

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE  
RICE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
Commissioner's Room / Government Services Building  
Tuesday, December 2, 2025, at 8:30 AM**

**I. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

- A. The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Gerry Hoisington, Chairperson. Members present were: Purfeerst, Malecha, Underdahl, and Peters.
- B. **Motion by Galen Malecha, seconded by Charlie Peters, to approve the agenda as presented.**  
RESULT: Approved, AYES: Steve Underdahl, Galen Malecha, Jim Purfeerst, Gerry Hoisington, Charlie Peters, NAYS: None
- C. **Motion by Jim Purfeerst, seconded by Steve Underdahl, to approve the minutes from the regular board meeting on November 25, 2025.**  
RESULT: Approved, AYES: Steve Underdahl, Galen Malecha, Jim Purfeerst, Gerry Hoisington, Charlie Peters, NAYS: None

**II. PROPERTY TAX & ELECTIONS: Denise Anderson**

- A. **Motion by Galen Malecha, seconded by Charlie Peters, requesting approval of the amendment of resolution 25-041 for adopting and confirming special assessment for the 2026 Circle Lake Improvement District.**  
RESULT: Approved, AYES: Steve Underdahl, Galen Malecha, Jim Purfeerst, Gerry Hoisington, Charlie Peters, NAYS: None
- B. Circle Lake Improvement District Discussion-Resolution to follow at a later date.

**III. ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES: Julie Runkel**

- A. **Motion by Galen Malecha, seconded by Charlie Peters, to table the Interim Use Permit for Cole Bearden of New Leaf Energy, on behalf of landowners Poplar Grove Farms LLC and Richard Nielsen, to the December 16, 2025, Board of Commissioners Meeting. The property is located in Section 23 of Morristown Township.**  
RESULT: Approved, AYES: Steve Underdahl, Galen Malecha, Jim Purfeerst, Gerry Hoisington, Charlie Peters, NAYS: None

**IV. PUBLIC HEALTH/NURSING: Deb Purfeerst**

- A. Updates from Public Health-Clinic & Community Unit presentation

**V. SHERIFF'S OFFICE: Jesse Thomas**

- A. Request for setting the 2026 salary for the Rice County Sheriff, Jesse Thomas.
- B. **Motion by Galen Malecha, seconded by Charlie Peters, to adopt Resolution #25-052 setting the 2026 Salary for the Rice County Sheriff.**  
RESULT: Approved, AYES: Steve Underdahl, Galen Malecha, Jim Purfeerst, Gerry Hoisington, Charlie Peters, NAYS: None

**VI. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE: Brian Mortenson**

- A. Request for setting the 2026 salary for Rice County Attorney, Brian Mortenson.
- B. **Motion by Galen Malecha, seconded by Steve Underdahl, to adopt Resolution #25-053 Setting the 2026 Salary for the Rice County Attorney.**  
RESULT: Approved, AYES: Steve Underdahl, Galen Malecha, Jim Purfeerst, Gerry Hoisington, Charlie Peters, NAYS: None

**VII. HIGHWAY: Dennis Luebke**

- A. **Motion by Charlie Peters, seconded by Jim Purfeerst, to approve and adopt Resolution # 25-051 Support for an agreement to sponsor the City of Lonsdale in pursuit of 2025 Local Road Improvement Program Funding from the Minnesota Department of Transportation for the Idaho Street Southwest Improvements Project.**  
RESULT: Approved, AYES: Steve Underdahl, Galen Malecha, Jim Purfeerst, Gerry Hoisington, Charlie Peters, NAYS: None
- B. **Motion by Charlie Peters, seconded by Steve Underdahl, to award contract # 2576 to Carl Bolander & Sons Co., in the amount of \$460,000.00.**

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

**VIII. ADMINISTRATION: Sara Folsted**

**A. Motion by Galen Malecha, seconded by Jim Purfeerst, to approve the consent agenda that is provided.**

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

**1. Payment of Bills**

Bills Totaled: \$159,617.02 Claims over \$2000 listed Andrew & Gabrielle Caron & Dahle Enterp. 10,620.00, Boldt Funeral Home 2,467.00, Community Co-Op General Office 41,871.74, Institute for Environmental Assessment 3,446.07, Jeremiah & Nicole Schweisthal & Dahle Ent 18,000.00, Paape Companies Inc 2,254.38, Ratwik Roszak & Maloney Pa 3,243.00, Steven Judd & Dahle Enterprises 18,000.00, Summit Companies 4,483.25, Thomas & Cherie Andrist and 17,000.00, WEX Health Inc 3,224.10, WMS Weber Multi Services 2,625.00, Wold Architects And Engineers Inc 3,706.57, Access On Time Companies Inc 5,660.00, Freeborn Co Dept Human Service 4,378.55

**IX. 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

**Approved by the Rice County Board of Commissioners this 16th day of December 2025.**

**RICE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

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Gerry Hoisington, Chairperson

**ATTEST:**

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Sara Folsted, County Administrator