



**Carver County Board of Commissioners
September 8, 2026
Board Meeting**

The County Board Room is open to the public

This meeting will be broadcast live at:
<https://youtube.com/@CarverCountyMN>

- 9:00 a.m. 1. **CONVENE**
- 1.1. Pledge of allegiance
- 1.2. Public comments that relate to an item on the agenda may be heard when that agenda item is discussed. Please limit your public comments to five minutes or less.
- Individuals unable to attend in person can provide public comments by email at admin-contact@carvercountymn.gov
- 1.3. Agenda review and adoption
- 1.4. Approve September 1, 2026 minutes 3-6
- 1.5. Community Announcements
- 9:20 a.m. 2. **CONSENT AGENDA**
- 2.1. Authorization to Preorder 2027 Equipment..... 7-8
- 2.2. Add One Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) position, Paralegal,
to Carver County Health and Human Services 9-12
- 2.3. Annual Liquor License Renewals..... 13-16
- 2.4. Cannabis retail registration for Rick's Dispensary LLC 17-18
- 2.5. 2027 Dental Premium Recommendation 19-20
- 2.6. 2027 Health Insurance Recommendation 21-22
- 2.7. Professional Services Agreement with Blackstone
Contractors for Lake Waconia Regional Park Fire Feature..... 23-26
- 2.8. Review Health & Human Services and Commissioner Warrants

9:30 a.m. 3. **REGULAR SESSION**

3.1. Adjust Public Hours for CareerForce Chaska.....27-29

3.2. Minnesota DNR ENRTF Grant for Lake Minnewashta
Regional Park Restoration30-31

10:00 a.m. 4. **COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT**

10:05 a.m. 5. **ADJOURN REGULAR SESSION**

UPCOMING MEETINGS

September 08, 2026	12:30 p.m.	Merriam Junction Trail Ribbon Cutting (Bridge over the MN River, 117 Broadway St, Carver)
September 16, 2026	5:00 p.m.	Overlook Lane neighborhood meeting (Hwy 11/Hwy 40) (Dead end of Overlook Lane, Carver. Back up location is City of Carver, City Hall)
	6:00 p.m.	Pine Cone Lane cul-de-sac neighborhood meeting (Hwy 11/Hwy 40) (Cul-de-sac of Pine Cone Lane, Carver. Back up location is City of Carver, City Hall)
September 22, 2026	9:00 a.m.	Board Work Session
September 24, 2026	6:30 p.m.	HHS – Community Roundtable (Ridgeview Medical Center, 500 Maple Street S, Waconia)
September 28, 2026	TBD	Hwy 11/Hwy 40 Project Open House (location, TBD)
October 06, 2026	9:00 a.m.	Board Meeting
October 20, 2026	9:00 a.m.	Board Meeting
October 20, 2026	1:00 p.m.	Retiree and Years of Service Event (Carver County EOC, 604 East 4 th St. Chaska)
October 27, 2026	9:00 a.m.	Board Work Session
November 03, 2026	9:00 a.m.	Board Meeting
November 17, 2026	9:00 a.m.	Board Meeting
November 24, 2026	9:00 a.m.	Board Work Session
December 01, 2026	9:00 a.m.	Board Meeting
December 01, 2026	6:00 p.m.	2027 Budget & Levy Hearing
December 15, 2026	9:00 a.m.	Board Meeting
January 5, 2027	9:00 a.m.	Board Organizational Session

Carver County

Board of Commissioners

Regular Session Minutes
September 1, 2026

A Regular Session of the Carver County Board of Commissioners was held in the County Government Center, Chaska, on September 1, 2026. Tom Workman, Board Chair convened the session at 9:30 a.m.

Members present: Tom Workman, Tim Lynch, John P. Fahey, Matt Udermann and Lisa Anderson.

Public Comments received from Tim Litfin, Waconia Mayor and Martin Walsh, Chaska.

Tim Lynch moved, John P. Fahey seconded, to approve the agenda, including an amendment to item 2.10 with an updated resolution. Motion carried unanimously.

Lisa Anderson moved, John P. Fahey seconded, to approve the minutes of the August 18, 2026, Regular Session. Motion carried unanimously.

John P. Fahey moved, Tim Lynch seconded, to approve the following consent agenda:

Adopted the Findings of Fact and issued order #PZ20260019 for the issuance of an Interim Use Permit.

Authorized the Chair to sign an amendment to the 2-year PSA with Stantec Consulting Services Inc. not to exceed \$100,000 pending contract review and approval.

Authorized the Chair to sign an amendment to the 2-year PSA with Moore Engineering Inc. not to exceed \$100,000 pending contract review and approval.

Authorized the Chair to sign an amendment to the 2-year PSA with Midwest Wetland Improvements LLC. not to exceed \$100,000 pending contract review and approval.

Approved the Hennepin-Carver Workforce Development Board Local WIOA Plan for 2027-2030 and authorize submission of the plan to the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) for final approval.

Adopted Resolution 44-26 to approve motion to adopt Ordinance No. 112-2026.

Approved small giveaway items donated by external exhibitors for the 2026 Employee Health & Safety Fair.

