



February 24, 2026
OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

The Nicollet County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, February 24, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. in the Nicollet County Board Room. Present at the meeting were Commissioners Dehen, Zins, Kolars, Dranttel and Helget. County Administrator Mandy Landkamer and County Attorney Michelle Zehnder Fischer were also in attendance.

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Commissioner Zins and seconded by Commissioner Helget to approve the agenda. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of Bills
2. February 10, 2026 Board Minutes
3. Out of State Travel: Montana Summer Institute 2026: Creating Conditions Where the Good Can Grow
4. Acknowledgement of the Auditor's Warrants and approval of the Commissioner Warrants as presented for the following amounts:
 - a. General Revenue Fund - \$ 320,895.24
 - b. Road & Bridge Fund – \$29,184.84
 - c. Human Services Fund - \$196,727.92

Motion by Commissioner Kolars and seconded by Commissioner Helget to approve the consent agenda items. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

Public Appearances

Andy Davis, Union Presbyterian Church Pastor, stated his concerns of the impact of the “One Big Beautiful Bill” and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in St. Peter. He would like to see the county take some leadership in pushing back, letting the representatives know this is unacceptable and for the county to refuse to cooperate.

Heidi Miller, stated her concerns from her daughter’s perspective as to the effects of ICE in St. Peter. She inquired if the county could deploy every resource, authority and influence available to defend the rights of the county residents against aggressive and illegal actions used by ICE, help residents feel safe again and kids feel safe in school.

Mary Behrends, former educator, stated her concerns of the “One Big Beautiful Bill” on education. She inquired if the county will use its influence to publicly advocate Congress to repeal the “One Big Beautiful Bill”.

Christina, a senior at St. Peter High School, shared her personal experience with ICE; her uncle was detained on his way to work. She inquired if the Board will prohibit ICE from using city or county owned property or parking spots.

Patty Conlon, a St. Peter small business owner, shared her concerns with the financial impact of ICE presence in the county.

Community Corrections

Consider 2025 Budget Amendment

Director Molitor requested approval of a 2025 Budget Amendment due to increased costs of juvenile out-of-home placements.

Motion by Commissioner Dranttel and seconded by Commissioner Helget to approve the 2025 Community Corrections Budget Amendment. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

Health and Human Services

Consider the Joint Powers Agreement: Healthy Kids Minnesota

Director Sassenberg requested approval of the Joint Powers Agreement with the Minnesota Department of Health for participation in the Healthy Kids Minnesota program. The expansion of this program in Mankato Area Public Schools will measure exposure to environmental chemicals that may affect child development. Children ages 3-6 can be tested for substances such as metals, pesticides and air pollutants during their Early Childhood Screening appointments.

Motion by Commissioner Helget and seconded by Commissioner Kolars to approve the Joint Powers Agreement: Healthy Kids Minnesota. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

Property Services

February 17, 2026, Planning and Zoning Advisory Commission

Zoning Specialist Zehnder requested the approval of the following Conditional Use Permits with recommended conditions and findings of facts from the February 17, 2026 hearing.

PLN26-01: Conditional Use Permit with Findings of Fact – Marty Preusser, with Pentagon Materials, Inc.

The Planning and Zoning Advisory Commission recommended approval with the attached conditions.

Motion by Commissioner Zins and seconded by Commissioner Helget to approve the Conditional Use Permit with Findings of Facts PLN26-01. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

PLN26-04: Conditional Use Permit and Findings of Fact – Noah Klaseus

The Planning and Zoning Advisory Commission recommended approval with the revised conditions.

Motion by Commissioner Zins and seconded by Commissioner Helget to approve the Conditional Use Permit with Findings of Facts PLN26-04. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

Public Works

Consider Agricultural Inspector's Report

Ditch and Agricultural Inspector Henry requested approval of the 2025 Agricultural Inspector's Annual Report and Work Plan Summary for 2026.

Motion by Commissioner Zins and seconded by Commissioner Helget to approve the Agricultural Inspector's Report and Work Plan Summary for 2026. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

Consider Approval of Minnesota Department of Agriculture Grant Contract Agreement

Ditch and Agricultural Inspector Henry requested approval of the Grant Contract Agreement and authorize the County Administrator to sign the agreement via DocuSign. The grant amount is \$10,300.00.

Motion by Commissioner Zins and seconded by Commissioner Helget to approve the Minnesota Department of Agriculture Grant Contract Agreement. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

Consider Cooperative Construction Agreement – CSAH 42 Reconstruction Project

Director Greenwood requested approval of the Cooperative Construction Agreement – CSAH 42 Reconstruction project and authorize the County Administrator to sign the agreement. This is a cooperative joint project with the City of Nicollet for the reconstruction of CSAH 42 from Trunk Hwy 111 east to Birch Street. This agreement lays out the roles, responsibilities and cost shares for both entities.

Motion by Commissioner Zins and seconded by Commissioner Helget to approve the Cooperative Construction Agreement – CSAH 42 Reconstruction Project. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

Administration

Consider Resolution to Transfer SCMMCHRA Housing Choice Voucher Program

County Administrator Landkamer requested approval of the South Central Minnesota Multi County Housing Redevelopment Authority voluntary transfer of the Housing Choice Voucher program to the Mankato Economic Authority. The transfer will be permanent and includes all the housing choice vouchers, units and associated budget authority, all housing assistance payments and administrative fee reserves and program assets and liabilities.

Motion by Commissioner Dranttel and seconded by Commissioner Kolars to approve the voluntary transferring of SCMMCHRA Housing Choice Voucher Program to the Mankato Economic Authority. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

County Attorney Update

County Attorney Zehnder Fischer reported she attended a ground working series, Conversations for Public Good at Gustavus on February 20, 2026. Conversations were had with community leaders on working together in times of crisis. Also attended the Community Liaison meeting at the Minnesota Security Hospital. Reminder of the one day conference through Stakeholders for Education Success at Gustavus on March 4, 2026.

Chair's Report:

- Board Workshop
- True Transit
- Department Head
- Local Legislators

Commissioner Committee Reports, Meetings & Conferences**Commissioner Marie Dranttel**

- Region 9
- SCMMCHRA
- Personnel Committee
- TdS Library Board
- Department Head

Commissioner Nicole Helget

- AMC Zoom
- Board Workshop
- ECRJC Advisory Committee
- Gustavus Student Senate
- Minnesota Security Hospital Community Liaison
- League of Women Voters

Commissioner Kurt Zins

- Personnel Committee
- Board Workshop
- Planning & Zoning Advisory Commission
- Building Committee
- Blue Earth County Public Works Facility Tour

Commissioner Jack Kolars

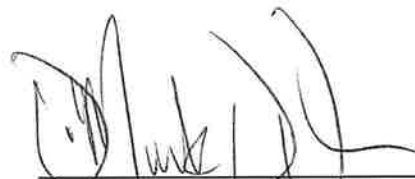
- Diversity Board
- Board Workshop
- Blue Earth County Public Works Facility Tour
- County Board
- AMC Zoom: Inspiring Public Service
- Minnesota Attorney General listening session

Approve Per Diems and Expenses:

Motion by Commissioner Kolars and seconded by Commissioner Helget to approve the expenses and per diems for the meetings noted above during the Commissioner Reports and/or as submitted on approved expense reports, and authorize payment of those expenses and per diems by the Finance Office. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

Adjourn:

The meeting adjourned at 9:56 a.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Dehen', written over a horizontal line.

MARK DEHEN, CHAIR
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mandy Landkamer', written over a horizontal line.
MANDY LANDKAMER,
CLERK TO THE BOARD

