

ANOKA COUNTY BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

Government Center
Anoka, Minnesota

September 14, 2021

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 granting reductions of valuation and/or abatements of taxes, special assessments, costs, penalties and/or interest as requested and approved by the county assessor, county auditor and/or county treasurer. (A full text of persons receiving tax abatements is on file and available for public inspection 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 accepting the regular claims paid over \$500 for the period ending August 27, 2021, and purchase-card claims paid for the period ending August 27, 2021. (Claims are on file in the County Administration Office.) Commissioner Meisner seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

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Commissioner Reinert made motion approving the minutes from the August 24, 2021, Anoka County board meeting. Commissioner Gamache seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

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The following employees were recognized for their years of service, but unable to attend the meeting:

Derrick Johnson	30 years
Stacey O'Donoghue	30 years
Craig Ringness	30 years
Steven Roy	30 years
Bridget Usilton	30 years
Kelly Nebel	35 years
Sherry Oaks	35 years
Diana Stellmach	35 years
William Tiede	35 years

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The following employees were recognized for their years of service to Anoka County:

Theresa Avery	30 years
Philip Faulhaber	30 years
Jeffrey Foster	30 years
Christina Hoene	30 years
Deborah Levasseur	30 years
Jorjean Murphy	30 years

Richard Sells	30 years
Cindy Tembreull	30 years
Lisa Thomas	30 years
James Udvig	30 years
Amy Urich	30 years
Elizabeth Roberts	30 years
Janet Kleckner	35 years
David Pacholl	35 years
Bryan Lindberg	35 years
Jeffrey Reimringer	35 years
Lisa Schmit	35 years

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Anoka County Behavioral Health and Adult Services Manager Denise Kirmis presented information relating to National Suicide Prevention Month in Anoka County, suicide prevention efforts conducted by many organizations and individuals year-round, and assistance available in times of crisis.

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Anoka County Job Training Center Director Nicole Swanson presented information related to workforce development in the county.

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Commissioner Schulte offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION #2021-99

PROCLAIMING SEPTEMBER WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT MONTH

WHEREAS, investment in the education, training, and career advancement of the workforce across Minnesota is critical for the United States to compete in a global economy; and,

WHEREAS, Anoka County would like to draw attention to the resources available to those looking for work as well as businesses seeking workforce supports; and,

WHEREAS, continued collaboration with the workforce development system, workforce development boards, businesses, and public and private partners is crucial to successful alignment and sustainability across industry sectors and career pathways; and,

WHEREAS, more than a half million people will reach the age of 65 between 2015 and 2035, leading to a decline in the share of the working age population from 62 percent to 57 percent during that time; and,

WHEREAS, nationally, 76 percent of business leaders say greater investments in skills training would help their businesses; and,

WHEREAS, in Minnesota, 16 Workforce Development Boards and 49 CareerForce (Minnesota’s workforce system) locations are the driving force behind growing local and regional economies by providing tailored training, resources, and assistance to workers and businesses who aim to compete in the 21st century economy; and,

WHEREAS, workforce development programs will play a critical role in local and regional COVID-19 economic recovery and sustaining economic security for an inclusive workforce; and,

WHEREAS, on August 26, 2021, Tim Walz, Governor of Minnesota, proclaimed September 2021 as Workforce Development Month:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Anoka County, by and through its Board of Commissioners, does hereby proclaim September 2021 to be Workforce Development Month in Anoka County.

Motion carried unanimously. Resolution declared adopted.

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Commissioner West presented the Management Committee report from the meeting of August 24, 2021.

1. Commissioner Reinert made motion approving the following personnel transaction:
 - A. **New/Restructure** - Human Services/Social Services and Behavioral Health - effective September 14, 2021 - vacancy due to resignation effective February 3, 2021. PC#2017003265
FROM: .725 FTE Office Support Assistant - Grade A007, range \$15.41 to \$23.72 per hour.
and
.275 FTE **New** Office Support Assistant - Grade A007, range \$15.41 to \$23.72 per hour.
TO: 1.0 FTE Office Support Assistant - Grade A007, range \$15.41 to \$23.72 per hour.

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

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Commissioner Schulte presented the Transportation Committee report from the meeting of September 7, 2021.

Highway

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

RESOLUTION #2021-100
AUTHORIZATION TO ACQUIRE
PROPERTY FOR FUTURE HIGHWAY PROJECT
(CONTRACT #C0008633)

WHEREAS, the Anoka County Highway Department is continually planning for the improvement of the county highway system to provide for the safety of the traveling public; and,

WHEREAS, occasionally certain lands become available for direct purchase which are deemed necessary for future projects, to prevent future acquisition problems, or to correct difficult areas in existing projects; and,

WHEREAS, the necessary lands, identified as meeting one or more of the above-mentioned criteria, are currently being offered for sale by the owner ("Subject Property"); as more particularly described in Exhibit A; and,

WHEREAS, the Subject Property is necessary for a future road project to improve the intersection of CSAH 49 (Hodgson Road) and CSAH 32/CSAH 1 (Ash Street West/ County Road J), in a project to be collectively undertaken by Anoka County, Ramsey County, and the cities of Shoreview and Lino Lakes; and,

WHEREAS, Anoka County Highway Department has obtained a market value appraisal of the Subject Property, including all improvements, to assist with its acquisition of the Subject Property:

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Anoka County, by and through its Board of Commissioners, does hereby authorize the county engineer to negotiate the terms of a purchase agreement to acquire the Subject Property through direct negotiation with the landowner, subject to future cost share agreements and reimbursements from participating jurisdictions, to be set forth in a Joint Powers Agreement (Contract #C0008633).

