



HOUSTON COUNTY

BOARD OF COMMISSIONER MEETING

AGENDA REQUEST FORM

Historic Courthouse
304 S Marshall Street
Caledonia, MN 55921

Board Meeting Date: February 4th, 2026
Date Request Submitted: January 29, 2026
Submitted By (Name and Title): Brent Parker, Coordinator

Please fill in item(s) requested for agenda in correct category below. Add numbers as needed.

Appointment Request:

6:00 p.m. Public hearing on the use of rifles for deer hunting in Houston County
Note: This hearing will take place in the basement of the Houston County Criminal Justice Center

Consent Agenda Request:

Action Item Request:

Background/additional information can be typed below and/or included with request:

During the 2025 Minnesota Legislative Session, the Minnesota Legislature passed legislation repealing the state's longstanding shotgun-only zone and authorizing the use of rifles for deer hunting statewide beginning with the 2026 deer season. Under the new law, hunters generally will be allowed to use legal rifles or shotguns wherever deer hunting is permitted in Minnesota, unless a county formally adopts an ordinance restricting the use of rifles within its boundaries.

Minnesota Statutes § 97B.031, Subd. 7 authorizes a county board located in the former shotgun zone to adopt an ordinance after notice and public hearing to limit the type of firearms that may be used to hunt deer within the county.

At this time, Houston County has not adopted any ordinance or resolution regarding the use of rifles for deer hunting.

Purpose of the Public Hearing

The purpose of this public hearing is to provide an opportunity for residents, landowners, hunters, and other interested parties to comment on the new law, share perspectives on whether Houston County should adopt an ordinance limiting the use of rifles for deer hunting.

Note: Please submit all agenda request forms and supporting documentation to the BOC email at **BOC@HoCoMN.gov** by noon the Thursday before each BOC meeting to be included on the agenda. If your department needs a resolution number, please ask for the number ahead of time via the BOC email. Resolutions should be emailed in word format so they can be easily copied and pasted into the meeting minutes. Departments are responsible for scheduling their own public hearings, but please email the BOC to verify a date and time is available prior to advertising the hearing to ensure we do not double book times. Questions regarding agenda requests and board meetings can be sent to the BOC email. Thank you!