Adopted Resolution 45-26 establishing and defining the 2027 Voluntary 4-Day Workweek Program and authorize the County Administrator to execute the Memoranda of Agreement

with the applicable Unions and Association regarding participation in the Voluntary 4-Day Workweek Program.

Adopted Resolution 46-26 establishing and defining the 2027 Voluntary Furlough Program and authorized the County Administrator to execute the Memoranda of Agreement with the applicable Unions and Association regarding participation in the Voluntary Furlough Program.

Adopted Resolution 47-26 requesting a State Aid variance for the County State Aid Highway 10 Resurfacing Project to allow State Aid funding for the project.

Authorized the final payment of \$32,280.83 to UrbanEdge Solutions & Supply LLC. for the CSAH 10 Trailhead Construction & Dakota Rail Regional Trail repair project for a final project cost of \$639,092.54.

Approved a Professional Services Agreement with Patchin Messner Valuation Counselors for a not to exceed amount of \$36,000.00 for appraisal services for the Highway 11 Project, pending finalization of the contract review process.

Authorized acceptance of grant funds of the Metropolitan Council and execution of the two grant agreements reflecting State Fiscal Years 2025 and 2026 based on successful review through the County's contract process. Grant SG-25P4-03-02: Recreation & Volunteer Specialist (50% of S&B annually) - \$100,750. Grant SG-26386: Outreach Program (FTE, programming/events, marketing, new equipment): \$86,000.

Approved Amendment 4 to the Professional Services Agreement with WSB & Associates, Inc. in the amount of \$164,384.00, which includes \$86,500.00 for new appraisals and \$77,884.00 for right-of-way support related to eminent domain commissioner hearings.

Approved the elimination of the contracted 1.0 FTE Deputy Sheriff increase and accompanying revenue due to the school district being unable to secure funding for the position.

Approved signing a contract with ANCOM to install Honeywell USDD Phoenix G2 Fire Station Alerting Equipment in the Emergency Communications Center.

Approved a contract amendment with CIS to add and configure Honeywell USDD Phoenix G2 Fire Station Alerting Equipment in the Emergency Communications Center.

Reviewed August 21, 2026, Community Social Services' actions/Commissioners' warrants in the amount of \$658,007.71; and reviewed August 28, 2026, Community Social Services' actions/Commissioners' warrants in the amount of \$408,339.02.

Motion carried unanimously.

Dave Hemze, County Administrator, provided a high-level overview of the 2027 Recommended Preliminary Budget, highlighting the 1.5% (2027) and 2.5% (2028) state and federal cost shifts, key cost drivers such as personnel, inflation, and major capital needs, including the \$82M Government Center project and requested an 8.5% preliminary levy increase, bringing the recommended 2027 levy to \$87,773,855 with a \$198,989,816 total budget. Budget strategies focus on service prioritization, revenue enhancement, fiscal sustainability, and operational improvements, with minimal mandated staffing changes and outlined capital and one-time funding allocations. Residents can review the full budget discussion from the August 25 Board Work Session recording. The 2027 budget hearing is scheduled for December 1, 2026 at 6:00 pm.

During budget discussion, residents discussed concerns over AIS funding reductions, specifically the elimination of the watercraft inspection component of the AIS Program. While inspections would cease, AIS monitoring would continue if funding reductions occurred. Comments were provided by Becky Wessels, Belle Plaine, Steve Gunther, Chanhassen, Steve Mohn, Eden Prairie, Joel Barker, Chanhassen, Steven Donen, Chanhassen, and Mark Von Oven, Chanhassen.

11:31 a.m. Commissioner Workman left

11:34 a.m. Commissioner Workman returned.

Matt Udermann moved, no second for a preliminary 3.5% increase. Motion failed due to a lack of a second.

Anderson called the question at 11:49 a.m.

Tim Lynch moved, Lisa Anderson seconded to approve the Administrator's Recommended 2027 Preliminary Levy of \$87,773,855 (+8.5% from 2026), a Total Budget of \$198,989,816 and to set a 2027 Budget Hearing for Tuesday, December 1st, 2026 at 6:00pm. Motion carried 4 to 1, Matt Udermann nay.

Commissioner Tom Workman called a break at 11:50 a.m.

Paul Moline, Public Services Deputy Division Director spoke on the Carver County Watershed Management Organization (CCWMO) 2027 preliminary levy of \$1,154,914, a 7% increase from 2026, mainly due to staff costs and tax capacity growth. Funding supports water management, education, monitoring, projects, and cost-share programs. Key 2027 projects include city requests (Cologne, Waconia), grant matches, and maintenance, totaling \$179,200. The annual tax impact on an average home would rise by \$1.76 to \$37.79.

Matt Udermann moved, Tim Lynch seconded to set the preliminary 2027 CCWMO levy at \$1,154,914. Motion carried unanimously.

Carver County Community Development Agency (CDA) Board Member Gretchen Opprieht de Garcia introduced the CDA and highlighted its partnership with the County. Allison Streich, CDA Executive Director, requested a 2027 levy of \$3,931,350 (a 3.5% increase) to

support affordable housing and community development. The CDA oversees nearly 850 housing units, serves about 1,500 residents, and leverages local funds to secure state and federal grants. The annual tax impact for an average home remains modest, under \$2 per year.

