

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE MURRAY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MURRAY
COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER - SLAYTON, MINNESOTA
June 2, 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 Attorney Travis Smith and General Assistant Renee Gleason.

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

1.1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2.1. AGENDA ADDITIONS

Commissioner Welgraven requested two agenda items to be added to the agenda:

- **Midwest Power On Public Meetings (*added agenda item 5.A.*)**: These are public informational meetings with varying dates and times but notifying the public there may be a quorum of Commissioners attending these meetings at once. The three specific meetings mentioned were:
 - 06/02/2026 at Pipestone, 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
 - 06/04/2026 at Worthington, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
 - 06/04/2026 at Fulda, 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- **Murray County Medical Center BBQ 06/03/2026 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. (*added agenda item 5.B.*)**: This is a public social event and may be a quorum of Commissioners attending this event.

2.2. IDENTIFY ANY CONFLICT OF INTEREST

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

A motion was made by Commissioner Welgraven, seconded by Commissioner Woelber to approve today's agenda with the outlined additions for 06/02/2026 with no conflicts of interest.

3.1. APPROVE MINUTES FROM 05/26/2026

3.2. COMMISSIONER WARRANTS

Board Chair asked approval of Consent Agenda with the minutes of 05/26/2026 and commissioner warrants for today, unless there are any questions.

It was moved by Commissioner Meier, seconded by Commissioner Welgraven, and passed to approve meeting minutes of 05/26/2026 and the Commissioners' Warrants 180052 - 180087 in the amount of \$33,081.07 for 06/02/2026.

4.1.1. MCMC MONTHLY UPDATE

June County Commissioner Meeting
Tuesday, June 2, 2026
MCMC CEO Report



People

- Director of Nurses – We welcomed Courtney Bonnsetter into her new position in May. Courtney has been meeting with the other departments over the last couple of weeks and getting familiar with the facility systems. She is doing a great job, and we are excited to have her here at MCMC.

Quality

- Sanford Connect Day – Attended the meeting on May 13th. A good opportunity to network with other connect sites and to learn the new updates coming with EPIC and other Sanford initiatives.

Growth

- Dermatology Outreach Services – Continue to work on the credentialing process for Dr Ross. We are planning a late summer or early fall start to his clinic. He will be here 1 day per month.
- X-Ray Remodel Update – Project schedule is moving forward. We are scheduled for a pre-bid meeting on June 9, bid-opening on June 23rd, and board review/approval on June 24th. Estimated project start time would be in August.
- Surgery Equipment – Upgrade was completed in May. We are continuing to work on the integration piece into the EMR. The next phase will be the endoscopy equipment and the integration with the new equipment and EMR. We have a demo scheduled for June and will hopefully bring a purchase request during the June meeting.

Financials

- Materials/Purchasing Update – We will be transitioning to Infor from Lawson in our purchasing department. The facility will go live in August, and training is taking place now.
- Rural Health Transformation Program – Application was submitted on May 15th. We did request right up to the \$1.4 million that was eligible to each facility. We focused on 2 of the 5 main initiatives that we felt would have the biggest impact on our patients and communities; Community based preventative care and chronic disease management and invest in technology, infrastructure, and collaboration for financial viability. We are awaiting feedback from MDH.

Misc.

- Community BBQ – 75th Anniversary BBQ will take place on Wednesday, June 3rd from 5:00-7:00

