



Dakota County

Board of Commissioners

Minutes

Tuesday, March 24, 2026

9:00 AM

Boardroom, Administration Center,
Hastings, MN

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Present: Commissioner Mike Slavik
Commissioner Joe Atkins
Commissioner William Droste
Commissioner Liz Workman
Commissioner Mary Liz Holberg
Commissioner Mary Hamann-Roland

Absent: Commissioner Laurie Halverson

Also in attendance were Heidi Welsch, County Manager; Kathryn M. Keena, County Attorney; Tom Donely, First Assistant County Attorney; and Jeni Reynolds, Sr. Administrative Coordinator to the Board.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Vice-Chair Droste, who welcomed everyone and opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Audience

Vice-Chair Droste noted that all public comments can be sent to CountyAdmin@co.dakota.mn.us
No comments were received for this agenda.

4. Agenda

4.1 Resolution No: 26-111
Approval of Agenda (Additions/Corrections/Deletions)

Motion: Mary Hamann-Roland

Second: Mike Slavik

Ayes: 6

CONSENT AGENDA

On a motion by Commissioner Atkins, seconded by Commissioner Slavik, the Consent agenda was approved as follows:

5. County Administration - Approval of Minutes

5.1 Resolution No: 26-112
Approval of Minutes of Meeting Held on March 3, 2026

Motion: Joe Atkins

Second: Mike Slavik

Ayes: 6

6. Items Recommended by Board Committee*

6.1 Resolution No: 26-113
Approval Of Schematic Design For West Lake Byllesby Regional Park Master Plan Improvements

Motion: Joe Atkins

Second: Mike Slavik

WHEREAS, the 2018 Lake Byllesby Regional Park Master Plan identified project sites to be developed on the west side of the park; and

WHEREAS, the adopted 2025---2029 Parks Capital Improvement Program includes a project to develop three sites on the west side of Lake Byllesby Regional Park to formalize access and create basic trailhead amenities; and

WHEREAS, staff selected Aune Fernandez Landscape Architects (AFLA) through a Request for Proposals process to provide the design services for this project; and

WHEREAS, an internal Core Planning Group worked with AFLA to develop and refine the project schematic design; and

WHEREAS, access to the Byllesby Bluff site is still pending a decision from Union Pacific Railroad; and

WHEREAS, schematic design level construction cost estimates were prepared to confirm costs aligned with the available funding; and

WHEREAS, cost estimates for the proposed work at the 56 Turnaround site and the 83 Overlook site is within the available project budget, and can proceed according to the original project schedule; and

WHEREAS, staff recommend the work at the Byllesby Bluff site proceed on a different schedule, pending the outcome of the access decision from Union Pacific Railroad; and

WHEREAS, staff recommends that the County Board approve schematic design as presented and shown in Attachment: Schematic Design.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the schematic design for the West Lake Byllesby Regional Park Master Plan Improvements project, subject to the placement of the proposed parking lot for the 83 Overlook site be constructed on the west side of County Road 83.

Ayes: 6

6.2 Resolution No: 26-114
 Approval Of Schematic Design For Lake Byllesby Regional Park Campground Building And Amendment of Project Budget

Motion: Joe Atkins Second: Mike Slavik

WHEREAS, the adopted 2025 Parks Capital Improvement Program includes a project that explores the replacement or renovation of campground buildings; and

WHEREAS, this project has received a grant through the Metropolitan Council’s Regional Bonding Modernization Grant program; and

WHEREAS, the 2025 “Campground Buildings and Beach House Replacement Study” recommended new buildings in Lake Byllesby, which include a severe weather component; and

WHEREAS, Bloom Companies prepared schematic-level designs that were cost-estimated in December; and

WHEREAS, design for the construction of a new campground building was estimated at \$2,200,000; this estimate is 20 percent over budget. Scope cuts will be made during design development to bring the estimated costs back within the project budget; and

WHEREAS, staff recommends that the County Board approve schematic design as shown in Attachment: Schematic Design.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the design for the new campground building in Lake Byllesby Regional Park; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby amends the 2026 Parks Capital Improvement Program as follows:

Expense	
Campground Buildings and Beach House	<u>\$500,000</u>
Total Expense	\$500,000
Revenue	
Parks Lakes and Trails Legacy Fund	<u>\$500,000</u>
Total Revenue	\$500,000

Ayes: 6

6.3 Resolution No: 26-115
 Approval Of Amended Bylaws For Dakota County Disability Advisory Council

Motion: Joe Atkins Second: Mike Slavik

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 24-038 (January 23, 2024), the Dakota County Board of Commissioners (Board) authorized the creation of the Dakota County Disability Advisory Council (DAC); and

WHEREAS, the DAC offers individuals, parents, families, businesses, and community service providers the opportunity to make a difference in how disability access and services are provided in their community; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 25-094 (January 31, 2025), the Board approved the bylaws for the DAC, which prescribed the rules by which the committee will conduct its business; and

WHEREAS, staff recommends revision of the membership structure to allow a flexible range of 15 to 25 members and remove the requirement for a specific number of seats tied to each designated category; and

WHEREAS, staff recommends shifting to a six-meeting-per-year minimum schedule; and

WHEREAS, staff recommends establishing a 50 percent plus one quorum, which reflects best practices for advisory bodies and ensures the Council can reliably conduct business despite vacancies and typical attendance variability.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby amends Resolution No. 24-038, to allow the Disability Advisory Council to meet every other month; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the proposed amendments to the bylaws for the Dakota County Disability Advisory Council.

Ayes: 6

6.4 Resolution No: 26-116
Schedule County Canvassing Board Meeting For 2026 Primary And General Elections And Selection Of Commissioners To Serve On Canvassing Board

Motion: Joe Atkins

Second: Mike Slavik

WHEREAS, the State Primary Election will be held Tuesday, August 11, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the State General Election will be held Tuesday, November 3, 2026; and

WHEREAS, Minn Stat. § 204C.31 requires that the county convene a canvassing board to certify the results after each election; and

WHEREAS, Minn. Stat. § 204C.31 requires the canvassing board to be made up of the county auditor, the court administrator of the district court in that county (or designee), the mayor of the county's most populous city (or designee), and two Board members (or designee); and

WHEREAS, Commissioners Droste, Hamann-Roland, and Workman are not candidates during 2026 elections and are eligible to serve on the 2026 canvassing boards.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That Commissioners Workman and Hamann-Roland (or designees) serve on the Canvassing Board for the State Primary Election; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That Commissioners Workman and Droste (or designees) serve on the Canvassing Board for the State General Election; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby schedules the County Canvassing Board meeting for the State Primary Election on Friday, August 14, 2026, at 3:00 p.m. at the County Administration Center in Hastings; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby schedules the County Canvassing Board meeting for the State General Election on Tuesday, November 10, 2026, at 3:00 p.m. at the County Administration Center in Hastings.

