

WORK SESSION (COUNTY BOARD ROOM):

REVIEW DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE ENFORCEMENT PROCESS

REVIEW 2026 BUDGET

REVIEW DRAFT 2026 LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Board Chair Genny Reynolds called the meeting to order at 9:01 AM with the following commissioners present: Commissioners Whitcomb, Tellinghuisen, Reynolds, Bjornson and Munson.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVE THE AGENDA (ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS)

A motion was made by Commissioner Bjornson, seconded by Commissioner Whitcomb, and unanimously carried to approve the agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Commissioner Munson, seconded by Commissioner Tellinghuisen, and unanimously carried to approve the consent agenda as amended with item 4.1 removed for discussion.

CONSIDER REVISED PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT POSITION DESCRIPTIONS

Personnel Director Karly Feters presented the agenda item. Discussion took place regarding the need for a ditch inspector role, and where this falls within the department. A motion was made by Commissioner Munson, seconded by Commissioner Whitcomb, and unanimously carried to approve the revised Public Works department position descriptions.

CONSIDER DECEMBER 2, 2025, COUNTY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

CONSIDER RENEWING TRI-CAP CONTRACT FOR 2026

REVIEW OF CVS WARRANTS

REVIEW OF ADMINISTRATOR WARRANTS

CONSIDER LOS FOR ECE ERA PROGRAM

CONSIDER PERSONNEL POLICY REVISION

CONSIDER PURCHASE OF 3 COPIERS

REGULAR AGENDA

FEE SCHEDULE PUBLIC HEARING

County Administrator Dillon Hayes presented the agenda item. A motion was made by Commissioner Whitcomb, seconded by Commissioner Bjornson, and unanimously carried to open the public hearing at 9:08 AM. Board Chair Reynolds called for public input three times; no public input was received. A motion was made by Commissioner Bjornson, seconded by Commissioner Whitcomb, and unanimously carried to close the public hearing at 9:08 AM. A motion was made by Commissioner Whitcomb, seconded by Commissioner Bjornson, and unanimously carried to adopt the 2026 County Fee Schedule effective January 1, 2026.

LAND SERVICES OFFICE

CONSIDER PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS

Zoning Administrator Kennan Hayes presented the agenda item and mentioned that there are four separate properties and four separate motions to be made. A motion was made by Commissioner

Bjornson, seconded by Commissioner Tellinghuisen and unanimously carried to approve property rezone on parcel 01-030-0405. Discussion took place on the rezone of parcel 01-030-0404 regarding whether this should be rezoned industrial or commercial. A motion was made by Commissioner Whitcomb, seconded by Commissioner Munson, and unanimously carried to table the property rezone and to send this back to the planning commission to review. A motion was made by Commissioner Bjornson, seconded by Commissioner Munson, and unanimously carried to approve the property rezone on parcel 15-024-0106. A motion was made by Commissioner Whitcomb, seconded by Commissioner Bjornson, and unanimously carried to approve the property rezone on parcel 12-032-0300.

COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

PRESENTATION OF LIFE SAVING AWARDS TO CAPTAIN BRAD HUNT, SERGEANT ANDREW BROMBERG, SERGEANT DAN HOLADA AND DEPUTY MICHAEL BOSER.

County Sheriff Kyle Burton presented the awards.

COMMUNITY AND VETERAN SERVICES OFFICE

CONSIDER 2026 PURCHASE OF SERVICE AGREEMENT FOR NEXUS FAMILY HEALING

Assistant Community and Veteran Services Director Suzanne Lelwica and Executive Director for Nexus Family Healing Shannon Amundson presented the agenda item. A motion was made by Commissioner Bjornson, seconded by Commissioner Whitcomb, and unanimously carried to approve the 2026 purchase of service agreement with Nexus Family Healing.

PUBLIC WORKS

CONSIDER THE REPLACEMENT OF THE HISTORIC COURTHOUSE UNINTERRUPTIBLE POWER SUPPLY (UPS) AND INSTALLATION OF A MAINTENANCE BYPASS SWITCH

Facility and Fleet Operations Manager Noelan Lange presented the agenda item. A motion was made by Commissioner Whitcomb, seconded by Commissioner Bjornson, and unanimously carried to approve the replacement of the historic courthouse uninterruptible power supply (UPS) and installation of a maintenance bypass switch with equipment from Quality Power Solutions in the amount of \$18,851 and installation labor provided by Hunt Electric/Granite Ledge Branch for \$3,200.

