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McIntosh, Minnesota



The Win-E-Mac Robotics team made up of Ella, Ady, Malaina, and Charley won the Judges Award at the Minnesota State Meet in St. Cloud, Minnesota recently. The Judges Award recognizes attributes felt were deserving of special recognition.



Another team winning the Judges Award at the recent Robotics State meet were: Grafton, Brody and Ainsley. Criteria to consider for the Judges Award are: The team displays special attributes, exemplary effort, or perseverance at the event; Team stands out to judge volunteers as being deserving of special recognition; Team interview demonstrates effective communication skills, teamwork, professionalism, and a student-centered ethos.



The Win-E-Mac Robotics team consisting of Emma, Elizabeth, and Dean brought the Sportsmanship Award home from their trip to the State Tournament in St. Cloud, Minnesota. The Sportsmanship Award recognizes a high degree of good sportsmanship, helpfulness, respect and a positive attitude both on and off the competition field.



Freedom Christian Academy students enjoyed Read Across America Week with some cookies baked with Nadia Nikolayson and JJ Ross in the middle school.

March is Women's History Month

Every year, March is designated Women's History Month by presidential proclamation. The month is set aside to honor women's contributions in American history.

Women's History Month began as a local celebration in Santa Rosa, California. The Education Task Force of the Sonoma County (California) Commission on the Status of Women planned and executed a "Women's History Week" celebration in 1978. The organizers selected the week of March 8 to correspond with International Women's Day. The movement spread across the country as other communities initiated their own Women's History Week celebrations the following year.

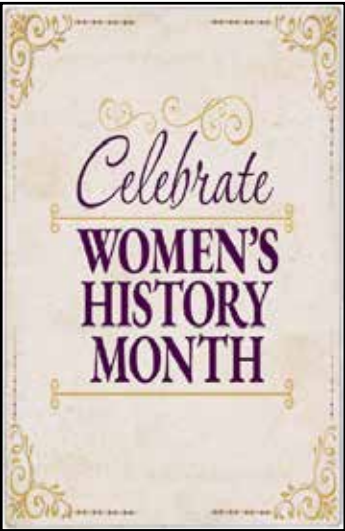
In 1980, a consortium of women's groups and historians, led by the National Women's History Project (now the National Women's History Alliance), successfully lobbied for national recognition. In February 1980, President Jimmy Carter issued the first Presidential Proclamation declaring the Week of March 8th 1980 as National Women's History Week.

Subsequent Presidents continued to proclaim a National Women's History Week in March until 1987 when Congress passed Public Law 100-9, designating March as "Women's History Month." Between 1988 and 1994, Congress passed additional resolutions requesting and authorizing the President to proclaim March of each year as Women's History Month.

In 1986, 14 states had already declared March as Women's History Month. This momentum and state-by-state action was used as the rationale to lobby Congress to declare the entire month of March 1987 as National Women's History Month. In 1987, Congress declared March as National Women's History Month in perpetuity. A special Presidential Proclamation is issued every year which honors the extraordinary achievements of American women.

Trailblazing women who changed the world

Throughout history, many dedicated, intelligent and perseverant women have made an impact that not only affected their lives, but also the lives of millions of others. Many of these noteworthy women blazed trails and opened doors for others, forever changing the world with their efforts.



Marie Curie

Curie founded the science of radioactivity, which proved vital in treating cancer. Curie also was the first woman to win a Nobel Prize and the first woman professor at the University of Paris. Curie also holds the distinction of being the first person to win a second Nobel Prize.

Jane Austen

Few students will make it through a high school or college English seminar without reading at least one Jane Austen book. In fact, Austen may be credited with establishing the romantic comedy genre that still has its devotees in the twenty-first century. Her "Pride and Prejudice" remains a popular novel and has been adapted to film and television many times.

Grace Hopper

After earning a doctorate in mathematics, Hopper became one of the very few women to obtain such a degree. She became a rear admiral in the United States Navy, and helped develop a compiler that was a precursor to the COBOL language used for computers.

Sally Ride

Ride was an American physicist and astronaut who joined NASA in 1978. She was the first American woman and the third woman to fly into space.

Diana, Princess of Wales

Diana Spencer was the first wife of Charles, heir apparent to the British throne, who has since become King of England. The Princess won acclaim for her charitable work for children and for raising awareness for HIV/AIDS and mental illnesses.

Lucille Ball

Not only a prolific woman comic, which was not so common during her tenure, Ball also was a savvy business

woman. She and her husband spearheaded her own production company. Ball also was known for tackling groundbreaking topics (at the time) on her television show, including women in the workforce, marital issues and pregnancy.

