



Board of Commissioners

Agenda

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

July 28, 2026 - 9 a.m.

Council Chambers - Courthouse Room 300

ROLL CALL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

1. **Agenda of July 28, 2026 is Presented for Approval** [2026-270](#)

Sponsors: County Manager's Office

Approve the agenda of July 28, 2026.

2. **Minutes from July 14, 2026 are Presented for Approval** [2026-271](#)

Sponsors: County Manager's Office

Approve the July 14, 2026 Minutes.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

3. **Appointments to the Workforce Innovation Board of Ramsey County** [2026-257](#)

Sponsors: Workforce Solutions

Appoint the following individuals to serve on the Workforce Innovation Board of Ramsey County for a term beginning on August 1, 2026 and ending on July 31, 2028:

- Tami Cybulski (incumbent) Business
- Ethel Garcia (incumbent) Business
- Jennifer Germain (incumbent) One-Stop Partner
- Fidelity Goodlaxson (incumbent) Community-Based Organization
- John Perlich (incumbent) Business

4. **Ramsey County 2026 Cooperative Deer Management Plan** [2026-255](#)

Sponsors: Parks & Recreation

Approve the Ramsey County Cooperative Deer Management Plan for 2026.

5. **Acceptance of Operations and Maintenance Funding from Metropolitan Council** [2026-254](#)

Sponsors: Parks & Recreation

1. Authorize the County Manager to accept Operations and Maintenance funds each year from the Metropolitan Council.
2. Authorize the County Manager to use the Regional Rehabilitation project currently in the Parks and Recreation department to budget for all Operations and Maintenance funding moving forward.

6. Staffing Study Recommendations for the Adult Detention Center and Request for Personnel Complement Increase

[2026-262](#)

Sponsors: Sheriff's Office, Safety and Justice

1. Approve an increase in the personnel complement of the Adult Detention Center of the Sheriff's Office by 23.0 Full-Time Equivalent Correctional Officers.
2. Approve an increase in the personnel complement of the Adult Detention Center of the Sheriff's Office by 1.0 Full-Time Equivalent Community Service Officer.
3. Approve an increase in the personnel complement of the Adult Detention Center of the Sheriff's Office by 8.0 Full-Time Equivalent Unfunded Correctional Officers.
4. Authorize the County Manager to transfer up to \$1 million from the General Contingency Account to the Sheriff's Office 2026 operating budget for the Adult Detention Center.

COUNTY CONNECTIONS

OUTSIDE BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

BOARD CHAIR UPDATE

ADJOURNMENT

Following County Board Meeting:

Board Workshop: Committee of the Whole - Workforce Forward: The Evolution of Talent Attraction, Retention, and Promotional

Courthouse Room 220, Large Conference Room

Public access via Zoom:

Webinar ID: 923 9869 6921 | Passcode: 518162 | Phone: 651-372-8299

10:30 a.m. (est.)

Board Workshop: Community Health Improvement Plan and Community Health Assessment

Courthouse Room 220, Large Conference Room

Public access via Zoom:

Webinar ID: 923 9869 6921 | Passcode: 518162 | Phone: 651-372-8299

1:30 p.m.

Advance Notice:

August 04, 2026 County board meeting – Council Chambers

August 11, 2026 County board meeting – Council Chambers

August 18, 2026 County board meeting – Council Chambers

August 25, 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: 2026-270

Meeting Date: 7/28/2026

Sponsor: County Manager's Office

Title

Agenda of July 28, 2026 is Presented for Approval

Recommendation

Approve the agenda of July 28, 2026.



Board of Commissioners

Request for Board Action

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

Item Number: 2026-271

Meeting Date: 7/28/2026

Sponsor: County Manager's Office

Title

Minutes from July 14, 2026 are Presented for Approval

Recommendation

Approve the July 14, 2026 Minutes.

Attachments

1. July 14, 2026 Minutes.

Board of Commissioners Minutes

July 14, 2026 - 9 a.m.

Council Chambers - Courthouse Room 300

The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 9:01 a.m. with the following members present: Jebens-Singh, McGuire, McMurtrey, Miller, Moran, Xiong and Chair Ortega. 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 July 14, 2026 is Presented for Approval [2026-249](#)

Sponsors: County Manager's Office

Approve the agenda of July 14, 2026.

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

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

2. Minutes from July 07, 2026 are Presented for Approval [2026-250](#)

Sponsors: County Manager's Office

Approve the July 07, 2026 Minutes.

Motion by Xiong, seconded by Miller. Motion passed.

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

PROCLAMATION

3. Proclamation: Pretrial, Probation and Parole Supervision Week [2026-246](#)

Sponsors: Community Corrections

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

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

4. Grant Agreement with the State of Minnesota Department of Health for the Ramsey County Medical Examiner's Office to Improve and Increase Illicit Drug Toxicology Testing and Surveillance [2026-256](#)

Sponsors: Medical Examiner

1. Accept a grant award and approve a grant agreement with the Minnesota Department of Health to improve and increase illicit drug toxicology testing and surveillance from July 14, 2026, through August 31, 2028, in the amount of \$125,000.
2. Authorize the Chair and the Chief Clerk to execute the grant agreement.
3. Authorize the County Manager to enter into agreements and execute amendments to the agreement in accordance with the county's procurement policies and procedures, provide the amounts are within the limits of available funding.
4. Authorize the County Manager to establish a grant budget account in the Medical Examiner's Office to account for this grant funding.

