



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

**Annual Meeting of the Isanti County Board of Commissioners
Government Center Board Room
Tuesday, January 6, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.**

Members Present: Chairman Alan Duff, Commissioners: Bill Berg, Steve Westerberg, Todd Christensen, Kristi LaRowe

Members Absent: None

Others Present: A Usher, H Sward, A Larson, H Nelson, J Donnay, B Wendorf, T MacMillian

Reporters: B Stickles

00o At 9:08 a.m., Amanda Usher, County Administrator, called the meeting to order and led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

00o Amanda Usher, County Administrator, called for the election of the County Board Chairperson for 2025.

26/01-01 Motion by Christensen, seconded by LaRowe, to nominate Alan Duff for Chair of the County Board for 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

00o Amanda Usher, County Administrator, turned the meeting over to County Board Chairperson Alan Duff.

26/01-02 Motion by Christensen, seconded by LaRowe, to nominate Steven Westerberg for Vice Chair of the County Board for 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

26/01-03 Motion by Christensen, seconded by LaRowe, to approve the January 6, 2026, County Board Agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

00o Public Comment Session. Public comment was made.

26/01-04 Motion by Duff, seconded by Westerberg, to approve the Consent Agenda excluding item C-1, which was removed for separate consideration. Motion carried unanimously.

26/01-05 Motion by Christensen, seconded by Westerberg, to approve the December 16, 2025, County Board Meeting Minutes and Minutes Summary with the addition to include the 2026 budget figures into the Minutes Summary. Motion carried unanimously.

26/01-06 Motion by Berg, seconded by Westerberg, to approve the 2026 County Board of Commissioners Operating Guidelines. Motion carried unanimously.

26/01-07 Motion by LaRowe, seconded by Christensen, to approve the following 2026 County Board Meeting Schedule: County Board meetings will be held on the first and third Tuesday of the month beginning at 9:00 a.m. except for the following meetings which will begin at 6:00 p.m.: August 18 and November 17. All meetings will be held in the Isanti County Board Room of the Isanti County Government Center, 555 18th Ave SW, Cambridge, Minnesota 55008. Motion carried unanimously.

26/01-08 Motion by Christensen, seconded by Westerberg, to open the Public Hearing (9:30 a.m.) Motion carried unanimously.

O0o At this time Amanda Usher, County Administrator, read the following: NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Isanti County Board of Commissioners will hold a public hearing on January 6, 2026, at 9:30 a.m., in the County Board Room of the Isanti County Government Center, 555 18th Avenue SW, Cambridge, MN, 55008 for the purpose of discussing and hearing comments on the proposed Isanti County Capital Improvement Plan. The proposed Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) is available in the Administrators Office at the Isanti County Government Center, 555 18th Avenue SW, Cambridge, MN 55008. By order of the Isanti County Board of Commissioners this 6th day of December 2025.

No public comment was made. No written comment was submitted.

26/01-09 Motion by Christensen, seconded by Berg, to close the Public Hearing (9:32 a.m.) Motion carried unanimously.

26/01-10 Motion by Duff, seconded by Christensen, to approve the Isanti County Capital Improvement Plan, with the amendment to change the word “voter” to “constituent”. Motion carried unanimously.

26/01-11 Motion by Christensen, seconded by Westerberg, to approve the following 2026 Committee of the Whole Meeting Schedule: January 13, February 10, March 10, April 14, May 12, June 9, July 14, July 28, August 11, August 25, September 8, September 22, October 13, November 10, December 10 at 9:00 a.m. All meetings will be held in the Isanti County Board Room of the Isanti County Government Center, 555 18th Ave SW, Cambridge, Minnesota 55008. Motion carried unanimously.

26/01-12 Motion by Westerberg, seconded by Berg, to approve the following Drainage Authority meeting dates: March 17, June 16, September 15, December 15 to be held immediately following the County Board Meeting. All meetings will be held in the Isanti County Board Room of the Isanti County Government Center, 555 18th Ave SW, Cambridge, Minnesota 55008. Motion carried unanimously.

