



WHERE THE FOREST MEETS THE PRAIRIE

Todd County

● MINNESOTA ● EST. 1855 ●

*Minutes of the Meeting of the Todd County Board of Commissioners held on
June 2nd, 2026*

Public Comment

Mr. Kevin Winkler addressed the County Board regarding due process of recent legal matters.

Tina Monson, US Solar provided a summary of reasonings in support the passage of the proposed CUP agenda item.

Dave Harren provided a statement of concern regarding concerns about damage to ground field quality if the proposed US Solar CUP is approved.

Call to Order

The Todd County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Board Room in the City of Long Prairie, MN on the 2nd day of June, 2026 at 9:00 AM. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Byers. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. All Commissioners were present.

Approval of Agenda

On motion by Neumann and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To adopt the agenda as presented with removal of item 4.6 Accept resignation of Tyler Schwartz, FT Deputy and removal of item 4.7 Hire Tyler Schwartz, PT Deputy.

Consent Agenda

On motion by Noska and second by Becker, the following motions were introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

To approve the Todd County Board of Commissioner's Meeting Minutes for May 5th & 19th, 2026 as presented.

Hire Marshall Carlson for the Seasonal Recreational Assistant position start date TBD at a wage of \$20.93 Grade 3/C step A.

Accept the resignation of Correctional Officer Ross Bollin effective June 7, 2026.

Accept the resignation of Deputy Brittney Hendricks effective June 30, 2026.

Hire Trevor Larson for the PT Deputy position start date TBD at a rate of pay of grade 9/I grade A \$33.21 per hour.

Auditor-Treasurer

On motion by Denny and second by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous rollcall vote: To approve the Commissioner Warrants number (ACH) 404525 through 404541 in the amount of \$22,306.50 and (Regular) 59846 through 59868 in the amount of \$36,164.42 for a total of \$58,470.92.

On motion by Neumann and second by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous rollcall vote: To approve the Health & Human Services Commissioner Warrants number (ACH) 807569 through 807591 and (Regular) 714150 through 714183 for a total of \$30,595.77.

On motion by Becker and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous rollcall vote: To approve the Health & Human Services SSIS Warrants number (ACH) 602011 through 602017 and (Regular) 518965 through 518977 for a total amount of \$51,951.24.

CliftonLarsonAllen

Doug Host, Principal presented the final report of the findings/statuses to the County Board from the completion of the Audit of Financial Year Ending December 31, 2025 for discussion.

Planning & Zoning

On motion by Denny and second by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by majority rollcall vote with Neumann against: To adopt the findings of the Planning Commission and deny the CUP to establish a 10 MW solar farm on parcel 28-0001100 based on the findings below:

1. The County's vision under its 2030 Comprehensive Plan to create "opportunities for growth through the support of economic development while enhancing the use of [the County's] cultural, natural, commercial and agricultural resources."
In talking about "economic development," the 2030 Comprehensive Plan identifies the need for good paying jobs, the desire to create good opportunities and professions to allow the youth to remain, and searching for methods to help develop agricultural business and business which benefit from being in an agricultural production area.
The County Board finds converting farm land to a commercial use – a solar farm does not support this policy because it is not providing economic growth as identified in the 2030 Comprehensive Plan.
2. Surrounding property is farm land and the proposed use would impede the ability of nearby farm land users from expanding onto this parcel. The proposed use, however, would not impede the ability to orderly develop the property for residential since it is approximately one mile from the closest city.
3. The applicant has not met its burden of showing there is a need for this proposed use in Todd County. The applicant indicated the energy would be "locally – generated and distributed energy" however it did not note the need locally for the energy. No evidence was provided showing the local energy grid did not have the current capacity or ability to serve its users.
4. Section 1.02 (B) of the County Planning and Zoning Ordinance states one of the purposes of the Ordinance is to protect, preserve and develop economically viable agricultural land. Additionally, the Ordinance states the purpose of the AF-1 "district is to provide for and protect areas of the county where commercial crop and livestock agriculture, forestry, large tract recreational activities (i.e. hunting, snowmobiling, horseback riding, etc...) and wildlife habitat/natural areas are the primary uses."
The Board finds converting agricultural land to a solar farm does not support these purposes and is actually inconsistent with the purposes.
5. The record developed during the public hearings and before this Board contained insufficient and inconsistent evidence by the applicant to support the granting of the CUP including negative economic benefits to the area.

On motion by Noska and second by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Sauk River Fiscal Agent Agreement as presented and authorize the Board Chair to sign it.

