



**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA
MAY 19, 2026**

WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS CONVENES

The Washington County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. in the Washington County Government Center, County Board Room.

Present: Commissioner Fran Miron, District 1
Commissioner Stan Karwoski, District 2
Commissioner Bethany Cox, District 3
Commissioner Karla Bigham, District 4
Commissioner Michelle Clasen, District 5

Also Present: Kevin Corbid, County Administrator
John Ristad, Assistant County Attorney Division Chief
Stephanie Kammerud, Administrative Assistant

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Board Chair Bigham asked for comments from the public.

Lynn Pritchett, Lake St. Croix Beach, expressed concerns regarding ongoing governing issues on equal enforcement practices and procedural actions that are occurring with the City of Lake St. Croix Beach, primarily concerns about selective use and approval of building permits within the city. Ms. Pritchett asked for any resources that would be available to assist community members to solve some of these issues.

Carrie Mitchell, Scandia, requested immediate assistance and intervention regarding ongoing water infrastructure issues, related to her public comments at the March 10 county board meeting. Ms. Mitchell stated that the shared community system in her housing development was never a cost-effective option and does not align with EPA guidance and local comprehensive planning goals for cost-effective, decentralized septic and water infrastructure. Ms. Mitchell provided background information and requested that the county send a staff member to the related meeting in Scandia tonight.

Julie Andrich, May Township Board Supervisor, requested reconsideration of the appointments on today's agenda for the Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix Watershed District manager appointments. Ms. Andrich met with Commissioner Miron, Commissioner Cox, and County Administrator Kevin Corbid last week regarding the appointments. Ms. Andrich provided background on the current and former managers of the Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix Watershed District, and expressed her reasons for asking the board for reconsider approving the applicants.



Erik Ogren, May Township, requested reconsideration of the appointments on today's agenda for the Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix Watershed District manager appointments, and expressed the need for representation from May Township to advocate for all the bodies of water.

Attorney David K. Snyder, Johnson/Turner, who represents May Township, stated he sent a multi-page letter to Washington County outlining significant facts and law, which he states bears heavily on the decision that is before the board today regarding the appointments for the Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix Watershed District. Mr. Snyder provided details on the location, residents, and borders of May Township, and discussed recent legal decisions related to the appointment of watershed managers by counties.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Cox moved to approve the County Board meeting agenda for May 19, 2026. Commissioner Clasen seconded the motion, and it was adopted 5-0.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Commissioner Miron moved, seconded by Commissioner Karwoski, to adopt the Consent Calendar as follows:

1. Approval of the May 5, 2026, County Board meeting minutes.
2. Approval of **Resolution No. 2026-060** as follows:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE SUBMISSION OF THE ANNUAL FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION CERTIFICATIONS AND ASSURANCES TO THE MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

WHEREAS, the Federal Transit Administration consolidates all current federal requirements into its annual Certifications and Assurances, a single document to which each recipient of federal funds is required to certify compliance; and

WHEREAS, the Washington County Board of Commissioners authorized the submittal of a proposal to the State of Minnesota for funding available through the Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities grant in 2019, 2021, 2023, and 2025 to improve access to provide transportation services and public transportation alternatives for people with disabilities, seniors, and others with special transportation needs; and

WHEREAS, Washington County was awarded Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities funds which will be received and administered through calendar years 2020-2021, 2022-2023, 2024-2025, and 2026-2027; and

WHEREAS, the State of Minnesota requires the timely annual submission of the Federal Transit Administration Certifications and Assurances as a condition for receiving Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities funds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Washington County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the submission of the annual Federal Transit Administration Certifications and Assurances to the Minnesota Department of Transportation for each year throughout the Section 5310 grant period.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Washington County Board of Commissioners delegates authority to the Director of the Washington County Community Services Department to execute on behalf of Washington County.

3. Approve Amendment No. 3 to Grant Agreement No. 16679 with the Minnesota Department of Human Services for Project for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH) grant funding to be extended for one additional year to June 30, 2027, and add \$295,000 in funds for that time period.
4. Approval of revised County Policies #3001 - Acceptable Use Policy, #3005 - Information Security Incident Response Policy, and #3006 - Information Security Policy.
5. Approval of Contract No. 18246 with Graphic Design, Inc. for the printing and delivery services of election ballots of up to \$350,000 through May 31, 2030.
6. Provide favorable recommendation to the Commissioner of Revenue for abatement of taxes at 21084 Olinda Trl. N. in Scandia.

The motion was adopted 5-0 with a Roll Call vote as follows: Ayes, Commissioners Miron, Karwoski, Cox, Clasen, and Bigham. Nays, none.

OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION

Resolutions for Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix Watershed District Appointments

County Administrator Kevin Corbid presented three resolutions, appointing three people to the Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix Watershed District, and provided background on the interview process, which included 10 applicants.

Commissioner Miron moved to postpone action on the appointment resolutions for Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix Watershed District appointments until the June 2, 2026, County Board meeting. Commissioner Cox seconded the motion, and it was adopted 4-1: Ayes, Commissioners Miron, Cox, Bigham, and Karwoski; Nay, Commissioner Clasen.

