



Board of Commissioners Agenda

15 West Kellogg Blvd.
Saint Paul, MN 55102
651-266-9200

January 20, 2026 - 9 a.m.

Council Chambers - Courthouse Room 300

ROLL CALL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

1. **Agenda of January 20, 2026 is Presented for Approval** [2026-033](#)

Sponsors: County Manager's Office

Approve the agenda of January 20, 2026.

2. **Minutes from January 13, 2026 are Presented for Approval** [2026-034](#)

Sponsors: County Manager's Office

Approve the January 13, 2026 Minutes.

PRESENTATION OF AWARD

3. **Presentation: Ramsey County Employee Achievement Award: Shannon Stewart, Naturalist** [2025-541](#)

Sponsors: Human Resources, Parks & Recreation

None. For information and discussion only.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

4. **Ramsey County's Vision, Mission, and Goals** [2025-560](#)

Sponsors: Policy & Planning

Reaffirm Ramsey County's Vision, Mission, and Goals as follows:

Vision: A vibrant community where all are valued and thrive.

Mission: A county of excellence working with you to enhance our quality of life.

Goals:

1. Well Being: Strengthen individual, family, and community health, safety, and well-being.
2. Prosperity: Cultivate economic prosperity and invest in neighborhoods with concentrated financial poverty.

3. Opportunity: Enhance access to opportunity and mobility for all residents and businesses.
4. Accountability: Model fiscal accountability, transparency and strategic investments.

5. Allocation of Grant Funds from the Minnesota Department of Public Safety towards the Acquisition of Youth Healing and Treatment Homes [2025-546](#)

Sponsors: Health and Wellness, Safety and Justice

1. Approve the allocation of Minnesota Department of Public Safety grant funds toward the acquisition of Youth Healing and Treatment Homes in the amount of \$1,950,000.
2. Authorize the County Manager to enter into the necessary loan or other agreements and execute amendments to loan or other agreements in a manner consistent with local regulations and requirements, in a form approved by the County Attorney's Office.

COUNTY CONNECTIONS

OUTSIDE BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

BOARD CHAIR UPDATE

ADJOURNMENT

Following County Board Meeting:

Closed Meeting *Closed to the Public*

Re: Federal Operation Updates

Courthouse Room 220, Large Conference Room

10:30 a.m. (est.)

Closed Meeting *Closed to the Public*

Re: Randle Matter

Courthouse Room 220, Large Conference Room

1:30 p.m.

Advance Notice:

January 27, 2026 County board meeting – Council Chambers

February 3, 2026 County board meeting – Council Chambers

February 10, 2026 County board meeting – Council Chambers

February 17, 2026 County board meeting – Council Chambers



Board of Commissioners

Request for Board Action

15 West Kellogg Blvd.
Saint Paul, MN 55102
651-266-9200

Item Number: 2026-033

Meeting Date: 1/20/2026

Sponsor: County Manager's Office

Title

Agenda of January 20, 2026 is Presented for Approval

Recommendation

Approve the agenda of January 20, 2026.



Board of Commissioners

Request for Board Action

15 West Kellogg Blvd.
Saint Paul, MN 55102
651-266-9200

Item Number: 2026-034

Meeting Date: 1/20/2026

Sponsor: County Manager's Office

Title

Minutes from January 13, 2026 are Presented for Approval

Recommendation

Approve the January 13, 2026 Minutes.

Attachments

1. January 13, 2026 Minutes

Board of Commissioners Minutes

January 13, 2026 - 9 a.m.

Council Chambers - Courthouse Room 300

The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 9:03 a.m. with the following members present: Jebens-Singh, McGuire, Miller, Moran, Xiong and Chair Ortega. Commissioner McMurtrey was late and arrived at 9:05 a.m during the Land Acknowledgement . Also present were Ling Becker, County Manager, and Jada Lewis, Civil Division Director, Ramsey County Attorney's Office.

ROLL CALL

Present: Jebens-Singh, McGuire, McMurtrey, Miller, Moran, Ortega, and Xiong

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Presented by Commissioner Xiong.

1. Agenda of January 13, 2026 is Presented for Approval [2026-026](#)

Sponsors: County Manager's Office

Approve the agenda of January 13, 2026.

