

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS, GOODHUE COUNTY, MN
APRIL 1, 2025

The Goodhue County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, April 1, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. in the Goodhue County Boardroom, Red Wing, MN, with Commissioners Anderson, Flanders, Betcher and Greseth all present. C/Majerus was absent.

C/Anderson asked for any disclosure of interest. There were none.

- ¹ Moved by C/Betcher, seconded by C/Flanders, and carried to approve the March 18, 2025, County Board meeting minutes.
- ² Moved by C/Greseth, seconded by C/Betcher, and carried to approve the April 1, 2025, County Board Agenda.
- ³ Moved by C/Flanders, seconded by C/Betcher, and carried to approve the following items on the consent agenda:

- 1. Approve Award CSAH 8 Bridge 25516 Replacement Contract – S.P. 025-608-013
 - 2. Approve funding for the SEMNECB Administrator and Fiscal Agent.
 - 3. Adopt a resolution authorizing application for DEED Energy Transition Communities grant

SHERIFF’S REPORT

Proclamation Recognizing National Public Safety Telecommunicator Week - April 13-19, 2025. Captain Chad Steffen recommended the board approve the Proclamation recognizing National Public Safety Telecommunicator week.

- ⁴ Moved by C/Greseth, seconded by C/Flanders, and carried to approve the following proclamation recognizing National Public Safety Telecommunicator week:

WHEREAS, emergencies requiring police, fire, or emergency medical services can occur at any time; and

WHEREAS, the prompt response of law enforcement officers, firefighters, and paramedics is critical to the protection of life and preservation of property; and

WHEREAS, the safety of our first responders is dependent upon the quality and accuracy of information obtained from citizens who contact emergency communications centers; and

WHEREAS, Public Safety Telecommunicators are the first and most critical contact our citizens have with emergency services, providing a vital link between the community and emergency responders; and

WHEREAS, Public Safety Telecommunicators of Goodhue County have contributed substantially to the apprehension of criminals, suppression of fires, and treatment of patients; and

WHEREAS, each dispatcher has exhibited compassion, understanding, and professionalism during the performance of their duties over the past year; and

WHEREAS, the Goodhue County Sheriff's Office values of Integrity, Respect, Empathy, and Compassion are exemplified daily by our Public Safety Telecommunicators;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Goodhue County Board of Commissioners declares the week of April 13 through April 19, 2025, as National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week in Goodhue County, in honor of the men and women whose diligence and professionalism keep our county and citizens safe.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands and caused the Seal of Goodhue County to be affixed this 1st day of April, 2025.

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COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Sexual Assault Awareness/Child Abuse Prevention Month Proclamation. Assistant County Attorney, Erin Kuester, recommended the board approve the proposed proclamation naming Sexual Assault Awareness and Child Abuse Prevention Month.

⁵ Moved by C/Flanders, seconded by C/Greseth, and carried to approve the following proclamation recognizing Sexual Assault Awareness and Child Abuse Prevention Month:

Whereas, the issues of sexual violence and child abuse, have many connections. Both are part of overarching experiences of harm that contribute to the continued reproduction of trauma and oppression in society and across generations.

Whereas, nationally one in three women and one in four men will experience some form of sexual violence in their lifetime and one in five girls and one in twenty boys is a victim of child sexual abuse; and

Whereas, rape, sexual assault, and sexual harassment harm our community, and statistics show that every 68 seconds an American is sexually assaulted; and

Whereas, sexual abuse, assault, and harassment affect individuals of every background; and

Whereas, the purpose of Sexual Assault Awareness Month and Child Abuse Prevention Month is to raise public awareness about these issues, educate our community on how to prevent it and share resources available to those impacted by sexual assault and child abuse.

Whereas, the goal of this month is to raise public awareness about sexual violence; provide education on individual and societal impacts; and encourage community level responses to sexual violence; and

Whereas, the theme of this year's Sexual Assault Awareness Month campaign is "Together We Act, United We Change." The theme's focus highlights the power of working together to create safer, more respectful environments for all; and

Whereas, ending child abuse and sexual violence is a community responsibility. We must work together to educate our community about what can be done to prevent child abuse and sexual assault and how to support survivors; and

Whereas, anyone can be a leader in preventing and ending child abuse and sexual violence. As employers, educators, parents, and friends, we all have an obligation to uphold the basic principle that every individual should be free from violence and fear; and

