

# Regional Railroad Authority Minutes

15 West Kellogg Blvd. Saint Paul, MN 55102 651-266-9200

November 25, 2025 - 10 a.m.

**Council Chambers - Courthouse Room 300** 

The Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority met in regular session at 10:28 a.m. with the following members present: Jebens - Singh, McGuire, Miller, Moran, Xiong and Chair Ortega. Commissioner McMurtrey joined the board meeting remotely pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 13D.02, Subdivision 1(b). Also present was Ling Becker, County Manager, and Scott Schwahn, Assistant County Attorney, Ramsey County Attorney's Office.

#### **ROLL CALL**

Present: Jebens-Singh, McGuire, McMurtrey, Miller, Moran, Ortega, and Xiong

**1.** Agenda of November 25, 2025 is Presented for Approval

2025-502

Sponsors: County Manager's Office

Approve the agenda of November 25, 2025.

Motion by Miller, seconded by Xiong. Motion passed.

Aye: Jebens-Singh, McGuire, McMurtrey, Miller, Moran, Ortega, and Xiong

2. Minutes from October 21, 2025 are Presented for Approval

2025-503

Sponsors: County Manager's Office

Approve the October 21, 2025 Minutes.

Motion by Xiong, seconded by Miller. Motion passed.

Aye: Jebens-Singh, McGuire, McMurtrey, Miller, Moran, Ortega, and Xiong

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS**

3. Sale of Vacant Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority Parcels

2025-483

Sponsors: Public Works

- 1. Approve the 2nd amendment and reinstatement of the purchase and sale agreement with Northern States Power Company, 414 Nicollet Mall, 6th floor, Minneapolis, MN 55401, for the disposition of parcels 322922310002 and 322922310003 in the amount of \$315,000.
- Authorize the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority to approve, execute, and deliver the subdivision plat known as "DAYTONS BLUFF RR ADDITION", in a form approved by the Ramsey County Attorney's Office and the Ramsey County Surveyor's Office.
- 3. Authorize the Chair to approve and execute the reinstated and amended purchase and sale agreement, the sub-division plat and all other sub-division documents, deed and other conveyance and closing documents, and any other documents necessary to complete the transaction, in a form approved by the Ramsey County Attorney's Office.
- 4. Authorize the Chair to execute future amendments to the agreement that do not have a

financial impact.

5. Authorize the County Manager to approve and execute the closing/settlement statement for the transaction, FIRPTA affidavit, seller's affidavit, certificate of real estate value, and other non-conveyance documents necessary to complete the transaction, in a form approved by the Ramsey County Attorney's Office.

Motion by Xiong, seconded by Miller. Motion passed.

Aye: Jebens-Singh, McGuire, McMurtrey, Miller, Moran, Ortega, and Xiong

Resolution: R2025-016

**4.** 2026-2030 Transportation Improvement Program

2025-498

Sponsors: Public Works

- 1. Adopt the 2026-2030 Public Works Transportation Improvement Program.
- 2. Authorize the County Engineer to prepare plans and agreements for all projects identified in the Transportation Improvement Program and to issue solicitations in accordance with County policies and procedures and the Minnesota Department of Transportation's list of "Pre-Qualified Vendors by Work Type."
- Authorize the County Surveyor to execute Right of Way Plats and Certificate of Surveys for projects in the 2026-2030 Public Works Transportation Improvement Program, or previously approved Transportation Improvement Program, that require the determination of existing right of way for the delineation and /or acquisition of property interest.
- 4. Authorize the County Manager to enter into agreements and execute change orders and amendments to agreements, supplemental agreements, and agreements related to the expenditure of Transportation Improvement Program Project Funds utilizing County State Aid, Federal, State, and participating funding associated with the construction of the approved projects in the 2026-2030 or a previously approved Transportation Improvement Program in accordance with the county's procurement policies and procedures.
- 5. Authorize the County Engineer and County Attorney to acquire temporary easements, permanent easements, fee title, enter into Limited Use Permits with the State of Minnesota, and complete the disposition of excess County properties for projects in the 2026-2030 Public Works Transportation Improvement Program, or previously approved Transportation Improvement Program, by negotiation or condemnation.
- 6. Authorize the County Engineer to approve negotiated settlements for up to \$100,000 over Ramsey County's appraised value per parcel for temporary and permanent easements and fee title.
- 7. Authorize the County Manager to approve and execute purchase agreements, settlements, closing documents, Limited Use Permits, and other related real estate documentation associated with Ramsey County Board approved acquisitions of real property.
- 8. Authorize the County Manager to approve and execute cooperative agreements and maintenance agreements with cities, counties, the state, and other governmental agencies for their participation in projects listed in the 2026-2030 Public Works Transportation Improvement Program or previously approved Transportation Improvement Program.
- 9. Authorize the County Manager to make temporary transfers, as needed, from the County General Fund to Public Works to cover expenses related to the Transportation Improvement Program until funds are received from bonds, Wheelage Tax proceeds, County State Aid Highway, Federal, and State Participating funds. Repayment is to be made upon receipt of the funds.
- 10. Authorize the County Engineer to submit grant applications for state and federal funding for projects listed in the 2026-2030 Public Works Transportation Improvement

Program.

- 11. Authorize the County Manager to accept grants and execute grant agreements, agreeing to the grant terms and conditions for the grant award. For grants that so require, Ramsey County agrees to be responsible for any additional amount by which the cost exceeds the county's construction cost estimate and will return to the grantor any grant amount appropriated for the project but not utilized under the terms of the grant agreement.
- 12. Authorize the County Manager or designee to provide statements of support to county constituent cities for grant applications being pursued by the cities.
- 13. Approve the transfer of \$15,300,000 from the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority Tax Levy fund balance to the 2026 Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority operating budget to be used to fund the 2026 Transportation Improvement Program projects identified to be funded by Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority funds.
- 14. Approve the transfer of \$32,680,000 from the Local Option Sales Tax fund balance to the Administrative operating budget to be used to fund the 2026 Transportation Improvement Program projects identified to be funded by Local Option Sales Tax funds.
- 15. Authorize the County Manager to establish project budgets for projects within the Transportation Improvement Program. Authorize Public Works to transfer funds between these respective projects as needed.

Motion by Xiong, seconded by Miller. Motion passed.

Aye: Jebens-Singh, McGuire, McMurtrey, Miller, Moran, Ortega, and Xiong

Resolution: <u>R2025-017</u>

## **CORRIDOR UPDATES**

None.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Ortega declared the meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.