Motion by Miller, seconded by McGuire. Motion passed.

Aye: Jebens-Singh, McGuire, McMurtrey, Miller, Moran, Ortega, and Xiong

2. Minutes from January 6, 2026 are Presented for Approval [2026-027](#)

Sponsors: County Manager's Office

Approve the January 6, 2026 Minutes.

Motion by Jebens-Singh, seconded by Miller. Motion passed.

Aye: Jebens-Singh, McGuire, McMurtrey, Miller, Moran, Ortega, and Xiong

PRESENTATION

3. Presentation: Ramsey County Employee Achievement Award: Julie Erding, Library Assistant [2025-543](#)

Sponsors: Human Resources

None. For information and discussion only.

Presented by Commissioner McGuire. Discussion can be found on archived video.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

4. Appointment to the Ramsey County Library Advisory Board [2025-555](#)

Sponsors: Library

Appoint the following individual to the Ramsey County Library Advisory Board for a three-year term beginning January 13, 2026 through December 31, 2028.

1. Megan Jacoby

Motion by Xiong, seconded by Miller. Motion passed.

Aye: Jebens-Singh, McGuire, McMurtrey, Miller, Moran, Ortega, and Xiong

Resolution: B2026-010

5. Agreement with Bituminous Roadways, Inc. for the Roseville and Maplewood Libraries Mill and Overlay Project [2025-549](#)

Sponsors: Property Management

1. Approve the selection of and agreement with Bituminous Roadways, Inc., 1520 Commerce Drive, Mendota Heights, MN 55120, for the Roseville and Maplewood Libraries Mill and Overlay project, for the period of January 13, 2026 through December 31, 2026, in the not-to-exceed amount of \$268,275.
2. Authorize the Chair and Chief Clerk to execute the agreement.
3. Authorize the County Manager to execute amendments to the agreement in accordance with the county's procurement policies and procedures, provided the amounts are within the limits of available funding.

Motion by Xiong, seconded by Miller. Motion passed.

Aye: Jebens-Singh, McGuire, McMurtrey, Miller, Moran, Ortega, and Xiong

Resolution: B2026-011

6. Allocation of State Affordable Housing Aid for Housing Development Projects by Emerging and Diverse Developers. [2025-552](#)

Sponsors: Community & Economic Development

1. Approve the recommended projects and funding amounts for housing development projects selected in the 2025 Emerging and Diverse Developers Solicitation.
2. Authorize the County Manager to enter into the necessary loan or other agreements and execute amendments to loan or other agreements in a manner consistent with local regulations and requirements, in a form approved by the County Attorney's Office.

Motion by Xiong, seconded by Miller. Motion passed.

Aye: Jebens-Singh, McGuire, McMurtrey, Miller, Moran, Ortega, and Xiong

Resolution: B2026-012

8. Lease Agreement with Tiger Investments, LLC for 546 Rice Street, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55103 [2025-538](#)

Sponsors: Sheriff's Office, Property Management

1. Approve the lease agreement with Tiger Investments, LLC for the use of the building located at 546 Rice Street, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55103, upon execution through December 31, 2028, with the option to renew for one additional 12-month term.
2. Authorize the Chair and Chief Clerk to execute the lease agreement.
3. Authorize the County Manager to execute amendments that do not have a financial impact.

Motion by Xiong, seconded by Miller. Motion passed.

Aye: Jebens-Singh, McGuire, McMurtrey, Miller, Moran, Ortega, and Xiong

Resolution: B2026-013

7. Grant Awards from the Metropolitan Council for Legacy Amendment Parks and Trails Fund Projects

[2025-550](#)

Sponsors: Parks & Recreation

1. Ratify the submittal of the grant application to the Metropolitan Council for Parks and Trails Legacy Amendment funding for regional park projects for State Fiscal Year 2026.
2. Accept grant awards and approve grant agreements with the Metropolitan Council for Legacy Amendment Parks and Trails Fund projects for the periods of July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2029, in the total amounts of \$1,890,775 for State Fiscal Year 2026.
3. Authorize the Chair and Chief Clerk to execute the grant agreements.
4. Authorize the County Manager to enter into agreements for the use of grant funds and amendments to such agreements, provided the amounts are within the limits of the grant, in accordance with the county's procurement policies and procedures, and in a form approved by the County Attorney's Office.

