

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE MURRAY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MURRAY
COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER - SLAYTON, MINNESOTA
July 28, 2026, 8:30 AM**

Pursuant to notice, the Murray County Board of Commissioners convened with the following members present in person: Commissioners; Loy Woelber, Jackie Meier, Mark Carlson, Dennis Welgraven and Roger Zins. Also Present in person were County Coordinator Sharon Giese and General Assistant Renee Gleason. Absent was County Attorney, Travis Smith.

BOARD CHAIR CALLED MEETING TO ORDER AT APPROXIMATELY 8:30 A.M.

1.1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2.1. AGENDA ADDITIONS

The Board Chair asked if there were any additions to the agenda, (1) item was added.

• **FAIRGROUNDS WIRELESS REPLACEMENT**

This was a late agenda addition submitted and will be slated in the agenda for Item 4.7. The hope is to have the equipment available in time for the system to be operational before the 2026 Murray County Fair.

Existing Wireless setup provides connectivity for following areas and security cameras:

- Fairgrounds Cameras
- 4-H Building
- Olsen Arena
- Parks Shop
- Museum
- Holt House
- Horse Barn

Existing system is antiquated and frequently gets interference from nearby residences' Wi-Fi:

- Unable to provide additional bandwidth to provide internet for vendors at various fairgrounds events
- New system runs on frequency not accessible to residential Wi-Fi systems -> eliminates interference
- New system will allow expansion to other buildings to provide better internet coverage for events.

Costs

- \$4,500 -> Contractor to remove old equipment from tower and install new. A Brandon, SD contractor is in the area already doing work and can be utilized.
- \$7,500 -> Wireless equipment
- \$12,000 -> Total Project - IT Budget code 01-061-061-0000-6650 in 2026 Budget. Additional funds are available due to the cost savings of the upgraded phone system.
- Additional installation labor will be provided in-house IT Team.
- Additional future buildings would be \$600-\$1,000 to add to this solution.

A motion was made by Commissioner Meier, seconded by Commissioner Zins to move forward with the Fairgrounds wireless access and equipment replacement project.

The motion was amended by Commissioner Meier, seconded by Commissioner Zins, and passed to move forward with the Fairgrounds wireless access and equipment replacement project with total project costing \$12,000 and will be covered by IT Budget code 01-061-061-0000-6650.

2.2. IDENTIFY ANY CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The Board Chair asked if there were any conflicts of interest, none were identified.

The Board Chair asked for a motion for today's agenda with no conflicts of interest. A motion was made by Commissioner Meier, seconded by Commissioner Zins, and passed to approve today's agenda with no conflicts of interest.

3.1. APPROVE MINUTES FROM 07/21/2026

A motion was made by Commissioner Welgraven, seconded by Commissioner Meier, and passed to approve consent agenda, meeting minutes of 07/21/2026.

The next item on the agenda is a public hearing slated for 8:35 a.m. However, we are too early to conduct that public hearing.

A SHORT RECESS WAS CALLED AT APPROXIMATELY 8:32 A.M.

MEETING WAS CALLED BACK TO ORDER AT 8:35 A.M.

4.1. 8:35 A.M. PUBLIC HEARING: GRANTING MURRAY COUNTY EDA AS LOCAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION AND TRANSFER OF FUNDS RESOLUTION 2026-07-28-01

Board Chair called the public meeting to order at 8:35 a.m. relating the Murray County EDA as Local Development Organization & transfer of funds.

Agenda for public meeting included:

- Stated purpose of hearing reviewed and affirmed notice requirement have been met by Bryan Stading,
- Board provided an opportunity for comments and questions
 - Commissioner Meier inquired about the changes from the resolution previously provided vs. this one today. Bryan Stading confirmed there were conflicts of public hearing times in the agenda vs. the published public notice and duration.
- Floor was opened to the public for comment. No public was in attendance nor received for this public hearing. Public comment period was closed. Board has no further comment or discussion.

A motion was made by Commissioner Woelber, seconded by Commissioner Welgraven, and passed to rescind previous Resolution 2026-06-23-01 Granting Request Designation of the Murray County Economic Development Authority as a Local Development Organization and transfer of MIF Funds to LDO, as the public hearing and resolution did not meet DEED requirements.

A motion made by Commissioner Welgraven, seconded by Commissioner Meier, and passed to approve Resolution 2026-07-28-01 Granting Murray County Economic Development Authority as Local Development Organization and transfer \$471,416.88 to the local development organization as de-federalized funds.

A revised packet will be created, documented, and submitted to DEED for review.

4.2. 9:00 A.M. PUBLIC HEARING: JADEN & DELANEY BOERBOOM TAX ABATEMENT REQUEST

Board Chair opened the public hearing at 9:30 a.m.

Murray County received a request for tax abatement through the Murray County Home Initiative. Jaden & Delaney Boerboom are proposing to replace their existing home at 1266 250th Avenue, Avoca, MN with a new home on the property. The home will be their primary residence with construction being late July/early August. The new home's value is approximately \$510,000.00.

No public was in attendance for public comment.

It was moved by Commissioner Woelber, seconded by Commissioner Welgraven, and passed to approve the Murray County Home Initiative Tax Abatement for Jaden & Delaney Boerboom on property located at 1266 250th Avenue, Avoca, MN 56114 (PIN #06.032.0021).

4.3. 9:30 A.M. SWHHS PROGRAM UPDATE

Board Meeting was running a head of schedule for the 9:00 a.m. public hearing. Therefore, SWHHS presentation was provided first and returned to the 9:00 a.m. public hearing.