Ruth Bader Ginsburg

Ginsburg made history as the first Jewish woman to be appointed to the United States Supreme Court. She was a strong women's rights activist, and she co-founded the Women's Rights Project at the American Civil Liberties Union.

Lola Baldwin

Baldwin became the first sworn woman police officer in 1908, when she was hired to work in Portland, Oregon. Her work mainly revolved around protecting women, including acting as a lobbyist for laws to protect women and advising other departments on women's law enforcement issues.

Elizabeth Blackwell

In 1849, Blackwell became the first woman in the United States to earn a medical degree. Blackwell was inspired to become a doctor after a deathly ill friend insisted she would have received better care from a female doctor.

Throughout history, many women have helped to change the course of the world, blazing trails for future generations along the way.

Take the time to learn more about women's history this month. If you do, chances are it'll help you truly understand and appreciate the strength and determination of women across the country over hundreds of years.



Winger Lions Benefit is March 16

The Winger Lions will hold a benefit for Jesse Hickman on Sunday, March 16, 2025 from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm at the Winger Community Center. There will be a pancake breakfast with pancakes, sausage, strawberries, whipped cream and a beverage for a free will offering.

All are welcome and encouraged to attend this benefit to help our community member and friend.



Students and their families and friends gathered for Green Eggs and Ham breakfast at the Win-E-Mac School on Tuesday, March 4th as a part of Read Across America Week, celebrating Dr. Seuss' birthday. Pictured: Heidi Stuhaut, Annie Schow, Mason Halstad and Cat in the Hat, Principal Casey Rierison.



Jessica Morberg is literally a lifesaver. She was recently recognized for her intuition and heroics when honored with RiverView Health's December 2024 Employee of the Month award. Morberg is an RN in the Emergency Department. In her five years with RiverView, she's also worked on the Inpatient Unit. A McIntosh native, she enjoys spending time at home with her family and dog, Gus. "I am very grateful for this nomination," she shared of being Employee of the Month. "I appreciate all of my amazing coworkers. They are a big part of why I like working at RiverView."

LARL announces spring event series

Lake Agassiz Regional Library will offer a series of enriching and entertaining programs as part of its Spring Legacy Series, which will kick off on March 26. From author visits to stained glass workshops to live music and historical presentations, the library has something for everyone this spring. Presenters will visit multiple locations around Lake Agassiz Regional Library's seven county region. More information about each of these tours iis available at larl.org/legacyseries.

Barn Storming: Minnesota's Barns & Barn Quilts with Minnesota Photographer, Author and History Enthusiast Jay Grammond, March 26-28

Journey with Jay around the state, exploring unique and historical barns as he showcases examples of the quickly growing art style known as barn quilts.

Imagination Theatre with Early Literacy Educator Michael Paul Gallo, April 9-22

Families are invited to attend a performance of "Imagination Theater" a family-friendly show featuring puppetry, songs, stories, and audience participation.

I Cheerfully Refuse Author Visit with Author Leif Enger, April 14-16

Minnesota author Leif Enger will share about his latest book, I Cheerfully Refuse, as well as his experiences as an author.

Stained Glass Workshops with Artist Morgan Niederkorn, April 24-May1

Create your very own

stained glass honeycomb during this two hour class. Registration is required at larl.org/stainedglass.

Live Scandinavian Music Featuring Project : Constellation, May 3-31

An entertaining performance of Scandinavian music featuring Norwegian and Swedish songs sung in their original languages performed by a husband and wife duo featuring guitarist Santiago Silva, a native of Sweden, and violinist Christina Silva.

Canoe Restoration and Adventures with Rollie Johnson, May 8-15

Johnson will bring attendees along as he details some of his most exciting journeys, as well as his experience canoe-building and restoring a 115-year-old canoe.

Authors In Conversation featuring Kristi Belcamino and Sarah Stonich, May 19-21

Minnesota authors Kristi Belcamino and Sarah Stonich will share their experiences writing and publishing a number of titles. Audience participation is encouraged!

Author Visits Featuring Jeanne Cooney, May 19-21

Cooney is the author of the popular Hot Dish Heaven Mystery series, which are set in the Red River Valley and include a humorous take on life in the Midwest, complete with references to hot dish, Jell-O and bars and including the recipes to make them at home.

Admission is free, thanks in part to funding from the Minnesota Arts & Cultural Heritage Fund.

