DRAFT

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MURRAY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MURRAY COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER - SLAYTON, MINNESOTA
March 3, 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 HR Director/Deputy Administrator Sharon Giese, County Attorney Travis Smith, and General Assistant Renee Gleason.

1. - Opening

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

1.1. - Pledge of Allegiance

2. - Approve Agenda

2.1. - Agenda Additions

2.1.1. - Approve Sheriff Axon Purchase (Agenda Item 4.8)

Board Chair stated this agenda item will be addressed when Heath Landsman arrives at this meeting.

ADDED AGENDA ITEM 4.8: Axon sent out letters indicating they would only stand behind their product for 5 years. The issuance of this letter puts the County in a bad spot for litigation, should a taser that has been in use longer than 5 years malfunction. I was presented with 3 different options and chose the cheapest option for the county. Unfortunately, there are limited vendors for tasers. In addition, we will need to address these taser replacements again in 5 years.

Late last week, Heath received an email offering a 15% discount if we ordered by the end of the month. Heath authorized the purchase of (8) new tasers at a savings of $1,740.00. To provide transparency, he would like the board to approve the purchase as well. In addition, if we turn in our old tasers, we will receive approximately $1,200 - $1,300 in training cartridges. There is annual training done with these tasers.

A motion was made by Commissioner Woelber, seconded by Commissioner Zins to approve the purchase of (8) new Taser X26 P's from Axon Enterprise, for a total purchase price of $10,082.36.

2.2. - Identify Any Conflict of Interest

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

It was moved by Commissioner Meier, seconded by Commissioner Zins and passed to approve the agenda with additions for 03/03/2026.

3. - Consent Agenda

3.1. - Approve Minutes from 02/17/2026 and 02/24/2026

3.2. - Commissioner Warrants

3.2.1. - Commissioner Warrants

Board Chair Carlson asked approval of Consent Agenda with the minutes of 02/17/2026XX-XX-XXXX and Commissioner Warrants, unless there are any questions.

General Fund	16,937.24
Road & Bridge	18,409.82
Ditch	7.98
Self Insurance	163.12
Sunrise Terrace	1,126.85
Total	36,645.01

It was moved by Commissioner Welgraven, seconded by Commissioner Meier, and passed to approve meeting minutes of 02/17/2026 and 02/24/2026 and the Commissioners' Warrants 179375-179402 in the amount of $36,645.01 for 03/03/2026.

4. - Regular Agenda

4.1. - SW Regional Development Coalition - Federal Safe Street for All Planning Grant

Chris Webb with SWRD provided background on Safe Routes to School planning efforts for both Slayton and Fulda. This is a federal planning grant available later this summer. It is intended to create a comprehensive safety action plan. It is the intention of SWRD to develop county-wide safety routes to school plan. SWRD will be the grant applicant and see this as an opportunity to develop plans in (6) communities. There is a plan that was developed 10 years ago, so it is time to revisit those plans. They would hire and work with an engineer to understand projects, priorities, and create design specifications.

Most generally, this plan development can take some time. The grant is anticipated to be awarded in August/September 2026 but could take a year to get a contract signed with the federal government. So the earliest this development, if awarded, could start in 2028. SWRD is simply looking for Murray County to verbally commit to partner in this plan today. If agreed, Murray County would be one of three counties requested to provide a resolution of support in June. SWRD would then look to cities and school districts to provide some of the matching funds of approximately $3,000 - $5,000. No administration fees would be required of Murray County. But the project would be run through SWRD and the three counties.

The board informally agreed this is a grant application that they would support and SWRD should return in June for a letter of support.

4.2. - Luke Schryvers - Murray County Medical Center

4.2.1. - MCMC Monthy Report

March County Commissioner Meeting
Tuesday, March 3, 2026
MCMC CEO Report

MURRAY COUNTY
MEDICAL CENTER

People

- Director of Nurses – We have started the interview process for the open DON position. Monica's last day at MCMC is scheduled for March 13th.
- Therapy Staffing – Our current contracts with our contracted traveling therapist ends on March 27th. We continue to recruit full-time therapists and are also exploring options to add additional travel staff.
- Medical Student Rotation - Clara Lucero, University of MN Medical student, will be here the week of March 9th for her first rotation in the rural early clinical experience preceptorship program. She will have 2 other rotations in April and October will us as well.
- MNA Negotiations – Met with the union representatives on February 20th and were able to come to a tentative 3-year contract agreement pending final staff vote to approve.

