

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE
RICE COUNTY COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Commissioner's Room / Government Services Building
Tuesday, July 19, 2022 at 8:30 AM**

I. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

(At the beginning of each Committee of the Whole Work Session meeting, the floor will be open to solicit public comments on items on the Agenda. Public comments will be limited to two (2) minutes for each person, subject to the discretion of the County Board Chairperson)

Kathryn Hagen-Lonsdale spoke on behalf of the issue with the drop box-machine issues regarding elections.

II. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY: Allan Klug

A. Allan Klug, IT Director spoke on behalf of Rice County being registered as the new Rice County MN . Gov domain. According to Allan, the federal authorities for local government agencies are to move to GOV domains. The GOV domain is now registered with required outside and state organizations. Rice County is now able to migrate to using @ricecountymn.gov email addresses and web services. Allan states that setting up new email addresses gives an opportunity to re-evaluate our email policy. Currently, the first initial and last name are used as the default. This causes some confusion when there are two employees with matching first initial and last. Moving to first name dot last name for ricecounty mn.gov email addresses would allow cleaner email identification and less room for accidental email misdirection.

III. PARKS & FACILITIES DEPARTMENT: Matthew Verdick

A. Matthew Verdick, Director of Parks and Facilities, discussed how we were going to have Lazer scanning of some of the Rice County Historic Buildings. This was offered as a no-fee service. Matt showed pictures of some samples that had been completed recently. This project is still in the works.

IV. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE: John Fossum

A. John Fossum, County Attorney, talked to the commissioners regarding Old Prairieville Cemetery, which is now considered a Pioneer Cemetery. The church which created the cemetery has been closed for decades, and the volunteer organization which took it over a number of years ago is no longer able to maintain the cemetery. In 2020, Friends of Old Prairieville Cemetery approached the County and offered to transfer their funds to the County in exchange for the County taking over maintenance. Their funds at the time amounted to approximately \$18,000.00. This will be brought to the Board at a later date to further discuss options.

V. HIGHWAY: Dennis Luebbe

A. Dennis Luebbe, discussed many different projects that are currently being worked on. Per Luebbe, a verbal approval has been given by MnDOT. They are approving gathering signatures for the County Road 19 and 35W 6-legged round about. This roundabout is 200 ft in diameter, making it the largest in the State of Minnesota. County Road 4 had an open house to discuss right of way issues. County Road 76 has been completed with rough grading. Later this week there will be cement stabilization. No delays. Temporary phone lines were cut, but the project is going strong. Next week a resolution will be brought to the Board to have it approve no parking on Cedar Lake access.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Dave Miller, seconded by Steve Underdahl, to adjourn the meeting.

RESULT: Approved, AYES: Jeff Docken, Dave Miller, Steve Underdahl, Galen Malecha, Jim Purfeerst,
NAYS: None