PROCEEDINGS OF THE RED LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

September 8, 2026

Pursuant to adjournment of its last meeting, the Red Lake County Board of Commissioners met in the Courthouse in Red Lake Falls, MN on September 8, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. Members present: Al Remick, Chuck Flage, Tony Gerardy, Andy Moran and Eric Mickelson. Members absent: None.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mickelson, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The Chairman asked if there were any amendments to the agenda. County Auditor Kelsey Gervais requested the addition of approval of the 2025 audit representation letter from Hoffman, Philipp & Martel, PLLC to the agenda. Motion by Commissioner Gerardy, seconded by Commissioner Remick, to approve the agenda with the addition as presented. Motion carried.

Gervais presented the Board with a representation letter from Hoffman, Philipp, & Martell, PLLC, related to the 2025 audit of the financial statements for Red Lake County. Commissioner Flage moved to approve the representation letter, with Commissioner Remick seconding the motion. The motion carried, and Chairman Mickelson signed the representation letter.

Charity Brault, Executive Director, NW MN Multi-County HRA, presented the annual report and reviewed housing and redevelopment activities in Red Lake County, including the use of levy funds for the Small Cities Development Program, rehabilitation projects, down payment assistance, and affordable housing initiatives. Brault requested the maximum levy authorized by state law, which is 25% of 0.0185% of the County's taxable market value. Levy dollars are used to provide funding for public and private sector investments in housing rehabilitation and economic development in northwest Minnesota.

Colleen Hoffman and Crystelle Philipp from Hoffman, Philipp & Martell, PLLC presented the 2025 audit, reporting that the County's financial statements were in good condition and that two prior findings related to reporting requirements and federal contract monitoring had been resolved. The auditors also reviewed the County's fund balances as of December 31, 2025, noting that all funds had positive balances and recommending consideration of increasing the General Fund balance and/or formally committing unassigned funds for future expenditures or stabilization purposes.

Taylor Amiot, County Engineer, provided updates on the Brooks project, County Road 1 construction, dust control, and the County Road Safety Plan. Personnel changes were reported, including Casey Brekke's departure and internal staff assignments for the Oklee and Plummer routes, with a Red Lake Falls plow truck position to be advertised. The Board was also updated on the City of Plummer project, including payments and funding sources, and upcoming culvert and equipment needs. Amiot also presented the 2025 Annual Highway Report, a copy of the report is available in the Auditor's office.

Commissioner Flage moved, seconded by Commissioner Gerardy, and carried unanimously to approve the minutes from the meeting on August 28, 2026.

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

Vendor	**Amount**
Davidson Construction	$600,421.85
H & L Mesabi	$ 8,498.00
Heppner Consulting Inc	$ 45,407.32

North Central International LLC	$ 3,366.17
Red Lake County Co-op	$ 5,324.79
Ryan's Backhoe Service	$ 2,700.00
Stones Mobile Radio Inc	$ 5,111.54
26 Payments less than $2000	$ 12,569.55
TOTAL	**$ 683,399.22**

COMMITTEE REPORTS
Remick – None
Flage – Northwest Regional Development Commission
Gerardy – None
Moran – Huot Park Boat Ramp with DNR
Mickelson – NW MN Multi-County HRA

Auditor Kelsey Gervais presented the 2027 appropriation requests and reviewed the 2027 preliminary budget with the Board. The Board directed Gervais to present several budget options at the next meeting for consideration and final decision.
Gervais requested approval to apply for the Safe and Secure Courthouse Grant to upgrade the courthouse entrance doors with a secure locking mechanism that automatically locks and unlocks the doors at designated times. If a quote is received in time to submit the grant application, Commissioner Gerardy moved to approve the grant application, with Commissioner Moran seconding. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner Flage, seconded by Commissioner Moran, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 12:06 p.m. The next regular meeting of the board is scheduled for Tuesday, September 22, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.

Attest:_____ _____
Kelsey Gervais, County Auditor
Eric Mickelson, Chairman
Board of Commissioner