Quality

- Committee Development – We are in the process of developing two new staff committees that will focus on the Community Health Needs Assessment action plan and a Workforce and Staff Development initiative. Each team will be comprised of 5-6 staff members.
- Emergency Management Round Table – Facility staff participated in a county emergency preparedness event on February 12th. It was a good exercise for establishing communications and knowing the different resources that are available throughout the county in emergency situations.

Growth

- X-ray replacement – Project is pending approval with the State of MN. Our next update meeting with the contractor is scheduled for April 1st.
- MRI – The first day of the mobile service was on February 16th and everything went well. Moving forward the truck is scheduled to be here every Monday with additional days/times added as needed. We are also in the process of decommissioning our in-house MRI and making sure the system is shut down and stored properly.
- New orthopedic service line with Dr Koenig continues to see good demand. We were able to see 39 patients in January. We are looking at options to add additional days in the coming months.

Financials

- Rural Health Transformation Program – MN Hospital Association held an update meeting with State leaders on February 10th. Currently, the RHTP funds for Minnesota are restricted at the federal level. The State has submitted a plan and request for funds to be released within the next 30 days. $193 million has been allocated to MN and 70% of those funds are being directed towards rural hospitals.
- MN Legislative Session started Tuesday, Feb 17th and is scheduled to run to May 18th

Statistics

Overall, for January volumes and patient demand were stable but a little behind 2025 numbers.

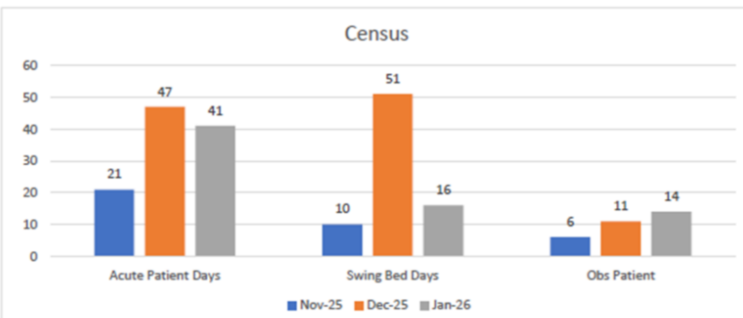
- Acute - 15 admissions for 41 total patient days. Compared to last January that was 2 less admissions and 11 less patient days
- Swing bed had 3 admits for 16 total patient days. Compared to last January that was 4 less admissions and 59 less days.
- Observation stays were at 14 patients compared to 13 last year.
- Surgery procedures were at 36 for the month compared to 28 the previous year.
- ER visits were 112, which was 30 less than last January.
- Clinic visits were at 759. That is 142 less than the previous year.

Balance Sheet

- Our overall cash position decreased by $502,443 We currently have a total cash available of **$10,003,368**
- We saw an increase in patient receivables of $440,594 and total receivables are at **$6,617,131**
    - Net Patient Receivables (Amount we expect to collect) = **$3,307,847 or 49.99%**
    - AR Days increased by 4.9 days and currently sit at 70.9 days. Goal is to be under 50 days

Income Statement

- Gross revenue was $2,673,209 & below budget by ($77,135)
    - Hospital IP revenue below budget by $112,138
    - Hospital OP revenue above budget by $30,718
    - Clinic revenue above budget by $4,285
- Contractual adjustments lower than budget by $142,765
- Expenses are lower than budget by $15,374
- EBIDA (Earnings before interest, depreciation, and amortization) = $121,697
- For the month we had a net income equal to $93,170.



After this presentation, Board moved to agenda adddition, Item 4.8 Heath Landsman, Sheriff - Axon Taser Purchase.

