

**Carlton County
Coordinator/HR Office**

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Carlton County

County-wide newsletter brought to you by the County Coordinator's Office

Issue 04 October / November / December 2021

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Carlton County Receives Association of Minnesota Counties County Achievement Award

In December 2021, Carlton County Departments were awarded the AMC County Achievement Award by the Association of Minnesota Counties for their collaborative work on the drive through mass COVID-19 vaccination clinics. The following departments received the award: Public Health and Human Services, GIS, Land Department, Sheriff's Office, Transportation Department, County Coordinator, and Maintenance Department. Carlton County was one of five counties recognized for the AMC County Achievement award out of all 87 counties in Minnesota. Below is more information about the mass vaccination program that was recognized for the award.

In July 2020, prior to a COVID-19 vaccine being authorized, multiple Carlton County Departments (Public Health & Human Services, GIS, Land Department, Sheriff's Office, Transportation Department, County Coordinator, Maintenance Department) came together to plan and operationalize one the first drive-thru vaccination clinics in Minnesota.

This collaboration was innovative and increased efficiency for administering vaccines in Carlton County in the following ways: Carlton County GIS created a system utilizing an Esri application (Survey123) to track real time vaccines administered and expedited the process of registration using technology instead of paper, handwritten forms. The drive thru model allowed Carlton County to administer an average of 100 vaccines per hour, faster than a walk thru clinic. This model allowed for better use of resources for PPE; especially when supply chain shortages were interrupted.

Overall, Carlton County would not have been able to vaccinate residents as quickly without the collaboration from all departments. Each department played a different role in operationalizing the clinic from setup of cones and signage to administering the vaccine. This partnership has changed the way Carlton County does mass vaccination and will be used as a model/plan for future mass dispensing responsibilities.

The Carlton County Commissioners (Mark Thell, Gary Peterson, Thomas Proulx, Dick Brenner, Marv Bodie), Dave Lee (CCPHHS Director), Ali Bachinski (Emergency Preparedness Coord.), Jenny Barta (Disease Prevention & Control Coord.), and Jared Hovi (GIS Specialist) all attended the Association of Minnesota Counties Award Ceremony on December 7th, 2021, where they accepted the award on behalf of the Carlton County Departments!



2022 Carlton County Board of Commissioners



Dick Brenner
Member
218.879.5572

District 1
Dick.Brenner@co.carlton.mn.us



Marv Bodie
Member
218.879.2085

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Marv.Bodie@co.carlton.mn.us



Thomas Proulx
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Mark Thell
Vice-Chairperson
218.384.3878

District 4
Mark.Thell@co.carlton.mn.us



Gary Peterson
Chairperson
218.380.4949

District 5
Gary.Peterson@co.carlton.mn.us

*Board meetings are held at the Transportation Building on the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 8:30 a.m. and the 4th Monday of every month at 4:00 p.m.

Carlton County Crafts Well Within Reach Campaign

Carlton County is resilient. Rising from the ashes of a historic fire to navigating a once-in-a-century pandemic. Time has eroded, but our ideals have not. Successes can be fleeting, but our everyday shared challenges are attainable. Our personal and collective well-being is an ongoing goal. Well-being is a journey we are all on and one that we collectively share. Carlton County is dedicated to this journey and to our residents who strive to be well every day.



Carlton County sought a way to connect resilient Carlton County communities and promote the wellbeing for anyone who works, visits, or lives in Carlton County. Carlton County believes everyone deserves an opportunity for their ideal well-being to be Well Within Reach.

Carlton County partnered with local marketing agency Creative Arcade to get this project off the ground. They took all these elements and crafted the Well Within Reach campaign which we are collaboratively producing and will implement later this spring. It will show how healthy lifestyles, opportunities, and wellbeing are within reach in the County. The campaign will also highlight topics, like affordable housing, that should be within reach. A Well Within Reach Hub is located on the Carlton County [webpage](#).

To promote the journey of wellbeing, Creative Arcade filmed interviews with different people in the county. Each person will represent a certain topic Carlton County wishes to address. Quotes and stories will be pulled and used in other parts of the campaign to encompass the "Well Within Reach" messaging.

Carlton County is seeking organizations across our county to get involved. If you're interested in taking part, or even better, want to promote wellbeing, we would love to hear from you. Please email wellwithinreach@co.carlton.mn.us for more information on ways to get involved.

2021

A Year's Reflection on COVID-19 Response

7954 

COVID-19 vaccines administered by Carlton County Public Health and Human Services from Dec. 2020 - Dec. 2021.

170 

Carlton County community partners engaged in the response, and communicated with almost weekly in 2021.

Carlton County MN Responds Volunteers 

32

Carlton Co. has deployed 32 MN Responds volunteers to work on the COVID-19 response in 2021.

