



Dakota County

Board of Commissioners

Minutes

Tuesday, October 7, 2025

9:00 AM

Boardroom, Administration Center,
Hastings, MN

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

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; 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 Chair Slavik who welcomed everyone and opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Audience

Chair Slavik 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: 25-460
Approval of Agenda (Additions/Corrections/Deletions)

Motion: Mary Hamann-Roland

Second: William Droste

Item 12.1 Authorization To Release Draft 2026-2030 Capital Improvement Program For Formal Review was previously tabled at the September 23, 2025 County Board meeting. Chair Slavik requested a motion to 'Take from the table' to consider this item on today's agenda.

On a motion by Commissioner Halverson, seconded by Commissioner Hamann-Roland, this item was unanimously approved for today's agenda.

Ayes: 7

5. Presentation

5.1 Update from the Medical Examiner's Office

Chief Medical Examiner Andrew M. Baker and Director of Medical Examiner Operations Shawn Wilson gave a brief presentation. The presentation included a historical overview, what the medical examiner offices do, high-level review of annual statistics, as well as a look at the new facility that is located in Minnetonka, Minnesota. This presentation was on the agenda for informational purposes only.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

6. County Administration - Approval of Minutes

6.1 Resolution No: 25-461

Approval of Minutes of Meeting Held on September 23, 2025

Motion: Joe Atkins

Second: Mary Hamann-Roland

Ayes: 7

7. Central Operations

7.1 Resolution No: 25-462

Proclaim October 2025 As Cyber Security Awareness Month

Motion: Joe Atkins

Second: Mary Hamann-Roland

WHEREAS, counties recognize the vital role that the internet and information technology play in their county staffs' and residents' daily lives; and

WHEREAS, counties understand that critical sectors are increasingly reliant on information systems to support financial services, energy, telecommunications, transportation, utilities, health care and emergency response systems; and

WHEREAS, internet users and the nation's information infrastructure face an increasing threat of malicious cyber-attack, loss of privacy from spyware and adware, and significant financial and personal privacy losses due to identity theft and fraud; and

WHEREAS, maintaining the security of cyberspace is a shared responsibility in which everyone has a critical role, and awareness of computer security essentials will improve the security of Dakota County information infrastructure and economy; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the National Cyber Security Alliance have promoted an annual National Cyber Security Awareness Month, and all government entities and citizens are encouraged to learn about cyber security and put that knowledge into practice in their homes, schools, workplaces, and businesses.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby proclaim the month of October 2025 as Cyber Security Awareness Month in Dakota County.

Ayes: 7

7.2 Resolution No: 25-463
Schedule A Public Hearing To Receive Comments On Dakota County 2026 Recommended Fee Schedules

Motion: Joe Atkins

Second: Mary Hamann-Roland

WHEREAS, County fees for services not otherwise established by law may be imposed if adopted by the Dakota County Board of Commissioners following a public hearing; and

WHEREAS, Staff will present a schedule of recommended 2026 fees at the General Government and Policy Committee meeting on October 7, 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby schedules a public hearing for the purpose of receiving public comments regarding the proposed fee schedules on November 4, 2025, at 9:00 a.m., in the Boardroom, Dakota County Administration Center, 1590 Highway 55, Hastings, Minnesota or via telephone or other electronic means; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the proposed fee schedules will be implemented effective January 1, 2026 (some Parks fees effective late 2025); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That staff is hereby directed to post notice of this public hearing on the official Dakota County website following adoption of this resolution and to not remove the notice from the website until November 4, 2025.

Ayes: 7

8. County Board/County Administration

8.1 Resolution No: 25-464
Authorization To Amend 2025 County Board/Committee Of The Whole Meeting Schedule

Motion: Joe Atkins

Second: Mary Hamann-Roland

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby schedules a General Government and Policy Committee of the Whole on October 21, 2025, 9:30 a.m. (or following the County Board meeting), Conference Room 3A, Administration Center, 1590 Highway 55, Hastings, MN; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby schedules a General Government and Policy Committee of the Whole on November 18, 2025, 9:30 a.m. (or following the County Board meeting), Conference Room 3A, Administration Center, 1590 Highway 55, Hastings, MN; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby schedules a Budget Workshop on November 18, 2025, 10:00 a.m. (or following the General Government and Policy Committee of the Whole), Conference Room 3A, Administration Center, 1590 Highway 55, Hastings, MN.