CONSIDER SOO LINE TRAIL MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT WITH DRIFT SKIPPERS

Public Works Director Wesley Davis presented the agenda item. A motion was made by Commissioner Munson, seconded by Commissioner Tellinghuisen, and unanimously carried to approve the Soo Line trail maintenance agreement with Drift Skippers for 2026-2035.

CONSIDER ANNUAL DITCH INSPECTION REPORTS

Public Works Director Davis presented the agenda item. A motion was made by Commissioner Munson, seconded by Commissioner Whitcomb, and unanimously carried to approve the annual ditch inspection reports for County Ditch 3 and Branches 1 – 6 of County Ditch 4.

CONSIDER RESOLUTION 12-16-25-01: BRIDGE PRIORITY

Public Works Director Davis presented the agenda item. A motion was made by Commissioner Munson, seconded by Commissioner Bjornson, and unanimously carried to adopt Resolution 12-16-25-01: Bridge Priority.

***Board of County Commissioners
Mille Lacs County, Minnesota***

Resolution No.: 12-16-25-01

BRIDGE PRIORITIES

WHEREAS, Mille Lacs County has reviewed the pertinent data on bridges requiring replacement, rehabilitation, or removal, supplied by local citizenry and local units of government, (and the regional development commission or metropolitan council as applicable); and

***WHEREAS,** Mille Lacs County has identified those bridges that are high priority and that require replacement, rehabilitation, or removal within the next five years.*

***NOW THEREFORE; BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mille Lacs County Board of Commissioners that the following bridges are high priorities for replacement, major rehabilitation, or removal, and Mille Lacs County intends to replace, rehabilitate, or remove these bridges as soon as possible when funds are available; and*

<i>Old Bridge Number</i>	<i>Road Number and Name</i>	<i>Crossing</i>	<i>LPI</i>	<i>Total Project Cost</i>	<i>LBRP Funds</i>	<i>Local or State Aid Funds</i>	<i>Proposed Construction Year</i>
48509	CSAH 13	W Br Rum River	24	\$1,364,000	\$546,000	\$818,000	TBD
48512	CSAH 25	Rum River	29	\$1,044,000	\$418,000	\$626,000	TBD
48517	CSAH 12	W Br Rum River	39	\$1,322,000	\$529,000	\$793,000	TBD
L3034	155 th Ave	Battle Brook	40	\$460,000	\$184,000	\$276,000	TBD
48518	CSAH 18	W Br Rum River	44	\$1,142,000	\$457,000	\$685,000	TBD
92148	CSAH 7	Stream	50	\$432,000	\$173,000	\$259,000	TBD
48519	CSAH 8	W Br Rum River	53	\$1,252,000	\$501,000	\$751,000	TBD
48J41	CSAH 5	Prairie Brook	54	\$500,000	\$200,000	\$300,000	TBD
48002	CSAH 36	Rum River	56	\$3,069,000	\$1,228,000	\$1,841,000	TBD
48516	CSAH 19	Tibbets Brook	56	\$789,000	\$316,000	\$473,000	TBD
48504	CSAH 20	Rum River	59	\$1,447,000	\$579,000	\$868,000	TBD
48506	CSAH 11	Rum River	59	\$1,934,000	\$774,000	\$1,160,000	TBD
48508	CSAH 19	Rum River	61	\$1,892,000	\$757,000	\$1,135,000	TBD

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Mille Lacs County does hereby request authorization to replace, rehabilitate, or remove such bridges; and*

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Mille Lacs County does hereby request financial assistance with eligible approach grading and engineering costs on township bridges, as provided by law.*

CONSIDER AUTHORIZATION TO ORDER 2026 PICKUPS (STATE BID 259180)

Public Works Director Davis presented the agenda item. A motion was made by Commissioner Tellinghuisen, seconded by Commissioner Whitcomb, and unanimously carried to approve the acquisition of 2026 pickups (State bid 259180) from Midway Ford for \$116,486.68.

CONSIDER AUTHORIZATION TO ORDER T50 TRAILER (STATE BID 221693)

Public Works Director Davis presented the agenda item. Discussion took place regarding the weight rating of the trailer. A motion was made by Commissioner Munson, seconded by Commissioner Tellinghuisen, and unanimously carried to approve the acquisition of a T50 trailer (state bid 221693) from Zigler CAT for \$58,022.50.

CONSIDER FINAL ACCEPTANCE AND PAYMENT OF CP 048-145-025 CR 145 SURFACE IMPROVEMENT TO ANDERSON BROTHERS

Public Works Director Davis presented the agenda item. A motion was made by Commissioner Whitcomb, seconded by Commissioner Bjornson, and unanimously carried to approve final acceptance and payment of CP 048-145-025 CR 145 surface improvement to Anderson Brothers in the amount of \$45,722.43.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES OFFICE

REVIEW NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER NEW HIRES AND LEAVES

Personnel Director Fetters presented the agenda item.

