



Our Mission: Providing quality services through responsible leadership, innovation and the cooperation of dedicated people

Date: March 1, 2022
Contact: Yvonne Klinnert, Public Information Manager
Phone: 651-430-6026, after hours 952-807-3723
E-mail: yvonne.klinnert@co.washington.mn.us

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The following actions were taken at the March 1, 2022, Washington County Board of Commissioners meeting at the Government Center in Stillwater, Minnesota

County Board will conduct public hearing April 19 to consider redistricting plans

The Washington County Board of Commissioners will conduct a public hearing April 19 at the county Government Center to consider preliminary plans for redistricting Washington County Commissioner Districts and the Washington County Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

The County Board set the public hearing at its meeting March 1.

The board will also meet at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, April 26, to adopt the new local government election districts.

State law requires public notice when considering plans for redistricting Washington County Commissioner Districts and Washington County Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

The public hearing will be conducted during the board's regular meeting at 9 a.m. at the Government Center, 14949 N. 62nd St., Stillwater, in the Board Room.

By law, the districts must be set by April 26. The commissioner districts will be used for the 2022 election.

For more information on redistricting, see the county website at www.co.washington.mn.us and search "redistricting."

Contact: Yvonne Klinnert, Public Information Manager, 651-430-6026

Rise will continue to provide day support services in county

A great place to live, work and play...today and tomorrow

Rise will continue to provide day support services to county residents with disabilities after the Washington County Board of Commissioners approved a contract extension with the agency through 2023.

The board approved the contract March 1.

The programs, formerly known as day training and habilitation, assist adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities to achieve and maintain the highest level of independence, productivity, and integration in the community.

The day programming provides services related to employment, self-care, communication skills, socialization, physical mobility, and cognitive development. The county is mandated to protect the health and safety of vulnerable adults, which includes providing supervision and care for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities during the day when their caregivers are not present.

Rise also provides employment services, which are the necessary supports and services to assist individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities to work for compensation in a community-integrated work environments in which persons without disabilities are employed. The program is designed to promote regular interaction with persons without disabilities who are not paid caregivers or service providers.

Rise services include employment exploration; employment development of individualized services that help people find employment or attain self-employment; and employment support services.

The rate of pay for the services vary for each individual based on their needs, and the rate formula is determined by the Minnesota Department of Human Services.

Contact: Beth Pierce, Community Services Division Manager, 651-430-8389

County Board approves plat for John See Estates

The Washington County Board of Commissioners approved an abstract plat for the John See Estates March 1.

The John See Estates is in West Lakeland Township, east of Stagecoach Trail and south of 22nd Street. It is a four-lot plat.

Contact: Nancie Schwintek, Property Records and Taxpayer Services Division Manager, 651-430-6758

TKDA will support final design of conference cottage removal at St. Croix Bluffs Regional Park

TKDA has been contracted to support the removal of the conference cottage at St. Croix Bluffs Regional Park and restore the site back to its natural condition after the Washington County Board of Commissioners approved a \$28,439 contract amendment with the company March 1.

The project includes final design services, permitting, and construction support for the demolition of the conference cottage in the park.

The cottage was available for rental for meetings and retreats until 2015 when a large crack in the foundation was discovered. Other concerns include health, safety, and accessibility, which resulted in the building being closed to public use.

Upon closure of the park building, TKDA was contracted to study the cottage's condition in early 2021, and the County Board approved a \$79,000 contract with the company for the initial investigation phase. The purpose of the study was to provide project documentation of existing conditions and recommendations for site alternatives. The information gathered in the study provided an overview of the existing conditions, any known historic or cultural resources, an environmental assessment, and recommendations for alternatives for the building and site.

In November 2021, it was decided to remove the cottage and restore the site back to its natural condition, based on the research performed by TDKA, in collaboration with the County Board. Demolition is anticipated to happen in late 2022.

Contact: Erin Clarkowski, Engineer II, 651-430-4384