

Proclamation

WHEREAS, Commissioner Nicole Joy Frethem has served the people of Ramsey County with distinction and dedication, demonstrating unwavering leadership by advancing policies and initiatives that have had a lasting positive impact on our community; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Frethem was instrumental in the strategic investment of American Rescue Plan (ARPA) dollars to support the childcare workforce through the Wayfinder program, which was so successful that it expanded statewide and garnered national recognition, including a special acknowledgment by President Biden at the National Association of Counties conference in 2023; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Frethem was instrumental in driving substantial progress in the development of Rice Creek Commons, collaborating with the Joint Development Authority (JDA) to increase the quantity and affordability of housing, while committing to an all-electric, carbon-free, Platinum-level LEED development that will serve as a model for sustainable communities; and


WHEREAS, Commissioner Frethem led work to establish an Arts, Cultural, and Creative Enterprise comprehensive strategy and an Advisory Commission, with the goal of enhancing vibrancy, economic development, and cultural richness in Ramsey County; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Frethem strove to engage with community, leading events and conversations within the community on topics such as flooding in Snail Lake Regional Park, affordable housing in the suburbs, development at Rice Creek Commons, changes to the Ramsey County parks ordinance, public safety, mental health, and the creative arts economy; and


WHEREAS, Commissioner Frethem represented Ramsey County on numerous boards and commissions, including the County-Court Joint Committee, GenerationNext, Law Library Trustee, Metropolitan Mosquito Control District Board, Northeast Youth and Family Services Board, Ramsey County Extension Committee, Ramsey & Washington Recycling & Energy Board, Suburban Ramsey Family Collaborative Joint Powers Board, TCAAP & Rice Creek Commons Joint Development Authority, Willow Lake Nature Preserve Foundation Board, Youth Justice Transformation, Metro Conservation District; and


WHEREAS, Commissioner Frethem served on the board of the Community Action Partnership of Ramsey and Washington County from January 2020 until the end of her term in December 2024, serving for a year and half as the vice chair of the board and two years as the board chair, leading the executive director search committee and driving organizational transformation and improvement efforts; Now, Therefore, Be It

PROCLAIMED, In recognition and honor of Commissioner Frethem's leadership and service to Ramsey County, the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners declares November 19, 2024, as Commissioner Nicole Joy Frethem Day in Ramsey County.


Victoria Reinhardt, Board Chair, District 7


Rena Moran, Commissioner, District 4


Mary Jo McGuire, Commissioner, District 2


Mai Chong Xiong, Commissioner, District 6


Rafael Ortega, Commissioner, District 5


Ling Becker, County Manager