



STEELE COUNTY STEELE COUNTY BOARD WORK SESSION MINUTES

**Steele County Board Room - 630 Florence Avenue -
Owatonna, MN 55060**

**Steele County's Mission:
Driven to deliver quality services in a respectful and fiscally responsible way.**

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2026 at 4:00 PM - County Boardroom, Steele County
Administration Center**

Agenda

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Glynn at 4:00 pm. Members present were Commissioner John Glynn, Joshua Prokopec, James Abbe, and Greg Krueger. Also present were County Attorney Robert Jarrett, Administrator Renae Fry, and Rebecca Kubicek.

2. Business

a. Enterprise Leased Vehicle Update

Alec from Enterprise provided an overview of Steele County's fleet program. The county currently leases 32 vehicles, including 9 assigned to MNP, with an average utilization of approximately 7,000 miles per year. Leased vehicles are typically returned at the 5-year/100,000-mile threshold; however, most Steele County vehicles do not reach 100,000 miles before replacement. The county will continue evaluating vehicle utilization to determine the appropriate mix of leased versus owned vehicles and will gather comparison data from other counties to better understand their fleet strategies and identify additional ideas. Generally, high-mileage vehicles are leased, while lower-mileage units may be better suited for ownership depending on resale value and lifecycle costs. Additional reporting needs—such as average mileage per trip—may further support decision-making. Other considerations include reassessing the potential use of GeoTab, possibly through insurance, and evaluating whether in-vehicle cameras are warranted. A review of vehicle claim history will help determine the value and purpose of implementing camera technology. The current maintenance program does not include brakes or tires, which should be factored into future cost evaluations.

b. Discussion regarding holding a public hearing to consider fire arm changes starting with the 2026 deer season

The Board discussed whether a public hearing should be held regarding the potential allowance of rifle use during deer hunting seasons. The commissioners expressed support for conducting a public hearing, noting the need for a larger venue and recommending that it be scheduled on a non-meeting day to accommodate expected attendance. Written submissions should also be

accepted as part of the public input process. Staff will prepare a public hearing notice and plan for overflow seating, with March 24 identified as the target date. Additional research will be conducted on how other states have approached similar changes to hunting regulations to assist in the discussion.

c. Human Services/HMA Update

Work continues on developing program models and the overall service delivery structure, though the process remains a month or two out as additional information is still being gathered. A key priority is hiring the HR Director, as their involvement will be essential to the model-building process; the position has been posted, and the goal is to have the director in place by April so they can participate in these discussions. DCYF and DHS continue to meet to untangle program responsibilities and identify areas that may be impacted, with the next meeting scheduled for February 23 with the state. Conversations with Olmsted County are ongoing, as they are under contract with MNP for support, and MNP is incorporating Steele County into its grant application processes as those opportunities arise. Regular meetings between MNP and Steele County are underway to gather as much information as possible to support the transition, including weekly check-ins with HMA. Dave is reviewing IT requirements, and HMA is evaluating appropriate models to bring forward for consideration.

Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

CHAIRMAN

ATTEST: _____
ADMINISTRATOR