

MINUTES OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, October 6, 2026

TIME: 11:00 AM

PLACE: Courthouse – Rm 300

MEMBERS PRESENT: Laura Valenstein, Donna Rozar, Lance Pliml, Jake Hahn, Joseph Zurfluh

OTHERS PRESENT: Trent Miner, County Clerk; See attached sign-in list

1. Chair Valenstein called the meeting to order at 11:00 AM.
2. There was no public comment.
3. Motion by Zurfluh/Rozar to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried unanimously.
4. Corporation Counsel Flanagan and Planning & Zoning Director Grueneberg gave an update on the Bug Tussel bonds held by the county and the fact that they have indicated they are not able to make their debt payment at this time and actual, verifiable information has been sporadic, at best. The county has entered into an agreement with Attoles Law, s.c., to review the agreements and provide guidance and they now suggest we enter into an agreement with Reinhart Boerner Van Duren, s.c., as they are more experienced in cases such as this. Motion by Rozar/Hahn to enter into an agreement with Reinhart Boerner Van Duren, s.c., as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
5. Wellness Coordinator Peterson provided a monthly update on Wellness programming.
6. Finance Director Yang presented a resolution requesting to hire 3 Community Health Worker FTEs in the Health Department due to receiving a grant. There is not impact to the levy. Motion by Rozar/Zurfluh to approve the resolution and forward onto the county board for their consideration. Motion carried unanimously.
7. Yang presented the current standing of the 2027 proposed budget as of today. She reviewed various general fund balance scenarios for the committee to consider. The following motions were made in that regard:
 - a. Motion by Rozar/Pliml to allow for step increases as of 1-1-2027 and a 2% cost of living adjustment to the pay plans as of 7-1-2027. Zurfluh requested a roll call vote. Valenstein voted AYE. Rozar voted AYE. Pliml voted AYE. Zurfluh voted AYE. Hahn voted NAY (believes the COLA should be implemented 1-1-2027). Motion carried 4-1.

- b. Discussion about the increased general transportation aid that was reported after the last meeting. Finance used it to reduce their levy ask. Commissioner Hawk and HIRC Chair Hahn reviewed the need for the additional funds. Motion by Hahn/Zurfluh to place \$208,534 back in the levy request. Motion carried unanimously.
 - c. Motion by Rozar/Zurfluh to approve the proposed budget for publication with the aforementioned edits taken. Motion carried. Voting no was Hahn (see reason above).
- 8. The next monthly meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 3, 2026, at 10:00 AM.
- 9. Chair Valenstein adjourned the meeting at 11:56 AM.

Minutes taken by Trent Miner, County Clerk, and are in draft form until approved at the next meeting.

Operations Committee

October 6, 2026

NAME	REPRESENTING
Jason Grueneberg	P + Z
BASS HAMILTON	WC 18
Kim McGrath	HR
Kelli Szymanski	HR
Roland Hawk	HW
Jue Smith	Health
Kristie Egge	"
Darrin Steinbach	Finance
Parlyia Yang	Finance
DEWIS POLACH	WCB-14
Kim Shmae	Clerk of Courts
TARA JUNGLEN	PR/DPR
Nick Flanagan	Corp Counsel
Heather Gehret	Treasurer
Amy Kamp (Web Ex)	IT
Tiffany Kinger (Web Ex)	Register of Deeds
Tony Bastien (Web Ex)	Dispatch
Mary Schlagut (Web Ex)	Human Services
Marissa Torneck (Web Ex)	Norwood
Gustav Cielewicz (Web Ex)	Edgewater Haven
Katie DeKleyn (Web Ex)	County Clerk
Katie Weller (Web Ex)	Human Services
Reuben Van Tassel (Web Ex)	Attnce