On motion by Denny and second by Noska, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

Final Plat Approval – "Sacred Heart Addition" Subdivision

WHEREAS, Applicant Sisters of the Society Saint Pius X, Inc. applied to subdivide a property owned by David L. and Joanne Benning that is described as part of the East Half of Section 7 of Hartford Township with the plat to be known as “Sacred Heart Addition”,

WHEREAS, Sacred Heart Addition consists of one lot; Block One, Lot 1, 2.00 Acres± located in Residential - 2 Zoning District in Hartford Township,

WHEREAS, On February 2, 2026, the Todd County Planning Commission recommended the following property be considered for Subdivision pursuant to Todd County Subdivision Regulation and Ordinance:

That part of the Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter (NE¼ NE¼) of Section 7, Township 130 North, Range 33 West, Todd County, Minnesota, described as follows:

Commencing at the northeast corner of said Section 7;

thence South 00 degrees 22 minutes 28 seconds East, assumed bearing along the east line of the said Section 7, a distance of 660.00 feet to the south line of the North 660.00 feet of said Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter (NE¼ NE¼), said point also being the point of beginning of the land to be described;

thence continuing South 00 degrees 22 minutes 28 seconds East, along said east line of Section 7, a distance of 388.28 feet to a point that is 275.00 feet north of the southeast corner of said Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter (NE¼ NE¼);

thence South 89 degrees 41 minutes 13 seconds West, parallel with the south line of said Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter (NE¼ NE¼), a distance of 197.00 feet;

thence North 08 degrees 21 minutes 20 seconds West 392.61 feet to aforesaid south line of the North 660.00 feet of the Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter (NE¼ NE¼);

thence North 89 degrees 47 minutes 39 seconds East, along said south line of the North 660.00 feet of the Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter (NE¼ NE¼), a distance of 251.51 feet to the point of beginning.

WHEREAS, On February 17, 2026, the Todd County Board of Commissioners considered the Preliminary Plat for the above-described property and approved the Sacred Heart Addition preliminary plat with four conditions:

1. Applicant shall remain compliant with applicable local, state or federal regulations related to operation of the cemetery.
2. Declare a cemetery official and an alternate that will be responsible for following state rules and provide contact information to the County to be recorded with the final plat.
3. Maintain a list of individuals buried and exact location within the cemetery.
4. Cemetery plot must be completely fenced off with boundaries clearly identified. All burial sites must remain inside of the fenced area.

WHEREAS, the Planning & Zoning Department has completed the necessary final plat review and find that all items required for final plat approval have been completed.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the final plat of “Sacred Heart Addition” be approved as presented.



SWCD

On motion by Denny and second by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Approve the purchase of a 2026 Chevy Colorado in the amount of \$34,504.45 from Saxon Fleet Services via the State bid.

Todd County Extension Office

Heidi Igo and Kristin Saarela provided an update of the Todd County 4H Program with special guest Cody Meacham, Youth Leader for the County Board.

Todd County Fair Board

On motion by Noska and second by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To grant the Todd County Fair Board additional access to the Todd County Fairgrounds for fair preparations beginning June 3, 2026 with waiving of the rental fees. Utilities reimbursement will be provided by the Todd County Fair Board for this additional timeframe.

County Sheriff

On motion by Becker and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Approve contracts for the cities of Burtrum, Grey Eagle, Browerville, Clarissa, Eagle Bend, Hewitt and Bertha.

County Ditch/Ag Inspector

On motion by Neumann and second by Noska, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

Hold Harmless Agreement – Ditch Maintenance – County Ditch 44

WHEREAS, Dale Lyon is requesting to maintain approximately 4,300 feet of CD44 on parcel 21-0036200 Lyon Family Farm located in Round Prairie Township, section 34, and parcels 03-0002200 & 03-0002700 Steve Berscheit, and 03-0002300 Dale Lyon in Birchdale Twp, section 3. A Hold Harmless Agreement has been signed and submitted to the Ditch Authority, and;

WHEREAS, an onsite inspection has been done, and;

WHEREAS, applicant is allowed to maintain the drainage ditch to the original width and depth. An improvement by lowering or widening the ditch bottom is not allowed. Sediment and vegetation can only be removed to the extent of the original ditch bottom elevation. Spoil may be side cast and leveled, staying within 16 ½ feet of the ditch, or moved to an approved upland site.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Todd County Ditch Authority gives permission to Dale Lyon to maintain a portion of CD44 located on parcels 21-0036200, 03-0002200, 03-0002700 & 03-0002300. The maintenance will be done at his own expense.

