

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE
RICE COUNTY COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Commissioner's Room / Government Services Building
Tuesday, February 7, 2023 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. PROPERTY TAX & ELECTIONS: Denise Anderson

A. Denise Anderson brought forward the 2022 Abatement report to discuss with the Commissioners.

III. HOUSING: Joy Watson

A. Joy Watson from housing discussed current projects like Spring Creek II, City of Faribault Public Housing Transition, Home Ownership Project, Rental Assistance, Section 8 Assistance, and Emergency Housing Vouchers that are currently in process. Upcoming projects consist of possible Foster Youth to Independence Vouchers and Project-based vouchers to be part of 2023 projects.

B. Margaret Kaplan, President of the Housing Justice Center and Gina G. Washburn, Chair of First UCC Immigrant Welcoming Ministry presented information regarding the issues taking affect with the Manufactured Home Community. Much information was provided and they are in hopes of coming together with the County to order a Point of Sale Ordinance. The Commissioners stated they would continue to look into ways they can help. More information to follow on this topic when is available.

IV. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY: Allan Klug

A. Allan Klug came forward to present two different types of firewalls that will need an upgrade coming soon. Allan provided the quotes and described how each one would be beneficial for upgrading the county within the near future. With new firewalls, the Rice County network will be more secure, while also allowing IT better tools to troubleshoot and prevent network issues. The Information Technology Department would also gain better capabilities for web filtering, malware blocking, and traffic management.

V. FINANCE: Paula O'Connell

A. Fran Windschitl talked and reviewed the Cash & Pooled Investments for the Period Ending December 31, 2022.

B. Fran Windschitl went through and reviewed the Quarterly Financial Report for the Period Ending December 31, 2022 year to date.

VI. HIGHWAY: Dennis Luebbe

A. Dennis Luebbe brought back the 10-year Transportation Improvement Plan which contained the CSAH 43 addition to the plan which was originally pulled. This topic is still being discussed and will be brought back to the next board meeting on February 14, 2023.

B. Dennis Luebbe brought forward information in regards to professional services and the possibility of a transportation planner. More information on this topic will be brought back to board at a later date.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Galen Malecha, seconded by Steve Underdahl, to adjourn the meeting.

RESULT: Approved, AYES: Jeff Docken, Steve Underdahl, Galen Malecha, Jim Purfeerst, Gerry Hoisington, NAYS: None