

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE MURRAY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MURRAY COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER - SLAYTON, MINNESOTA
October 21, 2025, 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 HR Director/Deputy Admin. Sharon Giese and General Assistant Renee Gleason.

CALL TO ORDER 8:30 A.M.

2.1 AGENDA ADDITIONS

- Heidi Winter/Justin Hoffmann - Sunquist Park Final Payment for T Rosenbrook Construction
- Jean Chrisoffels - Already on agenda Collyn Doeden Conditional Use Permit, but added supporting documentation following yesterday's meeting
- Commissioner Welgraven - Approval for Board of Commissioners to attend AMC Conference

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 Carlson, seconded by Commissioner Meier, to approve the agenda additions. Motion Passed.

3.1 APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

3.2 APPROVE MINUTES FROM 10/02/2025 AND 10/07/2025

3.3 COMMISSIONER WARRANTS

It was moved by Commissioner Meier, seconded by Commissioner Carlson, to approve the Commissioners Warrants, Board Meeting Minutes from 10/02/2025, and amended meeting minutes from 10/07/2025. Motion passed.

4.1.1 DITCH BILLS

There were no ditch bills received requiring Board approval.

ADDITION TO AGENDA: WARRANT - SUNQUIST PICNIC SHELTER, FINAL PAYMENT APP

It was moved by Commissioner Zins, seconded by Commissioner Carlson and passed to approve final payment of the Sunquist Picnic Shelter, contingent on receiving the IC-134 for Trevor Rosenbrook Construction, Invoice 794 for \$10,814.87.

4.2.1 DITCH INSPECTION REPORT

2025-031 - CD 42 Contractor repaired last week.

2025-032 - CD 34 Not a costly repair. They were also worried about trees that were coming up. We are behind on schedule on this one because of landowner death. Therefore, Travis Radke would like ditch to be cleaned sooner and review if any others need to be addressed.

2025-033 - CD 66 Tile Repair

2025-034 - JD 20 Repairs made in the past but potentially repaired with too small of tile.

A motion was made by Commissioner Zins, seconded by Commissioner Meier to approve Petition(s) 2025-031, 2025-032, 2025-033, and 2025-034, related to Ditches CD 42, CD 34, CD 66, and JD 20, for repairs and improvements.

Commissioner Zins mentioned a beaver dam on County Road 2, 2 miles west of Fulda should be reviewed. This area has been addressed before but it was further downstream, so it was determined to be the landowners' responsibility. Travis Radke will review the area mentioned and take pictures. A repair petition will be issued.

Commissioner Loy Woelber arrived at approximately 8:45 a.m.

4.3.1 DNR AGGREGATE MAPPING

Mathew Cameron, Aggregate Mapper from MN DNR provided a presentation on the DNR Aggregate Mapping that is occurring in Murray County. This study and tool will provide potential locations of good aggregate resources and help plan land use too. Aggregate is a natural resource and not renewable. Murray County passed a resolution in 2020 requesting this study and is funded by LCCMR. This study will involve field work which is occurring in the next several weeks. A complete study should be available by December 2026.

4.3.2 MURRAY COUNTY HOME INITIATIVE TAX ABATEMENT PROGRAM

The Murray County Economic Development Authority (EDA) Board met on September 18, 2025 and recommended eliminating the sunset date of program but instead implementing a yearly review to the Home Initiative Tax Abatement Program. Since its inception in 2023, there have been nine applications for tax abatement approved for new home construction in Murray County. The details of this program have been shared during meetings with both cities and townships, giving them the opportunity to also allow for tax abatements within their jurisdictions.

It was moved by Commissioner Carlson, seconded by Commissioner Zins to approve the Murray County Home Initiative Tax Abatement Program changes to permanently remove the sunset date, and have the program channeled primarily from the Environmental Services Office. Motion passed.

4.3.3 COLLYN DOEDEN CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT

The Public Hearing was held by the Murray County Planning Commission on October 16, 2025, for this conditional use permit application. Did not receive any comments from the public. The permit application is: Collyn Doeden, SW1/4, Section 12, Fenton Township, Murray County to expand an existing feedlot from 500 animal units (AU) to 990 AU by constructing a total confinement barn in the Agriculture District. Therefore, the Planning Commission is recommending approval with special conditions.

Commissioner Zins also attended the Planning Committee Meeting and had no concerns.

It was moved by Commissioner Meier, seconded by Commissioner Woelber to accept the recommendation of the Murray County Planning Commission for Conditional Use Permit #1433 for Collyn Doeden, to expand an existing feedlot from 500 animal units (AU) to 990 AU by constructing a total confinement barn in the Agriculture District, in the SW1/4, Section 12, Fenton Township, Murray County with the findings and special conditions. Motion passed.

4.4.1 RACETRACK LIGHTING RFP

Justin Hoffman was unable to attend meeting today, but Sharon Giese provided details. A price from Musco lighting was brought to a past county board meeting and was over budget. The recommendation from the county board regarding the racetrack lighting project was to be discussed with the building committee. The committee decided they wanted to explore more options and see if we could get any more bids on the project. A Request for Proposal was put together, and we would like to see what other options are out there for lighting. However, the existing proposal needs to be amended to read Request for Bid not Proposal. This change is needed because of state statute with dollar threshold per Commissioner Welgraven & Heidi Winter.