26/01-13 Motion by Westerberg, seconded by LaRowe, to approve the following 2026 County Board Committee Assignments:

2026 BOARD AND COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

(All Board and Committee assignments are one-year terms unless otherwise noted)

2026 Appointees

Board of Adjustments

County Board Room

District 1	<u>Diane Gunion</u>
District 2	<u>Jim Fridstrom</u>
District 3	<u>Val Anderson</u>
District 4	<u>David Henderson</u>
District 5	<u>Connie Thorp</u>

Planning Commission Representative on Board

of Adjustment (Appointed by Planning Commission)

Kathy Skiba

Budget Committee

County Board Chair	<u>Alan Duff</u>
County Board Vice Chair	<u>Steve Westerberg</u>
County Administrator	<u>Amanda Usher</u>
Auditor-Treasurer	<u>Angie Larson</u>

Cambridge-Isanti Bike Trail

Short yearly meeting.

Bill Berg

Central Minnesota Council on Aging

Meets Quarterly

(This appointee also serves on Isanti County Senior Activity Center Board)

Kristi LaRowe

Steve Westerberg (Alt)

Central Minnesota Jobs and Training

- Meets Quarterly

Alan Duff

Todd Christensen (Alt)

Committee of the Whole

Meets twice monthly - Currently 1st & 3rd Tuesday at 9:00 a.m.

Alan Duff

Bill Berg

Kristi LaRowe

Todd Christensen

Steve Westerberg

Compliance Committee (Recorders' Fees)

Meets as needed.

Todd Christensen

Trina Bergloff (staff)

Elisha Long (staff)

Amanda Usher (staff)

Angie Larson (staff)

Corrections Advisory Board

Meets quarterly; Wednesday's; June , Sept., Dec.; 7:30 a.m.

Bill Berg

East Central Regional Development Commission

Meets 4th Monday of every other month; 7:00 p.m.

Todd Christensen

Steve Westerberg (Alt)

Kristi LaRowe (Alt)

East Central Regional Juvenile Detention Center

Meets four times a year

Kristi LaRowe

Tim MacMillian (staff)

East Central Solid Waste Commission

Meets 2nd Monday of the month

Bill Berg

Alan Duff (alt)

Trina Bergloff (staff)

Economic Development Authority

Meets as needed

District 1	<u>Alan Duff</u>
	<u>Jamie Erickson</u>
District 2	<u>Bill Berg</u>
District 3	<u>Steve Westerberg</u>
	<u>Seth Zeltinger</u>
District 4	<u>Todd Christensen</u>
	<u>Becky Moritz</u>
District 5	<u>Kristi LaRowe</u>
	<u>Keith Kerstein</u>

Extension Board (University of MN)

Meets 1st Thursday every other month; 5:00 p.m.

2nd Floor Training Room; March, May, September, November

Commissioner	<u>Todd Christensen</u>
Commissioner	<u>Alan Duff</u>
County Auditor/Treasurer	<u>Angie Larson (Barry Wendorf)</u>
District 1	<u>Marcy Stoeckel</u>
District 2	
District 3	<u>Bob Betsinger</u>
District 4	<u>Jason Ross</u>
District 5	<u>Ken Schroepfer</u>
At-Large (to serve as alternate)	<u>Rob Lininger</u>

Facilities/Security Committee

<u>Todd Christensen</u>
<u>Steve Westerberg</u>
<u>Amanda Usher (staff)</u>
<u>Dan Lakeberg (staff)</u>

HHS Education Committee (new committee)

Date/time TBD

<u>Todd Christensen</u>
<u>Kristi LaRowe</u>
<u>Jodi Donnay (Staff)</u>
<u>Amanda Usher (Staff)</u>
<u>Heather Sward (Staff)</u>
<u>HHS Management Staff</u>

Highway Building Exploration Committee

<u>Alan Duff</u>
<u>Steve Westerberg</u>
<u>Amanda Usher (staff)</u>
<u>Justin Bergerson (staff)</u>
<u>Dan Lakeberg (staff)</u>
<u>Randal Erickson (staff)</u>

Historical Society

Todd Christensen

Information Technology Committee

Meets as needed.

Bill Berg

Insurance Committee

Typically meets twice per year

Bill Berg

Isanti County Drainage Authority

District 1 Alan Duff

District 2 Bill Berg

District 3 Steve Westerberg

District 4 Todd Christensen

District 5 Kristi LaRowe

Isanti Community Health Board

Meets monthly

District 1 Alan Duff

District 2 Bill Berg

District 3 Steve Westerberg

District 4 Todd Christensen

District 5 Kristi LaRowe

Isanti County Substance Abuse Prevention & Recovery Coalition

Bill Berg

Judicial Ditch #3

Commissioner Steve Westerberg

Commissioner Todd Christensen

Commissioner Bill Berg

Staff Management Committee (Family Services)

Meets 2 times per year

Alan Duff

Todd Christensen

Lakes & Pines Board of Directors

Meets 3rd Monday every other month; 10:00 a.m.

Kristi LaRowe

Steve Westerberg (alt)

Law Library Committee

Annual meeting required

Bill Berg

Library Board

Meets 2nd Monday of the month; 9:30 a.m.
(three-year term)

Kristi LaRowe
Todd Christensen
Kelly Nelson
Michelle Block

Local Collaborative Governing Board

Meets 4 times a year; Family Services

Todd Christensen

Metropolitan Emergency Services Board (MESB)*

Meets 2nd Wednesday of every other month

Alan Duff
Todd Christensen (alt)

***This appointee also serves on the Executive Committee on the opposite month**

Minnesota Counties Intergovernmental Trust (MCIT)

Bill Berg
Alan Duff (alt)

Noxious Weed Appeals Committee

Meets as needed

Steve Westerberg
Ron Pederson
Scott LaRowe

One Watershed, One Plan (1W1P)

Lower St. Croix 1W1P Policy Committee
Meets as needed

Bill Berg
Alan Duff (alt)

Rum River 1W1P Policy Committee

Alan Duff
Steve Westerberg (alt)

Out of Home Placement (Family Services)

Meets quarterly

Todd Christensen
Bill Berg

Parks and Recreation Commission

Meets 4th Tuesday of the month (except December); 7:00 p.m.
Government Center

Bill Berg
Barry Wendorf (staff)
District 1 Tom Schibilla
Susan Blom
District 2 Bob Shogren
Hazel Erikson
District 3 Carol Urness
Bob Betsinger
District 4 Luke Merrill

	<u>Amy Peterson</u>
District 5	<u>Kathy Bowlin</u>
	<u>Adam Curtis</u>

Personnel Committee

County Board Chair	<u>Alan Duff</u>
County Board Vice Chair	<u>Steve Westerberg</u>

Planning Commission

Meets 2nd Thursday of the month; 7:00 p.m.

County Board Room; Commissioners will rotate months, current Board Chair will serve as alternate

District 1	<u>Alan Duff</u>
	<u>Tim Swanson</u>
	<u>Karyn Hansen</u>
District 2	<u>Bill Berg</u>
	<u>Bruce Bloomgren</u>
	<u>Bruce Mickelson</u>
District 3	<u>Steve Westerberg</u>
	<u>Lynette Rigsby</u>
District 4	<u>Todd Christensen</u>
	<u>Lyle Reynolds</u>
	<u>David Henderson</u>
District 5	<u>Kristi LaRowe</u>
	<u>Kathy Skiba</u>
	<u>Jeremiah Sedler</u>
At-Large (to serve as alternates)	<u>Open</u>
At-Large (to serve as alternates)	<u>Open</u>

Public Health Commission

Meets quarterly

	<u>Alan Duff</u>
County Board Member	<u>Kristi LaRowe</u>
Medical Consultant	<u>Caroline Kampa</u>
Clinic Representative	<u>Dana Moore</u>
District 1	<u></u>
District 2	<u>Gwen O'Brien</u>
District 3	<u>Melinda LaQuier</u>
District 4	<u>Amy Peterson</u>
District 5	<u>-</u>

Safety Committee (Awair)

Meets 2nd Wednesday of odd months

Emergency Operations Center (EOC)

