

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE
RICE COUNTY COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Commissioner's Room / Government Services Building
Tuesday, October 15, 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) Steve Underdahl opened the meeting.

II. SOCIAL SERVICES: Rick Gieseke

- A. Megan Thomas, Adult Services Manager, gave a brief presentation going over the Guardianship program. October is National Guardianship Awareness Month. She spoke of the achievements in 2023 and what they are working towards through to the 2025 new year.

III. HIGHWAY: Dennis Luebbe

- A. Dennis Luebbe, from Highway, gave an update as to what's happening within his department. The 2024 construction programs are winding down for the year. County Road 3 Culvert is complete, and the road has opened. Two paving jobs for the year are complete. On October 20th, County Road 19 will undergo a Field Inspection. County Road 46 has about 1000 feet of paving. This is known as the old trunk highway. MNDOT stated Highway 60 South ramp should open today, and I35 work should come to a full completion next Friday or possibly sooner. Highway 21 and 7th Street Burger King project is working on some signage and lighting. The completion date is roughly around November 15th.

Maintenance is doing some extra mowing, including the landfill. Gravel roads have become challenging due to the lack of rain. They are still working 4–10-hour days through November. They are working with FEMA in scheduling damaged areas where tree removal is still needed.

Planning Updates include County Road 46 going to the Scott County line is 80% planned for 2025. Notices will go out to property owners. Decker Avenue Final Draft project is complete. Making the corrections as needed. The transportation plan is being rescheduled due to updated comprehensive plan. Hoping to present the 10-year construction program draft to be approved by the board, will be brought forward at a later meeting. Applying for more grants for sidewalks and intersection improvements.

Facility meeting next week to continue discussion on a possible lease agreement for parks and facilities equipment. Highway office working on two remote work stations. King Mill Dam maintenance issues discussion and possible DNR Funding.

IV. 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