Statistics

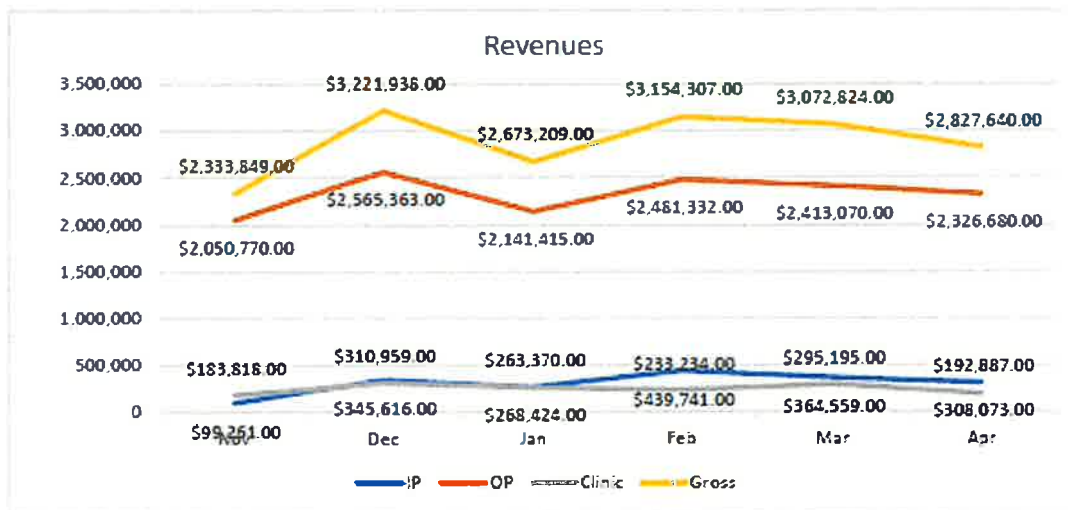
- Acute - 12 admissions for 42 total patient days. Compared to last April that was 4 less admissions and 14 less patient days. YTD shows 8 more admits and 33 more patient days
- Swing bed had 6 admits for 42 total patient days. Compared to last April that was 2 more admission and 24 more days. YTD, we have had 3 fewer admits and 18 less patient days
- Observation stays were at 9 patients compared to 12 last year. YTD are 8 less patients.
- Surgery procedures were at 54 for the month compared to 35 the previous year. YTD, we have done 44 more procedures.
- ER visits were 118, which was 13 less than last April. YTD we are down 32 ER visits
- Clinic visits were at 755. That is 45 less than last April. YTD, we remained down 176 visits.

Balance Sheet

- Our overall cash position increased by \$68,402 We currently have a total cash available of \$9,933,911
- We saw a decrease in patient receivables of \$233,220 and total receivables are at \$7,835,164
 - Net Patient Receivables (Amount we expect to collect) = \$4,108,036 or 52.4%
 - AR Days decreased by 3.9 days and currently sit at 74.7 days. Goal is to be under 50 days

Income Statement

- Gross revenue was \$2,827,639 & above budget by \$77,295
 - Hospital IP revenue below budget by \$72,489
 - Hospital OP revenue above budget by \$215,983
 - Clinic revenue below budget by \$66,198
- Contractual adjustments higher than budget by \$52,925
- Expenses are higher than budget by \$18,284
- EBIDA (Earnings before interest, depreciation, and amortization) = \$33,222
- For the month we had a net income equal to \$2,184. YTD, we have a net income of \$441,444



4.1.2. 2027 AMBULANCE AGREEMENTS

The ambulance agreements began in 2010 with townships and cities in the Murray County Primary Service Area. The funds that come from the agreements are held as assigned fund balance on the balance sheet for ambulance replacement in the future. The rate has not increased since the start of the agreements in 2010. We are proposing a 20% increase for 2027.

- Townships would increase to \$42 per section from the previous amount of \$35
- Cities would increase to \$12 per capita from the previous amount of \$10

It was moved by Commissioner Zins, seconded by Commissioner Woelber to send 2026 Ambulance Service Agreements to townships and cities with territory in the Murray County Ambulance Primary Service Area, further moving to approve 2027 Ambulance Agreement rates as follows:

- Townships: \$42 per section included in the Murray County Ambulance Primary Service Area.
- Cities: \$12.00 per capita based on most current Household Estimates from the Minnesota State Demographer

Commissioner Meier inquired about the seat she is currently holding on the MCMC Hospital Foundation Board. She wondered if a commissioner should permanently be seated on the board. Luke Schryvers stated as per MCMC Hospital Foundation bylaws, "one member of the hospital board should occupy a seat on the Hospital Foundation Board". It doesn't necessarily outline a need for that seat to be held by a commissioner.

4.2. LINCOLN PIPESTONE RURAL WATER SYSTEM (LPRW) JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT 2026

Ron Schramel, attorney for LPRW is requesting that the County Board adopt the attached Joint Powers Agreement ("JPA") for a construction project that LPRW started in October of 2025. This JPA is identical to the JPA the 10 counties approved in 2025 except the bond amount in the attached JPA is 9.8 million dollars rather than 9.9 million dollars which appears in the first JPA which was approved in 2025.

