



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 17, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.**

Members Present: Chairman Duff; Commissioners Westerberg, Berg, Christensen, LaRowe (virtual)
Members Absent: None
Others Present: A Usher, N Columbo, A Larson, D Pikal, H Nelson, B Wendorf (Reporters Stickle 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.

26/03-10 Motion by Christensen, seconded by Berg, to approve the March 17th, 2026, County Board Agenda. A roll-call vote was conducted. Commissioners Duff, LaRowe, Christensen, Berg and Westerberg voted aye. There were no nays. Motion carried unanimously.

26/03-11 Motion by Christensen, seconded by Westerberg, to approve the consent agenda as follows:

1. March 3, 2026, County Board Meeting Minutes and Minutes Summary.
2. Personnel Action Items: Approve the internal promotion of Benjamin Linberger, full-time Corrections Officer, to full-time Corrections Corporal, effective March 9, 2026. Approve the internal promotion of Kayla Houchins, full-time Corrections Officer, to full-time Corrections Corporal, effective March 10, 2026. Approve the internal promotion of Wyatt Gossen, full-time Corrections Officer, to full-time Corrections Corporal, effective March 11, 2026. Approve the internal promotion of Dustin Savage, full-time Corrections Officer, to full-time Corrections Corporal, effective March 12, 2026. Approve the regular full-time status of Derien Yang, Appraiser, effective March 22, 2026. Approve the regular full-time status of Desiree Martinez-McKenley, Social Worker, effective March 29, 2026. Approve the regular full-time status of Steven Metzger, Septic Specialist, effective April 3, 2026.
3. Resolution Number 2026-006A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING DONATIONS TO ISANTI COUNTY WHEREAS, it is the policy of Isanti County that gifts and donations to the County shall be accepted by the Board of Commissioners; WHEREAS, various departments and programs within Isanti County have received gifts and donations during the month of February 2026 as follows: Sheriff's Office Dem-Con Metal Recycling (Sheriff Explorer Program) \$464.50, Parks NEO Electrical Solutions (Paul Becklin Memorial) \$800.00. NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Isanti County Board of Commissioners hereby formally accepts these gifts and donations.
4. Approved the Gambling Permit Application for the Cambridge-Isanti Hockey Association to conduct gambling at Isanti Spirits 4242 285th Ave NW Isanti, MN 55040.
5. Approved the final plat for Anderson River Estates.
6. Approved the final plat for Oliver Acres.

7. Utility Permits as follows: PERMIT NO. 26-03-14 - East Central Energy - CSAH 18; Install an underground fiber optic service line along County Highway No. 18 starting at existing ECE pole number 49392 (250' north of the intersection of CSAH 18 and 288th lane on the east side of CSAH 18) then trench northerly 30' and bore westerly 52' under CSAH 18 to new handhole and then continuing trenching westerly to members property to service local address of 28896 Notre Dame Street NE North Branch, MN PERMIT NO. 26-03-15 - East Central Energy - CSAH 14; Replace the overhead power lines along County Highway No. 14 starting at existing pole number 174452 (1/4 mile north of 339th Ave and the east side of CSAH14) then going northerly and westerly along CSAH 14 to existing pole number 376588 (1,000' east of intersection of CSAH 14 and 353rd Ave NE and 2 miles north along CSAH 14 from existing pole number 174452) PERMIT NO. 26-03-16 - Connexus Energy - CSAH 5; Install a 5' 1/0 secondary service along County Highway No. 5 from existing pole PLN105250 at WL1 at 90 degrees east 5' to power supply meter socket for Windstream service (northeast corner of the intersection of Heritage Blvd/CR 5 and Northern Dr) PERMIT NO. 26-03-17 - East Central Energy - CSAH 16/CR 60; Replace the power lines and power poles along County Highway No. 16 and 60 starting at existing pole number 371003 (southeast intersection of State Highway No.47 and Co. Road 60) going easterly and northeasterly along Co. Road 60 for 2,400' to existing pole number 371015 (north side of Co. Road 60.) Replace the power lines and power poles Starting at existing pole number 371003 southeast intersection of State Highway No.47 and Co. Road 60 going westerly on CSAH 16 8,210' to J -Box number 371070 (south side of CSAH 16)
8. Approved claims and warrants totaling \$231,375.11.

A roll-call vote was conducted. Commissioners Duff, LaRowe, Christensen, Berg and Westerberg voted aye. There were no nays. Motion carried unanimously.

