PROCEEDINGS OF THE MURRAY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MURRAY COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER - SLAYTON, MINNESOTA
October 2, 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 were County Attorney, Travis Smith, County Board Attorney, John Edison, and General Assistant, Renee Gleason.

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

2.1 AGENDA ADDITIONS

The Board Chair asked if there were any additions to the agenda:

Dennis Welgraven read a statement: I have been advised by legal counsel that some of the items we have to discuss today should be discussed in Closed Session. He made a motion to amend the agenda to include a Closed Session for preliminary allegations against two employees of the county immediately before item 4.1 on the agenda.

Dennis Welgraven asked if there were any other additions to the agenda. There were no other additions. Seconded by Jackie Meier. Motion Passed.

2.1 IDENTIFY ANY CONFLICT OF INTEREST

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

3.1 EDA LOAN RECOMMENDATION - RANDY WYNIA

Applicant of Randy Wynia on his rental property.
It was moved by Jackie Meier to approve a loan in the amount of $21,006.51 from the Murray County EDA Revolving Loan Fund (18-880) to Randy Wynia to update rental property with terms of 2 percent interest for 10 years and a 6-month deferral on principal and interest. Seconded by Mark Carlson. Motion passed.

3.2 EDA LOAN RECOMMENTION – PAUL MALONE

Application for Paul Malone for a roof to his building.
It was moved by Loy Woelber to approve a loan in the amount of $30,000.00 from the Murray County EDA Revolving Loan Fund (18-886) to Paul Malone for commercial building roof repairs with terms of 2 percent interest for 5 years and a 6-month deferral on principal and interest. Seconded by Roger Zins. Motion passed.

3.3 EDA LOAD RECOMMENDATION - PATTI VAN ESSEN/BUFFALO RIDGE BAR

Applicant for Patti Van Essen for the Buffalo Ridge Bar for a new air conditioner.
It was moved by Mark Carlson to approve a loan in the amount of $4,618.05 from the Murray County EDA Revolving Loan Fund (18-880) to Patti Van Essen/Buffalo Ridge Bar for an A/C unit replacement, with terms of 2 percent interest for 10 years and a 6-month deferral on principal and interest. Seconded by Jackie Meier. Motion passed.

4.0 OTHER AGENDA ITEMS

Dennis Welgraven requested a motion to move into Closed Session. A motion was made by Mark Carlson to move to Closed Session. Seconded by Jackie Meier. Motion passed.

We are moving into closed session as permitted or required by Minnesota Statutes section 13D.05 to address items within the scope of the stated purpose of
this meeting and the agenda below.

DENNIS WELGRAVEN CALLED THE MEETING BACK TO ORDER.

Before moving to 4.1, Welgraven addressed the statuary requirement that board provide a summary of the evaluation is as follows: The board began discussion of County Administrators' performance in meeting of September 23, 2025. They elected to initiate an investigation to further review the issues discussed in closed session.

4.1 CONSIDERATION OF OPTION FOR OUTSIDE INVESTIGATOR FOR EMPLOYMENT INVESTIGATION AND APPROVAL OF SAME.

There were two options for investigators from John Edison, County Board Attorney. The firms considered were Wiley Riber Law and Flaherty and Hood, P.A.. Rates, travel time, and investigative processes were discussed at length.

It was moved by Roger Zins approve Flaherty and Hood as investigators for this process. Seconded by Jackie Meier. Motion Passed.

It was moved by Mark Carlson to authorize Dennis Welgraven to sign the Flaherty and Hood P.A. engagement letter. Seconded by Jackie Meier. Motion passed.

4.2 DISCUSSION RELATED TO HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR POSITION AND OFFICIAL ACTION REGARDING SAME, IF NECESSARY.

It was moved by Dennis Welgraven to approve Sharon Giese, Human Resources Director, request to return to work effective immediately. Seconded by Loy Woelber, Motion passed.

It was moved by Dennis Welgraven to authorize Dennis Welgraves and Mark Carlson to work with legal counsel to provide the board expectations for Mrs. Giese moving forward as discussed in closed session. Second, by Jackie Meier. Motion passed.

4.3 DISCUSSION REGARDING STEP 3 GRIEVANCE.

John Edison advised the Board would have want to have a plan for how we want to work with this pending grievance filed by the ASME related to a policy change the Board made with respect to holiday pay. This pending grievance is currently at Step 3, which rarely have reached that level in the past. The Board needs to decide the Step 3 representative is and who will be involved in the grievance response. If Step 3 is not resolved it would proceed to a mediation.

It was moved by Jackie Meier to appoint Dennis Welgraven as the representative to respond to Step 3 pending ASME grievance. Seconded by Mark Carlson. Motion passed.

Loy Woelber Motion to amend the previous motion to have both Dennis Welgraven and Roger Zins as representatives to respond to the Step 3 pending ASME grievance. Seconded by Mark Carlson. Amendment Motion passed.

Dennis Welgraven addressed the original motion as mended and called for a vote. Motion Passed.

4.4 CONSIDERATION OF OTHER ITEMS NECESSARY TO ENSURE CONTINUITY OF COUNTY OPERATIONS WHILE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR IS ON PAID ADMINISTRATIVE LEAVE, IF NECESSARY.

John Edison advised the Board this was placed on the agenda as a placeholder to again comply with the Open Meeting Laws for Special Meetings. If there are no other items that need immediate attention, then no other action needs to be taken.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Dennis Welgraven asked if there was other discussion. Dennis Welgraven adjourned the meeting.

ATTEST:

Jackie Meier

Jackie Meier, Board Vice-Chair

Dennis Welgraven, Board Chair