Lisa Anderson moved, Matt Udermann seconded to approve resolution 48-26 approving the 2027 proposed budget and payable 2027 tax levy of the Carver County Community Development Agency and certifying said levy to the County Auditor. Motion carried unanimously.

Tim Lynch moved, John P. Fahey seconded to recess as the County Board and convene as the Regional Rail Authority. Motion carried unanimously.

Lyndon Robjent, Public Works Division Director gave a review of the Carver County Regional Rail Authority's (CCRRA) Preliminary 2027 budget.

Tim Lynch moved, Lisa Anderson seconded to approve setting the CCRRA's 2027 preliminary tax levy of \$267,649 and 2027 Budget of \$269,649. Motion carried unanimously.

Tim Lynch moved, Lisa Anderson seconded to adjourn as the Regional Rail Authority and reconvene as the County Board. Motion carried unanimously.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT – Dave Hemze, reminded the September 8th Board Meeting will be at 9 a.m. with a 12:30 p.m. Merriam Junction Trail Ribbon Cutting.

Matt Udermann moved, Lisa Anderson seconded, to adjourn the Regular Session at 1:04 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Dave Hemze
County Administrator



Carver County Board of Commissioners
Request for Board Action

Agenda Item Name: Authorization to Preorder 2027 Equipment
RBA Number: 2026-756
Department: Public Works - Operations
Contact: Shelby Sovell, Operations Engineer - Assistant Public Works Director, 952-466-5209
Presenter:
Contract Name & Number:
Meeting Date: September 8, 2026
Item Type: Consent

Strategic Initiative:

Our Physical Assets: Proactive planning for and maintaining our infrastructure and physical assets.

Background/Justification:

The Public Works annual equipment budget for fleet replacement in the 2026 Budget is \$810,000 and is projected in the County's Long Term Financial Plan to be \$900,000 in 2027. The Public Works fleet replacement schedule includes the replacement of eight half-ton pickup trucks and one two-ton truck with a dump box, along with other pieces of equipment in 2027. Public Works is requesting to pre-order the eight pickup trucks and one truck chassis to lock in a March 2027 delivery date. The eight pickup trucks will come from Midway Ford of Roseville with a cost of \$337,132.60. The one two-ton truck chassis will come from Saxon Fleet Services of Oakdale with a cost of \$61,552. The anticipated cost of the pickup truck upfitting from Surefitters of Rosemount, MN is \$56,454.00 and the cost of the truck upfitting from Towmaster of Litchfield, MN is \$32,155. The total cost of this equipment is \$487,303.60.

Of the eight new pickup trucks, seven are replacements for the environmental and public works program delivery departments that are anywhere from 12 to 20 years old and have roughly 100K or more miles when they will be disposed of at public auction in 2027. One pickup truck is an addition to the fleet to service a new construction inspector role for public works program delivery. The new two-ton truck will replace a

2009 single-axle snowplow truck for public works operations that currently has 75,000 miles and will be 18 years old when it is disposed of at public auction in 2027. The single-axle snowplow truck is no longer needed in the snowplow fleet since tandem snowplow trucks are our standard.

Staff obtained several quotes, including State Contract vendors, and followed the County Contract and Local Preference Purchasing Policies. Pre-ordering the vehicles now will lock in State Contract pricing for the upfitting from Surefitters/Towmaster and establish a late winter/early spring delivery date, which will allow the vehicles to be commissioned before the busy construction season begins.

Action Requested:

Motion to authorize the preorder eight half-ton pickup trucks from Midway Ford of Roseville and one two-ton truck chassis from Saxon Fleet Services of Oakdale with upfitting to be completed by Surefitters of Rosemount and Towmaster of Litchfield.

Fiscal Impact:

Funding:	Amount Budgeted:
2027 Attachment E Funds	\$459,000
2027 Attachment D funds	\$28,303.60

Related Fiscal/FTE Comments:

\$459K is expected to come from 2027 attachment E funds. The balance of the funds will come from 2027 attachment D funds.

Attachments:

None



Carver County Board of Commissioners
Request for Board Action

Agenda Item Name: Add One Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) position, Paralegal, to Carver County Health and Human Services

RBA Number: 2026-770

Department: Health & Human Services - Administration

Contact: Kate Probert, Income Support Manager, 952-361-1713

Presenter:

Contract Name & Number:

Meeting Date: September 8, 2026

Item Type: Consent

Strategic Initiative:

People Are Our strength: Building, developing, and sustaining a team of leaders at all levels.

Background/Justification:

Carver County Health and Human Services (CCHHS) operates within strict regulations to provide essential services that are mandated or required for the community.

The Minnesota African American Family Preservation and Child Welfare Disproportionality Act (MAAFPCWDA) is a 2024 law aimed at reducing racial disparities in child welfare and preventing unnecessary out-of-home placements. It requires social service agencies to actively support families, have clear proof of serious harm before separation, and follow detailed documentation, eligibility checks, case reviews, culturally responsive planning, and court procedures. Staff members with heavy caseloads are under additional pressure, as these tasks must be finished both promptly and accurately.

