

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS, GOODHUE COUNTY, MN  
DECEMBER 16, 2025**

The Goodhue County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, December 16, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. in the County Board Room, Government Center, Red Wing, MN, with Commissioners Anderson, Flanders, Betcher, Majerus, and Greseth all present.

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

- 1
- Moved by C/Majerus, seconded by C/Betcher, and carried to approve the December 2, 2025, County Board meeting minutes.
- 2
- Moved by C/Majerus, seconded by C/Greseth, and carried to approve the December 16, 2025, County Board Agenda.

C/Majerus requested to remove item #11- Approve Annual Building Code Contracts from the consent agenda.

**Approve Annual Building Code Contracts from the consent agenda.** C/Majerus would not support the county having a building inspection department that cost the taxpayers money.

- 3
- Moved by C/Flanders, seconded by C/Betcher, and carried (4-1-0) with C/Majerus dissenting to approve the Annual building code contracts.
- 4
- Moved by C/Majerus, seconded by C/Greseth, and carried to approve the following items on the consent agenda:

1. Approve Annual Delegation of EFT Authority (2026)

2. Approve Authorization to Designate Financial Institutions as Depositories

3. Approve Petty Cash and Change Funds (2026)

4. Approve Authorized Agents for Designation (2026)

5. Approve the 2025 Donations

6. Approve the 2026 Vehicle Allowance

7. Approve the Re-Appointment of Kerry Olson to the Belle Creek Watershed District Managers.

8. Approve Clerical Error Abatement List Updated

9. Approve the FY26 - FY27 ATV grant

10. Approve 2025-2026 Snowmobile Trail Club Agreement

11.

12. PFML MOA with Teamsters

13. Approve 2026 Compensation for Non-Union Employees

14. Approve 2026 Personnel Policy

15. Approve PFML MOA with LELS #91

16. Approve the RPI Grant

17. Approve the FY26 - FY27 Snowmobile grant

18. Approve the gambling permit for Cannon Falls Youth Sports Club at the Wanamingo Sportsmans Club on May 17, 2026

**HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGER’S REPORT**

**2026 Commissioner Wages.** Per Minnesota Statute 375.055, the County Board shall, by resolution, set the annual salary for Board members to be effective January 1 of the next year. The resolution shall contain a statement of the new salary on an annual basis. Currently Commissioner wages are set at \$25,417.60. The 2026 Budget reflects a 3% increase bringing commissioner wages to \$26,181. Staff was seeking direction from the board to set wages for 2026.

- 5
- Moved by C/Betcher, seconded by C/Flanders, and carried (4-1-0) with C/Majerus dissenting to approve the 2026 Commissioner Wages at \$26,181.

**2026 Per Diem Rates.** The civilian and commissioner per diem rate is currently \$100 per day. Staff was asking the Board to consider the 2026 per diem rates at \$100 for both the civilian rate and the commissioner rate. If the County Board wanted to address the fact that some days contain multiple meetings and some days are more time-consuming than others, another option would be to set the civilian and commissioner per diem rate at \$100 for 4 hours or less and \$125 for more than 4 hours. Once the per diem rate is set by the Board for 2026, it cannot be changed during the year.

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The board discussed and decided to leave at the current rate.

- 6 Moved by C/Betcher, seconded by C/Greseth, and carried to approve the 2026 civilian and commissioner per diem rate at \$100 per day.

**VETERAN’S SERVICE OFFICE**

**Ride Reinstatement Request.** While enacting the plan to transfer the ride program from the county to the Disabled American Veterans (DAV), it has become apparent that the DAV is unable to handle the volume of rides from the county. Staff recommended the board reinstate the Goodhue County Veteran Ride Program while the Veteran’s Service Office and the DAV find a solution for a hand off of the Goodhue County rides.

- 7 Moved by C/Flanders, seconded by C/Greseth, and carried to reinstate the Goodhue County Veteran Ride Program with the Veteran’s Service Office and the DAV find a solution for a hand off of the Goodhue County rides.

**FINANCE & TAXPAYER SERVICES**

**Cannabis Retail Registration Application.** Staff recommended the board approve the Cannabis Retail Registration Application submitted by Flor Oscura LLC, DBA American Made Cannabis in the City of Lake City.

- 8 Moved by C/Greseth, seconded by C/Betcher, and carried to approve the Cannabis Retail Registration application submitted by Flor Oscura LLC, DBA American Made Cannabis in the City of Lake City.

**2025 Fund Balance Designations.** Staff recommended the board approve the proposed 2025 Fund Balance Commitments as presented.

