 of the Anoka County Government Center. All members of the board were present. However, due to the Governor's Emergency Executive Order 20-33 relating to COVID-19, and a determination by the board chair that public attendance was not feasible due to the health pandemic, there were no members of the public in the board room where this meeting was held. Notice of this meeting included that monitoring of this meeting by the public could be done through streaming over the internet or by telephone. Public monitoring in this manner was done pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 13D.021.

ANOKA COUNTY BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

Government Center
Anoka, Minnesota

April 14, 2020

Chair Schulte called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. and called for participation in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present:	District #1	Matt Look
	District #2	Julie Braastad
	District #3	Robyn West
	District #4	Mandy Meisner
	District #5	Mike Gamache
	District #6	Jeff Reinert
	District #7	Scott Schulte

Others Present: Rhonda Sivarajah, County Administrator; Tony Palumbo, County Attorney; and staff

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Commissioner Braastad made motion accepting the regular claims paid over \$500 for the period ending March 27, 2020, and purchase-card claims paid for the period ending March 27, 2020. (Claims are on file in the County Administration Office.) Commissioner West seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

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Commissioner Look made motion approving the minutes from the March 24, 2020, county board meeting and the March 31, 2020, special county board meeting. Commissioner Gamache seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

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Emergency Management Director Terry Stoltzman gave an update on the COVID-19 pandemic.

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Emergency Management Director Terry Stoltzman stated that it is Severe Weather Awareness Week and National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week.

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The 2019 Midwest Medical Examiner's Office Annual Report was reviewed. (The report is on file in the County Administration Office.)

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Commissioner West presented the Management Committee Chair report.

1. Commissioner Look made motion approving the following personnel transaction:
 - A. Restructure/Replacement - Administration/Facilities Management and Construction - Vacancy effective May 1, 2020. PC#1992000307:

FROM: 1.0 FTE - Maintenance Electrician - Grade C012, range \$23.28 to \$34.90 per hour.

TO: 1.0 FTE - Master Plumber - Grade B111, range \$23.18 to \$39.66 per hour.

Commissioner Gamache seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

2. Commissioner Meisner made motion approving a request from Facilities Management and Construction to offer a salary for a Master Plumber position, Grade B111, above the third quartile (PC#1992000307). Commissioner Reinert seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

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Commissioner Schulte presented the Transportation Committee Chair Report.

Highway

1. Commissioner Reinert offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION #2020-43

**AUTHORIZING THE PREPARATION OF
A HIGHWAY RIGHT-OF-WAY PLAT FOR
PROJECT SAP 002-676-002**

WHEREAS, Minn. Stat. § 160.085, subd. 1 provides that "In order to facilitate the acquisition of right-of-way required for highways, state and county road authorities may file for record in the office of the county recorder or registrar of titles, in the county in which right-of-way is to be acquired, such orders or resolutions, as required by law, in the form of maps or plats showing the right-of-way by course distance, bearing and arc length and other rights or interests in the land to be acquired as the road authority determines necessary"; and,

WHEREAS, Anoka County is contemplating construction of certain improvements to reconstruct CSAH 76 (Fawn Lake Drive) between CSAH 85 (Typo Creek Drive) and CSAH 36 (Rutgers Street) in Linwood Township, which would necessitate the acquisition of additional right-of-way; and,

WHEREAS, the Anoka County Highway Engineer deems it necessary to require the preparation of a highway right-of-way plat to facilitate the acquisition of the right-of-way necessary to construct the above-referenced project:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Anoka County Highway Engineer is hereby authorized to have the required survey work conducted and performed and a plat prepared to facilitate the acquisition of the right-of-way necessary for the above-referenced project, and that he is hereby authorized to charge the cost of the work, incidental thereto, to the County Road and Bridge Account.

Motion carried unanimously. Resolution declared adopted.

2. Commissioner Reinert offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION #2020-44

**AUTHORIZING ACQUISITION OF RIGHT-OF-WAY
FOR ANOKA COUNTY HIGHWAY PROJECT SAP 002-676-002**

WHEREAS, the Anoka County Highway Department proposes to reconstruct CSAH 76 (Fawn Lake Drive) between CSAH 85 (Typo Creek Drive) and CSAH 36 (Rutgers Street) in Linwood Township, which project is numbered SAP 002-676-002 (hereinafter "Project"); and,

WHEREAS, the Project work consists of a stabilized full depth reclamation of existing bituminous with new bituminous surfacing, bypass lanes, shoulder widening, proposed utility pole relocation at both Thames Street approaches, and associated improvements on CSAH 76, to provide for the safety of the traveling public; and,

