



**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA
FEBRUARY 17, 2026**

WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS CONVENES

The Washington County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. in the Washington County Government Center, County Board Room.

Present: Commissioner Fran Miron, District 1
Commissioner Stan Karwoski, District 2
Commissioner Bethany Cox, District 3
Commissioner Karla Bigham, District 4

Absent: Commissioner Michelle Clasen, District 5

Also Present: Kevin Corbid, County Administrator
John Ristad, Assistant County Attorney Division Chief
Stephanie Kammerud, Administrative Assistant

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Board Chair Bigham asked for comments from the public.

Brey Mafi, Lake Elmo, provided a statement concerning the federal ICE agents' activities in the Cimarron Park community.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Cox moved to approve the County Board meeting agenda for February 17, 2026, with moving agenda item #7, Commissioner Reports, immediately after agenda approval. Commissioner Bigham seconded the motion, and it was adopted 4-0.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioners reported on meetings and other events they attended. Please see archived livestreaming of the board meeting for full commissioner reports on the county's website washingtoncountymn.gov under "County Board of Commissioners."

CONSENT CALENDAR

Commissioner Miron moved, seconded by Commissioner Karwoski, to adopt the Consent Calendar as follows:

1. Approval of the February 3, 2026, County Board meeting minutes.



2. Approval to appoint Linda Lundstrom to a first term on the Mental Health Advisory Council LAC as the District 4 Representative starting February 18, 2026, and expiring December 31, 2028.
3. Approval of **Resolution No. 2026-020** as follows:

**RESOLUTION APPOINTING LUKE MATTSON TO THE
BROWN'S CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT**

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes 103D.311 requires the county board to appoint a member to fill a vacancy in the office of watershed district manager; and

WHEREAS, a person appointed a watershed district manager must be a voting resident of the watershed district who is not a public officer of the county, state or federal government, except that a soil and water conservation supervisor may be appointed a watershed district manager; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes 103D.311 also provides the process that must be followed in making appointments of watershed district managers, including the requirement to ensure the appointees to the watershed district are able to fairly represent the various hydrological areas within the watershed district; and

WHEREAS, a term is expiring for the position of watershed district manager and the county has undertaken all the necessary steps to make an appointment; and

WHEREAS, the county has provided the notice required to the townships and municipalities that are within the watershed; and

WHEREAS, the county has provided the required published notice; and

WHEREAS, the county has reviewed the applications submitted for the manager position and the list of nominees provided by the townships and municipalities; and

WHEREAS, the county has determined that the aggregate list of nominees submitted by the townships and municipalities is valid; and

WHEREAS, the county has reviewed residency of the manager being appointed as well as the residency of the current managers, considered the experience of the individual being appointed to determine if he is able to represent the concerns of the entire watershed district, and reviewed any other material available to determine the ability of the managers to fairly represent all hydrological areas of the watershed district; and



WHEREAS, the county has determined that by making the following appointment it finds that the managers of the watershed district, including the newly appointed member, fairly represent the various hydrologic areas within the watershed district to the greatest extent possible; and

WHEREAS, the individual being appointed manager was included on the list of nominees as presented by the townships and municipalities under Minnesota Statutes 103D.311, subdivision 3.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Washington County Board of Commissioners hereby appoints Luke Mattson to a partial term on the Brown's Creek Watershed District, to begin on February 18, 2026 and end on October 21, 2028.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Washington County Board of Commissioners directs that a record of all appointments made be filed with the county auditor of each county affected by the watershed district, the secretary of the board of managers, and the Board of Water and Soil Resources.

4. Approval to restructure 1.0 FTE Senior Planner to 1.0 FTE Social Services Supervisor.
5. Approval to add 1.0 FTE Eligibility Specialist Senior in the Adult Services Division.
6. Approve Amendment No. 1 to Contract No. 17792 with Corrie's House Inc. to add \$300,000 to the contract total.
7. Approval of **Resolution No. 2026-021** as follows:

**DONATION FROM THE FRED C. & KATHERINE B. ANDERSEN
FOUNDATION**

WHEREAS, Washington County gratefully accepts donations, gifts, and bequests from public and private sources to enhance the programs and services it provides; and

WHEREAS, any gift, donation or bequest becomes the property of Washington County; and

WHEREAS, the Washington County Board is authorized to approve donations, gifts and bequests.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington County Board of Commissioners does hereby accept a donation from The Fred C. & Katherine B. Andersen Foundation in the amount of \$25,000.

