

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA
AUGUST 4, 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
 Holly Hess, Administrative Assistant

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Board Chair Bigham asked for comments from the public; none were heard.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Miron moved to approve the County Board meeting agenda for August 4, 2026. Commissioner Cox seconded the motion, and it was adopted 5-0.

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

1. Approval to amend the Joint Powers Agreement with the Metropolitan Emergency Services Board and extend through December 31, 2031.
2. Approve Grant Contract No. 18520 to receive \$250,000 in Crisis Response Grant funding from the Department of Public Safety, Minnesota Office of Justice Programs, for the grant period of August 1, 2026, through June 30, 2028.
3. Approval of an application for a 1-4 day temporary on-sale intoxicating liquor license from the Bayport American Legion for the Yellow Ribbon Field of Bands event on September 12, 2026, at the Washington County Fairgrounds, located in Baytown Township.

4. Approval of **Resolution No. 2026-089** as follows:

**RESOLUTION APPROVING AN APPLICATION TO CONDUCT
OFF-SITE GAMBLING FOR BAYPORT AMERICAN LEGION
POST 491**

WHEREAS, an application has been received from the Bayport American Legion to conduct off-site gambling activities (pull-tabs) on September 12, 2026, during the Annual Yellow Ribbon Randy Kopesky Field of Bands event at the Washington County Fairgrounds located at 12300 N 40th Street, in Baytown Township, and

WHEREAS, Minn. Stat. 349.165 requires the permit to be approved by the County Board of Commissioners by resolution and remitted to the Minnesota Gambling Control Board for their consideration.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Washington County Board of Commissioners approves the application to conduct off-site gambling (pull-tabs) from the Bayport American Legion at the Washington County Fairgrounds located at 12300 N 40th Street, in Baytown Township and for it to be remitted to the Minnesota Gambling Control Board for their consideration.

5. Approve Contract No. 18465 in the amount of \$243,030 with S & B Elevator Inc. dba Midwest Elevator & Drilling for replacement of the Washington County Historic Courthouse elevator.
6. Approve Grant Agreement No. 18501 with the Minnesota Department of Public Safety for the 2025 Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) grant program, in the amount of \$333,417.60, for the period of January 1, 2026, through December 31, 2027.
7. Approval of **Resolution No. 2026-090** as follows:

DONATION FROM PROHIBITION BARBERS

WHEREAS, Washington County gratefully accepts donations, gifts, and bequests from public and private sources to enhance the programs and services it provides; and

WHEREAS, any gift, donation, or bequest becomes the property of Washington County; and

WHEREAS, the Washington County Board is authorized to approve donations, gifts, and bequests.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve the donation of \$4,000.00 in Target gift cards from Prohibition Barbers to support the Shop with a Cop community engagement event.

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

PROPERTY RECORDS AND TAXPAYER SERVICES

Approval of Joint Powers Agreements for Election Recount Services

Matt Moore, Elections Division Manager, presented two Joint Powers Agreements for election recount services with the State of Minnesota, Office of the Secretary of State. The first was Joint Powers Agreement No. 294285 for the 2026 Primary Election, and the second was Joint Powers Agreement No. 294286 for the 2026 General Election.

Mr. Moore reported that that State Statute administrative rules name the Office of the Secretary of State the recount official for any federal and state contests in those elections. Washington County will act as the designated recount official for ballots cast in the county for State and Federal contests which require recount. Washington County will be paid four cents for each ballot it handles with a minimum payment of \$100.00.

Commissioner Cox moved to approve Joint Powers Agreement No. 294285 for election recount services for the 2026 Primary Election with the State of Minnesota, Office of the Secretary of State. Commissioner Karwoski seconded the motion, and it was adopted 5-0.

Commissioner Cox moved to approve Joint Powers Agreement No. 294286 for election recount services for the 2026 General Election with the State of Minnesota, Office of the Secretary of State. Commissioner Miron seconded the motion, and it was adopted 5-0.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT

Resolution Recognizing Breastfeeding Awareness Month

Amanda Schueler, Public Health Program Supervisor, presented a resolution recognizing August 2026 as Breastfeeding Awareness Month in Minnesota, which is celebrated nationally and worldwide to highlight the essential role of human milk in community health.