26-03-12 Motion by Berg, seconded by Westerberg to approve the Isanti County Health and Human Services consent agenda as follows:

1. Approved the contract amendment between AMHI and Linwood Group meetings
2. Approved the contract amendment between AMHI and Chisago County
3. Approved the payments and vouchers for Isanti County Health and Human Services totaling \$380,393.13.

A roll-call vote was conducted. Commissioners Duff, LaRowe, Christensen, Berg and Westerberg voted aye. There were no nays. Motion carried unanimously.

26/03-13 Motion by Westerberg, seconded by Christensen to approve the Contract Amendment between Isanti County Health and Human Services, acting as Fiscal Host for Region 7E AMHI and Plum Behavioral Services LLC for the provision of Parenting Skills. Evidence-Based Prevention Education services for eligible parents residing within the Region 7E counties. A roll-call vote was conducted. Commissioners Duff, LaRowe, Christensen, Berg and Westerberg voted aye. There were no nays. Motion carried unanimously.

26/03-14 Motion by Berg, seconded by Christensen to approve the use of Covid-19 grant funds for a three-month website awareness campaign through Placebased. This campaign is intended to increase community awareness of resources and improve access to services by directing residents to the newly launched website. A roll-call vote was conducted. Commissioners Duff, LaRowe, Christensen, Berg and Westerberg voted aye. There were no nays. Motion carried unanimously.

26/03-15 Motion by Berg, seconded by Christensen to approve the request of Reliable Land & Trust, PO Box 32, Cambridge, MN 55008 to present a preliminary plat of Stanford Meadows East. Legal description is Pt of the SW ¼ of Section 2, Township 34, Range 24, Stanford Township. With the following conditions and findings: 1. The subject property shall be developed in accordance with the preliminary plat and plans submitted to the County and Township subject to the stipulations, limitations, and conditions as approved by the County and the Township. 2. All stipulations set forth herein shall be the responsibility of the property owner and Developer and all proposed improvements shall be the responsibility of the Developer. 3. All right-of-way dedication shall be subject to review and approval of the Township Engineer. 4. The proposed design and construction plan for "Proposed Township Road" shall be subject to review and approval of the Township Engineer. 5. All stormwater management and wetland issues are subject to review and approval of the Township Engineer. 6. All drainage and utility easements are to be subject to approval of the Township Engineer. 7. That Property Owner and Developer comply with the requirements of Stanford Townships "Platting Procedural Guide" unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the Township. 8. Other requirements and conditions: a. If the updated site plans addressing the comments of the resolutions, staff memos, or outside agencies necessitate revisions to any of the lot lines or easements on the subject property, then those revisions shall be incorporated into the Final Plat submitted by the Developer. Compliance with these requirements may result in changes to or the removal of lots, easements, or right-of-way, in which case the Developer shall revise the site plans and final plats as necessary in conformance thereto. If an off-site easement is required to address a comment, then a separate easement document shall be provided to the Township Engineer and Attorney for review and approval prior to release of the final plat for recording. b. To the extent that there are differences or conflicts between the site plans and this document County approval, the terms of this document shall be controlling unless and until modified by a final plat resolution. c. The timing of the construction of the infrastructure improvements on the subject property will be subject to the conditions of a Developer's Agreement between the Township and the Developer. d. A recent Title Commitment shall be provided for the review of the Township Attorney before the Developer's Agreement and Final Plat is released for recording. e. Financial security in a form approved by the Township Attorney and in an amount approved by the Township Engineer must be provided by the Developer prior to release of the Developer's Agreement and Final Plat for recording. The Developer's Agreement shall specify the form and amount of the financial security to the Township. f. The Developer must reimburse the Township for all costs incurred by the Township and its consultants in relation to review of the proposed development plans as well as the preparation of the Developer's Agreement. g. Individual septic system design is required at the time of the building permit application and shall be reviewed and approved by the County. h. Building permits shall be required for the new homes which requires submittal of a certificate of survey for individual lots, lowest floor elevations noted and custom grading/erosion control plans are subject to review of the Township. i. Any new utility lines installed to serve the subject property are required to be placed underground. j. Prior to the release of the Final Plat for recording, a Developer's Agreement must be entered into which Agreement(s) will include, but not limited to, the following: (1) Street and utility construction details, processes, plans and financial guaranties. (2) Park dedication and other fee requirements, if any. (3) All required approvals from other governmental agencies. (4) Final grading and drainage plans. (5) Maintenance requirements during construction. (6) Financial guaranties. (7) Other planning and engineering items, as appropriate. k. The Developer shall be responsible for obtaining and complying with all necessary permits from any other governmental agencies. l. The Developer shall incorporate the standards and procedures of the Minnesota Stormwater Manual for site restoration and erosion control measures during the construction process. m. The Developer shall survey all storm water holding ponds as required by the Township. The Developer shall be responsible for storm sewer cleaning and pond dredging, as required by the Township prior to completion of the development of the subject property. n. Additional conditions as determined necessary by the Township Engineer and Township Attorney as review of the project progresses and is completed. o. The Developer is responsible for all costs associated with the processing of this request. 9. Dedication of 60' 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. 10. Individual access to County Road 68 is permitted for Lot 1 in the approximate location shown on the preliminary plat. 11. The proposed township road connection to County Road 68 is acceptable as shown on the preliminary

