

Call to Order

The Aitkin County Board of Commissioners met the 10th day of February, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. at the Aitkin Government Center with the following members present: Board Chair J. Mark Wedel, Commissioners Laurie Westerlund, Travis Leiviska, Bret Sample, and Michael Kearney. Also present were County Administrator David Minke and Administrative Assistant April Kellerman.

A moment of silence for the passing of Cass County Commissioner Rusty Lilyquist.

Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Commissioner Sample, seconded by Commissioner Leiviska and carried 5-0 to approve the February 10, 2026 agenda.

Citizens' Public Comment made by Adam Henderson from Garrison Disposal.

Consent Agenda

Motion by Commissioner Leiviska, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund and carried 5-0 to approve the Consent Agenda as follows.

- A) Correspondence File— Acknowledge Notice of Intent to File for Office – County Recorder;
- B) Approve January 27, 2026 County Board Minutes;
- C) Approve Auditor Vouchers – Auditor Warrants paid 01.23.26: Health & Human Services \$17,879.23;
- D) Information Only – Investment Report;
- E) Approve Manual Warrants/Voids/Corrections – Elan paid 01.02.26: Health & Human Services \$372.56, Road & Bridge \$569.96, General Fund \$3,694.28, Reserves Fund \$700.00, Trust \$75.00 for a total of \$5,411.80;
- F) Approve Commissioner Vouchers – Commissioner Warrants paid 01.30.26: General Fund \$247,903.91, Road & Bridge \$63,414.60, Unorganized Townships \$2,804.06, State \$150.79, Trust \$13,981.61, Forest Development \$4,152.22, Townships/Cities/ARDC/Ambulance \$77,449.96, Taxes & Penalties \$436.00, Long Lake Conservation Center \$22,816.75, Parks \$68.80, Coronavirus Relief Fund \$525.00 for a total of \$433,703.70;
- G) Approve Manual Warrants/Voids/Corrections – Elan paid 01.15.26: General Fund \$5,520.59, Trust \$900.00, Long Lake Conservation Center \$320.42, Road & Bridge \$59.00, Health & Human Services \$51.70 for a total of \$6,851.71;
- H) Approve Auditor Vouchers – Auditor Warrants paid 01.30.26: General Fund \$18.47, Health & Human Services \$15,553.85, Opioid Remediation Settlement \$1,575.00 for a total of \$17,147.32;
- I) Approve McGrath Fire Department – 2026 Contract;
- J) Approve Consumption & Display Permits – Larson's Barn LLC;
- K) Approve Auditor's Vouchers – Auditor Warrants – Road & Bridge Contract Payments 02.06.26: Road & Bridge \$40,198.05;
- L) Adopt Resolution #20260210-013: Final Contract Payment 20253 to Marvin Tretter Inc. in the amount of \$1,705.70;
- M) Adopt Resolution #20260210-014: Bridge Priority List;
- N) Adopt Resolution #20260210-015: Application to Make Retail Sales of Tobacco Products – Dollar General Store #30997

Regular Agenda

Motion by Commissioner Sample, seconded by Commissioner Kearney and carried 5-0 to Adopt Resolution 20260210-016 Awarding Contract 20264 to Gladen Construction Inc. in the amount of \$1,781,512.39. Commissioner Sample abstained.

Motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Kearney and carried 5-0 to Adopt Resolution 20260210-017 supporting Long Lake Conservation Center's application for regional designation as a park of Regional Significance from the Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Commission.

Motion by Commissioner Leiviska, seconded by Commissioner Sample and carried 5-0 to Approve Statement of Work – CLA, SBITA Consulting.

Motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Kearney and carried 5-0 to Adopt Resolution 20260210-018 Amending the Aitkin County Shoreland Ordinance.

Motion by Commissioner Sample, seconded by Commissioner Leiviska and carried 5-0 to Approve the 2026 Residential Electronics Waste Collection Event on June 6, 2026, with \$400.00 cash in start-up funds from the Auditor's Office.

Motion by Commissioner Leiviska, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund and carried 5-0 to Approve 5-year Recycling Contract with Garrison Disposal with the first year amount of \$175,00.00 and subsequent years adjusted for inflation for operation of the Aitkin Recycling and unattended recycling drop-off sites.

Jim Bright – Facilities Coordinator provided updates on the Health & Human Services building remodel.

Commissioner Committee Reports: MN Rural Counties, ATV Committee, meeting with Jessica Johnson from Talon Metals and Amy Wyant from CARE, East Central Regional Library, Facilities, Tamarack meeting, DNR Wetlands reclassification meeting, H&HS Advisory, Economic Development, Dangerous Dog Hearing.

Adjourn

Motion by Commissioner Leiviska, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund and carried 5-0 to adjourn the meeting at 10:08 a.m. with the next regular meeting on Tuesday, February 24, 2026 at the Aitkin County Government Center.

J. Mark Wedel, Board Chair
Aitkin County Board of Commissioners

David J. Minke, County Administrator
Clerk to the County Board