

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE
RICE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Commissioner's Room / Government Services Building
Tuesday, January 6, 2026, 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 Jim Purfeerst, to approve the agenda as presented.**
RESULT: Approved, AYES: Steve Underdahl, Galen Malecha, Jim Purfeerst, Gerry Hoisington, Charlie Peters, NAYS: None
- C. **Motion by Steve Underdahl, seconded by Charlie Peters, to approve the minutes from the regular board meeting on December 23, 2025.**
RESULT: Approved, AYES: Steve Underdahl, Galen Malecha, Jim Purfeerst, Gerry Hoisington, Charlie Peters, NAYS: None
- D. **Motion by Galen Malecha, seconded by Jim Purfeerst, to elect Charlie Peters as the 2026 Chairperson.**
RESULT: Approved, AYES: Steve Underdahl, Galen Malecha, Jim Purfeerst, and Gerry Hoisington, NAYS: None
- E. **Motion by Galen Malecha, seconded by Gerry Hoisington, to elect Jim Purfeerst as the 2026 Vice Chair.**
RESULT: Approved, AYES: Steve Underdahl, Galen Malecha, Gerry Hoisington, and Charlie Peters, NAYS: None
- F. **Motion by Galen Malecha, seconded by Jim Purfeerst, approves the 2026 Commissioner Board Committees with the correction to the Jail Taskforce, which will now be referred to as the Jail Committee.**
RESULT: Approved, AYES: Steve Underdahl, Galen Malecha, Jim Purfeerst, Gerry Hoisington, Charlie Peters, NAYS: None
- G. **Motion by Galen Malecha, seconded by Gerry Hoisington, requesting to set and keep the same meeting dates and times from 2025 to 2026.**
RESULT: Approved, AYES: Steve Underdahl, Galen Malecha, Jim Purfeerst, Gerry Hoisington, Charlie Peters, NAYS: None

II. PROPERTY TAX & ELECTIONS: Denise Anderson

- A. **Motion by Steve Underdahl, seconded by Gerry Hoisington, to Adopt Resolution #26-004/Resolution Establishing Absentee Ballot Board, Mail Ballot Board, and UOCAVA Ballot Board for 2026 Election Cycle.**
RESULT: Approved, AYES: Steve Underdahl, Galen Malecha, Jim Purfeerst, Gerry Hoisington, Charlie Peters, NAYS: None

III. SHERIFF'S OFFICE: Jesse Thomas

- A. **Motion by Jim Purfeerst, seconded by Steve Underdahl, to approve and sign the continuation of the 2024 Emergency Management Performance Grant.**
RESULT: Approved, AYES: Steve Underdahl, Galen Malecha, Jim Purfeerst, Gerry Hoisington, Charlie Peters, NAYS: None

IV. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE: Brian Mortenson

- A. **Motion by Steve Underdahl, seconded by Jim Purfeerst, to approve the Contract Renewal with Anoka County to provide Medical Examiner Services.**
RESULT: Approved, AYES: Steve Underdahl, Galen Malecha, Jim Purfeerst, Gerry Hoisington, Charlie Peters, NAYS: None
- B. **Motion by Jim Purfeerst, seconded by Gerry Hoisington, to approve the Rice County Guidelines and Procedures for the MGDPA.**
RESULT: Approved, AYES: Steve Underdahl, Galen Malecha, Jim Purfeerst, Gerry Hoisington, Charlie Peters, NAYS: None

V. HIGHWAY: Dennis Luebbe

- A. Presentation of Public Comments that were received regarding the proposed shared use path along the proposed reconstruction of County Highway 20.

VI. FINANCE: Peggy Schaak

- A. **Motion by Galen Malecha, seconded by Steve Underdahl, to adopt Resolution #26-003 - Granting Annual Authority to the Chief Financial Officer to Designate Depositories & Authorize others to Conduct Banking Transactions.**

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

VII. ADMINISTRATION: Sara Folsted

- A. **Motion by Galen Malecha, seconded by Gerry Hoisington, to approve the consent agenda as presented.**

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

1. Extra Time/Over Time Report 12-26-2025

2. Payment of Bills

Bills Totaled: \$133,159.57 BHE Community Solar LLC 13,032.33, Bornyk/Tucker & Sydney 3,722.00, Egan Company 5,585.00, Engage Print Inc 7,385.00, Faribo Sno-Go Club Inc 12,604.68, Imperial Dade 2,061.74, Institute for Environmental Assessment 4,010.00, Midwest Collision Inc 7,549.71, Minnesota Dept of Health 4,304.00, Paape Companies Inc 25,070.81, PowerDMS Inc 3,859.32, Shedy/Daniel J 2,294.00, Walser Honda 22,593.24

- B. **Motion by Jim Purfeerst, seconded by Steve Underdahl, to adopt Resolution No. 26-001, as the Official Newspaper for the publication of official proceedings, summary form, and public notices.**

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

- C. **Motion by Steve Underdahl, seconded by Jim Purfeerst, to approve and adopt resolution 26-002 designating the Rice County Website as the 2026 Official Publication for Transportation Projects.**

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

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

- Motion by Jim Purfeerst, seconded by Gerry Hoisington, 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 13th day of January 2026.

RICE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Charlie Peters, Chairperson

ATTEST:

Sara Folsted, County Administrator