

PROCEEDINGS OF THE STEELE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR SESSION

October 14, 2025

STATE OF MINNESOTA }
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COUNTY OF STEELE }

The Steele County Board of Commissioners held a Work Session at 4:00 p.m. on October 14, 2025 with Commissioner's Abbe, Krueger, Brady, Glynn, and Prokopec present. Also present were Human Resource Coordinator Bobbie Herzog, IT Director Dave Purscell, Public Works Director Ronald Gaines, County Assessor Brian Anderson, Assistant County Attorney Campbell Housh, Public Health Director Amber Aaseth, Park and Recreation Director Steve Schroht, Extension Office Regional Director Lisa Dierks, Extension Office Local Educators Tracy Ignaszewski & Kelsey Erf, MNPrairie Director Tara Reich, County Administrator Renae Fry and Executive Assistant Rebecca Kubicek.

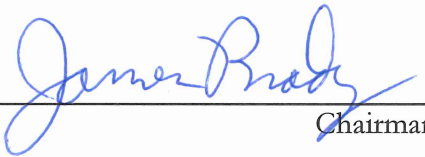
Rod Pritchard from ITC Midwest and Derrick Johnson from Great River Energy spoke regarding PowerOn Midwest Transmission Line. The 765 kV transmission line was identified in the planning process as the preferred solution for PowerOn Midwest as it efficiently carries power over long distances, there are fewer transmission lines needed to carry the same amount of power, fewer structures per mile which reduces impact on communities and environment, the infrastructure can consistently deliver power and provides backup power pathways. PowerOn Midwest requires two approvals from the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission and Certificate of Need and Route Permits. The route may include southern Steele County. Open houses will be held in November.

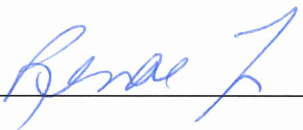
Lisa Dierks, Regional Director of the Extension Office and Tracy Ignaszewski & Kelsey Erf, both local Educators gave an update on 4-H Youth Development. 4-H is the largest youth serving organization in Minnesota. The goals are to help them learn, teach them to lead, and how the leaders can create opportunities for the youth. 211 events were offered in Steele County this year with 954 total youth enrolled.

Beaver Lake Archeological Study Phase II was reviewed by the Board. The County secured funds from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Trail Connection Grant which required completion of a phase I archeological study conducted in 2025 by Bear Creek. The results of this study were summarized in a report dated June 2025 and states that the project may contain significant and historic cultural deposits. Amendment 4 contains the Phase II Archeological Study requirement. It is suggested to move forward with the phase II study before deciding to abandon the current project plans. The cost of the Phase II Archaeological Study could be paid for using State Aid Funding or from reserves.

Discussion regarding Finance Director Search Process was moved to the Board meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:59 p.m.


Chairman

ATTEST: 
Administrator