



Meeker-McLeod-Sibley Community Health Board Meeting

Date: August 14, 2025

Meeting Location: McLeod County Government Center

Bergen Room

520 N Chandler Ave

Glencoe, Mn 55336

9:30am-12:00pm

1. Meeting called to order

2. Approval of Agenda (Action)

- a. Addition of July 1st Meeker County Board meeting discussion around exploration of structure.

3. Approval of the Consent Agenda Items (Action)

- a. May 2025 Minutes*
- b. June 2025 Executive Team Minutes*
- c. July 2025 Executive Team Minutes*
- d. May Expense Report*
- e. June Expense Report*
- f. July Expense Report*
- g. May Grant Summary Report*
- h. June Grant Summary Report*
- i. July Grant Summary Report*

4. Presentations

- a. CHA Update – Brett Nelson
- b. FPHR Update – Kiza Olson
- c. Addressing Diabetes – Mary Sakamoto

5. Administrative Items

- a. SCHSAC Report* – Commissioner Oberg
- b. LPHA Retreat 2025*
- c. Innovation Grant
- d. CHS Audit
- e. Meeker County Board Meeting July 1st, 2025

6. Other Agenda Items

- a. Administrator Update*
- b. Fiscal Update*
- c. County Updates (McLeod, Meeker, Sibley)
 - i. McLeod
 - ii. Meeker
 - iii. Sibley

The Meeker County Board of Commissioners met on July 1, 2025, at the Meeker County Government Center in the City of Litchfield, Minnesota. Call to order was at 8:31 a.m. by County Board Chair Paul Johnson.

Present: Commissioners – Beth Oberg, Cheryl VanOrt, Paul Johnson and Darren Sombke;
Administrator Andrew Letson and Administrative Coordinator Cori Heacock.

Absent: Commissioner Steve Schmitt and County Attorney Brandi Scheifelbein

Meeting opened with Pledge of Allegiance.

Board Chair Johnson called for public comments and there were none.

Motion by Oberg, second by VanOrt to approve the July 1, 2025, board agenda as presented.
Motion carried 4-0.

MN Extension Crops Educator Taylor Herbert introduced the 2025 Meeker County Farm Family of the Year to the Board: the Rick and Sarah Ahlgren Family from Darwin.

Motion by VanOrt, second by Sombke to approve the July 1, 2025, Consent Agenda to include the following:

- a. Approve June 17, 2025, Board Meeting Minutes
- b. Approve June 17/18, 2025, Board of Appeal and Equalization Minutes
- c. Approve Health and Human Services Accounts Payable as follows:

Human Services Fund	\$ 88,173.41
Human Services Agency	57.46

Approve County and Hospital Accounts Payable as follows:

General Revenue Fund	\$205,248.04
Road and Bridge Fund	22,842.46
County Parks Fund	1,047.57
Solid Waste Fund	5,357.63
Regional Library Fund	65,189.00
Family Services Bldg. Fund	2,677.48
Capital Projects Fund	573,740.99
Ditch Fund	855.00
Septic System Loan Fund	23,878.38
County Hospital Fund	663,978.26
- d. Approve Temporary Liquor Licenses for American Legion and Three Sons Seltzer
- e. Approve Fee Increase for Well Disclosures

Motion carried 4-0.

Meeker Memorial Hospital Chief Executive Officer Mary Ellen Wells and Chief Financial Officer Tyler Ulseth presented hospital matters to the Board.

Motion by Oberg, second by VanOrt to adopt the following resolution establishing a temporary no-wake zone on designated lakes:

WHEREAS, the Meeker County Board of Commissioners have the authority to establish rules to the use of watercraft on waters, under MN Rules Part 6110.3700 subp. 9.; and

WHEREAS, with recent rainfall the County Board wants to take any safety and precautionary steps to ensure public safety and protect shoreline; and

WHEREAS, a No Wake restriction will go into effect within 300-feet from shore for the following Meeker County bodies of water; Big Swan Lake, Lake Arvilla, Lake Erie, Lake Minnie Belle, Lake Manuela, Star Lake or any other lake that is at or above the lake's ordinary high-water level during the effective dates of this resolution, in response to current conditions; and
WHEREAS, the No Wake Zone shall be effective Tuesday, July 1, 2025, until midnight July 30, 2025 or when the water body has been 0.1 feet below the elevation that triggers the Slow-No Wake Restriction for three (3) consecutive days, whichever occurs first; and
WHEREAS, increased boating activity has raised concerns regarding shoreline erosion, public safety, and environmental impact; and
WHEREAS, the enforcement of these restrictions aims to protect property, maintain water quality, and ensure safe recreational use for residents and visitors; and
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Meeker County hereby establishes the Temporary No Wake Zone to mitigate potential hazards and preserve the integrity of our waterways.
Roll Call Vote: Commissioners Oberg, VanOrt, Sombke and Johnson voting "yes."
Motion carried 4-0. Resolution declared adopted. 2025-07.