Ad deadline:
Noon Friday

Grace
Community
Food Shelf

Grace Community Food Shelf will be open Thursdays March 13th from 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm, and March 20th from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm. We are on the east side of Grace Church in double garage. We welcome all of our communities for your needs.

Contact: foodshelf@grace-churcherskine.org or 218-687-2250. Leave name and number. We are also on Facebook.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE
THE RIGHT TO VERIFICATION OF THE DEBT AND IDENTITY OF THE ORIGINAL CREDITOR WITHIN THE TIME PROVIDED BY LAW IS NOT AFFECTED BY THIS ACTION.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN:

That default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:

DATE OF MORTGAGE:

November 22, 2021

MORTGAGOR: Mitchell D. Marquis and Qihua Lyu, married to each other

MORTGAGEE: Affinity Plus Federal Credit Union, a credit union organized under the laws of the United States of America

DATE AND PLACE OF RECORDING: Recorded November 30, 2021, in the office of the County Recorder, as Document No. A000738134, Polk County, Minnesota.

MORTGAGED PROPERTY ADDRESS: 34219310th St, Fosston, MN 56542

TAX PARCEL I.D. NOS. 38.00131.02

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: That part of the Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter (NW 1/4 NW 1/4), Section Twenty-three (23), Township One Hundred Forty-nine (149) North of Range Forty (40) West of the Fifth Principal Meridian, described as follows: Commencing at a point on the North line of the Northwest Quarter 620 feet West of the Northeast corner of the Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter; thence West along said North line 700 feet to the West corner of the Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter; thence South along the West line of Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter, distance 320 feet; thence East on a line parallel with the North line 700 feet; thence North 0 degrees 320 feet to the point of beginning, Polk County, Minnesota.

COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Polk

ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$132,465.00

AMOUNT DUE AND CLAIMED TO BE DUE AS OF DATE OF NOTICE, INCLUDING TAXES, IF ANY, PAID BY MORTGAGEE: \$108,167.94

INTEREST RATE AND PER DIEM: Current interest rate is 1.875%, with a daily per diem of \$5.42.

The person holding the Mortgage is not a transaction agent, as defined by Minn. Stat. 58.02, Subd. 30. The

Septic system fix-up grant program

Polk County Environmental Services is pleased to announce the availability of a cost-share grant program that is available to property owners in Polk County that have an existing noncompliant septic system. Funds are intended to fix septic systems that are currently failing codes or functionality. These dollars are made possible through a grant received from the Minnesota Clean Water Legacy Act.

There is a limited amount of funding available and preference for funding will be determined based on household income status, condition of existing system, and proximity to priority surface waters. Income restrictions do apply. A major goal within the fix-up program aims to fix "imminent public health threats". Polk County uses HUD low-income guidelines to group funding grant contributions.

Households must not exceed these income guidelines, must be the landowners home-stead not a second dwelling or rental, and applicants will be required to pay any match requirement upfront if approved. No holding tank septic systems

can be installed and SSTS for new construction of a dwelling does not qualify for the program. The County will provide a cost share grant contributing 60% and up to 80% of installation cost up to a maximum of \$12,000 grant dollars.

To learn more about this program, please call Polk County Planning and Zoning at (218) 281-5700. Program applications can also be found on our website at www.co.polk.mn.us under the Environmental Services and Planning and Zoning Department page. The deadline to apply for the Septic System Fix-Up Grant Program is May 15th, 2025. After this date, remaining funding will be available on a first come first serve basis.

Also, please remember that Polk County Planning and Zoning requires building/land use permits for all construction projects throughout the County.

If you are planning any building/land use projects please contact planning and zoning prior to construction to see what setbacks and ordinance requirements may apply.

Defensive driving benefits your vehicle

Defensive driving is a technique and set of skills that is designed to make roadways as safe as possible. Defensive driving teaches drivers how to anticipate potential hazards and respond to them accordingly. By maintaining awareness of one's surroundings, directing focus to the road and preparing to act quickly, drivers can greatly reduce their risk of being involved in accidents.

Although defensive driving is important from a personal safety perspective, it also can be good for vehicles. Here's a look at some of the advantages to driving defensively.

Decrease the number of vehicle repairs. Driving defensively could help keep a vehicle out of the repair shop. When a person stays focused

on the road, he or she can steer clear of debris, potholes and other vehicles that might normally cause damage. If there are no bumps and bruises to a vehicle, a driver will make less frequent trips to a mechanic or auto body shop.

Reduce the frequency of maintenance. Defensive driving can mean driving more smoothly. This can help drivers extend the life expectancy of brakes and tires, saving them money along the way.

