

PROCEEDINGS OF THE STEELE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR SESSION

July 8, 2025

STATE OF MINNESOTA }
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COUNTY OF STEELE }

The Steele County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session at 5:00 p.m. on July 8, 2025 with Commissioner's Prokopec, Abbe, Krueger, Brady, and Glynn present. Also present were Human Resources Specialist Bobbie Herzog, Finance Director Candi Lemarr, IT Director Dave Purscell, County Assessor Brian Anderson, County Sheriff Lon Thiele, County Attorney Robert Jarrett, Public Health Director Amber Aaseth, County Administrator Renae Fry and Executive Assistant Rebecca Kubicek.

Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Krueger to approve the agenda with an amendment. Ayes all

Amendments to the agenda:

Add Item # 13 from the Work Session: Authorize the County Attorney to join other counties to challenge the constitutionality and enforceability of a statutory amendment adding Subdivision 4f to Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 241.021, Inmate Prescriptions, which was recently enacted at the 2025 Session, district court file 62-CV-25-5225.

Comments and Correspondence:

Public Comment: One person spoke against the updated public comment writing in the agenda. One person spoke regarding transparency and public comment, and one person regarding the Havana realignment and the effect on their Havana farm.

Correspondence: None

Consent Agenda:

Motion by Commissioner Krueger, seconded by Commissioner Prokopec to approve Consent Agenda. Ayes all.

- A. Approve the minutes of June 24, 2025 Board Meeting
- B. Approve the minutes of June 24, 2025 Board Work Session
- C. Approve Bills

D. Approve the Personnel Report

New Hires/Promotions/Demotions/Transfers:

Name	Position/Dept.	Rating/Step	Date
Jacob Tasker	Hwy Maintenance Tech./Hwy	B23/2	07/01/2025
Amber Brooks (Promotion)	Director of P&Z/P&Z	D63/1	07/02/2025

Resignations/Retirements/Terminations:

Name	Position	Department	End Date
Narda Zetino	Correctional Officer	Detention Center	06/24/2025
Caleb Buck	Sheriff Patrol Deputy	Sheriff	07/04/2025
Chad Forystek (Retirement)	Deputy Sheriff Sergeant	Sheriff	07/11/2025
Kevin Kozel (Retirement)	Correctional Sergeant	Detention Center	08/21/2025

Open Positions-Pending Board Approval:

Position	Department	Notes
Network Security Analyst	IT	Recruiting will begin soon
Patrol Deputy – 2 positions	Sheriff's Office	Interviewing/Backgrounding
Correctional Officer–4 positions	DC	Interviewing/Backgrounding
Procurement Specialist	Finance	Interviewing
Technical Clerk I	Recorder	Interviewing (2nd Round)
Public Works Director	Public Works	Interviewing
County Engineer	Highway	Recruiting
Custodial & Maint. Assistant	Facilities & Fleet	Recruiting
Human Resources Coordinator	HR	Recruiting
Deputy Sheriff Sergeant–2 positions	Sheriff	Recruiting
Correctional Sergeant	DC	Recruiting
Engineering Techs I/II/III–3positions	Highway	On-hold
Accounting Support Specialist	Highway	On-hold
Assistant County Engineer	Highway	On-hold
Technical Clerk II	PT & E	On-hold

E. Approve Fee Schedule with changes from the Recorder's Office, Sheriff's Office and Public Health.

F. Accept the proposal from Met-Con Construction for the Community Center Phase 2 Exterior Renovation project in an amount of \$68,800.00 and authorize the Facilities and Fleet Director to accept the proposal.

General Agenda:

Human Resource Specialist read the July Anniversary Report

Name:	Position:	Department:	Anniv. Date:	Yrs:
Jessica Bedney	Adult Probation Officer I	Community Corrections	July 1st	8
Spring Teichroew	Adult Probation Officer II	Community Corrections	July 1st	8
Ashley Schultz	Adult Probation Officer II	Community Corrections	July 1st	8
Jed Loftus	Correctional Sergeant	Detention Center	July 7th	17
Katherine Barden	SSTS Specialist	Planning and Zoning	July 8th	12
Cristian Overland	Correctional Officer	Detention Center	July 8th	1