Ayes: 6

6.5 Resolution No: 26-117
Authorization To Establish Absentee Ballot Board

Motion: Joe Atkins

Second: Mike Slavik

WHEREAS, Minn. Stat. § 203B.121 requires that any governing body with the responsibility to accept and reject ballots establish an absentee ballot board; and

WHEREAS, Minn. Stat. § 204B.19 to 204B. 22, requires the Absentee Ballot Board membership must consist of a sufficient number of elections judges in equal number from each of the major political parties in Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, the major political parties of this state provide the Secretary of State's Office with a list of prospective election judges, which in turn is provided to each county; and

WHEREAS, the Ballot Board may also include Deputy County auditors; and

WHEREAS, Dakota County Elections Department is responsible for the administration of absentee voting for the County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby rescinds Resolution No. 22-248 (June 21, 2022); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners, pursuant

to Minn. Stat. § 203B.121 hereby establishes the Dakota County Absentee Ballot Board, with the responsibility to accept or reject absentee ballots cast by voters in Dakota County and absentee ballots cast pursuant to the Uniformed and Overseas Citizen Absentee Ballot Act (UOCAVA), effective for the 2026 State primary election and until this resolution is rescinded; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby directs the Director of Elections to use the election judge list received from the Office of the Secretary of State to appoint election judges to the County Absentee Ballot Board pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 203B.121; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Director of Elections to appoint trained deputy county auditors to serve on the County Absentee Ballot Board when one or more appointed election judges are unavailable and the Absentee Ballot Board requires additional members to fulfill its statutory obligations.

Ayes: 6

6.6 Resolution No: 26-118
Authorization To Execute Joint Powers Agreement Between Dakota County And Cities And Townships In Dakota County To Conduct Postelection Review

Motion: Joe Atkins

Second: Mike Slavik

WHEREAS, Minn. Stat. § 206.89 requires a postelection review of the state general election by a manual count of the ballots in precincts selected by lot; and

WHEREAS, authorizing the County Election Department to appoint and hire election judges who will conduct the postelection review across all selected precincts streamlines administration and ensures consistency; and

WHEREAS, Minn. Stat. § 206.89 requires a postelection review of the state general election by a manual count of the ballots in precincts selected by lot; and

WHEREAS, authorizing the County Election Department to appoint and hire election judges who will conduct the postelection review across all selected precincts streamlines administration and ensures consistency; and

WHEREAS, using county-appointed election judges will help to maintain uniform standards, party balance, and efficiency during the review process; and

WHEREAS, jurisdictions shall be billed only if their precinct(s) are selected, and then billed actual cost of the hourly salary of election judges.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Assistant County Manager to execute joint powers agreements between cities and townships in Dakota County to conduct the postelection review.

Ayes: 6

6.7 Resolution No: 26-119

Authorization To Approve Letter From Dakota, Carver And Scott Counties To Minnesota Board Of Water And Soil Resources On New Approach To Restoring Minnesota River

Motion: Joe Atkins

Second: Mike Slavik

WHEREAS, Dakota County has several watershed management organizations and districts responsible for managing surface water in a watershed; and

WHEREAS, under Minn. Stat. §103D.101, the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) coordinates the planning and implementation activities for watershed districts and watershed management organizations; and

WHEREAS, Carver and Scott counties are requesting authorization of its County Board Chairs to co-sign a letter to BWSR on a new approach to restoring the Minnesota River and the role of the Lower Minnesota River Watershed District.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the County Board Chair to co-sign a letter in partnership with Carver and Scott counties to the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources to consider a new approach restoring the Minnesota River and the role of the Lower Minnesota River Watershed District.

Ayes: 6

7. Central Operations

7.1 Resolution No: 26-120

Authorization To Apply For 2025 Emergency Management Performance Grant With Minnesota Department Of Public Safety

Motion: Joe Atkins

Second: Mike Slavik

WHEREAS, with approval from the Dakota County Board of Commissioners, Dakota County will apply for the 2025 Emergency Management Performance Grant through the Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM) as received by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Dakota County will receive an allocation of \$141,146 in grant funding; and

WHEREAS, the grant period is January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the grant requires 50 percent matching funds from Dakota County

and these funds are included in the Risk and Emergency Management budget; and

WHEREAS, funds received from this grant reimburse Dakota County for 50 percent of the salary and benefits for the Emergency Management Coordinator and Specialist positions, Emergency Operations Plan requirements, Domestic Preparedness Committee annual fees, required emergency management conference per grant requirements, and equipment and supplies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Deputy County Manager to submit a grant application for the Emergency Management Performance Grant for the amount of \$141,146 with Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), subject to approval of the County Attorney's Office as to form.

Ayes: 6

7.2 Resolution No: 26-121

Authorization To Execute Fiber Optic Indefeasible Right To Use Agreement With Dakota 911 And Terminate Existing Fiber Joint Powers Agreement

Motion: Joe Atkins

Second: Mike Slavik

WHEREAS, Dakota County and Dakota 911 have a joint powers agreement in place for the use of fiber from the Western Service Center and Rosemount City Hall to the Dakota 911 facility; and

WHEREAS, that joint powers agreement will be replaced with an Indefeasible Right to Use Agreement; and

WHEREAS, Dakota 911 desires to obtain from Dakota County the use of two strands of fiber from Dakota 911 at 2860 160th Street West, Rosemount, MN to Western Service Center at 14955 Galaxie Avenue, Apple Valley, MN; and

WHEREAS, DAKOTA 911 desires to obtain two strands of fiber from Dakota 911 at 2860 160th Street West, Rosemount, MN to Rosemount City Hall at 2875 145th Street West, Rosemount, MN; and

WHEREAS, the County agrees to grant to Dakota 911 the right to use four fibers within certain fiber optic cable segments; and

WHEREAS, Dakota 911 agrees to pay Dakota County \$7,488 annually for the use of the fiber; and

WHEREAS, the initial term of this agreement is ten years, with two separate five-year renewals; and

WHEREAS, a Fiber Optic Indefeasible Right To Use Agreement with Dakota

911 is required for use of County fiber optic cable.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Deputy County Manager to execute an Indefeasible Right to Use Agreement with Dakota 911, subject to approval by the County Attorney's Office as to form; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Deputy County Manager to terminate the existing fiber joint powers agreement with Dakota 911 upon execution of the new Indefeasible Right to Use Agreement.

Ayes: 6

7.3 Resolution No: 26-122
Approval Of Amended And Restated Joint Powers Agreement For Criminal Justice Network Board

Motion: Joe Atkins

Second: Mike Slavik

WHEREAS, Dakota County and the cities of Burnsville, Farmington, Hastings, Inver Grove Heights, Mendota Heights, Rosemount, South St. Paul and West St. Paul ("founding members") entered into a joint powers agreement to form the Criminal Justice Network (CJN) joint powers organization effective January 1, 2022 ("original agreement"); and

WHEREAS, in 2024, the founding members and the City of Plymouth entered into a first amendment to the original agreement to add the City of Plymouth as a member, clarify the original agreement expiration date, and adjust the funding formula; and

WHEREAS, the original agreement expires on December 31, 2026, and members wish to continue the work and the partnership approach to the CJN organization; and

WHEREAS, the work of CJN involves applications and services focused on information sharing and integration among Dakota County law enforcement agencies, the County Sheriff, County Attorney, departments within county government, Dakota County District Court, and law enforcement agencies across the state; and

WHEREAS, a committee made up of members of the CJN Board of Directors and legal staff representing CJN and Dakota County worked to develop the amended and restated joint powers agreement for the Criminal Justice Network Board with an effective date of January 1, 2027.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the County Manager or designee to execute the amended and restated joint powers agreement for the Criminal Justice Network Board substantially as presented and subject to approval as to form by

the County Attorney's Office.

