

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE MURRAY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MURRAY COUNTY  
GOVERNMENT CENTER - SLAYTON, MINNESOTA  
October 7, 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, and Roger Zins. Dennis Welgraven was via zoom but prevented from voting because of open meeting notification requirements. Also Present in person were General Assistant Renee Gleason and County Attorney Travis Smith.

**CALL TO ORDER 8:30 A.M.**

**2.1 AGENDA ADDITIONS**

- Jackie Meier will be adding a review, board approval, and authorization for Jackie Meier, Vice Chair to sign a Resignation Agreement with Carolyn McDonald.
- Heidi Winter referenced Item 4.1.4 9:20 Joint Drainage Authority Board for Murray-Lyon-Redwood Judicial Ditch 20 will be CANCELED. It will be rescheduled for a later date.
- Wellness Committee Update - An additional item needing to be added via Carl Nyquist.

**2.2 IDENTIFY ANY CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

**3.1 APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA**

**3.2 APPROVE MINUTES FROM 09/16/2025 AND 09/23/2025**

**3.3 COMMISSIONER WARRANTS** *(Item moved in agenda from 4.1.1 to 3.3 Commissioner Warrants.)*

It was moved by Roger Zins, seconded by Loy Woelber and passed that all claims as presented were approved for payment. The Chairman was authorized to sign the Audit List dated October 1, 2025 with fund totals as follows and warrants numbered 178191 through 178242:

|                      |              |
|----------------------|--------------|
| General Revenue Fund | \$78,144.19  |
| Road & Bridge        | 53,363.08    |
| EDA                  | 280.00       |
| Sunrise Terrace      | 312.40       |
| Total                | \$132,099.67 |

It was moved by Roger Zins, seconded by Loy Woelber, to Approve Consent Agenda, Minutes from 09/16/2025 and 09/23/2025, and Commissioner Warrants as stated. Motion Passed.

**4.1.2 RECONSTITUTE JOINT BOARD FOR MURRAY-LYON-REDWOOD  
JUDICIAL DITCH 20**

Murray County is part of a joint drainage system between Murray, Lyon and Redwood Counties for Judicial Ditch 20. Murray County has another Judicial Ditch 20 and it is actually named Judicial Ditch 20A. But for today's meeting we will be referring to it as Judicial Ditch 20.

The three counties are reconstituting the joint board and appointing members by district vs. by name because it has been a period of time since update and there has been a turnover of members. Requesting a resolution pass reconstituting joint drainage authority board and appointing Loy Woelber (Commissioner District 1) and Mark Carlson (Commissioner District 2) to serve on the joint boards.

It was moved by Roger Zins for resolution to reconstitute joint drainage authority board and appointing Loy Woelber (Commissioner District 1) and Mark Carlson (Commissioner District 2) to serve on the joint boards. Seconded by Mark Carlson.

**Roll Call Vote:**

Loy Woelber - Aye  
Mark Carlson - Aye  
Roger Zins - Aye  
Jackie Meier - Aye

Motion Passed. For the record, this is Resolution 2025-10-07-01.

**4.1.3 DITCH BILLS**

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

**Bolton & Menk**

|                 |       |                 |                                 |
|-----------------|-------|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| 21-706-6260     | CD 41 | 3,400.00        | CD 41 Improvement - Engineering |
| 21-681-6260     | JD 27 | 1,285.00        | JD 27 Partial Abdn-Engineering  |
| <b>Subtotal</b> |       | <b>4,685.00</b> |                                 |

**Nobles County Auditor-Treasurer (Cross County Ditch Expense)**

|                 |       |                 |                            |        |
|-----------------|-------|-----------------|----------------------------|--------|
| 21-689-6312     | **JCD | 51.91           | 2024 Shared Ditch Expenses | 97.72% |
| 21-811-6312     | JD 7  | 70.76           | 2024 Shared Ditch Expenses | 99.16% |
| 21-821-6312     | JD 11 | 384.51          | 2024 Shared Ditch Expenses | 40.00% |
| 21-823-6312     | JD 12 | 3,566.15        | 2024 Shared Ditch Expenses | 12.60% |
| 21-835-6312     | JD 17 | 1,920.76        | 2024 Shared Ditch Expenses | 2.60%  |
| 21-845-6312     | JD 20 | 277.89          | 2024 Shared Ditch Expenses | 95.46% |
| 21-859-6312     | JD 26 | 2,290.48        | 2024 Shared Ditch Expenses | 32.00% |
| <b>Subtotal</b> |       | <b>8,562.46</b> |                            |        |

