

AGENDA
CONSERVATION, EDUCATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, March 4, 2026
TIME: 9:00 AM
LOCATION: Courthouse – Room 302

Join by phone

+1-408-418-9388 United States Toll
Access code: 2481 019 4206

Join by WebEx App or website

<https://woodcountywi.webex.com/woodcountywi/j.php?MTID=mc3611da25ee24fc752276e39cb98fd48>

Webinar number: 2481 019 4206

Webinar password: 030426

1. Call meeting to order
2. Declaration of Quorum
3. Public Comments (*brief comments/statement regarding committee business*)
4. Chair’s Remarks
5. Approve minutes of February 4, 2026, meeting
6. Approve vouchers, staff reports, & committee reports
7. Risk and Injury Report
8. Land & Water Conservation Department
 - a. Review and approve Gilbertson grassed waterway project (bids)
 - b. Mill Creek watershed large scale TRM grant update
 - c. Update on Mill Creek Watershed / source of chloride
 - d. Update on ongoing violations
 - e. Citizens Water Group, March 16, 2026, speaker (informational)
9. Private Sewage
 - a. Annual Sanitary Permit Report
10. Land Records
11. County Surveyor
12. Planning & Zoning
 - a. Planner Emmett Simkowski’s presentation of the United States National Guard and Reserve Patriotic Employer Recognition to Director Grueneberg.
 - b. Annual Well Permit Report
 - c. Annual Land Subdivision Report
13. Economic Development
 - a. Wood County Childcare Task Force Update
 - b. Consider release of 2026 economic development grant funds for Remington Volunteer Fire Department in the amount of \$9,000.
 - c. Review 2027 economic development grant process.
14. Extension
 - a. Area Extension Director Introduction
 - b. Natural Resources Educator Update
15. Committee requests for per diem for meeting attendance
16. Schedule next regular committee meeting
17. Agenda items for next meeting
18. Schedule any additional meetings if necessary
19. Adjourn

MINUTES
CONSERVATION, EDUCATION, & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, February 4, 2026

TIME: 9:00 AM

PLACE: Courthouse – Room 302

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bill Leichtnam, Tom Buttke, Wayne Schulz, Russ Perlock, Tim Hovendick (via WebEx, arriving at 9:09 AM)

MEMBER EXCUSED: George Gilbertson

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

1. Chairman Leichtnam called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM and declared a quorum present.
2. There were no public comments.
3. The minutes of the January 7, 2026, meeting were presented. Motion by Buttke/Perlock to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
4. Motion by Schulz/Perlock to approve the vouchers, monthly department reports and committee reports. Motion carried unanimously.
5. Emily Oetzman from the Health Department reviewed the economic development grant application for the Catch-A-Ride program and explained that the match dollars had been changed to eliminate the donation of vehicles to the leasing of vehicles, which they believe in the long term is a more viable option. Motion by Buttke/Perlock to approve the changes in the grant application as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
6. Julie Strenn from Cran City Corner in Pittsville provided an update on their project and the timeline for construction to hopefully begin later this year. They are requesting the release of previously approved economic development grant funding. Motion by Schulz/Buttke to approve the release of \$20,000 of economic development grant funding as requested. Motion carried unanimously.
7. Interim Area Extension Director McGivern provided a current timeline of when a new Area Director will be on board, a document of the various educators either housed in or shared with other counties, and a monthly report of various activities of the department.
8. County Conservationist Wucherpfennig reported on the recently held Central Wisconsin Farm Profitability Expo held in Marshfield recently.
9. Wucherpfennig presented a resolution amending the 2025 DATCP budget for the expenses they incurred that was covered by additional state revenue. Motion by Buttke/Perlock to approve the resolution and forward onto the county board for their consideration.

10. Wucherpfennig reviewed the current status of the Mill Creek chloride issue and noted that the City of Marshfield has not moved forward in their inspection of the property in question. The committee instructed Wucherpfennig to encourage them to take action.
11. Wucherpfennig brought the committee up to date on the current violations and discussed an out-of-compliance mine operator that has Corporation Counsel involved.
12. Planning & Zoning Director Grueneberg presented a resolution amending the 2025 Land Records budget for the additional revenue and expense of LiDAR project funded with ARPA dollars. Motion by Buttke/Hovendick to approve the resolution and forward onto the county board for their consideration. Motion carried unanimously.
13. A referral resolution from Marathon County relating to local control in the regulation of large scale wind and solar projects was reviewed by the committee. Motion by Schulz/Perlock to direct staff to draft a similar resolution for Wood County and have it ready for the February County Board meeting. Motion carried unanimously.
14. The next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 4, 2026, at 9:00 AM.
15. Motion by Buttke/Schulz to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously at 10:43 AM.

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

Committee Report

County of Wood

Report of claims for: Extension Wood County

For the period of: February 2026

For the range of vouchers: 30250181 - 30250181 30260009 - 30260016

Voucher	Vendor Name	Nature of Claim	Doc Date	Amount	Paid
30250181	UW MADISON ACCOUNTING SERVICES	4-H Summer Camp Bus	02/17/2026	\$1,401.25	P
30260009	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	Computer Supplies	02/10/2026	\$33.24	P
30260010	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	Office Supplies	02/10/2026	\$110.42	P
30260011	STAPLES ADVANTAGE	Office Supplies	02/10/2026	\$41.28	P
30260012	UW MADISON ACCOUNTING SERVICES	4-H Discover WI Bus	02/10/2026	\$4,550.00	P
30260013	US BANK	February Credit Card Statement	02/24/2026	\$278.39	
30260014	BORES TRINA	February Expenses	02/24/2026	\$60.90	
30260015	EBERLEIN BENJAMIN	February Expenses	02/24/2026	\$40.82	
30260016	ROMBALSKI KAYLA-ROSE	February Expenses	02/24/2026	\$220.36	
Grand Total:				\$6,736.66	

Signatures

Committee Chair:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

Committee Report

County of Wood

Report of claims for: Land & Water Conservation

For the period of: February 2026

For the range of vouchers: 18260010 - 18260012

Voucher	Vendor Name	Nature of Claim	Doc Date	Amount	Paid
18260010	NORTH CENTRAL LAND & WATER CONSERVATION	Area Association member dues	02/02/2026	\$200.00	P
18260011	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	Tree sale bags (fruit trees)	02/02/2026	\$122.72	P
18260012	US BANK	Expo, conference, education	02/17/2026	\$3,312.40	
Grand Total:				\$3,635.12	

Signatures

Committee Chair: _____

Committee Member: _____

Committee Member: _____

Committee Member: _____

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Committee Report

County of Wood

Report of claims for: Planning & Zoning

For the period of: February 2026

For the range of vouchers: 22250094 - 22250094

Voucher	Vendor Name	Nature of Claim	Doc Date	Amount	Paid
22250094	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	PS-Office Supplies	12/23/2025	\$21.84	P
Grand Total:				\$21.84	

Signatures

Committee Chair:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

Committee Member:

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Committee Report

County of Wood

Report of claims for: Planning & Zoning

For the period of: February 2026

For the range of vouchers: 22260011 - 22260022

Voucher	Vendor Name	Nature of Claim	Doc Date	Amount	Paid
22260011	BOYER KEVIN	SU-Prof Services	01/28/2026	\$1,126.67	P
22260012	WCCA (COUNTY CODE ADMINISTRATORS)	PS-Dues	01/19/2026	\$70.00	P
22260013	WCCA (COUNTY CODE ADMINISTRATORS)	PS-Dues	02/04/2026	\$30.00	P
22260014	CLOUDPOINT GEOSPATIAL INC		01/31/2026	\$33,941.20	P
22260015	STAPLES ADVANTAGE	LR-Office Supplies	01/29/2026	\$396.68	P
22260016	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	PL-Office Supplies	02/02/2026	\$91.71	P
22260017	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	LR-Office Supplies	02/02/2026	\$124.44	P
22260018	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	PL-Office Supplies	02/03/2026	\$16.06	P
22260019	WCCA (COUNTY CODE ADMINISTRATORS)	PS-Training/Conference/CPE	02/18/2026	\$550.00	
22260020	HEART OF WIS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	PL-Training/Conference/CPE	02/18/2026	\$75.00	
22260021	MICHAEL BAKER INTERNATIONAL	LR-Prof Serv-Other	02/18/2026	\$20,470.00	
22260022	US BANK	LR/PL/ED Credit Card Charges	02/18/2026	\$574.37	
Grand Total:				\$57,466.13	

Signatures

Committee Chair: _____

Committee Member: _____

Committee Member: _____

Committee Member: _____

Committee Member: _____

Committee Member: _____

Committee Member: _____

Committee Member: _____

Committee Member: _____



Extension Wood County staff led, delivered, planned or collaborated on all of the following activities:

4-H POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Laura Huber, 4-H Program Educator

Trina Bores, 4-H AmeriCorps member

- An in-person, after-school 4-H Club meeting during which youth used their imaginations and teamwork to learn about electricity. They used potatoes, boiled potatoes, and lemons to create batteries that can light up a simple flashlight.
 - **Total Reach:** 15 youth members
- An in-person after school program for youth in grades 2-8 where students practiced following directions, expressing creativity, and showing generosity through creation of duct tape bookmarks.
 - **Total Reach:** 30 students
- A series of lessons (Healthy Living/Life Management) for students at River Cities High School, where we engage them in lessons around topics such as budgeting/renting, cooking, nutrition, basic home repairs, and other essential life skills to prepare them for life after high school and help support their overall health and well-being for when they are on their own.
 - **Total Reach:** 81 students
- Planning and promoting a county-wide service-learning project in which Wood County 4-H collects food items to create meal kits for families with school-aged children. Meal kits will be distributed through FOCUS Rapids Family Backpacks and Marshfield Area United Way's Nutrition on Weekends programs.
- A pen pal project for youth in grades 5K - 2 where young people practice reading and writing skills in order to create and build new relationships across 8 counties in central Wisconsin.
- A series of lessons, Life Management, for students at River Cities High School, where we engage them in lessons around topics such as budgeting/renting, cooking, nutrition, basic home repairs, and other essential life skills to prepare them for life after high school and help support their overall health and well-being for when they are on their own.
 - **Total Reach:** 81 students
- An in-person, overnight camp for youth in grades 6-12 during which they practiced leadership and team building skills while creating a social network. Through this camp, youth increased engagement with 4-H - reaching beyond the club.
 - **Total Reach:** 33 youth 4-H members, 2 youth campers who are not 4-H members and 4 adult 4-H volunteers





AGRICULTURE

Matt Lippert, Agriculture Educator

- Planning April 2026 in-person Save a Calf Save A Cow Workshops for dairy and dairy workers (with Spanish interpretation) and beef producers. The goal is to provide information and techniques to boost cattle caretakers' confidence in preparing the cow for calving, obstetric techniques and newborn calf care so that their health and reproductive programs maintain their farm's economic viability.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Kayla Rombalski, Community Development Educator

- Reviewed applications for ARPA-funded childcare capacity grants administered through Childcaring, Inc and the Wood County Child Care Task Force. Applicants outlined how proposed projects would expand classrooms, add slots, improve facilities, and/or support staffing. The selected childcare business from Wisconsin Rapids will receive a \$100,000 Capacity Building Grant. Previously a business in Marshfield was awarded the same amount. These funds strengthen the availability of high-quality childcare for families and contribute to workforce stability.
- Continued planning efforts for the Central Wisconsin Housing Summit, a regional convening designed to bring together developers, municipal leaders, and housing practitioners. The event will highlight best practices, resources, and collaborative strategies to advance local housing solutions that address workforce needs and support long-term community vitality. This event is designed to elevate the builder and developer perspective and address real challenges in today's housing landscape. The goal is to accelerate cross-sector collaboration that leads to more housing development in Central Wisconsin.
- Coordinated logistics, marketing materials, and website updates for the Grant Writing Basics Virtual Workshops. This free two-hour course helps participants from across the state and beyond develop foundational grant-seeking skills, offering step-by-step guidance and practical tools for creating compelling, fundable proposals. Spring workshops will be offered April 27 and 28, with additional fall dates planned. The impact of these workshops is to build statewide capacity for securing external funding, enabling more organizations and community groups to successfully pursue grants that strengthen local initiatives and drive community development.
- Continued strategic planning processes with two Wood County organizations: the Wood County Health Department and FOCUS (Feeding Our Community with United Services). Strategic plans guide organizational leaders through goal setting, prioritization, and capacity-building conversations. As a result of this work the organizations will have a plan aimed at strengthening effectiveness, enhancing decision-making, and supporting sustainable, community-centered operations.

CRANBERRIES

Allison Jonjak, Cranberry Outreach Specialist

- An improved, easier to search website with current information is being developed for cranberry growers to access critical research-backed information at any hour:
https://cropsandsoils.extension.wisc.edu/?page_id=17340&preview=1&_ppp=b664b2b1bf
- Administrators prepared for a delegation of cranberry growers, to facilitate and establish relationships for research and outreach collaboration opportunities.
 - **Total Reach:** 16
- Cranberry Nutrient Management Plan Training trains cranberry growers to sustainably develop Nutrient Management Plans for their operations. In addition to standard annual updates, improvements to the plan training were made to demonstrate the use of modern recordkeeping software to streamline planning, recordkeeping, and reduce paperwork burden. Traditional processes of spreadsheets or paper files will still be supported for those who do not desire the use of modern technology.

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Ka Zoua Thao, Bilingual (Hmong) Community Health Worker *Hannah Wendels Scott, Health and Well-Being Educator*

Behavioral Health

- Bi-weekly support groups for Hmong students where they learn about feelings, safety, and respect through storytelling, art, and guided conversations. Using age-appropriate terms, basic concepts of mental health, personal boundaries, and trusted adults while honoring Hmong traditions and values will be introduced. Through this program, Hmong students will feel safe, heard, and confident to lay the foundation for lifelong emotional well-being and opening the door to healthier conversations in their families and communities.
 - **Total Reach:** 61 students
 - 7 students in grades 4-5
 - 33 students in grades 6-8
 - 21 students in grades 9-12
- A weekly virtual program for educators from the Wisconsin Rapids Public School District, where participants practice healthy coping strategies, built emotional awareness, and strengthened skills for managing stress in daily life. Through this effort, educators will gain tools that support their well-being in their personal and professional lives.
 - **Total Reach:** 19 registered participants
- An after-school program for elementary and middle school students, where Extension colleagues across various institutes lead engaging activities focused on their area of expertise. My focus is on



teaching simple coping skills and emotional awareness. Through this effort, students will strengthen their well-being and build confidence in managing everyday challenges.

- **Total Reach:** *25 students each time*
- A Hmong culture presentation for Employee Assistance Program counselors, where participants learned key Hmong traditions, values, and cultural practices to better understand and support Hmong clients who call in. Through this effort, counselors increased their cultural awareness and strengthened their ability to provide respectful, effective care to Hmong individuals and families.
 - **Total Reach:** *14 Employee Assistance Program counselors*
- A monthly gathering for Hmong elder women where they connect with one another and learn ways to care for their mental and social well-being. Through this effort, they will strengthen community bonds and build healthier habits.
 - **Total Reach:** *6 Hmong women*
- Building and maintaining relationships and engaging with partners to address health needs with the Hmong community of Wood County.
- An as needed meeting with Hmong clients, where I met one-on-one with clients to listen to their needs, offer support, and help them identify and access local health and community resources. Through this effort, participants will gain personalized support, clearer pathways to services, and greater confidence navigating systems.
 - **Total Reach:** *5 one-on-one Hmong clients*
- A series of strength training sessions (StrongBodies) for adults in the community, where participants engage in regular, progressive strength training and health education to improve their physical and mental health and enhance social connectedness.
 - **Total Reach:** *9 participants*
- A monthly food pantry pick-up for Hmong community members in Wood County, where I support families in choosing foods that their household needs and share information about additional local resources. Through this effort, Hmong residents gain reliable access to healthier food options and feel better connected to community supports.
 - **Total Reach:** *12 Hmong families*
- The Hmong Women's Social Space serves as a monthly gathering for Hmong women to engage in discussions about often overlooked topics within their community. This initiative aims to foster relationships among participants and empower them to advocate for the recognition of their voices.
 - **Total Reach:** *7 participants*
- A weekly program for incarcerated men in the Wood County Jail, where participants practiced healthy coping strategies, built emotional awareness, and strengthened skills for managing stress in daily life. Through this effort, men gained tools that support their well-being during incarceration and increase their capacity to navigate re-entry with resilience and confidence.
 - **Total Reach:** *2 incarcerated males*



HEAL (Healthy Eating and Active Living)

