

PROBATE NOTICE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF BENTON
DISTRICT COURT
PROBATE DIVISION
SEVENTH JUDICIAL
DISTRICT
Case No: 05-PR-25-20

NOTICE AND ORDER ON
HEARING ON
PETITION FOR PROBATE
OF WILL APPOINTMENT
OF CO-PERSONAL
REPRESENTATIVES AND
NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of:
Kathleen L. Corrigan,
Decedent.

It is Ordered and Notice is given that on the February 24, 2025, at 8:00 a.m., a hearing will be held in the Court at the Benton County Courts Facility, Foley, Minnesota, for the formal probate of an instrument purporting to be the Will of the Decedent, dated Octo-

ber 13, 2011, under Minn. Stat. 524.2-513 ("Will"), and for the appointment of Todd Corrigan, whose address is 11061 Woodhaven Court North, Champlin, MN 55316 and Mark Januscha, whose address is 2415 Field Court, St. Cloud, MN 56301, as co-personal representatives of the Estate of the Decedent in an UNSUPERVISED administration. Any objections to the Petition must be filed with the Court prior to or raised at the hearing. If proper and if no objections are filed or raised, the co-personal representatives will be appointed with full power to administer the Estate, including the power to collect all assets, to pay all legal debts, claims, taxes, and expenses, to sell real and personal property, and to do all necessary acts for the Estate. Notice is also given that (subject to Minn. Stat. 524.3-801) all creditors hav-

ing claims against the Estate are required to present the claims to the co-personal representatives or to the Court Administrator within four months after the date of this Notice or the claims will be barred. This hearing will be held administratively and you are not required to appear. Dated: January 3, 2025
/s/ Carl Ole Tvedten
Judge of District Court
Dated: January 3, 2025
By Megan Bergman
Court Administrator
Attorneys for Petitioners
Ashley M. Bukowski
Rinke Noonan, Ltd.
PO Box 1497
St. Cloud, MN 56302-1497
Attorney License No. 0400023
Abukowski@rinkenoonan.com
(320)251-6700
Fax: (320)656-3500

R-3-2B

NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 47
(SAUK RAPIDS-RICE), MINNESOTA

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a special election has been called and will be held in and for Independent School District No. 47 (Sauk Rapids-Rice), Minnesota, on February 11, 2025, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. to vote on the following questions:

School District Question 1
Approval of School Building Bonds
Early Childhood Center

YES Shall the board of Independent School District No. 47 (Sauk Rapids-Rice), Minnesota be authorized to issue general obligation school building bonds in an amount not to exceed \$37,190,000 for acquisition and betterment of school sites and facilities including, but not limited to, construction of an early childhood center?

NO

BY VOTING “YES” ON THIS BALLOT QUESTION, YOU ARE VOTING FOR A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

School District Question 2
Approval of School Building Bonds
Outdoor Activity Complex

YES Shall the board of Independent School District No. 47 (Sauk Rapids-Rice), Minnesota be authorized to issue general obligation school building bonds in an amount not to exceed \$17,710,000 for acquisition and betterment of school sites and facilities including, but not limited to, construction of an outdoor activity complex?

NO

BY VOTING “YES” ON THIS BALLOT QUESTION, YOU ARE VOTING FOR A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

The polling places and the precincts served by the polling places for this special election are as follows (***note***: please check your polling place carefully as the polling locations have changed for some voters):

Combined Polling Place:	Precincts Served:
The Sauk Rapids Government Center 250 Summit Avenue North Sauk Rapids, MN 56379	This combined polling place serves all territory in Independent School District No. 47 located in • City of Sauk Rapids, Precinct 2; • City of Sauk Rapids, Precinct 4; • City of Sauk Rapids, Precinct 5; and • City of Sauk Rapids, Precinct 6 In Benton County, Minnesota.
Riverside Terrace 195 River Avenue South Sauk Rapids, MN 56379	This combined polling place serves all territory in Independent School District No. 47 located in • Minden Township, Precinct 1; • Minden Township, Precinct 2; • City of Sauk Rapids, Precinct 1; • St. Cloud, Ward 2-Precinct 1; and • St. Cloud, Ward 2-Precinct 4 In Benton County, Minnesota.
Discovery Church 700 18th Street North West Sauk Rapids, MN 56379	This combined polling place serves all territory in Independent School District No. 47 located in • City of Sauk Rapids, Precinct 3; • Sauk Rapids Township; and • City of Sartell, Precinct 2 In Benton County, Minnesota.
Watab Town Hall 660 75th Street North West Sauk Rapids, MN 56379	This combined polling place serves all territory in Independent School District No. 47 located in • Watab Township; and • Mayhew Lake Township In Benton County, Minnesota.
Rice City Hall 205 Main Street East Rice, MN 56367	This combined polling place serves all territory in Independent School District No. 47 located in • City of Rice; • Langola Township; and • Graham Township In Benton County, Minnesota.

