



Mission:
**Working Together to Deliver Quality Services Valued by the
Community, Today and for Generations to Come.**

**Regular Meeting of the Isanti County Board of Commissioners
Government Center Board Room
Tuesday, March 3, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.**

Members Present: Chairman Duff; Commissioners Westerberg, Berg, Christensen, LaRowe
Members Absent: None
Others Present: A Usher, J Edblad, H Sward, J Bergerson, D Pikal, D Lakeberg, B Wendorf
(Reporters Stickles and Wagner)

O0o Chairman Duff called the meeting to order and led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

O0o Public Comment Session. Public comment was made.

26/03-01 Motion by Christensen, seconded by Westerberg, to approve the March 3rd, 2026, County Board Agenda as amended to add the Gambling Permit Application for Cambridge Isanti Hockey Association and the addition to the Personnel Action Item to ratify the hire of Chad Struss, Finance Director. Motion carried unanimously.

26/03-02 Motion by Christensen, seconded by Berg, to table the Gambling Permit Application for the Cambridge Isanti Hockey Association. This item will be put on the March 17, 2026, County Board agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

26/03-03 Motion by Berg, seconded by Christensen to approve the consent agenda as follows:

1. February 17, 2026, County Board Meeting Minutes and Minutes Summary.
2. Personnel Action Items: Ratify the hire of Chad Struss, Finance Director, effective April 6, 2026. Accept the resignation of Emily Herbert, Assistant Veterans Services Officer, effective February 24, 2026 (employed 5 months).
3. Final Plat for Tiegs Addition.
4. Utility Permits as follows: PERMIT NO. 26-03-09 - East Central Energy - CSAH 9; Install a new fiber drop along CSAH 9 starting at existing MST vault (1,010' west of CSAH 9 & Xingu St NE intersection) then bore southerly beneath CSAH 9 to new handhole then trench easterly 420' to new handhole then onto the members property to service local address of 7720 269th Ave NE Stacy, MN PERMIT NO. 26-03-10 - East Central Energy - CSAH 19; Install an underground fiber optic service line along CSAH 19 starting at existing MST vault (1,910' east of CSAH 19 & TH 65 intersection) then trench westerly 550' to new handhole 1 then trench another 755' to new handhole 2 then continue southwesterly onto the members property to service local address of 1464 305th Ave NE Cambridge, MN (Bjorkland Companies Yard) PERMIT NO. 26-03-11 - East Central Energy - CSAH 6; Replace the power lines on the power poles along CSAH 6 starting at pole number 133958 (southeast corner of CSAH 6 & CR 33 intersection) and going easterly & northerly to pole number 372381 (1,100' west of CSAH 6 & Fjeldheim Rd NE intersection) PERMIT NO. 26-03-12 - City of Braham - CSAH 26; Install a 10" Watermain along CSAH 26 (4th Street) from Broadway Ave. S to TH 107 (Main Ave. S.) PERMIT NO. 26-03-13 - CenterPoint Energy - CR 45; Install a 4" X 2" HVPT starting at 160' south of CR 45 & Pioneer Tr SE intersection then bore easterly beneath CR 45 to new 2"

PE 90 degree elbow then bore northerly to new gas main being installed 2' east of sidewalk and then going easterly onto Pioneer Tr SE.

5. Claims and warrants totaling \$145,974.11.

Motion carried unanimously.

O0o Payton Crotty, representing the office of Representative Pete Stauber, was scheduled to present but was not in attendance.

O0o Wayne Seiberlich, Isanti County Sheriff, provided an update on the estimate received for the jail wiring project.

26-03-04 Motion by Christensen, seconded by LaRowe to approve the RESOLUTION TO CONFIRM AND RATIFY ISANTI, KANABEC, PINE, AND CHISAGO JOINT COUNTY DRAINAGE AUTHORITY FOR JD 6, CONFIRMING SELECTION OF MEMBERS TO JOINT COUNTY DRAINAGE AUTHORITY BOARD, DETERMINING SELECTION OF MEMBERS TO FILL VACANCIES, AND DESIGNATING MAJORITY COUNTY WHEREAS, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 103E.235, subdivision 2, a public drainage system established or benefitting land in two or more counties requires the formation of a joint county drainage authority board consisting of five members, with at least one member from each county board of commissioners; and WHEREAS, Isanti, Kanabec, Pine, and Chisago Counties Judicial Ditch 6 ("JD 6") is an established public drainage system that provides an outlet for drainage to lands in Isanti, Kanabec, Pine, and Chisago Counties; and WHEREAS, the current composition of the joint county drainage authority does not include Chisago County, but because properties in Chisago County may be benefitted by JD 6, a Chisago County member must be seated on the joint county drainage authority; and WHEREAS, the Joint County Drainage Authority of Isanti, Kanabec, Pine, and Chisago Counties for JD 6 ("Isanti, Kanabec, Pine, and Chisago JDA") must be established to serve as the public drainage authority for properties in all counties benefitted by JD 6; and WHEREAS, the composition of the Isanti, Kanabec, Pine, and Chisago JDA shall include two members from Isanti County, one member from Kanabec County, one member from Pine County, and one member from Chisago County; and WHEREAS, a vacancy in the membership of the joint county drainage authority must be filled by joint action of the boards. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by this Board of Commissioners as follows: 1. The Boards of Commissioners of Isanti, Kanabec, Pine, and Chisago Counties are taking joint and concurrent action through identical resolutions by each selecting members from their respective boards of commissioners for appointment to the Isanti, Kanabec, Pine, and Chisago JDA for JD 6 and to proscribe the process for filling future vacancies in membership of the Isanti, Kanabec, Pine, and Chisago JDA. 2. That the Isanti County Board of Commissioners appoints the following initial members from Isanti County as members for appointment to the Isanti, Kanabec, Pine, and Chisago JDA for JD 6: Bill Berg (District 2) Steve Westerberg (District 3) 3. That the Isanti County Board of Commissioners confirms the concurrent appointment by the Kanabec County Board of Commissioners the following initial member from Kanabec County as a member for appointment to the Isanti, Kanabec, Pine, and Chisago JDA for JD 6: Peter Ripka (District 1) 4. That the Isanti County Board of Commissioners confirms the concurrent appointment by the Pine County Board of Commissioners the following initial member from Pine County as a member for appointment to the Isanti, Kanabec, Pine, and Chisago JDA for JD 6: Joshua Mohr (District 2) 5. That the Isanti County Board of Commissioners confirms the concurrent appointment by the Chisago County Board of Commissioners the following initial member from Chisago County as a member for appointment to the Isanti, Kanabec, Pine, and Chisago JDA for JD 6: _____ (District _) 6. Future vacancies on the Isanti, Kanabec, Pine, and Chisago JDA for JD 6 from Isanti County shall be filled by the successor Commissioner from the District indicated herein. 7. That since a majority of land benefitted by JD 6 is located within Isanti County, Isanti County shall be the "majority" county under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 103E. 8. That this Resolution, upon being adopted by all counties constituting members of the Isanti, Kanabec, Pine, and Chisago JDA for JD 6, constitutes the joint meeting directed under Minnesota Statutes, section 103E.235, subdivision 2, and that said Resolutions by other member counties are cross-