Motion by Xiong, seconded by Miller. Motion passed.

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

Resolution: B2026-087

6. Proposed Changes and Additions to Public Health Fees

[2026-265](#)

Sponsors: Public Health

Approve proposed additions and a change to Public Health fees for client telehealth services and one vaccine fee.

Motion by Xiong, seconded by Miller. Motion passed.

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

Resolution: B2026-088

8. Joint Powers Agreement with the State of Minnesota, Department of Public Safety, Bureau of Criminal Apprehension to Utilize the Minnesota Criminal Justice Data Communications Network

[2026-259](#)

Sponsors: Sheriff's Office

1. Approve the joint powers agreement with the State of Minnesota, Department of Public Safety, Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, 1430 Maryland Avenue, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55106 to utilize the Minnesota Criminal Justice Data Communications Network for the period upon execution through five years from the fully executed agreement in the amount of \$261,600.
2. Approve the Court Data Services Subscriber Amendment with the State of Minnesota, Department of Public Safety, Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, 1430 Maryland Avenue, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55106 for court data subscriber services.
3. Authorize the Chair and Chief Clerk to execute the joint powers agreement.
4. Authorize the Chair and Chief Clerk to execute the Court Data Services Subscriber Amendment.

Motion by Xiong, seconded by Miller. Motion passed.

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

Resolution: B2026-089

9. Proposed Ramsey County Sheriff's Office Fee Schedule Update

[2026-238](#)

Sponsors: Sheriff's Office

Approve the proposed updated fee schedule changes for security services and civil process services.

Motion by Xiong, seconded by Miller. Motion passed.

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

Resolution: B2026-090

5. Amendment to Twin Cities Army Ammunition Plant Master Plan [2026-217](#)
- Sponsors: Community & Economic Development, Public Works
- Approve the amended Twin Cities Army Ammunition Plant Master Plan.
- Discussion can be found on archived video.
- Motion by Jebens-Singh, seconded by McGuire. Motion passed.
- Aye: Jebens-Singh, McGuire, McMurtrey, Miller, Moran, Ortega, and Xiong
- Resolution: [B2026-091](#)
7. Grant Agreements with the Minnesota Department of Public Safety for Community Crime Intervention and Prevention Programs [2026-041](#)
- Sponsors: Sheriff's Office
1. Ratify the submittal of the grant applications to the Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Office of Justice Programs, for Community Crime Intervention and Prevention Programs.
 2. Accept a grant award and approve a grant agreement with Minnesota Department of Public Safety for community-based programming for crime prevention services for communities most impacted by violence, for the period upon execution to December 31, 2027 in the amount of \$250,000.
 3. Accept a grant award and approve a grant agreement with Minnesota Department of Public Safety for community-based programming for crime prevention services, including community outreach, for the period upon execution to December 31, 2027 in the amount of \$425,000.
 4. Authorize the Chair and Chief Clerk to execute the grant agreements.
 5. Authorize the County Manager to enter into agreement and execute amendments to agreements in accordance with the county's procurement policies and procedures, provided the amounts are within the limits of the grant funds.
- Presented by Kyle Mestad, Undersheriff, Ramsey County Sheriff's Office, and Daryl Gullette, Inspector, Ramsey County Sheriff's Office. Discussion can be found on archived video.
- Motion by Xiong, seconded by Miller. Motion passed.
- Aye: Jebens-Singh, McGuire, McMurtrey, Miller, Moran, Ortega, and Xiong
- Resolution: [B2026-092](#)

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

No updates.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Ortega declared the meeting adjourned at 10:03 a.m.

CLOSED MEETING

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 13D.05, subdivision 3(b) in order to discuss elections. The Ramsey County Board met in a closed meeting, which was not open to the public.

In Re: Elections and Related Litigation

The Closed Meeting was called to order at 10:25 a.m.

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

Also present: Ling Becker, County Manager; Jada Lewis, Civil Division Director, Ramsey County Attorney's Office; Bradly Cousins, Assistant County Attorney; Alex Kotze, Deputy County Manager, County Operations Service Team; Maria Sarabia, Chief of Staff, County Manager's Office; Rose Lindsay, Director, Communications and Public Relations; Tracy West, Director, Property Tax, Records, and Elections Services; David Triplett, Deputy Director, Property Tax, Records, and Elections Services; and Jason Yang, Chief Clerk, County Manager's Office.

The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners resolved to:

Authorize the Ramsey County staff to proceed as discussed in this Closed Meeting.

Motioned by McMurtrey, seconded by Miller. Motion passed. (Resolution B2026-093).
Aye: 7 Nay: 0

The closed meeting was adjourned at 11:58 a.m.

