



Board of Commissioners

Minutes

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

November 16, 2021 - 9 a.m.

Virtual meeting / Council Chambers - Courthouse
Room 300

The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. with the following members present: Frethem, MatasCastillo, McDonough, McGuire, Ortega, Reinhardt, and Chair Carter. Also present were Ryan O'Connor, County Manager, and Sam Clark, Civil Division Director, Ramsey County Attorney's Office.

ROLL CALL

Present: Carter, Frethem, MatasCastillo, McDonough, McGuire, Ortega, and Reinhardt

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

1. Agenda of November 16, 2021 is Presented for Approval. [2021-566](#)

Sponsors: County Manager's Office

Approve the agenda of November 16, 2021.

Motion by McGuire, seconded by McDonough. Motion passed.

Aye: Carter, Frethem, MatasCastillo, McDonough, McGuire, Ortega, and Reinhardt

2. Minutes from November 9, 2021 are Presented for Approval [2021-579](#)

Sponsors: County Manager's Office

Approve the November 9, 2021 Minutes.

Motion by Reinhardt, seconded by Ortega. Motion passed.

Aye: Carter, Frethem, MatasCastillo, McDonough, McGuire, Ortega, and Reinhardt

ORDINANCE PROCEDURES

3. 2022 Capital Improvement Program Bond Ordinance - Waive the Second Reading [2021-628](#)

Sponsors: Finance

Waive the second reading of the proposed 2022 Capital Improvement Program Bond Ordinance.

Motion by MatasCastillo, seconded by Reinhardt. Motion passed.

Aye: Carter, Frethem, MatasCastillo, McDonough, McGuire, Ortega, and Reinhardt

Resolution: [B2021-247](#)

4. 2022 Capital Improvement Program Bond Ordinance - Hold Public Hearing [2021-627](#)

Sponsors: Finance

Hold a public hearing to afford the public an opportunity to comment on the proposed 2022

Capital Improvement Program Bond Ordinance.

Chair Carter opened the public hearing at 9:04 a.m. As no one was signed up to speak, the chair called three times for public comment. Hearing none, the chair closed the public hearing at 9:05 a.m.

COVID UPDATE

Presented by County Manager Ryan O'Connor, Sara Hollie, Director - Public Health, Dr. Ogawa, Medical Director - Public Health, and Laura Andersen, Deputy Incident Commander - Public Health. Discussion can be found on archived video.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

6. Name Change of the Chemical Health Committee [2021-622](#)

Sponsors: Social Services

Approve the name change of the Citizens Advisory Committee - Chemical Health Committee to Substance Use and Recovery Committee

Motion by McGuire, seconded by Reinhardt. Motion passed.

Aye: Carter, Frethem, MatasCastillo, McDonough, McGuire, Ortega, and Reinhardt

Resolution: [B2021-248](#)

7. Agreement for Ramsey County Library - Maplewood Design-Build Part 1 [2021-612](#)

Sponsors: Property Management

1. Approve the selection of and the agreement with AP Midwest LLC dba Adolfson & Peterson Construction, 5500 Wayzata Blvd., Suite 600, Minneapolis, MN 55416 for Part 1 Design-Build services for the Maplewood Library project, for the period of November 16, 2021 through January 15, 2023, in the not-to-exceed amount of \$145,200.
2. Authorize the Chair and Chief Clerk to execute the agreement.
3. Authorize the County Manager to enter into agreements and execute change orders and amendments to agreements in accordance with the county's procurement policies and procedures, provided the amounts are within the limits of available funding for the project.

Motion by McGuire, seconded by Reinhardt. Motion passed.

Aye: Carter, Frethem, MatasCastillo, McDonough, McGuire, Ortega, and Reinhardt

Resolution: [B2021-249](#)

8. Second Amendment to Lease with Hmong American Partnership [2021-586](#)

Sponsors: Property Management and Public Health

1. Approve the Second Amendment to the Lease with Hmong American Partnership, 1075 Arcade Street, Saint Paul, MN 55106, for space at the same location for the period from March 1, 2022 through February 28, 2027 in accordance with the rates in the lease agreement.
2. Authorize the Chair and Chief Clerk to execute the lease amendment.
3. Authorize the County Manager to execute the five-year renewal option in accordance with the general terms and conditions of the amended lease.

Motion by McGuire, seconded by Reinhardt. Motion passed.

Aye: Carter, Frethem, MatasCastillo, McDonough, McGuire, Ortega, and Reinhardt

Resolution: [B2021-250](#)

9. American Rescue Plan Act Funds for Violence Prevention Initiatives [2021-645](#)

Sponsors: County Manager's Office and Safety and Justice

1. Allocate up to \$16 million of the American Rescue Plan Act funds to support Violence Prevention initiatives through 2024, in accordance with federal guidance.
2. Authorize the County Manager to establish a grant account for Violence Prevention initiatives and transfer related expenses and revenue to this grant account.
3. Authorize the County Manager to enter into agreements and contracts and amendments to agreements and contracts in accordance with the county's procurement policies and procedures, provided the amounts are within the limits of the grant funding.