8. Approval of an application for renewal of an on-sale and Sunday liquor license for the Disabled Veteran's Rest Camp Association in May Township.



9. Approval of an application for renewal of an on-sale and Sunday liquor license for Keystone Weddings and Events LLC in May Township.
10. Approval of an application for renewal of an on-sale, off-sale, and Sunday liquor license for the Stoneridge Golf Club Inc. in West Lakeland Township.
11. Approval of **Resolution No. 2026-022** as follows:

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE DELEGATION TO THE
WATERSHED-BASED IMPLEMENTATION FUNDING
CONVENE MEETINGS**

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) on August 28, 2025, approved the availability, use of funds, and policy for the fiscal year 2026-2027 Watershed-Based Implementation Funding (WBIF), established by The Laws of Minnesota 2025, Chapter 36, Article 2, Section 6; and

WHEREAS, the funding may be used to implement activities identified in the implementation section of a state approved and locally adopted watershed management plan as required under §103B.231, county groundwater plan authorized under §103B.255, or soil and water conservation district comprehensive plan under Minnesota Statutes §103C.331, Subd. 11; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution 2025-072, adopted July 22, 2025, the Washington County Board of Commissioners approved the Washington County Groundwater Plan; and

WHEREAS, by Resolutions 2020-142 and 2020-143, Washington County is an active participant in the Lower St Croix Partnership under a Joint Powers Agreement, and has adopted the Lower St Croix Watershed Comprehensive Management Plan; and

WHEREAS, the county is an eligible participant in discussions on allocations for Lower St Croix River (Metro) funding, Ramsey Washington Metro, Rice Creek, and South Washington Watershed Planning Areas; and

WHEREAS, the county is required to designate a representative to participate in WBIF “Convene Meetings” for the four planning areas described above, to establish a method to make decisions, pick a method for selecting funded activities and through a collaborative process select the highest priority targeted, measurable and eligible activities to be submitted to BWSR; and

WHEREAS, the county intends to participate in the WBIF convene meetings; and

WHEREAS, the county's Department of Public Health and Environment oversees implementation of the county's Groundwater Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington County Board of Commissioners delegates authority to the director of the Department of Public Health and Environment to appoint staff as the county's official representative(s) for the WBIF Convene meetings; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that as a participant in the Lower St Croix One Watershed One Plan partnership, the Washington County Board of Commissioners directs staff to support maximum use of the metro portion of Lower St Croix WBIF towards implementation of activities identified in the Lower St Croix Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan.

12. Approval to submit a grant application for a chloride reduction system at the Public Works South Shop and trail stabilization at St Croix Bluffs Regional Park through the South Washington Watershed District Coordinated Capital Improvements Program.
13. Approve Permanent Hydrant Access Easement with the City of Cottage Grove for construction of the Park Grove Library Project (CIP #BSD-PGL-2001).
14. Approve Stormwater Management Facilities Agreement with the City of Cottage Grove for construction of the Park Grove Library Project (CIP #BSD-PGL-2001).
15. Approve Cooperative Cost Agreement No. 17975 between the City of Scandia and Washington County for construction of County Road 52 (Oakhill Road) as it relates to the City-led construction of a portion of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Gateway Trail.
16. Approve Cooperative Maintenance Agreement No. 17976 between the City of Scandia and Washington County for maintenance of County Road 52 (Oakhill Road) and permanent infrastructure within the county's right-of-way as it relates to the City-led construction of a portion of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Gateway Trail.
17. Reject all bids received for the lease of agricultural land in Big Marine Park Reserve.
18. Approve Lease Agreement No. 13942 with Terry Herman for the lease of agricultural land in St. Croix Bluffs Regional Park in the amount of \$100,922.40 and Lake Elmo Park Reserve in the amount of \$88,553.10.
19. Approve agreement with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture for Agricultural Water Quality Certification of Washington County-Owned Agricultural Land.
20. Authorize Minnesota Department of Agriculture Informed Consent to Release Private Data to the public related to the Agricultural Water Quality Certification.

21. Approve Amendment No. 2 to Lease Agreement No. 4416 with the City of Hudson, Wisconsin, to reduce the rent at the Hanley Road water tower.

The motion was adopted 4-0 with a Roll Call vote as follows: Ayes, Commissioners Miron, Karwoski, Cox, and Bigham. Nays, none.

