

HENNEPIN COUNTY

MINNESOTA

FINAL COMMITTEE AGENDA

RESIDENT SERVICES COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2023

1:30 PM

Chair: Debbie Goettel, District 5
ViceChair: Irene Fernando, District 2
Members: Jeff Lunde, District 1
Marion Greene, District 3
Angela Conley, District 4
Vacant, District 6
Kevin Anderson, District 7

1. Minutes from Previous Meeting

1.A. October 10, 2023 Resident Services minutes

Attachments: [RS-COMMITTEEMINUTES-10-Oct-2023](#)

2. New Business

Routine Items

2.A. [23-0493](#)

Establish 2024 Hennepin County Canvassing Board; Appoint two County Board members to the 2024 Hennepin County Canvassing Board; Set dates for 2024 Hennepin County Canvassing Board's presidential nomination primary, special primary for commissioner district 6, special election for commissioner district 6 and state primary and general election mtgs

2.B. [23-0494](#)

Amd 4 to Agmt A178204 with Better Futures Minnesota f/k/a Network for Better Futures, to provide lawn care, snow removal and salt/sanding services for maintenance of state of Minnesota tax-forfeit properties administered by Hennepin County, ext. end date to 12/31/24, NTE \$750,000

2.C. [23-0495](#)

Authorization to utilize set-aside contracting authority for Amd 4 to Agmt CM00000534 with Better Futures Minnesota f/k/a Network for Better Futures, to provide routine exterior property inspections of Hennepin County tax-forfeit properties, 05/01/20-12/31/24, NTE \$100,000

HENNEPIN COUNTY

MINNESOTA

300 South Sixth Street
Minneapolis, MN
55487-0240

Board Action Request

TMP-0672

Item Description:

October 10, 2023 Resident Services minutes

HENNEPIN COUNTY

MINNESOTA

COMMITTEE MINUTES

RESIDENT SERVICES COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2023

1:30 PM

Chair: Debbie Goettel, District 5
ViceChair: Irene Fernando, District 2
Members: Jeff Lunde, District 1
Marion Greene, District 3
Angela Conley, District 4
Vacant, District 6
Kevin Anderson, District 7

Commissioner Debbie Goettel, Chair, called the meeting of the Resident Services Committee for Tuesday, October 10, 2023 to order at 3:43 p.m.

Present: Debbie Goettel, Jeff Lunde, Irene Fernando, Marion Greene, Angela Conley and Kevin Anderson

1. Minutes from Previous Meeting

1.A. September 26, 2023 Minutes - Resident Services

APPROVE

Commissioner Irene Fernando moved, seconded by Commissioner Angela Conley, to approve the Minutes.

Aye: Vice Chair Goettel, Commissioner Lunde, Commissioner Fernando, Commissioner Greene, Commissioner Conley and Commissioner Anderson

2. Presentation

2.A. Elections update - Ginny Gelms, Director

There being no further business, the Resident Services Committee for Tuesday, October 10, 2023 was declared adjourned at 4:03 p.m.

Maria Rose
Clerk to the County Board

HENNEPIN COUNTY

MINNESOTA

300 South Sixth Street
Minneapolis, MN
55487-0240

Board Action Request

23-0493

Item Description:

Establish 2024 Hennepin County Canvassing Board; Appoint two County Board members to the 2024 Hennepin County Canvassing Board; Set dates for 2024 Hennepin County Canvassing Board's presidential nomination primary, special primary for commissioner district 6, special election for commissioner district 6 and state primary and general election mtgs

Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 204C.31, the Hennepin County Board of Commissioners appoints two of its members, Commissioner Irene Fernando and Commissioner Marion Greene to the 2024 Hennepin County Canvassing Board; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Hennepin County Board sets the following dates for the 2024 Hennepin County Canvassing Board:

- Presidential Nomination Primary - March 8, 2024
- Special Primary for County Commissioner District 6 - May 2, 2024
- Special Election for County Commissioner District 6 - May 17, 2024
- State Primary - August 16, 2024
- State General Election - November 13, 2024

Background:

Per Minn. Stat. § 204C.31, a county canvassing board consists of:

- the county auditor
- the district court administrator
- the mayor, or chair of the town board, of the county's most populous municipality
- two members of the county board who are selected by their board colleagues and who aren't candidates in the current election year
- Note: Any member of the canvassing board may appoint a designee to participate in their place

A county canvassing board's duties are to publicly review and certify election results. Results are not official until they have been reviewed and certified by a canvassing board.

Meeting date requirements:

Primary election: The county canvassing board must meet on the second or third day following a primary election.

General election: The canvassing board must meet between the third and tenth day following a general or special election.

This request seeks to appoint two County Board members to the 2024 Hennepin County Canvassing Board and set 2024 Canvassing Board meeting dates.

Impacts/outcomes:

Approval of this request allows Hennepin County to fulfill its statutory obligations to publicly canvass election returns for the 2024 elections. Elections and voting directly impact all county disparity domains. This request aligns with that framework by ensuring the integrity of elections, allowing residents to confidently participate in our democracy, hold elected officials accountable, and have a voice in important issues affecting themselves and their communities.