Ayes: 6

7.4 Report On Invoices Paid In February 2026

Information only; no action requested.

8. County Attorney

8.1 Resolution No: 26-123

Authorization To Execute Agreements To Provide Legal Services To Dakota County Electronic Crimes Task Force And Dakota County Domestic Preparedness Committee

Motion: Joe Atkins

Second: Mike Slavik

WHEREAS, the Dakota County Attorney's Office (County Attorney's Office) has provided legal services to the Dakota County Domestic Preparedness Committee (DPC) and the Dakota County Electronic Crimes Task Force (ECTF) joint powers organizations for many years; and

WHEREAS, the County Attorney's Office is willing to continue to provide legal services to the agencies on terms agreeable to the County Attorney's Office and the agencies; and

WHEREAS, the County Attorney's Office has identified that it is not aware of any current conflict of interest between its representation of Dakota County and its continued representation of these agencies; and

WHEREAS, the County Attorney's Office has further identified that if a conflict arises during the course of representation, the County Attorney's Office will disclose the conflict and consult with both the County and the applicable agency as to whether continued representation of both parties or either party is possible with the parties' consent; and

WHEREAS, the proposed legal services agreement with the DPC will be for the term of April 1, 2026, through December 31, 2027; and

WHEREAS, the proposed legal services agreements with the ECTF will be for the term commencing on the date of execution through December 31, 2027; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the agreements, the County Attorney's Office will provide legal services to each agency at a rate of \$242 per hour for attorney time and \$132 per hour for paralegal time in 2026 and \$251 per hour for attorney time and \$138 per hour for paralegal time in 2027; and

WHEREAS, the Dakota County Attorney's Office will provide each agency with 60 hours of legal services (inclusive of both attorney and paralegal time) at no cost for each calendar year of the agreement and will bill each agency at the applicable hourly rates only after the first 60 hours have been utilized, up to a

maximum of \$10,000 each calendar year; and

WHEREAS, Dakota County Finance determined that the hourly rates include direct and indirect administrative costs for a paralegal and attorney in the County Attorney's Office.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Dakota County Attorney to execute agreements for legal services, substantially as presented and subject to approval by the County Attorney's Office as to form, with the Dakota County Domestic Preparedness Committee from April 1, 2026 through December 31, 2027 and the Dakota County Electronic Crimes Task Force from the date of execution through December 31, 2027, with the parties each having the ability to terminate the agreement without cause by providing written notice to the other party.

Ayes: 6

9. Community Services

9.1 Resolution No: 26-124

Authorization To Execute Joint Powers Agreements With School Districts For On-Site Vaccinations Clinics

Motion: Joe Atkins

Second: Mike Slavik

WHEREAS, pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 375A.04, the Dakota County Board of Commissioners is, and performs the duties and exercises the powers of, a community health board under Minn. Stat. ch. 145A, including the responsibility to prevent disease and to promote and protect the public health of Dakota County residents; and

WHEREAS, Dakota County Public Health (PH) has over a decade of working with local school districts in Dakota County on various health initiatives; and

WHEREAS, vaccinations are one of the most effective ways to prevent the spread of communicable diseases in the community, but many school districts in Dakota County are seeing lower rates of immunization post-COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, state law requires a set of immunizations for entry into kindergarten and beyond, and school-based vaccine clinics help ensure that students have received the necessary vaccinations and are in compliance with these requirements; and

WHEREAS, school-based vaccine clinics reinforce the importance of immunizations and raise awareness about vaccine-preventable diseases; and

WHEREAS, they provide an opportunity to educate parents, students, and the community about the benefits of vaccinations, dispel myths or misinformation,

and address concerns; and

WHEREAS, PH will enter into a contract with Homeland Health Specialists to provide onsite vaccination clinics at various school districts throughout the County; and

WHEREAS, PH will provide on-site District vaccination clinic services in the event Homeland Health Specialist, Inc. is unable to provide services and the County agrees to perform such services, based on its capacity and resources; and

WHEREAS, by hosting on-site vaccination clinics, PH will be able to increase vaccination coverage and reduce disparities among students and families in the community; and

WHEREAS, under Minn. Stat. § 471.59, subd.1, two or more governmental units may enter into an agreement to cooperatively exercise any power common to the contracting parties, and one of the participating governmental units may exercise one of its powers on behalf of the other governmental units; and

WHEREAS, staff requests authorization to enter into separate JPAs with Independent School Districts (ISD) 191, 196, 197, 199, and South St. Paul Special School District (SSD) No. 6, for onsite vaccination clinics.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes an Assistant County Manager, Community Services, to execute the joint powers agreements with Independent School Districts 191, 196, 197, 199, and South St. Paul Special School District No. 6, for onsite vaccination clinics for the period of date of execution of the joint powers agreement through March 31, 2027, subject to approval by the County Attorney's Office as to form; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an Assistant County Manager, Community Services, is hereby authorized to amend said agreement to extend the term up to one year after initial expiration date, consistent with County contracting policies, subject to approval by the County Attorney's Office as to form.

Ayes: 6

9.2 Resolution No: 26-125
Authorization To Execute Management Control Agreement With Minnesota Information Technology Services

Motion: Joe Atkins

Second: Mike Slavik

WHEREAS, Criminal Justice Information Systems (CJIS) access is essential to the daily operations of Dakota County Community Corrections (DCCC); and

WHEREAS, the DCCC receives secure network and internet services from Minnesota Information Technology Services (MNIT); and

WHEREAS, to maintain this access, DCCC must enter into a Management Control Agreement (MCA) with MNIT as required by the Federal Bureau of Investigation's CJIS Security Policy; and

WHEREAS, CJIS access allows DCCC staff to use critical tools such as the Criminal Justice Network's (CJN) integrations and the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) to confirm active warrants, track arrests and custody status, review bail and holds information, and access jail systems including PCI; and

WHEREAS, intake and pretrial staff rely on this access when police reports are unavailable, to support domestic violence screening and safety decisions, verify DNA status, and securely work within the jail or remotely; and

WHEREAS, without this agreement and continued CJIS access, staff would lose timely and reliable information that is necessary for public safety, informed decision-making, and efficient operations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes an Assistant County Manager, Community Services, to execute a Management Control Agreement with the State of Minnesota, acting through its office of Minnesota Information Technology Services (MNIT), subject to approval by the County Attorney's Office as to form.