Reduce fuel consumption. Driving steadily and smoothly also can translate into greater fuel economy. This means a driver may not have to fill up at the gas pump as often.

Lower auto insurance premiums. People who drive defensively and get into fewer accidents could be rewarded with lower insurance premiums. Money saved on car insurance could be used to finance vehicle upgrades. Savings also can be repurposed for exterior and interior detailing, helping to retain the value of the vehicle for longer.

Defensive driving offers many benefits to the person behind the wheel and the vehicle itself.



Wed. Mar. 12: Sheldon Burslie, Rebecca Schommer, Kris Rue, Cindy Lecy
Thur. Mar. 13: Sylvie Strom, Christian Widman, Henry Swanson
Fri. Mar. 14: Barbara Rolf
Sat. Mar. 15: Ashlee Lee, Ray Catatan
Sun, Mar. 16: Lee Narum
Mon. Mar. 17: Leslie Finseth, Jens Stordahl, Amie Erickson
Tues. Mar. 18: Jason Voxland, Jay Mahlen, Bill Woods, Evalynn Sveen

McINTOSH Times

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ST. MARY'S CHURCH
Fosston
Fr. John Suvakeen,
Pastor

Wed. Mar. 12 : 11:30am Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston
Sun. Mar. 16: 8:30am Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston; 10:30am Mass at St. Joseph's, Bagley
Wed. Mar. 19: 11:30am Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston
Sun. Mar. 23: 8:30am Mass at St. Mary's, Fosston; 10:30am Mass at St. Joseph's, Bagley

OURS SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)
McIntosh
Pastor Rene Mehlberg
Synodical Authorized
Rachel Roggenbuck,
SAM

Sun. Mar. 16: 10:00am Coffee Hour; 10:30am Worship Services

Sun. Mar. 23: 10:00am Coffee Hour; 10:30am Worship Services

Our Savior's Lutheran Church, McIntosh will run church services on Channel 30 on Garden Valley Channel 30. They will also be available on YouTube on channel One in Spirit - The Journey. Our Saviors service will be available by 8:30 am each Sunday until further notice.

MCINTOSH FREE LUTHERAN AFLC
McIntosh Trinity / Mount Carmel:
Pastor:
Jerry Moan

Trinity: (27262 315th St. SE, McIntosh) Sunday Worship: 9:30am; 10:45am Sunday School

Mt. Carmel: (305 State St. NE, McIntosh) 9:45am Sunday School; Sunday Worship: 11:00am

Wednesdays: 6:30pm Confirmation; 7:15pm Free Lutheran Youth meets at Pastor Moan's home

GOSEN LUTHERAN CHURCH
Independent
Gary Johnson, Pastor
www.gosen-church.com
Face Book: Gosen Church

Sun, Mar. 16: 9:30am Sunday School and Adult Bible Study; 11:00am Worship Service (also on Facebook and gosenchurch.com)

Tues, Mar. 18: 10:00am. Sunday worship service telecast on GVTV--30

Wed, Mar. 19: 6:30pm Bible Study at Connie Parr's

Gosen Church is located 4 miles south of the junctions of Highways 2 & 59 or 4 miles north of Winger; then 1/2 mile east on County Road 206. For information call 268-4242 or 687-3461.

VERNES LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMC)
McIntosh
PastorLee Laaveg

Sun. Mar. 16 : 9:00am Worship

Sun. Mar. 23: 9:00am Worship

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
McIntosh
Pastor Bruce Blocker

Sundays: 9:00am Worship; 10:00am Fellowship Hour; 10:15am Sunday School

DOVRE LUTHERAN CHURCH
Winger, MN

Sundays: 9:00am Adult and Children's Sunday School; 10:00am Worship Service
Wednesdays: 7:00pm Bible Study

CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Winger

Sundays: 10:30am Coffee Fellowship; 11:00am Worship
Early intervention can slow progression of symptoms and extend lives

Sundays: 9:15am Sunday School; 10:30am Worship

Come early and enjoy fellowship and a good cup of coffee. It will also be available at the same time on Garden Valley Channel 30, Facebook and YouTube.

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Strategic Farming: Let’s talk tar spot

Corn and soybean diseases to watch out for in MN, including tar spot, were the topic of the March 5 “Strategic Farming: Let’s Talk Crops!” program hosted by University of Minnesota Extension. Dr. Dean Malvick, Extension Plant Pathologist with UMN Extension, joined moderator Claire LaCanne, UMN Extension Educator - Crops, for a discussion on “Corn and Soybean Diseases – Looking back as we look forward”. This was the ninth weekly episode of the 2025 Strategic Farming: Let’s talk crops! webinars. The series runs through the end of March.

Tar spot was first discovered in the United States in 2015 and in MN in 2019. Since its initial discovery in Minnesota, it has been spreading, causing yield losses in some fields, particularly in SE Minnesota, that have exceeded 50 bu/ac. Tar spot overwinters in MN on corn residue, and the inoculum is currently present in many fields across the state, although the disease has not been a yield limiting factor in most areas. Wind borne spores and infected corn residue are sources of the disease inoculum.

The most severe and the only yield-limiting levels of tar spot to date have occurred in SE Minnesota.

Thus, this area is at higher risk from this disease than others so far, although there has been a pattern of inconsistency where tar spot severity can vary greatly in adjacent counties. Having a significant level of disease the previous year also does not necessarily mean there



will be an issue the following year. Much research has been going into developing risk models for the disease. Although it appears the risk is low for the disease to develop across a wide area of the state in a given year, moderate temperatures (60 to 74°F), and an average relative humidity (more than 70% but less than 90%) seem to favor the disease.

The initial signs of the disease are black spots on corn leaves that will not rub off. As the disease progresses, infected leaves will eventually turn brown and die. When the disease develops early in the season, if conditions are conducive, the disease can complete several cycles in the field.

About 18 days to three weeks are needed from the time plants are infected before the disease signs and symptoms appear. If the first signs of tar spot don’t develop until early August, there may not be enough time left in the growing season for the disease to be a significant yield limiting factor.

A fungicide application applied around VT (tasseling) and R1 (silking) up to the R3 (blister) stage of corn has been shown to decrease disease incidence when the disease is present in the field. If the disease

develops early in the season, particularly when conditions are conducive for disease development, the likelihood of seeing a return to application increases. The Crop Protection Network (<https://crop-protectionnetwork.org/>) using research results from universities throughout the Upper Midwest, has a fungicide efficacy table for tar spot. Planting a tolerant hybrid is also a useful management strategy to reduce tar spot. Extending the crop rotation or tillage appears to provide little benefit.

For further details on tar spot and other diseases, check out the U of MN Extension crops website at z.umn.edu/crops and look under corn and soybean pest management. To watch this and other episodes: z.umn.edu/StrategicFarmingRecordings.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that a hearing has been set for March 28, 2025 at 9:25 a.m. in the meeting room at Polk County Environmental Services, 320 Ingersoll Ave, Crookston, Minnesota, to consider the application of Chris Ranten, RZS Holdings LLP, 1131 136th Ave NE, Finley, ND 58230 to **Rezone** approximately 11.98 acre parcel of land from the Agricultural Zoning District to the Commercial Zoning District. The parcel of land is legally described as follows: That part of Government Lot 4 of Section 3, Township 150 North, Range 49 West of the 5th Principal Meridian, Polk County, Minnesota, described as follows: Commencing at the northwest corner of Government Lot 4; Thence south 01 degree 23 minutes 09 seconds east, assumed bearing, along the west line of said Government lot 4, a distance of 1310.94 feet to the southwest corner of said Government Lot 4; Thence south 89 degrees 22 minutes 07seconds East, along the south line of said Government Lot 4. A distance of 92.86 feet to the easterly right-of-way line of Minnesota Trunk Highway No.220, this being the point of beginning of that tract of land to be described herein; thence continuing South 89 degrees 22 minutes 07 seconds East, along said south line, a distance of 870.00 feet; Thence North 01 degree 06 minutes 59 seconds West, a distance of 600.00 feet; thence North 89 degrees 22minutes 07 seconds west, a distance of 870.00 feet to the easterly right-of-way line of Minnesota Trunk Highway No. 220; thence South 01 Degree 06 minutes 59 seconds East, along said easterly right-or-way line, a distance of 600 feet to the point of beginning, parcel # 09.00016.01. All property owners within 1/2 mile of the proposed Rezoning are invited to appear at said hearing.