Now therefore, be it resolved, that the Goodhue County Board, on behalf of all residents of Goodhue County, does hereby proclaim the month of April 2025, as Sexual Assault Awareness Month and Child Abuse Prevention Month in Goodhue County, to keep our community members safe from these crimes and to stand with survivors and victims of sexual assault and child abuse.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Public Hearing to Discuss Request for Access. On January 24, 2025, David and Vanessa Jandro submitted an application for an access permit. Their parcel (PID 371000230) has one existing access, and the owners are requesting a second access for the purposes of maintenance on their parcel and constructing a shed. County staff denied the permit because the proposed access did not meet the spacing requirements outlined in the County's Access Management and Control Ordinance. Furthermore, the parcel currently has a driveway that provides for reasonable and convenient access to the parcel. Staff recommended the board hold a public hearing to discuss a request for a variance for the property at 35220 County 14 Boulevard in Leon Township.

Staff provided the variance application with the attachments to the board as well as a memo containing the following findings of fact:

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1. The Goodhue County Access Ordinance in section 5, subdivision 2, table 5.2 specifies a minimum distance between access points of 550 feet with a standard distance of 725 feet adjacent to a roadway with a speed of 55 miles per hour.
2. The speed limit on CSAH 14 in this area is 55 miles per hour.
3. The general area surrounding the parcel has four (4) accesses within 975 feet.
4. The requested access location has a maximum spacing of approximately 110.80 feet from an adjacent access. This does not provide for the appropriate amount of spacing for a 55 mile per hour road.
5. The parcel has an existing driveway that provides reasonable and convenient access.
6. The purpose of a second driveway is for ease of maintenance on various areas of the parcel and to access a shed that has not been constructed yet.

⁶ Moved by C/Betcher, seconded by C/Flanders, and carried to approve to open the public hearing.

C/Anderson asked three times for public comment.

David and Vanessa Jandro, 35220 County 14 Blvd, Cannon Falls, addressed the board. They stated that they have a unique property in that it is limestone and is a hill. They wanted to put an access on the north side of their property to access the well and propane tank in case it ever needed to be serviced. In addition, they have diseased trees on their property that they hire a tree service to take care of. In the past they have accessed the property by using the neighbor's driveway, however, he is moving out in May. Mr. Jandro felt that the main reason his request was being denied was due to safety issues and he did not feel that was in issue. He pointed out that his neighbor to the north had three driveways and it has never presented a safety issue to him. They were also planning to build a cold storage shed, but the main purpose for the access was to have access to the north side of their property.

There were no further comments.

⁷ Moved by C/Greseth, seconded by C/Flanders, and carried to approve to close the public hearing.

Assistant County Engineer, Jake Rezac, explained that the basis of the ordinance pertains to the county roads. When accesses are spaced closely together, it may present a traffic management issue and/or more conflict points in a short stretch of highway.

C/Greseth questioned how the neighbors got three access points. County Engineer, Jess Greenwood, explained that someone could have approved those prior to policy existing in Goodhue County or they could have been built without permits. The fact that they are there doesn't mean they were approved. Mr. Greenwood pointed out that this proposed area also has a double yellow striped, no passing zone, indicating that there are already some sight distance issues.

C/Greseth asked if Public Works would take up the issue with the neighbors having three driveways and possibly having one or two of them removed. Mr. Greenwood agreed that they would investigate it but noted that it would take a considerable amount of time.

C/Betcher asked if the new building could be built on the south side of the property instead of the north side. She also questioned how many times cars would be going in and out of this proposed access. Ms. Jandro stated that the building could go on the other side, however, it was literally cold storage so access to and from the building would be at most, once or twice each month. In addition, they still needed access to the north side of their property to get to their well, trees, and propane tank.

C/Greseth questioned if the Jandro's had pursued getting an easement from the neighbor to get to the property. Mr. Jandro noted that they considered an easement, but did not feel it was the best option. An easement involved lawyer fees and segmented property lines and was expensive. In addition, he didn't want to lower his neighbor's property value.

C/Anderson asked the County Attorney for his insight on the situation.

County Attorney, Steve O'Keefe, stated that the county ordinance does indicate that to grant the variance, the board shall make a finding of fact as appropriate that the proposed action will not:

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- 1. Unreasonably increase the congestion in the public right of way,
- 2. Will not unreasonably decrease the safety of the public traveling in the public right of way, and
- 3. Be contrary in any way to the spirit and intent of the ordinance.

