

# HENNEPIN COUNTY

## MINNESOTA

### PRELIMINARY COMMITTEE AGENDA

ADMINISTRATION, OPERATIONS AND  
BUDGET COMMITTEE  
TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2026

Chair: Debbie Goettel, District 5  
Vice Chair: Heather Edelson, District 6  
Members: Jeff Lunde, District 1  
Irene Fernando, District 2  
Marion Greene, District 3  
Angela Conley, District 4  
Kevin Anderson, District 7

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#### 1. Minutes from Previous Meeting

1.A. February 5, 2026 Meeting Minutes

**Attachments:** [AdminOpsBudget-COMMITTEEMINUTES-05-Feb-2026](#)

#### 2. New Business

##### Routine Items

2.A. [26-0070](#)

Recognize that the public art portion of the capital budget for the Southdale Library Replacement project (1005259) will be \$406,500; and amend the 2026 Capital Budget to reduce the Southdale Library Replacement capital project (1005259) by \$406,500 in general obligation bonds

2.B. [26-0071](#)

Neg Agmts A2613366 with Three Rivers Park District for operation of Glen Lake Golf and Practice Center, 01/01/26-12/31/30 and A2613371 with Parker's Lake Golf Center, 01/01/26-12/31/30, no county cost

2.C. [26-0072](#)

Amd 1 to Agmt PR00007543 with David W. Lopez to provide communications consulting for Hennepin County opioid response, ext end date to 12/31/26, incr NTE by \$170,000 for a new total NTE of \$226,512

2.D. [26-0073](#)

Request subsequent designation of the Hennepin-Carver Workforce Development Area and submission of letter of intent to the MN Dept of Employment and Economic Development; designate Commissioner Irene Fernando as the representative of Hennepin County in its capacity as Chief Elected Official of the local area.

2.E. [26-0074](#)

Amd 1 to Agmts HS00001644 with HIRED and HS00001647 with Avivo to allow for the acceptance of 2026 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Young Adult grant funds, ext end dates to 03/31/28 and incr the combined NTE by \$30,000 for a new total combined NTE of \$850,000

2.F. [26-0075](#)

Amd current Benefits Cliff (Succeeding in Employment) and Youth Employment Services contracts for continued funding through 02/28/26, NTE of \$213,721 (\$166,286 for Succeeding in Employment and \$14,435 for Youth Employment Services)

**Items for Discussion and Action**

2.G. [26-0076](#)

Revision to the Hennepin County Human Resources Rules

**Attachments:** [HR Rule 12.1 Redline](#)

2.H. [26-0077](#)

Amd 2 to Agmt A188951 with the University of Minnesota to provide general, professional, research and technical services countywide, ext end date to 06/30/31, incr NTE by \$5,000,000 for a new total NTE of \$9,500,000

# HENNEPIN COUNTY

300 South Sixth Street  
Minneapolis, MN  
55487-0240

## MINNESOTA

### Board Action Request

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**TMP-26-0210**

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**Item Description:**

February 5, 2026 Meeting Minutes

# HENNEPIN COUNTY

## MINNESOTA

### COMMITTEE MINUTES

#### ADMINISTRATION, OPERATIONS AND BUDGET COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2026  
1:30 PM

Chair: Debbie Goettel, District 5  
Vice Chair: Heather Edelson, District 6  
Members: Jeff Lunde, District 1  
Irene Fernando, District 2  
Marion Greene, District 3  
Angela Conley, District 4  
Kevin Anderson, District 7

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Commissioner Debbie Goettel, Chair, called the meeting of the Administration, Operations and Budget Committee for Thursday, February 5, 2026 to order at 2:04 p.m.