Dated: March 6, 2025
Jacob J. Snyder
Planning & Zoning Administrator

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that a hearing has been set for March 28th, 2025 at 9:45 a.m. in the meeting room at Polk County Environmental Services, 320 Ingersoll Ave, Crookston, Minnesota, to consider the application of Andrew Lisoff, 750 S Plaza Dr, Suite 211, Mendota Heights, MN 55120-1505 for a Conditional Use Permit for the creation and operation of a 39 RV camper sites campground on a parcel located at: 33016 155th Ave SE, Mentor, MN 56736 and described as: The Northwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter (NW¼ NE¼) of Section Thirty-four (34) in Township One Hundred Forty-nine (149) North, Range Forty-three (43) West of the Fifth Principal Meridian, EXCEPT one acre heretofore conveyed for cemetery purposes, which excepted tract is described as follows: Commencing at the southwest corner of the Northwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter (NW¼ NE¼) of said Section 34; thence running north on the quarter line 8 rods; thence in an easterly direction 20 rods; thence in a southerly direction 8 rods; thence in a westerly direction 20 rods to the point of beginning. Said excepted tract consists of one acre located in the southwest corner of said Northwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter (NW¼ of NE¼) of said Section 34, parcel #32.00182.00. All property owners within ¼ mile of the proposed Conditional Use Permit are invited to appear at said hearing.

Dated: March 6, 2025
Jacob J. Snyder
Planning & Zoning Administrator

POLK COUNTY BOARD MINUTES

FEBRUARY 18, 2025
BOARD MINUTES

Pursuant to motion of adjournment, the Polk County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 9:30 o'clock a.m., February 18, 2025. Members present: Commissioner Warren Strandell, Commissioner Gary Willhite, Commissioner Joan Lee, and Charles S. Whiting, County Administrator, Clerk of the Board. Others present: Samuel Melbye, Deputy Clerk of the Board. Members absent: Commissioner Mark Holy and Commissioner Paul Reese.

AGENDA

A motion was made by Commissioner Willhite seconded by Commissioner Strandell and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the February 18, 2025, agenda.

CONSENT ITEMS

A motion was made by Commissioner Willhite seconded by Commissioner Strandell and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the February 18, 2025, consent items:

1. Approve February 4, 2025, Board minutes.
2. Approve Commissioner Warrants: General Revenue Fund, \$158,735.40; Public Works Fund, \$71,532.45; Public Safety Fund, \$46,705.25; Public Health Fund, \$19,092.31; Opioid Settlement, \$6,497.18; Forfeited Tax Sale Fund, \$1,473.00; Spec Assmnts (Ditch) Fund, \$560.00; Environmental Services Fund, \$24,564.72; Solid Waste, \$184,553.74; Per Diems, \$975.00; Meal Reimbursements (without over-night lodging), \$37.60; and Sign Audit List.
3. Approve payment to US Bank, St. Louis, MO, in the amount of \$100,326.67 for procurement card purchases.

COUNTY BOARD MEMBER
ISSUE FORUM

1. Commissioner Strandell brought forth that he attended the following meetings:
 - a. Tri-County Community Corrections meeting.
 - b. MnDOT District 2 Area Transportation Partnership meeting.
2. Commissioner Willhite brought forth that he attended the following meetings:
 - a. Tri-County Community Corrections meeting.
 - b. Polk, Norman, and Mahnomen Community Health Board meeting.
3. Commissioner Lee brought forth that she attended the following meetings:
 - a. State Community Health Services Advisory Committee (SCHSAC) Member Development Workgroup meeting.
 - b. SCHSAC meeting (virtual).
 - c. Sand Hill River Watershed – One Watershed One Plan meeting (virtual).
 - d. Received call regarding beaver trapping on Poplar River.

SHERIFF

James Tadman, Polk County Sheriff, came before the Board with matters pertaining to his department:

1. **Monthly Sheriff's Report**
The January 2025 Monthly Sheriff Reports were discussed and presented to the Board. (Reports on file in the Administrator's Office)
2. **2024 Year-End Report**
The 2024 Year-End Report was discussed and presented to the Board. (Report on file in the Administrator's Office)

ASSESSOR

Mark Landsverk, Polk County Assessor, came before the Board with matters pertaining to his department:

1. **County Board of Appeal and Equalization**
A motion was made by Commissioner Willhite seconded by Commissioner Strandell and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve setting the date and time for the County Board of Equalization for June 17, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

MIS

Levi Webster, MIS Director, came before the Board with matters pertaining to his department:

1. **Renew Annual Microsoft Licensing**
A motion was made by Commissioner Strandell seconded by Commissioner Willhite and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the annual Microsoft Licensing in the amount of \$191,727.96, which is used across all departments for apps such as Word, Excel, Outlook, Exchange, and Teams, as well as for the licensing required for Server Infrastructure that is running in the County.