- A collaborative hands-on nutrition education and cooking class for expecting mothers/mothers at FOCUS Food Pantry, where participants learned about feeding their infant, when to recognize the desire for solid foods, and how to make their own baby food at home to stretch their food budget. This series of classes is in partnership with the South Wood County YMCA.
 - **Total Reach:** 4 families
- A schoolwide taste test at Grove Elementary introduced all students to the Harvest of the Month vegetable—beets—prepared in a new and appealing way. Through this experience, students explored a new food, practiced trying unfamiliar vegetables in a supportive environment, and built confidence that can help them make positive fruit and vegetable choices at home.
- A 5-week nutrition education series for third grade classrooms at Howe Elementary School, where students will learn about MyPlate, making healthy food choices, how to read nutrition facts labels, and about being physically active to help students to be healthier in school and at home.
 - **Total Reach:** 57 third grade students
- A 5-week nutrition education series for third grade classrooms at Mead Elementary School, where students will learn about MyPlate, making healthy food choices, how to read nutrition facts labels, and about being physically active to help students to be healthier in school and at home.
 - **Total Reach:** 35 third grade students
- A partnership with United Way/Hunger Coalition, FOCUS Food Pantry, and the Housing Authority of Wisconsin Rapids that provides "Stockboxes for Seniors", a monthly food box service where low-income seniors can receive around 25-30 pounds of nutritious foods to stock their pantry with. The goal of this partnership is to promote the boxes with community partners with the overall goal to improve food security.
- A 15-week series of strength training sessions (StrongBodies) for older adults/adults in the Nekoosa community, where participants engage in regular, progressive strength training and health education to improve their physical and mental health and enhance social connectedness. This series is led by two Extension StrongBodies volunteers.
 - **Total Reach:** 38 participants
- A weekly virtual program for educators from the Wisconsin Rapids Public School District, where participants practice healthy coping strategies, built emotional awareness, and strengthened skills for managing stress in daily life. Through this effort, educators will gain tools that support their well-being in their personal and professional lives.
 - **Total Reach:** 19 registered participants
- A series of lessons, Life Management, for students at River Cities High School, where we engage them in lessons around topics such as budgeting/renting, cooking, nutrition, basic home repairs, and other essential life skills to prepare them for life after high school and help support their overall health and well-being for when they are on their own.



- **Total Reach:** 81 students
- A series of after-school lessons for elementary and middle school students at Pittsville Elementary School, where students learn about the five food groups, how they benefit their overall health and well-being, and how to make healthy food and physical activity choices both at home and at school.
 - **Total Reach:** 24 students
- Planning for 4 community listening sessions with individuals and families who are experiencing food insecurity in collaboration with the Wood County Health Department. The goal of these sessions is to gather qualitative data from residents with lived experience of food insecurity to better understand the barriers they face and the solutions they believe would be most effective. The second half of this project will be taking the feedback from each session to help guide our strategies to reduce food insecurity in Wood County.
- A series of lessons for adults who are incarcerated participating in the SMART Recovery Pod Program in the Wood County Jail. Through this series, participants will learn nutrition education, cooking skills, and participate in the StrongBodies program that improves their physical and mental health.
 - **Total Reach:** 6 participants
- An ongoing series of strength training sessions (StrongBodies) for older adults/adults in the Pittsville community, where participants engage in regular, progressive strength training and health education to improve their physical and mental health and enhance social connectedness. This series is led by two Extension StrongBodies volunteers.
 - **Total Reach:** 26 participants

HORTICULTURE

Janell Wehr, Horticulture Educator

- Planning for a bilingual agricultural conference for Hmong farmers in collaboration with local agencies and educators. The goal is to provide education on sustainable farming, business development, and pest management, so that participants can improve farm profitability, adopt resilient practices, and strengthen community connections.
- A newspaper article for Pittsville area residents, where subscribers learned about garden planning activities, such as crop rotation and variety selection. Through this effort, participants improved their understanding of how sustainable gardening practices positively impact their landscapes.
- The second in a series of four programs for the general public, where participants learned how to apply IPM to insect management. Through this program, participants learned how reduced pesticide use and increased insect diversity improves plant outcomes.
 - **Total Reach:** 26
- A program for the general public where participants learned the techniques for starting seeds indoors. Through this effort, participants improved their ability to grow plants successfully for their wellbeing.
 - **Total Reach:** 6



- A program for the general public where participants learned the physical, biological, and chemical characteristics of soil, how nutrients affect plant growth, and techniques for successful direct sowing and planting transplants. Through this effort, participants improved their understanding of how sustainable gardening practices positively impact their landscapes.
 - **Total Reach:** 4

HUMAN RELATIONSHIPS & DEVELOPMENT

Ben Eberlein, Human Development & Relationships Educator

- A series of lessons, Life Management, for students at River Cities High School, where we engage them in lessons around topics such as budgeting/renting, cooking, nutrition, basic home repairs, and other essential life skills to prepare them for life after high school and help support their overall health and well-being for when they are on their own.
 - **Total Reach:** 81 students
- A direct education activity for elementary & middle school students in which participants learn basic financial concepts like the difference between needs & wants and to identify personal financial values and goals. Through this, they establish a foundation of knowledge for positive money management later in life.
 - **Total Reach:** 27 students
- A 6-session course for renters where participants learn how to find and apply for rental housing, understand their responsibilities as a renter, how to communicate effectively with their landlords, and manage housing expenses. Through this, those with negative rental records and those new to renting are able to increase their ability to find and keep safe affordable housing, thereby increasing their stability and decreasing their reliance on public supports.
 - **Total Reach:** 1 individual
- A 6-session course for renters where participants learn how to find and apply for rental housing, understand their responsibilities as a renter, how to communicate effectively with their landlords, and manage housing expenses. Through this, those with negative rental records and those new to renting are able to increase their ability to find and keep safe affordable housing, thereby increasing their stability and decreasing their reliance on public supports.

NATURAL RESOURCES

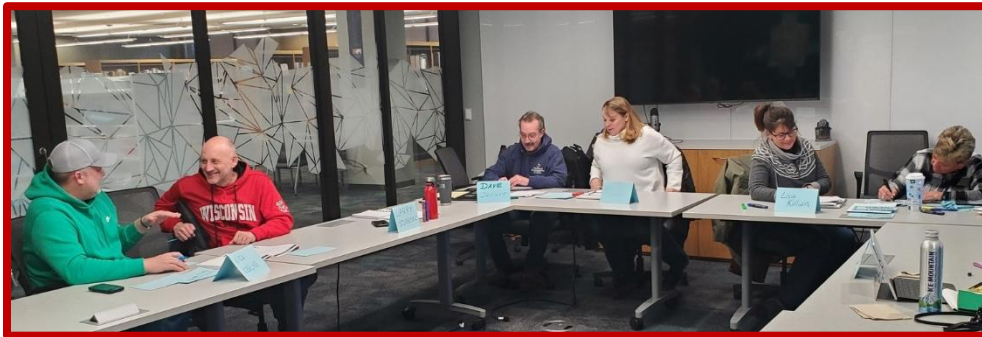
Jen McNelly, Natural Resources Groundwater Educator

Anna Mitchell, Natural Resources Educator

- Facilitation of monthly meetings of the Wood County Citizen Water Group, where stakeholders discuss ways to implement their annual action plan, learn about water related issues in Wood County, plan events and activities, update each other on work being done in the county, and identify new collaborations for future work/projects.



- **Total Reach:** 15 Citizen Members of the Wood County Citizen Water Group
- A four-session facilitated strategic planning workshop series for the Nepco Lake District Board and stakeholders, where participants created a shared 3–5-year practical vision, analyzed underlying contradictions that hinder progress, developed strategic directions to address those barriers, and identified first-year measurable accomplishments with timelines and responsibilities. Through this strategic planning process, the district built a clear, community-driven roadmap that strengthens organizational alignment, supports effective decision-making, and guides long-term stewardship of Nepco Lake.
 - **Total Reach:** 9 members of Nepco Lake District



- As of February 23rd, Jen McNelly officially transitioned into the Area Extension Director position. She will be serving Area 7, which now consists of Marathon, Portage, Waupaca and Wood Counties.



LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT
STAFF REPORTS – FEBRUARY 2026

Barb Peeters

Conservation Administrative Specialist

- Processed nonmetallic mining annual permit fee payments as received (for payments postmarked prior to NMM permit fee payment deadline of January 31st per county ordinance).
- Worked with Conservation Program Manager regarding a late NMM permit payment to send letter that the permit fee will be doubled due to submission after 1/31/26 deadline (per county ordinance).
- Processed orders for fruit trees and fielded phone calls/emails regarding availability of fruit trees.
- Responded to inquiries via phone and email regarding tree/shrub/seed sale (orders closed on January 16th). Took customer names/contact information for waiting list in the event there are any extra trees.
- Submitted proof of tax-exempt status and credit card authorization form for CEED member & LWCD staff attending annual WI Land+Water Conference in March.
- Assisted with distribution of poster contest trophies and awards.
- Completed January sales tax report and forwarded to Finance.
- Drafted 2025 LWCD Annual Report. Sent request for reports to partner agencies and LWCD staff. Edited report as information received. Started ball rolling to take updated photo of CEED Committee. Sent report request reminders to partner agencies.
- Attended virtual follow-up meeting on February 3rd with Kendra Wilhelm, Caleb Armstrong and County Conservationist for the Central WI Farm Profitability Expo. The event was well attended (almost 60 attendees) with great discussions, information and networking.
- Updated the list of outstanding 2025 LWCD revenue and kept Finance and Treasurer’s office notified of reimbursement requests submitted to DATCP & DNR.
- Assisted Conservation Program Coordinator with calculation of 2026 Wildlife budget for submission to DNR.
- Attended February 4th CEED meeting virtually.
- Downloaded the February DATCP monthly report and shared with LWCD staff.
- Completed LWCD payroll percentages and forwarded to Finance prior to the February 5th payroll.
- Scheduled, set/created agenda, attended and took minutes at February 5th staff meeting.
- Notified information technology of ongoing issues with slow speed of Wi-Fi in River Block building when assisting landowners with nutrient management plans to be proactive for the upcoming NMFE classes on March 10, 17 & 24 in RB Auditorium due to similar issue with Wi-Fi during the 2025 NMFE classes. Per I.T., landowners unfortunately do not have the option of connecting to in-house Wi-Fi and they noted guest Wi-Fi isn’t very good, as it’s not meant for use with programs/classes. We will try utilizing our dept. Hot Spot to assist with connectivity issues during the NMFE classes.
- Organized County Board packet materials and electronically submitted to the County Clerk’s office.
- Reached out to landowner regarding outstanding check and followed up with Treasurer (NMFE reimbursement).
- Received notice that Wood County LWCD will receive \$23,215.89 in MDV (multi-discharge variance) payments for 2026 from 22 wastewater/sanitary districts.
- Updated MDV payment tracking spreadsheet and processed MDV payments as received.
- Assisted Engineering Technician with historical payments/information for the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) administered by the LWCD.
- Reached out to North Central Area Land & Water Association President Kirstie Heidenreich regarding the Winter Planning Meeting/Poster & Speaking Contest which is slated to be hosted by Wood County LWCD in January 2027 in order to be proactive in planning a successful event. Tentative date is set for Tuesday, January 26, 2027.

- Generated bid letters for grassed waterway project (project extended from 2025 – G. Gilbertson).
- Reviewed process for submitting payroll percentages with County Conservationist for February 19th payroll.
- Vacation days February 11-13 and 16-20.
- Processed payments from DATCP for 2025 revenue totaling \$181,867.67 (\$167,730.00 Staff & Support grant reimbursement, \$10,206.00 NMFE grant reimbursement and \$3,931.67 Innovations grant reimbursement).
- Posted information and flyer on the LWCD website regarding National Invasive Species Awareness Week (occurring Feb. 23-27, 2026).
- Shared Wellness Committee updates for February 2026 with department.
- Attended meeting to discuss Fourmile Creek/Nepco Water Quality grants on February 26th.
- Assisted with calls from landowners requesting use of no-till drill in the spring.
- Worked on Outlook email cleanup requested by Information Technology for all county staff.
- Generated fruit tree sale flyer and submitted to Human Resources to be posted on the Wood County FaceBook page. We have two species of apple trees (Empire & Wolf River) and two species of pear trees (Flemish Beauty & Wisconsin (Jung) Hardy) available in limited quantities for the spring 2026 tree sale.
- Followed up with Marathon Co. LWCD staff member regarding questionnaire that will be sent to attendees of the Central Wisconsin Farm Profitability Expo.
- Ordered department supplies as needed.
- Processed department invoices/vouchers and deposits weekly for submission to Finance/Treasurer.
- Reviewed payroll reports and verified distribution by accounts/department.
- Served as point of contact for LWCD staff when Conservationist was out of the office on February 3, 5, 6, 9, 10, 26.
- Looked into AutoCad program license and contract after Kyle/Engineer Technician lost all permissions and access to the program and determined the DLT Solutions contract expired 1/14/26. Invoice emailed to County Conservationist in January 2026; payment submitted in late February to restore access/permissions.
- Worked with Human Services staff regarding payments from the State of WI that were addressed to LWCD but were for Human Services records requests (made out to LWCD in error by the State).
- Assisted Rod Mayer, Conservation Program Manager with compiling nonmetallic mine permit fees received and DNR portion of fees collected for report to Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.
- Electronically submitted staff reports/packet materials to the County Clerk's office for the CEED meeting packet and entered LWCD agenda items.

Emily Salvinski

Conservation Specialist

- **Thursday, February 5.** Attended staff meeting. Assisted farmer with updating nutrient management plan. Attended a forage research webinar. Looked up numbers for annual report.
- **Friday, February 6.** Looked into how to calculate wind erosion reductions. Added turned in NM plans to map database. Requested non-Land Conservation nitrate results from the Health Department and started mapping them.
- **Tuesday, February 10.** Reviewed a nutrient management plan. Watched UW tile drainage webinar. Generated NMP numbers requested by Portage Co.
- **Wednesday, February 11.** Put together mailing for nutrient management plan reminders. Went over/edited power point. Mapped some Health Dept. nitrate results from 2025.
- **Thursday, February 12.** Finished mapping Health Dept. nitrate results from 2025 that weren't part of our program.
- **Wednesday, February 18.** Assisted landowner with which kind of easement is on land. Updated NMP mailing list. Filed away and mapped turned in NMPs.

- **Thursday, February 19.** Attended Nutrient Management Farmer Education class in Spencer to assist farmers using snapplus to write their plans.
- **Friday, February 20.** Took paperwork from the plans written by Wood Co farmers at the Spencer course and added took note of reimbursable soil samples and added updated maps to GIS. Added/updated other NMPs to GIS. Reviewed a NMP for upcoming appointment.
- **Monday, February 23.** Helped farmer update his nutrient management plan using snapplus. Updated spreadsheet, maps.
- **Tuesday, February 24.** Attended staff meeting. Attended part of Ag water webinar. Processed submitted NMPs.

Kendra Wilhelm

Conservation Specialist

- Drafted a press release to be sent to local newspapers regarding the 2026 conservation poster contest.
- Compiled 2025 Mill Creek cost-share data for the County Conservationist.
- Provided technical assistance to the Village of Biron regarding the Healthy Lakes & Rivers Program that is run through DNR’s Surface Water Grants.
- Attended a follow-up meeting regarding the Central Wisconsin Farm Profitability Expo.
- Attended the February Lakes & Rivers Partnership meeting. February’s topic was “Lake, River, Watershed Integration: Protection + Restoration.”
- Participated in the February 5th LWCD staff meeting.
- Assisted J. Behlen with updating his nutrient management plan.
- Read the 11th Edition Soil Health Resource Guide by Green Cover.
- Created “Thank You” cards for speakers, panelists, and emcee’s that participated in the Central Wisconsin Farm Profitability Expo.
- Followed up with colleagues regarding the invasive species and cranberry marshes initiative.
 - Attended a meeting regarding this effort and to determine next steps.
- Communication with partners regarding the two Comprehensive Management Planning Surface Water Grants that we applied for.
 - Both grants are for water quality monitoring within the Fourmile Creek Watershed and the inlets and outlets of Wazeecha and Nepco Lakes to identify hotspot areas of nutrient and sediment loading.
 - We received notice that both grants were fully funded by the DNR.
 - Began putting together a tracking spreadsheet for both grants.
 - Put together a deliverable checklist with responsibilities of each partner.
 - Scheduled and attended a meeting on February 26th with partners to discuss deliverables and responsibilities.
 - Discussed grant logistics with LWCD staff members.
- Proof-read and added information to the 2025 annual report.
- Attended and presented at the Spencer Nutrient Management Farmer Education class on February 12th.
 - Attended day two of the Spencer class to help farmers develop their nutrient management plans. This class occurred on February 19th.
- Monitored the general office email, office cell phone, and picked up mail while Barb was on vacation.
- Provided technical assistance to the Nepco Lake District at their third and fourth strategic planning meetings.
- Attended the February Nepco Lake District board meeting.
- Attended various sessions of the 2026 Invasive Species Forum that occurred on February 17th, 18th, and 19th.
- Coordinated the use of the no-till drill for one producer.

- Met with a Village of Biron board member to provide technical assistance regarding the DNR Healthy Lakes & Rivers program.
- Created a draft mailer to be sent out to farmers within Wood County.
- Created a short article for National Invasive Species Awareness Week that was posted on the Wood County Facebook page and the Land & Water Conservation website.
- Assisted with and attended a meeting regarding educational sessions the Nepco Lake District is hosting this upcoming summer. The general theme will be healthy shorelines.
- Presented poster contest awards at Pittsville High School, Grant Elementary School in Marshfield, and Auburndale Elementary School.
- Participated in the February 24th staff meeting.
- Attended a webinar regarding on-farm research trials to lower nitrogen rates.