LPRW does not have the legal authority to issue bonds, therefore the bonds need to be issued by a County. In 2025 Lac qui Parle County issued 9.9 million dollars of general obligation bonds to help finance the construction of the first phase of this project. Even though Lac qui Parle County issued the bonds, LPRW will pay for the bonds because LPRW is the beneficiary of the bonds.

The following is a report prepared by LPRW's engineer (DGR Engineering) which shows the amount each county would pay if LPRW defaults on the bonds.

Jackson – 2%
 Lac qui Parle
 – 2.5%
 Lincoln –
 21.7%
 Lyon – 19.8%
 Murray – 3.3%
 Nobles – 16.5%
 Pipestone – 15.5%
 Redwood – 0.3%
 Rock – 2%
 Yellow Medicine – 16.40%
 Total - 100%

Even though Minnesota law requires the 10 Counties to pay the bonds if LPRW defaults, LPRW's Bond Attorney (Mia Thibodeau) is requiring all 10 counties to approve the attached JPA before the bonds can be issued. Travis Smith, County Attorney, has reviewed and approved the joint agreement.

It was moved by Commissioner Welgraven, seconded by Commissioner Zins to approve the 2026 Lincoln Pipestone Rural Water System (LPRW) Joint Power Agreement and for the Murray County Board Chair to sign said agreement.

4.3.1. DITCH BILLS

It was moved by Commissioner Zins, seconded by Commissioner 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	12,027.00	CD 41 Improvement - Engineering
	Subtotal	12,027.00	

Ryan West Excavating, Inc

21-789-6290	CD 87	4,205.50	#2026-012 Ok'd by T. Radke - <i>pending</i>
	Subtotal	4,205.50	

Rinke Noonan

21-667-6260	CD 20	533.50	CD 20 Repair - Legal
21-689-6260	CD 30	183.00	(M-N) Redetermination of Benefits-Group 4
21-809-6260	JD 5	61.00	(M-C) Redetermination of Benefits-Group 4
21-811-6260	JD 7	213.50	(M-N) Redetermination of Benefits-Group 4
21-829-6260	JD 14	533.50	JD 14 Repair - Legal
21-829-6260	JD 14	548.50	JD 14 Partial Abandonment
21-845-6260	JD 20	244.00	(M-N) Redetermination of Benefits-Group 4
21-853-6260	JD 22	122.00	(M-C) Redetermination of Benefits-Group 4
21-855-6260	JD 23	61.00	(M-C) Redetermination of Benefits-Group 4
21-857-6260	JD 24	61.00	(M-C) Redetermination of Benefits-Group 4
21-861-6260	JD 27	122.00	(M-L) Redetermination of Benefits-Group 4
21-863-6260	JD 28	61.00	(M-L-R) Redetermination of Benefits-Group 4
21-868-6260	Admin	200.00	04/2026 Monthly Retainer
	Subtotal	2,944.00	

Total Ditch Bills 19,176.50

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

Note: Travis Radke has approved the one "pending" from Ryan West Excavating.

4.4.1. NICKI OSS CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT

The Public Hearing was held by the Murray County Planning Commission on May 21, 2026 for this conditional use permit application:

Applicant: Nicki Oss

Property Location: Coded Lot 2, Forman Acres, Section 6, Murray Township, Murray County

Application: To construct and elevate a cabin in the flood fringe district of Lake Shetek with a filled stem wall in the Residential, Shoreland Overlay, and Floodplain Overlay Districts.

It was moved by Commissioner Zins, seconded by Commissioner Welgraven and passed to approve Conditional Use Permit #1438 for Nicki Oss to construct and elevate a cabin in the flood fringe district of Lake Shetek with a filled stem wall in the Residential, Shoreland Overlay, and Floodplain Overlay Districts, for Coded Lot 2, Forman Acres, Section 6, Murray Township, Murray County with the findings and two(2) special conditions as recommended by the Planning Commission.

4.4.2. LAKE SHETEK CAMPGROUND CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT

The Public Hearing was held by the Murray County Planning Commission on May 21, 2026, for this conditional use permit application:

Applicant: Lake Shetek Campground

Property Location: Tracts of land in the SW1/4, Section 28; in the NE1/4, Section 32; and in the NW1/4 NW1/4, Section 33, all in Shetek Township, Murray County.

Application: To expand an existing Planned Unit Development on a Natural Environment Lake in the Commercial, Shoreland Overlay, and Floodplain Overlay Districts.