It was moved by Commissioner Zins second by Commissioner Carlson to approve the amended advertising for bid on the racetrack lighting project, with bids to be submitted to the auditor's office by 8:30AM on November 18, 2025, and to be opened at 9:00AM. Bids will be brought to the county board meeting on November 25, 2025, at 9:00 AM to be considered for award. Motion passed.

4.5.1 2026-2029 CONTRACT WITH RIVER VALLEY FORENSIC SERVICES

In the past this contract was year to year. Dr. Kelly Mills requested a multiple-year contract going forward. Heath Landsman didn't see a reason not to proceed with a multi-year contract. The last page was amended to include signatures for both Murray County Chair and Vice-Chair signatures.

It was moved by Commissioner Meier, seconded by Commissioner Zins to approve the contract with River Valley Forensic Services for services of Dr. Kelly Mills, M.D. as Medical Examiner of Murray County for 2026-2029. Motion passed.

Further explained by Heath Landsman we have deputized corners locally, under Dr. Mills in Ramsey County. When there is an unwitnessed death law enforcement and deputized corners are onsite. They consult Dr. Mills to determine if an autopsy is necessary. If so, deceased will be transported to Dr. Mills for autopsy. A preliminary autopsy can usually be reviewed within 24 hours.

4.5.2 MOTOR POOL VEHICLE LEASE ADDITION

At the September 16, 2025 board meeting, the County Board approved the purchase of a late-model Chevrolet Silverado 1500 Crew Cab 4WD for the Environmental Services Department, in an amount not to exceed \$45,000, funded through Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) and Buffer accounts.

Since that approval, we have evaluated long-term fleet management options procuring the replacement vehicle through Enterprise Fleet Management, the County's current lessor, rather than through direct purchase. Leasing through Enterprise allows the County to, maintain consistency across the County's leased fleet, reduce upfront capital outlay, and standardize maintenance, warranty, and resale management under the existing fleet lease program.

The proposed replacement vehicle is a 2026 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 Crew Cab 4WD (or comparable) and could be added to the County Motor Pool Fleet under a 60-month open-end equity lease administered by Enterprise Fleet Management.

Nathan Wurpts reviewed an additional option regarding the purchase of a vehicle from DeBoer Motors very similar to leased vehicle through Enterprise. It has been difficult to locate and purchase a vehicle for the approved \$45,000. He also contacted Lockwood Motors regarding a couple of similar vehicles, but they have not returned a quote yet. The least cost to the county would be to purchase a more expensive vehicle vs. lease. In addition, we should have good resale value at the end of 5-years of light use.

It was moved by Commissioner Meier, seconded by Commissioner Carlson to rescind the original motion passed on September 16, 2025 authorizing the direct purchase of a motor pool vehicle not to exceed \$45,000.

It was moved by Commissioner Zins and seconded by Commissioner Carlson, to approve the direct purchase of an Environmental Services' vehicle not to exceed \$55,000. Again, to be funded annually from the Motor Pool Fund and AIS/Buffer accounts as applicable. Motion passed.

4.5.3 GENERATOR PM – INTERSTATE POWER SYSTEMS

Murray County has an MTU emergency generator located at the Sheriff's Office, which requires regular preventive maintenance to ensure reliability during power outages. The County previously had a Preventive Maintenance Agreement (PMA) with Interstate Power Systems, which expired in 2025. Interstate Power Systems has provided a new three-year PMA proposal covering the service years 2026 - 2028 for continued maintenance of the generator (Serial No. 335671-1-0811). The agreement includes one annual service per year consisting of oil and filter changes, fuel and coolant sampling, and complete inspection of belts, hoses, and battery condition. Services will be billed annually on a Net 30 basis. Any additional parts or repairs identified during the inspections will be billed separately with prior authorization. This maintenance contract ensures that the County's generator remains in reliable operating condition and continues to meet emergency power requirements. Every two weeks the generator goes through an exercise.

It was moved by Commissioner Zins and seconded by Commissioner Carlson to approve the three-year Preventive Maintenance Agreement (2026-2028) with Interstate Power Systems for generator maintenance at the Murray County Government Center, for an annual cost as outlined, with payments made upon completion of each year's service.

APPROVED ADDITION TO AGENDA: The AMC Conference is being held October 23rd at Nobles County in the Events Center in Worthington. The Murray County Board of Commissioners will be attending.

It was moved by Commissioner Meier, seconded by Commissioner Carlson for the Murray County Board of Commissioners, to attend the AMC Conference sponsored by Nobles County at the Events Center in Worthington, MN.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS - 09/28/2025 TO 10/11/2025

Woelber

10/02 Special Board

10/07 Regular Board

Meier

09/29 Personnel
09/30 Insurance
10/02 Special Board & ETA
10/07 Regular Board
10/09 Casey Jones

Carlson

10/02 Special Board
10/06 SW MN Private Industry @ Tru Shrimp Co in Balaton, included tour & education of company
10/07 Regular Board Mtg

Zins

10/02 Special Board
10/07 Regular Board

Welgraven

09/29 Personnel
09/30 Insurance
10/02 Special Board
10/07 Via Zoom - Regular Comm Mtg, unable participate due to notification requirements.
10/08 SRDC

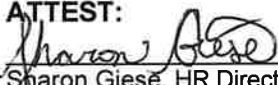
6. ADJOURNMENT

No other comments or agenda items were brought forward.

Meeting was adjourned at approx. 9:19 a.m. Board will proceed with work session after 5-minute recess.

7. WORK SESSION

ATTEST:


Sharon Giese, HR Director/Deputy Administrator


Dennis Welgraven, Board Chair