

Board of Commissioners Minutes

November 4, 2025 - 9 a.m.

Council Chambers - Courthouse Room 300

The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 9:02 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 Moran.

1. Agenda of November 4, 2025 is Presented for Approval [2025-447](#)

Sponsors: County Manager's Office

Approve the agenda of November 4, 2025.

Motion by Miller, seconded by Xiong. Motion passed.

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

2. Minutes from October 21, 2025 are Presented for Approval [2025-448](#)

Sponsors: County Manager's Office

Approve the October 21, 2025 Minutes.

Motion by McGuire, seconded by Miller. Motion passed.

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

PROCLAMATION

3. Proclamation: Native American Heritage Month [2025-440](#)

Sponsors: Policy & Planning

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

ORDINANCE PROCEDURES

4. 2026 Capital Improvement Program Bond Ordinance - Waive Second Reading and Hold Public Hearing [2025-332](#)

Sponsors: Finance

1. Waive the second reading of the proposed 2026 Capital Improvement Program Bond Ordinance.
2. Hold the public hearing for the proposed 2026 Capital Improvement Program Bond Ordinance.

Chair Ortega opened the public hearing at 9:20 a.m. The chair called three times for additional public comments. Hearing none, the chair closed the public hearing at 9:25 a.m.

The Ramsey County Home Rule Charter section 5.02 states each proposed ordinance shall receive two readings: first, at the time it is presented, and second, at the time of the public hearing as required by law. Both readings may be waived if a copy of the ordinance is supplied to each member of the Ramsey County Board prior to its introduction.

Motion by Miller, seconded by Xiong. Motion passed.

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

Resolution: B2025-199

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

5. Appointment to the Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District [2025-284](#)

Sponsors: Board of Commissioners

Appointment the following individuals to the Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District Board of Managers for a term beginning February 24, 2026 and ending on February 23, 2029.

- Mark C. Gernes (incumbent)
- Benjamin M. Karp (incumbent)

Motion by Moran, seconded by McGuire. Motion passed.

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

Resolution: B2025-200

7. Appointments to the Valley Branch Watershed District Board of Managers [2025-286](#)

Sponsors: Board of Commissioners

Appoint Rick Gelbmann (incumbent) the Valley Branch Watershed District Board of Managers for terms beginning November 14, 2025 and ending November 13, 2028.

Motion by Moran, seconded by McGuire. Motion passed.

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

Resolution: B2025-201

8. Appointment to the Ramsey County Extension Committee [2025-431](#)

Sponsors: Board of Commissioners

Appoint the following individuals to the Ramsey County Extension Committee for a term beginning November 4, 2025 and ending on December 31, 2028.

- Heidi Miller (incumbent)
- Nancy Kasseth

Motion by Moran, seconded by McGuire. Motion passed.

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

Resolution: B2025-202

9. Rename Metro Square to Ramsey County Government Center [2025-430](#)

Sponsors: Communications & Public Relations, Property Management

1. Approve the renaming of the 121 7th Place East, St. Paul facility from 'Metro Square' to 'Ramsey County Government Center' in accordance with the Countywide Facilities Naming Policy.
2. Authorize Communication and Public Relations and Property Management to oversee implementation of the name change, including updating internal and external references, signage, communications, and systems.

Motion by Moran, seconded by McGuire. Motion passed.

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

Resolution: B2025-203

6. Appointment to the Rice Creek Watershed District

[2025-285](#)

Sponsors: Board of Commissioners

Appoint Marcie Weinandt (incumbent) to the Rice Creek Watershed District Board of Managers for a term beginning January 18, 2026 and ending on January 17, 2029.

Discussion can be found on archived video.

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

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

Resolution: B2025-204

10. 2026 Salary Rate for the Ramsey County Sheriff

[2025-441](#)

Sponsors: Sheriff's Office

1. Set the annual salary for the Ramsey County Sheriff at \$203,510 effective January 1, 2026.
2. Authorize the continuation of the contribution to deferred compensation consistent with that approved for non-represented employees for 2026.
3. Authorize the continuation of the uniform/clothing allowance of \$1,375 for 2026.

Motion by Xiong, seconded by McMurtrey, to amend Recommendation #1 to read as the following:

1. Set the annual salary for the Ramsey County Sheriff at \$196,041 effective January 1, 2026.

Discussion can be found on archived video.

Motion by Xiong, seconded by McMurtrey. Motion passed.

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

Resolution: B2025-205

INFORMATION

11. Food and Infant Nutrition Support in Response to Federal Shutdown

[2025-476](#)

Sponsors: County Manager's Office

None - for discussion only.

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

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 10:28 a.m.