\*\*New joint ditch. ROB approved 7/22/2025

**Rinke Noonan**

|                 |       |               |                            |
|-----------------|-------|---------------|----------------------------|
| 21-659-6260     | CD 11 | 352.50        | CD 11/State Hwy 30 - Legal |
| 21-868-6260     | Admin | 200.00        | 09/2025 Monthly Retainer   |
| <b>Subtotal</b> |       | <b>552.50</b> |                            |

**Total Ditch Bills 13,799.96**

**4.1.4 9:20 A.M. JOINT DRAINAGE AUTHORITY BOARD FOR MURRAY-LYON- REDWOOD JUDICIAL DITCH 20**

CANCELLED FOR TODAY It was planned to have a 9:20 meeting, Meeting Item 4.1.4 on this agenda where the joint board would pass a resolution setting parameters to collect special assessments for an improvement completed in 2022. Will be rescheduled per Heidi Winter.

## 4.2 LUKE SCHRYVERS - MURRAY COUNTY MEDICAL CENTER REPORT

### People

- Ashley Haskin, Clinic Manager – We welcomed Ashley to the clinic on Wednesday, September 10<sup>th</sup>. She has jumped right in and is starting to familiarize herself with the position and the staff here at MCMC. She is also working to complete her certification as a rural health clinic professional through the National Association of Rural Health Clinic Program.

### Growth

- Dr Koenig – Held her first clinic days on September 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. Overall, it was a good start. Dr Koenig was able to see patients right away in her first couple of days. She has also spent time updating the surgery department processes and working with staff to continue to build the service line. She will be back in the facility again on September 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Dr Kamnitz – Held her first clinic days on September 3<sup>rd</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. The first couple of days have gone well. Dr Kamnitz adds another option in general surgery and can perform a wide range of procedures. Looking forward to continuing to build her practice and the partnership between MCMC and Windom Area Health.

### Quality

- Sanford Performance Improvement Symposium – We will again be participating in the quality improvement symposium again this year. The event will be held in Sioux Falls on Wednesday, November 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Implement EF Program – We will be participating in the American Heart Association's 3-year special initiative to improve performance and quality of care and supports AHA's mission to be a relentless force for a world of long, healthier lives. The program comes with a \$45,000 incentive and will be led by Tracy Hansen and Amber Humphrey.

### Financials

- Availity – Effective September 15<sup>th</sup> we have officially changed clearing houses for our billing office. This is the organization that scrubs the files prior to them being sent to the final payors. This change is the result of continued analysis since the Change Healthcare Cyber-attack last year and in partnership with Sanford Health.
- Employee Benefits – We have had our initial renewal meetings with our insurance carriers. We are projecting an overall 10% increase for medical benefits in the coming year that will be shared between the hospital and the employee.
- Rural Health Transformation Program – Guidelines were released earlier this month around the program. Program goals prioritize innovation, workforce and technology. Continued funding will not be tied to performance or outcomes. States application deadline is November 5<sup>th</sup>.
- Request for Proposals for the design phase of the radiology project have been sent. The deadline for submissions was Friday September 26, 2025.

## 4.3 DITCH INSPECTION REPORT

A motion was made by Mark Carlson, seconded by Loy Woelber and carried that the Commissioners in conjunction with the appointed ditch inspector in and for the County of Murray, 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, held in the Commissioners Room of the Murray County Government Center, Slayton, Minnesota, in reference to Petition 2025-028, 2025-029, and 2025-030

#### **4.4.1 DMR WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP JPO CONTRACT FOR SERVICES**

Murray County has been the administrative lead for the entire Des Moines River Watershed One Plan planning and implementation process. Per the attached contract, Murray County is agreeing to continue to perform administrative and plan coordination services for the Partnership as directed by the Des Moines River Watershed Partnership Joint Powers Board and the Executive Board. These administrative and plan coordination services are reimbursed to the county.

The updates from the last contract were: no termination date whereas it was a 3- year agreement renewal, any changes or amended can be made as both parties agree, Difference with this contract vs. other years, there is no termination date and amended unless agreed upon by both parties and agreement to be signed by Murray County Vice-Chair Meier. This contract was submitted to County Attorney Smith for his review.