PUBLIC WORKS

County Road 50 Corridor Study

Andrew Giesen, Engineer III, presented a contract for the County Road (CR) 50 Corridor Study from State Highway 61 to County Highway 15 within the cities of Forest Lake and Scandia. This project is identified in the Capital Improvement Plan as #RB-2682.

Mr. Giesen reported that this study will analyze current and future needs along the corridor to provide a vision that helps guide future improvement opportunities. The scope of work includes project management, public engagement, data collection, drainage, traffic, intersection and access analysis, concept development, alternative evaluation, creating of a preferred alternative layout, and cost estimating. There were nine bids received for this project, and KLJ Engineering was selected. This project is funded by Local Transportation Sales Tax and Road & Bridge fund balance.

Commissioner Miron moved to approve Contact No. 18258 with KLJ Engineering in the amount of \$408,566.65 to provide design services for the County Road (CR) 50 Corridor Study. Commissioner Karwoski seconded the motion, and it was adopted 5-0.

Commissioner Miron moved to approve a budget amendment for the use of Road & Bridge Fund Balance in the amount of \$8,600. Commissioner Cox seconded the motion, and it was adopted 5-0.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Legislative Updates

Deputy County Administrator Jan Lucke provided highlights from the conclusion of the 2026 Minnesota legislative session on May 18. Ms. Lucke reported that Washington County's advocacy focused on three areas, Human Services, the Bonding Bill, and the Legacy Bill.

Ms. Lucke reported that Human Services received \$90 million in Technology Modernization, which will be spread over two bienniums with ongoing appropriations. Legislation also created a Human Services Systems Modernization Fund, with both short and long-term focuses. Legislation also created a Human Services Advisory Council and Legislative Commission on Modernization.

Ms. Lucke reported that SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) fell short and received \$10.7 million in new, one-time administrative funds to offset staff administrative requirements under HR 1. There are no benefit cost share funds to cover the error and no additional policy that addresses new implementation requirements.

Ms. Lucke reported that Minnesota African American Family Preservation Act received \$15 million in new, one-time funding to support implementation across 87 counties. This falls short of the full need in an ongoing commitment. However, legislation extended the



statewide workgroup through December 31, 2026, recognizing that there is more work to do in this space.

Ms. Lucke reported that Long-Term Support Services Contingent, which was the proposed county cost share shift of \$175 million in savings, was not funded. The request to make administration an eligible expense and extend the timeline for Local Affordable Housing Aid (LAHA) and Statewide Affordable Housing Aid (SAHA) administration, was not included.

Ms. Lucke reported that there was positive news for Washington County in the Bonding Bill. Washington County received funding for five projects totaling \$16.8 million:

- Washington County and the City of Cottage Grove received \$9.6 million in state funds to construct the County Road 19A and 100th Street Realignment Project.
- Washington County received \$2.9 million in state funds to construct a trailhead and trail connection(s) from County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 5 to the Brown's Creek State Trail.
- Washington County and the City of Forest Lake received \$2.8 million in state funds to construct a roundabout and complete intersection improvements at TH 61 and 11th Avenue/CSAH 32.
- Washington County received \$1 million in state funds for land acquisition, design, and construction to close a one-mile gap in the Hardwood Creek Regional Trail.
- Washington County received \$500,000 in state funds for intersection improvements at CSAH 18 (Bailey Road) and CSAH 19 (Woodbury Drive).

Ms. Lucke reported that the Metropolitan Council received \$10 million in state funds to support the regional parks and trails system, and several cities within Washington County were also successful in their state funding requests.

Ms. Lucke reported that the 2026 Legacy Bill will invest in projects across Minnesota to restore, enhance, and protect habitat for fish, game, and wildlife through Minnesota's Outdoor Heritage Fund. Washington County, in partnership with the Minnesota Land Trust, will receive \$2.8 million for Phase II of the Washington County Habitat Protection and Enhancement Partnership. This provides matching funds to Land and Water Legacy Program conservation easements and funding for restoration and staffing.

Ms. Lucke provided a report on the status of project requests for FY 2027 Congressionally Directed Spending Requests.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioners reported on meetings and other events they attended. Please see archived livestreaming of the board meeting for full commissioner reports on the county's website washingtoncountymn.gov under "County Board of Commissioners."

BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

No board correspondence was received.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the County Board, Board Chair Bigham adjourned the meeting at 10:25 a.m.

BOARD WORKSHOP WITH ADMINISTRATION

The board met in workshop session to review recommendations for a Land and Water Legacy Program referendum. Present for the workshop were Commissioners Miron, Karwoski, Cox, Bigham, and Clasen. Also present were Kevin Corbid, Jan Lucke, media, residents, outside agencies, and county staff.

Attest:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin Corbid".

Kevin Corbid
County Administrator

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karla Bigham".

Karla Bigham
County Board Chair