



Dakota County

Community Services Committee of the Whole

Minutes

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

1:00 PM

Conference Room 3A, Administration
Center, Hastings

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Present: Chairperson Slavik, Commissioner Atkins, Commissioner Halverson, Commissioner Droste, Commissioner Workman, Commissioner Holberg and Commissioner Hamann-Roland

Also in attendance were Heidi Welsch, County Manager; Lucie O'Neill, Assistant County Attorney; Marti Fischbach, Assistant County Manager, Community Services; Gil Acevedo, Assistant County Manager, Community Services; and Colleen Collette, Administrative Coordinator.

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by the Chair, Commissioner Mike Slavik.

Due to technical issues, audio did not record for this meeting.

2. Audience

Chair, Commissioner Mike Slavik, asked if there was anyone in the audience who wished to address the Community Services Committee 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)

3.1 Approval of Agenda (Additions/Corrections/Deletions)

On a motion by Commissioner Hamann-Roland, seconded by Chairperson Halverson, the agenda was unanimously approved. The motion carried unanimously.

Ayes: 7

4. Consent Agenda

On a motion by Commissioner Workman, seconded by Commissioner Hamann-Roland, the consent agenda was unanimously approved as follows:

4.1 Approval of Minutes of Meeting Held on December 2, 2025

Motion: Liz Workman

Second: Mary Hamann-Roland

5. Regular Agenda

5.1 Housing Services Update

Madeline Kastler, Social Services Deputy Director, presented on this item and stood for questions. Tiffinie Miller-Sammons, Employment & Economic Assistance Deputy Director, and Will Wallo, Finance Director, also participated in the presentation. This item was on the agenda for informational purposes. Staff were given direction to continue to pursue alternative options for emergency shelter based on previous exploratory locations.

Information only; no action requested.

5.2 Update To Make Sense Of Fraud Scandals: County Responsibility, Programs, And Impacts

Dana DeMaster, Employment & Economic Assistance Director, and Emily Schug, Social Services Director, presented on this item and stood for questions. This item was on the agenda for informational purposes only; no staff direction was given.

Information only; no action requested.

6. Community Services Director's Report

Marti Fischbach, Assistant County Manager, Community Services, referred the Committee to the written report that was provided. Assistant County Manager Fischbach pointed out the upcoming Point-in-time homeless count happening later this month and encouraged Commissioners to participate. She also mentioned that the Department of Children, Youth, and Families has acknowledged a notice from the federal government about freezing Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program payments; no further direction has been given.

7. Future Agenda Items

The committee requested an update from the Fraud team in Employment & Economic Assistance.

The following topics were also brought up as future agenda items; staff will review the requests and return to a future General Government and Policy Committee for potential discussion:

1. Update on effects of recent Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in Dakota County, and
2. Contingency plans should the federal government escalate operations and policy enforcement.

8. Adjournment

8.1 Adjournment

Motion: Liz Workman

Second: Mary Hamann-Roland

On a motion by Commissioner Liz Workman, seconded by Commissioner Mary Hamann-Roland, the meeting was adjourned at 2:57 p.m.

Ayes: 7

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen Collette, Administrative Coordinator
Community Services Division