<u>Alan Duff</u>
<u>Steve Westerberg (alt)</u>

26/01-14 Motion by Westerberg, seconded by Berg, to approve **Resolution Number 2026-001 RESOLUTION OF THE ISANTI COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ESTABLISHING MINIMUM SALARIES FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS WHEREAS**, under Minn. Stat. § 384.151 Subd. 1, at the January meeting prior to the first date on which applicants may file for the office of county auditor-treasurer, the Isanti County Board of Commissioners shall set by resolution the minimum salary to be paid the county auditor-treasurer for the term next following; and **WHEREAS**, under Minn. Stat. § 387.20 Subd. 2 (b), at the January meeting prior to the first date on which applicants may file for the office of county sheriff, the Isanti County Board of Commissioners shall set by resolution the minimum salary to be paid the county sheriff for the term next following; and **WHEREAS**, under Minn. Stat. § 388.18 Subd. 2, at the January meeting prior to the first date on which applicants may file for the office of county attorney, the Isanti County Board of Commissioners shall set by resolution the minimum salary to be paid the county attorney for the term next following; and **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the minimum salaries set by the Isanti County Board of Commissioners for elected positions for the County Auditor-Treasurer, County Sheriff, and County Attorney shall for the next term following be: \$33,239 for the County Auditor-Treasurer; \$127,108 for the County Sheriff; and \$134,721 for the County Attorney. Upon a vote being taken on this resolution, the following voted: IN FAVOR THEREOF: Duff, Westerberg, Berg, Christensen, LaRowe OPPOSED: ABSTAINS: ABSENT: **WHEREUPON**, the above resolution was passed and adopted by the Isanti County Board of Commissioners on this 6th day of January, 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

26/01-15 Motion by Westerberg, seconded by Berg, to approve the following Salary Compliance Notice: Minnesota Statute 471.701 requires cities or counties with a population of more than 15,000 to annually publish titles and base salaries of their three highest paid employees. For Isanti County, those titles and salaries as of January 1, 2026, are: County Administrator - \$152,214; Highway Engineer - \$150,009; Chief Deputy County Attorney - \$150,009. This notice is published January 6, 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

26/01-16 Motion by Westerberg, seconded by Christensen, to approve the 2026 Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) Policy Committee Appointments as follows: Environment & Natural Resources Policy Committee – Bill Berg; General Government Policy Committee – Steve Westerberg; Health & Human Services Policy Committee – Kristi LaRowe; Public Safety Policy Committee – Alan Duff; and Transportation & Infrastructure Policy Committee – Todd Christensen. Motion carried unanimously.

26/01-17 Motion by Duff, seconded by Christensen, to award the 2026 County legal publication bid to the County News Review for a one-year contract. Nay: Berg. Abstain: Westerberg. Motion passes 3 to 1.

26/01-18 Motion by Westerberg, seconded by Berg, to approve the new IRS mileage rate of 72.5 cents per mile for travel on official county business effective January 1, 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

26/01-19 Motion by ****, seconded by **, to approve the appropriations as listed and authorize the Chief Financial Officer/County Auditor-treasurer to pay the appropriations as listed:

Payee	First Half Amount
Isanti County Historical Society	\$21,375.00
Isanti Soil & Water Conservation District	\$95,000.00
Central Minnesota Initiative Foundation	\$2,921.00
Central Minnesota Council on Aging Inc.	\$1,487.00
Isanti County Commission on Aging	\$28,500.00
East Central Regional Library	\$276,017.50
Total 2026 First Half Appropriations	\$425,300.50

Motion carried unanimously.

26/01-20 Motion by Duff, seconded by Westerberg, to approve the Long Lake Improvement Association's Application for Exempt Permit to conduct gambling located at Back to Captains 27821 Bay Shore Drive NW Bradford, MN 55040 on March 28, 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

26/01-21 Motion by Berg, seconded by Westerberg, to approve the Princeton Lions Club Application to Conduct Off-Site Gambling located at Green Lake 330th Lane NW Princeton, MN 55371 on February 22, 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

26/01-22 Motion by Christensen, seconded by LaRowe, to approve Isanti County Sportsman's Club Application for Premises Permit Application for gambling located at Purple Hawk Country Club 36296 Hwy 65 N Cambridge, MN 55008. Motion carried unanimously.

26/01-23 Motion by Berg, seconded by Westerberg, to approve the final plat of J & P Acres-Kurt & Melissa Altendorf, 2075 397th Avenue NE, Stanchfield, MN 55080. Legal description is the SE ¼ of the SW ¼ fct. of Section 16, Township 37, Range 23, Stanchfield Township. Motion carried unanimously.

