

ADJOURNED MEETING OF THE COUNTY BOARD
May 20th, 2025

The Board of Commissioners of Freeborn County met in the Freeborn County Boardroom at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, May 20th, 2025. Members present: Commissioners Severson, Edwin, Kaasa, Shoff and Eckstrom.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Eckstrom offered the following motion;

MOVED, approving the agenda as presented.

Motion seconded by Commissioner Severson.

After discussion, a vote was taken and the Chair declared the motion approved.

Commissioner Shoff offered the following resolution;

RESOLUTION No. 25-165
Approval of the Freeborn County Board of Commissioners Consent Agenda as provided
in the Freeborn County Board Rule of Procedure 9(A)

WHEREAS, the Freeborn County Board is the governing body of Freeborn County, and;

WHEREAS, the Freeborn County Board has implemented a Consent agenda to perform the duties of the board in a more effective and efficient manner, and

WHEREAS, the following items have been placed for approval of the Freeborn County Board of Commissioners on the current Board meeting Consent Agenda as provided by the Board rules of procedure, being routine and of a regular action;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, to place the following are hereby approved for appropriate action:

- 1) Approval of the May 6th, 2025 minutes;
- 2) Approval of Drainage Repairs

Resolution seconded by Commissioner Kaasa.

After discussion a vote was taken and the Chair declared the resolution adopted.

The Commissioners provided Board Committee updates.

Chairman Edwin asked if there was any public comment and there was none.

Commissioner Kaasa offered the following resolution;

FREEBORN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
RESOLUTION 25-166
CONSIDER A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE OUT OF STATE TRAVEL.

WHEREAS, Freeborn County Community Health Board needs to approve out of state travel to Anaheim, CA for Sue Yost to attend the NACCHO 360 Conference July 13-18, 2025;

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute 145A.04 requires to assure adequate local public health infrastructure by maintain the basic foundational capabilities to a well-functioning public health system that includes data analysis and utilization; health planning; partnership development and community mobilization; policy development, analysis, and decision support; communication; and public health research, evaluation, and quality improvement;

WHEREAS, Freeborn County Public Health has received funding to build our capacity for Foundational Public Health Responsibilities. The theme of the 2024 conference is Bright Lights, Bold Idea: Sharing the Future of Public Health Practice which aligns with the foundational responsibilities. The cost for the conference registration, travel, meals and lodging will be covered by the Foundational Public Health Responsibilities grant funds. MDH has approved the out of state travel.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Freeborn County Board of Commissioners/Freeborn County Community Health Board hereby approves the out of state travel for Sue Yost.

Resolution seconded by Commissioner Shoff.

After discussion a vote was taken and the Chair declared the resolution adopted.

Commissioner Severson offered the following resolution;

RESOLUTION 25-167

Award of Contract 250684

Project(s): CP 025-CS-006, CP 025-CS-010, CP 025-CS-022, CP 025-CS-025, CP 025-CS-026, CP 025-CS-034, CP 025-CS-046, CP 025-CS-084, CP 025-CS-FAIR
2025 Crack Sealing in Freeborn County, Minnesota

WHEREAS, the Freeborn County Highway Department has the responsibility of maintaining the county highway system;

WHEREAS, the Freeborn County Highway Department has prepared plans and specifications for 2025 Crack Sealing in Freeborn County, Minnesota;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, to accept the low bid from Fahrner Asphalt Sealers, LLC for \$196,446.29 for the following Contract 250684 including Project(s): CP 025-CS-006, CP 025-CS-010, CP 025-CS-022, CP 025-CS-025, CP 025-CS-026, CP 025-CS-034, CP 025-CS-046, CP 025-CS-084, CP 025-CS-FAIR

Resolution seconded by Commissioner Kaasa.

After discussion, a vote was taken and the Chair declared the resolution approved.

Commissioner Eckstrom offered the following resolution:

RESOLUTION 25-168

Award of Contract 250118

Project(s): SAP 024-601-018, SAP 024-635-027
2025 Culverts on CSAH 1 and CSAH 35

WHEREAS, the Freeborn County Highway Department has the responsibility of maintaining the county highway system;

WHEREAS, the Freeborn County Highway Department has prepared plans and specifications for 2025 Culverts on CSAH 1 and CSAH 35;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, to accept the low bid from ICON, LLC. for \$361,243.41 for the following Contract 250118 including Project(s): SAP 024-601-018, SAP 024-635-027.

Resolution was seconded by Commissioner Shoff.

After discussion, a vote was taken and the Chair declared the resolution approved.