WHEREAS, in addition to the existing easements, certain land and interests therein are required to construct the Project; and,

WHEREAS, the land and interests therein which are needed to construct the Project are described in Exhibit "A", which is attached hereto (hereinafter "New Right-of-Way"); and,

WHEREAS, the Anoka County Board of Commissioners desires to begin construction of the Project in the Spring of 2021; and,

WHEREAS, to begin construction of the Project in the Spring of 2021, Anoka County will require title and possession of the New Right-of-Way prior to the filing of an award by the court appointed commissioners pursuant to the provisions of Minn. Stat. § 117.042:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Anoka County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the County Highway Engineer to proceed to acquire the New Right-of-Way in accordance with Minnesota Statutes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Anoka County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the acquisition of the New Right-of-Way that cannot be successfully acquired through negotiation by eminent domain and to take title and possession thereto prior to the filing of an award by the court appointed commissioners, pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 117.011 and 117.042.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Anoka County Board of Commissioners hereby requests that the Anoka County Attorney file the necessary petition therefore, and to prosecute such action to a successful conclusion or until it is abandoned, dismissed, or terminated by the county or the court.

(Exhibit A is on file in the County Administration Office.)

Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously. Resolution declared adopted.

3. Commissioner Schulte offered the following resolutions and moved their adoption:

RESOLUTION #2020-45

**AUTHORIZING SUBMITTAL OF A FEDERAL FUNDING APPLICATION
FOR THE CSAH 2 BRIDGE MULTI-USE TRAIL PROJECT**

WHEREAS, CSAH 2 (44th Avenue NE) is an "Other" Arterial route that provides an important east-west transportation connection in Anoka County; and,

WHEREAS, the CSAH 2 bridge (Bridge No. 02523) is an important crossing over the BNSF rail yard for motorized traffic as well as for pedestrians and bicyclists; and,

WHEREAS, the existing CSAH 2 bridge pedestrian area lacks sufficient width to safely accommodate pedestrian and bicyclist travel across the BNSF rail yard; and,

WHEREAS, the Anoka County Highway Department is proposing to submit an application to the Transportation Advisory Board through the Metropolitan Council's 2020 Regional Solicitation program to receive federal transportation funds to improve the multi-use trail on the CSAH 2 bridge over the BNSF railroad tracks linking CSAH 1 (East River Road) with CSAH 102 (Main Street); and,

WHEREAS, Anoka County has the necessary capabilities to adequately fund its local cost share for this public improvement project:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Anoka County Highway Department is hereby authorized to submit an application to the Transportation Advisory Board, through the Metropolitan Council's 2020 Regional Solicitation program, in the Multi-Use Trail category, to receive federal transportation funds to make improvements to the CSAH 2 (44th Avenue NE) bridge over the BNSF rail yard in Fridley.

RESOLUTION #2020-46

**AUTHORIZING SUBMITTAL OF A FEDERAL FUNDING APPLICATION
FOR THE CSAH 7 EXPANSION PROJECT**

WHEREAS, CSAH 7 (7th Avenue NW) is an “A” Minor Arterial Expander route that provides an important north-south transportation connection in Anoka County; and,

WHEREAS, traffic volumes on CSAH 7 have been increasing over the past decade and are expected to continue to increase in the future as the area continues to grow; and,

WHEREAS, existing and future traffic volumes are such that congestion is and will continue to negatively impact the ability of the corridor to move traffic; and,

WHEREAS, existing and future traffic volumes are such that safety is a concern at intersections and along some segments of the corridor; and,

WHEREAS, Anoka County and the City of Andover have worked together in the past to make travel capacity and safety improvements along the corridor; and,

WHEREAS, the Anoka County Highway Department is proposing to submit an application to the Transportation Advisory Board through the Metropolitan Council’s 2020 Regional Solicitation program to receive federal transportation funds to make capacity and safety improvements on CSAH 7, from approximately 0.25 miles north of CSAH 116 (Bunker Lake Blvd.) to CR 20 (157th Avenue NW), in the city of Andover; and,

WHEREAS, Anoka County has the necessary capabilities to adequately fund its local cost share for this public improvement project:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Anoka County Highway Department is hereby authorized to submit an application to the Transportation Advisory Board, through the Metropolitan Council’s 2020 Regional Solicitation program, in the Roadway Expansion category, to receive federal transportation funds to make capacity and safety improvements on CSAH 7, from approximately 0.25 miles north of CSAH 116 (Bunker Lake Blvd.) to CR 20 (157th Avenue NW), in the city of Andover.