Implementing MAAFPCWDA requires significant organizational changes, increased documentation capacity, and workforce adjustments due to greater “active efforts” demands—often over 8 extra hours per family monthly. Hiring a paralegal in 2026 provides time for onboarding, training, workflow redesign, and stabilization before the MAAFPCWDA rollout and will allow for immediate redirection of social workers time to

MAAFPCWDA work, effective January 1, 2027. MAAFPCWDA raises expectations for preventing placement, cultural assessments, relative searches, visitation planning, and court involvement—all needing more direct worker time with families. Assigning data practices retrieval and redaction tasks and administrative work to the paralegal frees social workers to do mandated MAAFPCWDA duties.

CCHHS Child and Family Department social workers now spend 30% of their time handling legally-driven data requests on top of already heavy caseloads, posing compliance risks related to privacy and deadlines. A dedicated paralegal helps reduce these risks. The Income Support, Workforce Development, and Home and Community Based Care departments also receive periodic data requests. A centralized paralegal in CCHHS enhances consistency, compliance, and efficiency with this complex task. Paralegal support reduces supervisory overtime, minimizes errors, improves e-filing and petition drafting, and allows administrative staff to focus on high-value tasks. A paralegal also helps ensure court compliance, lowers the risk of adverse rulings or drawn-out cases, and decreases CCHHS liability.

CCHHS plans to add and hire one (1.0) Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) paralegal (B23 Classification) in fall/winter 2026. The cost for the remainder of 2026 is \$30,334 and the proposed 2027 budgeted FTE cost is \$121,334. MAAFPCWDA funding was approved in December 2025 by the Carver County Board of Commissioners for inclusion in the 2026 CCHHS budget. The FTE will report to the CCHHS Deputy Director-Human Services. The paralegal will handle records requests, redaction, legal packet preparation, discovery completion, legal data responses, e-filing of petitions and court documents, and assist with drafting petitions and emergency removal orders.

Action Requested:

Motion to approve adding one (1.0) Full-Time Equivalent Paralegal position to Carver County Health & Human Services, to be hired in fall/winter 2026 in preparation for implementing the MAAFPCWDA (the "ACT") and funded by the 2026 "Legislative Impacts" levy surcharge in the approved 2026 CCHHS budget.

Fiscal Impact:

Funding:	Amount Budgeted:
11-423-710-0000-6379 (MAAFPCWDA)	\$30,334

Related Fiscal/FTE Comments:

One (1.0) Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) position, Paralegal, cost equals \$30,334 for the remainder of 2026 and \$121,334, for the proposed 2027 Budget. The levy surcharge (MAAFPCWDA) funding for the full year amount was approved in the 2026 CCHHS budget: 11-423-710-0000-6379; a budget amendment is included to move \$30,334 for the remainder of 2026 to salary & benefits.

The 1.0 FTE Paralegal position was included in the 2027 County Administrator's preliminary budget recommendation (Attachment B). As noted in that recommendation, the intent was to request Board approval of the position in 2026, since levy MAAFPCWDA funding (up to \$125,000) was already approved in December 2025 and allocated in the CCHHS 2026 budget. If this RBA is approved, the request for a Paralegal position will be removed from the County Administrator's final 2027 budget recommendation.

Attachments:

1. BudgetAmendmentForm- Paralegal



Carver County Board of Commissioners
Budget Amendment Request Form

Agenda Item: 2.2 FTE Paralegal HHS

Department: Health & Human Services

Meeting Date: 9/8/2026

Requested By: Kate Probert

Fund: ☐ 01 - General ☐ 02 - Reserve ☐ 03 - Public Works ☒ 11 - CSS ☐ 15 - CCRRA ☐ 16 - CCWMO
☐ 30 - Building CIP ☐ 32 - Road/Bridge CIP ☐ 34 - Parks & Trails ☐ 35 - Debt Service

DEBIT		TOTAL	\$30,334.00
Description of Accounts	Acct #	Amount	
Salary & Benefits	11-422-700-0000-61XX	\$30,334.00	

CREDIT	TOTAL	\$30,334.00
Description of Accounts	Acct #	Amount
MAAFPA	11-423-710.6379	\$30,334.00

Reason for Request: Allocate 2026 ACT budget to FTE request- impact for the remainder of the year.



Carver County Board of Commissioners
Request for Board Action

Agenda Item Name: Annual Liquor License Renewals
RBA Number: 2026-779
Department: Property & Financial Services - Elections & Licensing
Contact: Heather Perkins, Elections & Licensing Specialist, 952-361-1976
Presenter:
Contract Name & Number:
Meeting Date: September 8, 2026
Item Type: Consent

Strategic Initiative:
Taxpayer Value and Customer Service: Providing the best value and optimal customer service.

Background/Justification:
Attached is a list of businesses that have applied for an annual liquor license. The owners are requesting Carver County Board of Commissioners' approval to sell liquor products. These are all liquor license renewals.