Board of Commissioners

Request for Board Action

Item Number: 2026-257

Meeting Date: 7/28/2026

Sponsor: Workforce Solutions

Title

Appointments to the Workforce Innovation Board of Ramsey County

Recommendation

Appoint the following individuals to serve on the Workforce Innovation Board of Ramsey County for a term beginning on August 1, 2026 and ending on July 31, 2028:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| • Tami Cybulski (incumbent) | Business |
| • Ethel Garcia (incumbent) | Business |
| • Jennifer Germain (incumbent) | One-Stop Partner |
| • Fidelity Goodlaxson (incumbent) | Community-Based Organization |
| • John Perlich (incumbent) | Business |

Background and Rationale

Local workforce development boards are required entities under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to provide oversight for the public workforce system. The Workforce Innovation Board (WIB) serves as the local workforce development board for Ramsey County. The 33 WIB members represent business, community-based organizations (CBO), one-stop center partners, labor, economic development, education and elected officials. Eighteen of the members are appointed by the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners and 15 are appointed by the Mayor of Saint Paul for two-year terms. At the end of their terms, WIB members can seek reappointment by the appointing authorities.

The terms of six county appointed WIB members will expire on July 31, 2026, and five are seeking reappointment.

It is the practice of the WIB's Membership and Executive Committees to review appointments and make recommendations to the appointing bodies. At their meetings on May 20 and May 27 respectively, the Membership and Executive Committees voted to recommend to the county board that all five incumbents be reappointed for the term commencing August 1, 2026, and ending July 31, 2028.

On July 15, 2026, the applications were forwarded to the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners for review.

County Goals (Check those advanced by Action)

☒ Well-being ☒ Prosperity ☒ Opportunity ☒ Accountability

Racial Equity Impact

The WIB is committed to advancing racial equity; a commitment that starts from within by intentionality recruiting a diverse board reflective of the racial and ethnic makeup of the community. The WIB's Executive Committee routinely assesses vacancies and analyzes a dashboard that tracks members' race/ethnicity and other demographics to identify gaps and inform the WIB's recruitment strategies. Currently, 65% of WIB members identify as Caucasian, 26% as African American, 3% as Asian/Pacific Islander, and 6% as Native

American.

Although there has been improvement, the WIB acknowledges the need for further diversity among its members. Several strategies have been implemented to advance this priority. The WIB created a Membership Committee to focus on strategic recruitment and outreach efforts. Connections have been made with several local ethnic chambers to cultivate relationships and increase awareness of the WIB's work. The WIB Partnership and Outreach Committee developed a culturally inclusive partnership matrix which is being used to broaden the WIB's identity and reach when promoting membership opportunities.

Community Participation Level and Impact

The WIB harnesses the knowledge and expertise of its members, representing a wide variety of roles within the community, to collectively develop strategic solutions that address employer and job seeker needs. Broadening the pool of prospective members by leveraging community relationships is a key component of the WIB's recruitment strategy. Membership opportunities are promoted online through the WIB, county and city of Saint Paul websites and by WIB members through their networks. Although its membership criteria is legislatively mandated, the WIB seeks to bring additional community engagement to its work through participation on its committees and workgroups. The WIB Executive Committee reviews membership applications and makes recommendations to the county board. The WIB Chair appoints committee members.

The WIB is responsible for setting strategic direction and providing oversight for the public workforce system in Ramsey County. As a policy-making board, the WIB helps shape priorities for programs and services that support both job seekers and employers in our community. The WIB Policy and Oversight Committee advocates for legislation and policies that benefit our community and addresses local business and workforce needs. Additionally, the WIB engages with Ramsey County's Economic Competitiveness & Inclusion Vision Plan as the Workforce Development Working Group with the goal of ensuring an aligned workforce system that meets local industry needs. The WIB's strategic priorities and Ramsey County's goals of well-being, prosperity, opportunity and accountability are aligned. For more information on the WIB, please visit [ramseycounty.us/wib <https://www.ramseycountymn.gov/your-government/volunteer/advisory-boards-committees/workforce-innovation-board-ramsey-county/>](https://www.ramseycountymn.gov/your-government/volunteer/advisory-boards-committees/workforce-innovation-board-ramsey-county/).

☒ Inform ☒ Consult ☐ Involve ☐ Collaborate ☐ Empower

Fiscal Impact

Representatives on the WIB do not receive county compensation. They contribute their time and expertise to the county to provide guidance and oversight to county workforce policies and programs. Members may request reimbursement for mileage and parking expenses.

Last Previous Action

On April 14, 2026, the Ramsey County Board of Commissioner approved the appointment of Alex Merritt to the Workforce Innovation Board (Resolution B2026-044).