All qualified electors residing in the School District may cast their ballots at the polling places listed above during the polling hours specified above.

A voter must be registered to vote to be eligible to vote in the special election. Unregistered individuals may register to vote at the polling places on election day.

Dated: November 25, 2024.

BY ORDER OF THE SCHOOL BOARD

Risa Roidset
School Board Clerk

R-4-1B

HEARING NOTICE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
BENTON COUNTY
DISTRICT COURT
SEVENTH JUDICIAL
DISTRICT
Court File Number:
05-CV-25-71
Case Type: Civil Other/Misc.

**Notice of Remote
Zoom Hearing**

KELLY ANN SPRINGER
WILLENBRING, DAHL,
WOCKEN &
ZIMMERMANN, PLLC
PO BOX 417
318 MAIN ST.
COLD SPRING, MN 56320

Marcel J Kelash,
Cheryl A Kelash
vs
City of Rice

You are notified this matter is set for a remote hearing. This hearing will not be in person at the courthouse.

Hearing Information
March 19, 2025
Motion Hearing
9:00 AM

The hearing will be held via Zoom and appearance shall be by video unless otherwise

directed with Judicial Officer Karl L. Schmidt, Benton County District Court. The Minnesota Judicial Branch uses strict security controls for all remote technology when conducting remote hearings. You must:
• Notify the court if your address, email, or phone number changes.
• Be fully prepared for the remote hearing. If you have exhibits you want the court to see, you must given them to the court before the hearing. Visit <https://www.mncourts.gov/Remote-Hearings.aspx> for more information and options for joining remote hearings, including how to submit exhibits.
• Contact the court at (320)968-5205 if you do not have access to the internet, or are unable to connect by video.
• If you need an interpreter, contact the court before the hearing date to ask for one. To Join by internet:
1. Type <https://zoomgov.com/join> in your browser's address bar.
2. Enter the **Meeting ID and Meeting Passcode (if asked)**:

Meeting ID: 160 134 9480
Passcode: 368446
3. Update your name by clicking on your profile picture. If you are representing a party, add your role to your name, for example, John Smith, Attorney for Defendant.
4. Click the **Join Audio** icon in the lower left-hand corner of your screen.
5. Click **Share Video**
Para obtener más información y conocer las opciones para participar en audiencias remotas, incluido cómo enviar pruebas, visite www.mn-courts.gov/Remote-Hearings.
Booqo www.mncourts.gov/Remote-Hearings oo ka eego faahfaahin iyo siyaabaha aad uga qeybgeli karto dacwad-dhageysi ah fogaan-arag, iyo sida aad u soo gudbineysio wixii caddeymo ah.
Dated: January 13, 2025
Megan Bergman
Benton County Court
Administrator
615 Highway 23
PO Box 189
Foley, MN 56329
(320) 968-5205
R-3-2B

estate owned by the Decedent. Notice is further given that, subject to Minn. Stat. § 524.3-801, all creditors having claims against the Decedent's estate are required to present the claims to the Personal Representative or to the Court within four (4) months after the date of this notice or the claims will be barred. Dated: January 6, 2025
/s/ Lea Hippe
Registrar

LUND ROSS, P.A.
Betsey Lund Ross
(#0389061)
1139 Franklin Ave. NE
Suite 2
Sauk Rapids, MN 56379
Telephone: (320) 259-4070
Facsimile: (320) 317-0459
E-mail: Betsey@lundross-law.com

R-3-2B

PROBATE NOTICE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF BENTON
DISTRICT COURT
SEVENTH JUDICIAL
DISTRICT
PROBATE DIVISION
Case No: 05-PR-25-24

NOTICE OF INFORMAL
PROBATE OF WILL AND
INFORMAL
APPOINTMENT OF
PERSONAL
REPRESENTATIVE AND
NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In Re: the Estate of
Neil P. Henry,
AKA Neil Paul Henry,
Decedent.