CONSIDER RESOLUTION 12-16-25-02: GRANT-IN-AID TRAIL SPONSORSHIP

County Administrator Hayes presented the agenda item. A motion was made by Commissioner Bjornson, seconded by Commissioner Tellinghuisen, and unanimously carried to adopt Resolution 12-16-25-02: Grant-In-Aid Trail Sponsorship.

*Board of County Commissioners
Mille Lacs County, Minnesota*

Resolution No.: 12-16-25-02

AUTHORIZING SPONSORSHIP OF OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE TRAILS

WHEREAS, the State of Minnesota has made funding available through the Minnesota Trails Assistance Program for the purpose of constructing and maintaining Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) trails for All Terrain Vehicles (ATVs), Off-Road Vehicles (ORVs), and Off Highway Motorcycles (OHMs), and

WHEREAS Mille Lacs County desires to make available to its citizens and visitors such an area for the purposes outlined above, in harmony and keeping with its recreational plan.

NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT, the Mille Lacs County Board of Commissioners will act as the legal sponsor for funding applications to the State of Minnesota Department of Natural Resources for acquisition, construction, and/or maintenance of OHV riding areas, open to the public, for a period of not less than five years effective July 1, 2025; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, upon approval of its application by the State, Mille Lacs County may enter into an agreement with the State of Minnesota for the above-mentioned projects and that it will comply with all applicable laws and regulations as stated in the agreement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Administrator is hereby authorized to sign such an agreement with the Department of Natural Resources; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED the County of Mille Lacs hereby names the County Administrator as the fiscal agent for this project.

CONSIDER RESOLUTION 12-16-25-03: 2026 BUDGET & LEVY

County Administrator Hayes presented the agenda item. A motion was made by Commissioner Whitcomb, seconded by Commissioner Bjornson, and unanimously carried to adopt Resolution 12-16-25-03: 2026 Budget & Levy and 2026-2030 Capital Improvement Plan.

*Board of County Commissioners
Mille Lacs County, Minnesota*

Resolution No.: 12-16-25-03

ESTABLISHING 2026 BUDGET & LEVY

WHEREAS a proposed 2026 levy increase of 3% was approved by the Mille Lacs County Board of Commissioners in September 2025; and

WHEREAS a public hearing was held by the County Board on December 2, 2025, to allow for public comment concerning the proposed budget and levy.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mille Lacs County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the following 2026 Budget and Levy:

<i>FUND</i>	<i>BUDGET</i>	<i>LEVY</i>
<i>General Fund - 01</i>	<i>\$25,813,754</i>	<i>\$16,750,428</i>
<i>Public Works Fund - 10</i>	<i>\$14,546,268</i>	<i>\$2,777,988</i>
<i>Community & Veterans Services Fund - 11</i>	<i>\$14,469,249</i>	<i>\$5,728,043</i>
<i>Debt Service Fund - 35</i>	<i>\$1,562,593</i>	<i>\$556,280</i>
<i>TOTAL CERTIFIED BUDGET & LEVY</i>	<i>\$56,391,863</i>	<i>\$25,812,739</i>

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the Mille Lacs County Board of Commissioners shall utilize excess funds previously levied in Debt Service Fund 35 for payments on the County’s 2010B bond issue, which expires in 2026, and therefore will not levy the additional five percent otherwise required under Minnesota State Statute.*

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION CEREMONY

The County Board recessed the meeting at 10:13 a.m. A motion was made by Commissioner Whitcomb, seconded by Commissioner Bjornson, and unanimously carried to re-open the meeting at 11:01 AM. Employee Relations Specialist Krystal Erickson reviewed the agenda item and presented Employee Recognition items to eligible recognized employees.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioner Whitcomb attended the Association of Minnesota Conference. Commissioner Tellinghuisen attended the County Fair Board. Commissioner Reynolds attended the Association of Minnesota Conference and the East Central Regional Development meeting. Commissioner Bjornson attended the Environmental Committee.

ADJOURN

A motion was made by Commissioner Bjornson, seconded by Commissioner Munson, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 11:28 PM.

WORK SESSION (COUNTY BOARD ROOM):

MAXIS FINANCIAL DEMONSTRATION

ATTEST:

Dillon Hayes
County Administrator

Genny Reynolds
County Board Chairperson