- 9 Moved by C/Flanders, seconded by C/Majerus, and carried to approve the 2025 Fund Balance Commitments as presented.

**PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

**Federal Dollar Exchange with Wabasha County.** Earlier this year staff from Wabasha County reached out to discuss the possibility of trading federal dollars that they are receiving in 2028 for Goodhue County local dollars. This exchange of funds would be possible as Goodhue County will be receiving \$4.65 million in federal dollars for a project on CSAH 11 from CSAH 27 to Pine Island. Staff recommended the Board proceed with the concept of Goodhue County receiving \$1.5 million dollars of federal money from Wabasha County in FY2028 and providing an equivalent amount in local funds to Wabasha County.

- 10 Moved by C/Greseth, seconded by C/Majerus, and carried to approve to proceed with the concept of Goodhue County receiving \$1.5 million dollars of federal money from Wabasha County in FY2028 and providing an equivalent amount in local funds to Wabasha County.

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATION**

**2026 Budget and Levy.** Staff recommended the board approve the proposed resolutions approving the 2026 budget, levy and capital plan as presented.

- 11 Moved by C/Betcher, seconded by C/Flanders, and carried (4-1-0) with C/Majerus dissenting to approve the following resolutions establishing the 2026 Budget, Levy and Capital Plan:

WHEREAS, The Goodhue County Board and Department Heads have conducted a lengthy, detailed budget planning process, and;

WHEREAS, The County Board has considered all correspondence regarding the same, and has again reviewed said proposed budget to determine that it does in fact represent fiscally responsible county government;

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Budget		
FUND	2026 Expenditures	2026 Revenues
General Fund	\$ 40,157,236	\$ 14,890,946
Public Works	\$ 28,264,035	\$ 21,928,370
Health and Human Services	\$ 24,906,572	\$ 15,118,480
County Ditch 1	\$ 41,660	\$ 41,660
EDA	\$ 46,750	\$ -
Capital Plan	\$ 5,256,325	\$ 1,137,587
Debt Services	\$ 2,015,143	\$ 37,527
Waste Management	\$ 1,260,643	\$ 532,290
2026 Levy		\$ 48,261,504
Total	\$ 101,948,364	\$ 101,948,364

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the proposed 2026 Goodhue County Budget be approved as presented.

AND:

WHEREAS, Goodhue County Department Heads have submitted 2026 proposed department budgets which include anticipated revenues and expenditures; and

WHEREAS, The County Administrator has compiled all 2026 funding requests, revised and presented said requests to the County Board; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Goodhue County Board of Commissioners does hereby certify to the State of Minnesota the following proposed property tax levy:

Levy	
Fund	2026 Final Levy
General Fund	\$ 25,266,290
Public Works	\$ 6,335,665
Health and Human Services	\$ 9,788,092
County Ditch 1	\$ -
EDA	\$ 46,750
Capital Plan	\$ 4,118,738
Debt Services	\$ 1,977,616
Waste Management	\$ 728,353
Total	\$ 48,261,504

**First Board Meeting of 2026.** Staff recommends the County Board approve January 6, 2026, at 9:00 a.m., as the first official County Board meeting of 2026. The location of the meeting will be the County Board Room, Government Center, Red Wing.

<sup>12</sup> Moved by C/Betcher, seconded by C/Majerus, and carried to approve January 6, 2026, at 9:00 a.m., as the first official County Board meeting of 2026. The location of the meeting will be the County Board Room, Government Center, Red Wing.

**2026 SEMMCHRA Budget & Levy Request.** Buffy Beranak with SEMMCHRA recommended the board approve the 2026 final levy and budget for Southeastern Minnesota Mult County Housing & Redevelopment Authority.

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13 Moved by C/Betcher, seconded by C/Flanders, and carried to approve the following resolution approving final special benefit tax levy of Southeastern Minnesota Multi-County Housing and Redevelopment Authority pursuant to Minnesota statutes, section 469.033, Subd. 6, and approving a budget for fiscal year 2026:

WHEREAS, the Southeastern Minnesota Multi-County Housing and Redevelopment Authority (the "Authority") was created by action of the Boards of Commissioners of Dodge, Goodhue, Wabasha and Goodhue Counties (collectively referred to as the "Counties") pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 469.004; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to such action on the part of the Counties and Minnesota Statutes, Sections 469.001 to 469.047 (the "Act"), the Authority was granted all of the same functions, rights, powers, duties, privileges, immunities and limitations as are provided for housing and redevelopment authorities created for cities under the Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 469.033, subd. 6, of the Act permits the Authority to levy and collect a special benefit tax of up to .0185% of taxable market value upon all taxable property, both real and personal, within the Authority's area of operation; and