26/01-24 Motion by Berg, seconded by Westerberg, to approve the final plat of West Side Woodlands-Baas Properties, LLC, 32536 Jackson Road NE, Cambridge, MN 55008. Legal description is the S ½ of the SW ¼ of Section 31, Township 36, Range 231 Cambridge Township. With the following conditions: Dedication of 60 feet of County Highway Right of Way is required, as measured from the centerline of the roadway, along platted area adjacent to the County Road frontage and as shown on the preliminary plat. 2. Individual access to County Road 70 is acceptable for Lot 1 and Lot 2, with access control dedicated to the Isanti County Highway Department as shown on the plat. 3. Any easements or joint maintenance agreements required beyond the County Road right of way to accommodate shared access shall be the responsibility of the developer. 4. All driveway accesses require an approved permit from the Isanti County Highway Department prior to construction or modification. Motion carried unanimously.

26/01-25 Motion by Westerberg, seconded by LaRowe, to approve the final plat of Dougville-Josh and Brittany Fedder, 6699 313th Avenue NE, North Branch, MN 55056. Legal description is the SW ¼ of the NW ¼ & that Pt of Govt Lot 2 of Section 9, Township 35, Range 22, North Branch Township. Motion carried unanimously.

26/01-26 Motion by Christensen, seconded by Berg, to approve RESOLUTION NO. 26-13-01 APPROVING PUBLICATION OF TRANSPORTATION PROJECT BIDS ON THE ISANTI COUNTY WEBSITE WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes, Section 331A.12, permits political subdivisions to designate their website for publishing transportation project bids during the same meeting at which the governing body designates its official newspaper; and publication on the website may serve as a substitute or supplement to other required forms of publication; WHEREAS, after designating the website for publication, the political subdivision is required to notify the public through a qualified newspaper and the website that transportation project bid advertisements will be posted on the website; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Isanti County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Isanti County Highway Department to use the official county website, www.isanticountymn.gov, as the platform for advertising transportation project bids; BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, in compliance with Minnesota Statutes, Section 331A.12, the County will publish a notice in a qualified newspaper and on the County website announcing that transportation project bid advertisements will be posted on the Isanti County website; BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the County will ensure that any dissemination by alternative means is in substantially the same format and for the same period of time as a publication would otherwise be required under Minnesota Statutes, Section 331A.12, Subdivision 3; BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the County will maintain a permanent record of publication in a form accessible by the public, as required by Minnesota Statutes, Section 331A.12, Subdivision 4. Motion carried unanimously.

26/01-27 Motion by Westerberg, seconded by Christensen, to approve DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY TO MAKE ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFERS WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes § 471.38 allows local governments to use electronic funds transfer as a means of making various payments; and WHEREAS, electronic funds transfer is the process of value exchange via mechanical means without the use of checks, drafts, or similar negotiable instruments; and WHEREAS, the use of electronic funds transfers allows for greater efficiency and security in the payment of certain claims: and WHEREAS, the Isanti County Board of Commissioners has adopted an Electronic Funds Transfers Policy to enact appropriate policy controls related to making payments via electronic funds transfer; and WHEREAS, the Isanti County Board of Commissioners shall annually delegate the authority to make electronic funds transfers to the County's chief financial officer pursuant to Minnesota Statutes § 471.38, subd. 3a; NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Isanti County Board of Commissioners hereby formally delegates the authority to make electronic funds transfers on behalf of Isanti County to the Chief Financial Officer and his or her designees. Motion carried unanimously.

26/01-28 Motion by Westerberg, seconded by Berg, to approve an interfund loan from the county general fund to the drainage system funds in the estimated amount of \$183,829. Motion carried unanimously.

26/01-29 Motion by Westerberg, seconded by Duff, to deny the request of Application for Abatement of 2025 2nd Half Tax Penalty – 12.155.0060. Nay: Christensen and LaRowe. Motion passes 3 to 2.

26/01-30 Motion by Berg, seconded by Christensen, to approve the purchase of squad cameras on three separate invoices: \$17,092.00 in car camera systems, \$4,860.00 extended Warranty 5 years, \$6,503.00 replacement of a old camera system in a crashed squad. This will be funded with the Public Safety Aid dollars. Motion carried unanimously.

26/01-31 Motion by Christensen, seconded by LaRowe, to approve the purchase of a server for dispatch to host software (Comms Coach) in the amount of \$5,583.35 funded by E911 dollars. Motion carried unanimously.

26/01-32 Motion by Christensen, seconded by Westerberg, to adjourn (10:58 a.m.). Motion carried unanimously.

Amanda Usher, County Administrator

Alan Duff, County Board Chairman

By: Connie Kitner, Administrative Assistant III