**Present:** Commissioner Debbie Goettel, Commissioner Kevin Anderson, Commissioner Jeff Lunde, Commissioner Irene Fernando, Commissioner Marion Greene, Commissioner Angela Conley and Commissioner Heather Edelson

#### 1. Presentation

1.A. Metropolitan Mosquito Control District presentation by Daniel Huff, Executive Director and Alex Carlson, Public Affairs Manager

#### 2. Minutes from Previous Meeting

2.A. January 13, 2026 Meeting Minutes

#### APPROVE

**Commissioner Kevin Anderson moved, seconded by Commissioner Heather Edelson, to approve the Minutes.**

**Aye:** Commissioner Goettel, Commissioner Anderson, Commissioner Lunde, Commissioner Fernando, Commissioner Greene, Commissioner Conley and Commissioner Edelson

#### 3. New Business

##### Routine Items

3.A. [26-0035](#)

Agmt PR00007893 with Senior Community Services for the provision of digital readiness training, 02/01/26-01/31/27, NTE \$30,000

#### NON-CONSENT

**Commissioner Irene Fernando moved, seconded by Commissioner Heather**

**Edelson, to approve the Resolution.**

**Aye:** Commissioner Goettel, Commissioner Lunde, Commissioner Fernando, Commissioner Greene, Commissioner Conley and Commissioner Edelson

**Nay:** Commissioner Anderson

3.B. [26-0036](#)

Amd 2 to Agmt PR00004417 with Qwest Corporation for enterprise telecommunications services, ext end date to 02/28/27, incr NTE by \$265,440 for a new total NTE of \$5,564,440

**CONSENT**

**Commissioner Debbie Goettel moved, seconded by Commissioner Angela Conley, to approve the Resolution.**

There being no further business, the Administration, Operations and Budget Committee for Thursday, February 5, 2026 was declared adjourned at 2:29 p.m.

Maria Rose  
Clerk to the County Board

### Board Action Request

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**26-0070**

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**Item Description:**

Recognize that the public art portion of the capital budget for the Southdale Library Replacement project (1005259) will be \$406,500; and amend the 2026 Capital Budget to reduce the Southdale Library Replacement capital project (1005259) by \$406,500 in general obligation bonds

**Resolution:**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Southdale Library Replacement capital project (1005259) be reduced by \$406,500 in general obligation bonds; that the public art portion of the project budget be recognized as \$406,500, allowing the overall project to be reduced; and that the Controller be authorized to disburse funds as directed.

**Background:**

In 2001, the County Board passed Resolution 01-4-212 requiring that 1% of capital library project costs over one million dollars be allocated to public art. In the resolution, project costs were defined as construction costs, architectural fees, and contingency.

The Southdale Library Replacement project 1005259 is part of the 2026-2030 Capital Improvement Program and schematic design of the project was approved June 25, 2024 via Resolution 24-0254.

The Southdale Library Replacement project is the largest new construction library project since the resolution was passed. One percent of defined costs according to the 2001 Resolution would be \$813,000.

The project costs also includes costs associated with the additional shelled space for the Edina Arts Center, construction of the adjacent four-acre green space and structured parking. The library itself is approximately 47,000 square feet.

The closest comparisons for new construction are the Maple Grove and Brooklyn Park Libraries. The Maple Grove library, completed in 2011, is 40,000 square feet and had an art budget of \$238,000. The inflation-adjusted value of \$238,00 from 2011 is \$342,500 today (2.47% annual inflation rate from 2011-2026). The Brooklyn Park Library, completed in 2015, is 39,000 square feet and had an art budget of \$182,000. The inflation-adjusted value of \$182,000 from 2015 is \$243,100 today (2.7% annual inflation rate from 2015-2026).

Staff recommend capping the allocation for art at .05% for the Southdale Library Replacement project for several reasons. First, the costs associated with a library of this size which includes a below grade parking structure and many sustainable features that are likely larger than anticipated through the resolution. Second, many of the features of the new library included as part of the design are considered artistic. For instance, the first-floor ceiling, the pier over the pond, and the elevator lobbies are all architect-designed artistic elements that go beyond traditional functional elements. Finally, the second floor Edina Art Center will become an art centerpiece, with many display areas. Staff recommend allocating \$406,500 for public art for the project which will result in a \$406,500 reduction to the capital budget.

**Current Request:** This is a request to allocate \$406,500 of the Southdale Library Replacement project toward public art, reducing the overall budget by the same amount.

**Impact/Outcomes:** This request will allocate \$406,500 toward art at the new Southdale library creating opportunities for artists and creating a welcoming environment for residents.

**Recommendation from County Administrator:** Recommend Approval

### Board Action Request

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**26-0071**

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**Item Description:**

Neg Agmts A2613366 with Three Rivers Park District for operation of Glen Lake Golf and Practice Center, 01/01/26-12/31/30 and A2613371 with Parker's Lake Golf Center, 01/01/26-12/31/30, no county cost

**Resolution:**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the County Administrator be authorized to negotiate Agreement A2613366 with Three Rivers Park District for the operation of the Glen Lake Golf and Practice Center during the period January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2030, at no county cost; that following review and approval by the County Attorney's Office, the Chair of the Board be authorized to sign the Agreement on behalf of the county; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Administrator be authorized to negotiate Agreement A2613371 with Three Rivers Park District for the operation of the Parker's Lake Golf Center during the period January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2030, at no county cost; that following review and approval by the County Attorney's Office, the Chair of the Board be authorized to sign the Agreement on behalf of the county; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Administrator may extend Agreement A2613366 and/or Agreement A2613371 by exercising up to 1 additional 5-year extension option and amending the Agreement as necessary.

**Background:**

Hennepin County, under a cooperative agreement with Three Rivers Park District, planned, designed, and developed the Glen Lake Golf and Practice Center, a nine-hole executive golf course with a practice range in the cities of Eden Prairie and Minnetonka. Three Rivers Park District has managed, operated, and maintained the Glen Lake facility since its opening in 1996.

Separately, Hennepin County has owned and operated the Parker's Lake Golf Center, a full-length outdoor driving range on land not needed for the adjacent Adult Correctional facility (ACF) in the City of Plymouth since the late 1990s. The facility has historically been operated by the county, but since 2020, the county has contracted with Three River's Parke District to operate the facility. The golf center also partners with City of Plymouth to offer league and children's programming through its Parks and Recreation department.

Staff recommends capitalizing on Three Rivers' extensive experience operating and maintaining public golf courses by continuing its management of the Glen Lake Golf and Practice Center and, under separate agreement, the management of the Parker's Lake Golf Center.

The main provisions of the two agreements are consistent: the county is owner of the facilities and retains all rights, title and interest to all real property; Three Rivers Park District is engaged to operate the facilities; funding for operations will be provided from revenues generated by the golf facility; Three Rivers will fund, on a temporary basis, any annual cash deficits resulting from golf operations; in the event that the agreement is terminated, the county will reimburse Three Rivers for any deficits remaining; and the agreements will automatically renew after the five-year term unless cancelled in advance by Hennepin County or Three Rivers Park District.

Glen Lake Golf and Practice Center expenses include a debt service payment to the county for financing related to the initial construction of the golf course. As a result, a special "Golf Course Joint Operations Committee" oversees the operations of the course and course related buildings and grounds. The Joint Operations Committee is comprised of three staff members appointed by the county, three staff members from Three Rivers Park District and one member jointly appointed by the county and Three Rivers Park District.

With respect to the Parker's Lake Golf Center agreement, certain acknowledgements regarding access to and the use of county-owned maintenance equipment, and capital improvements related to netting, drainage are included.

**Current Request:** Authorization to negotiate cooperative Agreements A2613366 and A2613371 with Three Rivers Park District to manage, operate, and maintain the county-owned Glen Lake Golf and Practice Center and Parker's Lake Golf Center through December 31, 2030 at no county cost;

**Impacts/Outcomes:** Continue the county's longstanding provision of recreational activities to residents.

**Recommendation from County Administrator:** Recommend Approval

### Board Action Request

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**26-0072**

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**Item Description:**

Amd 1 to Agmt PR00007543 with David W. Lopez to provide communications consulting for Hennepin County opioid response, ext end date to 12/31/26, incr NTE by \$170,000 for a new total NTE of \$226,512

**Resolution:**

BE IT RESOLVED, that Amendment 1 to Agreement PR00007543 with David W. Lopez to provide communications consulting for Hennepin County opioid response be extended through December 31, 2026 and increase the contract amount by \$170,000 to a new not to exceed total of \$226,512; that the Chair of the Board be authorized to sign the Amendment on behalf of the county; and that the Controller be authorized to disburse funds as directed.

**Background:**

Agreement PR00007543 was signed in September 2025 with David W Lopez for communications consulting services in support of Hennepin County's opioid response campaign.

This board action requests a \$170,000 increase to the NTE in anticipation of continued project demand and response using approved funding for consulting services from opioid settlement dollars; and an extension of the contract term to December 31, 2026.

Services provided include, but are not limited to:

- Strategic communication and public relation consulting services
- Public information, communication messages and content creation
- Internal and external communications
- Evaluation, budgeting and grants management

This action supports the county's disparity elimination work in the health domain to prevent opioids misuse through education and information campaigns, including but not limited focusing on risk factors and early interventions with targeted populations.

**Recommendation from County Administrator:** Recommend Approval

### Board Action Request

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**26-0073**

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#### **Item Description:**

Request subsequent designation of the Hennepin-Carver Workforce Development Area and submission of letter of intent to the MN Dept of Employment and Economic Development; designate Commissioner Irene Fernando as the representative of Hennepin County in its capacity as Chief Elected Official of the local area.

#### **Resolution:**

BE IT RESOLVED, that Hennepin County requests subsequent designation of the Hennepin-Carver Workforce Development Area as required by the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development; and that the county's Chief Elected Official designee be authorized to sign the letter of intent to the State of Minnesota on behalf of the County; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Commissioner Irene Fernando remain the designated representative of Hennepin County in its capacity as Chief Elected Official ("Chief Elected Official designee") of the Hennepin-Carver Workforce Development Area.

#### **Background:**

The federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act ("WIOA" or the "Act") is implemented through local workforce development areas. WIOA identifies certain responsibilities for the "Chief Elected Official" of local government in a local workforce development area. Where an area is comprised of multiple units of local government, the entities may by agreement designate their respective roles.

The suburban Hennepin and Carver county areas together comprise a local workforce development area and have executed a Joint Powers Agreement outlining the terms of their cooperation. This Joint Powers Agreement states that Hennepin County shall be the designated Chief Elected Official for the Hennepin-Carver Workforce Development Area.

The Chief Elected Official and the Workforce Development Board have responsibilities outlined under WIOA and subsequently described in an Operating Agreement between the Hennepin County Board and the Hennepin-Carver Workforce Development Board.

As Chief Elected Official (CEO), the county has the following responsibilities:

Authorize and establish the Workforce Development Board (WDB); appoint members of the WDB; review and approve bylaws; set general policy directions for the local area and the WDB; approve the budget of the WDB; review and approve the proposed local plan; review and approve the WDB's designation of the One Stop Operator Agreement.

The Local Workforce Development Board is responsible for: Coordinating activities with the CEO; providing strategic and operational oversight in collaboration with partners; assisting in the achievement of the state and regional strategic vision and goals outlined in the state plan; maximizing and continuing to improve the quality of services, customer satisfaction, and effectiveness of services.

The Minnesota Department of Employment & Economic Development (DEED) requires subsequent

designation of local workforce development areas. Each local workforce development area must submit a letter to the Commissioner of DEED to request subsequent designation in order to remain a local workforce development area for purposes of the Act. The letter must be signed by the Chief Elected Official and the Workforce Development Board Chair.

The designation of Hennepin-Carver as a Workforce Development Area allows the Hennepin-Carver Workforce Development Board to carry out its responsibilities as outlined in WIOA.

**Recommendation from County Administrator:** No Recommendation

## MINNESOTA

### Board Action Request

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**26-0074**

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**Item Description:**

Amd 1 to Agmts HS00001644 with HIRED and HS00001647 with Avivo to allow for the acceptance of 2026 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Young Adult grant funds, ext end dates to 03/31/28 and incr the combined NTE by \$30,000 for a new total combined NTE of \$850,000

**Resolution:**

BE IT RESOLVED, that Amendment 1 to Agreement HS00001644 with HIRED for the provisions of services for the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Young Adult program to eligible participants, extending the term to March 31, 2028 and increasing the not to exceed amount by \$15,000 for a new total not to exceed amount of \$425,000, be approved; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Amendment 1 to Agreement HS00001647 with Avivo for the provisions of services for the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Young Adult program to eligible participants, extending the term to March 31, 2028 and increasing the not to exceed amount by \$15,000 for a new total not to exceed amount of \$425,000.00, be approved; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chair of the Board be authorized to sign the Amendments on behalf of the County; and the Controller be authorized to accept and disburse funds as directed; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the acceptance of grant funding by Hennepin County Board of Commissioners does not imply a continued funding commitment by Hennepin County for this program when grant funds are no longer available.

**Background:**

Under Title I of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), the WIOA Young Adult Program is a federally funded initiative designed to strengthen and enhance the public workforce system. Its purpose is to assist Opportunity Youth facing significant barriers to employment in exploring employment, education, and training opportunities and securing high-quality jobs and careers, while supporting employers in hiring skilled workers.

Under Resolution 25-0119, Hennepin County is authorized to receive funding from the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) for the period of January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2029. These funds support services under the WIOA Adult, Youth, Dislocated Worker, State Dislocated Worker, and Minnesota Youth Programs.

On November 16, 2023, the Hennepin-Carver Workforce Development Board (HCWDB) issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) in accordance with Hennepin County requirements for the WIOA Young Adult Program and Minnesota Youth Program. Following an independent review by an eight-member panel, Hired and Avivo were selected to provide WIOA Youth services for the period April 1, 2024, through March 31, 2027.

To enable Hired and Avivo to receive and fully utilize PY26 WIOA Young Adult grant funds, the contract terms must be extended through March 31, 2028, aligning with the PY26 grant period (April 1, 2026 - March 31,

2028). Additionally, the combined not to exceed amounts will be increased by \$30,000 to accommodate the allocation of PY26 funds.

The agreements HS00001644 (Hired) and HS00001647 (Avivo) include the following mandated program services:

**Career Services:** Outreach, job search and placement assistance, comprehensive assessments, individualized employment plans, counseling, career planning, and labor market information for all job seekers.

**Training Services:** Connections to job opportunities within local communities, including occupational training and basic skills development.

**Support Services:** Assistance with transportation, child care, dependent care, housing, and other supports as needed to enable program participation.

**WIOA Youth Services:** Summer and year-round employment, work experience, and academic enrichment for suburban Hennepin County and Carver County youth, with a target of 75% out-of-school youth and 25% in-school youth.

During PY24 and PY25, the WIOA Young Adult Program has made a significant impact on Opportunity Youth in suburban Hennepin County. Since the start of their contracts, Hired and Avivo have served 80 young people. Of the 20 youth who have exited the program, 16 successfully entered unsubsidized employment or pursued post-secondary education, resulting in an 80% successful exit rate. Both providers have demonstrated strong performance and are well-positioned to continue delivering high-quality services through PY26.

**Recommendation from County Administrator:** Recommend Approval

# HENNEPIN COUNTY

300 South Sixth Street  
Minneapolis, MN  
55487-0240

## MINNESOTA

### Board Action Request

26-0075

#### Item Description:

And current Benefits Cliff (Succeeding in Employment) and Youth Employment Services contracts for continued funding through 02/28/26, NTE of \$213,721 (\$166,286 for Succeeding in Employment and \$14,435 for Youth Employment Services)

#### Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, the Benefits Cliff (Succeeding in Employment) and Youth Employment Services contracts be increased by the following not to exceed amounts in the table for services delivered January 1st - February 28th, 2026:

#### Benefits Cliff (contracted June 01, 2025 through May 31, 2027):

Provider	Contract Number	2026 NTE
Avivo	HS00001987	\$33,316.00
Lutheran Social Service	HS00001986	\$34,903.00
Hired	HS00001984	\$26,834.00
Emerge Community Development	HS00001985	\$41,667.00
Tasks Unlimited	HS00001988	\$29,566.00
		<b>Total: \$166,286.00</b>

#### Youth Employment Services (contracted July 01, 2025 through December 31, 2026):

Provider	Contract Number	2026 NTE
Lutheran Social Service	HS00001999	\$14,203.00
Spark-Y	HS00001998	\$16,667.00
Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches	HS00002000	\$16,565.00
		<b>Total: \$47,435.00</b>

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that following review and approval by the Hennepin County Attorney's Office, the Chair of the Board be authorized to sign the Agreement on behalf of the county, and that the Controller be authorized to disburse funds as directed.