Ayes: 7

9. Physical Development

9.1 Resolution No: 25-465
Approval Of Final Plats Recommended By Plat Commission

Motion: Joe Atkins Second: Mary Hamann-Roland

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:

AMELIA MEADOW 2ND ADDITION Lakeville

Ayes: 7

9.2 Resolution No: 25-466
Authorization To Execute Joint Powers Agreement With Cities Of Burnsville And Apple Valley For Traffic Signal Revisions At County State Aid Highway 11 And Palomino Road, County Project 11-29

Motion: Joe Atkins Second: Mary Hamann-Roland

WHEREAS, to promote a safe and efficient transportation system, Dakota County is proceeding with County Project (CP) 11-29; and

WHEREAS, the traffic signal is owned and operated by Dakota County; and

WHEREAS, the existing traffic signal system is justified and continues to be the right measure for intersection control to access traffic volumes and operations at this intersection; and

WHEREAS, the County is the lead agency for County Project (CP) 11-29 to revise the signal system at CSAH 11 and Palomino Road; and

WHEREAS, CP 11-29 is a signal revision project which will revise the signal system to allow for flashing yellow arrow left-turn signal operation on the County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 11 approaches; and

WHEREAS, Dakota County is partnering with the cities of Burnsville and Apple Valley; and

WHEREAS, a Joint Powers Agreement with the cities of Burnsville and Apple Valley is necessary to define County and City design, construction, and cost participation for County Project 11-29; and

WHEREAS, County and City engineering and construction costs for CP 11-29 will be in accordance with the adopted Cost Chare Policy F.4 Cost Participation - Traffic Signal, with the County's cost-share at 50 percent (estimated \$15,00) and each City's cost share at 25 percent (estimated \$7,500); and

WHEREAS, County and City maintenance, operation, and energy cost responsibilities will remain as identified in Traffic Signal Agreement 01-05, by Resolution No. 01-241 (April 9, 2001).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Physical Development Director to execute a Joint Powers Agreement with the cities of Burnsville and Apple Valley to proceed with County Project 11-29 for traffic signal system revisions at the intersection of County State Aid Highway 11 and Palomino Road, subject to approval by the County Attorney's Office as to form.

Ayes: 7

- 9.3** Resolution No: 25-467
Authorization To Initiate Quick-Take Condemnation For Two Roundabouts On County State Aid Highway 86 (280th Street W), County Projects 86-043 And 86-044

Motion: Joe Atkins

Second: Mary Hamann-Roland

WHEREAS, to provide a safe and efficient transportation system, Dakota County is proceeding with County Project (CP) 86-043 and CP 86-044; and

WHEREAS, Dakota County is the lead agency for CP 86-043 and CP 86-044, with right of way acquisition necessary in 2025 for construction to begin in the

spring of 2026; and

WHEREAS, the parcels have been appraised, and first offers were prepared and sent on May 6, 2025, for a total appraised value of \$3,400 for CP 86-043; and

WHEREAS, the parcels have been appraised, and first offers were prepared and sent on June 11, 2025, for a total appraised value of \$32,350 for CP 86-044; and

WHEREAS, in the event that timely acquisition by direct negotiation of all required parcels does not appear possible, it may become necessary for the County Board to authorize the County Attorney's Office to initiate quick-take condemnation of the remaining parcels to allow for a spring 2026 start date for CP 86-043 and CP 86-044; and

WHEREAS, parcels that have been settled through negotiation prior to the date required for filing the condemnation petition will not be included; and

WHEREAS, the following acquisitions from two parcels are necessary to proceed with CP 86-043:

Parcel 1 - The Otte Family Trust dated March 29, 2022, 17-03200-75-011
Permanent Drainage and Utility Easement 5,849 square feet

A drainage and utility easement over, under, and across that part of the north 22.00 feet of the south 55.00 feet of the Southeast Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 32, Township 113 North, Range 18 West, lying westerly of the westerly right of way line of State Trunk Highway No. 56 (Randolph Boulevard); excepting that part of said Southeast Quarter of the Southeast Quarter depicted as Parcel 11 on Dakota County Road Right of Way Map No. 400, according to the recorded map thereof, Dakota County, Minnesota.

