



ADMINISTRATION OFFICE  
325 Sibley Avenue North  
Litchfield, MN 55355-2155  
P (320) 693-5200 / F (320) 693-5287

BETH OBERG  
Commissioner District 1

JULIE BREDESON  
Commissioner District 2

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Commissioner District 3

DANNY SCHIEFELBEIN  
Commissioner District 4

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Board Chair

February 13, 2023

Representative Dean Urdahl  
279 State Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155

**RE: Meeker County Bonding Request**

Dear Representative Urdahl,

Meeker County is currently in the design phase of a facility remodel project and is requesting State bonds funds to assist with construction of the project. The project includes remodeling two facilities, the Courthouse/Law Enforcement Center and the Family Services Center. The end result will be that the Courthouse will be transitioned to a Justice Center, where the functions that remain in the building will be focused on public safety, and the Family Services Center will be transitioned to a Government Center, where governmental functions such as the Land Use, Treasurer and Administration Departments will be relocated.

The primary purpose of the project is to enhance safety for the public, staff, and the courts through the construction of a secure entrance, with a checkpoint, to the Courthouse and a dedicated elevator from the detention center to the courts level of the Courthouse. Additionally, the project will allow for the expansion of the Law Enforcement Center to relieve congestion within the Sheriff's and Litchfield Police Department's offices.

The project is focused on ensuring that existing spaces are being maximized for use by the County's current and future workforce. This will ensure that the County is able to continue to provide a high level of service to its residents, while capitalizing on the previous investments made by the community.

The total project budget is \$12,154,000, of which \$5,525,000 is identified for the remodel of the Courthouse/Law Enforcement Center. Meeker County respectfully requests that the State of Minnesota provide financial assistance equal to 75% of the cost of the Courthouse/Law Enforcement Center remodel, **\$4,413,750**. Design of the project is currently underway and construction is anticipated to begin later this year.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. If you have any questions, please contact County Administrator Andrew Letson at [andrew.letson@co.meeker.mn.us](mailto:andrew.letson@co.meeker.mn.us) or 320-693-5201.

Sincerely,

Steve Schmitt  
Meeker County Board Chair