Commissioner Severson offered the following resolution:

RESOLUTION 25-169

Award of Contract 253528

Project(s): CP 025-MOL-095, SAP 024-635-028
2025 Paving on CSAH 35 and CR 95

WHEREAS, the Freeborn County Highway Department has the responsibility of maintaining the county highway system;

WHEREAS, the Freeborn County Highway Department has prepared plans and specifications for 2025 Paving on CSAH 35 and CR 95;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, to accept the low bid from Ulland Brothers Inc. for \$1,785,880.00 for the following Contract 253528 including Project(s): CP 025-MOL-095, SAP 024-635-028.

Resolution was seconded by Commissioner Shoff.

After discussion, a vote was taken and the Chair declared the resolution approved.

Commissioner Kaasa offered the following resolution:

FREEBORN COUNTY MINNESOTA RESOLUTION #25-170

A RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT \$600.00 IN DONATIONS FROM AGCOUNTRY. THE DONATED FUNDS WILL BE PUT TOWARDS THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE K9 FUND (01-202-5752).

WHEREAS, Minnesota State Statute 465.03 allows for counties to accept donations through resolution by the board.

WHEREAS, Sheriff Ryan Shea received an undated letter, mailed on May 5, 2025, from AgCountry, explaining that an employee nominated the Sheriff's Office K9 program to receive an award through their "Giving and Growing" program.

WHEREAS, the Sheriff's Office K9 program was selected to receive the award and enclosed with the letter was a check from AgCountry for \$600.

WHEREAS, the K9 program is a strong public relations tool which has a long history of receiving donations from the public.

WHEREAS, the monies donated to the K9 program are utilized for the care of the dog and training for both the dog and handler.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that Freeborn County, by and through its Board of Commissioners, approves the deposit of \$600.00 of donated funds into the 01-202-5752 line item.

Resolution was seconded by Commissioner Eckstrom.

After discussion, a vote was taken and the Chair declared the resolution approved.

Commissioner Eckstrom offered the following resolution:

RESOLUTION 25-171

ACCEPTING THE RESIGNATION OF CHRISTINA BOARDMAN

WHEREAS, the Freeborn County Sheriff's Office has the responsibility for providing a quality service with integrity and accountability to the citizens of Freeborn County;

WHEREAS, the Freeborn County Board is the appointing authority for all county employees;

WHEREAS; Christina Boardman has been employed with the Freeborn County Sheriff's Office since October 7th, 2013 and is resigning her position effective May 2nd, 2025,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, to accept the resignation of Christina Boardman as a Freeborn County Detective effective on or about May 2nd, 2025.

Resolution was seconded by Commissioner Kaasa.

After discussion, a vote was taken and the Chair declared the resolution approved.

Commissioner Kaasa offered the following resolution:

RESOLVED AS, approving the labor negotiation contract for the Patrol Deputies

Resolution was seconded by Commissioner Severson.

After discussion, a vote was taken and the Chair declared the resolution approved.

Commissioner Kaasa offered the following resolution:

RESOLVED AS, setting a Budget Workshop for July 8th, 2025 at 8:30 a.m.

Resolution was seconded by Commissioner Shoff.

After discussion, a vote was taken and the Chair declared the resolution approved.

Commissioner Severson offered the following resolution:

Freeborn County Board of Commissioners

Resolution No. 25-174

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A POLICY REVIEW COMMITTEE FOR FREEBORN COUNTY

WHEREAS, the Freeborn County Board of Commissioners recognizes the importance of maintaining up-to-date, legally compliant, and effective policies that guide the operations of county departments; and

WHEREAS, the Board seeks to ensure that all policies are regularly reviewed, updated, and aligned with current laws, best practices, and collective bargaining agreements; and

WHEREAS, a structured and collaborative approach to policy development and review will enhance transparency, accountability, and consistency across county operations;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Freeborn County Board of Commissioners hereby establishes a Policy Review Committee consisting of the following members:

- Board Chair
- Commissioner Severson
- Human Resources Manager
- County Administrator
- IT Director

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Policy Review Committee shall:

1. **Review and Update Policies:** Regularly assess and update county policies to ensure they reflect current laws, regulations, and best practices.
2. **Collaborate with Department Heads:** Share proposed policy changes with department heads for feedback and incorporate their input as appropriate.
3. **Seek Legal Review:** Submit finalized policies to the county's HR attorney for review to ensure alignment with union contracts and legal compliance.
4. **Present to Board for Approval:** Bring finalized policies before the Board of Commissioners for formal approval. If a split decision occurs the committee will bring forward two options for the board to consider.
5. **Oversee Implementation:** Coordinate the distribution and training related to newly approved policies to ensure effective implementation across all departments.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Policy Review Committee shall meet regularly, at least quarterly, and maintain records of all meetings, decisions, and actions taken.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

Resolution was seconded by Commissioner Eckstrom.

After discussion, a vote was taken and the Chair declared the resolution approved.