Parcel 2 - Farmer John L.P., 31-00400-25-017
Temporary Easement 8,537 square feet

A temporary easement for highway purposes over, under, and across that part of the Northwest Quarter of Section 4, Township 112 North, Range 18 West lying westerly of the westerly right of way of State Trunk Highway No. 56 (Randolph Boulevard), southerly of Parcel 30 as shown on Dakota County Road Right of Way Map No. 400, according to the recorded map thereof, Dakota County, Minnesota, and northerly of the following described line:
Commencing at the northwest corner of said Northwest Quarter of Section 4; thence South 89 degrees 57 minutes 33 seconds East, assumed bearing along the north line of said Northwest Quarter a distance of 307.53 feet; thence South 00 degrees 02 minutes 27 seconds West a distance of 65.00 feet to the point of beginning of the line to be described; thence South 89 degrees 57 minutes 33 seconds East a distance of 182.37 feet; thence southeasterly a distance of

145.98 feet along a tangential curve concave to the southwest having a radius of 456.00 feet and a central angle of 18 degrees 20 minutes 32 seconds; thence South 71 degrees 37 minutes 01 second East, tangent to said curve, a distance of 140.05 feet to the westerly right of way line of State Trunk Highway No. 56 and said line there terminating.

Together with a temporary easement for highway purposes over, under, and across that part of the Northwest Quarter of Section 4, Township 112 North, Range 18 West lying east of the easterly right of way of State Trunk Highway No. 56 (Randolph Boulevard), southerly of Parcels 30 & 31 as shown on Dakota County Road Right of Way Map No. 400, according to the recorded map thereof, Dakota County, Minnesota, and northerly of the following described line:

Commencing at the northeast corner of said Northwest Quarter of Section 4; thence North 89 degrees 59 minutes 17 seconds West, assumed bearing along the north line of said Northwest Quarter a distance of 1167.87 feet; thence South 14 degrees 14 minutes 37 seconds East a distance of 181.53 feet to the southerly line of said Parcel 30 and the point of beginning of the line to be described; thence continuing South 14 degrees 14 minutes 37 seconds East a distance of 5.00 feet; thence South 75 degrees 45 minutes 23 seconds West a distance of 160.00 feet; thence westerly a distance of 227.44 feet along a tangential curve concave to the north having a radius of 581.00 feet and a central angle of 22 degrees 25 minutes 43 seconds; thence North 81 degrees 48 minutes 54 seconds West, not tangent to said curve, a distance of 162.62 feet to the easterly right of way of State Trunk Highway No. 56 and said line there terminating.

; and

WHEREAS, the acquisition of six private property parcels identified in Dakota County Right of Way Map No. 520 by the County is necessary to move forward with the CP 86-044:

<u>PARCEL</u>	<u>OWNER</u>	<u>(AREA in Square Feet)</u>
1	Castle Rock Properties	25,320 (TE)
2	Chippendale Ave, LLC	2,977 (TE)
3	Simman Inc. DBA Simman LLC	1,059 (PE) and 8,474 (TE)
4	Todd Cao	9,733 (PE) and 6,616 (TE)
5	RRTM, Inc	3,764 (TE)
6	Castle Rock Mitigation Resources, LLC	9,896 (PE)

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the County Attorney’s Office to initiate quick-take condemnation of the remaining parcels for County Project 86-043 and County Project 86-044 to allow a spring 2026 construction start date in the event that timely acquisitions by direct negotiations of all parcels do not appear possible.

Ayes: 7

- 9.4** Resolution No: 25-468
Authorization To Execute Professional Services Contract With Bloom Companies, LLC For Lake Byllesby Regional Park Campground Building Design

Motion: Joe Atkins

Second: Mary Hamann-Roland

WHEREAS, the 2025-2029 Building Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Adopted Budget includes a project to look at the replacement or renovation of campground buildings in Lebanon Hills and Lake Byllesby Regional Parks; and

WHEREAS, Locus Architecture was hired to review a number of campground buildings, and one of the buildings recommended included a severe weather shelter component; and

WHEREAS, a Request for Proposals was prepared and issued to the public on August 13, 2025, and six proposal responses were received on September 4, 2025; and

WHEREAS, following the Proposal Response evaluations, staff invited two consultant firms to interview for this project on September 17, 2025; and

WHEREAS, following the interviews, staff reached a unanimous decision to recommend Bloom Companies, LLC as the consultant firm to provide the specified professional design services for this project; and

WHEREAS, Bloom Companies, LLC has submitted a total fee proposal of \$101,238 for professional design services; and

WHEREAS, sufficient funds are available within the 2025-2029 Parks CIP Adopted Budget for this project design and anticipated construction costs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Facilities Management Director to execute a professional services contract with Bloom Companies, LLC, 7825 Washington Ave S, Suite 635, Minneapolis, MN 55439 to provide architectural and engineering design services on the Lake Byllesby Campground Building Project, in an amount not to exceed \$101,238, subject to approval by the County Attorney's Office as to form.