ratified by this Board for the formation of the Isanti, Kanabec, Pine, and Chisago Joint County Drainage Authority for JD 6 and for fulfilling all future vacancies by and through the process described herein. 9. That the Isanti County Board confirms and ratifies the prior actions of the Drainage Authority for JD 6 and directs further proceedings to occur under the authority of the newly composed Isanti, Kanabec, Pine, and Chisago Joint County Drainage Authority for JD 6. 10. That the Isanti, Kanabec, Pine, and Chisago JDA for JD 6 established herein shall be perpetual until either dissolved or modified by future action of the Isanti, Kanabec, Pine, and Chisago County Boards of Commissioners, seated jointly or through joint action. Motion carried unanimously.

26/03-05 Motion by Berg, seconded by Christensen to approve the RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE BECKLIN HOMESTEAD COUNTY PARK COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE STATE OF MINNESOTA AND COUNTY OF ISANTI Resolution approving entering into a cooperative agreement between the State of Minnesota, hereinafter referred to as the "State", and the County of Isanti, hereinafter referred to as the "County", to construct a paved entrance road and parking lot within Becklin Homestead County Park. WHEREAS, The State and the County are authorized under Minnesota Statutes Section 471.59, to enter into agreements to exercise common power jointly or cooperatively; and WHEREAS, The County owns land described as the Becklin Homestead County Park 34605 Holly St NW, Cambridge, MN Sec. 24, T36, R24; and WHEREAS, The State and the County have determined that the improvement of the Becklin Homestead entrance road and parking lot is of high priority; and WHEREAS, The State will assume all costs associated with the design and construction of the entrance road and parking lot; and WHEREAS, The final plans as developed by the State shall meet all applicable requirements for accessibility standards and the States requirements for stormwater retention and best management practices. THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the County shall be responsible for all routine maintenance and upkeep of the entrance road and parking lot and will keep the site in reasonable and safe condition for a period of Twenty (20) years except as otherwise agreed to in writing by both parties. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County shall ensure public use of the park is free and shall remain open every day in conjunction with the County's established hours for a facility of this type. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that BARRY WENDORF, ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DIVISION LEADER is hereby authorized to execute such agreements as are necessary to implement the project on behalf of the County. Motion carried unanimously.

26/03-06 Motion by Duff, seconded by Christensen to approve the purchase of two John Deere Z930M Lawn Mowers through a 3-year municipal lease. The yearly payments will be \$5,541.61. Motion carried unanimously.

00o Barry Wendorf, Environmental Services Division Leader, presented on the 2025 Greater MN Regional Parks and Trails Commission Policy and Planning Report.

26/03-07 Motion by Berg, seconded by Westerberg to approve the 2026 equipment rental rates and authorize the County Engineer to utilize these services as needed based on cost, availability, and emergency response requirements. Motion carried unanimously.

26/03-08 Motion by Berg, seconded by Westerberg, to approve entering into an agreement with Oertel Architects Ltd. for architectural and engineering services for the Highway Department Facility Project in the amount of \$1,137,678.25. The stipulated fee includes Basic Services for design and construction phase services, soft-cost related design services, and reimbursable expenses. The fee is fixed through the Program/Concept, Schematic Design, and Design Development phases, with subsequent phase compensation subject to Owner approval and negotiation in accordance with the agreement. Motion carried 4-1, with Commissioner Christensen voting no.

26/03-09 Motion by Christensen, seconded by LaRowe, to adjourn (10:54 a.m.). Motion carried unanimously.

Amanda Usher, County Administrator

Alan Duff, County Board Chairman

By: Connie Kitner, Administrative Assistant III