#### Background:

The Hennepin County Board of Commissioners approved multi-year contracts to mitigate the benefits cliff impact in resolution 25-0196 and Youth Employment Services in resolution 25-0243. The two programs are

funded by property tax dollars and require board approval for continued funding and contract amendments to include funding amounts.

Benefits Cliff pilot began in 2022 with thirteen community-based providers offering a wide array of services to Hennepin County residents facing a benefit cliff. For those that experience a benefits cliff, increased earned income does not make up for the loss in benefits which results in a negative financial gain. Residents eligible to be part of the benefits cliff program must be facing one or more benefits cliffs, earning below 200% of federal poverty guidelines, and must be exiting or recently exited MFIP. Phase one had 1,145 participants enrolled, 266 participants were able to get new or enhanced employment, 331 participants participated in a savings match program, and 355 participants completed financial/wellness literacy.

Results of learnings and best practices gleaned from the pilot address the benefits cliff. Staff worked with U of MN Hennepin-University Partnership (HUP) to evaluate learnings from providers that informed the benefits cliff.

This strategic shift moves away from directly addressing the benefits cliff to implementing strategic supports in the right time in the right place to mitigate the impact of a benefits cliff. The Succeeding in Employment program kicked off in June of 2025 with a smaller footprint and a more streamlined strategy that focuses on employment and training services and flexible support dollars available to participants to overcome employment barriers. There are now five community-based providers serving residents facing benefits cliff. To date, there are 200 participants enrolled.

Youth Employment Services (YES) is a new initiative that began in 2025 utilizing learnings from youth workforce development programs provided with ARPA funding under the Workforce Development Roster program including the Youth Gun Violence Prevention Employment Strategy program and justice-involved youth initiatives. The YES program serves Hennepin County youth ages 11-19 who face employment and systemic disparities, with priority given to areas impacted by gun violence, poverty, and low education or employment rates. Services include career exposure, paid work experiences, mentorship, skills training, and financial literacy, delivered through a youth-led, trauma-informed approach.

**Current Request:** Amend current Benefits Cliff (Succeeding in Employment) and Youth Employment Services contracts for continued funding through February 28th, 2026, with a 2026 NTE of \$213,721 (\$166,286 for Succeeding in Employment and \$47,435 for Youth Employment Services).

**Recommendation from County Administrator:** Recommend Approval

### Board Action Request

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**26-0076**

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**Item Description:**

Revision to the Hennepin County Human Resources Rules

**Resolution:**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the revision to Hennepin County Human Resources Rules, Section 12.1 Hours of Work, be approved, as detailed on file with the Clerk of the County Board.

**Background:**

On February 4, 2026, the Hennepin County Human Resources Board approved a revision to the Hennepin County Human Resources Rule 12.1 Hours of Work as documented in the Attachment.

**Rationale for Revision to HR Rule 12.1 Hours of Work:**

A 2018 policy change, under the authority of Human Resources (HR) Rule 12.18, waived the requirement in HR Rule 12.1 that Special Leave Without Pay (SLWOP) be considered time worked for the purposes of computing premium overtime pay.

HR Rule 12.18 states that the Chief Human Resources Officer “shall have the authority to waive the affected Human Resources Rules for the purpose of interpreting, administering and implementing a Voluntary Leave Without Pay Program for County employees consistent with the County Board's approved policy on Voluntary Leave Without Pay.”

The proposed revision to HR Rule 12.1 codifies the 2018 policy change and administrative practice which is consistent with the intention that SLWOP can be used as a cost saving measure.

**Current request:**

Revise Hennepin County Human Resources Rules, Section 12.1 Hours of Work to codify the 2018 policy change and administrative practice that SLWOP not be considered time worked for the purposes of computing premium overtime pay.

**Recommendation from County Administrator:** Recommend Approval

## 12.1 Hours of Work

Eight (8) hours of work shall constitute a normal work shift, and eighty (80) hours a normal payroll period. The appointing authority shall determine the employees' actual work schedule and lunch break consistent with the Rules and may change such schedule at any time. Employees shall normally be granted two rest periods limited to fifteen (15) minutes each in an eight (8) hour work shift.

All nonexempt employees shall be paid at an hourly rate for actual hours worked.

Necessary essential services which are required beyond the normal work period shall be compensated for by premium overtime pay as allowed under Section 12.2. ~~Special Leave Without Pay (SLWOP) and a~~ All paid leave hours except sick leave hours, ~~and Special Leave Without Pay (SLWOP),~~ shall be considered time worked for the purposes of computing premium overtime pay. Special Leave Without Pay (SLWOP) hours shall not be considered time worked for the purposes of computing premium overtime pay.

### Board Action Request

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**26-0077**

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#### **Item Description:**

Amd 2 to Agmt A188951 with the University of Minnesota to provide general, professional, research and technical services countywide, ext end date to 06/30/31, incr NTE by \$5,000,000 for a new total NTE of \$9,500,000

#### **Resolution:**

BE IT RESOLVED, that Amendment 2 to Agreement A188951 with the University of Minnesota to provide general, professional, research and technical services countywide, extending the agreement period 5 years, from June 30, 2026 to June 30, 2031, and increasing the contract amount by \$5,000,000 for a new total not to exceed amount of \$9,500,000, be approved; that the Chair of the Board be authorized to sign the Agreement on behalf of the county; and that the Controller be authorized to disburse funds as directed.

#### **Background:**

Hennepin County and the University of Minnesota have a long rich history of collaboration and a desire to capitalize on the unique position of both institutions to advance shared interests. After years of working through an informal partnership, County and University Leadership formally launched the Hennepin University Partnership (HUP) in 2005 to capture value for both organizations through greater collaboration, shared expertise, applied research, and student engagement on key County priorities. Since that time, over 500 joint collaborations supporting Hennepin County policy and practice have been undertaken by County departments, including projects that advance knowledge, inform policy, and drive innovation to improve outcomes for Hennepin County residents.

The HUP receives oversight and strategic direction from a Leadership Team that includes Commissioner Marion Greene, the County Administrator Jodi Wentland, Assistant County Administrators, as well as leaders from the University.

The HUP Office is jointly funded by Hennepin County and the University of Minnesota, and employs a full-time Director, a full-time staff position, and graduate students. The HUP office serves as facilitators of work, helping to catalyze high-impact research between County staff and University faculty, convene events, vet projects, usher projects through the contracting process, and track project outcomes. The HUP Office does not take on projects for the County or the University; however, the Office does have programming and other functions that it implements throughout the year.

The Master Cooperative Agreement (MCA) provides an immense benefit for the partnership, streamlining the contracting process and providing pre-negotiated terms for both institutions, including data sharing. The existing MCA (A188951) was approved by the Board in 2018 and established a framework for expedited collaboration with the University, reducing the need for repeated negotiations and supporting consistent contract administration countywide. The Agreement was amended in 2021 to extend the term through June 30, 2026, and to increase the not-to-exceed amount to \$4,500,000.

Since the agreement's execution, County departments have continued to partner with the University on a wide range of work orders, including community-engaged research, program evaluation, technical assistance,

climate and sustainability analyses, public health projects, and policy development initiatives aligned with the County's Climate Action Plan, disparity elimination goals, and data-informed decision-making efforts. Project costs are the responsibility of County departments, and the work is completed by County staff and University faculty.

This Amendment 2 extends the Master Cooperative Agreement to June 30, 2031, and increases the not to exceed amount to \$9,500,000 to ensure adequate funding capacity for future work orders. Work orders exceeding \$100,000 are brought to the Board for approval, as well as projects with policy or budget implications.

**Recommendation from County Administrator:** Recommend Approval