Ayes: 7

- 9.5** Resolution No: 25-469
Authorization To Purchase Fuel From State Of Minnesota Fuel Consortium Program

Motion: Joe Atkins

Second: Mary Hamann-Roland

WHEREAS, Dakota County has experienced significant variability in spot market fuel prices in the past; and

WHEREAS, the State of Minnesota is offering participants in the Fuel

Consortium Program (Consortium) an opportunity to purchase fuel on a fixed price basis for a period of February 1, 2026, to January 31, 2027; and

WHEREAS, the fixed prices available under the Consortium program are expected to be lower than prices available through the spot market; and

WHEREAS, purchasing fuel on a fixed price basis will ensure accurate County budget planning and budget stability; and

WHEREAS, Dakota County holds a cooperative purchase agreement with the State of Minnesota that allows the County to purchase from vendors under contract with the State of Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, the use of the Consortium will reduce Dakota County administrative costs associated with the competitive bidding process and avoid duplication of activity.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Deputy Physical Development Director, or designee to purchase 70 percent (127,000 gallons) of the County's estimated unleaded fuel need and 70 percent (102,000 gallons) of the County's estimated diesel fuel needs for the period of February 1, 2026, to January 31, 2027, through the State Fuel Consortium Program, at the rates approved by the State of Minnesota; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Deputy Physical Development Director, or designee to purchase the remaining amount of fuel necessary for County operations from the State Spot Price Program or through local spot price vendors.

Ayes: 7

10. Public Services and Revenue

10.1 Resolution No: 25-470

Authorization To Execute Software Maintenance And Support Agreement With West Central Indexing, LLC

Motion: Joe Atkins

Second: Mary Hamann-Roland

WHEREAS, Dakota County selected West Central Indexing, LLC's RecordEASE Document Recording Software for a Property Records Management System; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 14-512 (October 21, 2014), the Dakota County Board of Commissioners approved the license agreement for the software and both parties entered into a license agreement with respect to the RecordEASE Document Recording Software; and

WHEREAS, the Parties previously entered into a Software Maintenance and

Support Agreement related to the Licensed Software on September 1, 2020;
and

WHEREAS, the payment terms of the existing contract have expired; and

WHEREAS, Dakota County wishes to execute a new Software Maintenance and Support Agreement to set forth the terms and conditions pursuant to which West Central Indexing, LLC shall provide software maintenance and support relating to the RecordEASE Document Recording Software and establish a new annual fee; and

WHEREAS, the new five-year annual fee of \$68,970 is included in the restricted Recorder's Equipment fund balance within the General Fund, pursuant to MN Stat. § 357.18 Subd. 4; and

WHEREAS, staff recommends executing the Software Maintenance and Support Agreement with West Central Indexing, LLC for the maintenance and support of RecordEASE Document Recording Software.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Dakota County Property Taxation and Records Director to execute the Software Maintenance and Support Agreement between Dakota County and West Central Indexing, LLC, for the RecordEASE Document Recording Software for the period of September 1, 2025 to August 31, 2030.

Ayes: 7

REGULAR AGENDA

11. Community Services

11.1 Resolution No: 25-471

Proclamation Of County And Tribal Financial Worker And Case Aides
Appreciation Day In Dakota County

Motion: Laurie Halverson

Second: Mary Hamann-Roland

Employment and Economic Assistance Deputy Director Tiffinie Miller presented this item and responded to questions.

WHEREAS, the day in October (as appointed by the governor), is County and Tribal Financial Worker and Case Aide Appreciation Day, a time set aside to recognize and commend the vital role these staff play in creating a healthy and safe community; and

WHEREAS, County and Tribal financial workers and case aides provide outstanding service to the people of Dakota County through their administration of multiple complex public assistance programs that support economic stability and family well-being; and

WHEREAS, these staff are entrusted with the prudent expenditure of millions of dollars annually and must meet high standards of job performance in determining eligibility for public assistance; and

WHEREAS, financial workers and case aides manage ongoing backlogs, increasing program complexity, outdated technology, continuous policy and procedure changes, and high-stress customer service interactions with professionalism, resilience, and compassion, often under significant pressure; and

WHEREAS, the duties of financial workers and case aides require broad knowledge, adaptability, and cultural responsiveness to serve households equitably and effectively; and

WHEREAS, despite these challenges, they return each day with determination, compassion, and commitment to providing person-centered support to tens of thousands of Dakota County residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim the day in October, appointed by the governor, as Financial Worker and Case Aide Appreciation Day in Dakota County and calls upon all residents to join in recognizing and honoring the dedication, skill, and service of these vital employees.

