

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE
RICE COUNTY COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Commissioner's Room / Government Services Building
Tuesday, September 5, 2023 at 8:30 AM**

I. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

(At each Committee of the Whole Work Session meeting, the floor will be open to solicit public comments on items on the Agenda after they are presented. A Comment Card will need to be filled out in order to speak about any of the items. Public comments will be limited to (3) minutes for each person, subject to the discretion of the County Board Chairperson) Jeff Docken called the Committee of the Whole meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

II. OUTSIDE AGENCY:

A. Erica Staab-Absher, Executive Director, presented an update as to what they are currently working on at the Hope Center. They gave a brief overview of what they do and how they are helping people. This year the Hope Center is requesting funding in the amount of \$15,000 to help continue to provide services to victims of violence in the community.

III. PROPERTY TAX & ELECTIONS: Denise Anderson

A. Dean Sunderlin, Chair of Circle Lake Improvement District, gave the Rice County Commissioners an update and what they are working towards for the year 2024.

IV. SOCIAL SERVICES: Chris Sammon

A. Chris Sammon discussed the grant they are working on. Family Resource Centers are developing nationally to support parents, network resources, and prevent families from becoming involved with the Child Welfare system. Sauer Family Foundation has joined with The Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) and Minnesota Association of County Social Services Administrators (MACSSA) to create grant opportunities to support local efforts. Locally, a group of Rice County community stakeholders have met to discuss submitting a Letter of Intention on behalf of the Rice County Family Services Collaborative, with Rice County as the fiscal host, to explore and assess current Family Resource Center-like programs; analyze current community assessments already gathered, develop a Parent Advisory Group, and work to align parenting resources across the county.

V. HUMAN RESOURCE: Adam Johnson and Carol Kritzer

A. Donna Larsen from Minnesota State Retirement Systems (MSRS) gave a presentation regarding the new Health Care Savings Plan (HCSP). More information to follow on this.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Galen Malecha, seconded by Steve Underdahl, to adjourn the meeting.

RESULT: Approved, AYES: Steve Underdahl, Galen Malecha, Jeff Docken, Gerry Hoisington, NAYS: None