It was moved by Roger Zins, seconded by Mark Carlson and passed to approve and execute the Contract for Services for the Administrative and Plan Coordination Duties for the Des Moines River Watershed Partnership Joint Powers Organization authorize agreement to be signed by the Vice-Chair.

#### **4.5.1 RESCIND THE PRIOR MOTION AND OFFER A NEW MOTION FOR THE COUNTY ROAD SAFETY PLAN.**

On September 23, the board passed the motion to approve and enter into the agreement with MnDOT for Federal participation in the County Road Safety Plan. This required authorized signatures on the resolution and the agreement. When the resolution passed, those signors are not available now. Therefore, we need to rescind the previous and pass a resolution/motion to have the current authorized signatures on the resolution and agreement.

It was moved by Roger Zins and seconded by Loy Woelber to rescind the motion from September 23 to enter into the agreement with MnDOT for Federal participation in the County Road Safety Plan because the Resolution wasn't signed by the authorized County Employee. Motion Passed.

It was moved by Roger Zins and seconded by Mark Carlson to enter into the Agency Agreement between the Department of Transportation and Murray County for Federal Participation in the County Road Safety Plan. Motion Passed.

#### **4.5.2 DISCUSS SETTING THE DATE FOR THE FALL HIGHWAY ROAD TOUR.**

Set a date for the fall highway department road tour. We'll look at this year's construction projects as well as the upcoming road projects. Then also we review the the 5-Year Road Plan, discuss, followed with the tour. Then return and adopt the 5-Year Road Plan.

It was moved by Jackie Meier and seconded by Mark Carlson to set Friday, November 7th at 8:00 a.m. as the fall road tour date. Motion Passed.  
Randy arrange for transportation and Board will meet at the County Highway Dept.

#### **4.5.3 EXCAVATOR PURCHASE REQUEST**

The highway department's capital improvement equipment list for 2026 includes the purchase of a new excavator. John Deere has notified us that there are just a few slots left to order new equipment before a new model increases for 2026. If we wait for the new model, there will be a 4-5% price increase. Delivery of the new equipment would be in early 2026. This was included in the 2026 equipment purchase plan.

It was moved by Roger Zins and seconded by Mark Carlson to approve the purchase of a new 2025 John Deere 210P Excavator from RDO Equipment Co., including the trade-in of Murray County's unit 96 John Deere excavator, for a trade price of \$227,497.25. Motion Passed.

**Lake Shetek Dike Project Update:** They are really pushing to complete. Possibly bringing in some hot mix in next week. They will pave the trail portion first. They are pouring the concrete fishing platforms today and some approach panels as well

#### 4.6.1 EAST LAKE SARAH PARK DONATION

On September 25, 2025, the parks board gathered at East Lake Sarah Park for a regularly scheduled meeting. One of the discussion topics was the East Lake Sarah Park Entrance sign. Here are the minutes from the meeting...

Jennifer Hey, representing PALS (People Around Lake Sarah) Club stated they discussed refurbishing the East Lake Sarah County Park sign and landscaping. After discussing with Justin and Jean and finding out that the sign and flagpole are within the US Highway 59 right of way, it was determined that they would do the following: paint the wood frame around the sign and update the landscaping. The landscaping update will include reducing the rock bed size by removing the rocks, putting down a weed barrier with either new rock or use existing rock, with the existing bullets around the perimeter. Justin explained that a local 4H Club spruced up the sign and when he asked them about these improvements, they were good with the PALS Club taking over the maintenance of the area. Due to the time of year, Jennifer indicated that they would probably do the work in the spring.

Rae Storm and Jackie Meier of the Parks and Revisory Commission recommend the Murray County Board of Commissioners to accept the PALS Club donation of refurbishing the East Lake Sarah County Park sign and landscaping.

It was moved by Mark Carlson, second by Jackie Meier and approved to allow the PALS club to make improvements to the East Lake Sarah County Park entrance sign at no cost to Murray County.

#### 4.7.1 SUNRISE TERRACE PERGOLA

Recently, a new patio area was installed at Sunrise Terrace to enhance outdoor resident spaces. To provide shade and comfort during hot sunny days, we propose the addition of a pergola.