Ms. Schueler reported that the Department of Public Health and Environment (PHE) teams such as WIC, Family Health, and Healthy Communities collaborate to encourage breastfeeding and provide community and client-focused support. There are 10 certified lactation specialists, as well as one staff member who is an internationally board-certified lactation consultant within PHE. PHE collaborates with other internal departments to ensure that lactation rooms are meeting the needs of employees, and noted that there are lactation spaces at the Historic Courthouse, R.H. Stafford Library, County Courts area and the Law Enforcement Center.

Commissioner Cox moved to adopt **Resolution No. 2026-091** as follows:

BREASTFEEDING AWARENESS MONTH IN MINNESOTA

WHEREAS, the August 2026 breastfeeding observance theme is “RISE: Resilience, Interdependence, Self-Determination, Empowerment”; and this

theme uses the sunrise to show the bright future and lasting strength of our community; it emphasizes how public health programs and community partnerships work together to build strong, helpful environments where every family has the resources, confidence, and positive support they need to succeed at breastfeeding; and

WHEREAS, chest/breastfeeding or providing human milk provides optimal nutrition and healthy growth in the early stages of life, giving young children the strongest possible start for lifelong health and well-being; and

WHEREAS, lactation support has a profound impact on the long-term health of parents and infants, playing a key role in early brain development and chronic disease prevention; and

WHEREAS, human milk is one of the most cost-effective prevention strategies for reducing many infections as well as acute and chronic illnesses; and

WHEREAS, infant feeding is one of the most important decisions that a family makes; and

WHEREAS, families need consistent support for their feeding journeys from family, friends, healthcare providers, support groups, the community, employers, and childcare settings; and

WHEREAS, enabling parents and caregivers to chest/breastfeed is key to achieving core public health goals by improving nutrition, promoting food security, and reducing health inequalities; and

WHEREAS, Washington County is committed to enhancing the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program's support for families, seeking to further improve breastfeeding continuation rates particularly within the first year of life; and

WHEREAS, the Washington County Breastfeeding Coalition, the Statewide Health Improvement Partnership (SHIP), the Family Health Nursing Team, and WIC are partnering to provide clinic educational displays and enhanced professional support throughout August; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington County Board of Commissioners hereby acknowledges the vital role of chest/breastfeeding in achieving optimal health for families and proudly recognizes August 2026 as Breastfeeding Awareness Month in Minnesota.

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

PUBLIC WORKS

County State Aid Highway 14 (34th Street North) Trail Improvement Project

Becky Haydon, Engineer III, presented two items for the County State Aid Highway 14 (34th Street North) Trail Improvement Project identified in the Capital Improvement Plan as #RB-2803. Ms. Haydon reported that a recent pavement condition assessment determined this off road, multi-use trail had a pavement condition index (PCI) of 38, placing it in the county's red zone classification. A PCI at this level indicates widespread surface distress and deterioration consistent with the end of pavement life. The existing condition is negatively affecting usability for all trail users and will continue to degrade without reconstruction.

Ms. Haydon reported that there were four bids received for construction services and Sunram Construction has been selected. Ms. Haydon noted that consultant costs on this project are a larger portion than other typical projects due to the environmental work that was required because of the presence of contaminated soils.

Commissioner Karwoski moved to approve Contract No. 18400 in the amount of \$182,314.00 with Sunram Construction Inc. for the CSAH 14 (34th Street North) Trail Improvement Project. Commissioner Miron seconded the motion, and it was adopted 5-0.

Commissioner Karwoski moved to approve Cooperative Agreement No. 18395 with the City of Oakdale for maintenance responsibilities for the CSAH 14 (34th Street North) Trail Improvement Project. Commissioner Cox seconded the motion, and it was adopted 5-0.

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

Board correspondence was received and placed on file.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the County Board, Board Chair Bigam adjourned the meeting at 9:44 a.m.

BUDGET WORKSHOP TO REVIEW THE RECOMMENDED 2027 COUNTYWIDE BUDGET

The board met in workshop session to review the recommended 2027 countywide budget. Present for the workshop were Commissioners Miron, Karwoski, Cox, Clasen, and Bigam. Also present were Kevin Corbid, Jennifer Wagenius, Jan Lucke, outside agencies, and county staff.

BUDGET WORKSHOP WITH THE INTERNAL SERVICES DEPARTMENTS

The board met in workshop session to review the recommended 2027 budgets for the internal service departments – Accounting & Finance, Human Resources, Information Technology, and the Office of Administration. Present for the workshop were Commissioners Miron, Karwoski, Cox, Clasen, and Bigham. Also present were Kevin Corbid, Jennifer Wagenius, Jan Lucke, 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