



DONATE
BLOOD

YOUR SUPPORT SAVES LIVES!

Annual blood drive is
Monday, January 20th

McIntosh Community Blood Drive will be Monday, January 20th from Noon - 5:00 pm at the McIntosh Community Center. Please contact Mary Goodwin if you are interested in donating blood or online at www.vitalant.org

Donating blood is a selfless act that benefits countless individuals each day. The need for a steady blood supply is ongoing. In July 2024, the American Red Cross faced an emergency blood shortage after its national blood inventory fell by more than 25 percent. The Red Cross recently reported its lowest donor turnout in 20 years. There may be different reasons why people do not give blood, and confusion the process could be one of them.

The process of donating blood is simple, safe and quick. Although each organization may run a blood drive differently, here is what a blood donor can expect of the donation process.

- **Register for the blood drive** at an organization close to you. Many groups require you make an appointment, but some may accept walk-ins.
- **Get plenty of rest and stay hydrated** the day before the donation appointment. Also, set aside your identification. The type of identification needed may vary by donation center.
- **The day of the donation**, be sure to wear a short-sleeved shirt or one with sleeves that

can be rolled up.

- Arrive for the appointment and complete a mini-physical and health history. Your temperature and blood pressure may be taken, and other vital signs may be checked. The attendant will ask questions about behaviors or illnesses that may exclude you from being able to donate blood.
- **You may undergo a finger prick** to test whether you are anemic, or when your body doesn't produce enough red blood cells or hemoglobin.
- **During the donation** of whole blood, 500 milliliters, or roughly 17 ounces, will be collected. A phlebotomist will cleanse an area on your arm and insert a new, sterile needle for the blood draw. The quick pinch is over in seconds. For a donation of platelets, a special machine called an apheresis machine will be connected to both arms.
- **A whole blood donation takes about eight** to 10 minutes to complete, during which you can be seated comfortably or lie down. For platelets, the machine will collect a small amount of blood, remove the platelets, and return the rest of the blood through the other arm. This cycle repeats several times for a period of about two hours. Bandages will be placed on your arm at the conclusion of the donation where any

Blood drive..
Continued on page 2 ...

Looking back on the past year: 2024 in review

This year was a momentous one to report on. From public opinion in the U.S. to views around the globe, 2024 was chock full of shifts creating some notable highs and lows. Spanning U.S. politics and economics, global conflict, the workplace, wellbeing, and more.

April:
The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources restricted the open burning of vegetative debris due to the increased wildfire risk resulting from unusually warm temperatures and exceptionally dry conditions across most of Minnesota. Millions of people got a chance to experience a stunning phenomenon on April 8, 2024 when a total solar eclipse was visible from Texas to Maine. Even though Minnesota wasn't on the path of totality, a partial solar eclipse was still a sight to be seen. In Minnesota, the partial eclipse to began at 12:50 p.m. and peaked around 2:02 p.m.

The McIntosh Fire and Rescue Squad proudly hosted the 134th Annual Fireman's Ball. The event was held on Saturday, April 13th with a steak and fries supper at the McIntosh Fire Hall from 5:00 pm until 7:00 pm.

The City of McIntosh Council, promoting a clean and healthy community held the City of McIntosh Clean-up Week from April 22nd to May 1st.

Harald Thompson celebrated his 95th birthday at Poplar Meadows. Among those in attendance were several other nonagenarians, including Gordy Oseth, Dolly Lee, Ellen Burslie, Harald, and Wally Nelson.

On Saturday, April 15th Memory Night, a mom and son celebration held at Win-E-Mac school for community moms and sons to have some fun together and share a meal.

A large group of community members gathered at the McIntosh Community Center on Wednesday, April 19th to enjoy a meal together and hear from guest speaker Beth Burris, a pro-life speaker.

Freedom Christian Academy volunteer Shirley Carver, who helps with the Pre - K and Kindergarten programs, but has worked with every grade in her long teaching career all the way up to adult education,

was awarded the Tri-Valley Making a Difference Award. She is an all-around asset to the Academy and the staff and students are grateful.

May:
One of the final milestones in these Win-E-Mac Seniors' final school year together was Prom night. Prom was held on Saturday, May 6th at the Win-E-Mac School where sophomore, junior and senior high school students joined together to celebrate the this year's prom theme, "The Enchanted Forest". Grand March for this year's prom took place at 7:30

pm and then the prom attendees were treated to food, games, music and prizes throughout the rest of the night.

The Pine to Prairie Drug Task Force (P2P) increased its crime-fighting arsenal with a new app to help residents connect with law enforcement to find information, view alerts, and submit anonymous tips from their smartphone. Developed by tip411, the P2PTip app puts a powerful new crime fighting tool into the hands of community members of all ages. The P2PTip app is available for download for free via

Google Play Store, or iTunes App Store..

National Teacher Appreciation Week was May 8 - 12, including National Teacher Appreciation Day on May 2, providing a timely opportunity to illustrate the power and value of teachers and parents collaborating creatively for student success.

Graduation was on May 25th at Win-E-Mac School. Sending our Seniors off with a Great Celebration of

Year in review..
Continued on page 2 ...



The 2025 Win-E-Mac School District Spelling Bee was held at 8:30 on Monday, January 13th in the Arts & Events Center. Seventeen spellers from fifth through eighth grades competed in the Spelling Bee. In the end, Megan McGlynn, an eighth-grader, was the champion and will be competing at the Regional Spelling Bee in Thief River Falls on Wednesday, February 5th. This will be Megan's third time competing in the Regional Spelling Bee. Taking second place was Grafton Langemo, from sixth grade. Taking third place was Amy McGlynn, a fifth-grader. In all, 119 words were used in the competition throughout 21 official rounds (plus a practice round). The championship word was "palette". Pictured (L-R) are Amy McGlynn, Megan McGlynn, and Grafton Langemo. The pronouncer was Andrew Hanson, and the judges were Ross Roragen and Aaron Cook.



The Winger Lions host the Annual Breakfast with Santa each year at the Winger Community Center with members cooking a pancake breakfast and Santa and his elf handing out gifts to the kids who came for a visit to let Santa know what is on their wish list. Pictured: Marshall McKeever, Brian Massmann, Barb Gallswick, Geri Balstad, Elmyrna Kaupang, Floyd Balstad, Terry Cook, Gary Sonsteli, Ole Olson and Steve Massmann.

McIntosh Council minutes: December 2024 and Truth in Taxation

Minutes
December 10, 2024
The meeting of the McIntosh City Council was called to order by Mayor Toby Strom at 5:30 PM on Tuesday 10, 2024.
Present: Toby Strom Luke Burd Luke Syverson Beth Hagen Adam Strutz
Poplar Meadows Committee Member: Rebecca Boehrsen – Licensed Director for Poplar Meadows of McIntosh

Guests: Jordan Gunufson Lance Erickson Sabrina Strutz
1) Motion by Council member Burd and seconded by Councilmember Syverson to approve the November 7, 2024 minutes. Passed and carried.
2) Jordan Gunufson was in attendance to make inquiries into the City's building policies on the City's vacant lots south of Highway 2. The Council plans to zone the land for industrial use.
3) MEDA and Poplar Meadows Committee Reports:
Poplar Meadows Committee member Boehrsen reported there are currently 25 residents at Poplar Meadows with 2 open apartments.
Ms. Boehrsen informed the Council that after some research into the group residential housing (GRH) program, it would not provide the financial assistance she was hoping for, so she will not be pursuing enrolling into that program at this time.
Motion by Council member burd to approve the submitted claims for Poplar Meadows in the amount of \$66,837.77. Motion seconded by Councilmember Hagen and carried.
Ms. Boehrsen presented bids for a new dishwasher. The current dishwasher is original to the building, 2004 and has been repaired numerous times. Council member Syverson motioned to approve the bid, from Cole Papers, in the amount of

\$6,593.71. Motion seconded by Council member Burd and carried.
Council member Syverson motioned to approve Christmas bonuses of \$125.00 for each of the Poplar Meadows employees. Motion seconded by Council member Burd and carried.
4) Council member Syverson presented a resolution authorizing and/or ratifying the sale or disposal of real property – Reese yard site. Resolution was seconded by Council member Burd. Council members voting in the affirmative: Hagen, Burd, Strutz and Syverson. Council members voting in the negative: None. Upon the vote, Mayor Strom declared the resolution adopted effective December 10, 2024.
5) Council member Burd presented the resolution to designate the McIntosh Community Center located at 115 Broadway NW as its official polling place for the City's special elections only. Resolution was seconded by Council member Syverson. Council members voting in the affirmative: Hagen, Burd, Strutz and Syverson. Council members voting in the negative: None. Upon the vote, Mayor Strom declared the resolution adopted effective December 10, 2024.
6) Motion by Council member Syverson to approve allowing FarmChek Services, Inc. to file the City's 2024 payroll, 1099 and 1098 tax forms. Motion seconded by Council member Burd and carried.
7) Motion by Council member Syverson to approve the Treasurer's Bond Certificate. Melissa Finseth was duly appointed treasurer on May 23rd, 2016, and her official bond was fixed by the Council of McIntosh at \$200,000.00. Motion seconded by Council member Burd and carried.