Presented by Mark McCabe, Director, Parks and Recreation. Discussion can be found on archived video.

Motion by Miller, seconded by Xiong. Motion passed.

Aye: Jebens-Singh, McGuire, McMurtrey, Miller, Moran, Ortega, and Xiong

Resolution: B2026-014

9. Single Source Agreement with Children's HealthCare Corporation

[2025-544](#)

Sponsors: County Attorney's Office

1. Approve the selection of and single source agreement with Children's Healthcare Corporation, 2525 Chicago Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55404-1844, to provide individualized supportive services through its Midwest Children's Resource Center for the period of January 13, 2026, through March 31, 2030, in accordance with the rates established in the agreement.
2. Authorize the Chair and Chief Clerk to execute the agreement.

Presented by Samuel Clark, First Assistant County Attorney, Ramsey County Attorney's Office. Discussion can be found on archived video.

Motion by Moran, seconded by Miller. Motion passed.

Aye: Jebens-Singh, McGuire, McMurtrey, Miller, Moran, Ortega, and Xiong

Resolution: B2026-015

COUNTY CONNECTIONS

Presented by County Manager, Ling Becker. Discussion can be found on archived video.

OUTSIDE BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Discussion can be found on archived video.

BOARD CHAIR UPDATE

Presented by Chair Ortega. Discussion can be found on archived video.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Ortega declared the meeting adjourned at 11:16 a.m.

Board of Commissioners

Request for Board Action

Item Number: 2025-541

Meeting Date: 1/20/2026

Sponsor: Human Resources

Title

Presentation: Ramsey County Employee Achievement Award: Shannon Stewart, Naturalist

Recommendation

None. For information and discussion only.

Background and Rationale

[Employee achievement awards <https://ramseynet.us/job-information-training-benefits/employee-resources/employee-achievement-awards>](https://ramseynet.us/job-information-training-benefits/employee-resources/employee-achievement-awards) are presented to Ramsey County employees whose job performance, productivity and contributions to the goals of the county are exemplary.

Nominations for an Achievement Award are submitted to the Human Resources Liaison to the Achievement Award Selection Committee for consideration. Nominations may be made in one or more of the following categories:

- Excellent job performance.
- Community contributions or heroic measures.
- Personal growth despite adversity.
- Demonstrated cost savings or resource enhancement.
- Environmental management, waste reduction or recycling.
- County work environment contributions.
- Contribution to diversity, equity, an inclusion.

The Achievement Award Selection Committee consists of county employees who volunteer from various departments, research, reviews and makes final recommendations on the nominations.

The Achievement Award Selection Committee has approved the nomination of employee Shannon Stewart, Naturalist at Tamarack Nature Center, to be recognized with an Employee Achievement Award in the category of *Excellent Job Performance*.

Attachments

1.Memorandum for Achievement Award Notice to Shannon Stewart, Naturalist

Date January 20, 2026

To: Ramsey County Board of Commissioners
Cc: Ling Becker, County Manager
Patience Ferguson, Chief Human Resources Officer

From: Kenneth Cutler, Diversity, Inclusion & Organizational Development Specialist
HR Liaison to RC Achievement Award Committee

Subject: Achievement Award for Shannon Stewart, Ramsey County Parks and Recreation

The Ramsey County Employee Achievement Award Selection Committee has selected the following individual to receive an Achievement Award. This is to advise you that in accordance with County Board Resolutions, **Shannon Stewart, Ramsey County Parks and Recreation**, will receive an Employee Achievement Award. Presentation of the award will be made at the January 20th, 2026, meeting of the County Board.

Nomination Summary

Shannon Stewart, a naturalist at Tamarack Nature Center, has been approved by the Ramsey County Achievement Award Selection Committee for an Employee Achievement Award in the category of "Excellent Job Performance."

Stewart has been a naturalist at Tamarack Nature Center for 29 years. In that time, she has put her loving touch on every part of it.

She has consistently displayed a willingness to step up and do whatever is needed, think outside the box and connect kids with nature.

When Tamarack was without a lead garden coordinator, Stewart stepped up. She ran the garden, leading volunteers and two staff garden assistants in growing a garden and orchard for education.

