CITY OF NISSWA
AGENDA – CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING
TUESDAY, AUGUST 18, 2026 – 10:30 AM
NISSWA CITY HALL

Councilman Joe Hall will be joining remotely

A. Call to Order

B. City Administrator/City Clerk Interviews

C. Deliberate and select potential City Administrator/City Clerk.

D. Adjourn

SCSC South Central Service Cooperative
Quality Through Cooperation Since 1976

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North Mankato, MN 5
mnscsc.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City of Nisswa Announces Finalists for City Administrator

Nisswa, MN —The City of Nisswa is pleased to announce the finalists for the position of City Administrator/ Clerk following a competitive recruitment process led by the executive search team at South Central Service Cooperative. The following four candidates have been selected.

Joseph Darter

Joseph Darter currently serves as Property Manager for the City of Bloomington, Illinois, where he has more than 12 years of municipal government experience overseeing municipal services, public works operations, watershed management, infrastructure projects, budgeting, ordinance administration, and community relations. He manages an annual operating budget exceeding $2 million, supervises staff, and has secured more than $2.5 million in grant funding through partnerships with state and federal agencies. Darter has led large-scale infrastructure and environmental initiatives while coordinating with multiple governmental entities and stakeholders. He holds both a Bachelor of Arts and a Master of Arts in Political Science from the University of Illinois Springfield and has completed the ICMA Professional Development Academy.

Angela Grafstrom

Angela Grafstrom currently serves as City Administrator for the City of Lake Crystal, Minnesota, and brings approximately 10 years of progressively responsible municipal government experience, including previous administrator positions in Braham and Hallock, Minnesota and community development leadership in Mora, Minnesota. She oversees city operations, budgeting, human resources, utilities, personnel management, and strategic planning while supervising multiple departments. Throughout her career, Grafstrom has secured significant grant funding, led capital improvement and financial planning initiatives, modernized information technology systems, negotiated labor agreements, and managed major utility and infrastructure projects. She holds a master's degree from Kansas State University and a bachelor's degree from Black Hills State University.

Megan Kragness

Megan Kragness brings more than 15 years of leadership experience in higher education administration, human resources, organizational management, governance, and policy implementation. She currently serves as a management faculty member at the University of Minnesota Crookston, where she works closely with institutional leadership, faculty governance, and campus committees to support policy development, organizational operations, compliance, and official recordkeeping. As Faculty Assembly Secretary, she

prepares agendas and meeting minutes, maintains governance records, and supports institutional decision-making. She also teaches courses in leadership, human resource management, supervision, and organizational behavior. Earlier in her career, she supervised financial services operations, managed personnel, ensured regulatory compliance, and prepared financial reporting. Kragness holds a Master of Science in Human Resources from the University of Scranton, a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Bemidji State University and is a SHRM Senior Certified Professional (SHRM-SCP).

Travis Brierley

Travis Brierley currently serves as the Associate Planner with the City of Victoria, Minnesota, Adjutant with the Rosemount American Legion Post 65, and Secretary for the American Legion Riders. In his role at the City of Victoria, Minnesota, he leads municipal and zoning code modernization efforts, coordinates community development activities, and serves as the primary contact for resident inquiries related to development and infrastructure projects. Previously, he served as Assistant to the City Administrator for the City of Newport, Minnesota, including a period as Interim City Administrator, where he assisted with daily municipal operations, capital improvement planning, contract administration, community engagement, and the construction of a new city hall, fire station, and public safety facility. He also previously served as City Administrator for the City of Lewiston, Minnesota. Additionally, Brierley served 12 years in the United States Army with time spent in Afghanistan. Brierley recently completed a bachelor's degree in public administration, Political Science, and History from Winona State University.

Next Steps

Interviews will be held on August 18. Finalists will meet with city staff in the morning.

Two interviews will be held before lunch break. Two additional interviews will be held in the afternoon.

The City Council and Mayor will deliberate later that afternoon and select the next City Administrator/ City Clerk for the City of Nisswa. Employment negotiations and final terms of employment will be announced at a later date.

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