Action Requested:
Approval of the County Board to issue liquor licenses to the attached businesses. Board approval is subject to the receipt of all required paperwork, licensing fee paid, and all delinquent taxes paid.

Fiscal Impact:	
Funding:	Amount Budgeted:

Related Fiscal/FTE Comments:

Attachments:

1. 26-27 List of Applicants for RBA Approval 9-8-26

2026-2027 CARVER COUNTY LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICANTS

As of 09/08/26

	License Holder	LIC #	OFF-SALE	ON-SALE	SUNDAY	BREWER OFF-SALE	TWP
1.	Hollywood Sports LLC dba Hollywood Sports Complex Joseph P. Swartzter, Jr., President 15950 County Road 122 Watertown, MN 55388-8335 320-327-0133	10-02	\$150.00	\$2,000.00	\$200.00	NA	Hollywood
2	Baumann Enterprises, Inc. dba B's on the River Bryan Baumann, President 1455 County Road 27 Watertown, MN 55388-4532 952-955-2223 - Club	10-08	NA	\$2,000.00	\$200.00	NA	Watertown
3.	Whistle Post LLC dba Sovereign Estate Wine Paul Savaryn, President Teresa Savaryn, Vice President 9950 North Shore Road Waconia, MN 55387 952-446-9957 - Winery 952-392-9232 - Cell	10-13	NA	\$2,000.00	\$ 200.00	NA	Waconia
4.	Parley Lake Winery, LLP dba Parley Lake Winery Steven Zeller, President 8280 Parley Lake Road Waconia, MN 55387 952-201-9742 Steve Cell	10-14	NA	\$2,000.00	\$ 200.00	NA	Laketown
5.	WJVA Inc. dba Timber Creek Golf Course Brooks Ellingson, President 9750 County Road 24 Watertown, MN 55388-9326 952-955-3600 - Club 763-300-9035 Brooks	10-15	NA	\$2,000.00	\$ 200.00	NA	Watertown
6.	Schram Winery, LLC dba Schram Vineyards Aaron Schram, President 8785 Airport Road Waconia, MN 55387-9634 952-846-9458 - Aaron cell	10-16	NA	\$2,000.00	\$200.00	NA	Laketown
7.	Big Sticks LLC dba Sticks Tavern & Trails End Event Center Michele Imdieke, President 6940 Dahlgren Road Chaska, MN 55318 612-581-0084 Cell	10-20	NA	\$ 2,000.00	\$200.00	NA	Dahlgren

	License Holder	LIC #	OFF-SALE	ON-SALE	SUNDAY	BREWER OFF-SALE	TWP
8.	LuceLine Orchard, LLC dba LuceLine Orchard Richard Pawelk, President Theresa Pawelk, Vice President 2755 Rose Ave Watertown MN 55388-1104 612-817-6229	10-21	NA	\$2,000.00	\$200.00	NA	Watertown
8.	Green Fox Grille LLC Bria James, President Gregory James, Vice President 7795 Laketown Pkwy Waconia MN 55387 952-300-0518	10-22	NA	\$2,000.00	\$200.00	NA	Laketown



Carver County Board of Commissioners
Request for Board Action

Agenda Item Name: Cannabis retail registration for Rick's Dispensary LLC
RBA Number: 2026-780
Department: Property & Financial Services - Elections & Licensing
Contact: Heather Perkins, Elections & Licensing Specialist, 952-361-1976
Presenter:
Contract Name & Number:
Meeting Date: September 8, 2026
Item Type: Consent

Strategic Initiative:
Taxpayer Value and Customer Service: Providing the best value and optimal customer service.

Background/Justification:
A cannabis retail registration was received from Rick's Dispensary. They have received their Cannabis Microbusiness license from OCM effective August 21, 2026 – August 21, 2027, and are seeking registration with Carver County. The business is located at 640 Railroad Dr #700, Norwood Young America, MN 55368. The City of Norwood Young America transferred their Cannabis Retail Registration authority to Carver County in 2025.

Action Requested:
Approval to issue cannabis retail registration to Rick's Dispensary. Board approval is subject to the receipt of all required paperwork, fees paid, and all delinquent taxes are paid.

Fiscal Impact:	
Funding:	Amount Budgeted:

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Related Fiscal/FTE Comments:

The County Board adopted an Ordinance that limits the number of Cannabis Retail Registrations within the County to a maximum of 10. The City of Chaska has approved two Cannabis Retail Registrations. This will be the second Cannabis Retail Registration approved by Carver County and the 4th one in Carver County.

Attachments:

None



Carver County Board of Commissioners
Request for Board Action

Agenda Item Name: 2027 Dental Premium Recommendation
RBA Number: 2026-788
Department: Employee Relations
Contact: Mia Johnson, Employee Relations Business Partner,
952-361-1504
Presenter:
Contract Name & Number:
Meeting Date: September 8, 2026
Item Type: Consent

Strategic Initiative:

People Are Our strength: Building, developing, and sustaining a team of leaders at all levels.

Background/Justification:

The County moved to self-funded dental insurance with HealthPartners effective January 1, 2025. A self-funded model allows the County to pay for actual dental claims incurred by employees along with an administrative services fee to HealthPartners as the insurance carrier. The current multiyear agreement with HealthPartners for self-funded dental is through December 31, 2027, and included a rate guarantee for administrative service fees, and a rate cap of 4.0% for 2027.

