

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE
RICE COUNTY COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Commissioner's Room / Government Services Building
Tuesday, July 15, 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 board chair.

II. PROPERTY TAX & ELECTIONS: Denise Anderson

A. Dennise Anderson gave an overview of the Abatement report for 2024.

III. SOCIAL SERVICES: Chris Sammon

A. Chris Sammon, Child & Family Services Manager, and Anika Rychner, CAC Senior Director, gave a brief presentation on how the partnership with the Community Action Center (CAC) works hand in hand with Rice County.

IV. HIGHWAY: Dennis Luebbe

A. Dennis Luebbe, Highway Director, gave an overview of updates within the Highway Department. The Mills Town Trail project next to College City Beverage will be starting. County Road 27 is ready for final paving. The County Road 28 project is to begin in late July, which will include detours. County Road 50, hoping to have a contractor by early August. County Road Project: Lane grading and drainage work. The project in Northfield Settler Park is to begin in late September. County Road 11 plans need to be approved. Then we can request bids. State emergency monies will be used. The roundabout in Lonsdale has been awarded to Hazelton, and work will be completed sometime in 2026. Then he discussed the annual bridges and parks. Highway fuel systems went down last week. Bid opening will begin on August 7th to award the project to a contractor and start a construction schedule. Fuel tanks will be down for 6–8 weeks. The entire fleet will need to make other arrangements. The 2026 Highway budget is looking to replace self-storage. Spraying for weeds has been completed. Discussed extending the length of the project in Dundas, more to follow on this at a later date.

V. COMMISSIONERS REQUEST

A. **Motion by Galen Malecha, seconded by Charlie Peters, to go into CLOSED SESSION under MN Statute 13D.05 Subd. 3 (c)(3) to develop or consider offers or counteroffers for the purchase or sale of real or personal property for the following parcel: 1836250006.**

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

Motion by Galen Malecha, seconded by Charlie Peters, to go out of CLOSED SESSION.

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

VI. ADJOURNMENT

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

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