

ADJOURNED MEETING OF THE COUNTY BOARD
Tuesday, August 4th, 2026

The Board of Commissioners of Freeborn County met in the Freeborn County Boardroom at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, August 4th, 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 with the removal of the item under Report of County Administrator regarding Data Practices Compliance Officials.

Motion seconded by Commissioner Severson.

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

Commissioner Severson offered the following resolution;

RESOLUTION No. 26–214
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 July 21st, 2026 minutes;
- 2) Approval of Regular Full-Time Status Employees & Acceptance of Resignations and Retirements;
- 3) Approval of Drainage Repairs;
- 4) Approval of Claims

The following claims be allowed and paid on or before August 4th, 2026.

<u>FUND</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
01	General Fund	\$ 696,231.76
03	County Road & Bridge	\$ 919,471.64
05	Human Services	\$ 234,008.89
06	Public Health	\$ 86,019.67
07	Opioid Settlement	\$ 23,703.37
31	Capital Improvement	\$ 47,647.00
40	County Ditch	\$ 247,304.51
70	Trust & Agency	\$ 9,624.56
73	Payroll Clearing Fund	\$ 17,883.73
79	Social Services Collab	\$ 38.41
80	Tax Collection Fund	\$ 238,073.38
	FUND TOTALS	\$ 2,520,006.92

Number of Claims not exceeding \$300 – 167

Dollar amount of claims not exceeding \$300 – \$16,357.73

Resolution seconded by Commissioner Eckstrom.

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 Eckstrom offered the following motion;

MOVED, to set a public hearing date for the extension of Freeborn County's Interim Zoning Ordinance regarding Data Centers for August 18th, 2026 at 10:45 a.m.

Resolution seconded by Commissioner Severson.

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

Commissioner Kaasa offered the following motion;

MOVED, to remove Resolution 26-206 from the table (Amendment to Sec. 42-59 of the Zoning Ordinance (Ch.42) requiring a survey for all structures sited within 5' of a setback line or within a delineated protection district.

Resolution seconded by Commissioner Eckstrom.

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

Commissioner Eckstrom offered the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 26-206 (Tabled)

TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN ORDINANCE AMENDMENT TO ESTABLISH SETBACK VERIFICATION PROCEDURES FOR NEW STRUCTURES IN FREEBORN COUNTY

WHEREAS, the County of Freeborn, State of Minnesota ("the County") is a statutory county duly organized and existing under Article XII of the Minnesota Constitution; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Minnesota Statute (M.S.) Chapter 394 and specifically § 394.21, the County has the power and authority to conduct and implement planning activities; and

WHEREAS, the Freeborn County Planning Commission, at their May 4th, 2026 meeting, held a public hearing on the ordinance amendment to Freeborn County's Zoning Ord. (Ch. 42) and at their June 1st, 2026 meeting made a recommendation for approval of the ordinance amendment to the Freeborn County Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, the proposed ordinance is consistent with the statutory authority proscribed by M.S. Chapter 394; and

WHEREAS, the ordinance is hereby to be incorporated into the Freeborn County Zoning Ord. (Ch. 42); and

WHEREAS, the County hereby finds and determines that the ordinance amendment is necessary to promote the public health, safety, morals and general welfare of the County, including the terms and regulations herein;

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

Section 42-59 of the Code of Ordinances of Freeborn County, Minnesota, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 42-59. - Building regulations.

- (a) A zoning permit shall be required to be issued for any buildings and structures in unincorporated Freeborn County. Exceptions include:
 - (1) Fences under six feet in height in the "A" Agricultural District.
 - (2) Any building or structure that requires a state building code permit.
- (b) No building or structure shall be erected, converted, enlarged, reconstructed or structurally altered to:

