

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE
RICE COUNTY COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Commissioner's Room / Government Services Building
Tuesday, August 20, 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) Galen Malecha called the meeting to order.

II. OUTSIDE AGENCY:

- A.** Delane James, Director, gave a brief overview of what's new and what's in the works for 2025. They are requesting the amount of \$228,383 for 2025.

Public Comment: Lisa Reuvers-Resident (spoke on Buckham Library)

Public Comment: Jayne Spooner-Resident (spoke on Buckham Library)

- B.** Natalie Draper, Director, gave an overview of things completed in 2024 and plans for 2025. They are requesting the amount of \$206,135 for 2025.

Public Comment: Jane Moore-Resident (Spoke about Northfield Public Library)

Public Comment: Bill North-Resident (Spoke about Northfield Public Library)

- C.** Sara Shephard spoke on behalf of Southern MN Initiative Foundation. Gave a brief overview of what's been happening in 2024 and future plans. They have requested the amount of \$2550 for 2025.
- D.** Jennifer Korbel, Executive Director of Buckham West gave a presentation to the board discussing things that took place in 2024 and what future plans they have coming forward. Their 2025 levy request is \$8,000.
- E.** Kerry Hjelmgren, Executive Director, spoke out on behalf of FiftyNorth. Their levy request for 2025 is \$10,000.00.
- F.** Marguerite Moran, Director, discussed 2024 and plans for 2025. Their levy request is for \$29,750.00.
- G.** Steve Pahs, District Manager, came forward to discuss things happening for 2024 and updated plans for 2025. Their levy request is for the amount of \$249,384.
- H.** Don Hauge, Executive Director, gave a brief presentation on what Southeastern MN EMS does. Their levy request for 2025 is in the amount of \$5,000.
- I.** Jeff Wyant, Senior Services Director, talked about what SEMCAC does. They are requesting \$5,000, for 2025.

III. HIGHWAY: Dennis Luebbe

- A.** Dennis Luebbe, Director of Highway gave updates as to what his department has completed for projects as well as gave updates on projects that will be coming forward.

IV. ADMINISTRATION: Sara Folsted

- A. Motion by Jeff Docken to go into Closed Session pursuant to Minnesota Statute 13D.03 Subd. 1 Labor Negotiations Strategy.**

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

Motion by Steve Underdahl, seconded by Jim Purfeerst to go out of Closed Session.

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

V. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Steve Underdahl, seconded by Gerry Hoisington, to adjourn the meeting.

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