



**Commissioner-led Discussion:**  
**Staying Connected to the Work Across Ramsey County**

January 28, 2020

220 Courthouse, Large Conference Room

**Agenda**

1. Introductory Comments      Toni Carter, Chair
2. Handout Overview              Ryan O'Connor, County Manager
3. Board Discussion

## Staying Connected to the Work Across Ramsey County

The following document outlines organizational approaches to communication to ensure that Commissioners are continuing to have an opportunity to shape, be a part of and learn about the ongoing work happening across the organization.

Communication Method	Intended Purpose
Board Meetings – Agenda Items	Approve the business of the organization; ensure weekly alignment of strategic direction and organizational implementation
Board Meetings – Commissioner Updates	Provide district-specific updates of value to full Board; provide updates of work for which a commissioner is the identified lead for the Board
Board Meetings – County Connections	Provide updates on individual/collective acts of excellence, advancing the strategic plan, and/or timely issues impacting the county’s work
Board Workshops	Provide updates to the Board and seek discussion/guidance on new or implementation or policy plans (may set up future Board action)
Staff Led Discussion Sessions	Introduce a policy or implementation topic to the Board in need of preliminary discussion and guidance to build a shared approach/vision
Board Led Discussion Sessions	Introduce a topic in which one commissioner has determined with the Chair that further collective dialogue is required to shape a position
Quarterly Lunch n’ Learns	Provide an opportunity for individual and collective development that aligns with or leads work happening across the entire organization
Weekly 1-1 Chair Meeting	Brief and discuss topics related to the following week’s Board meeting and workshops plus strategic, operational and budgetary topics
Monthly 1-1 Commissioner Meetings	Brief and discuss topics related to strategic, operational and budgetary topics
As Needed Phone/Email/Text with CM and Exec Team	To address in the moment issues that arise across a large organization
Ramsey County In the Community and News Email	Provides information to the Board looking at news during previous 7 days and looking at RC community events during upcoming 7 days
Emails to Board from County Leadership	To update on timely topics that are follow-ups to meetings or workshops; developing emergencies; grant submission notifications; personnel announcements

**Three Questions for Commissioner Discussion:**

1. How do we ensure each of these communication tools are as effective as possible?
2. How can we use our aides in this effort to ensure they are a part of an effective communication process?
3. What, if anything, is missing in this discussion?