8) Motion by Councilmember Syverson to approve the submitted claims, in the amount of \$40,046.75. Motion seconded by Councilmember Bud and carried.
9) Motion by Councilmember Syverson to adjourn at 6:30. Motion seconded by Councilmember Burd and carried.
Toby Strom – Mayor Melissa Finseth – City Clerk/Treasurer
Truth in Taxation
Tuesday December 10, 2024 6:30 p.m.
Community Center
Roll call:
Members present: Mayor Toby Strom, Beth Hagen, Luke Burd, Luke Syverson and Adam Strutz
Melissa Finseth – Clerk/Treasurer
Guests: Clay Syverson, Lance Erickson, Sabrina Strutz
Purpose of meeting:
This meeting is an opportunity for McIntosh residents to discuss the 2025 taxes with the City Council.
Clay Syverson was in attendance to ask the question why his taxes went up in 2025. While the council voted to keep property taxes the same as in 2024, the MEDA bonds increased by \$30,000.00, from last year, to help cover the debt payments for poplar meadows.
There are six years remaining on the General Obligation bonds for Poplar Meadows.
The levied sums for 2024 taxes collected in 2025 break down as follows:
Property taxes: \$105,345.00
Bonds: \$ 51,000.00
MEDA bonds: \$ 90,000.00
\$246,345.00
Other items discussed: No other items were discussed.
Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 6:45.

Friends of McIntosh Veteran's

Now that the Christmas season is behind us for another year, I want to let all of you know that we collected 1,347 Christmas cards to be sent to the 8 Veterans Homes in the State of Minnesota. They were sent the first week in December. We have received at least 5 responses from some of the Veterans Homes that have really appreciated the cards.
Some have been from Veterans in these homes. So this may be our annual project for at least a few years. It was a great feeling to see how the people in our area responded to this request.
Our next project will be the McIntosh Blood Drive. It is scheduled to be on Monday, January 20, in the McIntosh Community Center from Noon to 5 pm. Treats will be served after the donations. New donors will be accepted. Mary Goodwin will be calling all of the people on the list we received from Vitalant. Her telephone number is 218-563-3827.
Vitalant is asking McIntosh to have at least 68 donations. So if you choose to give blood and haven't received a phone call, contact Mary to set up an appointment.
This is a short time for us to get the donors in line, so be aware of the need and contact Mary as soon as possible.

NOTICE Hill River Township Filing Notice

The filing dates for the Township of Hill River, County of Polk, State of Minnesota will be from Thursday, January 2, 2025 until 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 14, 2025.
Filing will be for one (1) Supervisor for a term of 3 years.
The filing fee is \$2.00 at the clerk/treasurer's home.

Scot Thompson, Clerk/Treasurer
28354 350th Ave SE • Trail, MN 56684 • 218-268-4299

One-Act plays this Sunday at WEM School

Win-E-Mac and Fosston High Schools will be presenting their One Act Plays to the public on Sunday, January 19th, starting at 3:00 pm in the Win-E-Mac Arts & Event Center! Admission will be free will donation. (Proceeds will be split between WEM and Fosston and will go to support theatre arts programs in both schools.)
Win-E-Mac will be performing "The Bear" by Jon Jory. Director Andrew Hanson had this to say about the play: "The Bear is certainly one of the more bizarre scripts that I've chosen in a while. James is dissatisfied with life and goes missing. His family and friends are concerned about him. The bizarre part comes when James encounters a bear

while hiking the Appalachian Trail and learns the meaning of life from him. Part comedy, part tragedy, I've really come to love this script."
Fosston, under the direction of Abby Pearson, will be presenting The Post Office by Melissa Leilani Larson. "Plagued by a mysterious illness, teenage shut-in Ash longs to see the world. But she refuses to be sad, instead befriending strangers as they parade past her window, helping each one smile despite their war-torn land's darkness and dystopia. When Ash learns that the building being constructed near her home is a new post office, she dreams of a life spent delivering the mail and traveling beyond her small village."



Win-E-Mac educator Heather Burd was recently awarded a grant/donation of \$2,500 from Wild Rice Electric Cooperative to host a professional development day. This will be geared specifically to rural physical and health educators from our region. Win-E-Mac School will host Empowering Physical and Health Educators Day on February 20, 2025. Concordia College from Moorhead, Minnesota and North Dakota State University will be ringing presenters for this event. This day will consist of new national standards, implementation, and new state requirements in health education. Proceeds of this day will go towards the football field house building project at Win-E-Mac School.

Year in review.. Continued from page 1 ...

achievement. Our staff have done an exceptional job to give our students the best education. Hats off to all our students and staff.
On Memorial Day, Monday, May 27th, The Winger American Legion Feggestad-Solie Post 200 hosted its' annual Memorial Day program beginning at 8:30 am with a parade and the Win-E-Mac band performing outside at the Memorial Park. The Friends of McIntosh Veterans alos held a program and parade starting at 10:30 pm on Main Street in McIntosh, at the Community Center and a wreath ceremony in front of the old school building.
June:
The Winger American Legion Post 200 hosted a Flag Day Fundraiser to raise money to make miscellaneous improvements in the Community. On Friday, June 14th Legion members, friends and neighbors gathered at the Winger Memorial Park where there was a ceremony on how to properly retire old or damaged flags.
Friends and community members gathered for all the fun at Breakfast at the Farm on Saturday, June 8th Holly and Jason Breckel hosted this event with breakfast, entertainment by The Snowmen, visits with Senator Mark Johnson and State Representative Debra Kiel and Steve Gander, then candidate for Minnesota District 1B State Representative.



ST. MARY'S CHURCH Fosston Fr. John Suvakeen, Pastor

Sun. Jan. 19: 8:00am Confession at St. Mary's, Fosston; 8:30am Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston; 10:30am Mass at St. Joseph's, Bagley
Sun. Jan. 26: 8:00am Confession at St. Mary's, Fosston; 8:30am Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston; 10:30am Mass at St. Joseph's, Bagley

OURS SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA) McIntosh Pastor Rene Mehlberg Synodical Authorized Rachel Roggenbuck, SAM

Sun. Jan. 19: 10:00am Coffee Hour; 10:30am Worship Services
Sun. Jan. 26: 10:00am Coffee Hour; 10:30am Worship Services
Our Savior's Lutheran Church, McIntosh will run church services on Channel 30 on Garden Valley Channel 30. They will also be available on YouTube on channel One in Spirit - The Journey. Our Saviors service will be available by 8:30 am each Sunday until further notice.

MCINTOSH FREE LUTHERAN AFLC McIntosh Trinity / Mount Carmel: Pastor: Jerry Moan

Trinity: (27262 315th St. SE, McIntosh) Sunday Worship: 9:30am; 10:45am Sunday School
Mt. Carmel: (305 State St. NE, McIntosh) 9:45am Sunday School; Sunday Worship: 11:00am
Wednesdays: 6:30pm Confirmation; 7:15pm Free Lutheran Youth meets at Pastor Moan's home

GOSEN LUTHERAN CHURCH Independent Gary Johnson, Pastor www.gosen-church.com Face Book: Gosen Church

Sun, Jan. 19: 9:30am Sunday School and Adult Bible Study; 11:00am Worship Service (also on Facebook and gosenchurch.com)
Tues, Jan. 21: 10:00am. Sunday worship service telecast on GVTV--30
Wed, Jan. 22: 6:30pm Bible Study at Connie Parr's
Gosen Church is located 4 miles south of the junctions of Highways 2 & 59 or 4 miles north of Winger; then 1/2 mile east on County Road 206. For information call 268-4242 or 687-3461.

VERNES LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMC) McIntosh PastorLee Laaveg

Sun. Jan. 19: 9:00am Worship
Sun. Jan. 26: 9:00am Worship

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH McIntosh Pastor Bruce Blocker

Sundays: 9:00am Worship; 10:00am Fellowship Hour; 10:15am Sunday School

DOVRE LUTHERAN CHURCH Winger, MN

Sundays: 9:00am Adult and Children's Sunday School; 10:00am Worship Service
Wednesdays: 7:00pm Bible Study

CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH Winger

Sundays: 10:30am Coffee Fellowship; 11:00am Worship

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH- NALC Erskine Rev. Pam Thorson

Sundays: 9:15am Sunday School; 10:30am Worship
Come early and enjoy fellowship and a good cup of coffee. It will also be available at the same time on Garden Valley Channel 30, Facebook and YouTube.

