



Dakota County

Regional Railroad Authority

Minutes

Tuesday, December 16, 2025

9:30 AM

**Boardroom, Administration Center,
Hastings, MN**

(or following County Board)

1. Call To Order And Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Chair Hamann-Roland at 10:17 a.m.

Present

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

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

Audio recording of the Regional Railroad Authority meeting is available upon request.

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

2.1 Resolution No:
Approval of Agenda (Additions/Corrections/Deletions)

Motion: Laurie Halverson

Second: Mike Slavik

Ayes: 7

3. Consent Agenda

On a motion by Commissioner Workman, seconded by Commissioner Droste, the Consent agenda was approved as follows:

3.1 Resolution No:
Approval of Minutes of Meeting Held on September 23, 2025

Motion: Liz Workman

Second: William Droste

Ayes: 7

3.2 Resolution No: 25-008
Scheduling Of 2026 Dakota County Regional Railroad Authority Meetings

Motion: Liz Workman

Second: William Droste

WHEREAS, Dakota County Regional Railroad Authority regular meetings are open to the public and subject to the Open Meeting Law (Minn. Stat. § 13D), which requires a schedule of regular meetings.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Regional Railroad Authority (Authority) hereby adopts the following 2026 meeting schedule:

January 6
March 24
May 19
July 21
September 22
December 15
; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Authority meetings shall be scheduled at 9:30 a.m. (or following the County Board meeting) in the Boardroom, Administration Center, in Hastings, Minnesota; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this schedule can be amended throughout the year by vote of the Authority.

Ayes: 7

4. Regular Agenda

4.1 Resolution No: 25-007 Certification Of Dakota County Regional Railroad Authority Property Tax Levy And Adoption Of Budget For 2026

Motion: Laurie Halverson

Second: William Droste

Transportation Director/County Engineer Erin Laberee briefed this item and responded to questions.

WHEREAS, the Dakota County Regional Railroad Authority (Authority) is granted powers under Minn. Stat. § 398A to plan, acquire, construct, preserve, and operate transitways and railroads; and

WHEREAS, the Authority develops a five-year plan for capital projects consistent with Authority powers and priorities through the Authority's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Budget; and

WHEREAS, the County Manager's Recommended 2026-2030 Authority CIP Budget identifies proposed projects to repair and replace railroad crossings of County Highways; and

WHEREAS, the County Manager's Recommended 2026 Authority Capital and Operating Budgets do not require additional funds from the 2026 property tax levy; and

WHEREAS, Authority capital project and operating costs may be funded by Authority Fund Balance until such time when the Authority Fund Balance reaches a level that can sustain Authority costs that are not eligible for use of Dakota County Transportation Sales and Use Tax or Transportation Advancement Account revenues; and

WHEREAS, a proposed maximum property tax levy of \$0 was certified by the Authority by Resolution No. 25-006 (September 23, 2025); and

WHEREAS, the County Manager's Recommended 2026 Authority Property Tax Levy of \$0 is the same as the 2025 levy.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Regional Railroad Authority hereby certifies to the Treasurer-Auditor the Dakota County Regional Railroad Authority property tax levy in the amount of \$0 for taxes payable in 2026; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Regional Railroad Authority hereby adopts an Operating Budget of \$62,857; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Regional Railroad Authority hereby adopts a 2026 Capital Improvement Program Budget of \$550,000.

Ayes: 7

5. Other Business/Staff Reports

No other business or staff reports.

6. Adjournment

6.1 Adjournment

On a motion by Commissioner Atkins, seconded by Commissioner Slavik, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 10:21 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

William Droste
Secretary