- (1) Exceed the height or bulk herein established for the district in which the building is located;
 - (2) Intrude upon the area required for the front, side and rear yards as herein established and such yard space shall not serve as required yard area for more than one building.
- (c) Principal dwelling units in the "A" Agricultural District, "R-H" Country Homes District, "R-1" Rural Residence District, and "R-2" Suburban Residence District shall comply with the following limiting factors:
- (1) The minimum dwelling width shall be 22 feet. Manufactured homes assembled at a factory shall comply with minimum width requirements and shall bear a Federal Manufactured Home Seal before placement.
 - (2) All dwellings shall be anchored on a continuous perimeter foundation extending no less than 42 inches below grade.
 - (3) All dwelling units shall have a minimum of 720 square feet of floor area.
- (d) Survey Required
- (1) A land survey shall be required for all structures or additions located within five (5) feet of any setback line in unincorporated Freeborn County. Structures that are 200 square feet or less shall be exempt from the survey requirements of this section.
 - (2) A land survey shall also be required for any structure or addition located within a designated shoreland or floodplain district.
 - (3) Survey Standards
 - a. The survey shall be prepared and certified by a licensed land surveyor.
 - b. The survey shall clearly identify:
 - i. Property boundaries and dimensions
 - ii. Existing and proposed structures
 - iii. Setback distances from all property lines
 - iv. Easements, encroachments, and rights-of-way, if any.
 - (3) Compliance Requirement. No permit shall be issued unless the submitted survey demonstrates compliance with all applicable setback and zoning requirements.
 - (4) Final Inspection and As-Built Verification
 - a. Upon completion of construction, a final inspection shall be conducted by the Zoning Administrator or authorized official.
 - b. The applicant shall provide an as-built survey, prepared by a licensed land surveyor, verifying that the structure has been constructed in accordance with the approved plans and complies with required setbacks.
 - c. A certificate of occupancy or final approval shall not be issued until the as-built survey has been reviewed and approved, and the structure is found to be in compliance.

Resolution was seconded by Commissioner Severson.

After discussion, a vote was taken with Commissioners Severson, Kaasa and Edwin voting nay; and Commissioners Shoff and Eckstrom voting yea, the Chair declared the resolution failed.

Commissioner Kaasa offered the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 26-215

TITLE: Resolution to Approve Renewal of Qualifacts Service Agreement with Freeborn County Mental Health Center

WHEREAS, the Freeborn County Mental Health Center is required to maintain patient records in accordance with Minnesota Statute 245I.09; and

WHEREAS, Qualifacts Systems, LLC has been the vendor of the electronic health record, Care Logic, which has been used by the Freeborn County Mental Health Center for over 16 years;

WHEREAS, the business relationship between Freeborn County and Qualifacts has been mutually beneficial; and

WHEREAS, Qualifacts is able to provide Freeborn County with a HIPAA and HITECH compliant telehealth option that is fully integrated with our current electronic health record system;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the board approves the renewal of the Qualifacts Service Agreement with the Freeborn County Mental Health Center.

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. 26-216

TITLE: Resolution approving MnDOT Detour Maintenance Agreement - Contract No 1063524

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

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) is performing work on Trunk Highway 218 and is in need of a detour route for state traffic; and,

WHEREAS, Freeborn County State Aid Highway 36 is the preferred route for the detoured traffic and MnDOT has prepared an agreement to compensate the County for road life consumed using the "Gas Tax method" to determine the amount of the payment; and,

WHEREAS, Freeborn County have entered into similar agreements on a nearly annual basis for other projects and the Engineer supports such an arrangement in this case.

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

1. Freeborn County shall enter into MnDOT Agreement No 1063524 with the State to provide for payment by the State to the County for the use and maintenance of Freeborn County State Aid Highway No 36 as a detour route during construction to be performed upon, along, and adjacent to Trunk Highway No. 218 from Mower County State Aid Highway No. 1 to Freeborn County State Aid Highway No. 36 under State Project No. 5009-36 (T.H. 218=040).
2. The Board Chair is authorized to execute the agreement and any amendments thereto concerning the above referenced agreement with attestation by the County Clerk.

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:

RESOLUTION NO. 26-217

TITLE: Administration is recommending to fill the Freeborn County Patrol Deputy 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 Patrol Deputy 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, William Tudor, Freeborn County Patrol Deputy, has resigned his position effective July 2nd, 2026;

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

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 26-218

TITLE: A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE EXISTENCE AND SALE OF SURPLUS COUNTY PROPERTY

WHEREAS, Freeborn County has an inventory of property;

WHEREAS, Freeborn County has established a rotation schedule for a portion of the existing inventory of property;

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

1. Freeborn County has determined that a portion of the existing inventory has completed the rotation schedule and is considered to be surplus.
2. Freeborn County, by and through its Board of Commissioners consider the following property as surplus and authorize the sale of the following surplus property:
 - 2021 Dodge Durango VIN: 1C4SDJFT0MC696058

Resolution was seconded by Commissioner Eckstrom.

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

Chair, Commissioner Edwin adjourned the meeting at 9:14 a.m. until 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, August 18th, 2026.

By: _____
Brad Edwin
Chair

Attest: _____
Chelsea Barrett
County Clerk