Thriving Life Church Erskine, MN

Sunday service at 10:00 am
Call or visit us at: 22722 350th Street; 218-687-2343

Grace Community Food Shelf

East end of Grace church
Open: Thursday, January 9th from 2:00pm - 6:00pm and Thursday, January 16th 10:00am - 2:00pm
Questions: foodshelf@grace-churcherskine.org or call 218-687-2250 leave a message.

Community Food Shelf meeting
Grace Community Food Shelf will be meeting on January 17 at 2 PM at Grace Lutheran Church in Erskine. Anyone who is interested is welcome to come.



Thurs. Jan. 16: Connor Johnson
Fri. Jan. 17: Isaac Schlagel, Stephanie Halland
Sat. Jan. 18: Kendall Olson, Anika Shimpka, Jessica Carlson, Becky Boehrsen
Sun, Jan. 19: Carter Bartz
Mon. Jan 20: Jerry Sultvedt, Carla Ferden
Tues. Jan. 21: Susan Lee

McINTOSH Times

PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN THE HUB OF THE THIRTEEN TOWNSHIPS BY RICHARDS PUBLISHING CO., INC.

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"McIntosh Times" (USPS 336-020) is published weekly for \$35.00 per year (in county) and \$45.00 per year (out of county) by Richards Publishing Co., Inc., 1st & Main Ave., Gonvick, MN 56644. Periodicals postage paid at McIntosh, MN.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: McIntosh Times, PO Box 9, McIntosh, MN 56556.
mcintoshtimes@gmail.com

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POLK COUNTY BOARD MINUTES

DECEMBER 17, 2024
BOARD MINUTES

Pursuant to motion of adjournment, the Polk County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 9:30 o'clock a.m., December 17, 2024. Members present: Commissioner Paul Reese, Commissioner Warren Strandell, Commissioner Gary Willhite, Commissioner Joan Lee, and Charles S. Whiting, County Administrator, Clerk of the Board. Others present: Samuel Melbye, Deputy Clerk of the Board. Members absent: Commissioner Mark Holy.

AGENDA

A motion was made by Commissioner Lee seconded by Commissioner Strandell and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the December 17, 2024, agenda.

CONSENT ITEMS

A motion was made by Commissioner Strandell seconded by Commissioner Willhite and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the December 17, 2024, consent items:

1. Approve December 3, 2024, Board minutes.
2. Approve Commissioner Warrants: General Revenue Fund, \$60,079.53; Public Works Fund, \$347,886.04; Public Safety Fund, \$43,301.57; Public Health Fund, \$37,596.48; Opioid Settlement, \$7,628.34; Forfeited Tax Sale Fund, \$753.00; Spec Assmnts (Ditch) Fund, \$48,101.44; Environmental Services Fund, \$8,525.50; Resource Recovery Fund, \$118,589.38; Landfill Fund, \$93,103.88; Per Diems, \$900.00; Meal Reimbursements (without overnight lodging), \$120.95; and Sign Audit List.
3. Approve payment to US Bank, St. Louis, MO in the amount of \$91,002.65 for procurement card purchases.
4. Approve the Board of Water & Soil Resources (BWVSr) Natural Resource Block Grant (NRBG) County Match Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) from the West Polk Soil and Water Conservation District.
5. Approve payment to Bertils Gravel & Excavation, LLC, Crookston, MN, in the amount of \$2,010.00 for Water Line Repair for the Facilities Department.
6. Approve payment to Brost Chevrolet, Inc., Crookston, MN, in the amount of \$160.70 for a Chevy Silverado Oil Change and Tire Rotation for the Facilities Department.
7. Approve payment to Brost Chevrolet, Inc., Crookston, MN, in the amount of \$89.23 for a Chevy Traverse Oil Change for the Facilities Department.
8. Approve payment to the Polk County Transfer Station, Crookston, MN, in the amount of \$205.89 for Solid Waste Disposal Fees for the Facilities Department.
9. Approve payment to Seaberg Solar Salt, Crosslake, MN, in the amount of \$2,121.10 for Softener Salt and Delivery for the Facilities Department.
10. Approve payment to Techniques Inc., Roseau, MN, in the amount of \$385.84 for Poly Shield Filters for the Facilities Department.
11. Approve payment to the Polk County Auditor, Crookston, MN, in the amount of \$1,500.00 for 2025 NCDPSA Year Due & iGuard Lite Plus for the IS Department.

COUNTY BOARD MEMBER
ISSUE FORUM

1. Commissioner Reese brought forth that he attended the following meetings:
 - a. Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) Annual Conference.
 - i. Attended various sessions at AMC conference.
 - b. Tri-Valley Opportunity Council meeting.
 - c. Received a question from landowner requesting more promotion of Special Agriculture Homestead program.
2. Commissioner Strandell brought forth that he attended the following meetings:
 - a. AMC Annual Conference.
 - i. Attended various sessions at AMC conference.
 - b. Tri-County Corrections meeting.
 - c. Northwest Regional Development Commission Executive Board meeting.
3. Commissioner Willhite brought forth that he attended the following meetings:
 - a. AMC Annual Conference.
 - i. Attended various sessions at AMC conference.
 - b. Tri-County Corrections meeting.
 - c. Polk County Extension meeting.
 - d. Planning and Zoning Advisory Board meeting.
4. Commissioner Lee brought forth that she attended the following meetings:
 - a. Polk County Extension Committee meeting.
 - b. AMC Annual Conference.
 - i. Various committee meetings at the AMC conference.
 - c. State Community Health Services Advisory Committee meeting.
 - d. Public health meeting.
 - e. Monthly radio program.

SHERIFF

James Tadman, Polk County Sheriff, came before the Board with matters pertaining to his department:
1. Monthly Sheriff's Reports
The November 2024 Monthly Sheriff Reports were discussed and presented to the Board. (Reports on file in the Administrator's Office)

SOCIAL SERVICES

Karen Warmack, Social Services Director, came before the Board with matters pertaining to her department:

1. 2025 Social Services Board Meeting Dates

A motion was made by Commissioner Strandell seconded by Commissioner Lee and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the 2025 Social Services Board meeting dates. A motion was

made by Commissioner Willhite seconded by Commissioner Lee and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to amend the April 2025 Social Services Board meeting date from April 22, 2025, to April 15, 2025.

2. Eligibility Worker Team Leader Replacement Request

A motion was made by Commissioner Reese seconded by Commissioner Strandell and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve filling an Eligibility Worker Team Leader position, and to fill any internal subsequent position vacancies occurring because of this action.

3. Social Worker Replacement Request

A motion was made by Commissioner Strandell seconded by Commissioner Willhite and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve filling a Social Worker position, and to fill any internal subsequent position vacancies occurring because of this action.

4. Alluma Collaborative Support Services Agreement with Polk County

A motion was made by Commissioner Lee seconded by Commissioner Reese and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the 2025 Agreement with Alluma to provide Collaborative Support Services in the amount of \$15,000.00.

5. Alluma County Contract Approval

A motion was made by Commissioner Reese seconded by Commissioner Lee and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the 2025 contract with Alluma in the amount not to exceed \$40,000.00 to provide mental health services and support.

6. Alluma Crisis Services Contract Approval

A motion was made by Commissioner Strandell seconded by Commissioner Reese and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the 2025-2026 Alluma Crisis Services Contract. Approval of the contract with Alluma to provide adult and children crisis services not to exceed the amount of one million four hundred thirty-two thousand six hundred five dollars (\$1,432,605) from January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025, and not to exceed the amount of one million five hundred forty-four thousand three hundred thirty-nine dollars (\$1,544,339) from January 1, 2026, through December 31, 2026.

7. Department of Human Services Adult Mental Health Initiative/Community Support Plan Grant Contract Approval

A motion was made by Commissioner Willhite seconded by Commissioner Strandell and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the Adult Mental Health Initiative/Community Support Plan Grant contract to include: AMHI funds in the amount of \$1,461,298 in 2025 and \$1,461,298 in 2026 – Total AMHI funds for 2025-2026 not to exceed total of two million nine hundred twenty-two thousand five hundred ninety-six dollars (\$2,922,596), and CSP funds in the amount of \$431,080 in 2025 and \$431,080 in 2026 – Total CSP funds for 2025-2026 not to exceed eight hundred sixty-two thousand one hundred sixty dollars (\$862,160). The total amount of AMHI/CSP funds are not to exceed a total of three million seven hundred eighty-four thousand seven hundred fifty-six dollars (\$3,784,756). The grant contract is effective January 01, 2025, through December 31, 2026.

