



ITASCA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Itasca County Courthouse
123 NE 4th Street
Grand Rapids, MN 55744
(218) 327-2847

Tuesday, April 21, 2026

2:30 PM

Itasca County Boardroom

DRAFT

REGULAR SESSION MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 2:30 PM.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Cory Smith	District #1	Present	2:30 PM
Terry Snyder	District #2	Present	2:30 PM
John Johnson	District #3	Present	2:30 PM
Larry Hopkins	District #4	Present	2:30 PM
Casey Venema	District #5	Present	2:30 PM

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion To: Approve the agenda, as presented.

RESULT: APPROVED (5 TO 0)
MOVER: Commissioner John Johnson
SECONDER: Commissioner Larry Hopkins
AYES: Cory Smith, Terry Snyder, John Johnson, Larry Hopkins, Casey Venema

IV. MINUTES APPROVAL

Motion To: Approve the minutes of the Tuesday, April 14, 2026, County Board Regular Session and Special Session.

RESULT: APPROVED (5 TO 0)
MOVER: Commissioner Terry Snyder
SECONDER: Commissioner Casey Venema
AYES: Cory Smith, Terry Snyder, John Johnson, Larry Hopkins, Casey Venema

1. Approve the minutes of the Tuesday, April 14, 2026, Regular Session.
2. Approve the minutes of the Tuesday, April 14, 2026, Special Session.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion To: Approve the Consent agenda, as presented.

RESULT: APPROVED (5 TO 0)
MOVER: Commissioner Terry Snyder
SECONDER: Commissioner Larry Hopkins
AYES: Cory Smith, Terry Snyder, John Johnson, Larry Hopkins, Casey Venema

1. Approve the updated Tobacco Policy

2. Approve One Day Liquor License for Great Tails Animal Rescue for October 30, 2026, at Barn in the Woods Event Center located at 27037 Baich Rd, Bovey, MN 55709 in Trout Lake Township.
3. Approve LG214 Premises Permit Application, as requested by Community Charities of Minnesota, for gambling at Trailside Restaurant and Bar located at 29314 County Road 52, Bigfork, MN 56628.
4. Approve tobacco license for S. Bastian Companies, LLC dba Pokegama Grill located at 3910 Golf Course Rd, Grand Rapids, MN 55744.
5. Authorize the required signatures on the LRIP Sponsor Agreement with Feeley Township for the Shallow Lake Road Improvements Project
6. Authorize the notice of intermediate and regular oral bid auction of timber to be given by publication in the official newspaper of the County as provided by law, and the Land Commissioner offers such tracts of timber per the county's timber sale policy as they appear in the notice for sale, and which sale shall commence at 10:00 AM on Wednesday, June 3, 2026, at the Cohasset Community Center.
7. Adopt the Resolution Re: Authorizing Execution of a Limited Use Permit between Itasca County and the Commissioner of Transportation, State of Minnesota and authorize necessary signatures.
8. Approve Letter of Support and Adopt Resolution for the Itasca County Family YMCA Capital Investment Request.

VI. REGULAR AGENDA

1. Legislative Conference Call
Hold a Legislative Conference Call with Senator Farnsworth.

RESULT:	INFORMATIONAL - NO ACTION TAKEN
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2. Commissioner Warrants
Motion To: Approve Commissioner Warrants with a check date of April 22, 2026, in the amount of \$1,145,048.01.

RESULT:	APPROVED (5 TO 0)
MOVER:	Commissioner John Johnson
SECONDER:	Commissioner Casey Venema
AYES:	Cory Smith, Terry Snyder, John Johnson, Larry Hopkins, Casey Venema

3. Approval To Post Positions
Motion To: Approve Posting Positions: Reallocation of HRIS Assistant (Grade 8) to HRIS and Leave Specialist (Grade 10).

RESULT:	APPROVED (5 TO 0)
MOVER:	Commissioner Terry Snyder
SECONDER:	Commissioner John Johnson
AYES:	Cory Smith, Terry Snyder, John Johnson, Larry Hopkins, Casey Venema

4. Northland Reliability Project
Receive Northland Reliability Project update from Brian Hooker, Great River Energy.

RESULT:	INFORMATIONAL - NO ACTION TAKEN
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VII. ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE

County Administrator Brett Skyles provided an Administrator Update, including Coroner Services changing to a yearly report and also a reminder that the Restore Earth Day cookout is Wednesday, 4/22/2026.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioner Hopkins reported on attending a Grand Village Board meeting.

Commissioner Johnson reported on attending a Budget to Actual meeting.

Commissioner Snyder reported on attending a Budget to Actual meeting (reporting that the budgets look good) and a Highway 38 Leadership Board meeting.

Commissioner Venema reported on attending a Carpenter Township meeting, an AEOA meeting, Kootasca meeting, Trails ATV Alliance meeting, and met with employees of Transportation Department.

Commissioner Snyder reported on attending a meeting at the Blandin Foundation.

IX. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Hopkins provided comment regarding Coffee with Commissioners on 4/23/2026 at Harris Town Hall at 6:00 p.m.

Commissioner Smith provided comment regarding budget time and scheduling meetings, with a reminder to everyone to reach out now with any concerns.

X. CLOSED SESSIONS**XI. ADJOURN**

Chair Smith adjourned the meeting at 3:08 PM.

ATTEST

Cory Smith
Chair of the County Board

Brett Skyles
Clerk of the County Board