

The Legislative Committee of the Whole met in regular session at 11:05 a.m. with the following members present: Carter, Frethem, MatasCastillo, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, and Chair McGuire. Also present were Ryan O'Connor, County Manager, and Jeff Stephenson, Civil Division Director, Ramsey County Attorney's Office.

1. ROLL CALL

Commissioners	YES	NO	ABSENT	RECUSE
Carter, Toni	x			
Frethem, Nicole	x			
MatasCastillo, Trista	x			
McDonough, Jim	x			
McGuire, Mary Jo	x			
Ortega, Rafael	x			
Reinhardt, Victoria	x			

2. Agenda of December 17, 2019 Legislative Committee Meeting is Presented for Approval

VOTING

Motion by: Jim McDonough

Second by: Victoria Reinhardt

Commissioners	YES	NO	ABSENT	RECUSE
Carter, Toni	x			
Frethem, Nicole	x			
MatasCastillo, Trista	x			
McDonough, Jim	x			
McGuire, Mary Jo	x			
Ortega, Rafael	x			
Reinhardt, Victoria	x			

3. Minutes from the November 13, 2018 Legislative Committee are Presented for Approval

VOTING

Motion by: Trista MatasCastillo

Second by: Victoria Reinhardt

Commissioners	YES	NO	ABSENT	RECUSE
Carter, Toni	x			
Frethem, Nicole	x			
MatasCastillo, Trista	x			
McDonough, Jim	x			
McGuire, Mary Jo	x			
Ortega, Rafael	x			
Reinhardt, Victoria	x			

4. 2020 State Legislative Platform

The following additions (underlined>) and deletions (strikethroughs) were made to the State Legislative Platform and are noted below in the draft resolution . Discussion is available on archived video.

VOTING

Motion by: Jim McDonough

Second by: Toni Carter

Commissioners	YES	NO	ABSENT	RECUSE
Carter, Toni	X			
Frethem, Nicole	X			
MatasCastillo, Trista	X			
McDonough, Jim	X			
McGuire, Mary Jo	X			
Ortega, Rafael	X			
Reinhardt, Victoria	X			

Draft Resolution
(for Board approval on January 14, 2020)

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Legislative Committee of the Whole has reviewed positions for possible inclusion in the Ramsey County 2020 State Legislative Platform; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approves the Ramsey County 2020 State Legislative Platform inclusive of the legislative guiding principles, the statement of support for the named organizations, and the following items:

CAPITAL INVESTMENT PRIORITIES

Ramsey County Capital Investment Requests

1. Riversedge Deck, \$40 million
2. Ramsey and Washington County Recycling and Energy Center Next Generation Technology Upgrades, \$21 million
3. Battle Creek Winter Recreation Area, \$2.127 million
4. Interstate Highway 35E and County Road J Interchange, \$1.5 million
5. Rush Line Bus Rapid Transit Project, \$2.5 million
6. Riverview Corridor, \$2.5 million

Support of Other Capital Investment Requests

- Kellogg-Third Street Bridge Replacement, \$55 million, City of Saint Paul
- Twin Cities to Milwaukee/Chicago Second Train, \$10 million, MnDOT
- Gibbs Farm-Pathways to Dakota and Pioneer Life Program, \$7.13 million, Ramsey County Historical Society
- Lake Links Trail Connection, \$1.1 million

FUNDING AND POLICY PRIORITIES

Strong Families

- Support Families First Investments and Approach to Child Wellbeing
- Support the African American Family Preservation Act
- Mandate Court Appointment of Counsel for Eligible Parents and other Caretakers Involved in CHIPs Cases
- Support Child Care Licensing Practice Improvements
- Support State Compliance with Federal Child Care Provider Requirements
- Maximize the Use of All Available Child Care Subsidy Funds through Strategic Wait-List Changes
- Increase Funding for Affordable Housing and Housing Programs Focused on Specific Populations
- Create a Dedicated for the Development of Affordable Housing Across the State
- Expand Housing Support Demonstration Capacity to Include Seven Twin Cities Metro Counties
- Clarify Ambiguity and Correct Error in Child Support Reforms Adopted in 2016
- Update Basic Child Support Table
- Eliminate Interest on Past-Due Child Support
- Allow Discretion in Making Reports of Arrears to the Credit Bureau
- Provide Flexibility in the Collection of Child Support and Other Cost-of-Care Funds When a Child is in Foster Care