8. Alluma Adult Mental Health Initiative/Community Support Program Contract Approval

A motion was made by Commissioner Lee seconded by Commissioner Strandell and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the contract with Alluma to provide Adult Mental Health Services and Community Support Program Services. Adult Mental Health Services through the Adult Mental Health Initiative grant includes \$711,544.00 for the calendar year of 2025, and \$718,536.00 for the calendar year of 2026. Community Support Program services contract is \$431,080.00 for 2025, and \$431,080.00 in 2026.

9. Sanford Adult Mental Health Initiative/Community Support Program Contract Approval

A motion was made by Commissioner Lee seconded by Commissioner Willhite and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the contract with Sanford Health to provide Adult Mental Health Initiative and Community Support Program services. Adult Mental Health Services through the Adult Mental Health Initiative grant includes \$336,073.00 for the calendar year of 2025, and \$336,073.00 for the calendar year of 2026.

10. Department of Human Services Crisis Services Contract Approval

A motion was made by Commissioner Strandell seconded by Commissioner Lee and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the contract with the Department of Human Services to provide adult and children crisis services not to exceed the amount of four million seven hundred fifty thousand seventy dollars (\$4,750,070.00) from January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2026.

11. Lutheran Social Services (LSS) Contract Approval

A motion was made by Commissioner Reese seconded by Commissioner Willhite and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the contract with Lutheran Social Services to provide Semi-Independent Living Skills (SILS) services in the amount of \$25,000.00 from January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025.

12. NorthStar Mobility, LLC Contract Approval

A motion was made by Commissioner Strandell seconded by Commissioner Reese and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the contract with NorthStar Mobility, LLC to provide Non-

Emergency Medical Transportation services from January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025.

13. Personal Money Management Contract Approval

A motion was made by Commissioner Lee seconded by Commissioner Strandell and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the 2025 contract with Personal Money Management for \$15,000.00.

14. REM Contract Approval

A motion was made by Commissioner Willhite seconded by Commissioner Reese and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the contract with REM to provide Semi-Independent Living Skills (SILS) services in the amount of \$104,000.00 from January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025.

15. Sanford Crisis Services Contract Approval

A motion was made by Commissioner Strandell seconded by Commissioner Lee and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the contract with Sanford Health to provide mobile crisis mental health services not to exceed the amount of \$853,752.00 from January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025, and not to exceed the amount of \$919,374.00 from January 1, 2026, through December 31, 2026.

16. Tri-County Community Corrections – Residential Services Contract Approval

A motion was made by Commissioner Strandell seconded by Commissioner Reese and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the 2025 Contract with Tri-County Community Corrections for Child Residential Services.

17. Tri-County Community Corrections – Transitions Program Contract Approval

A motion was made by Commissioner Strandell seconded by Commissioner Reese and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the 2025 contract with Tri-County Community Corrections for the Transitions Program not to exceed \$80,000.00.

18. Tri-Valley Opportunity Council Contract Approval

A motion was made by Commissioner Reese seconded by Commissioner Lee and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the contract with Tri-Valley Opportunity Council to provide Non-Emergency Medical Transportation services from January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025.

19. Tri-Valley Opportunity Council Senior Companion Contract Approval

No action taken on this item as the amount may need to be revised.

20. Village Family Service Center Contract Approval

A motion was made by Commissioner Strandell seconded by Commissioner Willhite and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the 2025 Contract with the Village Family Service Center to provide Family Assessment and Family Group Decision Making Services in the amount of \$40,000.00.

HIGHWAY

Richard Sanders, Polk County Engineer, came before the Board with matters pertaining to his department:

1.2025 Diesel Fuel Quotes

A motion was made by Commissioner Reese seconded by Commissioner Strandell and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve awarding the Diesel Fuel Quote to Fertile Oil in the amount of \$136,500.00.

2. Angus Township Expenses

A motion was made by Commissioner Strandell seconded by Commissioner Reese and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve paying Angus Township \$21,620.00 for extra costs associated with roundabout construction.

3. Consultant Contract #1

Widseth has provided an RFP to provide design services for the CSAH 6 and Chester Township Bridge over the Lost River. A motion was made by Commissioner Lee seconded by Commissioner Reese and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve Contracting with Widseth for the bridge design services.

4. Consultant Contract #2

Widseth has provided an RFP to provide design services for the CSAH 61. A motion was made by Commissioner Strandell seconded by Commissioner Willhite and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve Contracting with Widseth for the bridge design services.

5. Resolution (2024-83) Bridge Replacement Priority List

RESOLUTION (2024-83)

Bridge Replacement Priority List

The following resolution (2024-83) was offered by Commissioner Strandell:

WHEREAS, Polk County has reviewed the pertinent data on bridges requiring replacement, rehabilitation, or removal, supplied by local citizenry and local units of government; and

WHEREAS, Polk County has identified those bridges that are high priority and that require replacement, rehabilitation, or removal within the next five years.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the following bridges are high priorities for replacement, major rehabilitation, or removal, and Polk County intends to replace, rehabilitate, or remove these bridges as soon as possible when funds are available:

Old Bridge No.	New Bridge No.	Road No. and Name	Crossing	LPI	Estimated Proj. Cost	Federal Funds	Local or State Aid Funds	Township or Funds Request	Proposed Const. Yr.
60509	60571	CSAH 6	Lost River	43	1,000,000		500,000	500,000	2025
L5788	60572	Chester, T-756, 310 th Ave SE	Lost River	48	1,000,000		20,000	980,000	2025
LT10	60L75	CR 225	Huntsville Coollee		150,000		10,000	140,000	2025
L7510		Euclid, T-189, 290 th Ave SW	CD 66	49	120,000		10,000	110,000	2026
L7522		Scandia, T-209, 265 th Ave SW	Sand Hill River	35	800,000		20,000	780,000	2026
L7624		Leson, T-892, 315 th St SE	Poplar River	67	150,000		10,000	140,000	2026
L5792		Kertonville, T-244, 170 Ave SW	Coollee	25	120,000		10,000	110,000	2026
92153	60L77	CSAH 44	Kittleson Creek	51	200,000		14,000	60,000	2026
5767	60565	CSAH 11	Red River	16	6,000,000		1,000,000	5,000,000	2027

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That Polk County does hereby request authorization to replace, rehabilitate, or remove such bridges.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That Polk County does hereby request financial assistance with eligible approach grading and engineering costs on township bridges, as provided by law.

Commissioner Reese seconded the foregoing resolution, and it was declared adopted upon the following vote: YEAS: Commissioner Lee, Commissioner Willhite, Commissioner Strandell, Commissioner Reese. NAYS: None.

6. Resolution (2024-84) Supporting the County State Aid Highway 12 (CSAH 12) Multi-Use Trail Project and Application for the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) Active Transportation Infrastructure Program Grant

RESOLUTION (2024-84) Supporting the County State Aid Highway 12 (CSAH 12) Multi-Use Trail Project and Application for the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) Active Transportation Infrastructure Program Grant

The following resolution (2024-84) was offered by Commissioner Reese:

WHEREAS, CSAH 12 is a main route between the City of Fertile, MN and the City of Mentor, MN in Central Polk County; and

WHEREAS, Maple Lake and Cable Lake are located along CSAH 12, and they generate significant traffic from all the residents that live around them; and

WHEREAS, CSAH 12 is part of the future Bike/Ped Trail system linking Crookston, MN; Fertile, MN; Erskine, MN; the Rydell National Wildlife Refuge; and the Nature Conservancy together; and

WHEREAS, The MnDOT Active Transportation Infrastructure Program Grant can help provide funds for an off-street trail.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Polk County Board of Commissioners supports the CSAH 12 multi use trail project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Polk County Board of Commissioners supports the application for the MnDOT Active Transportation Infrastructure Program Grant to help fund this project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Polk County Board of Commissioners supports funding the engineering, right of way, inspection, and non-eligible costs, as well as eligible costs in excess of the grant amount.

Commissioner Lee seconded the foregoing resolution, and it was declared adopted upon the following vote: YEAS: Commissioner Reese, Commissioner Lee, Commissioner Willhite, Commissioner Strandell. NAYS: None.

7. Safety Compliance Service Contract

A motion was made by Commissioner Strandell seconded by Commissioner Reese and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve contracting with Safety Compliance Services and allow the County Engineer to sign the agreement.

8. Weather Forecasting System (DTN)

A motion was made by Commissioner Reese seconded by Commissioner Strandell and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve paying DTN for their services and allow the County Engineer to pay for the services yearly.

