



Facility Inspection Report Issued By The Minnesota Department of Corrections Pursuant to MN Statute 241.021, Subdivision 1

Inspection and Enforcement Unit, 1450 Energy Park Drive, Suite 200, St.Paul MN 55108
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INSPECTION DETAILS FOR:

Blue Earth County Jail

Address: 401 Carver Road, Mankato, MN 56002

MN Governing Rule: 2911 Local Adult Detention Facilities

Inspection Type: Biennial **Inspected By:** Rachel Dotseth – Detention Facility Inspector **Inspected on:** 05/14/2025

Inspection Method: Facility walk-through, staff and inmate interviews, staff and inmate file reviews, and facility video and documentation reviews.

Officials Present During Inspection: Jail Administrator Joslyn Lachmiller; Sheriff Jeff Wersal

Officials Present for Exit Interview: Jail Administrator Joslyn Lachmiller; Sheriff Jeff Wersal

Issued Inspection Report to: Jail Administrator Joslyn Lachmiller; Sheriff Jeff Wersal; County Administrator Robert Meyer; Regional Manager Dayna Burmeister

RULE COMPLIANCE SUMMARY

Rule Chapter	Requirement Type	Total Applicable	Total Compliance	Total Non Compliance	Total Compliance With Recommendations	Compliance Rating	Substantial Compliance Result/Criteria
2911	Mandatory	125	124	1	0	99.20%	Compliance rating of 100%
2911	Essential	100	99	1	0	99.00%	Compliance rating of 90%

TERMS OF OPERATION

Authority to Operate: approval **Begins On:** 07/01/2025 **Ends On:** 06/30/2027 **Facility Type:** Jail
Placed on Biennial Status: Yes **Biennial Status Annual Compliance Form Due On:** 06/30/2026
Delinquent Juvenile Hold Approval: 6 hrs **Certificate Holder:** Blue Earth County Sheriff's Office
Special Conditions: Mailed on 5/29/2025

Approved Capacity Details **Operational Capacity is calculated as a percent of Approved Capacity beds.*

Bed Type	Gender	Approved Capacity	Effective Date	%Operating Capacity	Operational Capacity	Bed Details	Conditions
Secure	Coed	146	7/13/2009	90	131.40	None.	

RULE COMPLIANCE DETAILS

Chapter 2911 - Mandatory Rules Not In Compliance**Total: 1**

1. 2911.1900 POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUALS.

A facility shall have a written policy and procedure manual that is electronically available to staff and relevant regulatory authorities and defines the philosophy and method for operating and maintaining the facility. This manual shall be made available to all employees, reviewed annually, updated as needed, and staff trained accordingly. The manual shall include, at a minimum, the following chapters: A. correctional standards required under this chapter; B. administration and organization; C. fiscal management; D. personnel; E. training; F. inmate records; G. safety and emergency; H. security and control; I. sanitation and hygiene; J. food service; K. medical and health care services; L. inmate rules and discipline; M. communication, mail, and visiting; N. admissions, orientation, classification, property control, and release; O. inmate activities, programs, and services; and P. a written suicide prevention and intervention plan. The facility administrator or designee shall review policy and procedure manuals at least once each year. The review shall be documented in written form sufficient to indicate that policies and procedures have been reviewed and amended as appropriate to facility changes.

Inspection Findings:

A review of the facility's policy and procedure manual was conducted as part of the inspection. These three policies do not meet all of the requirements of the Chapter 2911 Rules or State Statutes governing county jails. 2911.3500 element E, 2911.2850.7, and 2911.6200.6.

Corrective Actions:

The items found during the review were provided to the Jail Administrator. The changes were made to meet the requirements. The corrective actions were completed, and the inspector verified.

Response Needed By: 05/30/2025**Chapter 2911 - Essential Rules Not In Compliance****Total: 1**

1. 2911.1300 CUSTODY STAFF TRAINING.

A facility shall have a written policy and procedure that provides that all custody staff receive 120 hours of orientation and training during the first year of employment. Forty of these hours are completed prior to being independently assigned to a particular post. All persons in this category are given an additional 16 hours of training each subsequent year. At a minimum, training completed before independent assignment to a particular post shall include: A. security procedures; B. supervision of inmates; C. signs of suicide risk and suicide precautions; D. vulnerable inmates; E. response to resistance regulations and tactics; F. report writing; G. inmate rules and regulations; H. rights and responsibilities of inmates; I. fire and emergency procedures; J. key control; K. interpersonal relations and communication skills; L. diversity training; M. distribution of medications; N. right to know; and O. blood-borne pathogens and communicable diseases.

Inspection Findings:

Documentation showed that new staff received 120 hours of orientation and training. However, the training did not include all the minimum requirements of the rule, including interpersonal relations and communication skills training. The Training Sergeant stated that they did not complete this training for new hires in 2024 but is in the process of establishing training for 2025.

Corrective Actions:

The Jail Administrator has a detailed plan to ensure that all training is completed. The inspector will continue to monitor for compliance.

Response Needed By: 07/31/2025

INSPECTION COMMENTS

During the inspection of the Blue Earth County Jail the inspector made a recommendation to the Jail Administrator to ensure that all new custody staff sign and date that they have read and reviewed the security post orders while in the FTO phase.

The facility will remain on biennial inspections.

JJDPA Compliance

On May 13, 2025, a Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act audit was conducted. The Blue Earth County Jail is in a metropolitan statistical area and has 6-hour hold. The three core requirements reviewed are Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders (DSO), Removal of Juveniles for Adult Jail and Adult Lockups (Jail Removal), and Sight and Sound separation.

According to the DOC Portal System, the Blue Earth County Jail held or processed zero (0) juveniles during the federal fiscal year 2024-2025. Blue Earth County Jail does not hold or process any juveniles in the jail. The findings are as follows:

DSO: No violations of the facility holding status offenders in the jail.

Jail Removal: No violations for the jail removal standard.

Sight and Sound Separation: The facility design and policies allow for proper sight and sound separation. Blue Earth County does not hold delinquent juveniles in the facility per their policy. Juveniles are brought to Carver County Juvenile Detention Center or Juvenile Alternative Facility in Scott County.

The facility does not participate in any "Scared Straight" programs for any youth that are under public authority.

Court Holding: There is four secure court holding cells at Blue Earth County with two in one area and two in another area. There is a separate juvenile entrance and secure hallway for juveniles only that lead to the court holding cells. Juvenile court is time phased from adults in addition to physical plant separation.

Based on the documentation reviewed, no violations of the JJDP Act were found at the Blue Earth County jail.

Report completed By: Rachel Dotseth – Detention Facility Inspector

Signature: _____