WHEREAS, the Authority has requested that the Board of Commissioners of Goodhue County approve the levy of such a final special benefit tax in the amount of \$\_386,940\_ to be levied upon all taxable market value of taxable property within the Authority's area of operation contained within Goodhue County; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Goodhue County has considered such request by the Authority and believes that consenting to such a final special benefit tax levy by the Authority is in the best interests of Goodhue County and its residents; and

WHEREAS, the Authority is also required pursuant to Section 469.033, subd. 6, of the Act to, in connection with the levy of such a special benefit tax, formulate and file a budget in accordance with the budget procedures of the Counties in the same manner as required of executive departments of the Counties and the amount of the tax levy for the following year shall be based upon that budget and approved by the Counties; and

WHEREAS, the Authority has presented to the Board of Commissioners of Goodhue County a copy of a proposed budget for its operations for fiscal year 2026.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Board of Commissioners of Goodhue County as follows: Section 1. That the budget for fiscal year 2026 for the operations of the Authority as presented for consideration by the Board of Commissioners of Goodhue County is hereby in all respects approved. Section 2. That the levy of a final special benefit tax pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 469.033, subd. 6, is hereby consented to with respect to taxes payable in calendar year 2026 in the amount of \$\_386,940\_ to be levied upon all taxable market value of taxable property within the Authority's area of operation within Goodhue County.

**Union Pacific Railer Merger.** Kayla Christensen, Public Affairs Director with K2 & Company updated the board on the proposed Union Pacific-Norfolk Southern merger and its potential impact on Goodhue County. No action was needed on this issue.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

C/Betcher	•
C/Greseth	• SE Communications Meeting Update.
C/Anderson	•
C/Majerus	•
C/Flanders	• Emergency Ambulance Funding Meetings.
Administrator Arneson	• AMC Update- C/Anderson received the President Award

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**New and Old Business.** Administrator Arneson announced that there would be a cake and coffee celebration in honor of C/Anderson receiving the President Award following the January 6, 2026, County Board Meeting in the County Board Room.

**Review and Approve the County Claims**

- 14 Moved by C/Greseth, seconded by C/Majerus, and carried to approve to pay the County claims in the amount of 01-General Revenue \$501,736.89, 03-Public Works \$578,869.73, 11- Human Service Fund \$182,187.49, 12- GC Family Services Collaborative \$00, 15- County Ditch 1 \$00, 20-National Opioid Settlement Fund \$00, 25- EDA \$00, 34-Capital Equipment \$1,210.00, 35-Debt Services \$00, 61-Waste Management \$13,427.92, 72-Other Agency Funds \$00, 81-Settlement \$25,491,760.46, in the total amount of \$26,769,192.49.

**Adjourn**

- 15 Moved by C/Flanders, and C/Greseth, carried to approve to adjourn the December 16, 2025, County Board Meeting.

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SCOTT O. ARNESON COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR	BRAD ANDERSON, CHAIR BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
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MINUTE

1. Approved the December 2, 2025, board meeting minutes. (Motion carried 5-0)
2. Approved the December 16, 2025, county board agenda. (Motion carried 5-0)
3. Approved the 2026 Building Code Contracts. (Motion carried 4-1-0)
4. Approved the consent agenda as amended. (Motion carried 5-0)
5. Approved the 2026 Commissioner Wages. (Motion carried 4-1-0)
6. Approved the 2026 Per Diem Rate. (Motion carried 5-0)
7. Approved to reinstate the Veteran’s Ride program until a further date. (Motion carried 5-0)
8. Approved the cannabis retail registration application for Flor Oscura LLC. (Motion carried 5-0)
9. Approved the 2025 Fund Balance Designations. (Motion carried 5-0)
10. Approved the Federal Dollar Exchange with Wabasha County. (Motion carried 5-0)
11. Approved the 2026 Budget, Levy, and Capital Plan Resolution. (Motion carried 4-1-0)
12. Approved the January 6, 2026, as the first County Board Meeting of 2026. (Motion carried 5-0)
13. Approved the 2026 Budget and Levy Request for SEMMCHRA. (Motion carried 5-0)
14. Approved the county claims. (Motion carried 5-0)
15. Approved to adjourn the December 16, 2025, County Board Meeting. (Motion carried 5-0)