PLANNING & ZONING

Jacob Snyder, Assistant Environmental Services Administrator, came before the Board with matters pertaining to his department:

1. 2025 Polk County Haulers License

A motion was made by Commissioner Strandell seconded by Commissioner Lee and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the CY2025 Polk County Haulers License for those applicants listed who have submitted a completed application. A motion was made by Commissioner Reese seconded by Commissioner Strandell and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to conditionally approve the CY2025 Polk County Haulers License for those applicants listed who have submitted incomplete applications.

2. Planning Commission/BOA Appointment – Wolfe Clark

A motion was made by Commissioner Reese seconded by Commissioner Willhite and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the appointment of Wolfe Clark to the Planning Commission & Board of Adjustment for the Polk County Environmental Services Department, to expire on December 31, 2027.

3. Planning Commission/BOA Re-Appointment – Richard Kuzel

A motion was made by Commissioner Strandell seconded by Commissioner Reese and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the re-appointment of Richard Kuzel to the Planning Commission & Board of Adjustment for the Polk County Environmental Services Department, to expire on December 31, 2027.

4. Planning & Zoning – Change

to Fee Schedule for Zoning Permits

A motion was made by Commissioner Willhite seconded by Commissioner Strandell and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve changing the Fee Schedule for Zoning Permits.

5. Preliminary Plat Approval – “First Re-Subdivision of Northern Lights Addition”

A motion was made by Commissioner Reese seconded by Commissioner Lee and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the Preliminary Plat for "First Re-subdivision of Northern Lights Addition" with conditions.

6. Preliminary Plat Approval – “Nepper’s Division”

A motion was made by Commissioner Lee seconded by Commissioner Reese and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the Preliminary Plat for "Nepper's Division" with conditions.

7. Resolution (2024-89) Resolution to Approve the 2024 Polk County Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Plan

RESOLUTION (2024-89)

Resolution to Approve the 2024 Polk County Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Plan

The following resolution (2024-89) was offered by Commissioner Lee:

WHEREAS, 2014 Session Law Chapter 308 enacted by the Legislature provides Minnesota counties a County Program Aid grant for Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) prevention. The amount designated for each county is based on the number of watercraft trailer launches as well as the number of watercraft trailer parking spaces within each county. Polk County was allocated \$24,932.00 for 2014; \$55,405.00 for 2015; \$55,187.00 for 2016; \$65,563.00 for 2017; \$65,073.00 for 2018; \$65,042.00 for 2019; \$65,777.00 for 2020; \$65,653.00 for 2021; \$65,514.00 for 2022; \$65,398.00 for 2023; and \$65,138.00 for 2024.

WHEREAS, The legislation requires that Polk County must establish, by resolution or through adoption of a plan, guidelines for the use of the proceeds which are to prevent the introduction or limit the spread of AIS at water access sites within the County; and

WHEREAS, The county may appropriate the proceeds directly or may use any portion of the proceeds to provide funding for a joint powers board or cooperative agreement with another political subdivision, a soil and water conservation district in the county, a watershed district in the county, or a lake association located in the county. Any money appropriated by the county to a different entity or political subdivision must be used as required under this section; and

WHEREAS, The county must submit a copy of its guidelines for use of the proceeds to the Department of Natural Resources by December 31 of the year the payments are received; and

WHEREAS, The threat of the introduction and spread of AIS is acknowledged as a serious concern to the health of the environmental and economic health of Polk County.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Polk County Board of Commissioners designates oversight of Polk County's AIS prevention efforts to the Polk County Environmental Services Department and delegates to them the responsibility to prepare, implement, and report annually a plan to allocate the funding in accordance with the above legislation. Allocation of funding, grant requests, and plan updates are to be approved by the Polk County AIS Taskforce. A copy of the approved AIS plan will be kept on file in the Polk County Environmental Services Department

Commissioner Reese seconded the foregoing resolution, and it was declared adopted upon the following vote: YEAS: Commissioner Willhite, Commissioner Strandell, Commissioner Lee, Commissioner Reese. NAYS: None.

a. 2025 DRAFT Polk County Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Plan

A motion was made by Commissioner Reese seconded by Commissioner Lee and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the 2025 DRAFT Polk County Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Plan.

MARSHALL & POLK RURAL WATER SYSTEM

Mike Kasowski came before the Board with matters pertaining to his appointment to the Marshall & Polk Rural Water System Board of Directors:

1. Make (1) 4-Year Appointment to the Marshall & Polk Rural Water System Board of Directors

A motion was made by Commissioner Strandell seconded by Commissioner Reese and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to re-appoint Mike Kasowski for a 4-year term to the Marshall & Polk Rural Water System Board of Directors to expire on December 31, 2028.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Alecia Helms, Human Resources Director, came before the Board with matters pertaining to her department:

1. Approval of Collective Bargaining Agreement – AFSCME Courthouse

Negotiations have concluded with the AFSCME Courthouse group, and they have voted to approve the contract. A motion was made by Commissioner Lee seconded by Commissioner Strandell and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the AFSCME Courthouse Collective Bargaining Agreement.

2. Approval of Collective Bargaining Agreement – AFSCME Social Services

Negotiations have concluded with the AFSCME Social Services group, and they have voted to approve

the contract. A motion was made by Commissioner Lee seconded by Commissioner Strandell and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the AFSCME Social Services Collective Bargaining Agreement.

3. Approval of Collective Bargaining Agreement – LELS Essential Employees

Negotiations have concluded with the LELS Essential Employees group, and they have voted to approve the contract. A motion was made by Commissioner Reese seconded by Commissioner Lee and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the LELS Essential Employees Collective Bargaining Agreement.

4. Approval of Collective Bargaining Agreement – LELS Essential Supervisors

Negotiations have concluded with the LELS Essential Supervisors group, and they have voted to approve the contract. A motion was made by Commissioner Strandell seconded by Commissioner Reese and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the LELS Essential Supervisors Collective Bargaining Agreement.

5. Approval of Collective Bargaining Agreement – Local 49ers Highway Maintenance

Negotiations have concluded with the Local 49ers Highway Maintenance group, and they have voted to approve the contract. A motion was made by Commissioner Reese seconded by Commissioner Lee and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the Local 49ers Highway Maintenance Collective Bargaining Agreement.

ASSESSORS

Mark Landsverk, Polk County Assessor, came before the Board with matters pertaining to his department:

1. Abatement List Review

A motion was made by Commissioner Strandell seconded by Commissioner Lee and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve acknowledgment of the list of 2024 Abatements.

2. Statutory Board Notification of Changes

A motion was made by Commissioner Strandell seconded by Commissioner Reese and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve acknowledgment of receipt of the list of Clerical Changes and the Notification of changes to the 2024 Assessment.

PROPERTY RECORDS

Samuel Melbye, Director of Property Records, came before the Board with matters pertaining to his department:

1. Extension Committee Appointment

A motion was made by Commissioner Lee seconded by Commissioner Willhite and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve appointing Breanna Wavra to the Extension Committee as an at-large member for a three-year term, ending 12/31/2027.

2. Lease Extension Agreement for the Bjella Building in McIntosh

A motion was made by Commissioner Strandell seconded by Commissioner Reese and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve authorizing the signing of the lease between Polk County – University of Minnesota Extension Services (Tenant) and the City of McIntosh (Lessor) for 2025 by the Chairman of the Polk County Board of Commissioners and the Polk County Administrator.

3. Tobacco Licenses

A motion was made by Commissioner Reese seconded by Commissioner Strandell and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the Tobacco Licenses for the period of January 1, 2025, to December 31, 2025, as presented to the Board, of which the renewal applications and payments have been received.

4 Letter from Taxpayer

Polk County Minutes
December 17, 2024...
Continued from last page

RESOLUTION (2024-86)

Adopting the 2025 Budget

The following resolution (2024-86) was offered by Commissioner Strandell:

BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of County Commissioners of Polk County that the proposed statement of expenses and anticipated receipts on file in the office of the County Administrator for 2025 be and they hereby are accepted by this Board as the budget for Polk County for the year 2025. The budget dated 12-17-2024 on file in the office of the Polk County Administrator's Office, signed by the Polk County Chairman of the Board, shall be the official budget of Polk County for 2025 and is adopted at the fund level.