Kyle Andreae

Engineer Technician

- February 2 – CREP Records Keeping
- February 3 – CREP Records Keeping
- February 4 – CREP Records Keeping
- February 5 – Solar Presentation Preparation
- February 6 – Solar Presentation Preparation
- February 9 – CREP Audit
- February 10 – CREP Audit
- February 11 – CREP Audit
- February 12 – CREP Audit
- February 13 – CREP Audit, Gilbertson out for bid
- February 16 – CREP Audit
- February 17 – Cohort Meeting, No-till Drill Repair
- February 18 – North East Area Winter Tech Meeting
- February 19 – CREP Audit
- February 20 – Solar Presentation Preparation
- February 23 – Solar Presentation Preparation
- February 24 – Staff meeting, Mailer Review, Solar Presentation Preparation
- February 25 – Solar Presentation Preparation
- February 26 – Ciesielski Permitting
- February 27 – Solar Presentation Dry Run, Ciesielski Permitting

Rodney Mayer

Conservation Program Manager

- DNR Wildlife Damage and Abatement Program meeting of 3 held. Went over 25 enrollee objectives, 7 denials for 2026 for not meeting objectives, 1 claim denial for not meeting objectives.
- Processed Breuch Act 82 enrollment for damage to stored crop: paperwork, database updates, file updates, sent to DNR.

- Review of changes to NR 12 and policy etc.
- Contacted enrollee to explain DNR policy per claim denial – 1 year out Act 82 enrollments, claim denial, able to enroll under regular managed for 2026 with open public hunting lands.
- Reviewed FAs – updated software, spreadsheet and files for: Laidlaw, Earth Biron, Earth Ceyress, Mid-WI, Nikolai Bigelow, Day Rd., and Bigelow, Kolo Haas, Scheunemann, Wolosek, Sternweis, Schneider, Earth MR2.
- Processed Raikowski 2025 wildlife damage claim. Updated database, filed, sent to DNR.
- Earth Ceyress NMM reclamation plan final review. Draft letter to end John Ceyress mine permit and release of FA. Updated software, spreadsheets, and files.
- Earth 186 final review of hard copy – approval, email indicating once wetland area South of new plan restored to Ag. site will be in compliance. Updated file, database, summary, etc.
- Pond exemption information sent to landowner.
- Email to Marti Farms for 2026 wildlife enrollment options.
- Completed 4th quarter WDACP reimbursement request; printed all invoices, completed DNR database, completed report packet (37 pages), sent to DNR.
- Completed WDACP Budget for 2026. Completed DNR database, sent request to DNR.
- Kevin Wendt site visit for damage to stored crop. Documented pics, Act 82 application signatures, updates to database, sent to DNR.
- Brehm late NMM fee Fruin site violation letter drafted and mailed with deadline to pay double fee. CCed to Shane and Corp Counsel.
- Completed my portion of the 2025 LWCD annual report – information sent to Barb for final report.
- Staff meeting 2/5/26
- Review of Brehm Vision mining without a permit letter from Corp Counsel setting deadline to have an approved plan and permitting process.
- DNR TEAMS meeting with Altmann construction to discuss a mine site going into CH 30 joint jurisdiction and all requirements.
- Completed records request to Altmann for example joint jurisdiction reclamation plans.
- Wildlife fence cost-share program discussions with cranberry grower.
- Reviewed Tork Reddin NMM mine site amendment maps for final reclamation – approved, updated file and database.
- Processed Marti wildlife damage claim for 2025 – database updates, file updates, email to DNR, submit.
- Researched Brehm file for Corp Counsel – scanned and sent documents. Informed Corp Counsel of missed deadline to pay late fee on Feb 18th.
- Preliminary review of Bach NMM reclamation plan (taking over Mid-WI permit). 95-page plan, completed 3 page review with comments for needed changes and clarifications.

Shane Wucherpfennig

County Conservationist

- Teams meeting with Caleb Armstrong, Kendra Wilhelm and Barb Peeters to discuss the Central WI Farm Profitability Expo (CWFPE) follow up. The event was held on Jan. 27, 2026 in Marshfield.
- Analyzed cost-share data for Mill Creek and reported it in the innovations grant reimbursement request for DATCP.
- Finalized Innovation Grant - Reimb Request & Final Report.
- Attended CEED Meeting on February 4, 2026

- Participated in the February 5th LWCD staff meeting.
 - Follow up discussions & water testing with landowners that have installed Nitrate Removal System
 - Proof-read and added information to the 2025 annual report.
 - Approved time sheets and payroll percentages.
 - Corresponded with partners regarding the two Comprehensive Management Planning Surface Water Grants that were approved. Both grants are for water quality monitoring within the Fourmile Creek Watershed and the inlets and outlets of Wazeecha and Nepco Lakes to identify hotspot areas of nutrient and sediment loading.
 - Attended Golden Sands RC&D meetings in Stevens Point.
 - Teams meeting with Rodney Mayer, Myself, DNR, Altmann Construction on the Ron Bohn nonmetallic mine site and possible permitting.
 - Summer Intern interviews of candidates at the UWSP campus.
 - Applied for MDV projects with DNR for Castle Rock, Black River & Lake Dubay watersheds.
 - Out of office week of the 16th
 - Staff Report & CEED agenda for February/March
 - Participated in the February 24th LWCD staff meeting.
 - Attended Department Head Meeting February 25th, 2026.
 - Met with Regional Farmers Market Coordinator
 - Attended Fourmile Creek/Nepco Water Quality Grants Discussion at the LWCD office
 - Attended Wood Co Citizens Groundwater Group Meeting
 - Attended virtually the County Con Support Network meeting
 - Attended Wood County Board Virtually
 - Cost-share contracts with landowners
 - Met with Nick Flannagan (Corp Counsel) on multiple violation discussions
-



Wood County WISCONSIN

OFFICE OF PLANNING AND ZONING

TO: Conservation, Education & Economic Development Committee

FR: Jason Grueneberg, Planning & Zoning Director
Emmett Simkowski, County Planner
Paul Bernard, Land Records Coordinator
Brad Cook, Code Administrator
Kayla Rautio, Code Technician
Victoria Wilson, Program Assistant
Julie Mancl, Program Assistant

RE: Staff Report for March 4, 2026

1. Economic Development (Jason Grueneberg)

Thrive Rural Pittsville – This past month I requested the final reimbursement from the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) for the Thrive Rural Pittsville project. Although the grant funding has been spent, the project fund-raising is in full swing with hopes of beginning construction in 2026. I have attached an informational flyer to this report to learn about the CranClty Corner project.

UWSP Marshfield Campus - Helen Connor Laird Theater Renovation Project – This past month I have been continuing to work on planning for the renovation project at the Helen Connor Laird Theater. The WEDC has tentatively committed \$2,000,000, and the Laird foundation \$400,000. Campus Executive Dr. Andrews and I have been working with one group of UWSP students to develop a framework for a feasibility study for the facility. Once this strategy is established, we will work with another group of UWSP students to develop the feasibility study.

On February 23rd, Facilities Director Van Tassel and I toured the facility to discuss the proposed renovations and talk about next steps in the renovation process. I will be meeting with the UW Commission in March to provide an update on the project and develop an implementation strategy.

Heart of Wisconsin ACE Leadership Program – On Thursday, February 12th I hosted the Heart of Wisconsin Leadership Class at the Courthouse to learn about government services. The class of 19 students spent the day learning about government operations and public service, local government functions, and the role of civic engagement. The day included a local elected leader panel, an overview of county government functions, a jail tour, a discussion of county issues and opportunities, and the day was wrapped up by Chair Pliml talking about leadership perspectives and experiences.

A big thank you to all of the Wood County Elected Leaders and staff that helped to make this day fun, educational, and a huge success!

Facilitation and Planning:

Victoria Wilson, Planning & Zoning - Program Assistant

Local Elected Leader Panel:

Matt Zacher, Wisconsin Rapids Mayor
Bill Leichtnam, Wood County Supervisor District 19

Jail Tour:
Shawn Becker, Sheriff
Ted Ashbeck, Jail Administrator

County Government Overview:
Trent Miner, County Clerk
Heather Gehrt, County Treasurer
 John Peckham, Highway Department, Accounting Supervisor
Chad Schooley, Parks & Forestry Director
 Lacey Piekarski, Human Services – Employment & Training Manager
 Pamela Ashbeck, Human Services – Economic Support Specialist

Local Government Leadership Strategies:
 Lance Pliml, Wood County Board Chair

Central Wisconsin Economic Development (CWED) Fund - On February 18th I participated in the CWED Board of Directors' meeting. Agenda items included Finance and Loan Committee reports, the monthly fund status report, the administrator/fund administrator report, and consideration of 2 loans.

So far this year CWED has approved 8 loans totaling \$2,539,000, with an additional \$1,680,600 in loan requests in the pipeline. At the current rate of applications being submitted and reviewed, CWED is on pace to have its biggest year since it began in 2010.