Notice is given that an Application for Informal Probate of Will and Informal Appointment of Personal Representative was filed with the Registrar, along with a Will dated JULY 11, 2017. The Registrar accepted the application and informally appointed SHARON C.

HENRY, whose address is 2047 HIGHVIEW DRIVE, SAUK RAPIDS, MN 56379, to serve as the Personal Representative of the Decedent's estate. Any heir, devisee or other interested person may be entitled to appointment as Personal Representative or may object to the appointment of the Personal Representative. Any objection to the appointment of the Personal Representative must be filed with the Court, and any properly filed objection will be heard by the Court after notice is provided to interested persons of the date of hearing on the objection. Unless objections are filed, and unless the Court orders otherwise, the Personal Representative has the full power to administer the estate, including, after (30) days from the issuance of letters testamentary, the power to sell, encumber, lease, or distribute any interest in real

CERTIFICATE OF ASSUMED NAME
Minnesota Statutes
Chapter 333

ASSUMED NAME: Lotus Augusta.
PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS: 24876 COUNTY ROAD 7, SAINT AUGUSTA, MN 56301 USA.
NAMEHOLDER(S): Lotus Business Inc., 5987 STATE HIGHWAY 70, PINE CITY, MN 55063 USA.
(4) By typing my name, I, the undersigned, certify that I am signing this document as the person whose signature is required, or as agent of the person(s) whose signature would be required who has authorized me to sign this document on his/her behalf, or in both capacities. I further certify that I have completed all required fields, and that the information in this document is true and correct and in compliance with the applicable chapter of Minnesota Statutes. I understand that by signing this document I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Section 609.48 as if I had signed this document under oath.

/s/ Viral Desai
01/13/2025
R-3-2P

CERTIFICATE OF ASSUMED NAME
Minnesota Statutes
Chapter 333

ASSUMED NAME: Lotus Rice.
PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS: 2378 PINE RD NW, RICE, MN 56367 USA.
NAMEHOLDER(S): Lotus Business Inc., 5987 MN-70, Pine City, MN 55063 USA.
(4) By typing my name, I, the undersigned, certify that I am signing this document as the person whose signature is required, or as agent of the person(s) whose signature would be required who has authorized me to sign this document on his/her behalf, or in both capacities. I further certify that I have completed all required fields, and that the information in this document is true and correct and in compliance with the applicable chapter of Minnesota Statutes. I understand that by signing this document I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Section 609.48 as if I had signed this document under oath.

/s/ Viral Desai
01/13/2025
R-3-2P

LANGOLA TOWNSHIP
BENTON COUNTY
STATE OF MINNESOTA
ORDINANCE NO. 1
2024

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING CHARGES FOR
FIRE AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE SERVICES

The Board of Supervisors of Langola Township, Benton County, Minnesota ordains:

Section 1: Purposes and Intent

This ordinance is adopted for the purpose of authorizing Langola Township (the “Town”) to charge for Fire and Emergency Services as authorized by Minn. Statutes §§ 366.011 and 366.012.

Section 2: Definitions

1. “Fire and Emergency Services” means any deployment of firefighting personnel, emergency medical personnel and/or equipment to extinguish a fire or perform any preventative measure to protect equipment, life, or property in an area threatened by fire, or to provide fire suppression, rescue, extrication, medical, and any other services related to fire and rescue as may occasionally occur.

2. “Service Charge” means the charge imposed by the Town for receiving Fire and Emergency Services.

3. “Fire Protection Contract” means a contract between the Town and another jurisdiction which provides Fire and Emergency Services.

Section 3: Parties Affected

Persons or entities that utilize Fire and Emergency Services within the Town, regardless of residence.

Section 4: Rates

1. Residents of the Town who receive Fire and Emergency Services will be billed 100% of the amount charged to the Town by the Fire and Emergency Services provider pursuant to the Fire Protection Contract. In the event the charges must be sent to collections or certified to the resident’s property taxes because of non-payment, the resident will forfeit the resident discount previously applied to the invoice. Interest will be applied to the original amount of the invoice prior to discount.

2. Non-residents of the Town who receive Fire and Emergency Services will be billed 100% of the amount charged to the Town by the Fire and Emergency Services provider pursuant to the Fire Protection Contract.