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RESOLUTION #2020-47

**AUTHORIZING SUBMITTAL OF FEDERAL FUNDING APPLICATION
FOR THE CSAH 11 RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT**

WHEREAS, CSAH 11 (Northdale Boulevard NW) is an “A” Minor Arterial Expander route that provides an important east-west transportation connection in Anoka County; and,

WHEREAS, traffic volumes on CSAH 11 have been increasing and are expected to continue to increase in the future as the area continues to grow; and,

WHEREAS, existing and future traffic volumes are such that congestion is and will continue to negatively impact the ability of the corridor to move traffic; and,

WHEREAS, existing and future traffic volumes are such that safety is a concern at intersections and along some segments of the corridor; and,

WHEREAS, Anoka County and the City of Coon Rapids have worked together in the past to make travel mobility and safety improvements along the corridor; and,

WHEREAS, Anoka County Highway Department is proposing to submit an application to the Transportation Advisory Board through the Metropolitan Council’s 2020 Regional Solicitation program to receive federal transportation funds to widen CSAH 11 from CSAH 78 (Hanson Blvd NW) to CSAH 11 (Foley Blvd NW); and,

WHEREAS, Anoka County has the necessary capabilities to adequately fund its local cost share for this public improvement project:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Anoka County Highway Department is hereby authorized to submit an application to the Transportation Advisory Board, through the Metropolitan Council's 2020 Regional Solicitation program, in the Roadway Reconstruction/Modernization category, to receive federal transportation funds to make capacity and safety improvements on CSAH 11 from CSAH 78 (Hanson Blvd NW) to CSAH 11 (Foley Blvd NW) in the city of Coon Rapids.

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RESOLUTION #2020-48

**AUTHORIZING SUBMITTAL OF A FEDERAL FUNDING APPLICATION
FOR THE CSAH 12 EXPANSION PROJECT**

WHEREAS, CSAH 12 (109th Avenue NE) is an "A" Minor Arterial Expander route that provides an important east-west transportation connection in Anoka County; and,

WHEREAS, traffic volumes on CSAH 12 have been increasing over the past decade and are expected to continue to increase in the future as the area continues to grow; and,

WHEREAS, existing and future traffic volumes are such that congestion is and will continue to negatively impact the ability of the corridor to move traffic; and,

WHEREAS, existing and future traffic volumes are such that safety is a concern at intersections and along some segments of the corridor; and,

WHEREAS, Anoka County and the City of Blaine have worked together in the past to make travel capacity and safety improvements along the corridor; and,

WHEREAS, the Anoka County Highway Department is proposing to submit an application to the Transportation Advisory Board through the Metropolitan Council's 2020 Regional Solicitation program to receive federal transportation funds to widen CSAH 12 (109th Avenue NE) from CSAH 52 (Radisson Road NE) to CSAH 17 (Lexington Blvd NE) in the city of Blaine; and,

WHEREAS, Anoka County has the necessary capabilities to adequately fund its local cost share for this public improvement project:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Anoka County Highway Department is hereby authorized to submit an application to the Transportation Advisory Board, through the Metropolitan Council's 2020 Regional Solicitation program, in the Roadway Expansion category, to receive federal transportation funds to make capacity and safety improvements on CSAH 12 (109th Avenue NE) from CSAH 52 (Radisson Road NE) to CSAH 17 (Lexington Blvd NE) in the city of Blaine.

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RESOLUTION #2020-49

**AUTHORIZING SUBMITTAL OF A FEDERAL FUNDING APPLICATION
FOR THE CSAH 14 EXPANSION PROJECT**

WHEREAS, CSAH 14 (125th Avenue NE) is a Principal Arterial route that provides an important east-west transportation connection in Anoka County; and,

WHEREAS, traffic volumes on CSAH 14 have been increasing over the past decade and are expected to continue to increase in the future as the area continues to grow; and,

WHEREAS, existing and future traffic volumes are such that congestion is and will continue to negatively impact the ability of the corridor to move traffic; and,

WHEREAS, existing and future traffic volumes are such that safety is a concern at intersections and along some segments of the corridor; and,

WHEREAS, Anoka County and the City of Blaine have worked together in the past to make travel capacity and safety improvements along the corridor; and,

WHEREAS, the Anoka County Highway Department is proposing to submit an application to the Transportation Advisory Board through the Metropolitan Council’s 2020 Regional Solicitation program to receive federal transportation funds to widen CSAH 14 (125th Avenue NE) from Harpers Street NE to CSAH 17 (Lexington Blvd NE), in the city of Blaine; and,

WHEREAS, Anoka County has the necessary capabilities to adequately fund its local cost share for this public improvement project:

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Anoka County Highway Department is hereby authorized to submit an application to the Transportation Advisory Board, through the Metropolitan Council’s 2020 Regional Solicitation program, in the Roadway Expansion category, to receive federal transportation funds to make capacity and safety improvements on CSAH 14 (125th Avenue NE) from Harpers Street NE to CSAH 17 (Lexington Blvd NE) in the city of Blaine.