Attachments

1. County Appointment Checklist
2. WIB Member Roster

Nomination Checklist For County Appointments

Name	Category	Organization	Title	Lives in RC	Works in RC	Provides Services in RC	WIB Member Since
Tami Cybulski	Business	Blaze Credit Union	AVP Human Resources	No	Yes	Yes	2024
Ethel Garcia	Business	Innovize	VP of Human Resources	Yes	Yes	Yes	2024
Jennifer Germain	One-Stop Partner	DEED Vocational Rehabilitation	Area Manager	No	Yes	Yes	2018
Fidelity Goodlaxson	Community-Based Organization	Community Action Partnership of Ramsey & Washington Counties	Director, Financial Opportunity Programs	No	Yes	Yes	2024
John Perlich	Business	Saint Paul Area Chamber of Commerce	VP of Government Affairs	Yes	Yes	Yes	2022

Workforce Innovation Board of Ramsey County Member Roster

As of June 24, 2026

Member	Category	Current Term	Member Since
Ismail Ali	Business	8/1/2025 - 7/31/2027	2024
Sharon Blomgren	Education	12/2/2025 - 7/31/2027	2025
Tami Cybulski	Business	8/1/2024 - 7/31/2026	2024
Becky Degendorfer	Business	8/1/2025 - 7/31/2027	2020
Sara Garbe	One-Stop	8/1/2025 - 7/31/2027	2024
Ethel Garcia	Business	11/5/2024 - 7/31/2026	2024
Karen Gerdin	Education	8/1/2025 - 7/31/2027	2025
Jennifer Germain	One-Stop	8/1/2022 - 7/31/2026	2018
Fidelity Goodlaxson	Community-Based Organization	11/5/2024 - 7/31/2026	2024
Traci Leffner	Business	8/1/2025 - 7/31/2027	2025
Alex Merritt	Community-Based Organization	4/14/2026 - 7/31/2027	2024
Kelly Miller	Chief Local Elected Official	8/1/2025 - 7/31/2027	2025
Donald Mullin	Labor	8/1/2025 - 7/31/2027	2015
Koami Pedado	Business	8/1/2025 - 7/31/2027	2019
John Perlich	Business	8/1/2022 - 7/31/2026	2022
Aalayha Traub	Business	8/1/2025 - 7/31/2027	2023
Vacant	One-Stop	Vacant	Previously held by Lisa Guetzkow
Vacant (as of 8/1/2026)	Business	Vacant	Currently held by Elisa Rasmussen

Board of Commissioners

Request for Board Action

Item Number: 2026-255

Meeting Date: 7/28/2026

Sponsor: Parks & Recreation

Title

Ramsey County 2026 Cooperative Deer Management Plan

Recommendation

Approve the Ramsey County Cooperative Deer Management Plan for 2026.

Background and Rationale

On December 14, 1999, by Resolution 99-500, the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approved the Cooperative Deer Management Plan (Plan). The cities of Saint Paul, Maplewood, Little Canada, Vadnais Heights, Shoreview and White Bear Township are participants in the CDMP that involves the removal of deer on Ramsey County properties.

The Plan seeks to manage the deer populations in the county through the use of archery and/or sharp shooting, in cooperation with neighboring municipalities. Deer populations that exceed the social or carrying capacity of the land can be detrimental to the overall health of the herd and impact the public through increased car/deer collisions and through the spread of deer ticks that may carry Lyme disease.

Ramsey County sets population goals of 15-20 deer per square mile of deer habitat, as recommended by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. The deer population exceeds the overall goal of 15-20 per square mile of deer habitat in certain areas.

During the most recent survey, conducted in 2026, a total of 288 deer were observed within the survey boundaries. In the fall of 2025, 63 deer were harvested through the special archery hunts and an additional 28 deer were harvested through sharp-shooting.

Based on the 2026 Plan, the Parks and Recreation Department, in cooperation with the affected municipalities, proposes conducting special archery hunts during the regular archery season, to run from October 20 to December 14, 2025, on nine county sites. Participants for these hunts will be selected by the Metro Bowhunters Resource Base. It is anticipated that these special archery hunts will remove 51-74 deer. Sharpshooting is proposed in select areas with elevated populations. No areas meet these criteria at this time. County Parks and Recreation staff have worked with the United States Department of Agriculture and local Minnesota Department of Natural Resources conservation officers to donate all deer harvested through sharp shooting to those in need.

The Ramsey County Parks and Recreation Commission reviewed the 2026 Cooperative Deer Management Plan.

County Goals (Check those advanced by Action)

☒ Well-being

☐ Prosperity

☐ Opportunity

☐ Accountability

Racial Equity Impact

Deer density has prompted continued deer control in some of Ramsey County's most diverse communities, such as Battle Creek Regional Park. The removal will reduce herd stress, deer car collisions and potential for increased tick-borne illness within this area.

Community Participation Level and Impact

The Plan is a cooperative effort that involves the county and affected municipalities. In addition, the Ramsey County Parks and Recreation Commission, a citizen advisory group appointed by the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners, annually reviews and offers input to the plan.

Through participation with Metro Bowhunters Resource Base, a non- profit organization that collaborates with residents to keep deer herds at sustainable levels, residents are empowered to care for Ramsey County natural resources and collaborate with their neighbors to maintain healthy deer herds. Any deer harvested by sharp shooting is donated to families in need.