Ayes: 6

9.3 Resolution No: 26-126
Authorization To Execute Contract With Power Of Partnership, Inc., dba SafeGenerations, For Children And Family Practice Model And Workplace Belonging Services

Motion: Joe Atkins

Second: Mike Slavik

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Legislature established the Minnesota African American Family Preservation and Child Welfare Disproportionality Act (the Act) within Minn. Stat. §§ 260.61 to 260.693 with the intent of reforming child protection policies and practices to eliminate long-standing racial disparities and poor outcomes for children and families of color; and

WHEREAS, although the legislation was enacted in 2024, the statewide effective date that applies to Dakota County is January 1, 2027; and

WHEREAS, a few key provisions of the Act include:

- Requiring responsible social service agencies to provide active efforts to prevent out-of-home placement and reunify families, and to implement safety plans with specific parameters to allow children to remain in their home in most cases for all children to whom the Act applies; and

- Limiting the use of emergency removals, foster care placements and terminations of parental rights to better ensure children are not unnecessarily removed from their homes either temporarily or permanently; and
- Requiring cultural competency training for case workers, supervisors, judges, guardians ad litem and attorneys working in the child welfare system

; and

WHEREAS, Dakota County Children and Family Services released a Request for Proposal on January 23, 2026, to contract for the provision of planning, training, coaching and program development services to enact a comprehensive, culturally responsive, strengths-based child welfare practice model that:

- Includes a child safety decision-making framework; and
- Develops a workplace culture that creates meaningful belonging for all staff

; and

WHEREAS, staff reviewed and evaluated each workplan and budget proposal and selected Power of Partnership Inc., dba SafeGenerations, to provide the service beginning the date of contract execution through December 31, 2027, in a not to exceed amount of \$500,000.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes an Assistant County Manager, Community Services, to execute a contract with Power of Partnership Inc., dba SafeGenerations, for practice model and workplace belonging services for Dakota County Children and Family Services in a not to exceed amount of \$500,000 beginning the date of execution through December 31, 2027, subject to approval by the County Attorney's Office as to form; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an Assistant County Manager, Community Services, is hereby authorized to amend said contract, consistent with the amount budgeted, to alter the contract amount and the contract term up to one year after initial expiration date, consistent with County contracting policies, subject to approval by the County Attorney's Office as to form; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the contract shall contain a provision that allows the County to immediately terminate the contract in the event sufficient funds from county, state, or federal sources are not appropriated at a level sufficient to allow payment of the amount(s) due.

Ayes: 6

9.4 Resolution No: 26-127
Authorization To Execute Joint Powers Agreement Amendment With City Of Farmington To Add Accessible Features In Public Spaces For Inclusion For Adults And Youth With Disabilities

Motion: Joe Atkins

Second: Mike Slavik

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 24-572 (December 3, 2024), the County Board authorized Dakota County to accept Workforce Shortage grant funding through the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) to provide funding for its Communities for All initiative; and

WHEREAS, Communities for All selected the City of Farmington to increase inclusion for adults and youth with and without disabilities, as well as the broader community in Dakota County by adding accessible features to public spaces; and

WHEREAS, through its Communities for All initiative, grant funding will be provided to do the following:

- Equip community recreation facilities with adaptive tools, such as adult-sized changing tables, to ensure individuals with physical disabilities can access, use, and enjoy public amenities with dignity and independence

; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 25-373 (August 12, 2025), the County Board authorized the execution of a joint powers agreement (JPA) with the City of Farmington in an amount not to exceed \$16,000 to be used for the installation of an adult changing table at the community center; and

WHEREAS, due to unanticipated costs of installation, the City of Farmington has requested an additional \$6,126; and

WHEREAS, the Communities For All Committee reviewed and approved the request for the additional funding.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes an Assistant County Manager, Community Services, to execute a joint powers agreement amendment with the City of Farmington from September 10, 2025 through August 31, 2026, in an amount not to exceed \$22,126, subject to approval by the County Attorney's Office as to form.

Ayes: 6

9.5 Resolution No: 26-128
Authorization To Add 11 Full-Time Equivalent Financial Assistant Specialist II Positions In Employment and Economic Assistance Department

Motion: Joe Atkins

Second: Mike Slavik

WHEREAS, the Employment and Economic Assistance Department has had Medical Assistance application and renewal backlogs since the end of continuous Medical Assistance coverage due to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the Medical Assistance backlogs negatively impact the ability of residents to access health care; and

WHEREAS, the department has decreased the backlog by half through improved processes and technology, reorganization, staff overtime, and temporary staff but there is still a backlog of more than 3,000 cases; and

WHEREAS, federal House Resolution 1 (HR1) introduces new requirements for Medical Assistance that go into effect on January 1, 2027, including twice annual recertifications, decreased retroactive eligibility, and work requirements that will greatly increase the workload of Financial Assistant Specialist IIs; and

WHEREAS, Dakota County will best be prepared to implement new Medical Assistance requirements in HR1 if the existing backlog is reduced or eliminated; and

WHEREAS, the Employment and Economic Assistance Department has relied on staff overtime and temporary staff to decrease the backlog and greater capacity can be achieved by using those funds for regular, permanent staff with no fiscal impact.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the creation of 11 new full-time equivalent Financial Assistant Specialist II positions in the Employment and Economic Assistance Department that will be hired in two phases, the first starting in April 2026 and the second in August 2026.

Ayes: 6

10. Physical Development

10.1 Resolution No: 26-129

Authorization To Submit Clean Water Fund Competitive Grant Application For Well Seal Grants

Motion: Joe Atkins

Second: Mike Slavik

WHEREAS, the State Clean Water Fund (CWF) through the Minnesota Board of Soil and Water Resources was established for the purpose of protecting, enhancing, and restoring water quality in lakes, rivers, and streams, in addition to protecting groundwater and drinking water sources from degradation; and

WHEREAS, staff proposes to apply for the 2027 CWF Competitive Grant to continue to support the Dakota County Well Seal Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, grant funds will be used for staff time in project development,

program management, and administration costs and provide 50 percent cost-share funding to reimburse property owners for sealing unused wells; and

WHEREAS, unsealed water supply wells not in use pose a threat to health, safety, and the environment by providing a potential conduit for contamination from the surface down to drinking water aquifers; and

WHEREAS, this grant request supports the Dakota County Groundwater Plan strategy 1C2 to “prevent groundwater contamination by getting unused, unsealed wells sealed”; and

WHEREAS, the required ten percent non-state grant match will be offset by the landowner’s 50 percent cost-share match; and

WHEREAS, the grant application deadline is March 25, 2026, and the grant expiration date is December 31, 2029.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes staff to submit a Clean Water Fund grant application to the Board of Water and Soil Resources to support the Well Seal Grant Program for an amount up to \$100,000.

Ayes: 6

10.2 Resolution No: 26-130

Authorization To Execute Third Contract Amendment With Ebert, Inc., dba Ebert Companies, For Wentworth Library Renovation

Motion: Joe Atkins

Second: Mike Slavik

WHEREAS, the 2025 Capital Improvement Program Adopted Budget for the Wentworth Library Renovation project is a total of \$7,400,000; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 25-146 (March 25, 2025), the County Board approved the original contract with Ebert, Inc., dba Ebert Companies, in the sum of \$3,578,700; and

WHEREAS, in October 2025, staff executed the first contract amendment totaling \$47,112.94 to amend the work scope; and

WHEREAS, in January 2026, staff executed the second contract amendment totaling \$121,771.50 to amend the work scope; and

WHEREAS, upon construction completion, a third contract amendment is being requested to increase the contract by \$43,367.92 and to add 20 working days to the completion schedule; and

WHEREAS, the total authorized contract amendments to this contract would then be \$212,252.36 for reimbursement of known construction change orders on the project, for a new total contract value of \$3,790,952.36; and

WHEREAS, the new substantial completion date of the construction contract will be February 20, 2026; and

WHEREAS, there are sufficient funds within the approved project budget for this amendment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Facilities Management Director to execute a contract amendment with Ebert, Inc., dba Ebert Companies, 23350 County Road 10, Corcoran, MN 55357, in an amount not to exceed \$43,367.92 and to add 20 working days to the schedule, for a maximum contract total not to exceed \$3,790,952.36 subject to approval by the County Attorney's office as to form.