Wood County Department Head Meeting – On February 25th I participated in the Wood County Department Head meeting. Some of the items that were discussed included the department recognition program, employee engagement survey results, and the countywide email transition.

Mid-State Technical College Campus Advisory Committee – On February 26th I participated in the Mid-State Technical College Campus Advisory Committee meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to have a conversation around community strengths, workforce trends, and opportunities to consider to further engage and improve the Mid-State Technical College.

2. Planning & Zoning (Emmett Simkowski)

After getting back into things from my two weeks at Ft. McCoy, things have stayed busy. There have been a few CSM's come through that are waiting on fixes and Town approval. I had a meeting with the Town of Rock regarding their proposed zoning ordinance along with multiple meetings with Town leaders regarding their Comprehensive Plan rewrite. The Town of Rock's Comprehensive Plan rewrite is coming to fruition quicker than expected and I am looking forward to pushing that past the finish line this spring/early summer. I've also met with the Town of Lincoln regarding a discussion on an alternative energy ordinance for solar/wind energy in the Town. This is becoming a common discussion with many towns in Central Wisconsin, and I will be attending some webinars and meetings with UWSP and WCCA regarding this topic in March and April.

3. Land Records (Paul Bernard)

- Permitting Progress (lack thereof) working with Town of Saratoga and City of Wisconsin Rapids
- Two online surveys have been created to help municipalities, assessors and building inspectors to submit forms to the land information office
- Parcel mapping
- Address mapping
- Coordinating NG911 GIS Project
- Coordinating Planimetric Project
- Applying for Wisconsin Department of Military Affairs Next Generation 911 Grant funds for 2026

4. Code Administrator (Brad Cook)

1-29-2026- (1) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for new HT TN: 03, gather and compile FP documentation for Dept, answer, review, and gather information for phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL

1-30-2026- (1) well permit reviewed and issued TN: 03, gather and compile FP documentation for Dept, fill and complete State DSPS Audit form to State, answer, review, and gather information for phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL

2-2-2026- Gather and compile FP documentation for Dept, answer, review, and gather information for phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL

2-3-2026- (2) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for rep HT & new mound TN: 11, 15, review FP documentation with Code Tech, answer, review, and gather information for phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL

2-4-2026- Meeting/online about floodplain, shoreland, situations, answer, review, and gather information for phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

2-5-2026- Meeting/discussion with TN: 17 on Stoneybrook, answer, review, and gather information for phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

2-6-2026- (1) soils onsite C: 31, (1) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for rep conv TN:18, answer, review, and gather information for phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL

2-9-2026-(1) POWTS meeting/conversation on manufactured homes, health insurance requirements/ activities, answer, review, and gather information for phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL

2-10-2026- Respond to town chairman TN: 17, answer, review, and gather information for phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL

2-11-2025- (3) POWTS inspection reports written and reviewed TN: 13, 21, 27, answer, review, and gather information for phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL

2-12-2026- Ace Leadership Program, answer, review, and gather information for phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL

2-13-2025- (4) POWTS inspection reports written and reviewed TN: 07, 18 , answer, review, and gather information for phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL

2-16-2026-(4) POWTS inspection reports written and reviewed TN: 09, 16, 18, (1) well permit reviewed and issued TN: 13, answer, review, and gather information for phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL

2-17-2025- (2) soil eval reviewed TN: 08,18, answer, review, and gather information for phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL

2-18-2025- WCCA Central District Meeting, answer, review, and gather information for phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL

2-19-2026- (1) well permit reviewed and issued TN: 19, Review, respond to inquiries about POWTS, shoreland, floodzone issues from previous days, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL

2-20-26- (1) soils eval, HT plan permit review TN: 03, answer, review, and gather information for phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL

2-23-25- (1) POWTS onsite visit TN: 21 answer, review, and gather information for phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL

2-24-2025- (1) SL permit reviewed and issued TN:07, 2025 State, answer, review, and gather information for phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL

5. Code Technician (Kayla Rautio)

- A. Reviewed and approved POWTS & well permit applications
- B. Reviewed and approved soils evaluations
- C. Completed inspection reports
- D. Created private sewage & well delegation annual reports
- E. Studied floodplain zoning
- F. Assisted with daily phone calls/emails/office questions
- G. Attended Meetings/Trainings/Etc.
 - 2-26-26: Staff lunch meeting

6. Office Activity (Victoria Wilson & Julie Mancl)

- a. Monthly Sanitary and Well Permit Activity – There were 4 sanitary permits, 2 shoreland permits and 5 well permits issued in February 2026.

- b. ArcGIS Pro Software Project – Julie is working on a “Parcel History Cards” GIS project and Victoria is working on an “Address Enhancing Features” GIS project for Paul.
- c. TRIP Receipts - \$876.50 was received from the Tax Return Interception Program from two prior court cases in February 2026.
- d. Attended the following meetings/trainings & activities:
 - i. February 4th CEED meeting (VW)
 - ii. February 12th ACE Leadership (VW)
 - iii. IT Training Module (VW & JM)
 - iv. February 26th Staff lunch meeting



CRANCITY CORNER

For generations, Pittsville has been the kind of place where people show up for one another. We've celebrated together, built businesses together, and helped each other through hard times. That spirit is what keeps our town strong - and it's what CranCity Corner is built on: creating new spaces and opportunities while keeping the heart of Pittsville right where it's always been.



WHAT WE'RE BUILDING

- » The Foundation: a nonprofit to support the community.
- » A movement: encouraging the growth and development for long-term prosperity and connection for Pittsville and surrounding communities.
- » Investment: supporting entrepreneurship, education, and local promotion.

The Meeting Place: a 6,000-square-foot building in the heart of downtown Pittsville that will provide space for gathering, space for businesses, space for housing, and will provide revenue to support the mission.

Economy and Forward Growth

People and Leadership

Place and Community Life

Culture and Identity

We will focus on these four areas



WHY IT MATTERS

CranCity Corner will preserve the small-town values that make Pittsville unique while providing opportunities for the community to thrive long into the future.



SCAN FOR MORE
INFORMATION

Do you want to help preserve the heritage of Pittsville? CranCity Corner will be at the center of it all. Join CranCity Corner in creating a sustainable Pittsville, deepening its roots, investing in the future and strengthening connections. CranCity Corner is seeking champions for this project as donors, volunteers and partners.

Economy and Forward Growth

- » **INVEST IN ENTREPRENEURSHIP, MOVE PITTSVILLE FORWARD**
Provide space, mentorship, and resources at CranCity Corner to move Pittsville forward through new business creation, building reuse, and community vitality.
- » **ENCOURAGE HOUSING ROOTS**
Make Pittsville a community where families want to put down roots by fostering the vibrancy and amenities that inspire people to build homes and stay.

People and Leadership

- » **EXPAND LOCAL LEARNING & LEADERSHIP**
Strengthen Pittsville's future by connecting schools, employers, and civic groups to expand leadership, workforce skills, and lifelong learning opportunities.
- » **BUILD A COMMUNITY CLUB**
Develop a civic club and gathering space that fosters volunteerism, leadership, and community-led projects, strengthening Pittsville's resilience for generations.

Place and Community Life

- » **FOSTER COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS**
Create spaces and opportunities for people to gather, connect, and lead — preserving small-town values while building a vibrant and engaged community.
- » **ESTABLISH A COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**
Create a sustainable community foundation that ensures long-term funding for Pittsville's vibrancy, supporting public spaces, events, and economic opportunity.

Culture and Identity

- » **CELEBRATE CRANBERRY CULTURE**
Leverage Pittsville's unique cranberry heritage as a cultural cornerstone — driving pride, tourism, and investment through events, destinations, and place-based business.



Monday, Feb. 16, 2026 @ 2:00pm (Riverblock Auditorium, room 206)

- 1.) The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bill Leichtnam at 2:00 pm.
 - a. Round robin introductions of meeting attendees
- 2.) Public Comment - None
- 3.) Approve minutes of Jan. 19, 2026 mtg
 - a. Carrell made a motion to adopt the Jan. 19, 2026 meeting minutes as presented. Buttke 2nd the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- 4.) Correspondence / Updates / Handouts / Reports on meetings attended
 - a. Letter was sent to Rep.s Mursau, Guerverro, and Callahan concerning the Alliance for the Great Lakes “Nitrates on Tap” report.
 - b. Dimick and McNelly had a meeting with Katie Garvey from the ELPC about their winter manure spreading tool. McNelly is working Katie to get her the contact info for all of the Central Sands County Con’s so Katie can work with them directly.
- 5.) Future Secretary Duties
 - a. Jen McNelly is leaving her Extension position as a NRE to become the Area Extension Director. CWG is need of someone to take minutes at the upcoming meetings.
- 6.) Discuss Chair’s 2026 Recommendations: Promoting CWG mission, increasing membership, and grants/wish list.
 - a. Small group discussion was had on each topic. The subsequent months (March, April, May and June) will be spent discussing these topics and creating a plan for the upcoming year.
- 7.) Discussion/Action from the floor
 - a. Carrell mentioned that Bennett Goldstein had contacted her and would like to discuss the work of CWG with the group. Leichtnam suggested that be the topic for the March meeting
- 8.) Possible agenda items for next meeting
- 9.) Next mtg. — March. 16, 2026, 2:00 pm
- 10.) Adjourn –
 - a. Motion to adjourn was made by Buttke and 2nd by Dimick. Motion passed unanimously.
 - b. Chairman Bill Leichtnam adjourned the meeting at 3:37 pm.