Solid Waste

On motion by Denny and second by Becker, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

RESOLUTION APPROVING TRANSFER OF FUNDS FOR TEMPORARY LOAN REPAYMENT FOR CAP GRANT PROJECT

WHEREAS, in 2025, funding from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) was delayed for the CAP Grant Project which placed an unforeseen financial burden on Fund 51-Solid Waste to continue funding of the Transfer Station Building Project, and;

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners authorized the interim financing from the General Fund for the CAP Grant Project to be called upon for up to 12 (twelve) months for an amount not to exceed \$3,418,686 at an interest rate of zero (0) percent via Resolution #20250520-24 with repayment of this advance to coincide with the State of Minnesota's delivery of funding per the CAP Grant Agreements, and;

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners also authorized the County Auditor-Treasurer to transfer the requested funds, as necessary, to coincide with vendor payment withdrawals for CAP Grant project expenses based on the monthly cash balance of the Fund 51-Solid Waste, and;

WHEREAS, the Todd County Auditor-Treasurer has completed transfer from Fund 01-General Fund to Fund 51-Solid Waste according to Resolution #20250520-24 for a total of \$1,000,000.00 to date, and;

WHEREAS, the Transfer Station Building Project is near completion and the State of Minnesota has since delivered their financial obligations outlined in the CAP Grant Agreements, and;

WHEREAS, the Solid Waste and Auditor-Treasurer departments have studied the financial status of Fund 51 and recommend the full repayment of the temporary loan originally authorized via Resolution #20250520-24 as sufficient fund balance exists to do so.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners does hereby authorize the County Auditor-Treasurer to transfer \$1,000,000.00 from Fund 51-Solid Waste to Fund 01-General Revenue in full repayment of the temporary interim loan and finalize this loan agreement as satisfied for all financial reporting purposes effective the date of adoption.

Health & Human Services

On motion by Becker and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Approve the correction to Board Action 20260519-03 with effective date of May 22nd, 2026.

On motion by Noska and second by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Approve the correction to Board Action 20260519-02 with effective date of May 22nd, 2026.

Administration

On motion by Becker and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Panic Button System Upgrade for County in the amount of \$14,180.00



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paid through budgeted MIS Funds, and approve the Door Badging System Upgrade to Avigilon System for the Justice Center using budgeted funds in the amount of \$58,456.41 from the Safe & Secure Courthouse Grant and \$36,323.59 from Sheriff's Department Public Safety Aid Fund. Work to be completed by All State Communications, a state contract vendor.

County Auditor-Treasurer's Report

The County Auditor-Treasurer reported that tax settlement is now complete. Upcoming is the MACATFO conference next week.

County Coordinator's Report

The County Coordinator reported attending meetings including via phone meeting with Morrison County Solid Waste, policy meeting, Paycom, Initiative Foundation on child care, Central Bi Products Community meeting and Wellness biometrics event.

County Commissioner's Report

The Commissioners reported on meetings and events attended.

Commissioner Becker attended meetings including the Facilities, Region V, and Regional EMS.

Commissioner Denny has attended meetings including GRRL, Finance, Hands of Hope, Prairie Lakes, and Personnel.

Commissioner Noska has attended meetings as usual including HRA and Wellness Biometrics event.

Commissioner Byers attended meetings including Facilities, Central Bi Products Community Meeting, and TCDC.

Commissioner Neumann attended meetings including SRWD, Sauk River 1W1P, Policies, and District 4.

Recessed

On motion by Denny and second by Noska, the meeting was recessed until June 16th, 2026.

COMMISSIONER WARRANTS

VENDOR NAME	AMOUNT
DIAMOND BUICK GMC	\$ 2,466.69
ESRI	\$ 17,254.00
LONG PRAIRIE LEADER	\$ 2,715.00
MENCH/JAMES	\$ 8,660.00
MN DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION	\$ 5,206.28
ROLLIES SALES & SERVICE	\$ 4,436.06
VEOLIA ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES LLC	\$ 2,274.15
33 PAYMENTS LESS THAN 2000	\$ 15,458.74
Total:	\$ 58,470.92

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES WARRANTS

VENDOR NAME	AMOUNT
TODD COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE	\$ 3,476.63
46 PAYMENTS LESS THAN 2000	\$ 16,948.74
DW JONES PROPERTY MANAGEMENT	\$ 3,333.00
TOWLER/ROGER	\$ 4,200.00
10 PAYMENTS LESS THAN 2000	\$ 2,637.40
Total:	\$ 30,595.77



VENDOR NAME	AMOUNT
DHS - MOOSE LAKE RTC - 462	\$ 2,752.50
DHS - MSOP - MN SEX OFFENDER PROG - 462	\$ 4,770.00
GREATER MN FAMILY SRVS INC	\$ 5,694.41
LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICE OF MN - ST PAUL	\$ 3,657.30
MAIN STREET FAMILY SERVICES	\$ 3,971.55
NEXUS-KINDRED FAMILY HEALING	\$ 8,766.06
TRI-COUNTY COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS	\$ 3,332.29
VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA	\$ 16,424.40
12 PAYMENTS LESS THAN 2000	\$ 2,582.73
Total:	\$ 51,951.24

On a motion by Neumann and second by Noska, the preceding minutes of the County Board meeting held June 2nd, 2026 were duly approved by unanimous vote at the Todd County Board of Commissioners at the Regular Board Meeting held on June 16th, 2026.

Witness my hand and seal:

/s/ on file

Bob Byers, County Board Chairperson

/s/ on file

Denise Gaida, Todd County Auditor-Treasurer