Section 5: Fire and Emergency Service Charges in General

1. The Collection of Fire and Emergency Service response charges shall be pursuant to Minnesota Statute § 366.011 and any other applicable statute. Collection of unpaid service charges shall be as authorized in Minnesota Statute § 366.012 and any other applicable statute.

2. Parties requesting Fire and Emergency Services, parties receiving Fire and Emergency services, and owners of property upon which Fire and Emergency Services are performed may be billed directly by the Town if such Fire and Emergency Services are provided pursuant to the Fire Protection Contract. If Fire Department personnel deem a fire or other emergency exists, even if the parties did not request services, the parties will be charged and billed.

3. When a particular service rendered by the Fire and Emergency Services provider directly benefits more than one

Environmental Review – Public Notice

The City of Sauk Rapids is requesting public comments on the potential environmental impact of the construction of the PFAS TP Upgraded and New Wells.

The City of Sauk Rapids is proposing the addition of a common well house, two new wells, upsizing/improvement of approximately 750 LF of raw watermain, and Water Treatment Plant (WTP) capacity increase to reduce PFAS levels present in the water treatment system.

A common well house is proposed to be added to provide preliminary treatment for existing Wells No. 6 and 7, as well as the proposed Wells No. 8 and 9. This new well house, a 30-ft by 30-ft concrete masonry building, will be equipped to house flow meters, SCADA controls, electrical control equipment, and chemical storage and injection systems.

Proposed wells No. 8 and 9 will be situated in the same city owned area as Wells No. 6 and 7 and will be outfitted with submersible pumps and pitless units, with site piping connecting them to the new proposed well house. This work is essential to provide the additional flow needed to serve the City without requiring PFAS treatment.

The watermain along River Avenue, which links the wellfield to the Water Treatment Plant (WTP), needs to be enlarged from 10-inch to 16-inch to handle the increased flow from Wells No. 8 and 9. The upgrades will also include installation of 4 hydrants for flushing points on the raw watermain. This project will be conducted within the current watermain easement.

The improvements at the WTP are confined to the existing footprint of the building. These enhancements include the removal and replacement of four existing flow meters, the addition of a ladder to the filter cells, the replacement of four valve actuators, the relocation of two backwash valves, and the replacement of the potassium permanganate feed system with liquid sodium permanganate system.

The City intends to finance the project with a low interest loan from the Minnesota Public Facilities Authority’s drinking water revolving fund. To receive this loan, an environmental review must be conducted in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

Comments must be received by 4:00 p.m., February 25, 2025. They are to be submitted to McKenzie Hunt, Project Engineer, 3535 Vadnais Center Drive, St. Paul, MN 55110.

R-4-1B

person or property, the owner of each property so benefited, and each person or entity so benefited (where the property protection only is not involved) shall be liable for the payment of a proportionate share of the full charge for such service as outlined herein.

4. All parties will be billed whether the Fire and Emergency Servies are covered by insurance. Any billable amount of the service charge not covered by a parties’ insurance remains a debt of the party billed for such Fire and Emergency services.

5. Parties receiving an invoice for Fire and Emergency Services will have 30 days to pay. If the invoice is not paid within that period, the invoice will be considered delinquent, and interest will accrue at a rate of 1.5% per month.

6. If the Fire and Emergency Service charge remains unpaid for 30 days after the notice of delinquency is sent, the Town Board may, in addition to any remedies available under Minnesota law, on or before November 15 of each year, certify the unpaid Fire and Emergency Services charge to the County Auditor of the county in which the delinquent party owns real property for collection with property taxes levied against the property pursuant to Minnesota Statutes §§ 366.011 and 366.012. The County Auditor shall be responsible for remitting to the Town all charges and service charges collected on behalf of the Town. The Town must give the property owner written notice of its intent to certify the unpaid service charge to the Auditor by October 15. The service charge shall be subject to the same penalties, interest, and other conditions provided for the collection of property taxes.

7. The parties receiving the service shall be liable for all collection costs incurred by the Township including, but not limited to, administrative costs, attorneys’ fees, recording fees, and court costs.

8. Any party aggrieved by a charge authorized in this ordinance may appeal the charge as follows:

a. Within the period for which a bill is payable, the party shall file a written request with the Town Clerk setting forth specific reasons why the charge is improper.

b. The Clerk shall notify the aggrieved party, in writing, of the time, place, and date the Town Board will hold a hearing on the issue.

c. The Town Board may grant relief on appeal if it finds good cause and sufficient proof to satisfy the Board.

d. The Town Board may extend the time for payment for a reasonable period.