Present in the meeting: Bill Leichtnam, Jen McNelly, Rhonda Carrell, Bill Clendenning, Bruce Dimick, Tom Buttke, Sandy Cain, Russ Perlock, Susie Ettner, Ken Winters.

Virtual: Gordon Gottbeheit, Tracy Arnold, Tim Hovendick, Ben Jefferies,

Respectfully submitted by Jen McNelly on February 17, 2026

DRAFT



2025 Annual Report: Private Onsite Wastewater Systems & Zoning Permits



PURPOSE

The Wood County Private Sewage Ordinance is to promote and protect the public health, safety, general welfare and natural resources of the county by assuring:

1. The proper siting, design, installation, inspection, maintenance, and management of POWTS and non-plumbing sanitation systems.
2. Timely repair or replacement of failing POWTS and non-plumbing sanitation systems.
3. Prevention and control of surface water and groundwater pollution.

STAFF

Brad Cook – Code Administrator
Email: bradley.cook@woodcountywi.gov

Kayla Koziczowski – Code Technician
Email: kayla.koziczowski@woodcountywi.gov

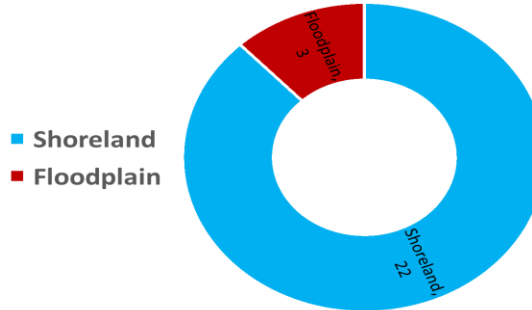
Telephone: 715-421-8466

LEARN MORE

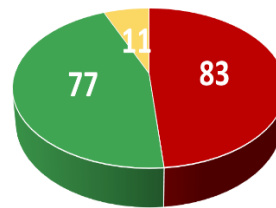
<http://www.co.wood.wi.us/Departments/PZ/SanitaryProgram.aspx>



Zoning Permits



Sanitary Permits

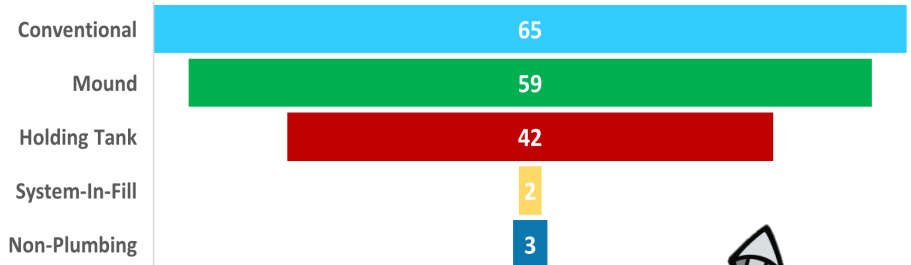


■ New Development ■ Replacements ■ Reconnections

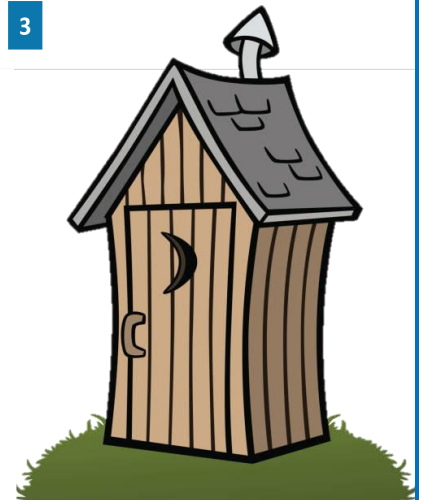
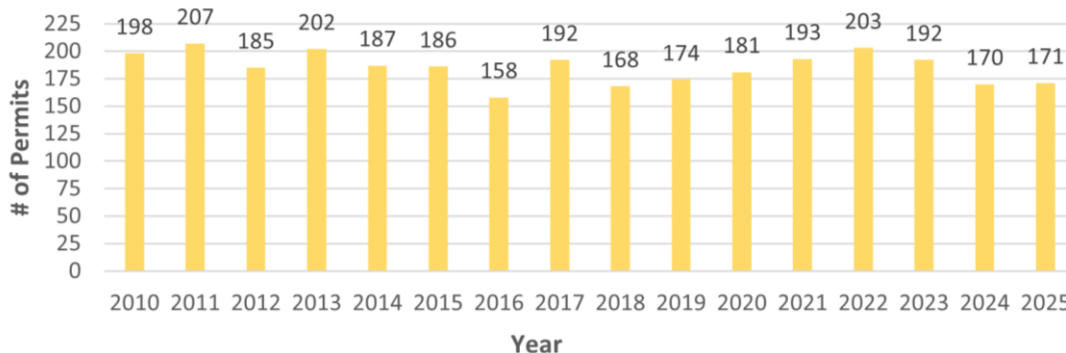
Sanitary Permits by Town

Town	Total
ARPIN	3
AUBURNDALE	6
CAMERON	7
CARY	5
CRANMOOR	0
DEXTER	4
GRAND RAPIDS	33
HANSEN	4
HILES	3
LINCOLN	6
MARSHFIELD	7
MILLADORE	6
PORT EDWARDS	11
REMINGTON	5
RICHFIELD	7
ROCK	6
RUDOLPH	7
SARATOGA	28
SENECA	4
SHERRY	3
SIGEL	7
WOOD	6
VILLAGES	3

POWTS Types



Sanitary Permit Historical Data



2025

Annual Report : Well-Water Systems



Level 1—Well Location Inspector

Level 5—Well & Drillhole Abandonment Inspector

121

OF WELLS PROPERLY LOCATED & PERMITTED

42

OF UNSAFE, UNUSED OR NONCOMPLYING WELLS FILLED & SEALED

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Wood County Private Well-Water Systems Program is to protect Wood County's drinking water and groundwater resources through regulating new private well location and well filling and sealing.

This program provides the opportunity to protect public health and the environment as well as provide for the protection and safety of county citizens by inspecting new and existing well installations, discovering old wells that should be filled and sealed, and learning more about groundwater and soil conditions within the county. The program is administered countywide by the Planning and Zoning Department.

Well Construction Type Totals	
Drilled	121
Driven Point	0
Jetted	0



50%
of all 2025 well constructions located in Grand Rapids and Saratoga

Wells by Municipality

Local Municipality	Total
T. ARPIN	5
T. AUBURNDALE	4
T. CAMERON	2
T. CARY	2
T. CRANMOOR	-
T. DEXTER	1
T. GRAND RAPIDS	31
T. HANSEN	2
T. HILES	2
T. LINCOLN	2
T. MARSHFIELD	4
T. MILLADORE	4
T. PORT EDWARDS	6
T. REMINGTON	1
T. RICHFIELD	1
T. ROCK	2
T. RUDOLPH	2
T. SARATOGA	25
T. SENECA	8
T. SHERRY	3
T. SIGEL	3
T. WOOD	1
V. ARPIN	1
V. AUBURNDALE	-
V. BIRON	-
V. HEWITT	3
V. MILLADORE	-
V. PORT EDWARDS	6
V. RUDOLPH	-
V. VESPER	-
C. MARSHFIELD	-
C. NEKOOSA	-
C. PITTSVILLE	-
W. CONSIN RAPIDS	-