Mr. O’Keefe felt that the staff comments related to number two and three of those required findings. He stated that for the board to grant the variance, they would have to make findings in relation to those three categories otherwise a denial would be appropriate.

C/Betcher commented that she felt for the applicant, however, given that the board had to find that it’s not contrary to the spirit and intent of the ordinance, she did not feel they were able to make that finding.

⁸ Moved by C/Betcher, seconded by C/Flanders, and carried to approve to deny the request for a variance for the property at 35220 County 14 Boulevard in Leon Township.

LAND USE MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Repeal Goodhue County Official Highway Map No. 1 by adopting Ordinance No. 2025-01. The Planning Advisory Commission recommended the county board adopt the staff report into the record; accept the testimony, exhibits, and other evidence presented into the record; and APPROVE an ordinance repealing the portion of Map #1 in the subject area, making the following findings:

- 1. The County finds that the current alignment and design of County Road 11 meets the current the future needs of the County
- 2. Land subject to Map 1 that will no longer be subject to the map falls in Sections: 20, 21, 22, 27, 28, 29, and 30, all in Pine Island Township, Goodhue County, Minnesota.

⁹ Moved by C/Betcher, seconded by C/Greseth, and carried to approve the Planning Advisory Commission recommendation and adopt the staff report into the record; accept the testimony, exhibits, and other evidence presented into the record; and APPROVE an ordinance repealing the portion of Map #1 in the subject area, making the following findings:

- 1. The County finds that the current alignment and design of County Road 11 meets the current the future needs of the County
- 2. Land subject to Map 1 that will no longer be subject to the map falls in Sections: 20, 21, 22, 27, 28, 29, and 30, all in Pine Island Township, Goodhue County, Minnesota.

FINANCE AND TAXPAYERS SERVICES REPORT

School Resource Officer Contracts. This issue was discussed at the March 18, 2025, board meeting. Staff was given direction to estimate true costs for the School Resource Officer. Staff recommended the board revise the SRO contracts with the actual cost rates.

C/Anderson questioned if the board wanted to reconsider the decision made by the board at the March 18, 2025, county board meeting. C/Betcher stated that she was comfortable with the decision the board made at the last meeting. C/Greseth stated that due to the revised information the board received, he supported reconsidering the issue. C/Flanders agreed.

¹⁰ Moved by C/Greseth, seconded by C/Flanders, and carried to approve to reconsider the School Resource Officer Contracts at the April 15, 2025, County Board meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

C/Betcher	•
C/Greseth	•
C/Anderson	•
C/Majerus	•
C/Flanders	• SELCO Board Update.

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Administrator Arneson	•
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Review and Approve the County Claims

- 11
- Moved by C/Greseth, seconded by C/Flanders, and carried to approve to pay the County claims in the amount of 01-General Revenue \$277,420.12, 03-Public Works \$295,684.16, 11- Human Service Fund \$16,531.24, 12- GC Family Services Collaborative \$00, 15- County Ditch 1 \$00, 20-National Opioid Settlement Fund \$00, 25- EDA \$00, 34-Capital Equipment \$80,958.67, 35-Debt Services \$00, 61-Waste Management \$10,376.45, 72-Other Agency Funds \$97,678.26, 81-Settlement \$3,174.00, in the total amount of \$781,822.90.

Adjourn

- 12
- Moved by C/Flanders, seconded by C/Greseth, and carried to approve to adjourn the April 1, 2025, County Board Meeting.

SCOTT O. ARNESON
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

BRAD ANDERSON, CHAIR
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

MINUTE

1.
- Approved the March 18, 2025, board meeting minutes. (Motion carried 4-0)
2.
- Approved the April 1, 2025, county board agenda. (Motion carried 4-0)
3.
- Approved the consent agenda. (Motion carried 4-0)
4.
- Approved the Telecommunicator Proclamation. (Motion carried 4-0)
5.
- Approved the Sexual Assault & Child Abuse Proclamation. (Motion carried 4-0)
6.
- Approved to open the public hearing. (Motion carried 4-0)
7.
- Approved to close the public hearing. (Motion carried 4-0)
8.
- Approved to deny the request for variance. (Motion carried 4-0)
9.
- Approved the County Ordinance 2025-01. (Motion carried 4-0)
10.
- Approved to reconsider SRO contracts at the April 18, 2025, county board meeting. (Motion carried 4-0)
11.
- Approved the county claims. (Motion carried 4-0)
12.
- Approved to adjourn the April 1, 2025, County Board Meeting. (Motion carried 4-0)