



**STEELE COUNTY
STEELE COUNTY BOARD MEETING 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, MAY 12, 2026 at 5:00 PM
County Boardroom, Steele County Administration Center**

Agenda

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Glynn at 5:02 pm. Members present were John Glynn, Joshua Prokopec, James Brady, James Abbe, and Greg Krueger. Also present were Robert Jarrett (remote) and Renae Fry.

2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Approve Agenda

Add to agenda Item 18: City of Owatonna/UWSC Affordable Housing Aid Proposal from the Work Session for formal consideration.

Motion by Commissioner Joshua Prokopec, seconded by Commissioner James Brady to approve the agenda as amended. Ayes all.

Presentations:

4. University of Minnesota: Agriculture
Speakers: Ryan Leron, Educator & Lisa Dierks, Regional Director

Ryan Leron gave the Board an update on his work as the Ag Educator for the University of Minnesota Extension serving Steele County. He provided education and outreach to the residents of the county on a variety of topics. Overall attendance at events he hosted has increased year over year, and he continues to connect with residents through radio appearances, newsletters, newspaper articles, and posts on social media.

Public Comment - If you wish to share your thoughts, please provide your name and address after being acknowledged by the Board Chair. Each speaker has two (2) minutes to express their remarks.

Steele County promotes respect in both its work environment and boardroom. Speakers should maintain dignity and show respect towards others. Comments should be directed to the entire Board, not to individual commissioners, officials, or staff. The Board Chair may limit comments if they are argumentative, disrespectful, or redundant. Please avoid name-calling or abusive language, as this may result in being asked to return to your seat or to leave the boardroom.

No action will be taken on items presented during Public Comment unless they are on the agenda. The Board may refer some inquiries to the County Administrator for follow-up.

No one appeared for public comments.

Correspondence

None.

Consent Agenda - Items listed on the Consent Agenda are considered routine and non-controversial by the County Board. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless requested by a member of the County Board.

Motion by Commissioner James Brady, seconded by Commissioner Greg Krueger to approve the Consent Agenda. Ayes all.

5. Approve April 28, 2026 Board Minutes
6. Approve April 28, 2026 Special Work Session Minutes
7. Approve Bills
8. Approve Personnel Report
9. Approve Annual Tobacco Licenses for Caseys - Medford and Ellendale, Medford Municipal Liquor Store, Anhorn's Gas and Tire, and Lerberg's Foods.
10. Approve Out of State Travel - MS-ISAC Conference
11. Adopt **Resolution 2026-27** appointing Jacob Rezac as the Steele County Highway Engineer

A copy of the Resolution is available in the office of the County Administrator and is made a part of this record by reference.

12. Adopt **Resolution 2026-29** accepting a donation from the VFW Auxiliary District 1 President for 4 ea - \$25 and 2 ea - \$50 Walmart gift cards.

A copy of the Resolution is available in the office of the County Administrator and is made a part of this record by reference.

13. Adopt **Resolution 2026-30** authorizing the execution of Agreement No. 1061908 with MnDOT for Bridge No. 74J36 in an amount of \$167,934.26 in state bond funds for SAP 074-618-031.

A copy of the Resolution is available in the office of the County Administrator and is made a part of this record by reference.

14. Award CSAH 43 Bridge Project SAP 074-643-010 to Structural Specialties, Inc. in an amount of \$996,116.16 and authorize the Public Works Director to execute a contract.

A copy of the Resolution is available in the office of the County Administrator and is made a part of this record by reference.

15. Approve 2026 Solid Waste Professional Services Agreement.
16. Approve Penny Policy
17. Approve updated preventative health and employee recognition policy.

County Board Work Session

18. Moved forward from May 12, 2026 Work Session - Approve City of Owatonna/UWSC Affordable Housing Aid Request in the Amount of \$200,000

Motion by Commissioner Greg Krueger, seconded by Commissioner Joshua Prokopec, to approve the City of Owatonna/UWSC Affordable Housing Aid Award in the amount of \$200,000, to be remitted to the city upon completion of the public infrastructure as outlined on the schedule of activity, was approved by a vote of 4 in favor and 1 opposed.

General Agenda

19. May Employee Anniversaries
20. Approve HMA Statement of Work #3 and Authorize the Administrator to sign.

Motion by Commissioner Greg Krueger, seconded by Commissioner Jim Abbe to Approve HMA Statement of Work #3 and Authorize the Administrator to sign. Ayes all.