At the public hearing several concerns were brought forth: ownership clarification, proximity to road, auto and pedestrian traffic. Upon a site visit, it was discovered that an existing site, Site 27, not one of the newly requested ones, is in violation. Jean Christoffels will be working with the property owner to rectify that violation. Most of these concerns were remedied during the hearing. This conditional use permit is to allow the owner to follow the variance that was originally approved in November of 2025, allowing them to exceed the total number of campsites allowed within the tiers.

Commissioner Zins, as part of the Planning & Zoning Commission, stated it was a straightforward request, with the exception of the requested variance, which was denied.

It was moved by Commissioner Meier, seconded by Commissioner Welgraven and passed to approve Conditional Use Permit #1440 for Lake Shetek Campground to expand an existing Planned Unit Development on a Natural Environment Lake in the Commercial, Shoreland Overlay, and Floodplain Overlay Districts for Tracts of land in the SW1/4, Section 28; in the NE1/4, Section 32; and in the NW1/4 NW1/4, Section 33, all in Shetek Township, Murray County with the findings and two (2) special conditions as recommended by the Planning Commission.

4.4.3. THE TOWERS, LLC CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT

The Public Hearing was held by the Murray County Planning Commission on May 21, 2026, for this conditional use permit application:

Applicant The Towers, LLC

Property Location: S1/2 SE1/4, Section 36, Belfast Township, Murray County

Application: To erect a telecommunications tower in the Agriculture District

At the public hearing several concerns were brought forth: ice deflection, reduced property values, view shed from neighboring landowners, health issues from EMF, flashing lights from the tower itself, guy wires, wildlife and bird migration, long-term maintenance, decommissioning of the structure, distance from nearby residences, safety concerns for EMS with gaps of service, and FTC Act. Most of these issues were addressed during the public hearing with other governing regulations in place.

After the Planning Commission Meeting, Jean Christoffels confirmed with the assessor's office the property owner's assessed valuation is not reduced because of nearby towers.

Again, after the Planning Commissioner Meeting Jean Chrisotoffels proceeded to investigate tower height and setback requirements compared to other installed towers in the county. Taking an average, this tower should be 1300 ft. from the nearest residence. It is currently planned at 435 ft from the nearest residence. This is information that was not in front of the Planning Commission at the public hearing. However, with the information, regulations, and current setback requirements being met at the time of the meeting, the Planning and Zoning Commission recommends approval of the Conditional Use Permit with (2) special conditions and the findings.

Since the time of the public hearing, information has been sent directly to each of the Board of Commissioners from area neighbors. Each of the Commissioners proceeded to provide an outline of information received. Board Chair Carlson reinforced the fact that this meeting cannot be turned into a public hearing, but expressed appreciation of those in attendance. The conditional use applicant, The Tower, LLC, was allowed to reiterate that they met or exceeded all the setbacks and ordinance requirements presented. Board Chair interrupted and again reiterated, this meeting cannot be turned into a public hearing with testimony from either side.

Travis Smith, County Attorney, provided guidance to the Board of Commissioners on the requirements for a 60-day Rule Extension and remanding this to the Planning and Zoning Commission for further consideration.

A motion was provided by Commissioner Carlson, seconded by Commissioner Welgraven and passed to approve the 60-day Rule Extension.

60-Day Rule Extension

Murray County is hereby extending the 60-day decision period as allowed by Minnesota Statutes §15.99 3(f), relative to The Towers LLC's application for a conditional use permit #1439 (CUP) to erect a telecommunications tower in the Agriculture District in the S1/2 SE1/4, Section 36, Belfast Township, Murray County.

The County received a complete application for the CUP on April 29, 2026. A public hearing was held for the CUP on May 21, 2026, by the Murray County Planning Commission (Commission), which made a recommendation for approval with two special conditions to the Murray County Board of Commissioners (Board). Due to new information presented to the Board that was not presented to the Commission, the Board hereby extends the decision timeline by an additional 60-days to:

1. Allow new information to be presented to and considered by the Commission;
2. Allow for the gathering and researching of additional information; and
3. Allow the Murray County Zoning/Environmental Administrator to prepare draft findings based on the new discussion and information;

The matter will be considered again by the Commission at a future date to be scheduled and noticed accordance with state law and with Murray County Zoning Ordinance, with any recommended disposition of the CUP presented to the Murray County Board of Commissioners for final approval, within the time limitations of the extension as set forth in Minnesota Statutes §15.99.

