

REGULAR SESSION OF THE MOWER COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

June 9, 2026

The Mower County Board of Commissioners in and for the County of Mower, Minnesota, met in Regular Session June 9, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. at the Government Center in Austin, Minnesota.

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

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion made by Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Mueller, to approve the agenda with adding under Finance a discussion regarding Cyber Security insurance options with possible motion. Motion carried unanimously.

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

1. Approve Minutes of May 26, 2026
2. Acknowledge the Receipt of Electronic Fund Transfer Payment Reports
3. Approve Commissioner Warrants

<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Advanced Correctional Healthcare	26,146.83	Klein McCarthy Architects	61,282.08
Allweather Roof	19,249.25	MacQueen Equipment, Inc.	2,360.27
Austin Automotive LLC	46,807.68	Marco Technologies LLC	2,566.76
Austin Automotive LLC	46,807.68	Motorola Solutions Inc	7,920.00
Austin Automotive LLC	49,595.84	North Risk Partners LLC	4,166.67
Austin Automotive LLC	49,595.84	Northland & Companies	12,962.09
Austin Daily Herald	3,195.72	Nutrien Ag Solutions Inc	60,259.04
Busch Systems Intl. Inc	3,267.71	Office Of MNIT Services	2,284.19
CDW Government	2,422.88	Olson Tree Services, Inc.	26,560.00
Cedar Valley Services, Inc	117,653.57	Premier Electrical Corporation	140,980.00
CliftonLarsonAllen LLP	36,225.00	ProPhoenix Corporation	64,368.00
Commissioner of Transportation	16,362.23	Rohl Electric and Services LLC	3,335.20
Consolidated Correctional Foodservice	21,390.08	Schmidt Goodman Office Products Inc.	2,548.54
Contegrity Group, Inc.	6,059.45	Sign Solutions USA	8,784.44
Dave Lucas Consulting	4,500.00	Stellar Truck & Trailer	12,437.69
Falk Construction Co./L.R.	8,056.02	Valor Mechanical, Inc.	9,439.00
Freeborn County Co-Operative Oil Co.	9,544.15	Vanguard Appraisals Inc	16,425.00
Healthiest You	4,173.00	56 payments less than 2000	29,681.06
		Final Total:	939,412.96

4. Resolution to approve MN Lawful Gambling Exempt Permit application of DAV Mayo Southeast Chapter 28 for 8/8/26 raffle at Deercreek Speedway

Date: June 9, 2026

Res. #46-26

RESOLUTION

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 June 9, 2026 at the Government Center, Austin, Minnesota.

WHEREAS, on June 9, 2026 the DAV Mayo Southeast Chapter 28 presented for approval a Minnesota Lawful Gambling LG220 Application for Exempt Permit for gambling to be conducted at Deercreek Speedway located at Frankford Twp, Mower County on August 8, 2026.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Mower County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the Minnesota Lawful Gambling LG220 Application for Exempt Permit Application for gambling at Deercreek Speedway located at Frankford Twp, Mower County on August 8, 2026.

Passed and adopted this 9th day of June, 2026.

5. Approve Transient Merchant License for American Promotional Events, Inc. d/b/a TNT Fireworks for period June 20, 2026 - July 5, 2026

6. Approve Full On-Sale & Sunday Liquor License for Cedar River Country Club for period July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027

7. Approve Full On-Sale & Sunday Liquor License for Four Daughters Vineyard & Winery, LLC for period July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027

8. Approve Full On-Sale & Sunday Liquor License for Prime Stein, LLC d/b/a Lansing Corners for Period July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027

9. Approve Full On-Sale Temporary Liquor License for The Church of St. John of Adams, Minnesota for July 12, 2026

Motion carried unanimously.

Date: June 9, 2026

Res.# 47-26

RESOLUTION

On motion of Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Mueller, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held June 9, 2026 at the Government Center, Austin, Minnesota.

WHEREAS, In 2010, the Minnesota Legislature created the Council on Local Results and Innovation; and

WHEREAS, The Council on Local Results and Innovation developed a standard set of performance measures that will aid residents, taxpayers, and state and local elected officials in determining the efficacy of counties in providing services and measure residents' opinion of those services; and

WHEREAS, Benefits to Mower County for participation in the Minnesota Council on Local Results and Innovation's comprehensive performance measurement program are outlined in MS 6.91 and include eligibility for a reimbursement as set by State statute; and

WHEREAS, any county participating in the comprehensive performance measurement program is also exempt from levy limits for taxes, if levy limits are in effect; and

WHEREAS, the Mower County Board has adopted and implemented at least 10 of the performance measures, as developed by the Council on Local Results and Innovation, and a system to use this information to help plan, budget, manage and evaluate programs and processes for optimal future outcomes; and

NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT, Mower County will continue to report the results of the performance measures to its citizenry by the end of the year through publication, direct mailing, posting on the county's website, or through a public hearing at which the budget and levy will be discussed and public input allowed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Mower County will submit to the Office of the State Auditor the actual results of the performance measures adopted by the county.