When Tamarack needed a preschool teacher for its nature preschool, Stewart stepped up once again, doing out of her way to coordinate a visit from a special guest, a sheep who taught the preschool students about wool and where the stuff to make their clothes comes from.

Stewart also leads the maple syrup operations at Tamarack, where she worked to design and build a new sugar shack for producing maple syrup.

In Summary, the Achievement Award Selection Committee recommends that Shannon Stewart be awarded an Employee Achievement Award in the category of "Excellent Job Performance."

CC: Ling Becker; Patience Ferguson

Board of Commissioners

Request for Board Action

Item Number: 2025-560

Meeting Date: 1/20/2026

Sponsor: Policy & Administrative Strategy

Title

Ramsey County's Vision, Mission, and Goals

Recommendation

Reaffirm Ramsey County's Vision, Mission, and Goals as follows:

Vision: A vibrant community where all are valued and thrive.

Mission: A county of excellence working with you to enhance our quality of life.

Goals:

1. Well Being: Strengthen individual, family, and community health, safety, and well-being.
2. Prosperity: Cultivate economic prosperity and invest in neighborhoods with concentrated financial poverty.
3. Opportunity: Enhance access to opportunity and mobility for all residents and businesses.
4. Accountability: Model fiscal accountability, transparency and strategic investments.

Background and Rationale

On August 12, 2025, the Ramsey County Board reviewed the county's vision, mission and goals. The vision, mission and goals provide the strategic direction that aligns staff, departments and service teams to better serve Ramsey County's residents and businesses.

The vision, mission and goals are intended to be long-term statements that will last through several budget cycles with minimal adjustments. As in the past, the vision, mission and goals will be effective as soon as they are reaffirmed by the Ramsey County Board and will be used by the County Manager, service teams and departments during the preparation of the 2027 supplemental budget.

County Goals (Check those advanced by Action)

☒ Well-being ☒ Prosperity ☒ Opportunity ☒ Accountability

Racial Equity Impact

Ramsey County is one of the most racially and ethnically diverse counties in the state of Minnesota, with nearly 32% of residents being people of color. Words matter, and racial equity is fundamental to the realization of the vision, mission and goals for all residents and a required component in Ramsey County's strategic plan and budget process, which the county uses to achieve its vision of a vibrant community where all are valued and thrive. The Ramsey County Board's ongoing support of racial equity in the county budget provides capacity building, continuous improvements, and investments in Ramsey County's core values of People, Integrity, Community, Leadership, and Equity.

Community Participation Level and Impact

The vision, mission and goals drive all of Ramsey County's community engagement efforts. To strengthen well

-being, cultivate economic prosperity, enhance access to opportunity, and model fiscal accountability, Ramsey County leaders and staff must continuously and consistently engage the county's communities in how the county achieves its goals.

☒ Inform ☒ Consult ☐ Involve ☐ Collaborate ☐ Empower

Fiscal Impact

There is no fiscal impact associated with this request.

Last Previous Action

On August 12, 2025, the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners reviewed the county's vision, mission, and goals.

On January 23, 2024, the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners reaffirmed the County's vision, mission, and goals (Resolution B2024-018).

Attachments

None.

Board of Commissioners

Request for Board Action

Item Number: 2025-546

Meeting Date: 1/20/2026

Sponsor: Health and Wellness & Safety and Justice

Title

Allocation of Grant Funds from the Minnesota Department of Public Safety towards the Acquisition of Youth Healing and Treatment Homes

Recommendation

1. Approve the allocation of Minnesota Department of Public Safety grant funds toward the acquisition of Youth Healing and Treatment Homes in the amount of \$1,950,000.
2. Authorize the County Manager to enter into the necessary loan or other agreements and execute amendments to loan or other agreements in a manner consistent with local regulations and requirements, in a form approved by the County Attorney's Office.

Background and Rationale

Ramsey County's youth justice reforms are rooted in nearly two decades of intentional system transformation focused on reducing detention, addressing racial disparities, and expanding community-based alternatives to out-of-home placement. These efforts culminated in a 2023 legislative appropriation to support the development of culturally specific, trauma-informed youth healing and treatment homes, informed by community engagement and statewide recommendations to create more individualized, community-centered systems of care.