The Parks and Recreation department maintains past and current data from the implementation of each year's Plan on the Ramsey County Open Data portal bringing informative and data driven stories to residents.

<https://opendata.ramseycounty.us/stories/s/64f4-mkvq>

☒ Inform ☐ Consult ☐ Involve ☐ Collaborate ☐ Empower

Fiscal Impact

Costs to the county for this plan include staff time for the deer counts and coordination of the plan, rental of a helicopter for aerial counts and a contribution of up to \$5,000 towards the cost of the sharpshooter if this management tool is required. Funding for these costs is included in the 2026 operating budget of the Parks and Recreation Department.

Last Previous Action

On September 2, 2025, the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approved the 2025 Cooperative Deer Management Plan (Resolution B2025-163).

Attachments

1. 2026 Ramsey County Cooperative Deer Management Plan

Ramsey County Parks and Recreation Department 2026 Ramsey County Cooperative Deer Management Plan

The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners, in December of 1999, approved a deer population management plan. Since the approval of the plan, the Ramsey County Parks & Recreation department has implemented an annual deer management program, which includes population evaluations and management. Locations for deer management are set from aerial deer survey, hunter statistic and human-deer interaction data. Management tools can then be chosen to maintain or reduce deer numbers in these areas.

With guidelines provided from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources wildlife management department, the Ramsey County deer population goal is set at 15-20 deer per square mile of deer habitat. Management tools are implemented in areas that exceed this population goal or where the social carrying capacity (deer population level at which people can tolerate or accept the problems associated with a deer herd) is elevated. Deer herd populations that exceed the carrying or social capacity of the land can be detrimental to the overall health of the herd and impact the public through increased auto/deer collisions and the spread of deer ticks that may carry Lyme disease. The 2026 management program was reviewed by the Ramsey County Parks Commission members.

Aerial Deer Survey and Population Estimates

An aerial survey was completed in early 2026 in select areas. Minimal snowpack did not allow for a complete survey across the county. A 12-inch snowpack is ideal for being able to see the deer well. In areas that were surveyed, 296 deer were counted in March 2026, with good visibility. The last survey within these areas was conducted in 2023 under poor visibility conditions, which resulted in a total of 69 deer surveyed. (See Attachment 1 for the 2026 aerial survey map)

Annual Archery Program

Annual archery hunts are held at select Ramsey County operated park locations, in conjunction with neighboring municipalities to maintain or reduce the deer population. Several other agencies and municipalities are conducting or planning deer management programs within their jurisdiction, in addition to the management programs on county property. These include the Arden Hills Army Training Site, H.B. Fuller and the cities of Little Canada, Maplewood, North Oaks, Shoreview, Saint Paul and Roseville. The cities of Gem Lake, Vadnais Heights and White Bear Township still allow archery hunting on private property under certain city criteria.

The Ramsey County Parks & Recreation department, in cooperation with the associated municipalities, is proposing to conduct special archery hunts on 9 county properties in the fall of 2026. Ramsey County Parks, in coordination with Ramsey County Property Management, has expanded the Battle Creek Park hunt to include Boy's Totem Town for the fourth year. (See Attachment 2 – 2026 hunt information)

The program will be conducted using special archery hunts during the regular State of Minnesota archery season. Participants will be selected through the Metro Bowhunters Resource Base (MBRB), a non-profit organization who coordinates volunteer archers from the public. Hunts will be restricted to dates established by the Ramsey County Parks & Recreation department. Archers will be allowed to keep the deer shot during the regular season. These hunts are expected to remove approximately 51 - 74 deer. A total of 63 deer were harvested during the 2025 season. Attachment 3 includes the 2025 hunt summary and harvest statistics.

