

ADJOURNED MEETING OF THE COUNTY BOARD
Tuesday, February 3rd, 2026

The Board of Commissioners of Freeborn County met in the Freeborn County Boardroom at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, February 3rd, 2026. Members present: Commissioners Severson, Edwin, Kaasa, Shoff and Eckstrom.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Kaasa offered the following motion;

MOVED, approving the agenda as presented.

Motion seconded by Commissioner Shoff.

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

Commissioner Shoff offered the following resolution;

RESOLUTION No. 26-057
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 January 20th, 2026 minutes;
- 2) Approval of Regular Full-Time Status Employees.
- 3) 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.

Under Informational Only items, Commissioner Eckstrom spoke regarding the Planning Commissioner meeting that took place on February 2nd, 2026.

Jay Nieson from Waste Management addressed the Board regarding the roll out in addition to their recycling stream and the was the paper and plastic to-go cups and was looking for any input or if they have heard of any community reaction to the addition or any ideas or ways that Waste Management could promote this more to remove more from the waste stream.

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

Commissioner Severson offered the following resolution;

RESOLUTION No. 26-058, RESOLVED AS, approving the solar project at the Environmental Services building.

Resolution seconded by Commissioner Eckstrom.

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

Commissioner Kaasa offered the following resolution;

RESOLUTION No. 26-059. RESOLVED AS, accepting a \$364.00 donation from CCF Bank to WIC-Public Health.

Resolution seconded by Commissioner Eckstrom.

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

Sue Yost, Public Health presented the Board with a letter regarding the Freeborn County Public Health Performance Measure in 2024 from the Minnesota Department of Health.

Commissioner Kaasa offered the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 26-060

TITLE: Resolution to accept a donation from Department Heads and Administrative Staff of Freeborn County

WHEREAS, the Freeborn County Department of Human Services serves individuals, children and families who have been victims of abuse, neglect and crimes, have mental illness, developmental or other disabilities, and those whom require additional support to meet basic needs or to become self-sufficient; and

WHEREAS, there are instances when the needs of those served by the Human Services Department cannot be met with state, federal, or local funding options; and

WHEREAS, donations of money, gift cards, or specific items from individuals and organizations within our communities help meet needs not otherwise met; and

WHEREAS, the Freeborn County Department of Human Services has received a donation of twenty-two \$30 gift cards totaling \$660 to be used for individuals, children or families in need from Department Heads and Administrative Staff of Freeborn County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Freeborn County Board of Commissioners, that:

1. The donation of \$660 in the form of gift cards is accepted for distribution as deemed appropriate by Freeborn County DHS Director and Supervisors to individuals and families with needs that cannot be met with traditional state, federal or local funding options.

Resolution was seconded by Commissioner Eckstrom.

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

Commissioner Severson offered the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 26-061

TITLE: Accepting the Resignation of Andrea Strom

WHEREAS, the Freeborn County Probation & Pre-Trial Office employees have the responsibility for providing 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, and;

WHEREAS, Andrea Strom has been employed with the Freeborn County Probation & Pre-Trial Office as a Probation Officer since March 20th, 2000 and is resigning her position effective February 27th, 2026;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, to accept the resignation of Andrea Strom as a Freeborn County Probation Officer effective on or about February 27th, 2026.

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 NO. 26-062

TITLE: Administration is recommending to fill the Freeborn County Probation Officer position

WHEREAS, the Freeborn County employees have the responsibility for providing 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, and;

WHEREAS, the position of a Probation Officer has been reviewed by the department head, Human Resources and the Administrator to assess the ongoing need for the role and the responsibilities it entails;

WHEREAS, Andrea Strom, Freeborn County Probation Officer, has resigned her position effective February 27th, 2026;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the board approves the filling of the vacant Freeborn County Probation Officer position.

Resolution was seconded by Commissioner Kaasa.

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

Commissioner Severson offered the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION 26-063
APPOINTMENT OF RYAN RASMUSSEN AS COUNTY ASSESSOR**

WHEREAS, MN Statutes 273.061 Subd. 1 requires every Minnesota County to appoint a County Assessor; and

WHEREAS, the appointments of every County Assessor shall be for a four-year term beginning on January 1 of each fourth year after 1973; and

WHEREAS, the Freeborn County position is currently vacant; and

WHEREAS, Ryan Rasmussen has the knowledge and training in the field of property taxation, and is a Senior Accredited Minnesota Assessor (SAMA) from the state Board of Assessors;

WHEREAS, Ryan Rasmussen is to be appointed as the Freeborn County Assessor for an initial term effective March 3, 2026, to fill the remaining term ending December 31st, 2028, due to a vacancy,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Freeborn County Board of Commissioners does hereby appoint Ryan Rasmussen as the Freeborn County Assessor, in accordance with Minnesota §273.061, effective March 3, 2026 through December 31st, 2028, compensated at Grade 22, Step 7 of the Freeborn County wage scale.

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:

To ratify RESOLUTION No. 26-054 – Rule 21 Voting Changes

Resolution was seconded by Commissioner Eckstrom.

At the previous meeting there was a resolution that received a first and a second, but no vote was taken for that resolution on the floor. This is to only ratify that resolution and no new changes to the resolution have been made from the previous meeting.

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

Commissioner Eckstrom offered the following resolution:

RESOLUTION No. 26-064
Approval of Claims

RESOLVED, that the following claims be allowed and paid on or before February 6th, 2026.

<u>FUND</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
01	General Fund	\$ 573,053.42
03	County Road & Bridge	\$ 108,427.39
05	Human Services	\$ 231,959.75
06	Public Health	\$ 80,409.51
40	County Ditch	\$ 70,884.93
70	Trust & Agency	\$ 9,126.83
73	Payroll Clearing Fund	\$ 24,307.88
74	Turtle Creek Watershed	\$ 70.00
83	<u>Health Insurance Fund</u>	<u>\$ 5,748.91</u>
	FUND TOTALS	\$ 1,103,988.62

Number of Claims not exceeding \$300 – 162

Dollar amount of claims not exceeding \$300 – \$14,867.58

Resolution seconded by Commissioner Severson.

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

Chair, Commissioner Edwin adjourned the meeting at 9:25 a.m. until 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, February 17th, 2026.

By: _____
Brad Edwin
Chair

Attest: _____
Chelsea Barrett
County Clerk