Section 6: Application to Collections to Budget

All Fire and Emergency Services charges collected will be Town funds and used to offset the expenses of the Town in contracting for Fire and Emergency Services.

Section 7: Effective Date

This Ordinance shall become effective and enforceable upon its publication in the Town’s official newspaper.

Section 8: Severability

If any portion of this Ordinance is found unconstitutional or otherwise invalid by a court of proper jurisdiction, all remaining provisions shall remain in effect and shall not be affected by the ruling on the invalid section.

Passed by the Langola Town Board this day of 18th December, 2024.

/s/ Mark Petron, Chairperson

/s/ Anita Seviola, Clerk

R-4-1B

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

THE RIGHT TO PURSUANT to the
VERIFICATION OF THE power of sale contained in
DEBT AND IDENTITY said mortgage, the above-
OF THE described property will be
CREDITOR WITHIN THE sold by the Sheriff of said
TIME PROVIDED BY county as follows:
LAW IS NOT AFFECTED
BY THIS ACTION. DATE AND TIME OF
SALE: March 27, 2025 at
10:00 AM

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that default has occurred in conditions of the following described mortgage:

DATE OF MORTGAGE: December 20, 2019

MORTGAGOR: Gabriel T. Pageant, a married man.

M O R T G A G E E : Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Guaranteed Rate Affinity, LLC, its successors and assigns.

DATE AND PLACE OF RECORDING: Recorded January 16, 2020 Benton County Recorder, Document No. 440839.

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC. Dated June 13, 2023 Recorded June 14, 2023, as Document No. 466549.

T R A N S A C T I O N AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.

T R A N S A C T I O N AGENT’S MORTGAGE I D E N T I F I C A T I O N NUMBER ON MORTGAGE: 101398219002510420

LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR STATED ON MORTGAGE: Guaranteed Rate Affinity, LLC

R E S I D E N T I A L MORTGAGE SERVICER: Flagstar Bank, National Association

M O R T G A G E D PROPERTY ADDRESS: 208 8 1/2 Street North, Sauk Rapids, MN 56379

TAX PARCEL I.D. #: 190022400

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:

Lots Seven (7), Eight (8), and the North Half (N ½) of Lot Nine (9), all in Block Twenty-one (21) in the Town (now City) of Sauk Rapids, according to the plat and survey thereof on file and of record in the office of the County Recorder in and for Benton County, Minnesota.

COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Benton

ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$171,816.00

AMOUNT DUE AND CLAIMED TO BE DUE AS OF DATE OF NOTICE, INCLUDING TAXES, IF ANY, PAID BY MORTGAGEE: \$173,297.09

That prior to the commencement of this mortgage foreclosure proceeding Mortgagee/ Assignee of Mortgagee complied with all notice requirements as required by statute; That no action or proceeding has been instituted at law or otherwise to recover the debt secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof;

to pay the debt then secured by said Mortgage, and taxes, if any, on said premises, and the costs and disbursements, including attorneys’ fees allowed by law subject to redemption within six (6) months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns unless reduced to Five (5) weeks under MN Stat. §580.07.

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, unless otherwise provided by law, the date on or before which the mortgagor(s) must vacate the property if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property is not redeemed under section 580.23 is 11:59 p.m. on September 29, 2025, unless that date falls on a weekend or legal holiday, in which case it is the next weekday, and unless the redemption period is reduced to 5 weeks under MN Stat. Secs. 580.07 or 582.032.

M O R T G A G O R (S) RELEASED FROM FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE: None

"THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR'S P E R S O N A L REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 582.032, DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED."

Dated: January 21, 2025

Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC

Mortgagee/Assignee of Mortgagee
LIEBO, WEINGARDEN, DOBIE & BARBEE, P.L.L.P. Attorneys for Mortgagee/Assignee of Mortgagee

4500 Park Glen Road #300 Minneapolis, MN 55416 (952) 925-6888 92 - 25-001234 FC

IN THE EVENT REQUIRED BY FEDERAL LAW: THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

R-4-6B

**BENTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 7, 2025**

The Benton County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on January 7, 2025, in the Benton County Board Room in Foley, MN with Commissioners Pam Benoit, Steve Heinen, Ed Popp, Jared Gapinski, and Scott Johnson present. Call to order by County Administrator Montgomery Headley was at 9:00 AM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Heinen nominated Popp for 2025 Chair of the Board. Seconded by Johnson. Nominations were closed and a unanimous ballot was cast for Popp for Board Chair for 2025. Chair Popp called for nominations for a 2025 Board Vice-Chair. Gapinski nominated Heinen for 2025 Vice-Chair of the Board. Seconded by Johnson. Nominations were closed and a unanimous ballot was cast for Heinen for Board Vice-Chair for 2025.

