

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE
RICE COUNTY COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Commissioner's Room / Government Services Building
Tuesday, October 18, 2022 at 8:30 AM**

I. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

(At the beginning of each Committee of the Whole Work Session meeting, the floor will be open to solicit public comments on items on the Agenda. Public comments will be limited to two (2) minutes for each person, subject to the discretion of the County Board Chairperson)

II. COMMUNITY SERVICES: Rick Gieseke

- A. Megan Thomas brought to the Commissioners the subject requiring the current guardianship services. The department has three part-time guardians that oversee 61 cases. For the cases that are contracted out, a total amount of \$507,835.82 was paid out by the County for services provided in 2021. Through discussion and fiscal analysis between this department and the County Attorney's Office, it is estimated that these services can be provided in-house in a more cost-effective manner with the addition of new personnel. This will entail three full-time guardians (\$220,454.00), one full-time working supervisor, (\$82,506.00) and include technology and transportation (\$12,000.00) and contracting out for conservatorship cases (\$82, 500.00) for a total projected cost of \$397,460.00. With this new structure of Community Services, there is capacity to take on additional cases. It is estimated that this change in the provision fo services will provide the County with a cost savings in excel of \$100,000.00 for services provided in 2023. This topic will be brought back to board for a decision on October 25, 2022.

III. PARKS & FACILITIES DEPARTMENT: Matthew Verdick

- A. Matthew Verdick, Director of Parks and Facilities, brought to the commissioners the removal of the Mural from 119 4th St. NW before it is demoed. The mural society owns the mural that was mounted on this building. The mural has been removed from the building, and the mural society has found a new location to display this mural. The estimate to remove the sign from the building is \$1,000.00 and the estimate to install the mural on the rear of the Paradise Theater is \$3800.00. The mural society has asked the county to help with the costs of this process. The commissioners would like to have the Mural Society reach out to the City as well to see what they are willing to pitch in, since it's within the city limits. This will be brought back to the board at a later date.

IV. HIGHWAY: Dennis Luebbe

- A. Dennis Luebbe spoke in regards to some updates on what's happening with the Highway department. Next week they will be installing snow plows, winter gear and salt will be stocked as much as possible. Due to the lack of revenue from the sales of cars and availability, there will need to be some adjustments. There is a 7% decrease. With 60% going to construction and 40% going to maintenance, there is not much left for anything else at this time.
The road and Bridge 10-year plan will have to be re-adjusted. A new preliminary draft will be brought forward sometime in November. There will also be a road and bridge tour to follow.
County Road 76 Bridge is ready to be covered with concrete and is on schedule.
County Road 101 is ready for asphalt.
And on County Road 9, the railroad issues have been covered.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Galen Malecha, seconded by Jeff Docken, to adjourn the meeting.

RESULT: Approved, AYES: Jeff Docken, Dave Miller, Steve Underdahl, Galen Malecha, Jim Purfeerst,
NAYS: None