940 

Outreach calls to Carlton County Long Term Care facilities by the Long Term Care Branch.

8 

Carlton County School Districts that the School Liaison Branch supported throughout all of 2021.

297

Carlton Co. volunteers have put in 297 hours of volunteer time which equates to over 8 weeks of work time.

Volunteer time on the COVID-19 response has contributed to \$8,565.00 in cost savings.

Thank you Carlton County MN Responds Volunteers for all of your hard work on the COVID-19 pandemic!
If you are interested in becoming a MN Responds volunteer, visit mnresponds.org

Carlton County Committee's

Building Committee -
2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:30 a.m.
(Transportation Building -TB)

Committee of the Whole -
1st Tuesday of the month at 4:00 p.m. (TB)

Diversity Committee -
3rd Thursday of the month at 9:00 a.m.
(PH&HS)

Finance Committee -
1st Tuesday of the month at 2:30 p.m. (TB)

Policy Committee -
3rd Monday of the month at 2:00 p.m.
(Law Enforcement Center - LEC)

Management Team -
1st Tuesday of the month at 8:30 a.m. (TB)

Supervisors Committee -
3rd Thursday quarterly at 2:00 p.m.
(Varies)

Wellness Committee -
2nd Wednesday of the month at 8:30 a.m.
(PH&HS)

**For a more detailed Carlton County
Committee list [click here](#).**



Are you interested in submitting an article in the next Carlton County Newsletter? Email or mail your articles and pictures by the March 25, 2022 deadline to:

Shanny Hurst
Carlton County Coordinator's Office
1307 Cloquet Avenue
Cloquet, MN 55720
shanny.hurst@co.carlton.mn.us

*Please note that all submissions are subject to editing, as needed.

Preparation for New Justice Center Construction in Full Swing

The new Carlton County Justice Center is well down the road to becoming a reality, but there is still a great deal of work to be done. Full project completion is expected in the fall of 2024.

A number of significant project milestones have been accomplished. The preferred site for the project was identified as the county-owned property adjacent to the current Carlton County Transportation facility east of County Road 61 and south of Minnesota Highway 210. The site was identified as a greenfield site (previously undeveloped) with ample space. However, the property was located in Twin Lakes Township outside of the Carlton City limits. Minnesota law requires that the courts and jail be located within the County seat, which is the City of Carlton.

Officials and staff of the City of Carlton, Twin Lakes Township, and Carlton County met and discussed the need for annexation multiple times over the past several months. The parties were able to agree to an annexation agreement for just over 28 acres north of the current transportation building. That agreement has been finalized and approved by officials from the State of Minnesota.

The facility will house all district court functions to include: the Sheriff's Office operations (both jail and dispatch), County Attorney, probation, public defender, and guardian ad litem offices. The jail will include 80 beds, plus an additional 16 bed unit for a regional female offender program which will house sentenced females. Space will also be dedicated for services through the Fond du Lac band. The building will be two stories high and contain approximately 110,800 total square feet. County staff are working with Klein McCarthy Architects and Adolfson Peterson Constructors to design the building. The general concept design phase, which entails determining the size and scope of the facility and what it will generally look like, is complete. Efforts are now focused on the schematic design phase which consists of locating and sizing all the spaces within the building as well planning for how all the building infrastructure components will be fitted and connected. A very time-intensive and technical stage in the building process, it is critically important to ensuring that the bid packages can be issued and that the project can be completed on time and under budget with minimal change orders.

The Justice Center building will be modern and efficient, as well as practical and tastefully designed in a manner that fits well in our rural, small town county. The estimated final cost of the building will be between \$67-\$70 million. The State of Minnesota has committed \$2 million for the planning and design of a regional 16 bed female offender (aka justice involved female) program. This program will be included as part of the jail facility and additional bonding dollars will be requested from the 2022 Minnesota Legislature to help offset the costs of construction and programming costs of that portion of the project. Authority has been given to the County to bring to the voters a Local Option Sales Tax (LOST) option on the ballot in the general election of November of 2022. Voting to support the LOST will allow the building to be funded with sales tax revenues rather than property tax levy dollars.

Construction is set to begin in August of 2022 and will take approximately 22 months to complete. County officials have been advised that the current state of the world economy has created a significantly long lead time on certain building materials, including steel and precast concrete, to name a few. Some of these lead times are out as far as 50 weeks which has required that the schematic design phase be accelerated. Nonetheless, it is expected that the building construction will be completed on time such that the facility can be opened in the fall of 2024.

Please contact County Coordinator Dennis Genereau at dennis.genereau@co.carlton.mn.us, Sheriff Kelly Lake at kelly.lake@co.carlton.mn.us or (218)384-3236 or Jail Administrator Paul Coughlin at paul.coughlin@co.carlton.mn.us or (218)384-3236.

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer."