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County Board of Commissioners Minutes

Board of Commissioners' August 18, 2026

The August 18, 2026, meeting for the Clearwater County Board of Commissioners commenced at 10:30 a.m. with Chairman Titera presiding and Commissioners Larson, Dukek, Emmel and Ramsrud present. The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda- Motion by Commissioner Larson, seconded by Commissioner Dukek and carried, to approve the agenda.

Minutes- Motion by Commissioner Ramsrud, seconded by Commissioner Dukek and carried, to approve August 11, 2026, Board Minutes.

Unorganized Township Meeting – The meeting recessed at 10:35 a.m. for the Unorganized 143-36 Township Board Meeting. The meeting reopened at 10:37 a.m.

Probation Officer Eric Robinson/Kari Wittenberg- Kari discussed what the Clearwater County DWI Court program consisted of and what are a few of the key points regarding the program.

1. They must be Clearwater County Residents to participate in Clearwater County DWI Court.
2. That it is a minimum of an 18-month program that is based on a five-phase program, plus a six-month probation term after graduation.
3. In phases 1-3, participants will be tested a minimum of 3x per week. Phases 3-4 are a minimum of 2x per week. Phase 5 is a minimum of 1x per week.
4. Participants are required to cooperate with frequent, random, and observed alcohol and drug testing, cooperate with random field visits, attend office visits, attend DWI Court hearings, and abstain from using alcohol and drugs.

The Team consists of a Judge, County attorney, Treatment provider, Coordinator, Defense counsel, Mental Health, probation, Law Enforcement and Social Services. Kari gave Census number that there are 15 participants who have joined the program- 4 participants have been terminated- 5 participants have graduated- 1 person has transferred to complete DWI court in another county and that there are 5 active participants as of 8/7/26. Participants are required to cooperate with frequent, random, and observed alcohol and drug testing, cooperate with random field visits, attend office visits, attend Dwai court hearings, and abstain from using alcohol and drugs.

- Statistics of past 5 Years:**
1. 67% male
 2. 67% 35-44 age range
 3. 96.1% negative tests for alcohol and drugs
 4. 67% who entered without income have gained employment.
 5. 63% maintained stable housing from entry to exit. 25% that entered without stable housing had it by graduation. 100% have gained and maintained health insurance by graduation.
 6. 75% have obtained a valid driver's license while in the program.

The Clearwater County DWI Court will work to create a holistic, multi-disciplinary, collaborative and multi-

jurisdictional approach to address impaired driving offenses within Clearwater County to create safer and healthier communities.

Engineer – Motion by Commissioner Dukek, seconded by Commissioner Ramsrud and carried, to approve payment of the Clearwater County Highway Department bills as presented.

Motion by Commissioner Larson, seconded by Commissioner Emmel and carried, to authorize the sale of excess equipment as itemized in the attached listing and other items below \$1000 in value approved by Department Heads. Gregory Auction Service is authorized to conduct the sale as part of their consignment Auction to be held September 12, 2026, in Bagley.

Maintenance– Motion by Commissioner Titera, seconded by Commissioner Larson and carried, to purchase a Zero Turn Lawn Mower from Bagley Motor Sports for \$7,451.28, 60” Country Clipper challenger- Commercial Zero Turn Lawn Mower. Mower comes with a 4 year 600-hour warranty. Mower will be paid for the Building and Grounds Fund.

Motion by Commissioner Ramsrud, seconded by Commissioner Dukek and carried, to purchase materials from Westwood Building Center for; 8x8 landrail for landing, ramp and staircase, and all hardware and fasteners. Total material cost is \$8,147.70. To hire Les Jansen to build new deck and ramp at a rate of \$55.00 per hour. Estimated to take 80 hours to build new deck. \$4,400 Total project cost = \$12,547.70 and will be paid from Building and Grounds Fund.

Auditor- Motion by Commissioner Titera, seconded by Commissioner Emmel and carried, to authorize the County Auditor to pay the submitted invoices of \$200,834.95 from the County Revenue Fund and \$2,240.71 from the Public Health Fund.

Adjourn– Motion by Commissioner Ramsrud, seconded by Commissioner Larson and carried, to adjourn the meeting at 11:25 a.m.

Dated: September 8, 2026.
Lori Lewis,
Board Coordinator
Mark Titera,
Chairman

Unorganized Township Meeting August 18, 2026

Chairperson Ramsrud called the Unorganized Township Meeting to order at 10:35 a.m. with Commissioner Dukek, Titera, Larson and Emmel present. Also present was Auditor Al Paulson.

Motion by Commissioner Dukek, seconded by Commissioner Emmel and carried approve the application for the 2027 Seasonal beer and wine license for Douglas Lodge, Itasca State Park.

Adjourn – The meeting was adjourned at 10:37 a.m.