Employee Relations, in collaboration with Finance and the County's insurance broker, Gallagher, has been monitoring dental claims incurred throughout the year in relation to the reserve fund balance. Gallagher's underwriting team has also completed an analysis of projected claims for 2027. It is recommended the County maintain three to six months of funding in reserve funds.

Incurred claims costs in 2026 have averaged approximately \$55,000 per month through July and administrative service fees are approximately \$3,500 per month. This actual experience reflects the County's plan is running as anticipated, based on prior analysis and projections; and reserves remain around \$175,000, reflecting approximately 3-4

months of reserve funding in alignment with responsible target funding.

Employee Relations recommends a 1.0% increase to premiums for 2027 based on how the plan is currently operating, projected claims for 2027, and a 4.0% increase on the administrative fee. The recommended increase to premiums results in an increase of \$0.00-\$1.12 per month in employee costs, depending on the selected dental plan coverage tier.

Action Requested:

Motion to approve a 1.0% increase to dental premiums for 2027.

Fiscal Impact:

Funding:	Amount Budgeted:
County Funding	\$427,000

Related Fiscal/FTE Comments:

The County's cost for dental in 2027 is approximately \$427,000; employees on non-single tiers also contribute to the dental premium.

Attachments:

None



Carver County Board of Commissioners
Request for Board Action

Agenda Item Name: 2027 Health Insurance Recommendation
RBA Number: 2026-787
Department: Employee Relations
Contact: Mia Johnson, Employee Relations Business Partner,
952-361-1504
Presenter:
Contract Name & Number:
Meeting Date: September 8, 2026
Item Type: Consent

Strategic Initiative:

People Are Our strength: Building, developing, and sustaining a team of leaders at all levels.

Background/Justification:

The County's current multiyear fully insured health plan agreement covering 2025-2026 employee health insurance with HealthPartners expires on December 31, 2026. Employee Relations staff, County leadership, and Gallagher, the County's medical and dental broker, evaluated potential options for 2027, including analysis of a self-funded approach, a fully insured renewal from HealthPartners, and evaluated a potential insurance pool option.

Following the review process, Employee Relations recommends remaining fully insured for health insurance with HealthPartners for January 1, 2027. HealthPartners' fully insured offer of a 7% aggregate premium increase delivered the most competitive option for coverage effective January 1, 2027. Due to an IRS-mandated increase to the embedded deductible, the deductible amounts on the Lower Deductible HSA HDHP will increase to \$3,500/\$7,000 (from current \$3,400/\$6,800), resulting in a corresponding slightly lowered overall aggregate premium increase of 6.6% for January 1, 2027. The County's 2027 aggregate health insurance premium increase at 6.6% reflects a better-than-trend renewal.

The total 2027 annual renewal cost is approximately \$15,240,000 for health insurance. Employees and the County share the cost of health insurance. County cafeteria contributions are negotiated with each bargaining unit.

Action Requested:

Motion to approve agreement with HealthPartners for 2027, for provision of fully insured group health insurance.

Fiscal Impact:

Funding:	Amount Budgeted:
County Funding	\$15,240,000

Related Fiscal/FTE Comments:

The health insurance annual renewal estimate of \$15,240,000 is based on a 6.60% aggregate premium rate increase compared to 2026 premiums and plan enrollment distribution.

Attachments:

None



Carver County Board of Commissioners
Request for Board Action

Agenda Item Name: Professional Services Agreement with Blackstone Contractors for Lake Waconia Regional Park Fire Feature

RBA Number: 2026-791

Department: Public Works - Parks

Contact: Samuel Pertz, Parks & Trails Supervisor, 952-466-5253

Presenter:

Contract Name & Number: 26-391 PSA with Blackstone Contractors for Paradise Commons Fire Feature - 2026

Meeting Date: September 8, 2026

Item Type: Consent

Strategic Initiative:

Our Physical Assets: Proactive planning for and maintaining our infrastructure and physical assets.

Background/Justification:

Following County Policy, two proposals have been obtained for construction services to build an accessory amenity to the Paradise Commons facility at Lake Waconia Regional Park. When Paradise Commons was originally designed, a fire feature and accompanying seating were planned for within the project. To contain project costs, the amenity was removed.

Paradise Commons operation has been very successful, with an average annual rental rate of (70) occurrences.

This amenity improvement will make the facility more attractive for reservations, particularly in the shoulder seasons. Additionally, recreation services will utilize the amenity through various day camps, public programs and special events that are often facilitated by Paradise Commons.

H+U Construction: \$189,190

Blackstone Construction LLC: \$153,800

The Park Commission is anticipated to make recommendation to the Board awarding the contract to Blackstone Construction LLC. at the September 9, 2026 meeting.

Action Requested:

Motion to approve a professional services agreement with Blackstone Construction LLC. in the amount of \$153,800 to construct an outdoor fire feature and seating amenity at Paradise Commons contingent upon the successful completion of the County contract review process as well as review and recommendation by the Park Commission at the September 9, 2026 meeting.

