



WASECA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SPECIAL MEETING

January 26, 2026 - 11:30 AM

East Annex Public Meeting Room

300 North State Street – East Annex · Waseca, Minnesota 56093

The Waseca County Board of Commissioners met in a special session on Monday, January 26, 2026, in the Commissioners' Room, 300 North State Street, Waseca, Minnesota. Members present were Chair DeAnne Malterer, Doug Christopherson, Brian Harguth, Brad Milbrath and Brad Krause.

Other members present were Michael Johnson, County Administrator; Beth Weimert, Administrative Coordinator; Tammy Spooner, Property and Elections Services Director; Sheriff Jay Dulas

Present via online platform Rachel Cornelius, County Attorney

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Malterer called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

2. Legislative Approval for Local Option Sales Tax

Michael Johnson, County Administrator, discussed steps for implementing a Local Option Sales and Use Tax pursuant to MN Statutes section 297A.99. Johnson noted step 1 is to pass a resolution proposing the tax including the proposed rate and detailed description of the project that would be paid for with the collected sales tax. Step 2 would be to submit a resolution to legislative committees. Step 3 would be to obtain legislative approval through an enacted special law specific to Waseca County and then file a local approval with the Secretary of States Office. Then a local referendum could be conducted, and the issuance of an ordinance.

Commissioner Milbrath asked that the COOP plan be added to page 8 - Johnson added continuity of operations. Commissioner Milbrath also noted he would like to add a bullet point under #4 on the Resolution.

Johnson will also correct the numbering issue on the table of contents. Commissioner Milbrath also thought adding the 1897 Construction of the Courthouse date in the Resolution would be pertinent.

It was also noted to add #6 not to exceed the project cost of 45 MIL or up to the maximum bond life of 30 years, whichever comes first.

Johnson discussed the amount of local sales and use tax revenue utilized for this capital project would not exceed \$20,000,000.00 or up to 20 years, whichever comes first. Johnson discussed percentage changes dating back 20 years. Discussion was held. Commissioner Harguth noted he feels the number should be \$22,000,000.00 or 20 years.

Motion to adopt the amended Resolution 2026-06 Requesting Minnesota Legislative Approval to Impose a Local Sales and Use Tax in the County of Waseca not to exceed \$45,000,000.00 or up to 30 years, whichever comes first by Commissioner Milbrath, seconded by Commissioner Harguth. Motion carried 5-0.

Recessed at 12:30 p.m.

Reconvened at 12:37 p.m.

3. Adjourn

Having no further county board business, Commissioner Milbrath moved and Commissioner Harguth seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was carried unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 12:43 p.m.

DeAnne Malterer, Chairperson

Waseca County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Beth Weimert, Clerk

Waseca County Administration