Motion by VanOrt, second by Sombke to approve an Engineering Services Agreement with Erickson Engineering of Eden Prairie, MN, for an estimated cost of \$149,024 for design and construction engineering services related to the replacement of existing Bridge number 47504.
Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Oberg, second by Sombke to approve the following resolution announcing the County's intent to explore alternative governance structures to perform the duties of the Community Health Board as outlined in MN Statute 145A:

WHEREAS, Meeker County is currently part of the Meeker-McLeod-Sibley Community Health Board (MMS CHB) under a Joint Powers Agreement originally established in 1990; and
WHEREAS, the MMS CHB has expressed its intention to examine the current governance structure, which may include transitioning from a delegated model to a fully integrated model of governance; and
WHEREAS, the Meeker County Board of Commissioners is concerned that such a change may disrupt the current service delivery system and agency integration recently achieved through the merge of the Public Health and Social Services departments into a combined Health and Human Services Department; and
WHEREAS, alternative governance structures and partnership opportunities exist and merit exploration;
WHEREAS, the Meeker County Board of Commissioners desires to inform its partner counties in the MMS CHB of its intent to explore alternative governance structure and partnership opportunities;
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Meeker County hereby formally announces their intention to explore alternative governance structure opportunities and models to perform the duties of the community health board as directed by MN. Statute 145A.
Roll Call Vote: Commissioners Sombke, VanOrt, Oberg and Johnson voting "yes."
Motion carried 4-0. Resolution declared adopted. 2025-08.

Health and Human Services Director Tina Schenk and Supervisor Melissa Stonelake presented the annual report to the Board regarding MnChoices and the Over 65 Waiver/Alternative Care programs.

Motion by VanOrt, second by Oberg to approve the appointment of Heather Lemieux as the Finance Director at a wage of \$57.21 per hour, effective July 10, 2025.
Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Sombke, second by VanOrt to set a public hearing during the regular meeting on August 5, 2025, to consider an ordinance imposing slow-no wake watercraft restrictions on designated lakes. Motion carried 4-0.

Andrew Letson provided the Administrator's Report to the Board.

The Board provided committee reports.

Board Chair Johnson adjourned the County Board meeting at 10:12 a.m. The next regular meeting of the County Board is Tuesday, July 15, 2025, at 8:30 a.m. in the County Board Room, Level 2, Meeker County Government Center at 114 N Holcombe Avenue, Litchfield.

Respectfully submitted: Cori Heacock, Administrative Coordinator

Chair of County Board

Attest: _____
Clerk of County Board



REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

DATE REFERRED TO BOARD: July 1, 2025

ESTIMATED TIME: 5 min.

ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: Health and Human Services

SUBJECT: Approval of a Resolution Announcing the County's Intent to Explore Alternative Governance Structures to Perform the Duties of the Community Health Board

SUMMARY AND BACKGROUND:

The County is currently a member of the Meeker-McLeod-Sibley Community Health Board (MMS CHB), which is a joint powers entity that performs that statutorily mandated duties outlined in MN Statute 145A. The County has been a member of the MMS CHB since 1990.

On January 1, 2024, the County's Public Health and Social Services Departments were merged into the Health and Human Services Department after multiple years of planning and preparation. Goals of this merge included improving service delivery for clients, reducing deep-end costs through collaborative and proactive approaches, and administrative efficiencies. While the merge has been successful and there have been positive outcomes, there remains a need for continuous work to ensure the long-term goals are achieved.

Recently, the MMS CHB has accepted a grant to explore changes to its governance structure, including potentially integrating into a single agency.

At its Work Session on June 24, 2025, the County Board discussed the possibility integrating into a single agency and concerns surrounding local service delivery, a disruption to the recent HHS merge, and a reduction in local control over priorities and funding. The consensus of the Board was to bring forward a resolution at its Regular Meeting on July 1, 2025 that expresses its desire to move forward with exploring alternative governance structures and partnerships to meet the requirements outlined in MN Statute 145A.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

There is no direct cost at this time.

DOCUMENTS ATTACHED:

1. Proposed Resolution

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

Move to approve a resolution announcing the County's intent to explore alternative governance structures to perform the duties of the Community Health Board as outlined in MN Statute 145A.

**RESOLUTION OF THE MEEKER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO
ANNOUNCE THE EXPLORATION OF ALTERNATIVE GOVERNANCE
STRUCTURES TO PREFORM THE DUTIES OF THE COMMUNITY HEALTH
BOARD AS DIRECTED BY MN. STATUTE 145A.
RESOLUTION 2025-08**

WHEREAS, Meeker County is currently part of the Meeker-McLeod-Sibley Community Health Board (MMS CHB) under a Joint Powers Agreement originally established in 1990; and

WHEREAS, the MMS CHB has expressed its intention to examine the current governance structure, which may include transitioning from a delegated model to a fully integrated model of governance; and

WHEREAS, the Meeker County Board of Commissioners is concerned that such a change may disrupt the current service delivery system and agency integration recently achieved through the merge of the Public Health and Social Services departments into a combined Health and Human Services Department; and

WHEREAS, alternative governance structures and partnership opportunities exist and merit exploration;

WHEREAS, the Meeker County Board of Commissioners desires to inform its partner counties in the MMS CHB of its intent to explore alternative governance structure and partnership opportunities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Meeker County hereby formally announces their intention to explore alternative governance structure opportunities and models to perform the duties of the community health board as directed by MN. Statute 145A.

WHEREUPON, the above resolution was passed and adopted by the Meeker County Board of Commissioners on this 1st day of July, 2025.

SIGNATURE PAGE TO FOLLOW

By: _____
Paul Johnson, Meeker County Board Chair

Attest: _____
Andrew Letson, County Board Clerk

STATE OF MINNESOTA

MEEKER COUNTY

I, Andrew Letson, do hereby certify that I am the custodian of the minutes of all proceedings had and held by the Board of Commissioners of said Meeker County, that I have compared the above resolution with the original passed and adopted by the Board of Commissioners of said Meeker County at a regular meeting thereof held on the 1st day of July, 2025, at 8:30 AM, that the above constitutes a true and correct copy thereof, that the same has not been amended or rescinded and is in full force and effect.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto placed my hand and signature this 1st day of July, 2025, and have hereunto affixed the seal of the County.

County Board Clerk

SEAL