Fiscal Impact:

Funding:	Amount Budgeted:
FY 2025 Schedule E.	\$50,000.00
P&T Funds SFY 2024	\$103,800.00

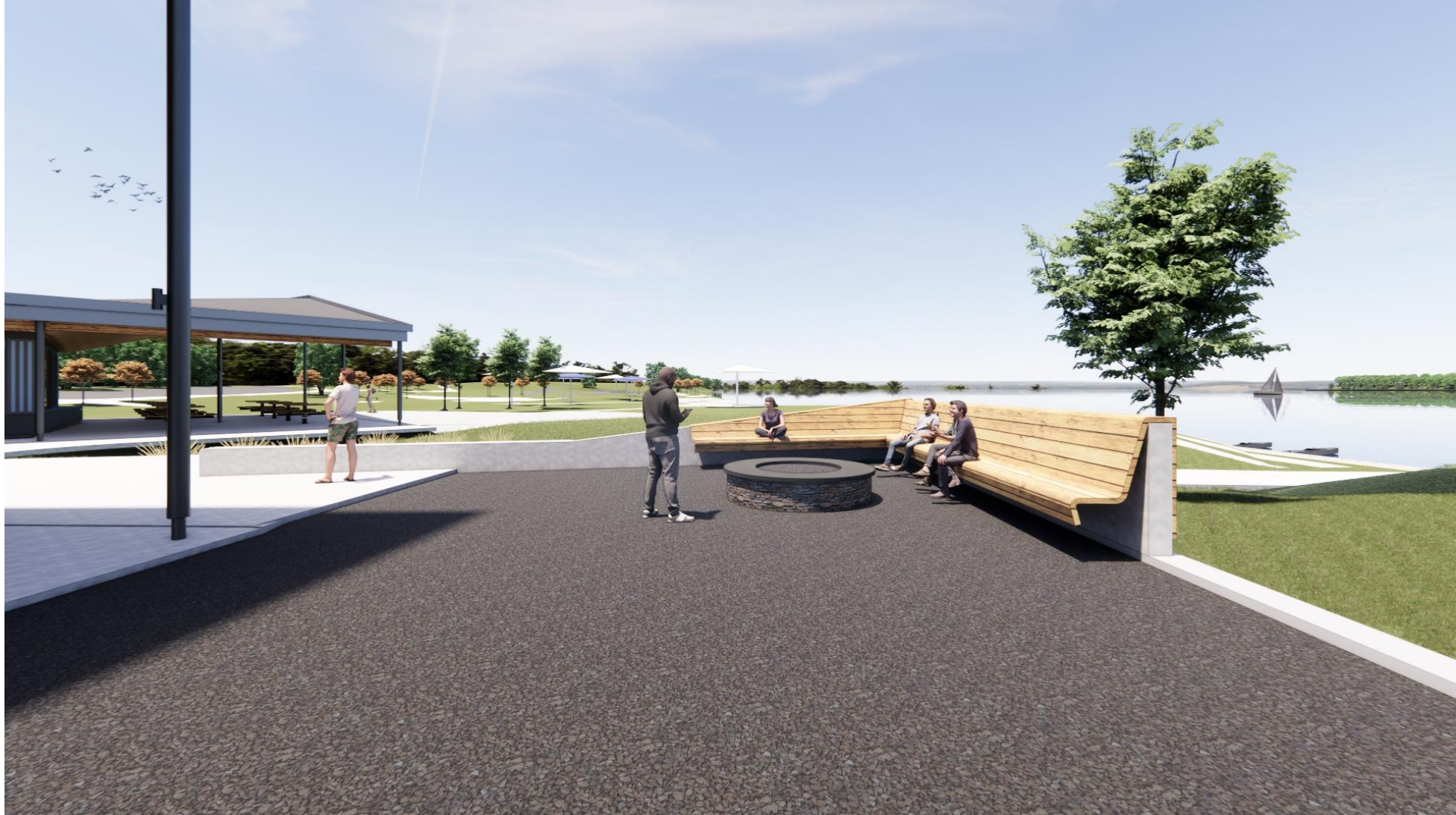
Related Fiscal/FTE Comments:

Remaining capacity in the total allocation of 2024 P&T funds will be utilized for this project via grant agreement between Met Council and Carver County. That agreement is being assembled.

Attachments:

1. Fire Feature Design

OPTION 1 alt *



OPTION 1 alt *





Carver County Board of Commissioners
Request for Board Action

Agenda Item Name: Adjust Public Hours for CareerForce Chaska
RBA Number: 2026-775
Department: Health & Human Services - Income Support
Contact: Kate Probert, Income Support Manager, 952-361-1713
Presenter: Kate Probert, Income Support Manager
Contract Name & Number:
Meeting Date: September 8, 2026
Item Type: Regular Session

Strategic Initiative:

Taxpayer Value and Customer Service: Providing the best value and optimal customer service.

