



# Dakota County

## General Government and Policy Committee of the Whole

### Minutes

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Tuesday, February 17, 2026

9:30 AM

Conference Room 3A, Administration  
Center, Hastings

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(or following County Board)

#### 1. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Chair Workman at 10:08 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; Kathryn M. Keena, County Attorney; Tom Donely, First Assistant County Attorney; and Jeni Reynolds, Sr. Administrative Coordinator to the Board.

The audio recording of this meeting is available upon request.

#### 2. Audience

Chair Workman noted that all public comments can be sent to [CountyAdmin@co.dakota.mn.us](mailto:CountyAdmin@co.dakota.mn.us)  
No comments were received for this agenda.

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

##### 3.1 Approval of Agenda (Additions/Corrections/Deletions)

Motion: Mike Slavik

Second: Mary Hamann-Roland

Ayes: 7

#### CONSENT AGENDA

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

#### 4. County Administration - Approval of Minutes

**4.1** Approval of Minutes of Meeting Held on February 3, 2026

Motion: Mary Hamann-Roland

Second: William Droste

Ayes: 7

**REGULAR AGENDA**

**5. County Board/County Administration**

**5.1** Legislative Update

Mary Beth Schubert, Communications and Public Affairs Director briefed this item. Dan Dwight, Stinson representative and Tom Downs, Downs representative were present via interactive technology and provided a state and federal legislative update. The potential 2027 Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) projects were presented and the committee gave direction to come back to a future meeting with clarification on recommended vs. received funding, what are ongoing costs and any additional data on projects to assist in decision making. The 2026 Minnesota Legislative Session starts today, Feb. 17, 2026. This item was on the agenda for informational purposes only.

Information only; no action requested.

**6. Public Safety**

**6.1** Update And Consideration Regarding Potential Deer Hunting Firearm Regulations - Repeal Of Minn. Stat. § 97B.318

Sheriff Joe Leko, Captain Jim Iliff, Sergeant Brian Smidt and Special Duty Deputy Jonathan Reiners briefed this item and responded to questions. The committee gave direction for no action to be taken and therefore, Dakota County will default to the new rifle zone statute (Minn. Stat. 97B.031 Subd. 7).

**7. County Manager/Deputy/Director's Report**

County Manager Heidi Welsch let the committee know that any questions from the Finance Work Session last week are being looked into to provide follow up. The next Finance Work Session is March 10.

**8. Future Agenda Items**

There were no suggested topics for future meetings.

**9. Adjournment**

**9.1** Adjournment

Motion: Mary Hamann-Roland

Second: Mike Slavik

On a motion by Commissioner Hamann-Roland, seconded by Commissioner Slavik, the meeting was adjourned at 11:02 a.m.

Ayes: 7

Respectfully submitted,  
Jeni Reynolds  
Sr. Administrative Coordinator to the Board