FINANCE

Annette Storm, Interim Finance Director/Abdo Financial Services Manager, came before the Board with matters pertaining to the Finance Department:

1. **County Ditch Levy Request for 2025**

A motion was made by Commissioner Willhite seconded by Commissioner Strandell and adopted

by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the ditch levy assessments payable 2025, totaling \$429,036.94, as presented.

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Jon Steiner, Environmental Services Director, came before the Board with matters pertaining to his department:

1. **Landfill Phase 15 – Reduce Retainage & Pay Request**

A motion was made by Commissioner Strandell seconded by Commissioner Willhite and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the Landfill Phase 15 withholding for R.J. Zavoral & Sons of East Grand Forks, MN, to be reduced to 1.5 times the outstanding liability of \$13,207.00. A motion was made by Commissioner Willhite seconded by Commissioner Strandell and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the Landfill Phase 15 retainage for R.J. Zavoral & Sons of East Grand Forks, MN, to be paid (Pay Request #3) in the amount of \$92,944.42.

2. **Elemental Air – 2025 Stack Test & RATA**

A motion was made by Commissioner Strandell seconded by Commissioner Willhite and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the proposal by Elemental Air of Medina, MN, for performance stack testing services in the amount of \$49,220.00.

3. **Integration Contract – Recycle Grant**

A motion was made by Commissioner Strandell seconded by Commissioner Willhite and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the contract by Titus MRF Services of Danville, CA, for integration services including labor and materials in the amount of \$499,000.00.

4. **Bag Opener Purchase – Recycle Grant**

A motion was made by Commissioner Willhite seconded by Commissioner Strandell and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the proposal by Viably USA, LLC of Denver, CO, for a Bag Opener in the amount of \$481,627.00. \$460,627.00 + Mechanical Install \$21,000.00.

5. **Fines Screen Purchase – Recycle Grant**

A motion was made by Commissioner Strandell seconded by Commissioner Willhite and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the proposal by Spaleck USA LLC of Manchester, NH, for a Double Deck Fines Screen in the amount of \$128,680.00.

6. **Integration Contract – Organics Grant**

A motion was made by Commissioner Willhite seconded by Commissioner Strandell and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the contract by Titus MRF Services of Danville, CA, for integration services including labor and materials in the amount of \$996,000.00.

7. **Robot Purchase – Organics Grant**

A motion was made by Commissioner Strandell seconded by Commissioner Willhite and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board to approve the proposal by Waste Robotics Inc of Trois-Rivieres, Quebec, Canada for complete robotic system in the amount of \$550,000.00.

COMMISSIONER WARRANTS

A motion was made by Commissioner Willhite seconded by Commissioner Strandell and adopted by unanimous vote of the Board that the following Commissioner Warrants were approved:

COMMISSIONER WARRANTS
DATED 02/21/2025
APPROVED 02/18/2025

Vendor Name	Amount
Al's Electric Inc	2,292.95
Alluma Inc	5,146.17
Assoc Of Mn Counties	2,799.00
Auto Value Fosston	2,259.84
Brost Chevrolet Inc	3,221.80
Central States Wire Products Inc	2,795.43
Church & Dwight Co Inc	13,183.65
CIVICPLUS LLC	4,799.51
CNH Industrial Accounts	5,270.99
Code 4 Services Inc	2,873.52
Country Pet Foods, LLC	6,894.72
Crookston Fuel Company	6,749.70
Destination Transport	3,285.00
Domson BG Service	16,565.20
DTN LLC	11,159.42
ESRI	38,500.00
Government Mgmt Group Inc	5,000.00
Grainger	6,293.93
Haller Overhead Door Inc	5,554.47
Headwaters Regional	3,500.00
Jsb Engineered Solutions	3,520.21
Kiesler Police Supply	4,629.31
Kurita America Inc	3,718.34
Lenes Sand & Gravel Inc	48,172.40
Level 5 Services	3,969.00
MACO	2,940.00
Minnesota Sheriffs' Association	9,593.91
MnCCC Lockbox	54,412.00
Morris Electronics Inc	17,183.51
Northdale Oil Inc	4,018.00
Northern Lumber	3,846.22
Northern Propane	5,378.62
Northland Comm & Tech College	4,100.00
Nova Fire Protection Inc	9,500.00
Nw Mn Household Hazardous	17,694.00
Pemberton Law PLLP	4,311.50
Peterson Sheet Metal Inc	3,519.74
Polk County IS Department	4,427.02
POMPS Tire Service Inc	3,570.00
Riverview Healthcare Assoc	3,751.92
ROK Brothers Inc	2,985.80
RTVision Inc	2,000.00
Saber Shred Solutions, Inc	13,314.60
Seaberg Solar Salt	2,144.20
Setco	9,984.88
Stantec Consulting Services Inc	6,137.65
Streichers	3,877.00
Technical Heaters Inc	3,449.00
Timedlock Plus LLC	2,184.00
UKG Kronos Systems LLC	5,000.00
UPNorth Engineering LLC	2,887.50
Vestis	2,899.18
Walters Climate	5,456.34
Widseth Smith Nolting & Assoc	9,482.40
Winger City	2,250.00
Ziegler Inc	3,620.61
Ziegler Inc	3,505.63
175 Payments less than 2000	72,134.26
Final Total:	513,714.05