21. Approve renewal of IUP 2010-05 (JJJ Companies LLC - Meixner Pit) with 21 conditions based on the Findings of Fact.

Motion by Commissioner Greg Krueger, seconded by Commissioner Jim Abbe to table consideration of the renewal of IUP 2010-05 until May 26, 2026. Ayes all, with Commissioner James Brady abstaining.

22. Accept review of CUP #316 (Benjamin Bishop - Bishop Pit) with 18 conditions based on the Findings of Fact.

Motion by Commissioner James Brady, seconded by Commissioner Jim Abbe, to accept review of CUP #316. Ayes all.

23. Approve CUP # 443 (Swinergy - Anaerobic Digester) with 5 conditions based on the Findings of Fact.

Motion by Commissioner Jim Abbe, seconded by Commissioner Greg Krueger to Approve CUP #443. Ayes all.

Information Items

24. Internal Central Services Committee Minutes - April 28, 2026
25. Planning Commission Meeting Minutes - May 4th, 2026

Commissioner Reports:

- County Attorney, Rob Jarrett - No Report
- County Administrator, Renae Fry - No Report
- Commissioner Abbe reported his attendance at Rice Steele 911 JPB, County Board Work Session
- Commissioner Brady reported his attendance at the Planning Commission, Rice Steele 911 JPB, County Board Work Session
- Commissioner Prokopec reported his attendance at the Cannon River Watershed Committee, SEMCAC, Public Works Policy Committee, County Board Work Session
- Commissioner Krueger reported his attendance at SCHA Compliance, retirement of SE EMC Board administrator, SCHA Finance, CJI, CMHC, SCHA JPB, SCHA Utiliazation, County Board Work Session
- Commissioner Glynn reported his attendance at Public Works Policy Committee, County Board Work Session

***Closed Session for the purpose to develop an offer for the purchase of real or personal property pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 13D.05, Subd. 3(c)(3)**

26. Motion to go into closed Session
Discussion
Motion to end closed Session
Action Item if necessary

Motion by Commissioner Jim Abbe, seconded by Commissioner Greg Krueger to go into closed session at 5:46 pm. Ayes all.

Motion by Commissioner James Brady, seconded by Commissioner Jim Abbe to return to open session at 6:13 pm. Ayes all.

Upon returning to open session, County Attorney, Rob Jarrett, reported that the Board had authorized the County Attorney and County Administrator to pursue negotiations for the acquisition of real property. The specifics are non-public as the subject of the closed meeting allowed by Minn. Stat Sec. 13D.05.

Adjourn

Motion by Commissioner James Brady, seconded by Commissioner Jim Abbe to adjourn at the Call of the Chair at 6:14 p.m. Ayes all.

CHAIRMAN

ATTEST: _____
ADMINISTRATOR

Steele County



WARRANTS FOR PUBLICATION

Warrants Approved On 5/12/2026 For Payment 5/15/2026

<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
7 Rivers Recycling LLC	7,903.00
American Lung Association of MN	2,392.14
Applied Concepts Inc	7,046.00
Axon Enterprise Inc	24,167.66
Central Farm Services	5,032.33
CTI	51,653.08
DDA Human Resources Inc	3,656.00
Faribo Plumbing & Heating Inc	15,700.00
FBI - LEEDA	2,500.00
Hillyard - Hutchinson	2,022.02
Information Systems Corp	13,505.00
Kappy's Collision Center	5,582.73
Laerdal Medical Corp	7,050.06
Metropolitan Mechanical Contractors	2,442.99
Mike's Repair	2,562.71
Office of MN IT Services	2,585.32
Olympic Fire Protection Corp	4,736.00
Pro-West & Associates Inc	4,603.50
R & K Electric Inc	2,183.76
Short Elliott Hendrickson Inc	3,437.32
Stearns County Auditor - Treasurer	2,100.00
Steele County Soil & Water Conserv Dist	33,750.00
Superior Jetting Inc	9,936.25
Thompson Sanitation	77,412.20
Thomson Reuters - West	4,882.94
Tri-M Graphics	2,293.78
Versaterm Public Safety US Inc	2,289.80
WSB & Associates Inc	63,195.42
Ziegler, Inc	35,959.47
112 Payments less than 2000	37,798.60
Final Total:	440,380.08