Ayes: 6

10.3 Resolution No: 26-131
Authorization To Award Bid And Execute Contract With Ebert Inc. To Provide Compactors And Storage Facilities For Recycling Zone Plus Project

Motion: Joe Atkins

Second: Mike Slavik

WHEREAS, the 2025 Facilities Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Adopted Budget authorized the Recycling Zone Plus project; and

WHEREAS, bid documents were prepared by LHB, and advertised on February 5, 2026; and

WHEREAS, one competitive bid was received on February 26, 2026; and

WHEREAS, Ebert Inc. dba Ebert Companies with a business address of 23350 Co Rd 10, Loretto, MN 55357 has submitted a bid of \$356,000 for the base bid; and

WHEREAS, staff and LHB reviewed the qualifications of the bidder and recommend award to Ebert Inc. as the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, in an amount not to exceed \$356,000, for the compactors and storage facilities for the Recycling Zone Plus project; and

WHEREAS, funding for the project is within the approved Building CIP Adopted Budget total of \$21,150,000.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Facilities Management Director to execute a contract with Ebert Inc., 23350 Co Rd 10, Loretto, MN 55357, in an amount not to exceed \$356,000, for the compactors and storage facilities for the Recycling Zone Plus project, substantially as presented and attached, subject to approval by the County Attorney's office as to form.

Ayes: 6

10.4 Resolution No: 26-132

Authorization To Award Bid And Execute Contract With Stahl Construction To Provide Construction Services For Burnhaven Library Renovation

Motion: Joe Atkins

Second: Mike Slavik

WHEREAS, the 2026-2030 Facilities Capital Improvement Program Adopted Budget includes a project to renovate the Burnhaven Library; and

WHEREAS, a Core Planning Group worked with Hammel, Green & Abrahamson (HGA) to confirm the project needs and develop the design; and

WHEREAS, bid documents were prepared by staff with professional design support from HGA, which were released for bidding on January 15, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the bid documents included a Base Bid and three Bid Alternates; and

WHEREAS, twelve competitive bids were received on February 17, 2026; and

WHEREAS, Stahl Construction has submitted the lowest responsive and responsible bid; and

WHEREAS, staff recommends acceptance of the base bid, Bid Alternate #1; Bid Alternate #2; Bid Alternate #3 to best meet the original project intent; and

WHEREAS, the combined total value of the Base Bid and all three alternate bids is below the latest construction cost estimate; and

WHEREAS, staff and HGA have reviewed the qualifications of the bidder and recommend award to Stahl Construction in an amount not to exceed \$3,778,000; and

WHEREAS, the project budget is sufficient to support the issuance of the contract.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Facilities Management Director to execute a contract with Stahl Construction, 861 East Hennepin Avenue, Suite #200, Minneapolis, MN 55414, in an amount not to exceed \$3,778,000 for the Burnhaven Library Renovation project, subject to approval by the County Attorney's office as to form.

Ayes: 6

10.5 Resolution No: 26-133

Authorization To Execute Joint Powers Agreement With Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization And City Of Lakeville, For Lake Marion Phosphorus Treatment Project, County Project 50-19

Motion: Joe Atkins

Second: Mike Slavik

WHEREAS, the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization (VRWJPO) received Watershed Based Implementation Funding (Grant) for the 4th and Willow Total Suspended Solids (TSS) Reduction Project (Project); and

WHEREAS, to promote a safe and efficient transportation system, Dakota County, in cooperation with the City of Lakeville, proceeded with County Project (CP) 50-19, expanding County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 50 (Kenwood Trail) to a four-lane highway from CSAH 60 (185th Street) to CSAH 9 (Dodd Boulevard); and

WHEREAS, the project also included a stormwater basin (Jaguar Pond) located at the intersection of Kenwood Trail and Jaguar Avenue; and

WHEREAS, Jaguar Pond did not function as designed due to continuous groundwater seepage, and base flow conditions resulted in capacity reduction and ultimate failure of the stormwater basin; and

WHEREAS, the City of Lakeville, in partnership with VRWJPO and Dakota County, took the lead in designing and constructing improvements to the pond; and

WHEREAS, improvements to the pond were made to remove phosphorus prior to water entering Lake Marion; and

WHEREAS, a joint powers agreement (JPA) was drafted to allow all three agencies to jointly cooperate in completing the Jaguar Pond improvements for the Lake Marion Phosphorus Treatment Project; and

WHEREAS, staff recommends authorizing execution of the JPA with VRWJPO and the City of Lakeville for the Lake Marion Phosphorus Treatment Project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Transportation Director to execute a Joint Powers Agreement with the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization and the City of Lakeville for the Lake Marion Phosphorus Treatment Project, subject to approval by the Dakota County Attorney's Office as to form.

Ayes: 6

10.6 Resolution No: 26-134

Approval Of Final Plats Recommended By Plat Commission

Motion: Joe Atkins

Second: Mike Slavik

WHEREAS, new subdivisions adjoining County highways are reviewed under the Dakota County Contiguous Plat Ordinance No. 108; and

WHEREAS, the Plat Commission examines plats prior to County Board approval; and

WHEREAS, the Plat Commission has reviewed and recommends approval of the final plats by the County Board; and

WHEREAS, the final plat approval by the County Board is subject to the conditions established by the Plat Commission review; and

WHEREAS, the following plats below require approval by their respective City Council prior to the recording of the plats.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the following final plats:

DODD COMMONS	Lakeville
HERITAGE COMMONS 12TH ADDITION	Lakeville
KRECHS LANDING	Inver Grove Heights

Ayes: 6

- 10.7** Resolution No: 26-135
Authorization To Execute Contract Amendment With Stonebrooke Engineering, Inc., For Americans With Disabilities Act-Compliant Pedestrian Ramp Design Services For Countywide 2026 Preservation Of Paved Highway Surface Projects

Motion: Joe Atkins Second: Mike Slavik

WHEREAS, to provide a safe and efficient transportation system, Dakota County is proceeding with the 2026 Preservation of Paved Highway Surface; and

WHEREAS, due to staff capacity, a consultant was needed to complete the Americans with Disabilities Act-compliant pedestrian ramp design tasks within the project schedule; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 25-401 (August 26, 2025), the Dakota County Board of Commissioners authorized the execution of a design services contract with consultant Stonebrooke Engineering, Inc., to perform final design engineering services for a total contract amount not to exceed \$157,091; and

WHEREAS, the cost of additional work tasks to be performed by Stonebrooke Engineering, Inc., is \$47,218, resulting in a total amended contract value of \$204,309; and

WHEREAS, the County Engineer recommends executing the contract amendment with Stonebrooke Engineering, Inc., for Contract Number

DCA23196 for design engineering of 2026 Preservation of Paved Highway Surface; and

WHEREAS, the adopted 2026 Transportation Capital Improvement Program Adopted Budget includes sufficient funding for Paved Highway Surface Projects.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Physical Development Assistant County Manager to amend the not-to-exceed contract value of \$157,091 for Contract Number DCA23196 with Stonebrooke Engineering, Inc., for 2026 Preservation of Paved Highway Surface to a total contract amount not to exceed \$204,309.