Background/Justification:

Carver County Health and Human Services (CCHHS), through its Income Supports Department, provides workforce development, public assistance employment services, and childcare assistance. CareerForce is a Minnesota resource center offering jobseekers career counseling, training, employment connections, resume support, and access to programs such as SNAP Employment & Training and Child Care Assistance. Each location operates on set hours and delivers structured workforce services.

Carver County CareerForce, part of the Hennepin/Carver Workforce Development Area, is experiencing rising administrative and compliance demands with increased caseloads and limited staffing. To maintain service quality and meet regulations, public hours will shift from Monday–Friday 8:00 am–4:30 pm to 9:00 am–4:00 pm. The change will be communicated to the public at least thirty (30) days in advance and will take effect on Monday, October 19, 2026.

Proposed hours were established by conducting a comprehensive analysis of customer usage patterns at the CareerForce Center and reviewing operational practices at other locations, including Scott, Hennepin, Dakota, and Anoka counties. Modifying hours will have little to no impact on public users and will enable staff to perform required audits,

documentation, fraud prevention activities, customer follow-up, and administrative duties during closed-to-public periods—without additional staffing or exceeding capacity. With this change, CCHHS anticipates repurposing 7.5 hours per week in staff time to perform new/increased mandates.

Recent federal law changes (H.R.1) have considerably increased administrative requirements for counties. Counties are now responsible for 75% of administrative costs, and SNAP/MEDICAID programs require enhanced monitoring, work requirements, and documentation, which consequently expands the workforce development and employment services workload. CareerForce supported programs, including SNAP Employment & Training, Childcare Assistance Program (CCAP), WIOA, and workforce development services—are subject to frequent and in-depth audits, some occurring monthly. These audits demand comprehensive file reviews, swift responses, and increased staff commitment.

Fraud prevention remains a critical focus at both the state and federal level. State/Federal programs such as Workforce, SNAP, MFIP, childcare assistance, and public assistance employment services now mandate more rigorous verification, documentation, regular follow-ups, and thorough review of case accuracy and data integrity. Additional nonpublic hours are essential to ensure these tasks are performed diligently and consistently.

Caseloads for CareerForce initiatives are increasing. Employment counselors handle 80–90 cases each, while Child Care Assistance Program staff manage 100–120 cases per worker. The increasing complexity of customer needs requires longer sessions, comprehensive assessments, and detailed case notes. CareerForce, the Family Resource Center, and both Employment Counselors/Child Care Assistance Program professionals are supported by only two case aides. Their responsibilities continue to grow, encompassing paperwork management, administrative processing, customer outreach, after-hours phone follow-ups, and compliance documentation. Dedicated time for these tasks is crucial to maintaining service quality.

In alignment with the planned shift in public hours, all customer check-in and check-out processes, including gas/bus card distribution and Child Care Assistance check-ins—will be managed at the CCHHS front desk. This adjustment ensures accurate traffic counts and centralized customer flow oversight. CCHHS front desk staff will be available, including during non-public hours, and a CareerForce counselor will be on-call in the building to guarantee timely assistance for customers who arrive outside open/public hours.

Action Requested:

Motion to approve new public hours for CareerForce Chaska: Monday–Friday, 9:00 am–4:00 pm, effective October 19, 2026, after the required 30-day notice.

Fiscal Impact:

Funding:	Amount Budgeted:

Related Fiscal/FTE Comments:

No impact on FTEs or budget

Attachments:

None



Carver County Board of Commissioners
Request for Board Action

Agenda Item Name: Minnesota DNR ENRTF Grant for Lake Minnewashta Regional Park Restoration

RBA Number: 2026-721

Department: Public Works - Parks

Contact: Samuel Pertz, Parks & Trails Supervisor, 952-466-5253

Presenter: Samuel Pertz, Parks & Trails Supervisor

Contract Name & Number: 26-366 MN DNR ENRTF Grant for Lake Minnewashta RP Restoration - 2026

Meeting Date: September 8, 2026

Item Type: Regular Session

Strategic Initiative:

Our Physical Assets: Proactive planning for and maintaining our infrastructure and physical assets.

Background/Justification:

The County was successful in the 2026 Legislative process with a competitive grant application to the Legislative Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) in the amount of \$392,000. The project delivers comprehensive restoration of approximately 12 acres of existing landscape to be consistent with the natural resource management plan for the Park (Lake Minnewashta Regional Park).

The grant funds are intended to deliver the full scope of the project including soft costs of planning/bid letting; removals; restorative plantings and 3 years of maintenance practice.

A brief presentation will be provided to the County Board to better articulate the anticipated impacts to the park landscape as result of the project that will undoubtedly draw attention of park users and convey the high level project schedule.

Action Requested:

Motion to authorize the execution of the grant agreement with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources in the amount of \$392,000 for the restoration of natural resources on approximately 12 acres within Lake Minnewashta Regional Park contingent upon the recommendation of the Park Commission and successful review and completion of the County's contract review process.

Fiscal Impact:

Funding:	Amount Budgeted:
ENRTF Grant Administered by the State of MN DNR	\$392,000

Related Fiscal/FTE Comments:

Additional funds are available for contingencies in approved 2026 Schedule E funds (\$100k to match grant funds for land restoration and diseased tree removal).

Attachments:

None