With no further business, the Board adjourned to reconvene at 8:00 o'clock a.m., March 4, 2025.

Joan Lee, Vice Chair

ATTEST:

Charles S. Whiting, County Administrator
Clerk of the Board

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Above and below: Win-E-Mac staff got into the spirit of Read Across America Week and dressed alike for Thing 1 and Thing 2 Day wearing matching attire to "twin" with each other.



The Win-E-Mac elementary staff and students ended Read Across America week by spending Friday morning reading together in the gymnasium.



Jonathan Lecy brought a baby goat along with other animals from his farm to Freedom Christian Academy for the students to visit and cuddle with on pajama day, part of Read Across America week.

WEM early childhood/preschool screening

Preschool/early childhood screening is a free and simple check of how your child is growing, developing, and learning. Win-E-Mac school readiness and Head Start will offer screening on Monday, April 7, 2025.

A trained professional will check: Vision and hearing; Height and weight; Immunizations; Large and small muscles; Thinking, language and communication skills; Social and emotional development.

Preschool/early childhood screening is open to all children, ages three years old and up, who have not been screened previously.

Children must be screened before entering preschool and kindergarten. The screening takes place on Monday, April 7 at the Polk County Public

Health office in at Bjella Building on Main Street in McIntosh.

Contact Heather Earls at Win-E-Mac to set up an appointment for your child to be screened. e-mail: hearls@wem-schools.org.

WEM kindergarten

Looking ahead to next fall, if your child turns 5 years old by September 1, 2025, they are eligible to enroll in kindergarten. Please contact the district office at 218 - 687 - 2236 to enroll your child.

Please do so by May 1, 2025 so your child can be included with our kindergarten and preschool transition activities. If your child attends pre-school at Win-E-Mac, they are already enrolled.

Gala for Girls

The Gala for Girls is set for Friday, April 25th from 5:30-8:30 p.m. at the Crookston Inn.

Girls in grades K-6, this is your night! Bring your dad, grandpa, uncle, or adult male role model and register now for this unforgettable evening. The event includes a professional picture, social and sit-down dinner, special gift, and an evening of dancing.

Registration will be open until filled and will close on Friday, April 18th at noon.

Pre-registration is required, and tickets typically sell out. The cost to attend is \$45 per couple (\$15 for each additional girl).

Registration forms available on the Polk County Public Health website (<https://mn-polkcounty.civicplus.com/DocumentCenter/View/3186/Gala-Registration-2025>) or at Polk County Public Health, 816 Marin Ave, Crookston, MN (218-281-3385).



Above and below: Freedom Christian Academy students celebrating Cat in the Hat Day with Brynlee Branstner and Emmie Donner.



Did you know?

The act of reading has been around for thousands of years, since the invention of the written word. In the earliest years, reading was a skill that only a wealthy, educated segment of society had. Over time, more and more people learned to read and write, and reading came to be the common skill that it is today.

Since the first book that was ever written, many authors have made their mark and been remembered for their remarkable work.

One such author is Theodor Seuss Geisel, better known by his pen name, Dr. Seuss. He has authored some of the most popular children's books of all time, selling over 600 million copies.

In addition to being an author, Dr. Seuss was also an illustrator and cartoonist. After publishing his first children's book, he took a break

to illustrate political cartoons and joined the animation and film department in the United States Army. In this role, he wrote, produced and animated several projects and gained recognition for them. Following this, he returned to writing children's books and how! He went on to write 60 books, a majority of which were critically acclaimed. His work is not only enjoyed by children to this date; it is also a part of many different adaptations in other mediums.

The National Education Association launched Read Across America in 1998 as a year-round program to celebrate reading. Given Dr. Seuss' impact on the reading world, his birthday (March 2) was declared Read Across America Day. This also commences Read Across America Week and Read Across America Month.