Sharp Shooting Program

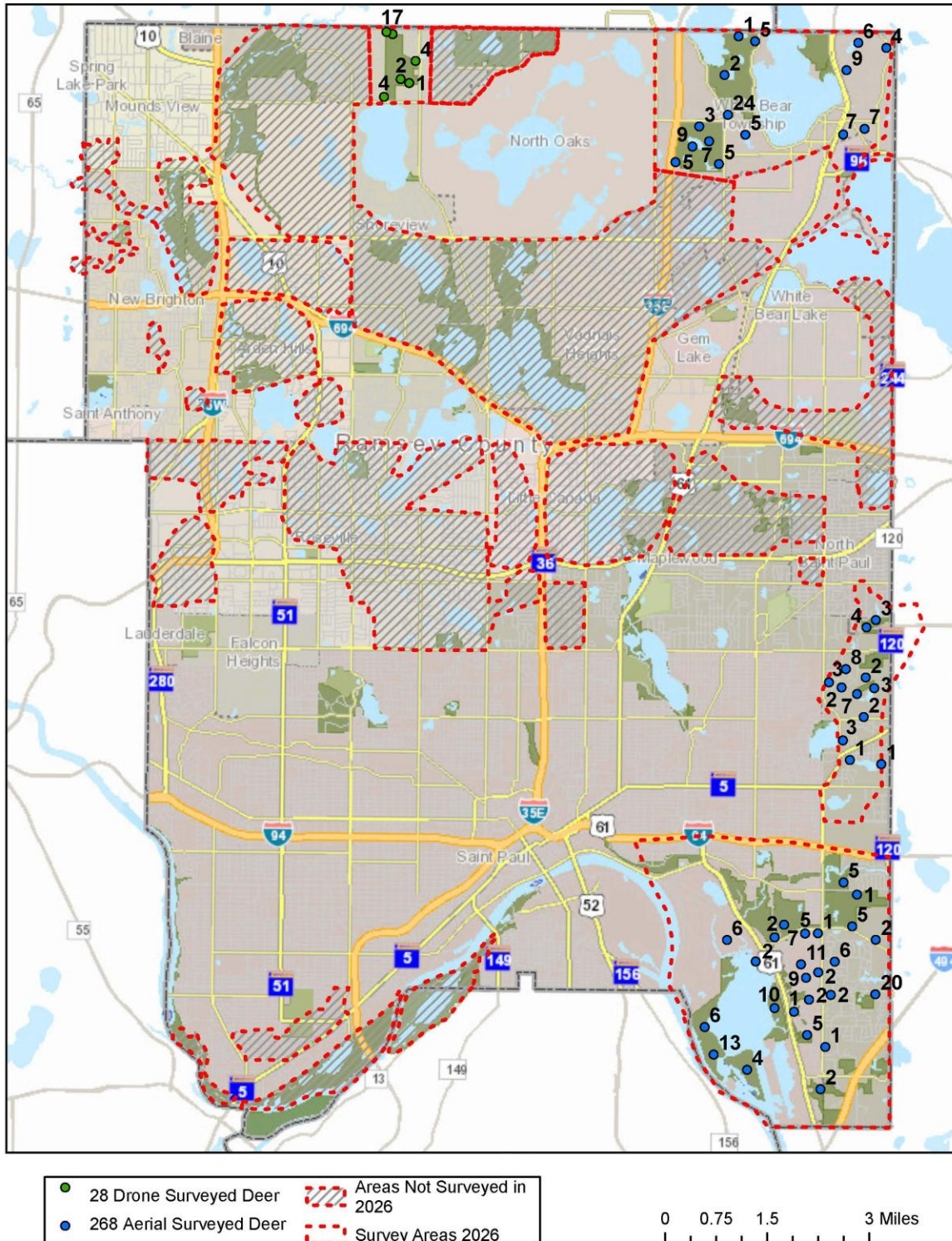
Firearm sharpshooting can be used to quickly reduce numbers to a safe level in areas where the deer herd has far exceeded the population goal. The Ramsey County Parks & Recreation department first used sharpshooting in 2005 as a deer reduction option in conjunction within the cities of Maplewood and St. Paul. In 2014, 2015, and 2016 the Ramsey County Parks & Recreation department aided the City of Maplewood with coordinating sharpshooting on city and county land in northern sections of Maplewood. Annually, since 2017, the City of Maplewood, City of Saint Paul and Ramsey County Parks & Recreation department coordinated with the United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service Wildlife Services for the removal of deer through sharp shooting within southeastern Ramsey County. The total deer removed through sharp shooting and general locations is listed in the table below:

Location	Location	City	2005	2014	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Highwood area	Highwood Ave area	St. Paul / Maplewood	200			64	33	22	14	50	20	30	29	28
Northern section of Maplewood	Larpenteur / Century area	Maplewood		120	75									
Annual total		Annual totals	200	120	75	64	33	22	14	50	20	30	29	28
		Permitted take / Goal	200	120	75	100	75	75	50	50	50	50	50	50

In 2025, 28 deer were removed, successfully reducing the deer population within the Highwood Ave area. The Ramsey County Parks & Recreation department, in cooperation with the affected municipalities, is proposing to allow sharpshooting on county land for the winter of 2026/2027 in select areas where the number of deer exceed the social or carrying capacity of the land, which is usually elevated at 3 to 10 times the population goal of 15-20 deer per square mile of deer habitat.

Attachment 1
2026 Aerial Deer Survey Map

Ramsey County Deer Survey 2026



Attachment 2

Ramsey County Parks and Recreation Department Ramsey County Cooperative Deer Management Archery Program (Fall 2026)*

Site	max # of hunters	expected harvest
(Fri-Sun)		
Otter Lake	9	4 - 8
Poplar Lake	8	4-8
Pig's Eye	18	8-10
Fish Creek	12	6-8
Turtle Creek	10	4-6
(Mon-Wed)		
Battle Creek & Boys Totem Town	15	7-10
Tamarack Nature Center	8	4 - 6
Vadnais	20	10-12
Rice Creek North Trail	7	4 - 6

* All sites will have two 3-day hunts during October, November or December.
They will be Fri-Sun or Mon-Wed.