County Administrator Montgomery Headley requested the following amendments to the agenda: 1) add the discussion to re-designate Auditor-Treasurer the authority to designate depository banks and to designate depository banks for Benton County funds after the Consent Agenda; 2) to add a Resolution supporting the Active Transportation Grant Application requesting a Letter of Support to Sauk Rapids for Transportation Alternatives (TA) and Active Transportation (AT) Grant Application (already on the Agenda under County Engineer Chris Byrd at 9:25 AM); 3) to add the discussion regarding Xcel Energy Appropriation Estimate as the last item under County Engineer Chris Byrd at 9:25 AM. Motion by Johnson and seconded by Heinen to approve the amended agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

There was no one present from the public to speak under Open Forum.

Motion by Gapinski and seconded by Johnson to approve Consent Agenda items 1 -8: 1) approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of December 17, 2024 and authorize the Chair to sign; 2) approve the Memorandum of Agreement with Law Labor Enforcement Labor Services, Inc. representing Detention Officers and Dispatchers in the Sheriff's Office to implement the 2024-2026 Class and Comp Maintenance Program Recommendations, Year 1 and authorize the Chair to sign; 3) accept and file the County Administrator's Report; 4) approve the contract for outside Labor Attorney Services and authorize the Chair to sign; 5) approve the 2025 contract for the purchase of guardianship/conservatorship services for: Resource Training and Solutions and authorize the Chair to sign; 6) approve the Joint Powers Agreement with Local Government Units for the enforcement and regulation of Cannabis and authorize the Chair to sign; 7) approve the appointments to the Board of Adjustment and Planning Commission; 8) approve an alternative method to disseminate bids and Requests for Proposals and authorize the Chair to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

Next, Auditor-Treasurer Christine Scherbing requested to re-designate Auditor-Treasurer the authority to designate depository banks and to designate depository banks for Benton County funds. Motion by Gapinski and seconded by Johnson to re-designate Auditor-Treasurer the authority to designate depository banks and to designate depository banks for Benton County funds. Motion carried unanimously.

Next, County Administrator Montgomery Headley explained that the draft listing of the 2025 County Board meeting dates and times reflects the traditional meeting dates of the "first and third" Tuesday of each month at 9:00 AM; with the exception of the December 2, 2025 meeting commencing at 6:00 PM for the "Truth in Taxation Meeting". Following discussion, Johnson/Heinen to set the 2025 County Board meeting dates and times: "first and third" Tuesday of each month at 9:00 AM with the exception of the first meeting in December which will be on Tuesday, December 2, 2025 at 6:00 PM (to combine with the Truth in Taxation Meeting). Motion carried unanimously.

Next, Headley requested the County Board to designate the official newspapers for Benton County for 2025. We have received bids from Star Publication to publish official County notices in both the Sauk Rapids Herald and Benton County news. Star Publications cites a 30% discount for publishing in both newspapers. Publication rates will increase 2.5% in 2025. Examples of notices published include County Board minutes, notices of public hearings, the delinquent tax listing, annual financial statements, the summary budget statement,

and County ordinances. Motion by Johnson and seconded by Benoit to designate the Benton County News and Sauk Rapids Herald as the official newspapers of Benton County for 2025. Motion carried unanimously.

Next, Headley requested the County Board to set the 2025 per diem rate for Boards and Commissions. The County Board's past practice has been to set the per diem paid to members of Boards and Commissions at the first meeting in January. Boards and Commissions affected by this action include the Park Commission, Planning Commission, Board of Adjustment, Solid Waste Advisory Committee and the Extension Committee. The current per diem paid to members of Boards and Commissions is \$70 per meeting. The requested action sets the per diem at the same \$70 rate established for County Board members for 2025. Motion by Gapinski and seconded by Benoit to set the 2025 per diem rate at \$70 per meeting for Boards and Commissions. Motion carried unanimously.