Commissioner Reese seconded the foregoing resolution, and it was declared adopted upon the following vote: YEAS: Commissioner Strandell, Commissioner Reese, Commissioner Lee, Commissioner Willhite. NAYS: None.

c. Resolution (2024-87) Setting 2025 Commissioner Salary/Per Diem/Meeting List

RESOLUTION (2024-87)

Setting 2025 Commissioner Salary/Per Diem/Meeting List

The following resolution (2024-87) was offered by Commissioner Strandell:

WHEREAS, It is the duty of the County Board of Commissioners to set their salaries and per diem for committee work pursuant to M.S. Chapter 375.055.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the salary of each County Commissioner for 2025 be and hereby is set at \$37,200.21, and each shall be afforded the standard full time equivalent employee cafeteria plan for benefits including the composite insurance premium transition, or but in-lieu of, County Commissioners participating in the Medicare insurance program or their personal health insurance program may receive an amount equal to two-thirds of the monthly benefits package negotiated for employees, or \$1,066.67 a month for 2025 upon providing proof of insurance.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the per diem for Commissioners be set for 2025 at \$75.00, the same as 2024, per meeting for the following committees and/or meetings:

i. Board Assignment: Board assignments as approved at the annual Board business meeting (first meeting of the year)

ii. District Representations: Commissioner district meetings that may involve a county interest for representation by a commissioner

iii. Board/Commissioner Discretion: Meetings at which a Commissioner represents him/ herself as a County Commissioner, attends or participates as a County Commissioner at the Commissioner's discretion

A list of meetings that fall under these three per diem eligible meetings is attached as "Attachment A". Attendance at a meeting not on this list but falling under one of the three eligible types of per diem meetings will be eligible for a per diem.

Commissioner Willhite seconded the foregoing resolution, and it was declared adopted upon the following vote: YEAS: Commissioner Strandell, Commissioner Willhite, Commissioner Reese, Commissioner Lee. NAYS: None.

ATTACHEMENT A

BOARD ASSIGNMENTS

Extension Committee
Forfeited Land Tax Sale, Appraisals & other forfeited property issues

Planning and Zoning Commission meetings/Land use
County Board of Health
Law Library meetings
Solid Waste Committees
Negotiations/Salary/Personnel
Interview Committees
Building Committees
Retired Senior Volunteer Program Committee

MN Rural Counties Caucus (MRCC)

Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
Lake Agassiz Regional Library Meetings (LARL)

Red Lake River Corridor
West Central Regional Water District

Park Committee meetings
Public Safety Committee meetings

Task Force Meeting
Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA)

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW)

NW Emergency Communications Board

AAA Dancing Sky Meetings
Tri-Valley Meetings

Polk-Norman-Mahnomen/CHB (Health Meetings)

Public Works Committee
Inter-County Community Council Meetings

Solid Waste Advisory Board meetings
Polk, Norman, Clay Agassiz Trail Advisory Committee meetings

One Watershed, One Plan Committee meetings
Finance and Budget Committee meeting

Radio Board Meetings
Emergency Management Meetings/911

Public Health Meetings
AIS Meetings

NW Regional Development Commission
Senior Mental Health/Commissioner of Health

DISTRICT REPRESENTATIONS

Water Study & Planning Committee/Joint Powers

Comprehensive Local Water Planning
Drainage/Watersheds and County

Ditch Meetings & Hearings
Joint ND/MN Six County Red

River Study Group
Soil and Water Conservation
District Managers meetings

Flood/Water Management
Committees
County-Township Officer Meetings

Wetland Mitigation Meetings
Tilden/Vesledahl/Nature
Conservancy/Glacial Ridge National

Wildlife Refuge
Citizen Advisory Committee/
Watershed Districts

Municipal Airport Commissions
Bridge Meetings

BOARD/COMMISSIONER DISCRETION

State Community Health Services
Advisory Committee
Polk County Community Health

Services Advisory Committee
Community action program
meetings

AMC and MCIT Committees and
programs
Minnesota Social Services

Administration (MSSA)
Local City Council, Township and
School Board Meetings

Intergovernmental Meetings
Polk County Family Service
Children's Mental Health

Collaborative
Board Testimony at Legislature
Transportation Advisory

Committee
Polk County Social Service
Provider Meeting

Development Achievement
Center
Annexation Meetings

Union/Lake Sarah Meetings
Maple Lake Improvement District
Polk County Senior Providers

Meeting
Minnesota USA Snowmobile
Fire Department Meetings

Commissioner Training Meetings
Drainage Buffer Meetings
Department of Natural Resources

(DNR) Meetings
Brain Gain – Rural Narrative
Meetings

Legislative Conferences &
Legislative Staff Meetings
Water Resource Advisory

Structure for January 1 - Dec. 31, 2025 +3.5%

Range Steps									
Grade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	\$16.60	\$17.10	\$17.61	\$18.14	\$18.68	\$19.24	\$19.82	\$20.42	\$21.03
2	\$17.43	\$17.95	\$18.49	\$19.05	\$19.62	\$20.21	\$20.81	\$21.44	\$22.08
3	\$18.30	\$18.85	\$19.42	\$20.00	\$20.60	\$21.22	\$21.85	\$22.51	\$23.18
4	\$19.22	\$19.79	\$20.39	\$21.00	\$21.63	\$22.28	\$22.95	\$23.63	\$24.34
5	\$20.18	\$20.78	\$21.41	\$22.05	\$22.71	\$23.39	\$24.09	\$24.82	\$25.56
6	\$21.39	\$22.03	\$22.69	\$23.37	\$24.07	\$24.79	\$25.54	\$26.30	\$27.09
7	\$23.10	\$23.79	\$24.51	\$25.24	\$26.00	\$26.78	\$27.58	\$28.41	\$29.26
8	\$24.25	\$24.98	\$25.73	\$26.50	\$27.30	\$28.12	\$28.96	\$29.83	\$30.72
9	\$25.47	\$26.23	\$27.02	\$27.83	\$28.66	\$29.52	\$30.41	\$31.32	\$32.26
10	\$26.99	\$27.80	\$28.64	\$29.50	\$30.38	\$31.29	\$32.23	\$33.20	\$34.20
11	\$28.61	\$29.47	\$30.36	\$31.27	\$32.21	\$33.17	\$34.17	\$35.19	\$36.25
12	\$30.05	\$30.95	\$31.87	\$32.83	\$33.82	\$34.83	\$35.88	\$36.95	\$38.06
13	\$31.55	\$32.49	\$33.47	\$34.47	\$35.51	\$36.57	\$37.67	\$38.80	\$39.96
14	\$33.44	\$34.44	\$35.48	\$36.54	\$37.64	\$38.77	\$39.93	\$41.13	\$42.36
15	\$35.45	\$36.51	\$37.61	\$38.73	\$39.90	\$41.09	\$42.33	\$43.59	\$44.90
16	\$37.67	\$38.70	\$39.86	\$41.06	\$42.29	\$43.56	\$44.86	\$46.21	\$47.60
17	\$39.83	\$41.02	\$42.25	\$43.52	\$44.83	\$46.17	\$47.56	\$48.98	\$50.45
18	\$42.22	\$43.48	\$44.79	\$46.13	\$47.52	\$48.94	\$50.41	\$51.92	\$53.48
19	\$45.59	\$46.96	\$48.37	\$49.82	\$51.32	\$52.86	\$54.44	\$56.08	\$57.76
20	\$51.52	\$53.07	\$54.66	\$56.30	\$57.99	\$59.73	\$61.52	\$63.37	\$65.27
21	\$56.67	\$58.37	\$60.13	\$61.93	\$63.79	\$65.70	\$67.67	\$69.70	\$71.79
22	\$62.91	\$64.80	\$66.74	\$68.74	\$70.80	\$72.93	\$75.12	\$77.37	\$79.69

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the grades for non-represented positions are assigned as below and administered by the County Administrator:

2025 County Position Grades			
Position	Grade	Status	
Aquatic Invasive Species Tech	4	non-union	
Jury Attendant	4	non-union	
Election Clerk-Seasonal	5	non-union	
ACA Intern	8	non-union	
Administrative Assistant II to County Administrator	9	non-union	
Assistant Veteran's Service Officer	10	non-union	
Office & Support Services Manager (SO)	10	non-union	
Assistant Facilities Director	11	non-union	
Office Manager (CA)	11	non-union	
Human Resources Generalist	12	non-union	
Assistant Facility Operations Manager	13	non-union	
Veterans Services Director	14	non-union	
Financial Assistance Supervisor I	14	non-union	
Taxpayer Service Center Supervisor/Tax Systems Administrator	14	non-union	
Assistant Environmental Services Administrator	15	non-union	
Emergency, Fleet, and Property Technician	15	non-union	
Financial Assistance Supervisor II	15	non-union	
Fiscal Supervisor I	15	non-union	
Highway Maintenance Superintendent	15	non-union	
Office & Support Services Supervisor	15	non-union	
Support Services Supervisor	15	non-union	
Systems Administrator	16	non-union	
County Assessor	16	non-union	
Deputy Director of Property Records	16	non-union	
Facilities Operations Manager	16	non-union	
Human Resources Director	17	non-union	
Nursing Supervisor (PH)	17	non-union	
Community Health Supervisor (PH)	17	non-union	
Captain	17	non-union	
Social Service Supervisor	17	non-union	
Assistant County Attorney	18	non-union	
Assistant Public Health Director	18	non-union	
Facilities Director	18	non-union	
MIS Director	18	non-union	
Assistant County Attorney II	19	non-union	
Human Services Manager	19	non-union	
Chief Deputy	19	non-union	
Construction Engineer	19	non-union	
Finance Director	19	non-union	
Public Health Director	19	non-union	
County Sheriff	20	non-union	
Director of Property Records	20	non-union	
Environmental Services Director	20	non-union	
First Assistant County Attorney	20	non-union	
County Attorney*	21	non-union	
County Engineer	21	non-union	
Social Services Director	21	non-union	
County Administrator	22	non-union	
* Denotes elected position, office holder not subject to County grade determination	non-union		