Passed and adopted this 9th day of June, 2026.

Date: June 9, 2026

Res. #48-26

RESOLUTION

Establishing Findings of Fact and Granting a Waiver from the Solid Waste Management Ordinance for SKB Lansing Landfill

On motion of Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Ankeny, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held June 9, 2026 at the Government Center, Austin Minnesota.

WHEREAS, Mower County is a political subdivision organized and existing under the laws of the state of Minnesota; and,

WHEREAS, the Mower County Board of Commissioners has adopted a Solid Waste Management Ordinance (ORD-21) establishing authority for the entire County; and,

WHEREAS, Section 8.7(D) states that Demolition landfills shall have in place, prior to acceptance of waste, a liner system that complies with, at minimum, the standards for Municipal Solid Waste Landfills as set forth in Minn. Rules Part 7035.2815, subp. 7, as amended; and,

WHEREAS, On May 29, 2026, SKB Lansing submitted an Ord-21 Application for Waiver or Modification to allow for use of a Geosynthetic clay liner (GCL) in lieu of a soil barrier layer as an overlay liner system, and,

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Section 3.6 of Ord-21, the County Board may waive or modify the strict application of the provisions of Ord-21.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mower County Board finds:

- 1) That the request is reasonable and meets the intent of this ordinance due to: *The intent of Ord-21 is to protect public health and the environment, and liners constructed in accordance with Minn. Rules 7035.2815, subp. 7 provides for greater protection than what is required under existing Minn. Rules for Demolition landfills. SKB Lansing proposes to construct a liner system consisting of (from top to bottom): a 12-inch sand drainage layer, Geocomposite drainage layer, 60-mil HDPE geomembrane, Geosynthetic clay liner (GCL), and minimum of 12 inches of existing clayey soil grading layer. SKB Lansing has demonstrated that this proposed liner design will meet and/or*

exceed the performance standards set forth in Minn. Rules 7035.2815, subp. 7 as set forth in Ord-21.

- 2) That such requirements are unnecessary or impractical in light of the applicant's proposed operation due to: *Approval of this waiver would be consistent with previously constructed overlay liner systems constructed in 2011, 2012, 2014, and 2016. The U.S. EPA recognizes that GCL's are equivalent and are considered alternate liner technology to two feet of compacted clay liner systems. Further, SKB Lansing has demonstrated using the EPA HELP model that use of GCL in place of the soil barrier layer meets the performance standards in Minn. Rules 7035.2815, subp. 7. As such, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) has approved the overlay liner system for use at SKB Lansing in accordance with Minn. Rules 7035.2815, subp.7.*
- 3) That the waiver or modification will not adversely impact human health or the environment due to: *The intent of Ord-21 is to protect public health and the environment. The overlay liner system has been evaluated using the EPA HELP model and was determined to meet the performance standards set forth in Minn. Rules 7035.2815, subp. 7 and ORD-21. The EPA HELP model is a computer program which is used to determine the efficacy of landfill liner system performance such as determining how much precipitation will leach through the waste and collected within the leachate collection system and what the potential is for leaching through the base liner system. Further, the overlay liner system will be more protective for variable conditions such as settlement of underlaying wastes.*
- 4) That the request will not adversely affect the County's ability to monitor and enforce compliance with ORD-21 and the applicant's license due to: *The request for Waiver is to construct the base liner system as an overlay liner for the existing unlined disposal areas. The overlay liner design will not prevent the County to monitor and enforce ORD-21, nor interfere in the County's ability to conduct site inspections to ensure compliance with the ORD-21 and the landfill's license.*

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE MOWER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS: Grants a Waiver to SKB Lansing Landfill, in accordance with Section 3.6 of ORD-21, to allow for use of GCL in lieu of a soil barrier lay as overlay liner with the following conditions:

- 1) Applicant shall comply with and maintain compliance with ORD-21, County License, and all applicable Minn. Rules, and this waiver.
- 2) This waiver allows for construction of overlay liner system with use of GCL as depicted in Sheet D-101 of License Document SKB #10, and on areas as indicated on Sheet C-101 of License Document SKB #10; any deviation to area or construction technique shall require another waiver application and approval from the County Board.
- 3) Applicant shall immediately notify the County of any issues, concerns, or changes to the construction of the overlay liner system.
- 4) Applicant shall allow employees of Mower County and its consultants to inspect the facility to ensure compliance with ORD-21 and its County License.

- 5) All conditions shall apply in full force and effect to any successor in interest to the property.

Passed and adopted this 9th day of June, 2026.