Next, Headley requested the County Board to consider the appointments to Career Solutions. Due to the departure of Commissioner Schlangen from the County Board and the Career Solutions Board, a new appointment is needed. Such appointment will allow Benton County to have two representatives to the Career Solutions Board for its first meeting in January (and help to avoid any potential lack of quorum issues.). The Career Solutions Joint Powers Agreement requires the appointment of two Board members from each County. Motion by Gapinski and seconded by Johnson to appoint Benoit to the Career Solutions Board. Motion carried unanimously.

Next, Headley requested the County Board to consider the State of Minnesota Safe and Secure Courthouse Grant Agreement. Benton County was awarded a \$21,350 "Safe and Secure Courthouse" grant from the Minnesota Judicial Branch to install bullet-resistant glass in Court Administration. The grant will cover half the project cost. The balance can be provided by the County's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) fund balance. Motion by Heinen and seconded by Benoit to approve the State of Minnesota Safe and Secure Courthouse Grant Agreement. Motion carried unanimously.

Next, Headley requested the County Board to adopt the County Board Policy Manual. A County Board Policy Manual was first created and adopted in January 2023. It was subsequently revised in May 2024 to include provisions for remote attendance at County Board meetings. Headley requests Board review and approval of the Policy Manual for 2025. Motion by Johnson and seconded by Heinen to adopt the County Board Policy Manual. Motion carried unanimously.

Next, Headley requested to schedule closed sessions for Department Head annual performance evaluations. There was a consensus to schedule the Department Head annual performance evaluations at a later date.

Next, Social Services Supervisor Nikki Knowles requested the County Board to consider the contract for Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homeless (PATH). Through the Community Adult Mental Health Initiative (CAMHI) the four-county area (Benton, Stearns, Sherburne and Wright) applied for the PATH grant through the Department of Human Services. The initiative was selected to receive the grant. The purpose of the PATH grant will be to service persons with serious mental illness (SMI) or co- occurring SMI and substance use disorder to access needed housing, treatment and supportive services and income support. A portion of the grant is to be utilized for Direct Assistance for client and administrative cost.

Staff Salary and Benefits - \$160,941

Direct Access - \$32,185

Administration - \$32,950

The contract is dated August 18, 2024 through June 30, 2025. Motion by Heinen and seconded by Johnson to approve the PATH grant. Motion carried unanimously.

Next, County Engineer Chris Byrd requested the County Board to consider the Letter of Support to Sauk Rapids for Transportation Alternatives (TA) and Active Transportation (AT) grant application. This topic was discussed during the December 17, 2024 Board meeting. Subsequent conversations with the City of Sauk Rapids have revealed an understanding on the part of Sauk Rapids that the County will not be responsible for relocation of a trail if it will conflict with future expansion of CSAH 1. It was also noted that the trail to the south of Osauka Rd is within the county right-of-way and a

new trail to the north will need to connect at the same pedestrian crossing, thus requiring a letter of support from the County. This will also require a signed Resolution supporting the Active Transportation Grant Agreement. Motion by Gapinski and seconded by Heinen to approve the Letters of Support for the TA and AT grant application, and the supporting Resolution. Motion carried unanimously.

Next, Byrd requested the County Board to consider the Resolution of Support for TA grant application to partially fund the construction of a shared use path along CR 55 in the City of Rice. If successful, the grant would cover 80% of the construction costs, which are estimated at \$372,025. The grant would not cover engineering or construction inspection costs. The grant funds would be available in fiscal year 2029. Byrd added that the City of Rice adopted a Resolution supporting this project at their January 6th meeting. Motion by Gapinski and seconded by Johnson to adopt the Resolution of Support for Transportation Alternatives grant application. Motion carried unanimously.

