

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE
RICE COUNTY COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Commissioner's Room / Government Services Building
Tuesday, April 1, 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) Jim Purfeerst was the Chair.

II. PUBLIC HEALTH/NURSING: Deb Purfeerst

- A. Deb Purfeerst, Public Health Director, gave a brief overview of the 2024 Rice County Public Health Annual Report. She talked about each division regarding Family Child Health, Clinic Community Health Workers, Sexual & Reproductive Health Services, Statewide Health Improvement Partnership (SHIP) Car Seat/Education. The Commissioners were given the option to ask questions about all groups.

III. COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS: Angela Brewer

- A. Treatment Court best practices recommend a multidisciplinary team of professionals to comprise the Treatment Court Team. The Treatment Court Team screens potential participants for entry, reviews participant progress, develops and/or reviews policies, procedures, and local expectations, and addresses non-compliance. To ensure due process in court elements of the program, including sanctions and potential terminations, defense counsel to collectively represent the participants is a necessary member of the Treatment Court Team.

Rice County is currently a grant recipient of a Treatment Court Enhancement Grant with funding through September 30, 2027. Payment for defense counsel services was an original budgeted request in the grant. Because services were being provided without cost, the funding was distributed to other areas when the final budget was approved. A grant award modification request was approved to allocate the funds to defense services given the absence of defense representation without cost at this time.

IV. FINANCE: Paula O'Connell

- A. Jarett Spitzack, the County Drainage Ditch Manager, has prepared a report to discuss the past and future activities.

V. ADJOURNMENT

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

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