Through cross-county and state collaboration, several bills were authored and passed with direct appropriations for Ramsey County. The focus of this Request for Board Action is an appropriation made in Laws 2023, Ch. 52, Public Safety Omnibus Bill, which states:

(h) Ramsey County Youth Treatment Homes Acquisition and Betterment

\$5,000,000 grant to Ramsey County to establish, with input from community stakeholders, including impacted youth and families, up to seven intensive trauma-informed therapeutic treatment homes in Ramsey County that are licensed by the Department of Human Services, that are culturally specific, that are community-based, and that can be secured. These residential spaces must provide intensive treatment and intentional healing for youth as ordered by the court as part of the disposition of a case in juvenile court.

Following the board's acceptance of the grant award in May 2024, the county conducted a structured solicitation in accordance with county procurement policies and procedures to identify qualified client services providers to partner with the county and capable of meeting programmatic, licensing, and community requirements to establish one or more youth treatment homes. Resulting client services agreements are currently under final negotiations and will be fully executed prior to the loan or other agreements being executed by the county.

Under these partnerships, in addition to the contracted amount specified in the client service agreements, this allocation of funding will facilitate full financing in the form of forgivable 10-year mortgages. The county's interests in each loan will be secured through execution of a Promissory Note and a recorded Mortgage. All

homes will be funded in compliance with applicable state and local regulations, using financing documents approved by the County Attorney's Office. The acquisition of each home will be subject to required contingencies prior to execution of the financing documents, including execution of the services agreements; approval of the Purchase Authorization by the county; completion and approval of county inspections; and receipt of provisional zoning approval prior to closing. Additionally, the county will continue working with the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) to build strong relationships and frameworks to support providers through the licensing process, which can only occur after the purchase is complete.

By authorizing the County Manager to execute the necessary loan, financing, and related agreements, the county will be positioned to respond efficiently to identified housing opportunities. This authority will support timely investment in the identified need for treatment capacity rather than long-term property management, strengthen community-based provider infrastructure, and advance the county's goal of keeping youth closer to their families and communities while delivering intensive therapeutic services.

County Goals (Check those advanced by Action)

☒ Well-being ☒ Prosperity ☒ Opportunity ☒ Accountability

Racial Equity Impact

Financing the acquisition of healing and treatment homes directly aligns with and advances Ramsey County's long-term racial equity goals by addressing persistent and well-documented disparities in the youth justice system. Black, Indigenous, and other youth of color continue to be disproportionately represented among youth requiring court-ordered placement. This partnership and investment of the proposed home purchase for treatment services, informed by demographic data and priorities, supports a trauma-informed, culturally specific, community-based model of care that keeps youth closer to family, culture, and community supports. By shifting resources away from institutional settings and toward neighborhood-based healing and treatment homes, this action advances racial equity, strengthens community infrastructure, and contributes to more equitable outcomes for youth most impacted by system involvement.

Community Participation Level and Impact

Through the solicitation process referenced above, the importance of culturally responsive care, individualized treatment, strong family and community connections, and healing-centered environments was emphasized. These insights directly informed the planning, program design, and site selection for the proposed healing and treatment home. Program owners and service providers will help ensure that operations remain aligned with community-identified priorities, demonstrating meaningful participation and reinforcing a community-informed, culturally responsive approach for the long-term.

☒ Inform ☒ Consult ☒ Involve ☒ Collaborate ☒ Empower

Fiscal Impact

The resulting agreements and corresponding financing are supported entirely by state-allocated grant funds awarded to the county. There is no county tax levy included in this request. Sustainability of the services provided will be supported through a combination of revenue sources, including Title IV-E, potential utilization of county beds by regional partners, and the shifting of funds to this service area from other Social Services hospital and placement costs. In addition, future efforts will be made to pursue grant opportunities, nontraditional funding sources, and state support, as well as to seek enhanced per diem rates and explore legislative options.

Last Previous Action

On August 12, 2025 the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hosted a board workshop to discuss the planning and implementation of treatment homes.

On July 23, 2024, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approved the amendment to the grant

agreement with Minnesota Department of Public Safety for Therapeutic Youth Treatment Homes (Resolution B2024-144).

On May 7, 2024 the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approved the award of Therapeutic Youth Treatment Homes grant (Resolution B2024-078).

Attachments

None.