Attachment 3

Ramsey County Parks and Recreation Department 2025 Special Archery Deer Hunt Summary

Archery Hunts

Ramsey County Parks and Recreation department's 26th annual special permit archery hunt, in conjunction with St. Paul, Maplewood, Little Canada, Vadnais Heights, Shoreview, and White Bear Township, was a safe and successful season. There were multiple 3-day hunts in October, November, and December within 7 Ramsey County sites.

A total of 63 deer were harvested in 2025, compared to 57 in 2024. The 2025 deer harvest included: 21 adult doe, 6 fawn doe, 28 adult bucks, and 8 fawn bucks (see attached table). The antlerless harvest rate was 56% in 2025, which was the same in 2024. The overall success rate for the special archery hunts was 70% in Ramsey County; state average for archery is 25%.

Minnesota Bowhunters Resource Base (MBRB) provided 90 archers, not including hunt coordinators. No safety problems were reported during any of the hunts. The second season of the Turtle Creek hunt was cancelled in 2025 due to inclement weather. Some park users continued to use the park trails during the hunts, even with "park closed" signage. This is an annual occurrence and archers have adapted to the potential of having park patrons in the hunt areas.

2025 HARVEST STATS

<i>Ramsey County Sites</i>	Adult Doe	Fawn Doe	Adult Buck	Fawn Buck	Site Total
Battle Creek	6	0	6	2	14
Vadnais Lake	2	2	8	3	15
Rice Creek	1	0	2	0	3
Poplar Lake	4	0	3	0	7
Fish Creek	4	0	3	0	7
Pig's Eye	4	4	6	3	17
Turtle Creek	0	0	0	0	0

<u>TOTALS</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>63</u>
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Board of Commissioners

Request for Board Action

Item Number: 2026-254

Meeting Date: 7/28/2026

Sponsor: Parks & Recreation

Title

Acceptance of Operations and Maintenance Funding from Metropolitan Council

Recommendation

1. Authorize the County Manager to accept Operations and Maintenance funds each year from the Metropolitan Council.
2. Authorize the County Manager to use the Regional Rehabilitation project currently in the Parks and Recreation department to budget for all Operations and Maintenance funding moving forward.

Background and Rationale

The State of Minnesota provides operations and maintenance funding to Ramsey County via the Metropolitan Council (Council). Ramsey County is one of the ten regional park implementing agencies in the Twin Cities metropolitan area. Through its Regional Parks and Trails grant programs, the Council allocates state and regional funds for the rehabilitation, modernization, development of facilities, as well as the operations of the regional parks and trails system within Ramsey County, including improvements to aging infrastructure, accessibility, and natural resource protection.

These investments help operate and preserve major recreational assets including the county's six regional parks and six regional trails, ensuring that facilities remain safe, sustainable, and accessible while supporting the long-term goals of the Metropolitan Regional Parks System. Funding is awarded through a partnership model in which Ramsey County owns and operates the parks and the Council provides financial support through state resources to maintain and enhance parks and trails that serve residents throughout the seven-county metropolitan area.

County Goals (Check those advanced by Action)

☒ Well-being ☒ Prosperity ☒ Opportunity ☐ Accountability

Racial Equity Impact

Although there is not a known racial equity impact for the action of setting up project accounts the individual projects will have equity impacts. Parks & Recreation will be bringing forward a variety of requests for approval of agreements associated with these projects and will detail out the equity impact by project at that time. All users of the parks and trails system benefit when facilities are adequately maintained and are enhanced.

Community Participation Level and Impact

Community engagement has taken place prior to this requested action which helped Parks & Recreation staff to develop a prioritized list of maintenance projects to pursue within the regional parks and trails system.

☒ Inform ☐ Consult ☐ Involve ☐ Collaborate ☐ Empower

Fiscal Impact

The requested action for the approval of project accounts does not have a direct fiscal impact on the operating budget. In 2025 Parks & Recreation received roughly \$978,000 in operations and maintenance funding

through the State's Lottery in Lieu of Sales tax fund. Parks & Recreation anticipate receiving a similar amount of funding in 2026 and beyond. In future years, budgets will be set up at the beginning of the Ramsey County fiscal year based on the total estimated revenue and revised accordingly based on actuals collected.

Last Previous Action

None.

Attachments

1. None.

Board of Commissioners

Request for Board Action

Item Number: 2026-262

Meeting Date: 12/22/2026

Sponsor: Sheriff's Office; Office of Safety and Justice

Title

Staffing Study Recommendations for the Adult Detention Center and Request for Personnel Complement Increase

Recommendation

1. Approve an increase in the personnel complement of the Adult Detention Center of the Sheriff's Office by 23.0 Full-Time Equivalent Correctional Officers.
2. Approve an increase in the personnel complement of the Adult Detention Center of the Sheriff's Office by 1.0 Full-Time Equivalent Community Service Officer.
3. Approve an increase in the personnel complement of the Adult Detention Center of the Sheriff's Office by 8.0 Full-Time Equivalent Unfunded Correctional Officers.
4. Authorize the County Manager to transfer up to \$1 million from the General Contingency Account to the Sheriff's Office 2026 operating budget for the Adult Detention Center.