Recommendation from County Administrator: Recommend Approval

HENNEPIN COUNTY

MINNESOTA

300 South Sixth Street
Minneapolis, MN
55487-0240

Board Action Request

23-0494

Item Description:

Amd 4 to Agmt A178204 with Better Futures Minnesota f/k/a Network for Better Futures, to provide lawn care, snow removal and salt/sanding services for maintenance of state of Minnesota tax-forfeit properties administered by Hennepin County, ext. end date to 12/31/24, NTE \$750,000

Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chair of the Board and County Administrator be authorized to utilize the set-aside contracting authority under Minn. Stat. § 383B.145, Subd. 5 for Amendment 4 to Agreement A178204 with Better Futures Minnesota, to provide lawn care, snow removal, and salt/sanding services for maintenance of Hennepin County's inventory of state of Minnesota tax-forfeit properties, extending the contract period through December 31, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$750,000, with a 3% increase in pricing, be approved, that the Chair of the Board be authorized to sign the amendment on behalf of the county; and that the Controller be authorized to disburse funds as directed.

Background:

Better Futures Minnesota ("BFM") is a Minnesota nonprofit corporation and social enterprise that, since 2008, has provided employment to hundreds men who are chronically unemployed or formerly incarcerated, while generating revenues to support its mission, utilizing four fundamental components: jobs, housing, health, and coaching supports. Since 2010, providing services under another contract with Land Information and Tax Services ("LITS"), BFM Enterprise Division has enrolled more than 1,000 participants in its workforce development services, employing more than 500 at-risk men to provide lawn services and snow removal.

BFM reports that their participant recidivism rate in 2022 was 8%, compared to the national rate of 25% for individuals that return to prison within their first year of being released. Further, the average annual cost of incarcerating an individual in Minnesota is over \$62,800 per year, compared to the average annual cost of \$18,626 for each BFM participant. BFM participants are given the opportunities to transform into engaged citizens in their communities, who are able to pay their taxes and child-support payments. BFM has calculated a social return on investment of \$3.61 for every dollar invested in the program model.

Land Information and Tax Services staff will manage the proposed contract amendment. LITS performs the statutory functions of the county auditor for administration and maintenance of state of Minnesota tax-forfeited lands under delegation of authority from the County Board. Revenues from sales and leases of tax-forfeit properties are deposited into the Forfeited Tax Sale Fund agency fund. County tax-forfeit property management and related operating expenses are paid from this fund, including the costs under the proposed Amendment 4 of Agreement A178204.

LITS seeks to continue contracting with Better Futures Minnesota for snow removal and lawn care and endeavors to support Hennepin County's disparity reduction efforts and the BFM program. The original contract was directly negotiated pursuant to the set aside statute (Minn. Stat. § 383B.145, Subd. 5) and contains provisions consistent with the findings requirement of the statute. To date, \$649,217.21 has been expended from the contract.

This board action request aligns with Hennepin County disparity reduction efforts by supporting employment and income opportunities for individuals who are chronically unemployed and/or who are returning to the community from the corrections system.

Recommendation from County Administrator: Recommend Approval

Board Action Request

23-0495

Item Description:

Authorization to utilize set-aside contracting authority for Amd 4 to Agmt CM00000534 with Better Futures Minnesota f/k/a Network for Better Futures, to provide routine exterior property inspections of Hennepin County tax-forfeit properties, 05/01/20-12/31/24, NTE \$100,000

Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chair of the Board and County Administrator be authorized to utilize the set-aside contracting authority under Minn. Stat. § 383B.145, Subd. 5 to approve Amendment 4 to Agreement CM00000534, with Better Futures Minnesota for routine exterior property inspections of Hennepin County tax-forfeit properties, extending the contract period through December 31, 2024, not to exceed total of \$100,000 be approved; that the Chair of the Board be authorized to sign the Agreement on behalf of the county; and that the Controller be authorized to disburse funds as directed.

Background:

Better Futures Minnesota ("BFM") is a Minnesota nonprofit corporation and social enterprise that since 2008 has provided employment to hundreds of men who are chronically unemployed or formerly incarcerated, while generating revenues to support its mission, utilizing four fundamental components: jobs, housing, health, and coaching supports. Since 2010, providing services under another contract with Land Information and Tax Services ("LITS"), BFM Enterprise Division has enrolled more than 1,000 participants in its workforce development services, employing more than 500 at-risk men to provide lawn services and snow removal.

BFM reports that their participant recidivism rate in 2022 was 8%, compared to the national rate of 25% for individuals that return to prison within their first year of being released. Further, the average annual cost of incarcerating an individual in Minnesota is over \$62,800 per year, compared to the average annual cost of \$18,626 for each BFM participant. BFM participants are given the opportunities to transform into engaged citizens in their communities, who are able to pay their taxes and child-support payments. BFM has calculated a social return on investment of \$3.61 for every dollar invested in the program model.

Land Information and Tax Services ("LITS") staff will manage the proposed contract. LITS performs the statutory functions of Hennepin County Auditor for administration and disposition of State of Minnesota tax-forfeit properties under delegation of authority from the County Board. Tax-forfeit properties are acquired subsequent to absolute forfeiture under laws governing the enforcement of nonpayment of real property taxes. Revenues from sales and leases of these properties are deposited into the Forfeited Tax Sale Fund agency fund. County tax-forfeit property management expenses and related operating costs, including costs under the proposed Agreement, are paid from the fund.

The department seeks to continue contracting with BFM for the routine exterior property inspections of Hennepin County's tax-forfeit properties, to continue a valued and successful business relationship and to support Hennepin County's disparities reduction efforts through supporting the BFM enterprise's program services and mission. This contract was directly negotiated as permitted under the set aside statute (Minn. Stat. § 383B.145, Subd. 5), and not derived from a competitive bid. To date, \$69,519.28 has been expended from the contract.

This board action request aligns with Hennepin County disparity reduction efforts by supporting employment and income opportunities for individuals who are chronically unemployed and/or who are returning to the community from the corrections system.

Recommendation from County Administrator: Recommend Approval