



COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE AGENDA
Carlton County Transportation Building, Board Room

February 3, 2026 at 4:00 p.m.

Watch the meeting live at <https://www.carltoncountymn.gov/meetings>

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Agenda **Motion by Bodie, Second by Zmyslony. Approved.**
3. Approve the December 2, 2025 meeting minutes. **Motion by Zmyslony, Second by Nuemann. Approved.**
4. Transfer Station Planning Report (Heather Kraul – Burns & McDonnell). Heather presents to the Committee regarding the Transfer Station Planning and Feasibility Study. Discussion had regarding next steps. Request is for completion of Task one, which is speaking and surveying individuals work at and use the Transfer Station currently. The cost of this task 1 is an amount not to exceed \$20K. **Motion by Bodie, seconded by Proulx. Approved.**
5. Inmate Jail Programs (Paul Coughlin, Leah Collier). Coughlin and Collier present. Discussion had regarding programs and services associated with the jail, as well as the groups who the jail staff work with. Collier presents programming related information, including physical and mental health, wellness, and education components. Coughlin provides an update regarding the JIF program, including a review of efforts at pursuing grants. Info only.
6. New Business
 - A. ADMINISTRATOR
 1. Discuss moving 8:30 am County Board meeting to 1:00 pm. Reed notes that he was the one that wanted this added to the agenda. Some commissioners note that a 1:00 meeting does not work well. DH's note that 1:00 is not preferred.
 2. Approve 2025 Policy Committee Annual Report. **Motion by Genereau, Seconded by Bodie.**
 3. Approve 2025 Management Team Annual Report and updates to Operating Policy and Procedure. **Motion by Dennis, Seconded by Reed. Approved.**
 4. Approve updates to Data Practices Policy. Updates to the previous updates. **Motion by Boucher, second by Buhs. Approved.**
 5. County Commissioner conference dates – reminder
 6. Ehlers Update. Genereau provides information regarding the proposal for a contract with Ehlers to work with the AT office per the January 26, 2026 letter. **Motion by Proulx, second by Buhs. Approved.**
 - B. ASSESSORS
 1. Annual Fleet Report – Info. Only Holmes provides an update. Money is still being saved over the Federal rate on the overall cost of the cars, as well as the annual fees related to the cars.
 - C. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
 1. Economic Development update. Ryan will update on Tuesday.
 - D. PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
 1. Approve 2025 Building Committee Annual Report. **Motion by Buhs, Second by Bodie. Approved.**
 - E. TRANSPORTATION
 1. Transportation update. JinYeene provides an update, noting they are between design and construction. Paving in 2026 will be roughly 2X what it was in 2025. Much work is going into the Esko Hwy 61 project.
 2. Spongy Moth. Westphal provides an update regarding the plan for treating for the Spongy Moth. Motion by Westphal, seconded by Bodie, Approved.
7. Other Business
 - A. Discuss lobbying priorities. Ryan is trying to set up a legislative breakfast or dinner.
 - B. Department Updates

C. Commissioner Comments

Five talking points from 1.8.26 Northern Counties Coalition (NCC) meeting:

1. Aaron Vande Linde, Director, Minnesota Office of School Trust Lands, presented on a number of school trust land items. Included was a discussion of Mineral Royalties, which is relevant to Carlton County given the possibility of copper/nickel mining in the Tamarack area with Talon. State policy is that the minimum % the state should receive on a non-ferrous lease is 4%. There is also a bonanza clause, to encourage the mining companies to maximize all the resource present, and discourage high-grading (cherry picking the best ore present), which is not the proper, responsible mining of these resources. DNR is the state rep in this discussion. School trust office will analyze the impacts of these current rates. We are told that we as counties should consider analyzing this as well. The DNR is the counties' mineral trustee. All commodities price index was proposed at the legislature, which was problematic.
2. Roseau County raised the issue of improving GIS service. NCC is looking at where to go with this. Pro West does this work in a number of other counties. Question of whether we can do better together.
3. Pine County raised the topic of building a wetland bank. They are looking at creating or restoring wetlands to get credits, given how expensive they are. Pennington and LOTW have organized a wetland bank in the in the past. It was a lot of work, but it can be done. The SWCD was a critically helpful part of this.
4. Beltrami County is interested in membership in the NCC. Neil and Paul will effort to attend a board meeting in Beltrami to present info on the group.
5. The NCC Amended Joint Powers Agreement needs to be approved by all county boards. NCC staff will work on providing each member county with an updated version of the JPA for presentation to each member county's board for consideration.

Bodie mentions the Health advisory Board and the need for two vacant positions to be filled.

- D. The next regular meeting date is scheduled for March 3, 2026 at 4:00 p.m. located at the Carlton County Transportation Building in the County Board Room.

8. Adjournment. **Motion by Buhs, seconded by Proulx, approved.**