plat. Construction plans, including township road standards, drainage, and the County Road connection, are subject to review and approval by the Standford Township Engineer and the Isanti County Engineer. Upon acceptance of the roadway construction, the developer shall coordinate with Isanti County addressing/E-911 services for addressing assignment, mapping updates, and inclusion in emergency response systems. The developer shall furnish and install street name signs and other required signage, including stop signs, in accordance with County standards and MUTCD requirements. Any easement or joint maintenance agreements required beyond the County Road right of way to accommodate shared access shall be the responsibility of the developer. All driveway accesses require an approved permit from the Isanti County Highway Department prior to construction or modification. Permit review will be conducted for compliance with County policy, sight distance requirements, spacing standards, and applicable traffic safety criteria. A roll-call vote was conducted. Commissioners Duff, LaRowe, Christensen, and Berg voted aye. Commissioner Westerberg voted nay. Motion carries 4-1.

26/03-16 Motion by Christensen, seconded by Westerberg to approve the request of Kenneth Drayna & Marie Woehler, 9416 281st Avenue NW, Zimmerman, MN 55398 to present a preliminary plat of Drayna Addition. Legal description is Pt of Govt Lot 5 of Section 31, Township 35, Range 25, Spencer Brook Township. With the following condition: A 66' wide easement for shared driveway access must be recorded with the final plat. A roll-call vote was conducted. Commissioners Duff, LaRowe, Christensen, Berg and Westerberg voted aye. There were no nays. Motion carried unanimously.

26/03-17 Motion by Westerberg, seconded by Berg to approve the request of Rick & Joyce Osborne, 506 340th Trail NE, Cambridge, MN 55008 & Vertical Bridge, 4340 Stinson Blvd NE, Columbia Heights, MN 55421 for a Conditional Use Permit for a commercial wireless telecommunication tower. Legal description is the SE ¼ of the NW ¼ Except the S 18 rods of Section 30, Township 36, Range 23, Cambridge Township. With the following conditions and findings: 1. The height of the self-support tower will be 197.5' including the lighting rod. 2. Must have FAA & FCC approval and licenses. 3. This tower will be engineered to structurally accommodate at least 2 plus other wireless providers. 4. The owner of the tower must provide adequate access to the tower site and ground space within the owned and/or leased area to accommodate co – location user's equipment needs. 5. All ground equipment will be screened from view per the submitted landscape plan and a 6' security fence around the entire compound. 6. A 6' fence will encompass the tower/ground equipment and gravel and weed preventative measures will be applied within the fenced area. 7. Must follow the submitted landscaping plan and must continue to maintain the landscaping. 8. Only signage required per the federal, state and county government will be utilized. 9. Construction of the tower will be completed within one year of an issued building permit. 10. The tower will be removed within six months (6) of cessation of operations and removal bond will be submitted to the county prior to the building permit being issued. 11. This tower must meet all applicable setbacks. 12. Must adhere to the requirements of the Isanti County Zoning Ordinance. Findings of facts to support the recommended approval are the 12 attached conditions: 1. The conditional use will not be injurious to the use and enjoyment of other property in the immediate vicinity for the purpose already permitted, nor substantially diminish and impair property values within the immediate vicinity. 2. That the establishment of the conditional use will not impede the normal and orderly development and improvement of surrounding vacant property for uses predominant in the area. 3. That adequate utilities, access roads, drainage and other necessary facilities have been or are being provided. 4. That adequate measures have been or will be taken to provide sufficient off-street parking and loading space to serve the proposed use. 5. That adequate measures have been or will be taken to prevent or control offensive odors, fumes, dust, noise, and vibration so that none of these will constitute a nuisance, and to control lighted signs and other lights in such a manner that no disturbance to neighboring properties will occur. A roll-call vote was conducted. Commissioners Duff, Westerberg, and Berg voted aye. Commissioner Christensen and LaRowe voted nay. Motion carries 3-2.