Date: June 9, 2026

Res. #49-26

RESOLUTION

On motion of Commissioner Mueller, seconded by Commissioner Glynn, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held June 9, 2026 at the Government Center, Austin, Minnesota.

WHEREAS Minnesota counties are required by law to manage solid waste in a manner that protects the state's land, air, water, and other natural resources, and public health by ensuring that certain reduction, separation and recovery, resource recovery, and proper disposal methods of solid waste is set forth in an ordinance; and,

WHEREAS, Pursuant to the Mower County Solid Waste Management Ordinance (ORD-21), the County requires any person or entity operating any solid waste facility to first obtain, and maintain, a license for the design, construction, and operation of a solid waste facility; and,

WHEREAS, on April 13, 2026, the MPCA issued a Modified Permit (SW-514-008) to SKB Lansing Landfill, modifying the existing design and incorporating changes to the monitoring system; and,

WHEREAS, SKB Lansing Landfill submitted a Mower County Solid Waste Facility Application for modification on May 13, 2026, for Major Modification of their Demolition debris landfill; and,

WHEREAS, SKB Lansing Landfill submitted response to comments on May 29, 2026; and,

WHEREAS, after review, this application was deemed complete on May 31, 2026, in accordance with ORD-21; and,

WHEREAS, in accordance with County Board Resolution #28-21 that was passed on April 13, 2021, financial assurance requirements for SKB Lansing Landfill is a \$350,000 surety bond listing the County as obligee; and,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Mower County Board of Commissioners hereby grants SKB Lansing Landfill a Solid Waste License for both WCI Austin Landfill and SKB Lansing Landfill as drafted by the Department and approved as to form by the County Attorney, providing operation of a Demolition Debris Landfill, Recycling Activities, and including a slope waiver, final grade slope waiver, separation waiver, and liner waiver, all as described in their License, with a term that will expire on December 31, 2031.

Passed and adopted this 9th day of June, 2026.

Motion made by Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Ankeny, to approve a new modified SKB Lansing Landfill License to reflect the adopted Resolutions #48-26 and #49-26 with the modified license effective 6/9/26 – 12/31/31. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board recessed at 9:10 a.m. for the purpose of a public hearing.

The Chair called the Public Hearing to order at 9:10 a.m. regarding a Housing Tax Abatement application of Jay & Courtney Soltau to construct a single-family home located at 8.76AC IN NE1/4 NW1/4 & NW1/4 NE1/4 Section 33 Pleasant Valley Twp, MN (PIN 14.027.0020).

Deputy County Administrator Valerie Sheedy reviewed the application and recommended approval.

The Applicant Soltau was not present. No one spoke for or against the Soltau housing tax abatement application. The Chair closed the Public Hearing at 9:12 a.m. regarding the Soltau housing tax abatement application.

The Chair called the Public Hearing to order at 9:12 a.m. regarding a Housing Tax Abatement application of Joshua Gavin to construct a single-family home located at Block 001 Lot 001 North Side Park 2nd ADDN, Adams, MN (PIN: 21.019.0010).

Deputy County Administrator Valerie Sheedy reviewed the application and recommended approval.

The Applicant Gavin was not present. No one spoke for or against the Gavin housing tax abatement application. The Chair closed the Public Hearing at 9:13 a.m. regarding the Gavin housing tax abatement application. The County Board reconvened its regular session at 9:13 a.m.

Date: June 9, 2026

Res. #50-26

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

On motion of Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Ankeny, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held June 9, 2026 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, Jay and Courtney Soltau are the owner(s) of certain property within Mower County, legally described as follows:

8.76AC IN NE1/4 NW1/4 & NW1/4 NE1/4 Section 33 Pleasant Valley Twp, MN (PIN 14.027.0020)

WHEREAS, Jay and Courtney Soltau 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 June 9, 2026 before the Mower County Board of Commissioners, on said application.

WHEREAS, Jay and Courtney Soltau 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 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 adopted this 9th day of June, 2026.

Date: June 9, 2026

Res. #51-26

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

On motion of Commissioner Mueller, seconded by Commissioner Glynn, the following Resolution was passed and adopted by the Mower County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held June 9, 2026 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, Joshua Gavin is the owner(s) of certain property within Mower County, legally described as follows:

Block 001 Lot 001 NORTH SIDE PARK 2ND ADDN, Adams, MN (PIN: 21.019.0010)

WHEREAS, Joshua Gavin 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 June 9, 2026 before the Mower County Board of Commissioners, on said application.

WHEREAS, Joshua Gavin 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 adopted this 9th day of June, 2026.

The Board recessed at 9:14 a.m. for the purpose of the Health & Human Services Board.