4.3. - Heidi Winter - Auditor/Treasurer

4.3.1. - Ditch Bills

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

Bolton & Menk				
21-861-6260	JD 27	350.00	JD 27 Partial Abdn-Engineering	
	Subtotal	**350.00**		
Opdahl Farm Drainage, LLC				
21-761-6290	CD 67	255.00	2024-065	Ok'd by T. Radke 2/19/26
21-815-6290	JD 9	2,030.00	2024-062	Ok'd by T. Radke 2/19/26
	Subtotal	**2,285.00**		
Rinke Noonan				
21-659-6260	CD 11	651.00	CD 11/State Hwy 30 - Legal	
21-689-6260	CD 30	91.50	(M-N) Redetermination of Benefits-Group 4	
21-706-6260	CD 41	91.50	CD 41 Improvement - Legal	
21-809-6260	JD 5	91.50	(M-C) Redetermination of Benefits-Group 4	
21-811-6260	JD 7	355.00	(M-N) Redetermination of Benefits-Group 4	
21-829-6260	JD 14	244.00	JD 14 Repair - Legal	
21-845-6260	JD 20	91.50	(M-N) Redetermination of Benefits-Group 4	
21-847-847-62	JD 20	3,040.50	(M-L-R) Reconstitute Joint Board	
21-853-6260	JD 22	91.50	(M-C) Redetermination of Benefits-Group 4	
21-855-6260	JD 23	138.00	(M-C) Redetermination of Benefits-Group 4	
21-857-6260	JD 24	184.50	(M-C) Redetermination of Benefits-Group 4	
21-861-6260	JD 27	200.00	(M-L) Redetermination of Benefits-Group 4	
21-861-6260	JD 27	366.00	(M-L) Partial Abandonment-Legal	
21-863-6260	JD 28	339.50	(M-L-R) Redetermination of Benefits-Group 4	
21-868-6260	Admin	200.00	01/2026 Monthly Retainer	
	Subtotal	**6,176.00**		
	Total Ditch Bills	**8,811.00**		

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

4.4. - Travis Radke - Ditch Inspector

4.4.1. - Ditch Inspection Report

A motion was made by Commissioner , seconded by Commissioner and carried that the Commissioners in conjunction with the appointed ditch inspector have examined and inspected that portion of the foregoing described County and Judicial Ditches, lying within the County of Murray, for the purpose of determining what repairs are necessary and ordered said repairs to be made, by this report given thereon at a Murray County Board of Commissioner's meeting:

Petition 2026-004 CD 07 Cameron Township Section 26 District 2 - Carlson

4.5. - Jean Christoffels - Zoning/Environmental Administrator

4.5.1. - Dennis & Deborah Johnson Conditional Use Permit

The Public Hearing was held by the Murray County Planning Commission on February 19, 2026, for this conditional use permit application. Dennis and Deborah Johnson intend to build this structure with the intent to sell/lease/rent to the Lake Shetek First Responders for storage of their 2nd rig. The storage building where the rig is now stored will be unavailable to them soon.

Jean Christoffel clarified this area will continue to be zoned residential but the property will have a two-condition permit.

It was moved by Commissioner Zins, seconded by Commissioner Woelber and passed to approve Conditional Use Permit #1435 to Dennis & Deborah Johnson to construct and operate a Governmental Service Building in the Residential District for the W100' of Lot 1, Block 2, Autumn Blaze Estates, Section 35, Lake Sarah Township, Murray County with the findings and two (2) special conditions recommended by the Plannning Commission.

4.5.2. - DNR AIS Prevention Delegation Agreement

In 2025, Murray County contracted with Waterfront Restorations to hire AIS Inspectors to monitor boat activity at multiple boat accesses in Murray County on the weekends and holidays. In order to hire inspectors, Murray County must enter into a delegation agreement with the MnDNR. As last year was our first year to have AIS inspectors, we only entered into a one-year delegation agreement. Since the first year went well, it is suggested that we enter into a three-year agreement.

It was moved by Commissioner Welgraven, seconded by Commissioner Zins and passed to approve and authorize County Board Chair, Mark Carlson, to sign the Mn DNR Delegation Agreement for Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Prevention Inspection of Water-related Equipment that will expire December 31, 2028.

The board then moved back to Item 4.1 SW Regional Development Coalition — Federal Safe Street for All Planning Grant.

4.6. - Jon Bloomendaal - Ag & Solid Waste Administrator

4.6.1. - 2025 Murray County Feedlot Program Year-End Review & 2026-2027 Delegation Agreement & Work Plan

Board Meeting of 01/20/2026 we reviewed the 2025 Feedlot Program Year-End report and also the 2026-2027 Delegation Agreement and Work Plan. Attached are those reviewed documents from the MN Pollution Control Agency. They are ready to have the board chair sign these documents.

Also the board should note the feedlot regulations are coming up in rotation for review. There are some concerns about the proposed changes in the next few years.

It was moved by Commissioner Zins, seconded by Commissioner Welgraven, and passed to authorize Mark Carlson as Board Chair to sign the 2025 Feedlot Program Year-End Report and 2026-2027 Delegation Agreement and Work Plan. Once signed, this will be posted on the county website.

4.6.2. - 2026 Demolition Landfill Engineering Services Agreement - Short, Elliot, Hendrickson, Inc.