Ayes: 6

10.8 Resolution No: 26-136

Authorization To Execute Joint Powers Agreement With City Of West St. Paul For County Road 4 Improvements In West St. Paul, County Project 04-017

Motion: Joe Atkins

Second: Mike Slavik

WHEREAS, to promote a safe and efficient transportation system throughout Dakota County, the County is partnering with the City of West St. Paul on County Project (CP) 04-017; and

WHEREAS, CP 04-017 will design and construct a multiuse trail on County Road (CR) 4 (Butler Avenue) between Robert Street and Trunk Highway (TH) 52; perform a mill and overlay of pavement on CR 4 between Robert Street and TH 52 and design and construct intersection safety improvements at the intersection of CR 4 at Sperl Street in the City of West St. Paul; and

WHEREAS, the City of West St. Paul is the lead agency for the design and construction of CP 04-017; and

WHEREAS, Dakota County is the lead for the acquisition of right of way and construction of the project; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 23-080 (February 28, 2023), a joint powers agreement was approved and executed with the City of West St. Paul to identify costs and responsibilities for the design, right of way acquisition and construction of CP 04-017; and

WHEREAS, construction of CP 04-017 began in spring 2025, but will require additional work in spring 2026 to complete all improvements; and

WHEREAS, the joint powers agreement for County Project 04-017 expired in December 2025; and

WHEREAS, a new joint powers agreement is required to govern the remaining tasks for CP 04-017.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the County Manager or designee to execute a joint powers agreement with the City of West St. Paul to identify costs and responsibilities for the design, right of way acquisition, and construction of County Project 04-017 in the City of West St. Paul, subject to approval by the County Attorney's Office as to form.

Ayes: 6

10.9 Resolution No: 26-137

Authorization To Execute New Consultant Contract With SRF Consulting Group, Inc., For Final Design Services, Construction Administration, And Construction Inspection For Lebanon Hills Regional Park Sustainable Trail Study Implementation In Cities Of Eagan And Apple Valley, County Project 2000235

Motion: Joe Atkins

Second: Mike Slavik

WHEREAS, to provide a great place to live, Dakota County is proceeding with the Lebanon Hills Regional Park Sustainable Trail Study Implementation, County Project 2000235, for final design consulting services; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 14-414 (August 13, 2024), the County Board authorized a contract with SRF Consulting Group, Inc., for final design consulting services for the Lebanon Hills Regional Park Sustainable Trail Study Implementation; and

WHEREAS, the original contract expired on December 31, 2025, and additional design activities remain to complete the project; and

WHEREAS, the construction contract has increases of \$137,278.80 over the original contract amount; and

WHEREAS, the design cost increases include additional costs for Complete Permitting and Approvals, Final Bid Document Preparation and Bidding Administration, Construction Administration, and Additional Schematic Design; and

WHEREAS, staff recommends executing a new contract with SRF Consulting Group, Inc., to complete remaining design activities in 2026 and increasing the contract by \$137,278.80 from the original; and

WHEREAS, the 2026 Park's Capital Improvement Program Budget has sufficient funds to accommodate the design contract.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Parks Director to award a new contract with SRF Consulting Group Inc., to complete design services for County Project 2000235 in an amount not to exceed \$353,506.90, subject to approval by the County Attorney's Office as to form.

Ayes: 6

10.10 Resolution No: 26-138

Authorization To Execute Joint Powers Agreement With South St. Paul For Natural Resources Restoration Projects Within Select Parks

Motion: Joe Atkins

Second: Mike Slavik

WHEREAS, the Land Conservation Plan, adopted by Resolution No. 20-568 (November 17, 2020), called for creating a City-County Conservation Collaborative to “more effectively protect critical undeveloped areas, increase natural resource restoration and management, and share information and financial and staff resources within all incorporated areas”; and

WHEREAS, on March 28, 2023, the County Board of Commissioners approved to submit a grant application to the Legislative-Citizen's Commission on Minnesota Resources' Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (LCCMR-ENRTF) program; and

WHEREAS, this LCCMR-ENRTF grant application included restoration work at key nodes along the Mississippi River Greenway, including Kaposia Park and Simon's Ravine Trailhead, Kaposia Landing, and Wildflower Levee Park; and

WHEREAS, the Natural Resources Restoration joint powers agreement with the City of South St. Paul uses a previously established standardized, citywide template for collaboration, replacing the need for multiple project-specific agreements for each of these projects; and

WHEREAS, the joint powers agreement centralizes information for jointly managed restoration projects in an efficient, transparent format; and

WHEREAS, future amendments will be made by adding or updating exhibits as new projects are undertaken.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby execute a joint powers agreement with the City of South St. Paul for natural resources restoration projects.

Ayes: 6

10.11 Resolution No: 26-139

Authorization To Submit Clean Water Fund Grant Application For Spring Lake Park Reserve Ravine Stabilization Project

Motion: Joe Atkins

Second: Mike Slavik

WHEREAS, Spring Lake is a portion of Pool 2 of the Mississippi River located three miles upstream of U.S. Lock and Dam No. 2 at Hastings; and

WHEREAS, a within Dakota County's Spring Lake Park Reserve (SLPR) is actively eroding, which has resulted in sedimentation damages to the natural

resource features within SLPR and the Mississippi River; and

WHEREAS, the Clean Water Fund is a state grant program administered by the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) and is made available to local government units annually via a competitive grant application process; and

WHEREAS, staff developed preliminary project plans and estimated water quality benefits of the proposed projects, and cost estimates for a potential Clean Water Fund grant application to BWSR; and

WHEREAS, the proposed improvements to alleviate erosion include tree removals, garbage removal, earthwork, riprap, storm sewer, and vegetation restoration; and

WHEREAS, staff has drafted a Clean Water Fund application to BWSR in the amount of \$650,000 for the purpose of implementing the SLPR ravine stabilization improvements; and

WHEREAS, the grant program requires a match by Dakota County; and

WHEREAS, the grant application includes \$110,000 in proposed grant matching funds; and

WHEREAS, \$110,000, in match, will be requested in the proposed 2027 Environmental Resources Capital Improvement Program within the water quality and quantity projects line item to cover preliminary and final design, garbage clean-up, and project management; and

WHEREAS, the match source will be derived from the Environmental Legacy Fund; and

WHEREAS, the proposed project is estimated to reduce total phosphorus by 211 pounds and total suspended solids by 248 tons of sediment to the Mississippi River, annually.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes staff to submit a Clean Water Fund grant application to the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources for the SLPR Ravine Stabilization Project in the amount of \$650,000.