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the following positions are new, added, or changed in the 2025 budget, effective as of date noted and when the position is filled:

Department	New Position or Revised Position	Grade	New Added/Replaces/Grade Change	Effective Date (Exempt/Nonexempt)	Union
Sheriff's Department	Sergeant II	36	New position, not additional position	1/1/2025	Nonexempt
Public Health	Nursing Supervisor	17	replaced position, not additional	1/1/2025	Exempt
Public Health	Community Health Supervisor	17	replaced position, not additional	1/1/2025	Exempt

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board sets the compensation of the County Administrator at Step 9, Grade 22 of the 2025 Wage Grids, equivalent to \$166,392.72 annually; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board sets the compensation of the County Attorney at \$154,971.36, equivalent to a 3.5% hourly rate increase January 1, 2025; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board sets the compensation of the County Sheriff at \$139,541.04, equivalent to a 3.5% hourly rate increase January 1, 2025; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board sets the County's 2025 non-represented employee cafeteria plan contribution at \$1,600 per month for the composite health insurance premium as provided for by the County and selected by the employee.

Commissioner Lee seconded the foregoing resolution, and it was declared adopted upon the following vote: YEAS: Commissioner Reese, Commissioner Lee, Commissioner Strandell, Commissioner Willhite. NAYS: None.

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Committee Meetings

Farm Forum Meetings

Town Hall Meetings
Dispatcher Meetings
River Tours Meetings
Opioid Meetings
Speaker at Rotary, Kiwanis, Lions and similar service group meetings
Leadership Summit/Leadership Meetings
Polk County Fair Meetings/
Livestock Meetings
MN CAP Meetings
Down Payment Assistance Program
MNDOT Area Transportation

d. Resolution (2024-88) Setting 2025 Wage Grid for the County Administrator, Department Heads, Non-Union and Social Services Personnel, and Approving New Positions and Position Changes Effective in the 2025 Budget

RESOLUTION (2024-88)

Setting 2025 Wage Grid for the County Administrator, Department Heads, Non-Union and Social Services Personnel, and Approving New Positions and Position Changes Effective in the 2025 Budget

The following resolution (2024-88) was offered by Commissioner Reese:

WHEREAS, The Polk County Board of Commissioners has approved the 2025 budget and commits to collective bargaining agreements for 2025 representing employee's compensation; and

WHEREAS, The Board is responsible for setting wages and benefits for non-represented positions.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That Polk County Board of Commissioners sets annual wages for the County Administrator, Department Heads, and other non-represented positions effective January 1, 2025, to December 31, 2025, and administered by the County Administrator. The County Attorney and County Sheriff wages are not set by these grids:

The McIntosh Times

COMMISSIONER WARRANTS

A motion was made by Commissioner Strandell seconded by Commissioner Willhite and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board that the following Commissioner Warrants were approved:

COMMISSIONER WARRANTS
DATED 12/20/2024
APPROVED 12/17/2024

Vendor Name	Amount
Acme Tools Bemidji	3,580.67
Alluma Inc	7,628.34
Auto Value - Crookston	3,678.41
Baldwin Supply Company	11,341.59
Brault Construction LLC	20,659.42
Braun Intertec Corp	18,275.00
Central States Wire Products Inc	2,725.98
Chamberlain Oil Co Inc	2,833.87
Church & Dwight Co Inc	13,034.51
Climate Makers	3,800.00
CNH Industrial Accounts	2,042.89
Code 4 Services Inc	25,108.82
Crookston Fuel Company	14,298.37
Dakota Wholesale Tire	2,805.64
Dale CPA/Gordon	4,556.95
DDA Human Resources Inc	3,500.00
Destination Transport	3,285.00
Dowco Valve Company Inc	5,375.59
DS Solutions Inc	7,121.40
EPG Companies Inc	2,215.05
Evenaire Systems Inc	5,053.50
GF- Bergstrom Electric Inc	4,774.74
Hagen Construction & Trucking Inc.	2,750.00
Hildi Inc	5,200.00
Jemco Incorporated	11,225.85
JetWay Multiple Services Inc	6,250.00
Jsb Engineered Solutions	17,852.24
KKCQ- FM	2,986.00
Kurita America Inc	2,329.99
Level 5 Services	5,046.34
LSQ Funding Group LC	7,847.63
Mn Dept Of Transportation	239,557.01
MNCCC MI 33	13,569.46
North Country Overhead Door LLC	17,377.00
Northdale Oil Inc	2,599.55
Northern Propane	2,105.28
OK Tire Store - Fargo	4,252.67
Pemberton Law PLLP	10,817.50
Polk County Highway Department	10,736.68
Rinker Materials	14,596.56
RJ Zavoral & Sons Inc	53,135.00
Road Machinery and Supplies Co.	7,532.82
Sign Solutions USA , LLC	5,699.46
Stantec Consulting Services Inc	10,151.39
The Master's Touch	7,245.22
True North Steel	13,957.60
UpNorth Engineering LLC	5,070.00
Vestiks	2,156.85
Welkens Inc/Lyle	23,272.50
Ziegler Inc	7,007.46
Ziegler Inc	4,103.57
205 Payments less than 2000	81,437.79
Final Total:	765,565.16

With no further business, the Board adjourned to reconvene at 8:00 o'clock a.m., January 7, 2025.
Gary Willhite, Chair

ATTEST:
Charles S. Whiting, County Administrator
Clerk of the Board

M44C

A timeline of notable events in the life of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. dreamt of breaking down barriers and ending discrimination based on skin color, religion, personal beliefs, and much more. Indeed, Dr. King was a visionary and a leader whose life was tragically cut short before he could see the many fruits of his labor.

Dr. King was a strong proponent of change, and his impact was felt from the mid-1950s until his assassination in 1968. Here is a chronology of major events in Dr. King's life.

January 15, 1929: Martin Luther King, Jr. is born to the Reverend and Mrs. Martin Luther King, Sr. in Atlanta, Georgia.

September 20, 1944: After graduating from Booker T. Washington High School a few months earlier, King begins his freshman year at Morehouse College in Atlanta. King graduates from the college in 1948 with a degree in sociology.

February 25, 1948: After time spent in Crozer Theological Seminary, King is ordained to the Baptist ministry at the age of 19.

September 13, 1951: King begins graduate studies in theology at Boston University.

June 18, 1953: Coretta Scott and King are married at the Scott home near Marion, Alabama.

September 1, 1954: King begins his pastorate at Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama.

June 5, 1955: Boston University awards King a doctorate in systematic theology.

December 1, 1955: Rosa Parks is arrested for refusing to give up her seat on a public bus to a white passenger. A few days later, the Montgomery Improvement Association is formed to lead a boycott of the segregated buses and King becomes the group's president.

January 30, 1956: King's home is bombed while he is away at a speaking engagement. Later, he addresses an angry crowd that gathers outside his home, asking for non-violence.

November 13, 1956: The U.S. Supreme Court declares bus segregation laws unconstitutional.

February 17, 1957: King appears on the cover of Time magazine.

May 17, 1957: King delivers his first national address at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C.

1958: The U.S. Congress passes the first Civil Rights Act since reconstruction.

September 17, 1958: King publishes a book, Stride Toward Freedom: The Montgomery Story. During a book signing a few days later in Harlem, New York, King is stabbed by Izola Ware Curry and rushed to Harlem Hospital.

February 3, 1959: King embarks on a visit to India to meet with many of Gandhi's followers and study the philosophy of nonviolence.

1960: With his family, King relocates back to his native Atlanta and becomes copastor of the Ebenezer Baptist Church. King devotes most of his time to the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, a group he and other activists established in 1957.

June 23, 1960: John F. Kennedy, the Democratic presidential candidate, meets privately with King in New York.

October 19, 1960: King is arrested during a sit-in demonstration at a department store in Atlanta.

October 16, 1961: King urges President John F. Kennedy to issue a second Emancipation Proclamation to end racial segregation.