Dated: September 8, 2026
Lori Lewis,
Board Coordinator
Bryan Ramsrud,
County Commissioner

Wild Rice Watershed District District Project and Ditches Ownership

The Wild Rice Watershed District would like to remind residents that most of our projects and ditches remain under private landowner ownership. In most instances, the Wild Rice Watershed District does not own the property adjacent to the projects and ditches; rather it has purchased maintenance easements from property owners. This easement gives the District, its employees and consultants, the right to access the property for maintenance related issues. The Watershed easement along the project does not give authority to the general public to access the property for any reason.

Each year the Wild Rice Watershed District receives several calls regarding individuals entering private property along our projects and ditches. The Wild Rice Watershed District advises parties interested in accessing these areas to obtain permission from individual land-owners along projects and ditches. Many of the counties within the District have a GIS Mapping link located on their website that can assist you with determining property owners. Our updated website also has an overall map that allows you to view property owners.

If you have any further questions regarding this publication, please contact Tara at 218-784-5501.

To view past publications concerning Watershed topics, visit the additional resources tab of our website. www.wildricewatershed.org

STATE OF MINNESOTA DISTRICT COURT COUNTY OF CLEARWATER NINTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT Case Type: 14 – Other Civil Case No. 15-CV-25-389

Border Bank, Plaintiff, v. Daniel Paul Johnson, Monica Belle Johnson, State of Minnesota, by and through, Minnesota Department of Revenue, Ingenuity RM, LLC, SWS Credit Services, Inc., Defendants.

NOTICE OF SHERIFF’S SALE UNDER JUDGMENT AND DECREE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that under and by virtue of a Judgment made and entered in the above entitled action on the 13th day of January, 2026, by the District Court of Clearwater County, Minnesota, Ninth

Judicial District, a certified copy of which has been delivered to me directing the sale of the premises hereinafter described, to satisfy the amount found and adjudged due Plaintiff in the above entitled action from Defendants as prescribed in the Judgment, the undersigned Sheriff of Clearwater County will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, for cash, on the 30th day of September, 2026 at 10:00 a.m., at the Clearwater County Sheriff’s Office, Clearwater County Courthouse, 213 Main Avenue North, Dept. 102, Bagley, MN 56621 , the premises and real estate, lying and being in the County of Clearwater, State of Minnesota, described in said Judgment, to wit:

W1/2 of SW1/4
Less the North 934 feet,

AND
Less that part of the SW1/4 of SW1/4 lying South and West of County Highway 7, all in Section 34, Township 149, Range 38

Street address: 46260 County 7, Gonvick, MN 56644.

According to the plat thereof and on file and of record in the office of the County Recorder in and for said County.

/s/ Darin Halverson
DARIN HALVERSON
Sheriff of Clearwater County, Minnesota
Deputy
ABST LAW, P.C.
Michael L. Gust
Attorneys for Border Bank
4132 30th Avenue South,
Suite 100
P.O. Box 10247
Fargo, ND 58106-0247
(701) 235-3300

Bagley City Council Minutes

BAGLEY CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS August 26, 2026

The Bagley City Council met in regular session on August 26, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

Present: Mayor Duane Lewis, Council members John Sutherland, Dennis Merschman, Chad Bonik, City Clerk Lyle Mathison, and Deputy Clerk Priscilla Johnson. Council member Aaron Kaiser was absent.

Also Present: Chris Arnold, Tammi Hagen, Kathryn Burke, Adam Gunderson and Allie Dalrymple.

Mayor Lewis called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

BAGLEY CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS August 12, 2026

The Bagley City Council met in a regular session on August 12, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

Present: Mayor Duane Lewis, Council members John Sutherland, Dennis Merschman, Aaron Kaiser, and Chad Bonik, City Clerk Lyle Mathison, and Deputy Clerk Priscilla Johnson.

Also present: Adam Gunderson, Chris Arnold, Justin Netland, and Bridget Moore.

Mayor Lewis called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Motion was made by Sutherland to accept the agenda, seconded by Bonik, motion carried.

Merschman made a motion to approve the minutes of City Council Meetings from July 8, 2026 and July 22, 2026. Seconded by Bonik, motion carried.

Sutherland made a motion to approve the consent agenda which included: Checks written in July for the City and Liquor Store, approval to pay outstanding invoices for the City

and Liquor Store, Resolution #25-26 Acceptance of Donation – Shed, Resolution #26-26 Acceptance of Donation – Bases. Seconded by Kaiser, motion carried.

Receipt totals for July were \$454,395.31. Expenditure totals were \$269,054.87. The liquor store financials were gone over for the month of July. Kaiser made a motion to approve the financials, seconded by Sutherland, motion carried.

Liquor Store manager Arnold gave an update on recent promotions. The can koozies were a success drawing in new customers. The liquor store helped the American Legion with ice throughout the fair at their beer garden. Arnold is looking into helping them out in future years, with their off-site liquor license and 501(3)C status, to be able to sell them the beer at a lower cost directly through the store for the event. Arnold presented the financials, and July was a profitable month for the store. He is working with Tuesday Study Club on their board tournament. The digital sign board quote Arnold received was \$30,000 for signing at the store

entrance. For Crazy Days they did a “truck load” sale and that was successful.

