

BOARD MEETING AS POSTED

BECKER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

DATE: TUESDAY, July 7, 2026 at 8:15 am

LOCATION: Board Room, Courthouse

1. Meeting was brought to order by Chair Jepson. Commissioners in attendance: Jepson, Hansen, Meyer, Vareberg and Nelson, County Administrator Carrie Smith and minute taker Peggy Martin.
2. Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda/Minutes:

1. Agenda – Motion and second to approve the agenda (Hansen, Meyer) carried.
2. Minutes – Motion and second to approve minutes of June 16, 2026 with the requested changes (Meyer, Nelson) carried.
3. Minutes – Motion and second to approve minutes June 15, 2026 Board of Equalization with the requested changes (Nelson, Meyer) carried.

Consent Agenda

1. Motion and second to approve and accept the following Consent Agenda Items:
Auditor-Treasurer: Regular Claims, Auditor Warrants and Claims over 90 Days, May 2026 Cash Comparison, Sales Tax, and Investments, Human Services: Regular Claims, Public Health, & Transit, Transit: Resolution 07-26-1A – Vehicle Purchase in the amount of \$170,052, Resolution 07-26-1B – 2027 Transit Operating Grant Application, Contract and Agreements, Assessor: Abatements in the amount of \$2,680, Land Use: Parks & Rec: Resolution 07-26-1D – MN DNR Joint Powers Agreement – Public Access Maintenance, Resolution 07-26-1C – Essentia Health Grant Acceptance, Sheriff: WE Fest Contract, Resolution 07-26-1E – Federal Boat & Water Grant Acceptance, Purchase of Ballistic Vest Replacements in the amount of \$4,137.94 (Meyer, Nelson) carried.

Becker County Treatment Courts: presented by Kristal Kadrie and Judge Gretchen Thilmony.

1. Participants served in Becker County.
 - In 2025: 5 in Drug Court and 1 in Veterans Court.
 - Current Participant: 4 in Drug Court and 1 in Veterans Court.
2. Graduations.
 - In 2025: 5 in Drug Court and 1 in Veterans Court.
 - In 2026: 2 Graduations.

3. Clay/Becker Drug Court has 142 graduates.
 - Program continues to grow and remains strong.
 - Working to launch a mobile app to improve communication with participants called the Reconnect App.
4. Becker County Veterans Court.
 - Since 2014, the program has had 10 graduates.
 - No recidivism to date in the Veterans Court program.
5. Becker County DWI Court.
 - Funded through a DPS Federal Grant.
 - Beginning October 1, 2026, will launch SBIRT Screening for 1st time DWI Offenders, with a goal to identify treatment needs early and reduce repeat DWI offenses.

Commissioners:

1. Open Forum:
 - None.
2. Reports and Correspondence: Reports were provided on the following meetings:
 - Commissioner Nelson – LARL, Lakeland Mental Health, Sheriff.
 - Commissioner Jepson – Extension, EDA, Fair Board.
 - Commissioner Meyer – Sheriff, Fair Board, DAC, Transit, Dancing Sky.
 - Commissioner Hansen – Transit, PRWD, Airport, PLMSWA, Law Library, Environmental.
 - Commissioner Vareberg – Environmental.
3. Appointments.
 - None.

Public Hearing: EDA – Business Subsidy Policy Amendments and Revisions.

1. Motion and second to open the Public Hearing at 9:15 am (Meyer, Hansen) carried.
2. Discussion of updates to policy.
 - Updates have not been made since 2007.
 - Updated statutory compliance.
 - There was no public input.
3. Motion and second to close the Public Hearing at 9:23 am (Meyer, Nelson) carried.
4. Motion and second to approve Resolution 07-26-1G – Adopting the Becker County Business Subsidy and Tax Abatement Policy, repealing all prior Business Subsidy and Tax Abatement Policies (Vareberg, Meyer) carried.

Probation: presented by Brian Rubenstein.

1. F5 Year-End Data Report presented by Jenna Mueller.
 - 70 participants from September to April.
 - 489 visits, about 367 hours of one-on-one meetings.
 - 86% had stable housing, 81% found employment, 88% maintain sobriety and 92% remain law abiding.
 - Participants shared their success stories and appreciation for the F5 staff and probation officers.

County Administrator: presented by Carrie Smith.

1. Report.
 - Work Session – July 14.
 - Tornado struck near Floyd Lake. Clean up has started.
 - EOC is open at MState due to the tornado.
2. Motion and second to approve Resolution 07-26-1F – Special Appropriation General Obligation Bond Grant (Nelson, Meyer) carried.

Human Resources: presented by Teaira Christen.

1. Motion and second to approve Transit Coordinator Job Description (Meyer, Hansen) carried.

Land Use-Environmental Services: presented by Steve Skoog.

1. Motion and second to clarify Resolution 06-26-1D to double the current In-County Solid Waste Tip Fee rates for out of county demolition and mixed municipal solid waste (Meyer, Nelson) carried.
2. Motion and second to approve the Capital Purchase of a used Scissor Lift in the amount of \$22,000 from United Rental in Fargo. The lift will be shared with other departments in the county (Hansen, Meyer) carried.
3. Motion and second to approve FY27 ICWC Contract (Hansen, Meyer) carried.

Being no further business, Board Chair Jepson adjourned the meeting at 10:21 am.

/s/ Carrie Smith
Carrie Smith
County Administrator

/s/ Erica Jepson
Erica Jepson
Board Chair