Ayes: 6

10.12 Resolution No: 26-140

Authorization To Acquire And Restore Conservation Easement On Coughlin Property

Motion: Joe Atkins

Second: Mike Slavik

WHEREAS, Caroline Bender Coughlin and Jason Coughlin (Coughlins) own a 39.99-acre rural property (Property) in Greenvale Township; and

WHEREAS, the Property is located within the Dutch Creek Conservation Focus Area and adjacent to another permanent conservation easement; and

WHEREAS, the Property consists of a large wetland complex that straddles a tributary to Dutch Creek and some previously farmed land adjacent to more of the wetlands to the east; and

WHEREAS, an independent appraisal was completed, reviewed, and approved by County staff; and

WHEREAS, the Coughlins agreed to sell a 39.99-acre, permanent natural area conservation easement (Easement) to the County for the appraised value of \$90,000; and

WHEREAS, the estimated closing costs to acquire the Easement are \$1,500; and

WHEREAS, initial natural resource restoration within the Easement is estimated to cost \$275,000 over five years, with the Coughlins contributing an estimated \$11,800 (cash or in-kind); and

WHEREAS, acquisition and restoration of the Easement are eligible for state Outdoor Heritage (OH) funding appropriated to the County by the Minnesota Legislature in 2022 (ML22); and

WHEREAS, the 2026 Parks and Greenways Capital Improvement Program budget includes adequate ML22 OH funds for this Easement and restoration project; and

WHEREAS, the final Easement acquisition costs will be determined after the settlement statement is finalized and all associated acquisition expenses have been invoiced.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the expenditure of up to \$354,700, including \$90,000 for acquisition, \$1,500 in estimated closing costs, and \$263,200 for estimated restoration costs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Assistant County Manager- Physical Development to execute the purchase agreement with the Coughlins to acquire a natural area conservation easement, subject to approval by the County Attorney's Office as to form; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the County Board Chair to execute the natural area conservation easement and a Notice of Funding Restriction as required for use

of state Minnesota Law 2022 Outdoor Heritage funds appropriated to the County by the 2022 Minnesota Legislature for acquiring the natural area conservation easement on the Caroline Bender Coughlin and Jason Coughlin property, subject to approval by the County Attorney's Office as to form; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That following the acquisition of the natural area conservation easement on the Caroline Bender Coughlin and Jason Coughlin property, staff will submit the necessary forms and documentation to the State of Minnesota to receive approximately \$354,700 in reimbursement funds over five years; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That such reimbursement from the State of Minnesota will be returned to the 2026 Parks and Greenways Capital Improvement Program budget.

Ayes: 6

10.13 Resolution No: 26-141

Authorization To Schedule Public Hearing For Dakota County Fiscal Year 2026 One-Year Action Plan For Community Development Block Grant, HOME Investment Partnerships, And Emergency Solutions Grant Programs

Motion: Joe Atkins

Second: Mike Slavik

WHEREAS, Dakota County is an Entitlement County for funds through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program and a Participating Jurisdiction for the HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) Program; and

WHEREAS, the Dakota County Community Development Agency (CDA) administers the CDBG, ESG, and HOME programs on behalf of Dakota County, thereby requiring agreements between the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and Dakota County for the CDBG, ESG, and HOME funds and between Dakota County and the Dakota County CDA for CDBG, ESG, and HOME program administration; and

WHEREAS, HUD requires the development and submission of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 One-Year Action Plan that proposes the allocation of the annual CDBG, HOME, and ESG funds to local governments and housing providers in the County; and

WHEREAS, CDA staff has worked with participating communities and agencies to identify CDBG, HOME, and ESG activities for FY 2026; and

WHEREAS, the proposed activities for HUD funds meet the housing and community development priorities identified in the 2025-2029 Five-Year Consolidated Plan; and

WHEREAS, HUD has not released the grant amounts for the three entitlement programs for FY 2026, and the draft Dakota County 2026 One-Year Action Plan

uses the FY 2025 approved budgets for the three programs for planning purposes; and

WHEREAS, if there are changes to the budget amounts when HUD releases the final FY 2026 grant amount, the budgets will be amended as follows: the CDBG budget generally will be increased or decreased proportionally depending on any increase or decrease to the grant amount subject to statutory limits on public service activities and planning and grant administration activities; the HOME budget generally will be increased or decreased proportionally depending on any increase or decrease to the grant amount except that funding for Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) activities will not exceed 15 percent; and the ESG budget generally will be increased or decreased proportionally depending on any increase or decrease to the grant amount subject to statutory limits on emergency shelter operations and grant administration activities; and

WHEREAS, the anticipated Dakota County FY 2026 CDBG allocation is \$1,893,442 with \$350,000 of anticipated program income, the anticipated Dakota County FY 2026 HOME allocation is \$891,137.08, including program income (Consortium total of \$3,002,105.83), and the anticipated Dakota County FY 2026 ESG allocation is \$164,692; and

WHEREAS, CDA staff recommends allocating FY 2026 CDBG funds to 23 eligible activities for cities and townships, two Countywide activities, and one grant administration activity as follows: affordable housing rehab (64%), public services (12%), public facilities (4%), neighborhood revitalization (2%), down payment assistance (3%), planning (2%), and grant administration (13%); and

WHEREAS, CDA staff recommend allocating FY 2026 HOME funds to four eligible activities as follows: affordable rental housing (36%), affordable homeowner housing (36%), CHDO activities (13%), and grant administration (15%); and

WHEREAS, CDA staff recommend allocating FY 2026 ESG funds to five eligible activities as follows: emergency shelter operations (60%), rapid re-housing activities (27.5%), homelessness prevention activities (2%), Homeless Management Information System (3%), and grant administration (7.5%); and

WHEREAS, the requested public hearing is to receive comments and inform the public on the draft Dakota County 2026 One-Year Action Plan that outlines the strategies and objectives for the proposed allocation of FY 2026 CDBG, ESG, and HOME funds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby schedules a public hearing for April 21, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. in the Board Room, Administration Center, 1590 Highway 55, Hastings, MN, to receive comments on the draft Dakota County Fiscal Year 2026 One-Year Action Plan, including proposed Community Development Block Grant

Program activities funded with an anticipated budget of \$1,893,442,895, HOME Investment Partnerships Program activities funded with an anticipated budget of \$891,137.08, including program income (Consortium total of \$3,002,105.83), and Emergency Solutions Grant Program activities with an anticipated budget of \$164,692; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That Dakota County staff is hereby authorized and directed to work with the Dakota County Community Development Agency to publish the public hearing notice in the *Dakota County Tribune* and the *Star Tribune* and to post said notice on the website of the Dakota County Community Development Agency at www.dakotacda.org <<http://www.dakotacda.org>>, and the Dakota County website at www.co.dakota.mn.us <<http://www.co.dakota.mn.us>>.

Ayes: 6

10.14 Resolution No: 26-142

Approval Of Minnesota Department Of Natural Resources Addition To Gores Pool #3 State Wildlife Management Area

Motion: Joe Atkins

Second: Mike Slavik

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) wishes to acquire a 63.5-acre property in Ravenna Township as an addition to their existing Gores Pool #3 Wildlife Management Area, legally described as:

Government Lot 1, Government Lot 2, and
Government Lot 3, all in Section 5, Township
114 North, Range 16 West, Dakota County,
Minnesota

; and

WHEREAS, by Minn. Stat. § 97A.145, subd. 2, the DNR must receive County Board approval to establish or add to a state Wildlife Management Area; and

WHEREAS, the DNR has secured all necessary acquisition funding for acquiring the subject property and will be responsible for payment in lieu of taxes for the property.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources acquisition of the 63.5-acre property as an addition to the Gores Pool #3 Wildlife Management Area.

