

REGULAR SESSION OF THE MOWER COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

January 14, 2025

The Mower County Board of Commissioners in and for the County of Mower, Minnesota, met in Regular Session January 14, 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 Attorney Kristen Nelsen and County Administrator Trish Harren Gjersvik.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Mueller, to approve the agenda adding a closed session pursuant to Minnesota Statute 13D.05 subdivision 2(b) regarding potential litigation matters. Motion carried. (NOTE for the record: typographical error on the agenda for the CUP public hearing: the hearing is on CUP #989 and not #979).

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

1. Approve Minutes of December 16 Budget & Levy Hearing, December 17 and December 30 Board meetings and 1/7/25 Annual Meeting Minutes
2. Appoint Teresa Slowinski as adult member to the Mower County Extension Committee for a term from 1/14/25-12/31/27

Motion carried.

Sentence to Serve Crew Leader Matthew Ziebell provided the Board with a Sentence to Serve program update with the support of Department of Corrections Supervisor Holly VanPelt. Mr. Ziebell reported that the program provides assistance to the County, State, local governments and non-profit organizations performing a variety of tasks from painting hydrants and curbs, clearing brush from trails, snow removal and lawn mowing, clean-outs of foreclosed properties, etc. In addition, Mr. Ziebell has been certified to teach Mental Health First Aid training and has assisted in training 106 persons in 2024.

The Board recessed at 9:19 a.m. for the purpose of the Health & Human Services Board.

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES BOARD:

Motion made by Commissioner Mueller, seconded by Commissioner Sparks, to approve the Health & Human Services accounts payable totaling \$211,469.76 Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, to approve the Southeast Adult Mental Health Initiative (SE AMHI) (*formerly CREST*) compact between the group directors and the regional management team. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Mueller, seconded by Commissioner Sparks, to approve Respite Care Services Grant effective 1/1/2025-06/30/2027 in the total amount of \$47,732. Motion Carried.

Health & Human Services Community Health Educator Allison Scott provided the Board with an H5N1 (avian flu) update. The flu is wide-spread even in the states of Alaska and Hawaii. Currently there are no reported cases in Mower County, but some reported cases in neighboring counties, nothing reported since July in Minnesota. There have been some confirmed cases in humans but none in Minnesota. The goal of the department is to keep the public informed of the potential health risks and how to be prepared.

Health & Human Services Director Crystal Peterson provided the Board with a Mower County Mentoring Program update. Austin Aspires took the lead initially but due to funding cuts is unable to continue running the mentoring program beyond 2024. Mower County has been working with Austin Aspires to revitalize this program. Health & Human Services would like to see this mental health support program continue and use \$20,000 of the ARPA funds ear-marked for children's mental health to support the mentoring program in 2025. The focus will be on 5th graders in Austin and Lyle schools. In 2024 5 children were matched with a mentee in 2024. The goal is to increase that number to 25 in 2025.

Motion made by Commissioner Sparks, seconded by Commissioner Ankeny, to approve the Social Service Actions. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, to approve the Purchase of Service Agreements renewal agreements effective 1/1/25 – 12/31/25 for the following services:

Case Management: Thomas Allen, Inc.

Family Services/Helping Homes & Parent Education Services: Parenting Resource Center, Inc.

Mental Health: LGC Services, LLC dba Quality Case Management (The Bridge)

Semi Independent Living Services (SILS): REM Woodvale, Inc.

Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Mueller, seconded by Commissioner Sparks, to adjourn the Health & Human Services Board meeting at 9:44 a.m. Motion carried.

COUNTY BOARD

The Regular Session of the Board was reconvened at 9:45 a.m. for regular business items.

Shannon Elkin, Executive President of Mower Housing & Redevelopment Authority (HRA) provided a housing program update. The authority works with five government programs and has eight apartment complexes and two duplex housing units. The Mower

Housing & Redevelopment Authority is preparing to convert its 28 units of public housing from the public housing program to a voucher program which is a more stable funding platform. Residents pay a percentage of their income to reside in the subsidized housing units. The Mower HRA is requesting a letter of support from the County as part of the conversion process which will take about a year.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, to approve a Letter of Support to support the Mower County Housing & Redevelopment Authority submission of a Disposition Application of 14 units at Northside Apartments with one duplex and 10 units at Golden Terrace Apartments and one duplex, allowing the Mower County Housing Authority to utilize the Section 18 program to convert these 28 units of Public Housing from the Public Housing program to a voucher program platform. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Sparks, seconded by Commissioner Mueller, to approve the commissioner warrants for payment:

<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
AMI Imaging Systems Inc	57,985.00	Jaytech Inc	2,016.00
Association Of Minnesota Counties	5,500.00	MEI Total Elevator Solutions	2,068.54
Austin Aspires	20,000.00	Midwest Monitoring & Surveillance	3,684.25
Austin Automotive LLC	2,942.16	Mower Soil & Water Conservation District	7,036.08
Austin Community Charitable Fund	12,254.63	North Risk Partners LLC	2,916.66
CDW Government	50,114.73	Rural Minnesota Energy Board	3,000.00
City Of Austin	8,970.72	SEMNECB	9,000.00
Consolidated Correctional Foodservice	20,629.90	SEMVCET	8,114.92
Dave Lucas Consulting	4,025.00	Southwest MN State University	2,165.82
Dell Marketing L P	12,057.35	Thomson Reuters-West Payment Center	2,193.36
Department Of Corrections	15,105.00	True North Psychology & Consulting LLC	2,340.00
Fjetland/Tara	4,141.80	Village Ranch Inc	6,853.56
Freeborn County Co-Operative Oil Co.	9,544.15	Ziegler, Inc	4,261.10
Healthiest You	4,325.00	44 Payments less than 2000	16,627.45
		Final Total:	299,873.18

Motion carried.