Motion by McGuire, seconded by Reinhardt. Motion passed.

Aye: Carter, Frethem, MatasCastillo, McDonough, McGuire, Ortega, and Reinhardt

Resolution: [B2021-251](#)

10. American Rescue Plan Act Funding Request for Tier 1 Priority Administrative Items [2021-618](#)

Sponsors: Finance

1. Allocate up to \$2,000,000 of American Rescue Plan Act funds to the Public Health response including vaccine incentives and other immediate responses, in accordance with federal guidance.
2. Allocate up to \$5,120,000 of American Rescue Plan Act funds to the Homelessness project, in accordance with federal guidance.
3. Allocate up to \$2,000,000 of American Rescue Plan Act funds to support the administration of the funds and related programs including evaluation, support services and audit functions, in accordance with federal guidance.
4. Allocate up to \$1,000,000 of American Rescue Plan Act funds to the Ramsey County Care Center and Lake Owasso Residence for their on-going COVID response, in accordance with federal guidance.
5. Allocate up to \$1,100,000 of American Rescue Plan Act funds to the Ramsey County Attorney's Office to address the backlog of cases, in accordance with federal guidance.
6. Approve an increase in the personnel complement of the County Attorney's Office by 2.0 Full Time Equivalent Assistant County Attorney, 1.0 Full Time Equivalent Paralegal, 1.0 Full Time Equivalent Legal Secretary and 1.2 Full Time Equivalent Victim Witness Advocate.
7. Authorize the County Manager to enter into agreements and execute amendments to agreements in accordance with the county's procurement policies and procedures, provided the amounts are within the limits of the grant funding.

Motion by McGuire, seconded by Reinhardt. Motion passed.

Aye: Carter, Frethem, MatasCastillo, McDonough, McGuire, Ortega, and Reinhardt

Resolution: [B2021-252](#)

11. September 2021 Report of Contracts, Grant and Revenue Agreements, Emergency Purchases, Sole Source, Single Source Purchases and Final Payments [2021-619](#)

Sponsors: Finance

Accept the monthly report of contracts, grant and revenue agreements, emergency purchases, sole source and single source purchases and final payments for the month of September 2021.

Motion by McGuire, seconded by Reinhardt. Motion passed.

Aye: Carter, Frethem, MatasCastillo, McDonough, McGuire, Ortega, and Reinhardt

Resolution: [B2021-253](#)

5. Bonuses and Financial Incentives to Hire and Retain Registered Nurses at the Ramsey County Care Center [2021-465](#)

Sponsors: Social Services

1. Approve a sign-on bonus for Registered Nurses who accept employment at the Ramsey County Care Center.
2. Approve a referral bonus for all Ramsey County Care Center employees who source the successful hiring of Registered Nurses at Ramsey County Care Center.
3. Approve an unscheduled pick-up shift incentive for Registered Nurses, Floor Nurses at Ramsey County Care Center.
4. Authorize the County Manager to offer financial incentives for one year with a one-year extension possible, with quarterly review by the Health and Wellness Service Team Deputy County Manager, Human Resources and Finance.

Commissioner McDonough made a substitute motion, seconded by Reinhardt, to replace the four proposed recommendations with two recommendations as follows:

1. Direct the County Manager to develop and communicate to the Board a short-term plan that is focused on serving current residents without a concern for increasing census to maximize revenue during the current COVID-19 wave of increased transmission and human impact.
2. Direct the County Manager to develop long-term recommendations, to be presented to the County Board in a workshop during the first quarter of 2022, regarding Care Center operations beyond the short-term plan to managing through the current COVID-19 wave of increased transmission.

Motion by McDonough, seconded by Reinhardt. Motion passed.

Aye: Carter, Frethem, MatasCastillo, McDonough, McGuire, Ortega, and Reinhardt

Resolution: [B2021-254](#)

POLICY ITEM

12. Expansion of the Employee COVID-19 Proof of Vaccination and Testing Policy to all Ramsey County Elected Officials [2021-654](#)

Sponsors: Human Resources

Expand the Employee COVID-19 Proof of Vaccination and Testing Policy to all Ramsey County elected officials.

Motion by McDonough, seconded by Frethem. Motion passed.

Aye: Carter, Frethem, MatasCastillo, McDonough, McGuire, Ortega, and Reinhardt

Resolution: [B2021-255](#)

COUNTY CONNECTIONS

Presented by County Manager, Ryan O'Connor. Additional report provided by Alex Kotze, Chief Financial Officer. Discussion can be found on archived video.

OUTSIDE BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Discussion can be found on archived video.

BOARD CHAIR UPDATE

Presented by Chair Carter. Discussion can be found on archived video.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Carter declared the meeting adjourned at 10:34 a.m.