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES BOARD:

Motion made by Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Ankeny, to approve the Health & Human Services agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Reinartz, to approve the Health & Human Services consent agenda as presented by approving the following:

1. Health & Human Services Accounts Payable totaling \$97,859.28
2. Opioid Advisory Council Grants-\$40,000
 - *Mower County Health and Human Services-contract with a provider to expand preventative services to eligible families to support continued reduction of out-of-home placements by reducing barriers and increasing support.*
3. Transportation agreement renewals - July 1, 2026-June 30, 2027
 - *Grand Meadow Public School* ○ *Lyle Public School*
 - *Leroy-Ostrander Public School* ○ *Southland Public Schools*
4. Housing Support agreement renewals - July 1, 2026-June 30, 2027
 - *Adams Senior Living* ○ *Legacy of Brownsdale*
 - *Cardinal of MN* ○ *Lutheran Social Service*
 - *Cottages of Dakota* ○ *MSOCS*
 - *Dungarvin* ○ *Sacred Heart Assisted Living*
 - *Hansen, Diane* ○ *Sargent, Stephanie & Stacy*
 - *Independent Management Services* ○ *Skinness, Julie*
 - *Lang's Board & Lodge*

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Glynn, to approve the Eliminating Health Disparities Initiative grant agreement with Minnesota Department of Health Eliminating Health Disparities Initiative (EHDI) effective July 1, 2026-June 30, 2027 (\$2,558.00). Motion carried unanimously.

The Board received updates on Health and Human Services activities, including an overview of the Statewide Health Improvement Partnership (SHIP), which continues its work across schools, worksites, and the community to promote wellness, tobacco-free environments, improved nutrition, mental wellbeing, and active living. Staff highlighted progress on the State's Cannabis Grant, noting increased educational efforts in response to youth vaping and overdose concerns, as well as strong participation in the Wellness on

Wheels program, which offers free health screenings and partners with local organizations, including an upcoming "Pets & People" event. The Board also discussed emerging legislative impacts, including anticipated county cost shifts related to SNAP administrative reimbursements, long-term services and supports, and new requirements under Minnesota African American child welfare disproportionality act -MAAFPCWDA. Staff noted statewide uncertainty, potential unfunded mandates, legal challenges, and capacity concerns, while emphasizing efforts to maintain culturally appropriate services amid growing requirements.

Motion made by Commissioner Ankeny, seconded by Commissioner Mueller, to adjourn the Health & Human Services Board meeting at 9:47 a.m. Motion carried unanimously.

COUNTY BOARD

The Regular Session of the Board was reconvened at 9:47 a.m. for regular business items.

The Board discussed cyber security insurance options, noting that while coverage with Coalition had recently been approved, MCIT has since expanded its own cyber coverage limits. Coalition offers \$3 million in dedicated coverage for the County, compared to MCIT's \$1 million individual limit within a shared \$10 million pool for all 87 counties. Members reviewed potential costs, cancellation options, prorated fees, and policy terms, with staff confirming the Coalition application is complete and can be canceled at any time. The Board agreed no action was needed at this time and expressed comfort in maintaining current coverage while monitoring developments.

The Board was presented with a proposed resolution for a notice of withdrawal from the Rural Minnesota Energy Board Joint Powers Agreement. The Board collectively indicated that there was confusion and a misunderstanding on which Board they wished to withdraw and the Rural Minnesota Energy Board was not the one intended.

Motion made by Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Ankeny, to deny the Resolution Providing Notice of Withdrawal from the Rural Minnesota Energy Board Joint Powers Agreement and direct staff to proceed with steps necessary to terminate participation in the Mn Rural Counties Board. Motion carried unanimously. (The director of the Rural Minnesota Energy Board will be notified that Mower County is not intending to withdraw from the joint powers.)

Under Committee Reports Commissioner Ankeny reported he attended on 5/27 Personnel / Union Negotiations; on 5/28 Building Operations; on 6/1 the Assoc. of Mn Counties District IX meeting; and on 6/3 Building Operations at Highway. Commissioner Reinartz did not have any committee meetings to report. Commissioner Mueller reported that he attended on 5/28 Building Operations; on 6/1 the Assoc. of Mn Counties District IX meeting; on 6/2 Fair Board; on 6/3 Building Operations; and on 6/8 SE Emergency Communications Board. Commissioner Glynn reported that she attended on 5/27 and 5/29 Personnel / Union Negotiations; on 6/1 the Assoc. of Mn Counties District IX meeting; and on 6/8 SEMCAC. Commissioner Sparks reported that he attended on 6/1 the Assoc. of Mn Counties District IX meeting.

COMMISSIONERS' RECORD MOWER COUNTY, MINNESOTA

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 10:03 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for June 23, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

THE MOWER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

BY: DAN SPARKS
Chairperson

Attest:

By: Matt W. Vesper
Clerk/Administrator