Stacey Timm, SWHHA provided an updated document showing the 2027 State & Federal shifts to counties. The numbers have been shifting periodically as items are implemented from the state and federal government.

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2027 State and Federal Cost Shifts to Counties

1. SNAP FFP (Federal cost shift):

HR1 passed through the federal government in Summer of 2025. It changed the 50% SNAP FFP revenue counties receive to administer the program down to only 25%. Also, starting in Quarter 4 of 2027, it assigns a benefit cost share based on the payment error rate of the entire state.

The total lost for this cost shift to SWHHS in 2027:

\$381,233

2. LTSS (Long Term Services and Supports)

During the 2026 legislative session, an additional cost shift was passed onto counties for LTSS. The state has always covered these required services, but starting in 2027 they have shifted costs to the counties. The cost shift is specific to people on waivers, mainly adults with disabilities and elderly, for residential placements (ie assisted living and group homes)

SWHHS has not been given an exact amount yet. It should be for half of the year. However, we have been given what the amount would be in previous years to use for 2027 budgets:

- 2023: \$704,789
- 2024: \$658,713
- 2025: \$730,000 (\$365,000)

The combined county cost shift in 2027 for LTSS + SNAP to SWHHS equals \$746,233

Additional budget details:

- SWHHS Human Services wage and insurance increase for 2027 is \$1,438,000 (if insurance raises 25%)
- Most contracted providers raise their rates by 3%. That would be about \$100,000.
- SWHHS total for SNAP, LTSS, wage/insurance and contracts:
 - \$2,284,233
- SWHHS 1% county contribution (levy) was \$150,881 in 2027
- The Joint Powers does now allow over a 10% increase for a total:
 - 1,508,810
- The gap between funding needed and 10% levy amount is \$775,423

SWHHS is looking at an operating deficit of \$2.284 million. The joint powers agreement only allows for a 10% increase to the SWHHS members. With the 10% increase, this still leaves a deficit of \$775,000. For Murray County the 10% increase is an estimated \$178,750.00 increase, with an estimated gap of \$90,000.00.

Keeping in mind these services are mandatory services by state and federal government. A meeting will be conducted this week with the SWHHS members and county administrators/coordinators to discuss ways of addressing these issues.

4.4.1. DITCH BILLS

It was moved by Commissioner Zins, seconded by Commissioner Welgraven, and passed to approve the report of bills for payment of the Murray County Drainage Authority as follows:

<u>Rinke Noonan</u>			
21-829-6260	JD 14	1,424.50	JD 14 Partial Abandonment
21-868-6260	Admin	200.00	06/2026 Monthly Retainer
Subtotal		<u>1,624.50</u>	
Total Ditch Bills		<u>1,624.50</u>	

Copies of invoices will be available at the meeting or by calling Heidi Winter 507-836-1152

4.4.2. AMENDMENT TO ACCOUNTING POLICIES & PROCEDURES MANUAL- COMPENSATED ABSENCES

The Murray County Accounting Policies and Procedures Manual needs to be updated for a new Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 101. Proposed amendments were shown on attachment. Accounting for compensated absences for employees at the end of the year needs to be reflected differently as per the new accounting mandate for 2027.

It was moved by Commissioner Zins, seconded by Commissioner Carlson, and passed to amend the Murray County Accounting Policies and Procedures manual for updates with Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 101 on Compensated Absences.

4.5.1. SET HEARING DATE FOR CD20/JD14 REPAIRS

The Oath, Bond, and Repair Report have been completed by the engineer. A hearing date needs to be set to continue with the CD20 and JD14 repair projects. Rinke Noonan stated Tuesday, August 25th in the a.m. can be coordinated with us and the other date was Wednesday, August 26th after 9:30 a.m.

A motion is made by Commissioner Carlson, seconded by Commissioner Welgraven, and passed to set a public hearing on the proposed repairs for JD 14 and CD 20 on Tuesday, August 25th, at 9:00 a.m., at the Murray County Commissioner Meeting Room. The alternate date for this public hearing is Wednesday, August 26th at 9:30 as the Murray County Commissioner Meeting Room. When the date is confirmed with Rinke Noone, it will be communicated to board by email and public notice will be posted.

4.5.2. REPLACEMENT OF ZERO TURN MOWER

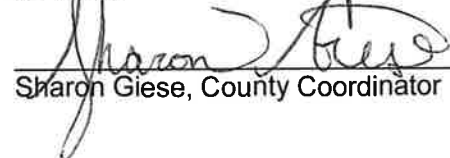
The Facilities Department is requesting authorization to purchase a replacement commercial zero turn mower. The current mower, a 2011 John Deere Z710A, is approximately 15 years old and has accumulated 660 operating hours. Due to its age and anticipated maintenance needs, replacement is recommended. The proposed replacement is a 2026 John Deere Z930M commercial zero turn mower with a 60-inch deck, utilizing Minnesota State Contract pricing.

The current John Deere Z710A will be traded in as part of the purchase. This mower was in the 2026 budget and after this purchase, will be a remaining budget balance of approximately \$10,000.00. Nathan Wurpts provided background information on trade in value and the recent prices reached for used mowers on auction.

It was moved by Commissioner Zins, and seconded by Commissioner Meier, and passed to authorize the purchase of a John Deere Z930M zero turn mower from Kibble Equipment utilizing Minnesota State Contract pricing, including the trade-in of the County's 2011 John Deere Z710A zero turn mower, for a net purchase price of \$9,551.12, to be paid from Account No. 01-110-111-6650.

BOARD CHAIR ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT APPROXIMATELY 9:19 A.M.

ATTEST:


Sharon Glese, County Coordinator


Mark Carlson, Board Chair