Next, Byrd shared information regarding the Xcel Energy Appropriation Estimate. On Tuesday, December 31, 2024, Byrd received the relocation and appropriation estimate via email from Xcel Energy. The estimate provided a detailed cost estimate to remove a wooden transmission line pole that will conflict with the roundabout construction at CSAH 1 and CSAH 29. The elimination of this one wood pole requires two steel poles on concrete foundations. Xcel is requesting that payment of 80% of this estimate be made before advancing to the next step. They will give credit for the \$134,000 the County already paid. The total estimate has increased by \$62,251 since June of 2024. The total cost of the project is estimated at \$997,208. Xcel Energy Project Managers Cody Holmes and Josh Tomlinson (virtual) were present to answer questions. They acknowledged that one major factor holding this project up has been waiting for the construction materials to arrive. The project was also prolonged due to trying to find alternative ways to reduce the cost. Xcel has ordered the product and is trying to expedite the project as soon as possible. Xcel also addressed that the increase of \$62,251 is due to acquiring easements for the project. Another setback is that Benton County cannot advertise for bids for the road construction project that Byrd was hoping to have completed during the summer months of 2025 to avoid burdens to traffic when school ends/begins. Benton County cannot advertise for bids until we have the pole materials from Xcel. Gapinski stated that we do not want to put the County at more risk, but this is going to be a phased project, and the only party not losing money is Xcel. Holmes stated that they cannot guarantee a completion date of this project. Motion by Gapinski and seconded by Heinen to approve the Xcel Appropriation Estimate and authorize the County Engineer to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

The Regular County Board meeting was recessed at 10:27 AM to conduct a Human Services Board Meeting and a Community Health Board Meeting.

The Regular Board meeting reconvened at 10:57 AM.

Next, Board members continued to report on recent meetings they attended on behalf of Benton County.

Under Comments by Commissioners, Headley noted that he received an email from Bollig Engineering stating that the City of Gilman received a Letter of Conditions from the USDA approving their infrastructure project.

Heinen/Johnson to set the Committee of the Whole Meetings: Tuesday, January 14, 2025 solar Project Open House, Sauk Rapids Government Center 250 Summit Avenue N, Sauk Rapids, MN, 6:00 PM; Thursday, February 13, 2025 Transportation Day at the Capital, North Central States Regional Council of Carpenters Office, 710 Olive St, St. Paul, MN, 9:30 AM; Thursday, February 20, 2025 Benton County Association of Townships Meeting, Minden Town Hall, 2989 Golden Spike Rd NE, Sauk Rapids, MN, 7:30 PM; Tuesday, March 4, 2025 Benton County Hazard Mitigation Plan Update (virtual) Benton County Boardroom, Foley, 2:00 PM. Motion carried unanimously.

Chair Gapinski adjourned the Regular Board Meeting at 11:09 AM.

Edward D. Popp, Chair

Benton County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:
Montgomery Headley
Benton County Administrator

R-4-1B

**NOTICE OF TESTING OF OPTICAL SCAN SYSTEM
AND DS450 CENTRAL COUNT TABULATOR
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 47
(SAUK RAPIDS-RICE), MINNESOTA**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Independent School District No. 47 (Sauk Rapids-Rice), Minnesota shall perform a public accuracy test of the optical scan voting system to be used in the district's February 11, 2025 special election.

The test shall be conducted at the District Office of Sauk Rapids-Rice Public Schools located at 1833 Osauka Road NE; Sauk Rapids, Minnesota on February 4, 2025 starting at 9:00 a.m.

The test is open to the public.

Please contact Christie Young or Amy Partch, Special Election Administrators, at 320-253-4703 with any questions.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Benton County Auditor-Treasurer's Office (Foley), Minnesota shall perform a public accuracy test of the DS450 Central Count Tabulator to be used to tabulate absentee ballots for the district's February 11, 2025 special election.

The test shall be conducted at the Benton County Boardroom located at 531 Dewey Street; Foley, Minnesota on February 5, 2025 starting at 10:00 a.m.

The test is open to the public.

Please contact Christine Scherbing, Benton County Auditor-Treasurer, at 320-968-5006 with any questions.

Dated: January 25, 2025.

BY ORDER OF THE SCHOOL BOARD

/s/ Lisa Loidolt, Clerk

R-4-1B

**CITY OF SAUK RAPIDS
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

You are invited to attend a public hearing on Tuesday, February 4, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as possible, in the Sauk Rapids Government Center, 250 Summit Avenue North, to consider the following matters that require a public hearing.

APPLICANT

City of Sauk Rapids/Minden Township Joint Planning Board

PURPOSE

To consider an ordinance amendment in the Agricultural 1 District that would place a limit of 2.5 miles between solar gardens.

Please contact Sauk Rapids Community Development Director Todd Schultz at (320) 258-5315 or tschultz@ci.sauk-rapids.mn.us with questions or stop by City Hall to obtain a copy of the application.

Any person desiring to comment on these matters is invited to do so in writing or orally at the time of the public hearing.

Published in the Sauk Rapids Herald on Saturday, January 25, 2025.

R-4-1B