

CLAY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

8:30 AM, TUESDAY, MAY 26, 2026

Meeting Room A / B – 3rd Floor – Courthouse

MINUTES

The Clay County Board of Commissioners met in regular session with the following Commissioners present: Paul Krabbenhoft, Ezra Baer, Jenny Mongeau, Kevin Campbell, and David Ebinger. Others present: County Administrator Stephen Larson, County Attorney Brian Melton, Assistant County Administrator Darren Brooke, and Senior Administrative Assistant Sarah Hellem.

Call to Order

Commissioner Mongeau called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Approval of Agenda

On motion by Commissioner Baer, seconded by Commissioner Campbell, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the agenda.

Citizens to be Heard

There were no citizens to be heard.

Approval of Payment of Bills and Vouchers

On motion by Commissioner Baer, seconded by Commissioner Krabbenhoft, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the bills and vouchers totaling \$8,680,340 from 106 vendors. There were 69 warrants issued under \$2,000 (\$33,864) and the following 37 were over \$2,000.

Independent School Dist 152	\$ 5,626,767	Independent School Dist Otc 548	\$ 8,447
Independent School Dist 2164	\$ 848,219	Code 4 Services, Inc	\$ 8,320
Independent School Dist 150	\$ 842,168	Bernick Lifson, P.A.	\$ 6,785
Independent School District 146	\$ 457,064	Leighton Enterprises Inc.	\$ 5,666
Internal Revenue Serv	\$ 289,990	North Risk Partners	\$ 5,299
Independent School Dist 914	\$ 204,091	NBS/WahlTek	\$ 5,144
West Central Regional Juvenile Center	\$ 70,888	Prosweep, Inc.	\$ 4,200
Enterprise FM Trust	\$ 55,551	Valley Mortuary Transportation Services	\$ 3,969
Mn Dept Of Revenue	\$ 39,403	Fix It Forward Management, LLC	\$ 3,628
Lutheran Social Service Of Mn	\$ 25,275	Sanford Health	\$ 3,000
Ada-Borup-West ISD 2910	\$ 19,587	Krabbenhoft/Matthew or Jeana	\$ 2,894
Turnkey Corrections	\$ 16,598	Green View Inc.	\$ 2,655
CoreLogic	\$ 15,678	Venture Investments Inc	\$ 2,448
Polk County Highway Dept	\$ 15,000	Xcel Energy	\$ 2,292
Braun Intertec Corp	\$ 13,183	Office of MNIT Services	\$ 2,152
NetCenter Technologies	\$ 12,028	PDQ.COM Corporation	\$ 2,144
Independent School Dist Bc 2889	\$ 10,864	State of MN Health Care Savings Plan	\$ 2,140
Lereta, LLC	\$ 8,875	Becker County Environmental Svcs	\$ 2,056
		CS 127 Consulting	\$ 2,000

Approval of Minutes from May 12, 2026

On motion by Commissioner Baer, seconded by Commissioner Ebinger, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the minutes from May 12, 2026.

Request Approval of the Letter of Support for the Federal Rail Administration Grant

County Engineer requested approval of the letter of support for the Federal Rail Administration Grant and stated BNSF on behalf of the City of Dilworth is applying for a CRISI (Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements) Grant. This project has been one that the Railroad has been pushing for, and they will be covering the cost of this grant application. Once constructed, this would eliminate a County crossing in Dilworth, MN which is a very needed project in this area.

On motion by Commissioner Krabbenhoft, seconded by Commissioner Baer, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the Letter of Support for the Federal Rail Administration Grant.

Request Approval of the Letter of Support for the Federal Rail Administration Railroad Crossing Safety Program Grant to Modernize Signalization

Mr. Sorum requested approval of the letter of support for the Federal Rail Administration Railroad Crossing Safety Program Grant to modernize signalization and stated the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) is preparing a grant application for funds to update eight railroad crossings across western Minnesota, including a crossing located in Clay County. This letter of support would substantially enhance their application and the odds of being selected for an award.

Discussion ensued regarding where the crossing is located in Clay County.

On motion by Commissioner Baer, seconded by Commissioner Ebinger, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the Letter of Support for the Federal Rail Administration Railroad Crossing Safety Program Grant to Modernize Signalization in Clay County.

Request Approval to Lease 10 Vehicles from Enterprise Fleet Management for the Sheriff's Office

County Sheriff Mark Empting requested approval to lease ten (10) vehicles through Enterprise Fleet Management. These vehicles will replace and renew existing leased vehicles currently in service with the Sheriff's Office fleet. The proposed fleet package includes one administrative vehicle, one detective vehicle, and eight patrol vehicles necessary to maintain operational readiness, reliability, and public safety response capabilities throughout Clay County.

The total Internal Service Funds (ISF) available are \$668,583.62. The lease total would be \$545,305.56 and the estimated upfit costs would be \$110,115.04 resulting in an estimated total of \$655,420.60.

Discussion ensued regarding the ISF, Tahoe versus Ford, leasing versus purchasing, patrol vehicle mileage per year, and working with Enterprise.

On motion by Commissioner Baer, seconded by Commissioner Ebinger, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the Lease of 10 Vehicles from Enterprise Fleet Management along with the corresponding upfit costs in the total amount of \$655,420.60 for the Sheriff's Office.

Committee Reports/County Administrator Update/Discussions

- Commissioner Ebinger reported on meetings for Greater FM EDC; Lake Agassiz Regional Library Board; and Sheriff's Office Awards & Promotional Ceremony.
- Commissioner Krabbenhoft reported on meetings for Adult Mental Health LAC; Historical & Cultural Society; and ReThink Mental Health Coalition.

- Commissioner Campbell reported on meetings for the Legislative Update.
- Commissioner Baer reported on meetings for Clay County EDA/EDC Quarterly meeting.
- Commissioner Mongeau reported on meetings for Planning Commission; Red River Basin Commission; Legislative Update; NACo Rural Action Counties Caucus meeting; Metro COG Policy Board meeting; Sheriff's Office Awards & Promotional Ceremony; and Memorial Day Service in Barnesville, MN.
- County Administrator Stephen Larson reported on meetings for Opioid Settlement meeting; MACA Regional meeting; met with Quinn Jaeger regarding SNAP impacts; Department Head Evaluation; met with Commissioner Krabbenhoft; MCIT Paperwork; met with Trenton Gerads from Cass Clay CLT; met with Anna Moore; MCCJPA Prep Meeting; and Flood Mitigation Work Group.
- Assistant County Administrator Darren Brooke reported on meetings for met with Anna Moore, Ashley Magelky, and Corey Bang regarding a landfill position; met with Mary Sarracino regarding UKG; MNCCC - HR payroll; MNCCC Membership meeting; IFS User Group meeting; MNCCC HR Payroll meeting; Employee Appreciation Committee meeting; and Sheriff's Office Awards & Promotional Ceremony.
- County Attorney Brian Melton reported on the Attorney's Office Facility dog Eidson has arrived.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 9:16 a.m.

Jenny Mongeau, Chair
County Board of Commissioners

Stephen Larson, County Administrator