

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE
RICE COUNTY COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Commissioner's Room / Government Services Building
Tuesday, February 4, 2025 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 called the meeting to order.

II. COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS: Angela Brewer

- A. Angela Brewer continued discussion and presentation to the Board regarding department workload, initiatives, outcomes, staff, and strategic goals.

III. SOCIAL SERVICES: Chris Sammon

- A. Chris Sammon talked about practice changes and the impacts of MN Statute 260.61 MAAFP (Minnesota African American Family Preservation Act) Law

Legislation was enacted to address disproportionate rates of certain populations of children involved in the child welfare system in 2024. This law is being phased in across the state and will not be implemented in Rice County until January 1, 2027. The spirit of the law aligns with the mission of the agency, and we believe in supporting strong families, preserving children in safe homes and providing services to lift families to the extent that we have the capacity and authority to do so. There are areas of the legislation, however, where some planning is needed prior to implementation to prepare for some of the unfunded mandates that may result.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Galen Malecha, seconded by Charlie Peters, to adjourn the meeting.

RESULT: Approved, AYES: Galen Malecha, Charlie Peters, Jim Purfeerst, Steve Underdahl, NAYS: None