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

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

2. Commissioner Braastad made motion awarding Contract #C0008772 to Cobalt Coatings, in the amount of \$310,250.00, for Project CP 21-09-00, the 2021-2023 County Traffic Signal Painting Project, at various locations throughout Anoka County, subject to review by the county attorney as to form and legality. (Contract is on file in the Highway Department.) Commissioner Meisner seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

Transit

3. Commissioner Gamache made motion approving Contract #C0008760 (MnDOT Contract #1048145), the 2021 Section 5310 Transit Coordination Assistance Project (TCAP) grant agreement to implement transportation services for enhanced mobility of seniors and individuals with disabilities; and authorizing the county administrator to execute said agreement, subject to review by the county attorney as to form and legality. (Contract is on file in the Highway Department.) Commissioner Meisner seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

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Commissioner Gamache presented the Parks Committee report from the meeting of Tuesday, September 7, 2021.

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

RESOLUTION #2021-101

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXCHANGE OF PROPERTY
BETWEEN ANOKA COUNTY AND MINNEAPOLIS WATER WORKS
WITHIN ANOKA COUNTY RIVERFRONT REGIONAL PARK
(CONTRACT #C0008757)**

WHEREAS, Anoka County Parks (the “County”) was recently approached by the City of Minneapolis, through its Water Department (the “City”) with a request to purchase certain county-owned land situated along the Mississippi River Regional Trail in Fridley, Minnesota, which would benefit the water treatment facility by providing needed additional space for expansion; and,

WHEREAS, the parcels of interest total about .33 acres and are located on the west side of East River Road, approximately half-way between Riverfront Regional Park and 37th Avenue (southern county border), just south of 42nd Avenue, and are legally described in Exhibit A attached; and,

WHEREAS, as a result of the recent Riverfront Regional Park redevelopment, the use of these parcels is no longer needed for regional park purposes; however, the sale of these parcels would be considered a conversion of use and therefore requires an equally valuable land exchange with the City, subject to Metropolitan Council approval; and,

WHEREAS, the parties agree that the County’s replacement of the .33 acres can be accomplished by the City conveying land on the north side of the waterworks facility, just south of Riverfront Regional Park, including approximately 55 feet of shoreline access along the Mississippi River, as legally described in Exhibit B attached, to serve as replacement land for the purchased parcels and reserving an easement over the exchanged land for county trail purposes; and,

WHEREAS, the replacement land has significant restoration potential and will increase the amount of naturalized areas and green space within the metro area and increase the biodiversity along the river; and,

WHEREAS, the County believes this land exchange, as depicted in Exhibit C, is in the best interests of both parties and will positively impact the regional park and trail system’s facilities and services to the public:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Anoka County, by and through its Board of Commissioners, does hereby authorize and direct the board chair of the Anoka County Board of Commissioners and the Anoka County administrator to execute the necessary documents to convey to the City the property and property interests, described in the attached Exhibit A, in accordance with the parties’ land exchange agreement.

(Exhibits A, B, and C are on file in the Administration Department.)

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

2. Commissioner Meisner made motion approving Contract # C0008491, a license agreement with the City of Minneapolis for .3 acres of the replacement land at Riverfront Regional Park, subject to review by the county attorney as to form and legality. (Contract is on file in the Parks Department.) Commissioner Reinert seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

- 3. Commissioner Gamache made motion approving Contract #C0007346, a second grant amendment to the Bunker Beach Infrastructure Grant, which will increase the amount of the grant by \$220,676 to a total grant amount of \$2,608,323.80, subject to review by the county attorney as to form and legality. (Contract is on file in the Parks Department.) Commissioner Look seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.
- 4. Commissioner Reinert made motion approving Contract #C0008750, a Memorandum of Understanding with the Minnesota Off-Road Cyclists for the volunteer maintenance of the 3.5 miles of single-track trail to be constructed within Rice Creek Chain of Lakes Park Reserve, 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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Commissioner Look made motion approving the self-insured health care insurance plan rates effective January 1, 2022, and the county contributions to health insurance premiums and health reimbursement accounts for benefit-eligible employees, as outlined by the personnel rules and regulations, as recommended by the responsible Commissioner for Insurance. Commissioner Braastad seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

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Commissioner Look made motion approving Contract #C0008749 with Unum for a voluntary vision materials only insurance plan from Blue Cross Blue Shield for 30 hours or more per week benefit-eligible positions, non-union and union employees for a four-year period ending December 31, 2025, as recommended by the responsible Commissioner for Insurance, subject to review by the county attorney as to form and legality. (Contract is on file in the Risk Management Department.) Commissioner Meisner seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

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Commissioner Look made motion approving amending Contract #C0008079 with Blue Cross Blue Shield for Retiree Medicare Supplemental Insurance to move from Plan N to a Customized Group Medicare Advantage beginning January 1, 2022, with no change to the prescription plan options and providing county contributions as calculated in the Anoka County Personnel Rules and Regulations, as recommended by the responsible Commissioner for Insurance, subject to review by the county attorney as to form and legality. (Contract is on file in the Risk Management Department.) Commissioner Braastad seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

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The county board acknowledged receiving a copy of the proposed City of Coon Rapids Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District for the following purposes:

- 1. Reviewing the proposal to modify the Redevelopment Plan for Housing and Redevelopment Project Area No. 1 and to adopt Modifications to the Tax Increment Financing Plans to modify Tax Increment Financing District Nos. 1-31, 1-32, 1-33, 3-1 & 6-1.
- 2. Submitting comments on the Tax Increment Financing District to the city, in lieu of the traditional 30-day comment period.

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The county board meeting was adjourned at 10:31 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.