PUBLIC WORKS

Erik Jalowitz, Building Services Capital Projects Manager, presented 13 contracts for construction of the Park Grove Library Project, which is identified in the Capital Improvement Plan as #BSD-PGL-2001.

Mr. Jalowitz reported that the Park Grove Library is in the City of Cottage Grove, off 80th Street and Hemingway Avenue. The library is scheduled to close for construction on February 28, with a temporary library opening at the South Service Center in Cottage Grove on March 2. Library staff will offer additional library programming at various other locations around Cottage Grove throughout the duration of construction.

Mr. Jalowitz reported that the bidding process for this project proved to be very competitive with 158 bids received for the 24 total project scopes. Thirteen contracts are being presented today for approval, and 11 additional contracts have been approved by the Public Works Department, per county policy.

Commissioner Bigham moved to approve Contract No. 17995 in the amount of \$300,000 with Ramsey Companies for demolition. Commissioner Miron seconded the motion, and it was adopted 4-0.

Commissioner Karwoski moved to approve Contract No. 17992 in the amount of \$824,100 with B&D Associates LLC for concrete and masonry. Commissioner Cox seconded the motion, and it was adopted 4-0.

Commissioner Bigham moved to approve Contract No. 17990 in the amount of \$279,900 with Noble X Welding & Fabrication for structural steel. Commissioner Miron seconded the motion, and it was adopted 4-0.

Commissioner Cox moved to approve Contract No. 17994 in the amount of \$262,541 with Gustav & Rudy Contractors Inc. for carpentry. Commissioner Karwoski seconded the motion, and it was adopted 4-0.

Commissioner Miron moved to approve Contract No. 17985 in the amount of \$1,637,070 with Berwald Roofing Company Inc. for metal panels and roofing. Commissioner Karwoski seconded the motion, and it was adopted 4-0.

Commissioner Bigham moved to approve Contract No. 17989 in the amount of \$366,954 with Artic Glass Company for glass and glazing. Commissioner Miron seconded the motion, and it was adopted 4-0.

Commissioner Karwoski moved to approve Contract No. 17987 in the amount of \$527,900 with Pinnacle Wall Systems Inc. for drywall. Commissioner Cox seconded the motion, and it was adopted 4-0.

Commissioner Cox moved to approve Contract No. 17984 in the amount of \$496,100 with Sonus Interiors Inc. for ceilings and acoustics. Commissioner Bigham seconded the motion, and it was adopted 4-0.

Commissioner Miron moved to approve Contract No. 17983 in the amount of \$371,000 with Wenzel-Plymouth Plumbing LLC for plumbing. Commissioner Cox seconded the motion, and it was adopted 4-0.

Commissioner Bigham moved to approve Contract No. 17986 in the amount of \$1,450,300 with Thelen Heating & Roofing Inc. for HVAC. Commissioner Karwoski seconded the motion, and it was adopted 4-0.

Commissioner Karwoski moved to approve Contract No. 17991 in the amount of \$888,000 with Bloomington Electric for electrical. Commissioner Miron seconded the motion, and it was adopted 4-0.

Commissioner Cox moved to approve Contract No. 17988 in the amount of \$628,000 with Kamish Excavating Inc. for site and earthwork. Commissioner Karwoski seconded the motion, and it was adopted 4-0.

Commissioner Bigham moved to approve Contract No. 17993 in the amount of \$236,755 with Windsor Companies for landscaping. Commissioner Miron seconded the motion, and it was adopted 4-0.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

County Administrator Kevin Corbid presented a letter to U.S. Secretary of Transportation Sean Duffy, supporting the City of Oakdale's application to the U.S. Department of Transportation's FY 2026 Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant Program for the Connecting Oakdale: 40th Street Pedestrian Bridge project. Commissioner Karwoski moved to approve sending the letter to U.S. Secretary of Transportation Sean Duffy. Commissioner Miron seconded the motion, and it was adopted 4-0.

BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

No board correspondence was received.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the County Board, Chair Bigham adjourned the meeting at 9:53 a.m.

BOARD WORKSHOP WITH ADMINISTRATION

The board met in workshop session to review the projects included in the 2026-2030 Capital Equipment and Fleet Plan (CEFP) and Capital Technology Plan (CTP). Present for the workshop were Commissioners Miron, Karwoski, Cox, and Bigham. Also present were Kevin Corbid, Jan Lucke, Jennifer Wagenius, outside agencies, and county staff.

Attest:

Kevin Corbid

Kevin Corbid
County Administrator

Karla Bigham

Karla Bigham
County Board Chair