

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE
RICE COUNTY COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Commissioner's Room / Government Services Building
Tuesday, May 19, 2026, 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 must be filled out to discuss any of the items. Public comments will be limited to (3) minutes for each person, subject to the discretion of the County Board Chairperson)

II. ADULT SERVICES: Megan Thomas

- A. Hannah Davidson and Megan Thomas gave a brief overview of the Rice County Local Advisory Committee Assessment.

III. HIGHWAY: Dennis Luebbe

- A. Dennis gave updates on both new and old highway projects. Centerline replacement signs will be popping up here and there. Maybe a day of road closures due to the constant changes. Signs will go up periodically. Finished NE 14th Street, 99.9% paved and complete. County Road 25 milling completed. Waiting on the weather to finalize treatment. The County Road 23 recycling project is on hold due to the weather. Project to start on Lindale Avenue to work on signal timing. A federal grant was obtained for overhead lighting. Rural County Road intersections. May award a contract, but work won't start till sometime next year. County Road 21 driveway access will have a pre-construction meeting. The new project with fueling systems at the Highway Department has been set and tested. County Road 9 was scheduled for delivery in 2029; however, the plan is to move the project up sooner due to a patch needing replacement. There are two possible bridge projects advancing in Morristown. They have the funding. The County Road 93 retaining wall will replace the old timber retaining wall. County Road slope repair from flooding is in the lineup. All staff are in full-blown construction mode. Highway 19 Roundabout has no known issues. They have been dewatering where needed.

Planning updates have discussions on projects in Dundas, which will be brought to the Transportation Committee. Currently, they are looking beyond the 10-year plan. Working with the District Engineer regarding safety concerns at the crossroads by Menards in Dundas. Hoping to work with DOT to coordinate a possible roundabout. Looking into the 2027 budget. Working on some possible outreach.

Parks and Trails updates include piers in need of repair, requests for fish-cleaning areas, and memory benches. Currently working on a letter of support from the colleges. Pavilions at Shagar Park need repairs, and Albers has some settling issues. Hail damage at Falls Creek, which will need to have shingles upgraded.

The salt shed is going well and is hoping to be completed in July 2026. (Maintenance)

IV. 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