



Dakota County

Physical Development Committee of the Whole

Minutes

Tuesday, May 12, 2026

9:30 AM

Conference Room 3A, Administration
Center, Hastings

(or following General Government and Policy)

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Present

- Commissioner Mike Slavik
- Commissioner Joe Atkins
- Commissioner Laurie Halverson
- Commissioner William Droste
- Commissioner Liz Workman
- Chairperson Mary Liz Holberg
- Commissioner Mary Hamann-Roland

Also in attendance were Heidi Welsch, County Manager; Tom Donely, First Assistant County Attorney; Georg Fischer, Assistant County Manager: Physical Development; Liz Hansen, Administrative Coordinator.

The audio recording of this meeting is available upon request.

2. Audience

Commissioner Holberg asked if there was anyone in the audience that wished to address the Physical Development Committee of the Whole on an item not on the agenda or an item on the consent agenda. No one came forward and no comments were submitted to CountyAdmin@co.dakota.mn.us.

3. Approval of Agenda (Additions/Corrections/Deletions)

Motion: Mary Hamann-Roland

Second: Liz Workman

Ayes: 7

4. Consent Agenda

4.1 Approval Of Minutes Of Meeting Held On April 14, 2026

Motion: Mike Slavik

Second: Laurie Halverson

Ayes: 7

5. Regular Agenda

5.1 Presentation Of Dakota County Soil And Water Conservation District Annual Report

Ashley Gallagher, the District Manager of the Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD), presented the 2026 budget, totaling \$2.5 million, with a third allocated as pass-through dollars. The district manages 23 grants and 18 local agreements. In 2025, the district assisted 260 landowners and monitored 25 water bodies. The district manages 264 active conservation contracts and has seen increases in soil health practices and native prairie restorations. The district also conducts educational outreach, including turf conversion and landscaping for clean water programs. The district is currently working on a water retention basin and an irrigation system conversion.

The SWCD will complete an assessment of the County Ditch network in early 2027. County Staff were directed to provide the Board with a report or briefing once that assessment is complete. The report or briefing should address the status of the County Ditch system, how the County currently manages the system, and how that management may differ from other areas of Minnesota.

Information only; no action requested.

6. Assistant County Managers' Report

Georg Fischer, Assistant County Manager, provided an update on the five-year renewal of the compost site agreement for the property located in Empire Township adjacent to the Dakota Woods Dog Park, and on the recognition of World Facilities Management Professional Day on May 13, which celebrates facilities management professionals worldwide. Mr. Fischer also referenced an article addressing questions the County Board had posed during the data center discussion about water quality indicators at the County Board meeting on April 7, 2026.

7. Future Agenda Items

Chair, Commissioner Mary Liz Holberg, asked the Committee if anyone had a topic they would like to hear more about at an upcoming Physical Development Committee of the Whole. No Commissioners requested topics for future meetings at this time.

8. Adjournment

Motion: Mike Slavik

Second: Mary Hamann-Roland

On a motion by Commissioner Mike Slavik, seconded by Commissioner Mary Hamann-Roland, the meeting was adjourned at 10:02 a.m.

Ayes: 7

Respectfully submitted,
Liz Hansen
Administrative Coordinator