This 2nd day of June, 2026



Mark Carlson, Chair Murray County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:



Renee Gleason, Murray County General Assistant

4.5.1. WINTER STORAGE BIDS

For many years, we have been renting out the creative arts building and south commercial buildings at the fairgrounds for winter storage. The current 2-year contract has expired and needs to go out for bids again.

It was moved by Commissioner Woelber, second by Commissioner Welgraven, and passed to go out for bids on renting the creative arts building and south commercial building for winter storage for a 2-year period and have bids opened at the regular board meeting on June 23, 2026 at 9:30 A.M.

4.5.2. TREE PURCHASE

At Swenson County Park, we removed 18 evergreens this past winter. The area has been cleaned up and seeded. Once the grass fills in, we would like to plant 18 new evergreens in this area to replace the ones that were taken down. \$6,000 was budgeted. The cost from Greenwood Nursery came in at \$6,300. Heidi Winter confirmed there are excess funds to cover the additional overage from budget. These are potted 5-6 ft tall evergreens.

It was moved by Commissioner Zins, seconded by Commissioner Meier, and passed to purchase and plant 18 Black Hills Spruce at Swenson Park from Greenwood Nursery to be paid from account 01-521-524-0000-6302.

4.6.1. MNHS LEGACY GRANT APPLICATION

Museums Director Nick Demuth requested permission to apply for a MNHS Legacy Grant in the amount of \$177,408 to rehab the windows on the Dinehart Holt House. This is the third time applying for this grant. It was clarified that one of the applications included some stairwell repairs. The cost was significantly higher at that time. However, the grant was not approved at that time.

It was moved by Commissioner Meier, seconded by Commissioner Woelber, and passed to approve the application submittal for MNHS Legacy Grant in the amount of \$177,408.00 to rehab the windows on the Dinehart Holt House.

4.7.1. ANNUAL STATE BOAT AND WATER GRANT

This grant is awarded based on a formula calculated by the state. Believe this grant is slightly higher than other years. We are required to submit quarterly reports. Sheriff Landsman stated we have been one officer short because of military leave, but we are gearing up to start patrolling.

A motion was made by Commissioner Zins, seconded by Commissioner Woelber, and passed to approve the 2026/2027 State of Minnesota Boat and Water Grant in the amount of \$4,863.00, and authorize the Sheriff to sign the agreement on behalf of the county.

4.8.1. LONG-TERM COUNTY FACILITY PLANNING

The Building Committee has ongoing discussions regarding long-term County facility and property planning, including future space needs, potential facility improvements, and possible property utilization opportunities. The Building Committee feels this professional consultation would provide a more comprehensive view of what future realistic needs are. The intent is to begin discussion with the Board regarding the potential scope of services and to receive direction on whether we should proceed with refining and soliciting proposals for professional architectural/planning/consulting services.

Key areas anticipated to be evaluated through this planning process may include facility security, life safety, storage and space utilization, operational efficiency, deferred maintenance considerations, accessibility, and overall code compliance. This discussion and consultation should help guide future decision-making related to County-owned properties and long-term capital planning efforts.

A motion was made by Commissioner Carlson, seconded by Commissioner Meier, and passed to approve the development and solicitation of proposals for architectural/planning services related to long-term County facility planning.

4. COMMITTEE REPORTS 05/10 - 05/23/2026

Meier

05/14 Casey Jones
05/19 Commissioners
05/20 SWHHS
05/21 EDA / Parks and Recreation

Welgraven

05/14 SRDC
05/19 Commissioner
05/20 SWHHS Personnel / Board
05/21 EDA

Zins

05/12 Personnel
05/14 Personnel
05/18 SMOC
05/19 Commissioner
05/21 Planning Commission

Woelber

05/11 SAWS
05/19 Commissioner

Carlson

05/11 SAWS
05/12 Personnel
05/14 Casey Jones / Personnel
05/19 Commissioner

Board Chair proceeded to outline the two additional agenda items as stated above.

BOARD CHAIR ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT APPROXIMATELY 9:22 A.M.

ATTEST:


Sharon Giese, County Coordinator


Mark Carlson, Board Chair