Kristi Archambault	Public Health Nurse	Public Health	July 10th	19
Christopher Deml	Highway Sign Tech.	Highway	July 15th	29
Christine Bartsch	Home Health Aide/Homemaker Lead			
		Public Health	July 16th	13
Thomas Burger	Custodian	Facilities and Fleet	July 17th	8
Beth Jongbloedt	Public Health Nurse	Public Health	July 20 th	3
Sean Robbins	Deputy Sheriff Patrol	Sheriff	July 21st	11
Ethan Cousins	Assistant Director of IT	IT	July 22nd	12
Adam Rector	Deputy Sheriff Patrol	Sheriff	July 24th	2
Darrell Johnston	Assistant Cnty Attorney I	Attorney	July 29th	1
Jenna Carty	Adult Probation Officer I	Community Corrections	July 31st	2

Motion by Commissioner Abbe, seconded by Commissioner Glynn to authorize the County Attorney to take legal action to join other counties to challenge the constitutionality and enforceability of a statutory amendment adding Subdivision 4f to Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 241.021, Inmate Prescriptions, which was recently enacted in the 2025 Session, district court file 62-CV-25-5225. Ayes all.

Commissioner Reports:

Commissioner Glynn reported his attendance at P&Z Director interviews, Internal Central Services, and Work Session.

Commissioner Prokopec reported his attendance at Campbells swearing in ceremony, Public Works and Work Session.

Commissioner Abbe will report next meeting.

Commissioner Krueger reported his attendance at Criminal Justice meeting, AMC Business partnership, Planning Commission meeting, Public Works, MNP Finance and Work Session.

Commissioner Brady reported his attendance at Informational meeting with MNP, P&Z Director interviews, Internal Central Services, 911 Joint Powers meeting, Planning and Zoning meeting and a Work Session.

County Attorney had no report.

County Administrator reported her continued attendance at the Main Street Project meetings through Teams and announced the Open House for this project at OPU on July 17th at 4:00 p.m. where the group will be giving updates on the project and soliciting public input on elements of the project. The environmental analysis to be complete by Dec. 1st with the full plans to be complete by April 1st. This will meet the timeframe to obtain the use of the Federal funds.

LISTING OF BILLS

July 8, 2025

7 Rivers Recycling LLC	4,705.25
ArchKey Technologies	30,562.45
Bishop Excavating, Inc.	2,856.01

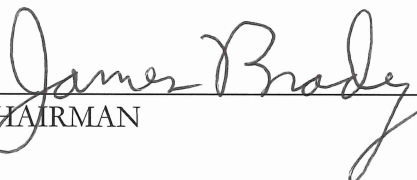
Community Co-op Oil Assn	18,761.76
Counties Providing Technology	4,651.00
Crane Creek Asphalt	2,703.04
Dahle Enterprises of Morristown LLC	15,745.59
Goodman/Alan D	6,405.64
Health Management Associates Inc	13,434.40
J R's Advanced Recyclers Inc	3,911.25
Jones Haugh & Smith Inc	3,642.50
Loken Excavating & Drainage	3,470.59
Midstates Equipment & Supply Inc	19,995.69
Mn Counties Intergovernmental Trust	2,486.00
Office of MN IT Services	3,182.51
R & K Electric Inc	226,775.00
Short Elliott Hendrickson Inc	28,860.71
Svl Service Corporation	2,047.00
Thompson Sanitation	75,722.74
Versaterm Public Safety US Inc	2,140.00
Zamboni Company USA Inc	136,517.70
Ziegler, Inc	3,250.00
67 Payments less than 2000	<u>29,754.74</u>
Final Total:	641,581.57

Motion by Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Abbe to go into closed session at 5:22 pm. Ayes all.

Motion by Commissioner Krueger, seconded by Commissioner Glynn to come out of closed session at 6:38 pm. Ayes all.

The County Attorney reported that the closed session was regarding pending litigation against MNPrairie County Alliance, citing service deficiencies and financial mismanagement. Motion by Commissioner Glynn, seconded by Commissioner Abbe to authorize the County Attorney to retain outside legal counsel to represent Steele County regarding its ongoing disputes with MNPrairie County Alliance.

Motion by Commissioner Abbe, seconded by Commissioner Prokopec to adjourn to the Call of the Chair at 6:39 p.m. Ayes all.


CHAIRMAN

ATTEST: 
ADMINISTRATOR