Date: January 14, 2025

Res. #06-25

RESOLUTION

On motion of Commissioner Mueller, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held January 14, 2025 at the Government Center, Austin, Minnesota.

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute 375.162 allows for imprest cash funds and Minnesota Statute 375.45 allows for change funds, and,

WHEREAS, the Mower County Finance Director has reviewed all departmental needs and requests for said funds and found them valid,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the following departmental change and imprest funds be established or re-established effective January 14, 2025:

Change Funds

Treasurer	\$ 1,000.00
Recorder	100.00
LEC	100.00
Health & Human Services	100.00
Public Works	30.00
Recycling	100.00

Petty Cash Funds

Health & Human Services	\$ 300.00
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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all previous approvals for change or petty cash funds be repealed and replaced with the amounts in this resolution.

Passed and approved this 14th day of January, 2025.

The Board recessed at 9:59 a.m. for the purpose of a public hearing.

The Chair called the Public Hearing to order at 10:00 a.m. in regard to CUP #989, Cory and Melissa Carroll, request for dog kennel, Section 6 Red Rock Township.

Valerie Sheedy, Assistant Public Works Director, reviewed the permit and Planning Commission recommendations. The Planning Commission recommends denial. The applicants have submitted a letter requesting that CUP #989 be tabled to address the concerns brought forward by the Planning Commission to try and reach a resolution.

The Petitioner Cory Carroll was present and spoke on his own behalf affirming his request that CUP #989 be tabled so that discussions can take place to reach a resolution concerning their rescue operation. No one else spoke for or against CUP #989.

The Chair closed the Public Hearing at 10:09 a.m. in regard to CUP #989 of Cory and Melissa Carroll.

The County Board reconvened its regular session at 10:09 a.m.

Motion made by Commissioner Mueller, seconded by Commissioner Ankeny, to table CUP #989 of Cory and Melissa Carroll's request for dog kennel in Section 6 Red Rock Township for further review and recommendation from the Planning Commission. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Mueller, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, to accept the safe and secure courthouse grant \$5500. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Sparks, to approve the 2001 Ford F350 Super Duty in the Sheriff's office as surplus property for disposal. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Reinartz, seconded by Commissioner Sparks, to approve 1 Glock Model 45 Pistol in the Sheriff's office as surplus property for vendor credit at Coordes Guns in Lansing, MN. Motion carried.

Sheriff Steve Sandvik reported that in accordance with Minnesota Statute 626.8473 and 13.825 an audit was performed by a private firm of the Mower County Sheriff's Office body-worn cameras for a period from November 8, 2022 through October 29, 2024. The auditor's opinion stated that the Mower County Sheriff's Office Body Worn Camera policy and program meets or exceeds the requirements outlined in statute.

Motion made by Commissioner Mueller, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, to accept the 2024 body-worn camera audit – executive summary report. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Sparks, to set the project letting date to February 20, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. at the office of Public Works and awarded at the County Board of Commissioner's meeting for the following County projects: Microsurfacing Projects SAP 50-602-035, SAP 50-510-005, and SAP 50-601-040. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Mueller, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, to set the project letting date to February 20, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. at the office of Public Works and awarded at the County Board of Commissioner's meeting for the following County projects: CIR Projects SAP 50-601-039, SAP 50-602-034, and CP 50-25-01. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Reinartz, seconded by Commissioner Ankeny, to approve the IEA proposal/agreement to provide 2025 Environmental, Health and Safety (EHS) Management Services effective 1/1/25 – 12/31/25 (\$9750). Motion carried.

Under Committee Reports Commissioner Ankeny reported that on 1/7 he attended a building committee meeting reviewing public work facilities and there will be a follow-up meeting on 1/21. Commissioner Mueller reported he also attended the 1/7 building committee meeting and on the same day also attended the Planning Commission meeting and the fair board meeting. Commissioner Glynn reported that on 1/9 she attended the SE MN EMS and also earlier today (1/14) a SWCD meeting.

The County Attorney recommended that the Board enter into a closed session pursuant to 13D.05 subdivision 2(b) regarding potential litigation matters.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Mueller, to enter closed session for attorney / client privilege pursuant to Minnesota Statute 13D.05 subdivision 2(b). Motion carried.

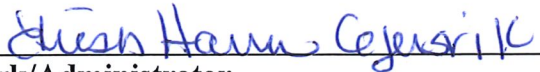
COMMISSIONERS' RECORD MOWER COUNTY, MINNESOTA

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 11:05 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for January 28, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.

THE MOWER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

BY:  Chairperson

Attest:

By: 
Clerk/Administrator