Background and Rationale

In 2025, the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners allocated funds to the Office of Safety & Justice to conduct a comprehensive Staffing Study of the Sheriff's Office. The county engaged Matrix Consulting Group to complete the work. The assessment evaluated staffing levels, organizational structure, deployment practices, and overtime utilization of the Sheriff's Office. With the Staffing Study now complete, its findings and recommendations are being presented to the county board in phases, beginning with the Adult Detention Center (ADC).

The County Manager and Sheriff have identified that the ADC recommendations warrant priority because they address immediate operational needs, ongoing overtime issues, and compliance requirements. In total, the Staffing Study recommended adding a total of 33.0 Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) positions at the ADC, including Correctional Officers, supervisors, and managers.

The Sheriff's Office is seeking approval for the highest priority positions within the ADC recommendations, including: (1) 23.0 FTE Correctional Officers; (2) 1.0 FTE Community Service Officer; and (3) 8.0 unfunded FTEs Correctional Officers for a total cost in 2026 of \$1 million, including personnel and equipment costs such as body-worn cameras. The request includes unfunded FTEs to allow for flexibility to hire and stay ahead of attrition, reduce overtime costs, and ensure stable staffing models while staying within the budget.

This request aligns with the recommended 8-hour staffing model for the ADC and meets state required staffing levels, as set by the Minnesota Department of Corrections (DOC), without significant reliance on overtime.

The requested investment in ADC staffing will:

- Strengthen recruitment, retention, and long-term workforce sustainability.
- Support improved resident outcomes through more consistent supervision and service delivery.
- Improve the safety and security of residents, staff, and visitors.

- Reduce financial pressures by decreasing overtime expenditures.
- Lower operational risk and potential liability.

This investment, along with the Project Bridge partnership with Community Corrections, will significantly relieve pressures at ADC. Project Bridge started in April 2025 and was fully implemented by September 2025. From September through the first six months of 2026, the Correctional Facility has housed an average daily population of 59 residents from the ADC. As Project Bridge continues, a housing unit (pod) closure at the ADC may be achieved.

In 2025, the ADC incurred \$2,685,176 in overtime costs, accounting for approximately 65% of all Sheriff's Office overtime expenditures. Overtime costs in 2026 are projected to remain at similar levels. Adding permanent correctional staff will reduce reliance on overtime.

In addition to the reduction in overtime, the Sheriff has agreed to:

- Reduce overtime costs by approximately \$900,000 to \$1 million in the fourth quarter of 2026, with additional reductions anticipated in 2027 and beyond as staffing levels stabilize.
- Deactivate a housing unit (pod) at the ADC as quickly as possible.
- Meet regularly with the Audit Chair and county leadership to review overtime usage and overall personnel forecasts.

Approval of this request addresses the most critical staffing needs, supports compliance with state staffing requirements, enhances safety, reduces reliance on overtime, and provides better resident outcomes.

County Goals (Check those advanced by Action)

☒ Well-being

☒ Prosperity

☒ Opportunity

☒ Accountability

Racial Equity Impact

This action strengthens the quality of services provided to individuals who have become involved in the justice system. Nationally and locally, people from racially and ethnically diverse communities are disproportionately represented in the justice system. Many individuals involved in the justice system also have behavioral health concerns that require coordinated assessment, treatment, and support. The approval of this action provides staffing resources to strengthen services provided to residents, many of whom have been historically overrepresented in the justice system.

Community Participation Level and Impact

This is an administrative action. As a result, there was no community engagement with this board action.

☒ Inform

☐ Consult

☐ Involve

☐ Collaborate

☐ Empower

Fiscal Impact

The estimated cost associated with this action is \$1 million in 2026, including personnel and equipment costs (i.e., body cameras, etc.). Funding for the 32 FTEs in 2026 is being requested from the General Contingency Account, which has sufficient funding. In 2027, this action will be reflected in the supplemental budget as an addendum and considered as part of the supplemental budget process. This action will also help to reduce overtime costs, including an estimated \$900,000 to \$1 million in overtime savings during the fourth quarter of 2026. This reduction results in a smaller deficit in overtime costs.

Last Previous Action

On December 3, 2024, the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners were provided with an update regarding the Ramsey County Sheriff Operational Staffing Study Proposal.

Attachments

1. General Contingent Account Status Report

2026 STATUS OF GENERAL CONTINGENT ACCOUNT - 400101 471101

as of July 23, 2026

2026 APPROPRIATION

Total Approved **\$ 2,000,000**

LESS:	Date	Resolution Number
TRANSFERS APPROVED BY COUNTY BOARD TO DATE:		

None \$ -

Total Approved to date -----> **\$ -**

BALANCE AVAILABLE -----> **\$ 2,000,000**

LESS:
TRANSFERS PENDING COUNTY BOARD ACTION:

Staffing Study Recommendations for the Adult Detention Center and Request for Personnel Complement Increase	7/28/2026	TBD	\$ 1,000,000
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Total Pending County Board Action -----> **\$ 1,000,000**

BALANCE UNENCUMBERED -----> **\$ 1,000,000**