Health Care

- Continue to Improve Protect Health Care Access for All Residents
- Enhance Medicaid Asthma Care Services for Minnesota's Children and Their Families
- Increase Funding for the Minnesota Eligibility and Technology System (METS) Support Technology System Updates
- Support Changes to the County Cost Share for AMRTC and Community Behavioral Health Hospitals
- Develop Additional Community-Based Mental Health Placement Options and Services
- Revise the Civil Commitment Statute to Improve the Response to Defendants Who are Experiencing Mental Illness and Provide Funding for Competency Restoration

Safe Communities

- Probation Reform: Limit the Length of Probation with Exceptions for Certain Crimes
- Support Extension of Post-Conviction Relief Time Limits
- Clarify the Re-Establishment of Voting Rights Following Completion of Prison Time Served for Felonies
- Support Mandated Background Checks for All Firearm Purchases, ~~and~~ Support the Red-Flag Initiative and Renew the Federal Assault Weapons Ban
- Support the Uniform Collateral Consequences of Conviction Act

Achievement and Employment

- Support the Ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA)
- Support Regional Workforce Efforts
- SNAP Employment and Training Programs: Support Local Flexibility
- ~~Fund Ash Tree Wood Waste Processing Program~~

Transportation and Transit

- Support Statewide Transportation Funding
- Amend ~~Leased- Motor Vehicle Leased~~ Sales Tax to Include Ramsey and Hennepin Counties as Recipients
- Support MnDOT Local Bridge Replacement Program
- Fund the UP Railroad/BNSF Railway Grade Separation Project

General Government

- Update Ramsey County Governing Statute to Conform Community Corrections Administrative Structure with Other Counties
- Hold Counties Harmless for ~~State Department of Human Services Errors~~ that Require Repayment of Federal Funds or Result in the Loss of Budgeted Federal Program Funding
- Revise Eminent Domain Process
- Allow Use of Federal Identification Numbers in Lieu of Social Security Numbers on Homestead Classification Applications
- Allow Flexibility of Interest Rates for Contracts for Deed on Tax Forfeited Properties
- Balance Data Practices Laws to Foster Government Efficiency and Transparency
- Increase Funding for the Technology Systems Employed by Counties and the State to Support State-and Federal-Mandated Programs
- Require Access to Multi-Unit Housing for US Census Workers
- Fund Ash Tree Wood Waste Processing Program
- Support Efforts to Prevent and Clean Up Trichloroethylene (TCE) Contamination

Parks and Libraries

- Increase Regional Library Basic System Support (RLBSS) to \$17 million
- Support Library Construction and Remodeling Grants for Libraries

and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes county representatives to work with members of the Legislature and other interested parties to promote legislation reflective of the positions contained in the platform.

5. 2020 Federal Legislative Platform

Additions (underlines) and deletions (strikethroughs) to the Federal Legislative Platform were reviewed by Jennifer O'Rourke, Government Relations Director, and are noted below in the draft resolution. Discussion is available on archived video.

VOTING

Motion by: Toni Carter

Second by: Jim McDonough

Commissioners	YES	NO	ABSENT	RECUSE
Carter, Toni	x			
Frethem, Nicole	x			
MatasCastillo, Trista	x			
McDonough, Jim	x			
McGuire, Mary Jo	x			
Ortega, Rafael	x			
Reinhardt, Victoria	x			

Draft Resolution
(for Board approval on January 14, 2020)

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Legislative Committee of the Whole has reviewed positions for possible inclusion in the Ramsey County 2020 Federal Legislative Platform; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approves the Ramsey County 2020 Federal Legislative Platform including the statement of support for the named organization, and the items involving the following issues:

Infrastructure

- Passenger Rail
- Transportation Reauthorization
- Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act

Community, Economic and Workforce Development

- Protect Basic Human Rights of Immigrants
- 2020 Census
- ~~Net Neutrality~~
- HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME)
- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
- Tax Incentives for Development of Affordable Housing
- Equal Rights Amendment (ERA)

Environment, Energy and Land Use

- Land and Water Conservation Fund Act (LAWCON)
- Clean Water
- Recycling and Energy

Health and Human Services

- Social Services Block Grant Funding (SSBG)
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Affordable Care Act (ACA)
- Medicaid Services Financing
- Mental Health
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Families First (Title IV-E)
- Firearm Regulation

and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes county representatives to work with members of the Legislature and other interested parties to promote legislation reflective of the positions contained in the platform.

Chair McGuire declared the meeting adjourned at 11:28 a.m.

Janet M. Guthrie, Chief Clerk – County Board