Fire Chief Netland gave an update, there was one fireman resigned in July who moved away and a replacement was hired. The new truck should be delivered in the next couple of weeks.

Police Chief Gunderson presented the monthly stats. There were 96 calls for service in July. The White Durango is burning oil and has a head gasket or head problem, it was quoted as minimum of \$4,000 to fix. The squad was purchased late in 2025 and has 88,000 miles on it. Council requested getting a couple of quotes for repair. If the quotes are \$8,000 for repair, they would like to look into what a crate motor would cost to put in it. The new part time officer started on Monday the 10th.

Lewis gave an update on the camper at the park. There has been water damage to the slide out. The estimate to fix the slide out is \$8600.00. Council wants to look into repairing or replacing the camper over the winter once the season is over.

Lewis gave an update on the

Manual with the additions of the BES & BHS Cardiac Emergency Response Plans. MP 6-0.

M/S Koop, Ekre to accept the United Bus Sales Inc. bus quote in the amount of \$84,624.50 MP 6-0.

M/S Gerbracht, Klostermeier to accept Midway Ford Commercial Fleet & Government Sales truck quote in the amount of \$51,563.10. MP 6-0.

M/S Koop, Fultz to adopt Policy 423 – Employee-Student Relationships. MP 6-0.

M/S Koop, Ekre to adopt the Staff Handbook 2026-2027. MP 6-0.

M/S Fultz, Klostermeier to rescind TechCheck’s firewall quote in the amount of \$21,557.62 and accept TechCheck’s firewall quote in the amount of \$19,071. MP 6-0.

M/S Klostermeier, Mathison to revised Policy 806 – Crisis Management Policy and Policy 806F – Crisis Management Plan Form. MP 6-0.

M/S Fultz, Klostermeier to approve Emergency Operations

Clearbrook Senior Center Menu

September 21 - 25

Monday: Sweet and sour chicken, white rice, fruit cup and pudding

Tuesday: Baked ham, scalloped potatoes, green beans, and pineapple upside down cake

Wednesday: Meatballs, mashed potatoes with gravy, mixed vegetables and ice cream

Thursday: Chicken and dumplings, carrots, fruit juice and chocolate cake

Friday: Cook’s choice

- Reservations by 9 am the day of 218-776-3154
- Low fat milk, margarine and Bread included with meals.
- Meals are subject to change.

Bagley Senior Center Menu

September 21 - 25

Monday: Sweet and sour chicken, white rice, fruit cup and pudding

Tuesday: Baked ham, scalloped potatoes, green beans, and cake

Wednesday: Meatballs, mashed potatoes with gravy, mixed vegetables and cookies

Thursday: Chicken and dumplings, carrots, fruit juice and chocolate cake

Friday: Cook’s choice

- Low fat milk, margarine and Bread included with meals.
- Meals are subject to change.
- Reservations by 10 am
- Meals Served at 11:30 am

Call Kay 9:30-1:00 Mon-Fri 218-694-6873. Suggested Donation for Seniors is \$6.00. Under 60 is \$10.00

bathroom remodel, an epoxy flooring and update to the doors needs to be installed that wasn’t in the original budget.

Dyrdahl Construction is going to start filling in the ditch this week at the park.

The primary election went smooth, the city is lucky to have experienced workers that have been through the process multiple times.

A complaint from a citizen was presented to the board from a homeowner in the Small Cities loan project. The citizen has to go through a complaint process with the MN Dept of Labor and the contractor.

Being there was no further business to come before the board, motion to adjourn was made by Merschman, seconded by Kaiser, motion carried.

ATTEST:
Duane Lewis,
Mayor
Lyle L. Mathison,
City Clerk Treasurer
Priscilla Johnson
Deputy City Clerk

Clearwater County Food Shelf Hours

Clearwater County Food Shelf is open every Wednesday from 10 a.m.-2:00 p.m. in the basement of the Bagley American Legion (go to the back door).

Monetary contributions can be mailed to Clearwater County Food Shelf, PO Box 578, Bagley, MN 56621.

Food donations can be dropped off at the Food Shelf on Wednesdays. tf-psa

Open Hours Bagley Public Library

Tuesday: 1-7

Wednesday: 9-5

Thursday: 1-7

Friday: 9-5

Saturday: 9-1

Closed Sunday-Monday

tf-psa

Veterans

Are welcome to join their peers at the D&R Café in Bagley on Wednesday mornings at 9 a.m. for coffee and a chat.

Senior Transportation Service

Clearwater County residents who are 60 & over. Rides are scheduled Monday-Friday. 48-hour notice required. Call 218-888-2320 to schedule.

This project is made possible in part under the Federal Older Americans Act through an award from the Land of the Dancing Sky Area Agency on Aging under an Area Plan approved by the Minnesota Board on Aging.