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TO: Goodhue County Board of Commissioners
FROM: Lucas Dahling, Finance Director
SUBJECT: Potential Revision to Food and Beverage Ordinance
DATE: June 2, 2026

Background

Goodhue County has been approached by a business that would like a seasonal on-sale intoxicating liquor license. In accordance with Minn. Stat. 340A.404 Subd. 6, counties may, with the approval of the Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety, issue seasonal on-sale licenses to restaurants, clubs, and resorts as defined in section 157.15, subdivision 11, within the area of the County that is unincorporated. Seasonal licenses are valid for a period specified by the Board, not to exceed nine months.

The Food and Beverage Ordinance does not currently allow for the issuance of seasonal on-sale liquor licenses. The current version was adopted by the Goodhue County Board of Health on May 3rd, 2011, and sections are outdated. If the Board wishes staff to update the ordinance to allow for seasonal licenses it would make sense to create a cross-county work group including but not limited to Health and Human Services, Attorney, Sheriff, Land Use, and Finance staff to make a comprehensive update.

Direction

Staff are looking for consensus of whether or not to pursue the revision of the Food and Beverage Ordinance.