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RESOLUTION #2020-50

**AUTHORIZING SUBMITTAL OF A FEDERAL FUNDING APPLICATION
FOR THE US 10 AND CSAH 56 (RAMSEY BOULEVARD NW)
INTERCHANGE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

WHEREAS, the existing at-grade intersection of US Hwy 10/169 (a Principal Arterial route) and CSAH 56 (an “A” Minor Arterial Expander route) and the at-grade railroad crossing on the BNSF railway are unsafe and lead to traffic congestion and mobility issues; and,

WHEREAS, Anoka County and the City of Ramsey propose to grade-separate US Hwy 10/169 at CSAH 56, and the BNSF railway crossing at Ramsey Boulevard NW; and,

WHEREAS, this improvement project is consistent with the goals and objectives of the Highway 10 Access Planning Study completed in 2014 in partnership between the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT), Anoka County Highway Department, City of Anoka, City of Ramsey, and Metropolitan Council; and,

WHEREAS, the Anoka County Highway Department is proposing to submit an application to the Transportation Advisory Board through the Metropolitan Council’s 2020 Regional Solicitation program to receive federal transportation funds to construct an interchange at US Hwy 10/169 and CSAH 56 in the city of Ramsey; and,

WHEREAS, Anoka County has the necessary capabilities to adequately fund its local cost share for this public improvement project:

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Anoka County Highway Department is hereby authorized to submit an application to the Transportation Advisory Board, through the Metropolitan Council’s 2020 Regional Solicitation program, in the Roadway Expansion category, to receive federal transportation funds to construct an interchange and associated improvements at US Hwy 10/169 and CSAH 56, in the city of Ramsey.

Motion carried unanimously. Resolutions declared adopted.

- 4. Commissioner West made motion authorizing the County Engineer to advertise for bids for Project CP 20-14-00, a multi-agency, joint effort project to place bituminous surfacing on several parking areas at the National Sports Center (“NSC”) in the city of Blaine. Commissioner Meisner seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

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Commissioner Gamache presented the Parks Committee Chair Report.

- 1. Commissioner Meisner made motion approving Contract #C0007852, a grant agreement not to exceed \$140,000 with the Mississippi River Watershed Management Organization (MWMO) for natural resource related work as part of the Islands of Peace Trail Improvement Project, subject to review by the county attorney as to form and legality. (Contract is on file in the Parks Department.) Commissioner Gamache seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

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The following items came forward on an additional agenda:

Commissioner Gamache presented the Parks Committee Chair Report #2.

1. Commissioner Gamache made motion approving the closure of Bunker Beach Water Park for the upcoming 2020 water park season due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Commissioner Reinert seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, Commissioners Look, Braastad, and West voted “no.” Commissioners Meisner, Reinert, Gamache, and Schulte voted “yes.” Motion carried.

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Commissioner Schulte presented Transportation Committee Chair Report #2.

1. Commissioner Schulte offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

**AUTHORIZING LOCAL BUSINESSES TO
PLACE TEMPORARY SIGNAGE
WITHIN THE COUNTY HIGHWAY RIGHT-OF-WAY
TO ANNOUNCE BUSINESS RE-OPENINGS AND
ALTERNATIVE SERVICE DELIVERY OPTIONS
DURING AND FOLLOWING THE COVID-19 RESTRICTION PERIOD**

WHEREAS, the County of Anoka, through its Highway Department, is the road authority for the county highways and right-of-way, including enforcement of the use of right-of way as outlined in Minn. Stat. §160.27 et seq.; and,

WHEREAS, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the State of Minnesota issued directives closing many non-essential businesses; including but not limited to restaurants, salons, retail businesses and service providers; in an effort to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus; and,

WHEREAS, the county has been approached by several local business owners inquiring as to the use of temporary signage within the county highway right-of-way to announce business re-openings and alternative service delivery options in response to the COVID-19 restrictions; and,

