

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE
RICE COUNTY COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Commissioner's Room / Government Services Building
Tuesday, March 5, 2024 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)

II. OUTSIDE AGENCY: Nort Johnson

- A. Nort Johnson, Executive Director of the Faribault Chamber of Commerce, presented a request for funding the Cradle to Career (C2C) Initiative in Faribault. This is a partnership between the Chamber Trust, Faribault Public Schools and the Healthy Community Initiative. The Chamber is requesting consideration of a financial contribution for the build out of the C2C initiative in Faribault of \$20,000.00 per year for 5 years from Rice County, representing approximately 14% of the annual \$150,000 budget.

III. OUTSIDE AGENCY: Laura Bock, Faribault Foundation

- A. Laura Bock, Executive Director of the Downtown (Viaduct-Area) Park Partnership program gave a brief overview of what the project consists of and how it works. Commissioners stated they would need to check through policies and see if this is something they can help in.

IV. PARKS & FACILITIES DEPARTMENT: Matthew Verdick

- A. Matthew Verdick, Director of Parks & Facilities, gave a brief overview of his department and future plans. It was requested for two new FTEs to be hired to cover maintenance of the Public Safety Center as well as hire another individual to help with the transitions. The Board stated the topic would need to be discussed further in another Committee Work Session down the road after going through the personnel committee.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Galen Malecha, seconded by Gerry Hoisington, to adjourn the meeting.

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