Two options were considered:

- Prefabricated Metal Pergola – \$10,425 (county responsible for installation)
- Built-In-Place Wooden Pergola – \$2,000 for labor (Oslund Construction) and \$4,355.64 for materials (Slayton Building Materials), totaling \$6,355.64.

|                                          |                 |
|------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Budget Summary for:</b>               | 55-890-6640     |
| <b>Budgeted in 2025:</b>                 | 40,000.00       |
| <b>2025 YTD Expenditures:</b>            | 6,750.00        |
| <b>Balance Available:</b>                | 33,250.00       |
| <b>Quoted Price</b>                      | <b>6,355.64</b> |
| <b>2025 Budget Balance (if Approved)</b> | 26,894.36       |

It was moved by Loy Woelber, and seconded by Roger Zins, to approve the construction of a built-in-place wooden pergola at Sunrise Terrace by Oslund Construction (labor) and Slayton Building Materials (materials), with funds to come from the 2025 Sunrise Terrace patio/pergola project budget 55-890-6640.

#### **4.8.1 RADIO BOARD ECB ALTERNATE**

The regional radio board noticed a hold in their by-laws. Each County has a RAC and ECB membership on board. I have been acting as the alternate for the ECB for the last 3 years. However, we do not have that in a formal board-approved motion. A recommended motion that Carl Nyquist, the Murray County Emergency Manager serves on the regional radio board as the alternate for the ECB.

It was moved by Roger Zins and seconded by Mark Carlson to approve Carl Nyquist, the Murray County Emergency Manager, who serves on the regional radio board as the alternate for the ECB. Motion passes.

#### **4.8.2 WELLNESS COMMITTEE UPDATE (AGENDA ADDITION)**

As approved earlier in the meeting, Carl Nyquist provided a Wellness Committee Update:

**10/29/2025 10:00 a.m. at 4-H Bldg** - Murray County Employee Vendor Show — Surrounding counties have sponsored these events and have been very positive. Currently we have 15 vendors committed to attending and several other tentative. These are bolstering wellness initiatives and the upcoming open enrollment process. Each employee will get a passport where each vendor they visit will check off. With passport checkoffs the employee has an opportunity win wellness prizes. We have \$30,000 in the Employee Wellness budget funded by the dividend received from our health insurance provider. It is required to be spent on wellness initiatives.

**Fruit Day** - In coordination with FFA each employee will receive an apple, orange, and pear.

**10/31/2025 Annual Halloween Open House** - Employees look forward to this event every year. Each department decorates open house table and is in costume. This provides an opportunity for kids and daycare in the area to come in and get a treat.

**10/31/2025 Annual Trunk or Treat at Murray County Hospital** - Carl will be attending on behalf of Murray County to pass out treats. This event runs from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

**Employee Potlucks** - We will be reviving these events. Allows for employee fellowship and cross-departmental communication.

#### **AGENDA ADDITION: RESIGNATION AGREEMENT WITH CAROLYN MCDONALD**

This agreement was submitted to the Board today. It was moved by Jackie Meier and seconded by Roger Zins to approve the resignation agreement for Carolyn McDonald as presented to the Board. Motion passed.

Regarding that same agreement, it was moved by Loy Wolber and seconded by Mark Carlson to authorize Jackie Meier to sign the resignation agreement for Carolyn McDonald. Motion passed.

## 5. Committee Reports

### Woelber

09/16 Commissioners Board  
09/23 Commissioners Board

### Carlson

09/16 Commissioners Board  
09/22 Local Water Mgmt. Plan Task Force  
09/23 Commissioners Board

### Zins

09/15 SMOC  
09/16 Commissioners Board  
09/18 Fair Wrap-up  
09/22 Western Metal Heath  
09/23 Commissioners Board  
09/24 Fair Board Advisory

### Meier

09/16 Commissioners Board  
09/17 SWHHS  
09/18 EDA Board, Fair Wrap-up  
09/23 Commissioners Board  
09/24 Hospital Board, Fair Board Advisory

**\*\*CALLED TO RECESS\*\***

**RECONVENED TO ADDRESS ITEMS 4.5 RANDY GROVES**

## 5. ADJOURNMENT

Jackie Meier adjourned the meeting.

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jackie Meier, Board Vice-Chair  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dennis Welgraven, Board Chair