September 28, 1962: A member of the American Nazi Party assaults King during a closing session of the SCLC in Birmingham, Alabama.



April: There were a lot of boys with their moms or special females in their lives who attended the Patriot Pride Boosters Memory Night Boy/Mom Style evening at the Win-E-Mac school.

How to Set and Keep Wellbeing Intentions in the New Year

By Mental Health First Aid USA

No matter who you are or what your background is, you'd be hard-pressed to find someone who doesn't appreciate a fresh start. A reset. A clean slate. And even though the new year is a great time to set resolutions that support your mental wellbeing, it can also be challenging to follow through. External triggers, unforeseen events and old habits throw constant curveballs that can derail the best intentions.

There are tons of products and services available that can help make achieving wellness goals a reality, such as gym memberships, meal delivery services and counseling.

Setting resolutions that support mental wellbeing, which includes your thoughts, feelings and actions, can have a positive ripple effect on everyday life. Whether your resolutions focus on the physical, like working out more, or emotional, such as setting boundaries, it helps to have a game plan. Here are some tips to help you keep your wellbeing intentions throughout the year.

Adjust Your Attitude
First and foremost, try your best to approach goals with a positive attitude. A 2022 study explained how attitude plays a role in developing new hab-

its. It stressed how habits are more likely to be developed by people who practice meditation and mindfulness, because it not only reduces anxiety, depression and stress, it also increases self-compassion and psychological wellbeing.

Evaluate Old Goals
Reflecting on previous goals can offer valuable insight as you come up with a new list of resolutions. Ask yourself questions such as

- What challenges did I face?
- Did I have control over those challenges?
- What similarities and/or differences do previous goals have with my new ones?

Answering these questions ahead of time can help you avoid repeating old habits.

Anticipate Challenges with a Plan

Evidence shows that it is tremendously helpful to create an action plan for how you will reach your goals and respond to stressful and awkward situations that could throw you off track. In short, if X happens, I will do Y. For example, if your goal is not to drink alcohol, have a rehearsed response ready should you be offered an alcoholic drink at a party, such as "No, thank you. But I will take a water."

Brainstorming scenarios and your desired response pre-

pares you to respond intentionally, rather than reverting to old habits.

Get Rested
Have you noticed how everything seems harder when you're tired? Rest is proven to enhance decision making, improve productivity and heal your body. Combined, you will be able to make choices that

improve your mental wellbeing.

The Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) curricula recommend giving your body time to relax. Unplug from electronics (good-night, social media!), improve your sleep hygiene and develop healthy habits like meditation, yoga and stretching.

Seek Out Support

Instead of tackling your mental wellbeing goals alone, improve your chances of success by finding support. Find programs, activities and people who can support you in your goals. For those experiencing mental health challenges, know that you're not alone. Consider reaching out to a medical professional to start.

They may recommend a peer-support group, counseling, life coaching or something else.

MHFA, an awareness and education training that teaches people how to identify, understand and respond to signs and symptoms of a mental health or substance use challenge, can help you help yourself or others tackle goals and challenges.

Healthy ways to cope with stress

Stressful experiences are a part of life, and the physiological responses that occur in response to these challenges are natural tools humans developed as survival mechanisms.

People learn and grow as they deal with positive stressful occurrences, such as when speaking in public or taking a test. But when stressors cannot be avoided or prove chronic, the body's response to stress can take a toll on a person's mental and physical well-being.

The COVID-19 pandemic, inflation, an uptick in strong storms and subsequent weather-related disasters, and global conflicts have proven stressful for people around the world. According to a report from the American Psychological Association titled "Stress in America 2023: A Nation Recovering from Collective Trauma," the long-term stress sustained since early 2020 has had a significant impact on well-being, as evidenced by an increase in chronic illnesses.

The report found people between the ages of 35 and 44 have been particularly affected.

Long-term stress poses many health risks, including wear and tear on the immune system and an increase in worry, anxiety and irritability. Some people turn to drugs or alcohol to combat stress, but there are healthy options. The following are better ways to cope with stress.

Reduce the number of stressors. It is not possible to remove all of the stress of life, but people can try to reduce some forms of stress. Think about sharing some responsibilities or asking for help. If a person is causing you stress, then distance yourself from this person as much as possible. Work is a major source of stress for many people. Finding a new job or cutting back on tasks could help.

Get quality sleep. Prioritize sleeping better and longer. Fatigue can exacerbate the ability to deal with even minor stressors, leaving you more irritable and edgy. Most adults require between seven and nine hours of sleep per night, so adjust your schedule to achieve this.

Plan for daily exercise. The APA says brisk movement improves sleep and can combat stress. In one study titled "Relationships between Leisure Time Physical Activity and Perceived Stress," first

published in 1996, researchers found that working adults who engaged in moderate physical activity had half the perceived stress when compared to working adults who did not participate. A 30-minute session each day can work wonders.

Engage in pleasurable activities. It's easy to drop fun things from the schedule when stress is high. But the Cleveland Clinic advises making time for pleasurable things as a means to combatting stress. Laughter and humor can go a long way towards reducing stressful feelings, so a night out at a comedy show or watching a funny movie can help.

Improve your diet. Well-nourished bodies can handle stressors, illnesses and life in general much easier. Aim for a well-balanced diet that is low in processed foods and sugar. Avoid alcohol, caffeine and nicotine, as each can worsen stress in the long run, according to Sutter Health.

Stress is a natural part of life. When stress becomes too much to take, individuals can cope in various healthy ways.



June: The Win-E-Mac Troop Shooters, Hudson Smeby, Brayden Sander, Alec Haskett, Alyssa Morberg, Chris Roragen, and Hunter Westcott, recently attended the Minnesota State High School Trap Shooting Championship in Alexandria.

Ad deadline:
Noon Friday



May: In honor of the 10-year anniversary of Cops Vs. Kids at Win-E-Mac School, the Class of 2024 presented Polk County Sheriff Jim Tadman with a special sweatshirt. They were the first class ever to play against the Polk County Deputies. Special thanks to the Polk County Sheriff's Department and Win-E-Mac's Mrs. Burd for creating and taking time for this great event.

Polk County, MN SUMMARY BUDGET DATA			
The purpose of this report is to provide summary 2025 budget information concerning Polk County to interested citizens. The budget is published in accordance with Minnesota Statutes Section 375.169. This budget data is a summary document only. A copy of the complete budget may be obtained at 612 N Broadway, Room 211, Crookston, MN 56716.			
REVENUES	2024 Budget	2025 Budget	
FEDERAL	\$8,473,349	\$6,440,809	
STATE CATEGORICAL AID	21,721,396	23,286,615	
STATE GENERAL PURPOSE AID	2,192,657	2,306,875	
CHARGES FOR SERVICES	13,772,616	13,866,352	
FINES & FORFEITS	4,000	5,600	
LICENSES & PERMITS	119,600	134,575	
INTEREST ON INVESTMENTS	355,000	655,000	
SALE OF MATERIALS	1,311,825	1,228,310	
OTHER FEES AND TAXES	5,894,897	5,592,575	
REFUNDS AND REIMBURSEMENTS	3,388,308	3,389,636	
MISC REVENUES	394,742	687,100	
INTERNAL TRANSFERS	3,785,585	1,691,557	
COUNTY PORTION TAX LEVY	27,570,155	28,361,970	
TOTAL REVENUES	88,984,130	87,646,974	
EXPENDITURES			
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	17,797,929	17,148,999	
PUBLIC SAFETY	13,195,842	13,999,422	
HIGHWAY & STREETS	20,694,714	18,498,241	
SOCIAL SERVICES	20,872,001	20,666,879	
HEALTH	3,961,812	4,410,648	
LIBRARY	299,320	305,640	
SOLID WASTE	16,059,105	17,424,273	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	92,880,723	92,454,102	
Net Change in Fund Balances	(3,896,593)	(4,807,128)	
Total Property Tax Levy	27,570,155	28,397,260	

Breakfast with Santa



Charlie Hagen.



Avery Ness.



Brooklyn Hedlund.



Nevaeh Fritch.



Ivy Cook with Lincoln Smeby.



Briar, Harlan and Grayson Sonsteli.



Sawyer Cook having a conversation with Santa.



Gemma Cook.



Torvi Benbo.



The Lion stopped by for a visit with the kids before Santa and his elf arrived during the Winger Lion's Breakfast with Santa held on Saturday, December 7th at the Community Center.



Helping out the Winger Lions are the Winger mom's group who, in the last few years, put on many events for the youth of Winger and are great fundraisers for the new playground that is being constructed in the town. Pictures: Edna Kaupang, Shandele Sherer, Jessica Horgeshimer and Gabriel Courneya.