Ayes: 7

12. Physical Development

12.1 Resolution No: 25-472

Authorization To Release Draft 2026-2030 Capital Improvement Program For Formal Review

Motion: Joe Atkins

Second: Mary Hamann-Roland

Physical Development Deputy Director Erin Stwora briefed this item and responded to questions.

WHEREAS, the Dakota County Board of Commissioners recognizes the need to identify and plan for future capital projects; and

WHEREAS, the County desires input from local communities in developing its Capital Improvement Program (CIP); and

WHEREAS, staff has compiled the draft 2026-2030 CIP; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 24-476 (September 24, 2024), the County Board scheduled budget workshops to discuss the 2024 Budget, which began on July 8, 2025; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 24-476 (September 24, 2024), the County Board also scheduled a public hearing to be held on December 2, 2025, to receive comments on the 2026-2030 CIP.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the County Manager to submit the draft 2026-2030 Capital Improvement Program summary to the cities and townships for formal review and comment prior to the public hearing; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the County Manager to post the draft 2026-2030 Capital Improvement Program to the Dakota County website to allow review from interested parties as a means of receiving further input prior to the adoption of the Capital Improvement Program in December 2025.

Ayes: 7

13. Closed Executive Session

13.1 Resolution No: 25-473

Closed Executive Session: Discussion Of Legal Strategy In Caleb Duffy v. Dakota County et al.

Motion: Joe Atkins

Second: Laurie Halverson

The time being 10:15 a.m. and pursuant to public notice, the County Board recessed the County Board meeting and met in Conference Room 3A, Administration Center, to discuss the legal strategy of Caleb Duffy v. Dakota County.

The following were present:

Commissioner Mike Slavik, District 1

Commissioner Joe Atkins, District 2

Commissioner Laurie Halverson, District 3

Commissioner William Droste, District 4

Commissioner Liz Workman, District 5

Commissioner Mary Liz Holberg, District 6

Commissioner Mary Hamann-Roland, District 7

Heidi Welsch, County Manager

Kathy Keena, County Attorney

Jenny Groskopf, Risk and Emergency Management Director

Sarah Fenske, Risk Management Coordinator

Tom Donely, First Assistant County Attorney

Jeni Reynolds, Clerk to the Board

Lucie O'Neill, County Attorney's Office Civil Head

Justin Hagel, Attorney

Jim Gabriel, Sheriff's Office Commander

Sheriff Joe Leko

The Closed Executive Session continued until 10:41a.m., at which time the

Board reconvened the County Board meeting with all members present.

WHEREAS, Caleb Duffy (Caleb), by and through his legal guardian Brian Duffy, Caleb claims Dakota County employees, among others, were deliberately indifferent to his serious medical needs and were negligent when he was an inmate in the Dakota County jail; and

WHEREAS, Caleb commenced a lawsuit against Dakota County and Dakota County correctional deputies and officers; and

WHEREAS, the Dakota County Board of Commissioners (Board) seeks legal advice from the County Attorney with respect to litigation strategy, the public disclosure of which would be detrimental to the County's defense of this matter; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 13D.05, subd. 3(b), the Board by resolution may close a meeting as permitted by the attorney-client privilege.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby closes the Board meeting on October 7, 2025, and recesses to conference room 3A, Administration Center, Hastings, to discuss with the County Attorney the legal strategy in *Brian Duffy, legal guardian for Caleb Duffy v. Dakota County et al.*

Ayes: 7

14. Interagency Reports/Commissioner Updates

Interagency reports and Commissioner updates were presented.

15. County Manager's Report

County Manager Heidi Welsch provided comments regarding the need for technology updates for the Boardroom.

16. Information

16.1 Information

See Attachment for future Board meetings and other activities.

17. Adjournment

17.1 Resolution No: 25-474

Adjournment

Motion: Mary Hamann-Roland

Second: William Droste

On a motion by Commissioner Hamann-Roland, seconded by Commissioner Droste, the meeting was adjourned at 10:43 a.m.

Ayes: 7

Mike Slavik
Chair

ATTEST

Heidi Welsch
County Manager