

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE RED LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

May 27, 2025

Pursuant to adjournment of its last meeting, the Red Lake County Board of Commissioners duly met in regular session at the Courthouse in Red Lake Falls, MN on May 27, 2025, at 10:00 am.

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Flage called the meeting to order. Commissioners present were Chuck Flage, Al Remick, Eric Mickelson, Tony Gerardy and Andy Moran. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Commissioner Mickelson moved, seconded by Commissioner Gerardy, and carried unanimously to approve the agenda.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Environmental Officer Kurt Casavan met with the Board to report on the public hearing held at 9:30 a.m. prior to the meeting. No opposition was received regarding the petition submitted by Leslie and Alice Hofstad to outlet water into County Ditch 61 from the N½ SE¼ of Section 8, Equality Township. The commissioners discussed the petition and agreed to allow drainage into CD61 with benefits established as follows: NW¼ of the SE¼ at \$2,000 and the NE¼ of the SE¼ at \$2,000. Commissioner Gerardy moved, seconded by Commissioner Moran, to approve the petition and include the 80 acres in the benefited area for County Ditch 61. Motion carried.

Casavan provided an update on the May 14th meeting with Alysha Decker, Allen Larson, and Grant Sang from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, along with Commissioner Andy Moran and Alan Page, regarding the boat launch at Huot Park. The DNR has agreed to repair the boat ramp, which had previously been dug too deep. The proposed plan includes connecting to the existing concrete slabs and extending the ramp by 50 feet while raising its elevation.

Casavan gave an update on the repermitting process for the Red Lake Falls Site 331 construction and demolition landfill. In coordination with Andrew Fia of Stantec, a hydrogeologic site investigation work plan was finalized and submitted to Aaron Salo at the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA). The work plan included proposed well locations, area soil profiles, and historical site data. Concerns were raised regarding the implications of the MPCA's new draft rules, which appear to contradict the current landfill design—specifically, the plan to open a new cell without a liner or municipal solid waste-style leachate management. While the MPCA has not formally objected or denied the approach, there is uncertainty about how these draft rules will be enforced. Until there is clarity from MPCA, all major spending and development decisions, including well drilling, will remain on hold to avoid unnecessary financial and operational risk.

### **EROSION CONTROL**

Travis Nelson, Soil and Water Conservation Technician with Red Lake County SWCD, met with the board to discuss erosion control concerns. The SWCD has been receiving complaints about windblown sediment accumulating in public road rights-of-way, particularly along CSAH 11. In response, SWCD has offered to purchase sediment control logs to help prevent sediment from entering the drainage system for landowners to purchase. Following discussion, Mickelson made a motion for Highway Engineer, Taylor Amiot to draft a letter—pending approval by the county attorney—to be sent to the affected landowner, requesting the removal of the sediment. Moran seconded the motion. Motion carried.

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### HIGHWAY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Highway Engineer, Taylor Amiot informed the board that there was interest from a buyer in purchasing the old, corrugated metal arch culverts stored at the Plummer pit. The board discussed the matter and, with no objections raised, agreed to list the culverts for sale.

Highway Engineer Taylor Amiot updated the board on the current and potential future use of calcium chloride for dust control. Current rates for 2025 are \$0.90 per foot for a 16-foot-wide application at the full rate of 0.27 gallons per square yard. Amiot raised the question of whether the county would be interested in offering dust control directly to residents. Other counties allow residents to sign up, mark start and stop points for application and are billed based on actual usage recorded by metering equipment on the application truck. It was suggested that requests should continue to go through townships for now, but the board may consider expanding the service in the future due to growing public interest.

### TREASURER ANNOUNCEMENTS

County Treasurer, Nick Knott met with the board to present the quarterly interest earnings report and update on the county investment portfolio.

### MINUTES

Commissioner Gerardy moved, seconded by Commissioner Mickelson, and carried unanimously to approve the minutes from the meeting on May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### EXPENDITURES

Commissioner Moran moved, seconded by Commissioner Remick, and carried unanimously to approve the following expenditures for the period.

<b><u>Vendor</u></b>	<b><u>Amount</u></b>
M&R Signs Co Inc	\$ 3,446.70
Stantec Consulting Services Inc	\$ 10,302.25
Towmaster Truck Equipment	\$ 55,543.00
True North Surverys, P.A.	\$ 39,500.00
5 Payments less than \$2,000	<u>\$ 1,698.12</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$110,490.07</b>

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

Remick – Northwest Regional Emergency Board

Mickelson – Housing Redevelopment Authority, Inter County Community Council

Gerardy – Household Hazardous Waste

Moran – None

Flage – Pennington & Red Lake County Public Health & Home Care

### ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Gerardy, seconded by Commissioner Mickelson, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 1:06 p.m. The next regular meeting of the board is scheduled for Tuesday, June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kelsey Gervais, County Auditor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chuck Flage, Chairman  
Board of Commissioner