

REGULAR SESSION OF THE MOWER COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

May 27, 2025

The Mower County Board of Commissioners in and for the County of Mower, Minnesota, met in Regular Session May 27, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. at the Government Center in Austin, Minnesota.

All members present, viz: Chair Polly Glynn, Vice-Chair Dan Sparks, Jerry Reinartz, Mike Ankeny and John Mueller. Also in attendance were County Administrator Matthew Verdick and County Attorney Kristen Nelsen.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion made by Commissioner Mueller, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Sparks, to approve the consent agenda as presented:

1. Approve Minutes of May 13, 2025
2. Acknowledge Receipt of Electronic Fund Transfer Payment Reports
3. Resolution to approve MN Lawful Gambling Exempt Permit application of LeRoy Ostrander Clay Target Team, Inc.

Date: May 27, 2025

Res. #25-25

RESOLUTION

On motion of Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Sparks, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held May 27, 2025 at the Government Center, Austin, Minnesota.

WHEREAS, on May 27, 2025 the LeRoy Ostrander Clay Target Team, Inc. presented for approval a Minnesota Lawful Gambling LG220 Exempt Permit Application for gambling to be conducted at LeRoy Rod & Gun Club located at 10293 State Hwy 56, LeRoy Township, MN on August 2, 2025.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Mower County Board of Commissioners hereby approves LeRoy Ostrander Clay Target Team, Inc.'s LG220 Minnesota Lawful Gambling Exempt Permit Application for gambling at LeRoy Rod & Gun Club located at 10293 State Hwy 56, LeRoy Township, MN on August 2, 2025.

Passed and adopted this 27th day of May, 2025.

4. Approve Prime Stein, LLC d/b/a Lansing Corners' full on sale and Sunday liquor license renewal for 7/1/25 – 6/30/25

5. Approve Patriot Travel Plaza, LLC tobacco license renewal for 7/1/25 – 6/30/25
- Motion carried.

The Board acknowledged the retirement of Child Support Officer Margaret Madrigal who served Mower County for 17 years. Ms. Madrigal was unable to attend.

Emergency Manager Amy Bramwell provided the Board with a department update. Ms. Bramwell's report indicated there were two disasters last year. The first was in May which was mainly utility in nature. The second was the June rain/flooding event. The All Hazard Mitigation Plan is reviewed and updated every five years and it is currently going through that process with State involvement this time for uniformity across cities and counties state-wide. The grant funded project for digital school mapping is nearing completion. Once mapped, schools will be responsible to maintain and update the map data, as necessary. Public Health will be receiving emergency shelter training this year. The department participated in a full-scale disaster scenario table-top training with Mayo. There were two legislative bills presented to increase emergency management funding to bridge the gap radar / weather gap that failed.

Motion made by Commissioner Sparks, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, to approve the following Commissioner warrants for payment:

<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Baudoin Oil Company	20,310.30	MCHS SE Minnesota	5,882.75
Beckleys	2,168.50	Minnesota Counties Computer Cooperative	15,406.87
CDW Government	4,132.81	Plan It Software LLC	2,625.00
Diamond Drugs, Inc.	2,996.89	RDO Equipment Co.	3,914.29
Everett Law, L.L.C.	2,623.68	Rohl Electric and Services LLC	4,341.00
Healthiest You	4,350.00	Schmidt Goodman Office Products Inc.	3,365.32
Hiller Commercial Floors	2,115.60	Sheriff Houston County	13,604.17
Institute for Environmental Assessment	6,534.34	Sign Solutions USA	3,538.58
Jones Haugh & Smith Inc	52,562.30	Tri-County Community Corrections	8,802.80
Joseph Company, Inc/The	7,500.00	Ziegler, Inc	5,102.94
Leadership Development Resources	2,517.00	54 Payments less than 2000	31,797.80
LSQ Funding Group, LLC	4,918.65	Final Total:	211,111.59

Motion carried.

Austin Convention & Visitor Bureau Director Nancy Schnable provided an annual update to the Board. Chris P. Bacon is the current mascot. Ms. Schnable highlighted from the annual report the successful junior golf tournament hosted here and the Wright Here, Right Now new podcast that is gaining in popularity. In the Marvelous Mower County visitor's guide she noted the new Chert Quarry that will be opening soon and shared some TV commercials that highlight different Mower County communities.

Engineer Mitch Wenum presented two items for County Board review and approval.

Date: May 27, 2025

Res. #26-25

RESOLUTION

On motion of Commissioner Reinartz, seconded by Commissioner Ankeny, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held May 27, 2025 at the Government Center, Austin, Minnesota.

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute 162.08, Subd 4 (d), provides that accumulated balances in excess of two years of municipal account apportionments may be spent on projects located outside of municipalities under 5000 population when approved solely by Resolution of the County Board.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Commissioner of Transportation transfer all funds in excess of two years apportionment into the Regular Construction Account.

Passed and adopted this 27th day of May, 2025.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Sparks, to accept the Ziegler CAT quote for the purchase of 2025 Caterpillar 265 Compact Track Skid Loader (\$93,174.21) and declare the 2020 259D3Ultra Caterpillar SN CW904402 as surplus property for a (\$35,000) value trade-in on the new loader. (*Net purchase price \$58,174.21*) Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Sparks, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, to terminate contract with CivicPlus for the Municode software to codify the Mower County Code of the County / Ordinances effective April 22, 2025. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Mueller, to accept a \$224 donation from the students of Pacelli Schools for the Recycling program. Motion carried.

Fiscal Services Supervisor Trisha Blaser presented Health & Human Services accounts payable for approval in the amount of \$255,328.73 noting expected reimbursement is \$163,458.01.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, to approve the Health & Human Services accounts payable totaling \$255,328.73. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Mueller, seconded by Commissioner Ankeny, to approve the proposal of FR Secure for certain IT services for 4-years (\$195,700) subject to review and approval of the County Attorney. Motion carried.

The Board recessed at 10:01 a.m. for the purpose of a public hearing.

The Chair called the Public Hearing to order at 10:01 a.m. regarding a Housing Tax Abatement application of Joseph Peine for the new construction of a single-family home located at Lot 9, Block 1 Seven Springs 3rd Subdivision, Lansing Township, MN (PIN 08.511.0090).

County Administrator Matthew Verdick reviewed the application and recommended approval.

The Applicant Joseph Peine was not present. No one spoke for or against the Peine housing tax abatement application.

The Chair closed the Public Hearing at 10:03 a.m. regarding the Joseph Peine Housing Tax Abatement application.

The Chair called the Public Hearing to order at 10:03 a.m. regarding a Housing Tax Abatement application of Nicholas Dobbs for the new construction of a single-family replacement home located W30RDS S30RDS E1/2 SW1/4 5.63AC, Section 20, Dexter Township, MN (PIN 05.020.0020).

County Administrator Matthew Verdick reviewed the application and recommended approval.

Applicant Jasmine Dobbs was present virtually and indicated to be in favor of their application for approval. No one else spoke for or against the Dobbs housing tax abatement application.

The Chair closed the Public Hearing at 10:04 a.m. regarding the Nicholas Dobbs Housing Tax Abatement application.

The County Board reconvened its regular session at 10:04 a.m.

Date: May 27, 2025

Res. #27-25

**RESOLUTION APPROVING TAX ABATEMENT
FOR CERTAIN PROPERTY PURSUANT TO MINN. STAT. 469.1813**

On motion of Commissioner Mueller, seconded by Commissioner Sparks, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held May 27, 2025 at the Government Center, Austin, Minnesota.

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute 469.1813 gives authority to the County of Mower to grant an abatement of property taxes imposed by the County if certain criteria are met; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the statutory requirements, Mower County has adopted the Tax Abatement Policy for new construction of Single and Multi-family homes which includes criteria which must be met before an abatement of taxes will be granted; and

WHEREAS, Joseph Peine is the owner of certain property within Mower County, legally described as follows:

Lot 009 Block 001 Seven Springs 3rd Subdivision, Lansing Township, MN (PIN: 08.511.0090)

WHEREAS, Joseph Peine has made application to Mower County for the abatement of taxes as to the above-described parcel; and

WHEREAS, Notice having been duly given, a public hearing was held on May 27, 2025 before the Mower County Board of Commissioners, on said application.

WHEREAS, Joseph Peine has met the statutory requirements outlined under Minnesota Statute 469.1813 Subdivision 1(1) and Subdivision 2(i) as well as Mower County's criteria for tax abatement;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF MOWER COUNTY, MINNESOTA:

1. Mower County does, hereby grant an abatement of Mower County's share of real estate taxes upon the above-described parcel for the construction of the single-family home.
2. The tax abatement will be for no more than five years commencing, in the tax year the property realizes a value increase over original value due to construction of the housing project. Partially constructed housing may result in an abatement in the first abatement year that may be significantly less than the following years. This will still be considered one of the five years of eligible abatement. In the event construction has not commenced within one year of approval, the abatement is eliminated and the property owner will need to reapply in accordance with this policy.
3. The County shall provide the awarded abatement payment following payment of due real estate taxes annually. One single payment shall be made to the owner of record at the time of the payment, by December 30th of that calendar year.
4. The real estate taxes to be abated shall be for up to the full amount of the real estate taxes collected due to the added tax base of the newly constructed housing/home annually. The current value of the property is not eligible for the abatement, will not be abated as part of this program and is further defined as the "original value." Any eligible abatement years are calculated on the tax increase due to a value increase over the original value.

Passed and approved this 27th day of May, 2025.

Date: May 27, 2025

Res. #28-25

**RESOLUTION APPROVING TAX ABATEMENT
FOR CERTAIN PROPERTY PURSUANT TO MINN. STAT. 469.1813**

On motion of Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held May 27, 2025 at the Government Center, Austin, Minnesota.

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute 469.1813 gives authority to the County of Mower to grant an abatement of property taxes imposed by the County if certain criteria are met; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the statutory requirements, Mower County has adopted the Tax Abatement Policy for new construction of Single and Multi-family homes which includes criteria which must be met before an abatement of taxes will be granted; and

WHEREAS, Nicholas Dobbs is the owner of certain property within Mower County, legally described as follows:

W30RDS S30RDS E1/2 SW1/4 5.63AC, Section 20, Dexter Township, MN (PIN 05.020.0020)

WHEREAS, Nicholas & Jasmine Dobbs have made application to Mower County for the abatement of taxes as to the above-described parcel; and

WHEREAS, Notice having been duly given, a public hearing was held on May 27, 2025 before the Mower County Board of Commissioners, on said application.

WHEREAS, Nicholas & Jasmine Dobbs have met the statutory requirements outlined under Minnesota Statute 469.1813 Subdivision 1(1) and Subdivision 2(i) as well as Mower County's criteria for tax abatement;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF MOWER COUNTY, MINNESOTA:

1. Mower County does, hereby grant an abatement of Mower County's share of real estate taxes upon the above-described parcel for the construction of the single-family replacement home.
2. The tax abatement will be for no more than five years commencing, in the tax year the property realizes a value increase over original value due to construction of the housing project. Partially constructed housing may result in an abatement in the first abatement year that may be significantly less than the following years. This will still be considered one of the five years of eligible abatement. In the event construction has not commenced within one year of approval, the abatement is eliminated and the property owner will need to reapply in accordance with this policy.
3. The County shall provide the awarded abatement payment following payment of due real estate taxes annually. One single payment shall be made to the owner of record at the time of the payment, by December 30th of that calendar year.
4. The real estate taxes to be abated shall be for up to the full amount of the real estate taxes collected due to the added tax base of the newly constructed housing/home annually. The current value of the property is not eligible for the abatement, will not be abated as part of this program and is further defined as the "original value." Any eligible abatement years are calculated on the tax increase due to a value increase over the original value.

Passed and approved this 27th day of May, 2025.

Motion made by Commissioner Mueller, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, to award the Category 1 Mechanical for Boiler/Switchgear Project to the low bidder Valor Mechanical, Inc. in the amount of \$652,500. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, to award the Category 2 Electrical for Boiler/Switchgear Project to the low bidder Premier Electrical Corporation in the amount of \$363,378. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Reinartz, seconded by Commissioner Sparks, to approve entering into 2025 preferred vendor contracts with Joseph Co for carpentry services, Rohl Electric for electrical services, Newline Mechanical for plumbing services, Harty

COMMISSIONERS' RECORD MOWER COUNTY, MINNESOTA

Mechanical for HVAC Services, Hiller Commercial Floors for flooring and Fox Electric for fire alarm testing based on the low quotes received for each type of service. Motion carried.

Human Resources Director Kris Kohn presented two items on behalf of the Personnel Committee for the Board's review and consideration.

Motion made by Commissioner Mueller, seconded by Commissioner Ankeny, to approve creating the Sentence to Service (STS) Crew Leader position description (B21) and authorize the state's STS program position currently funded 75% county / 25% state to be a full 1 FTE county position funded 100% by the county due to state funding cuts and the value of the program to the county. Motion carried.

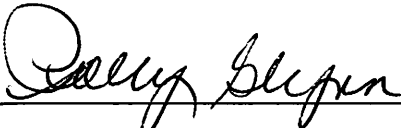
Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, to approve effective May 19, 2025 the reclassification of the current Lead Mechanic position (B24) to a new Fleet Services Supervisor position (C41). Motion carried. *(The Lead Mechanic position description will be retained for potential future use).*

Under Committee Reports Commissioner Ankeny reported that on 5/21 he attended the Joint City-County meeting and there was some discussion regarding the old Herald site and he attended a Personnel Committee meeting today prior to Board. Commissioner Reinartz reported that on 5/22 he attended a Sr. Center meeting with budget discussion and 50th anniversary discussions. Commissioner Sparks reported that on 5/21 he attended a partial legislation end of season session noting discussions indicate property tax burden switching to counties and still attempting to address Health & Human Services support. Commissioner Sparks also attended the Personnel Committee meeting today prior to Board. Commissioner Mueller reported that on 5/15 and on 5/22 he attended Finance Committee meetings where the committee is meeting with departments regarding budgets. Commissioner Glynn reported that on 5/21 she attended the Joint City-County meeting and on 5/22 she attended Finance Committee.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 10:33 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for June 3, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.

THE MOWER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

BY: _____



Chairperson

Attest:

By: _____


Clerk/Administrator