26/03-18 Motion by Christensen, seconded by Berg to approve the request of Richard Sonsteby, 39502 Rhinestone Street, Dalbo MN 55017 (Property Address: 5108 Highway 47, Dalbo, MN 55017) to amend a Conditional Use Permit dated December 10, 1998, for a mini-storage business in the Rural Service

Center District. Legal description is Pt E ½ of the NW ¼ of the NE ¼ of Section 36, Township 37, Range 25, Dalbo Township. With the following conditions and findings: 1. Owner must follow the Isanti County Zoning Ordinance with regards to a sign. 2. Adequate off-street parking is required. 3. To allow 34 parking spaces to place 8' x 20' storage containers for mini storage units. Findings of facts to support the recommended approval are the 3 attached conditions: 1. The conditional use will not be injurious to the use and enjoyment of other property in the immediate vicinity for the purpose already permitted, nor substantially diminish and impair property values within the immediate vicinity. 2. That the establishment of the conditional use will not impede the normal and orderly development and improvement of surrounding vacant property for uses predominant in the area. 3. That adequate utilities, access roads, drainage and other necessary facilities have been or are being provided. 4. That adequate measures have been or will be taken to provide sufficient off-street parking and loading space to serve the proposed use. 5. That adequate measures have been or will be taken to prevent or control offensive odors, fumes, dust, noise, and vibration so that none of these will constitute a nuisance, and to control lighted signs and other lights in such a manner that no disturbance to neighboring properties will occur. A roll-call vote was conducted. Commissioners Duff, LaRowe, Christensen, Berg and Westerberg voted aye. There were no nays. Motion carried unanimously.

26/03-19 Motion by Westerberg, seconded by Duff to approve the RESOLUTION TO CONFIRM AND RATIFY ISANTI AND CHISAGO JOINT COUNTY DRAINAGE AUTHORITY FOR JD 4, 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 and Chisago Counties Judicial Ditch 4 ("JD 4") is an established public drainage system that provides an outlet for drainage to lands in Isanti and Chisago Counties; and WHEREAS, the Joint County Drainage Authority of Isanti and Chisago Counties for JD 4 ("Isanti and Chisago JDA") must be established to serve as the public drainage authority for properties in all counties benefited by JD 4; and WHEREAS, the composition of the Isanti and Chisago JDA shall include three members from Isanti County and two members 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 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 and Chisago JDA for JD 4 and to proscribe the process for filling future vacancies in membership of the Isanti 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 and Chisago JDA for JD 4: Bill Berg (District 2) Todd Christensen (District 4) Kristie LaRowe (District 5) That the Isanti County Board of Commissioners confirms the concurrent appointment by the Chisago County Board of Commissioners the following initial members from Chisago County as members for appointment to the Isanti and Chisago JDA for JD 4: Dan Dahlberg (District 5) Rick Greene (District 2) 4. Future vacancies on the Isanti and Chisago JDA for JD 4 from Isanti County shall be filled by the successor Commissioner from the District indicated herein. 5. that since a majority of land benefited by JD 4 is located within Isanti County, Isanti County shall be the "majority" county under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 103E. 6. That this Resolution, upon being adopted by all counties constituting members of the Isanti and Chisago JDA for JD 4, 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 and Chisago Joint County Drainage Authority for JD 4 and for fulfilling all future vacancies by and through the process described herein. 7. That the Isanti County Board confirms and ratifies the prior actions of the Drainage Authority for JD 4 and directs further proceedings to occur under the authority of the newly composed Isanti and Chisago Joint County Drainage Authority for JD 4. 8. That the Isanti and Chisago JDA for JD 4 established herein shall be perpetual until either dissolved or modified by future action of the Isanti and Chisago County Boards of Commissioners, seated jointly or through joint action. A roll-call vote

was conducted. Commissioners Duff, LaRowe, Christensen, Berg and Westerberg voted aye. There were no nays. Motion carried unanimously.

26/03-20 Motion by Christensen, seconded by Westerberg, to adjourn (10:21 a.m.). A roll-call vote was conducted. Commissioners Duff, LaRowe, Christensen, Berg and Westerberg voted aye. There were no nays. Motion carried unanimously.

Amanda Usher, County Administrator

Alan Duff, County Board Chairman

By: Connie Kitner, Administrative Assistant III