

PROCEEDINGS OF THE RED LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

November 25, 2025

Pursuant to adjournment of its last meeting, the Red Lake County Board of Commissioners duly met in regular session at the Courthouse in Red Lake Falls, MN on November 25th, 2025, at 10:00 am.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Chuck Flage called the meeting to order. Commissioners present were Al Remick, Eric Mickelson, Tony Gerardy, Andy Moran and Chuck Flage. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Gerardy moved, seconded by Commissioner Moran and carried unanimously to approve the agenda with the following addition:

-Auditor, Kelsey Gervais Re: 2024 Audit GP-14 Single Audit Approval

Gervais presented the Board with the 2024 GP-14 Single Audit Management Representation Letter from Hoffman, Philipp, Martell, PLLC. Commissioner Remick moved, seconded by Commissioner Moran, to approve the Single Audit covering federal expenditures exceeding \$750,000. Motion carried.

ENVIRONMENTAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Board received an update from Environmentalist Kurt Casavan on recent meetings held in Polk County regarding the redetermination of benefits for various joint ditch systems. Commissioners Mickelson and Flage also attended what was expected to be an informational session; however, Polk County attempted to convene a joint ditch meeting, which Red Lake County declined due to lack of notice and the absence of its appointed representatives. Additional informational meetings in Mentor were well attended, with significant public concern expressed about DNR lands and unpaid ditch assessments. Discussion also covered the number of joint ditches shared with Polk and Pennington counties, potential future redeterminations, associated costs, and the possibility of right-of-way purchases. The Board anticipates the need for a formal joint ditch meeting, future informational meetings for affected landowners, and reassigning joint ditch representation at the start of the year, with further coordination to occur after the holidays.

MAR-KIT LANDFILL SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL AGREEMENT

The Board reviewed the updated Mar-Kit Landfill contract, which expires at the end of the year. Attorney Tanner Holton recommended adding a termination-for-cause clause, allowing the County to immediately end the agreement if the contractor fails to meet obligations, violates any law, or becomes insolvent. The updated contract increases the tipping fee from the current \$50 per ton to \$60 per ton for 2026–2027, and to \$65 per ton for 2028–2035, within a ten-year term. The agreement maintains the long-standing minimum of 1,300 tons and a maximum of approximately 1,950 tons per year, with current usage averaging 1,600–1,700 tons. Casavan reported the landfill has been reliable and the contract language consistent with prior years. Following review, Commissioner Mickelson moved, seconded by Commissioner Remick, to approve the contract. Motion carried.

HUMAN RESOURCES ANNOUNCEMENTS

Human Resources Director Angie Lundein met with the Board to request approval of the IUOE Local 49 union contract. Lundein reported that Local 49 had approved the agreement. Commissioner Moran moved, seconded by Remick, and carried unanimously to approve the three-year agreement with IUOE Local 49 effective January 1, 2026.

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2024 FINANCIAL AUDIT REVIEW

Colleen Hoffman and Dan Wensloff of Hoffman, Philipp, & Martell, PLLC presented the board with the 2024 Financial Audit. The total net position of governmental activities is \$65,972062, of which \$58,558938 is the net investment in capital assets, \$5,782,834 is restricted for specific purposes, and \$1,630,290 is unrestricted. The total net position of governmental activities increased by \$1,655,058 for the year ended December 31, 2024.

MINUTES

Commissioner Moran moved, seconded by Commissioner Remick, and carried unanimously to approve the minutes from the meeting on November 13, 2025.

EXPENDITURES

Commissioner Mickelson moved, seconded by Commissioner Gerardy, and carried unanimously to approve the following expenditures for the period:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Avenu Holdings, LLC	\$ 7,421.10
Minnesota Department of Transportation	\$19,869.30
Prowest & Associates Inc	\$ 7,007.00
Roger's Two Way Radio Inc.	\$ 3,075.99
10 Payments less than \$2000	<u>\$ 3,611.24</u>
TOTAL	\$40,984.63

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Remick- None

Mickelson- Polk County Commissioner Meeting, Mentor Ditch Hearing, Red Lake County Extension Committee, Social Service Meeting, NW MN Housing and Redevelopment Authority, Inter County Community Council

Gerardy- Soil & Water

Moran- Social Service Meeting

Flage- Polk County Commissioner Meeting, Mentor Ditch Hearing, Red Lake County Extension Committee, Social Service Meeting, Pennington & Red Lake Public Health & Home Care

AUDITOR ANNOUNCEMENTS

Auditor Kelsey Gervais presented the Board with a Pro-West & Associates contract for GIS system maintenance services and technical support (LINK) for the period of October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2026. Commissioner Gerardy moved, seconded by Commissioner Mickelson, to approve the contract. Gervais presented additional budget information for 2026. Gervais mentioned that the budget has changed due to the overall decrease in employee health insurance rates as previously budgeted.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Moran, seconded by Commissioner Gerardy, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 1:04 p.m. The next regular meeting of the board is scheduled for Tuesday, December 9, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.

Attest: _____

Kelsey Gervais, County Auditor

Anthony Flage, Chairman
Board of Commissioner