WHEREAS, the county has determined it will permit local businesses to place temporary signage, no larger than two feet by three feet (2' x 3') in size, within the county highway right-of-way for the purpose of business advertising; and,

WHEREAS, the County agrees to work with business owners regarding proper placement of the signage, and County Highway staff retains the right to request removal of any signage that may cause obstructions or other safety hazards within the right-of-way; and,

WHEREAS, permission to place and maintain signage within the county highway right-of-way shall terminate no later than two (2) months after the Governor’s action/order lifting the COVID-19 restrictions on non-essential businesses, at which time business owners shall be required to remove the temporary signage; and,

WHEREAS, any signage that does not meet the size or placement requirements as determined by the county, as well as any signage that is left in the county highway right-of-way beyond the two-month period described above, will be removed by county Highway Department staff:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Anoka County Board of Commissioners hereby formally authorizes the Anoka County Highway Department to permit temporary signage in the county highway right-of-way, according to the limitations described above, for the purpose of allowing local businesses the opportunity to advertise business re-openings and alternative service delivery options, in response to the Governor’s COVID-19 restrictions.

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Commissioner Schulte offered a friendly amendment to add language to the resolution authorizing the Anoka County Highway Department to oversee and regulate the signs that are within the scope of this resolution.

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The resolution for adoption, as amended:

RESOLUTION #2020-51

**AUTHORIZING LOCAL BUSINESSES TO PLACE TEMPORARY SIGNAGE
WITHIN THE COUNTY HIGHWAY RIGHT-OF-WAY
TO ANNOUNCE BUSINESS RE-OPENINGS AND
ALTERNATIVE SERVICE DELIVERY OPTIONS
DURING AND FOLLOWING THE COVID-19 RESTRICTION PERIOD**

WHEREAS, the County of Anoka, through its Highway Department, is the road authority for the county highways and right-of-way, including enforcement of the use of right-of way as outlined in Minn. Stat. §160.27 et seq.; and,

WHEREAS, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the State of Minnesota issued directives closing many non-essential businesses; including but not limited to restaurants, salons, retail businesses and service providers; in an effort to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus; and,

WHEREAS, the county has been approached by several local business owners inquiring as to the use of temporary signage within the county highway right-of-way to announce business re-openings and alternative service delivery options in response to the COVID-19 restrictions; and,

WHEREAS, the county has determined it will permit local businesses to place temporary signage, no larger than two feet by three feet (2' x 3') in size, within the county highway right-of-way for the purpose of business advertising; and,

WHEREAS, the County agrees to work with business owners regarding proper placement of the signage, and County Highway staff retains the right to request removal of any signage that may cause obstructions or other safety hazards within the right-of-way; and,

WHEREAS, permission to place and maintain signage within the county highway right-of-way shall terminate no later than two (2) months after the Governor's action/order lifting the COVID-19 restrictions on non-essential businesses, at which time business owners shall be required to remove the temporary signage; and,

WHEREAS, any signage that does not meet the size or placement requirements as determined by the county, as well as any signage that is left in the county highway right-of-way beyond the two-month period described above, will be removed by county Highway Department staff:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Anoka County Board of Commissioners hereby formally authorizes the Anoka County Highway Department to permit temporary signage in the county highway right-of-way, according to the limitations described above, for the purpose of allowing local businesses the opportunity to advertise business re-openings and alternative service delivery options, in response to the Governor's COVID-19 restrictions.

BE IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED that the Anoka County Highway Department is authorized to oversee and regulate those signs that are within the scope of this resolution.

Motion carried unanimously. Resolution declared adopted.

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Commissioner West made motion approving installation of glass panels at all Anoka County License and Passport Center counters at the following estimated costs for each location with funds from Asset Preservation and requesting reimbursement from FEMA COVID-19 or eligible response funds:

Blaine	\$19,000
Columbia Heights	\$19,000
Coon Rapids	\$33,000
Ham Lake	\$19,000
Ramsey	\$19,000

The final design and costs are to be completed by the week of April 20, 2020. Commissioner Gamache seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, Commissioners West, Meisner, Gamache, and Schulte voted "yes." Commissioners Look, Braastad, and Reinert voted "no." Motion carried.

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The county board meeting was adjourned at 10:59 a.m.

ATTEST:

COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
ANOKA COUNTY, MINNESOTA

By: _____
Rhonda Sivarajah
County Administrator

By: _____
Scott Schulte, its Chair

Motion carried means all commissioners in attendance voted affirmatively unless otherwise noted.