Commissioner Kaasa offered the following resolution:

FREEBORN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION NO. 25-175

A RESOLUTION REPEALING RESOLUTION NO. 22-375 ESTABLISHING THE FREEBORN COUNTY COMMUNITY SCHOLARSHIP

WHEREAS, on December 20, 2022, the Freeborn County Board of Commissioners adopted Resolution No. 22-375, establishing the Freeborn County Community Promise Scholarship to provide financial assistance for two years of free community college education to students graduating from a Freeborn County high school; and

WHEREAS, the scholarship funds were designated to be administered by Community Funding Partners; and

WHEREAS, subsequent to the establishment of the Freeborn County Community Scholarship, the State of Minnesota introduced alternative funding programs that provide similar educational opportunities to students; and

WHEREAS, the scholarship funds allocated by Freeborn County have not been utilized to date; and

WHEREAS, upon review, it has been determined that the allocation of public funds for this scholarship may not align with the legal requirements of the Minnesota Public Purpose Doctrine, which mandates that public expenditures must benefit the community and directly relate to government activity, without primarily benefiting private interests; and

WHEREAS, State Statute outlines that expenditures of public funds must have a public purpose and express or implied authority, and that expenditures benefiting private interests may be permissible only if their primary purpose is public; and

WHEREAS, the Freeborn County Board of Commissioners has determined that participating in the funding of the Freeborn County Community Promise Scholarship does not meet the criteria set forth under the Minnesota Public Purpose Doctrine and that the funds should be reallocated to purposes that directly benefit the community and align with legal requirements.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Freeborn County Board of Commissioners, that Resolution No. 22-375, establishing the Freeborn County Community Scholarship, is hereby repealed in its entirety; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that any unexpended funds allocated for the Freeborn County Community Scholarship shall be reallocated to other educational initiatives or programs that directly benefit the residents of Freeborn County and comply with the Minnesota Public Purpose Doctrine; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Freeborn County Administrator is directed to notify Community Funding Partners of the repeal of the scholarship program and to take all necessary steps to effectuate this resolution.

Resolution was seconded by Commissioner Eckstrom.

After discussion, a vote was taken and the Chair declared the resolution approved.

Commissioner Shoff offered the following resolution:

RESOLVED AS, approving the contract with Dodge County for the Interim Assessor Contract

Resolution was seconded by Commissioner Kaasa.

After discussion, a vote was taken and the Chair declared the resolution approved.

Commissioner Kaasa offered the following resolution:

RESOLVED AS, approving the UKG Subscription Services renewal

Resolution was seconded by Commissioner Severson.

After discussion, a vote was taken and the Chair declared the resolution approved.

Commissioner Eckstrom offered the following resolution:

FREEBORN COUNTY, MINNESOTA – BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION No. 25-178

BOARD APPOINTMENTS TO FREEBORN COUNTY LAW LIBRARY

WHEREAS, each year the Freeborn County Board of Commissioners must decide which of its members represents them on its various committees and to those organizations which require or desire their participation, and;

WHEREAS, the Rules of Procedure of the Freeborn County Board of Commissioners establishes several standing committees as well as the process for the establishment of temporary committee assignments; and

WHEREAS, Minn. Stat. §134A.03 Subd1(2) provides that a Law Library Board of trustees shall included a seated County Commissioners to serve as a trustee,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the following members of the Board of Commissioners are, hereby, assigned to the described committee until such assignment is changed by a subsequent action of this Board of Commissioners; to the:

Freeborn County Law Library Trustee- Commissioner Eckstrom

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

Resolution was seconded by Commissioner Kaasa.

After discussion, a vote was taken and the Chair declared the resolution approved.

Commissioner Kaasa offered the following resolution:

RESOLUTION No. 25-179

Approval of Claims

RESOLVED, that the following claims be allowed and paid on or before May 23rd, 2025.

<u>FUND</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
01	General Fund	\$ 632,168.47
03	County Road & Bridge	\$ 1,056,921.25
05	Human Services	\$ 228,298.21
06	Public Health	\$ 70,410.00
31	Capital Improvements	\$ 941,526.43
40	County Ditch	\$ 27,121.81
70	Trust & Agency	\$ 111,756.03
73	Payroll Clearing Fund	\$ 36,052.33
74	Turtle Creek Watershed	\$ 395.33
77	Recorder's Clearing	\$ 4,538.00
80	Tax Collection Fund	\$ 21,682.78
	FUND TOTALS	\$ 3,130,870.64

Number of Claims not exceeding \$300 – 53

Dollar amount of claims not exceeding \$300 – \$5,909.90

Resolution seconded by Commissioner Eckstrom.

After discussion, a vote was taken and the Chair declared the resolution adopted.

Chair, Commissioner Edwin adjourned the meeting at 9:14 a.m. until 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, June 3rd, 2025.

By: _____
Brad Edwin
Chair

Attest: _____
Chelsea Barrett
County Clerk