

BOARD MEETING AS POSTED

BECKER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

DATE: TUESDAY, July 15, 2025 at 8:15 am

LOCATION: Board Room, Courthouse

1. Meeting was brought to order by Chair Meyer. Commissioners in attendance: Meyer, Jepson, Hansen, Vareberg and Nelson, County Administrator Carrie Smith, and minute taker Peggy Martin.
2. Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda/Minutes:

1. Agenda – Motion and second to approve the agenda (Hansen, Jepson) carried.
2. Minutes – Motion and second to approve minutes of July 1, 2025, with the requested changes (Hansen, Jepson) carried.
3. Motion and second to approve and accept the following Consent Agenda Items,– Auditor-Treasurer: Regular Claims, Auditor Warrants and Claims over 90 Days, Assessor: Abatements in the amount of (\$666), Human Services: Regular Claims, Public Health, & Transit, Essentia Health Agreement Grant: Equipment for Hearing Screening, Willow Tree Lease, Resolution 07-25-2D – ECI Grant Acceptance, Land Use: Environmental Services: Solid Waste Disposal Agreement, Sheriff: JPA – MN Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force (Nelson, Jepson) carried.

Commissioners:

1. Open Forum:
 - None.
2. Reports and Correspondence: Reports were provided on the following meetings:
 - Commissioner Hansen – MN Demographics, RAC.
 - Commissioner Jepson – Human Services, EDA Housing.
 - Commissioner Nelson – NRM.
 - Commissioner Vareberg – Human Services, NRM, Safety.
 - Commissioner Meyer – NW Regional Emergency Services.
3. Appointments:
 - None.

County Administrator: presented by Carrie Smith.

1. Becker County Museum Update: presented by Becky Mitchell.

- 2024 visitors: 19,780
 - Memberships: 500
 - Annual County Support: \$110,000
2. Becker County Extension – 2026 Budget: presented by Cecilia Amadou.
 3. Motion and second to approve Human Services Pure Water Technology of the North Rental Agreement (Jepson, Vareberg) carried.
 4. Report:
 - MN Demographics Meeting – Growth from migration.
 - Budget Work Session – After Finance on August 4.
 - Sheriff’s Storage Facility move in date is July 17.
 - Veteran’s Services is very busy. New Assistant Veteran’s Service Officer to start July 21.
 - AMC Fall Policy Conference – September 10-12.

EDA: Building Blocks Grant (Round 1) Update: presented by Cody Piper.

- \$50,000 total.
- Motion and second to approve and accept Round 1 Building Blocks Grant distribution total of \$31,671 (\$9,512 to Lindsey’s Littles, \$2,159 to Little Pumpkins, \$10,000 to Saunders and \$10,000 to Grins & Giggles) (Jepson, Vareberg) carried.

Human Resources: presented by Teaira Christen.

1. Motion and second to approve Resolution 07-25-2A – HCSP (Health Care Savings Plan) Contribution Group – Auditor Treasurer Office Group to include: Financial Manager, Deputy Auditor-Treasurer, License Supervisor, and Accountants (Nelson, Jepson) carried.
2. Motion and second to approve Resolution 07-25-2B – Offer Working Advantage as an Employee Benefit at no cost to the county (Jepson, Hansen) carried.
3. Motion and second to approve Resolution 07-25-2C – PFML (Paid Family and Medical Leave) Recommendation of participating in a private plan through MetLife (Jepson, Nelson) carried.
4. Motion and second to approve the LELS Contract Addendums relating to Updated Wage Tables for the Sheriff’s Supervisors and Deputies (Nelson, Jepson) carried.

Land Use/Environmental Services: presented by Steve Skoog and Mitch Lundeen.

1. Audubon Transmission Line Project with Option to Purchase Right of Way Easement Tabled for more information.
2. Motion and second to approve the purchase of Compostable Bags from Bio Bag at the cost of \$17,259 using Grant Funding (Hansen, Vareberg) carried.
3. Motion and second to approve fencing in the amount of \$40,300 from Freedom Fencing, verifying with MPCA the amount of barbed wire required on top (Nelson, Meyer) carried.

Planning & Zoning: presented by Kyle Vareberg.

1. Prairie Lake Investment LLC Conditional Use Permit: Decision on Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW).
 - Tami Norgard – Vogel Law Firm. The application is sparse and should require an EAW. County needs to follow ordinance.
 - Matt Hedstrom – Developer. Application is similar to previous applications approved by Becker County. Just wanting to get gravel off the property to develop.
 - Motion and second to not require an EAW (Environmental Assessment Worksheet (Vareberg, Hansen) carried.

Being no further business, Board Chair Meyer adjourned the meeting at 11:31 am.

<u>/s/</u>	Carrie Smith	<u>/s/</u>	David Meyer
	Carrie Smith		David Meyer
	County Administrator		Board Chair