Ayes: 6

11. Public Services and Revenue

11.1 Resolution No: 26-143

Approval Of Application For Assemblage Of Large Numbers Of People License Submitted By Farmington Area Enhancement Group

Motion: Joe Atkins

Second: Mike Slavik

WHEREAS, an application has been submitted by Farmington Area Enhancement Group to hold the Top the Tater Days parade line-up and staging on June 28, 2026 at Dakota County Fairgrounds, 4008 220th Street West, Farmington, in Castle Rock Township; and

WHEREAS, the Dakota County Board of Commissioners is the local governing body having jurisdiction over the proposed license, and the application has been reviewed for compliance with the County Ordinance No. 112 and has been approved by the Public Services and Revenue Division, Public Health Department, Risk Management Department, Transportation Department and Sheriff's Office; and

WHEREAS, Castle Rock Township approved the application on March 4, 2026

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the application for Assemblage of Large Numbers of People License received by Farmington Area Enhancement Group to hold the Top the Tater Days parade line-up and staging on June 28, 2026, from Noon until 2:30 p.m. at Dakota County Fairgrounds, 4008 220th Street West, Farmington, and authorizes the Public Services and Revenue division to issue the license.

Ayes: 6

REGULAR AGENDA

12. County Board/County Administration

12.1 Resolution No: 26-144

Recognition Of HEROES And IDEA Leadership Award Recipients

Motion: Mary Hamann-Roland

Second: Mike Slavik

The IDEA Leadership Award recognizes employees' efforts around inclusion, diversity, equity and access. The countywide IDEA task force reviewed nominations and selected this year's winners. This year's Group Award winner is the Dakota County Library Adult Services Team. This group completed an Artist in Residence series with multimedia artist Tomás Araya. The series included bilingual art events that generated 146 new registrations across library branches.

This year's Individual Award winner is Dua Thao, Libraries Youth Program and Outreach Coordinator. Dua and community member Rima Chakraborty assembled volunteers from within the local South Asian community to assist with the Hindu community celebration.

The annual HEROES (**H**onoring **E**ffective **R**esponsive **O**utstanding **E**fficient **S**ervice) Award Recognition Ceremony was held. The HEROES Awards were presented, recognizing outstanding collaboration of achievements in 2025. The

2025 HEROES Award was presented to All-Terrain Track Chair. The following programs were recognized as runner-ups: the Employee and Economic Assistance Service Model Redesign and Library locations as Community Health Hubs.

WHEREAS, the Dakota County Board of Commissioners annually designates a day to recognize finalists for the HEROES Collaboration Award and winners of the IDEA Leadership Awards are recognized; and

WHEREAS, Dakota County recognizes outstanding collaborations through the HEROES (**H**onoring **E**ffective **R**esponsive **O**utstanding **E**fficient **S**ervice) Awards to recognize employee groups who demonstrate the County's mission of "*Efficient, Effective, Responsive government*" to implement innovative and creative methods for serving customers and the public; and

WHEREAS, Dakota County recognizes the outstanding efforts of staff at the County who are working to make Dakota County a more inclusive, diverse, accessible and equitable organization through the IDEA (Inclusion, Diversity, Equity & Access) Leadership Awards.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby recognizes the following employees and presents them with HEROES Awards for outstanding collaboration achievements in their service to Dakota County in 2025:

Employment and Economic Assistance Model Redesign:

Ahtasham Alvi
Alyssa Erickson
Amanda Conroy
Amanda Nielsen
Amy Schillings
Amy Syfko
Andy Fink
Angie Burrows
Beth Bisciglia
Brenda Bidwell
Christina Lundgren
Chrystal Hovaldt
Cory Dorfing
Dana DeMaster
Greg Wisher
Hoang Ton
Jessica Strydom
Julie Glisky
Lynn Carr
Mark Jacobs
Marti Fischbach

Mikayla Anderson
Nate Lundin
Paul Hanton
Rachel Mickus
Rachel Simmer
Robyn Roberts
Sam Gelhorn
Samantha Levine
Scott Jara
Tiffinie Miller
Tonya McGregor
Tristan Skoglund
Wesley Nguyen

All-Terrain Track Chair Program:

Adam Montain
Alyssa Riggs
Bart Pritchett
Beth Koch
Beth Landahl
Brian Smidt
Carrie Larson
Grant Fleetwood
Greg Leonard
Greg Wisher
Jeanine Salute
Jessica Johnson
Jon Reiners
Kaare Kvenild
Katie Pata
Kaylene Brink
Kevin Schlangen
Mike Longaecker
Nick Pederson
Randy Cunningham
Shannon Coyne
Sky Jarvi
Troy Mallat

Library Locations as Community Health Hubs:

Alex Groten
Alexander Adrian
Amanda Feist
Andrew Cook

Anne Freiderichs
April Bayerkohler
Ashley Briggs
Beth Unten
Betsy Cutts
Betsy Lundmark
Carrie Klun
Claire Gabler
Colleen Hardy
Cristy Treat
Debbie Snyder
Debra Bifulk
Diane Podolske
DJ Schuette
Erin Carder
Erin Holl
Gerald Erickson
Hannah Heinicke
Holly Carlson
Honora Rodriguez
James Johnson Jr.
Jennifer Reichert Simpson
Jessica Zmira
Kallie Schell
Karen Mackey
Kassy Podvin
Katie Galloway
Kelly Reader
Laura Miller
Leslie Foster-Huot
Lisa Guck
Marguerite Zauner
Matt Giljahn
Matt Neer
Maureen Quam
Melissa Pond-Benesh
Natalie Fiscus
Natalie Vasilj
Nataliya Bakunina
Nicole Schmiesing
Sarah Connolly
Stacy Price
Suela Bace
Terri Rau
Terry Rumpza
Tori Streeter

Victoria Streeter
; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby recognizes the following employees and presents them with IDEA Leadership Awards for working to make Dakota County a more inclusive, diverse, accessible and equitable organization in 2025:

IDEA Group Leadership Award - Dakota County Libraries Adult Libraries Services Team

Members: Holly Carlson, Matt Neer, Jerry Erickson, Erin Holl, Melissa Pond-Benesh, Alexandre Adrian, Deborah Bifulk, Sarah Connolly, Betsy Cutts, Stacy Price, Barb Svoboda

IDEA Individual Leadership Award

Dua Thao - Youth Program and Outreach Coordinator, Libraries

Ayes: 6

13. Interagency Reports/Commissioner Updates

Interagency reports and Commissioner updates were presented.

14. County Manager's Report

County Manager Heidi Welsch thanked Human Resources Consultant Stephanie LeGros for planning and organizing this years HEROES and IDEA Awards recognition.

15. Information

15.1 Information

See Attachment for future Board meetings and other activities.

16. Adjournment

**16.1 Resolution No: 26-145
Adjournment**

Motion: Mary Hamann-Roland

Second: Mike Slavik

On a motion by Commissioner Hamann-Roland, seconded by Commissioner Slavik, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

Ayes: 6

Bill Droste
Vice-Chair

ATTEST

Heidi Welsch
County Manager