SEH, Inc. originally designed our demo landfill, processes reporting, and conducts our water testing/sampling submittals through MVTL. Per Jon, there are some significant changes coming in the next 2-5 years for the county demolition landfill. Some of these changes include cover requirements and possibly leaching aid collection system and geo-memory cover.   So at that point we may need to consider a transfer facility. But until that time, we will operate as usual.

It was moved by Commissioner Welgraven, seconded by Commissioner Zins, and passed to approve the 2026 Murray County Demolition Landfill Engineering Services Agreement and authorize Jon Bloomendaal to sign the proposed contract with SEH, Inc. not to exceed $5,430.00 unless changes are approved via written authorization.

4.7. - Sharon Giese - HR Director/Deputy Administrator

4.7.1. - Citizen Per Diem Plus Mileage Annual Review

Re-establish the annual review and resolution for citizen per diem rate for citizen seats on committees.

Committee	Per Diem	Mileage	Notes/Exceptions
Extension Committee	$55.00	2026 IRS Mileage Reimbursement rate approved by Murray County	
Fairgrounds Advisory Committee	$55.00		
Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission	$55.00		
Local Water Management Plan Task Force	$55.00		
Comp Plan Committee	$55.00		***only active in years of plan review/require*
Sunrise Terrace Advisory Committee	$55.00		
Shetek Area Water and Sewer Commission	$85.00/Secretary; $70.00/all other		
Economic Development Authority	$80.00		
Planning Commission	$80.00		*If Planning Commission and BOA mtg conducted on the same day a maximum of $100.00 can be claimed per diem.*
Board of Adjustment/Appeals	$80.00		

The individual citizen can also submit mileage in addition to the per diem at the annual IRS rate established and approved by Murray County.   Due to the scarcity of applicants and current vacant citizen seats, do we need to re-adjust these per diem rates or should they remain the same?

There were varying discussions on per diem rates, potential increases, and increasing volunteerism.   The thought was the rates vary based on the "weight" of work and decisions in each committee.   The board will re-evaluate these rates during the budgeting process this year.   The topic will be tabled until that time.

4.7.2. - SW Health & Human Services - Building Lease

SWHHS is working to coordinate leases in all area counties, not just Murray County. This should allow them to consistently budget lease expenses going forward. So it is suggested to extend the existing 2025 lease for all of 2026. This should allow SWHHS enough time to coordinate and negotiate with the other counties on a realistic rate for all. They are currently proposing $12.50/sq ft.   Currently, Murray County lease is approximately $9.80/sq. ft. and with the building getting older there will be some upcoming expenses for maintenance.

A motion was made by Commissioner Meier, seconded by Commissioner Carlson, and passed to approve an additional extension for the balance of the 2025 lease agreement for 2026 with Southwest Health & Human Services.

5. - Committee Reports 02/15 to 02/28/2026

<u>Carlson</u>

02/17   Commissioner, EDF (battery storage)

02/19 Monogram Foods Tour
02/23 AMC (Webinar "Insiring Public Service")
02/24 Commissioner

Woelber
02/17 Commissioner
02/19 Monogram Foods Tour
02/24 Commissioner

Meier
02/17 Commissioner, ACE
02/18 SWHHS (2) mtgs
02/19 EDA, Monogram Foods Tour
02/24 Commissioner
02/25 MCMC

Welgraven
02/17 Commissioner, EDF (battery storage)
02/18 SWHHS (2) mtgs
02/19 EDA, Monogram Foods Tour
02/24 Commissioner
02/25 MCMC
02/26 EDA (MIF Funding)

Zins
02/17 Commissioner, Investment/Finance, Personnel
02/19 Planning, Monogram Foods Tour
02/23 SMOC, Western Mental Health
02/24 Commissioner

In addition, Board Chair Carlson reminded members that the AMC Nuts and Bolts Meeting was originally scheduled for the end of January was rescheduled for April 29th, 30th, and May 1st. All board members will be enrolled to attend with hotel room and if anyone needs to cancel because of conflicts, it can be canceled until April 22nd.

Commissioner Woelber asked additional questions about expenses for the snow pusher and car wash token/code. The snow pusher was so they can push snow without chipping away concrete and the car wash tokens are purchased in bundles. Then, as staff uses vehicles or a car wash is needed, they obtain a token/code for either car wash in town.

6. - Adjournment
MEETING ADJOURNED AT APPROXIMATELY 9:40 A.M.

ATTEST:

Sharon Giese, HR Director/Deputy Administrator Mark Carlson, Board Chair