STAFF

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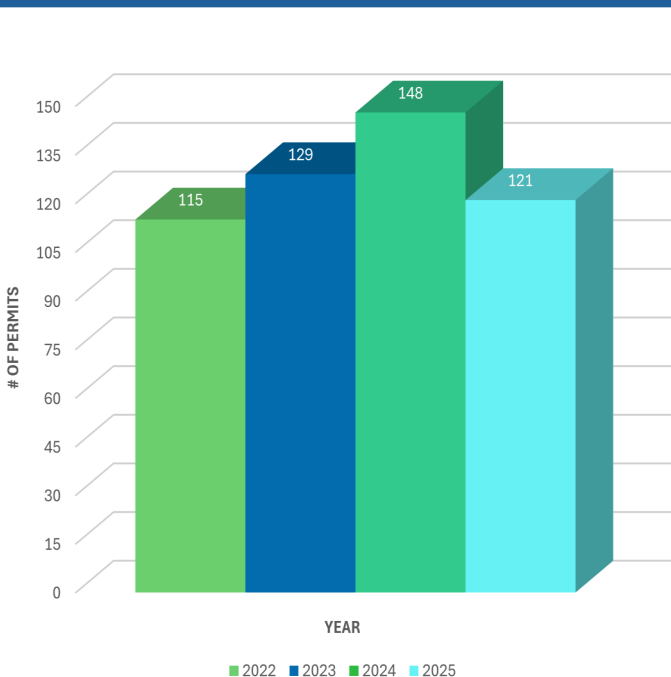
Email: kayla.koziczkowski@woodcountywi.gov

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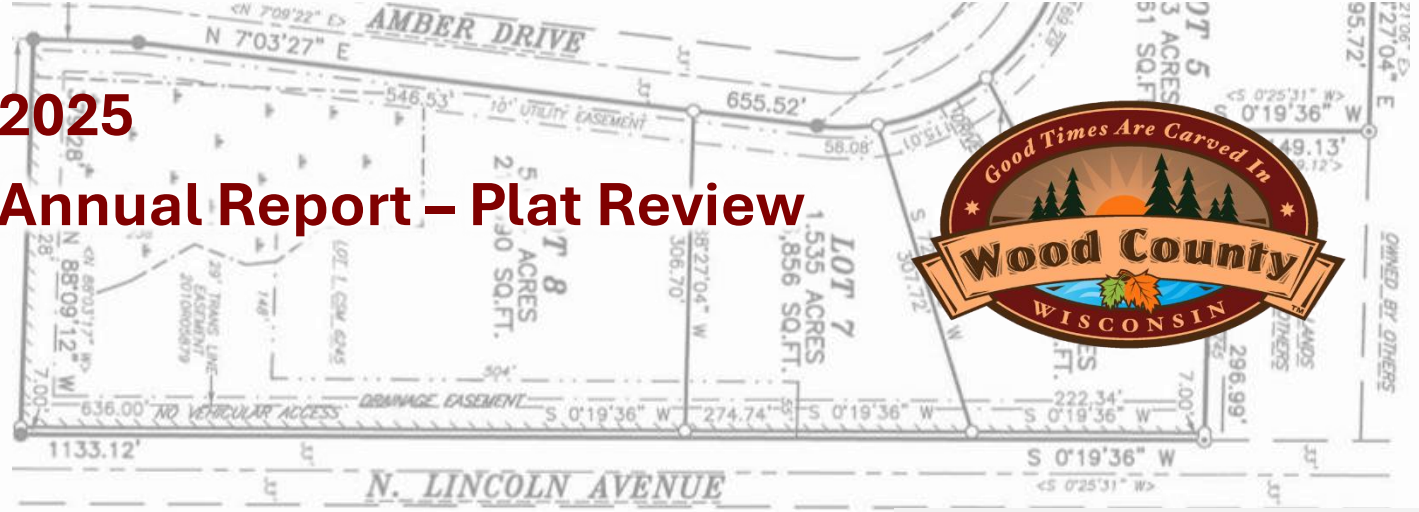


[Wood County - Well Program](#)

Well Permit Trends

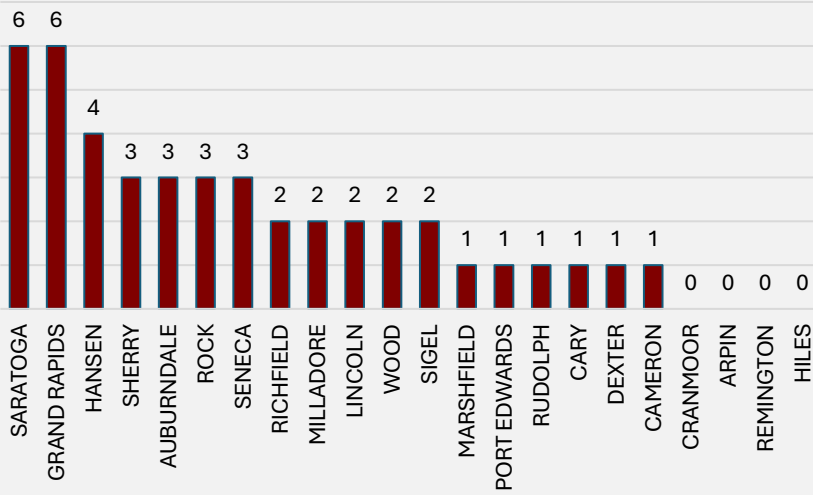


2025 Annual Report – Plat Review

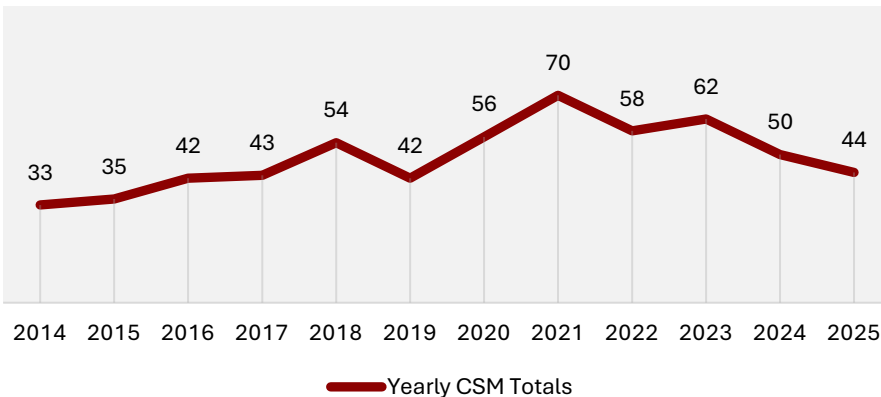


2025 Plat Review Totals		
	Total	Lots
CSM	44	70
Preliminary Subdivision Plat	0	0
Final Subdivision Plat	0	0
Condo Plat	0	0

CSMs By Town 2025



CSM Historical Data



PURPOSE

The Wood County Land Subdivision Ordinance is administered county-wide within the unincorporated areas of the county. This ordinance regulates procedures and standards for dividing a parcel of land into smaller parcels.

The purpose of this ordinance is to promote the public health, safety and general welfare; to further the orderly layout and use of land; to prevent the overcrowding of land; to lessen congestion in the streets and highways; to facilitate adequate provisions for water, sewage and other public requirements; to provide for proper ingress and egress; to promote proper monumenting of subdivided land and conveyancing by accurate legal description; and to provide safe and orderly subdivision layouts.

STAFF

Emmett Simkowski - County Planner
 Telephone: 715-421-8568
 Email: emmett.simkowski@woodcountywi.gov

Kevin Boyer - County Surveyor
 Telephone: 715-421-8466
 Email: kevin.boyer@woodcountywi.gov

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[Wood County - Plat Review](#)



Wood County Economic Development
(Planning & Zoning/Extension)
400 Market Street/ P.O. Box 8095, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495
Phone: 715-421-8466

2026 Wood County (WI) Economic Development Funding Request

Proposal Title: Remington Volunteer Fire Department Addition

Applicant Organization: Remington Volunteer Fire Department

Website:

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 133 Babcock, WI 54413

Street Address: (if different) 1638 State Hwy 80 Babcock, WI 54413

Contact Name & Title: Jan Brockman, Secretary

Phone: 715-572-5575

Email: ptjanny@tds.net

Proposal Narrative

1. **REDI Alignment** (select one) Other (please describe below)

If selected other, please describe: Public Safety

2. **Please provide a summary of your proposal.** Explain how it is consistent with and supports the Wood County REDI (Rural Economic Development Initiative) Plan.

The mission of the Remington Volunteer Fire Department (RVFD) is to minimize the loss of life, property, and natural resources from fire, natural disasters, and life-threatening situations, and to assist other emergency agencies in a swift and timely manner. We strive to advance public safety through our fire prevention and education programs. We are committed to protecting not only our citizens but also those visiting or traveling through our community. Our public purpose aligns with this grant's purpose to improve emergency response and contribute to safer communities by enhancing the effectiveness and responsiveness of public safety services in the state. Our department is the first line of defense in emergencies.

3. **Have you received funds through this grant in the past?** (if yes, check box)

Have you applied in the past? (if yes, check box)

If yes, in which years did you receive funds and in which years did you apply?



**Wood County Economic Development
(Planning & Zoning/Extension)**

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- 4. Describe the timeline for this proposal.** Note this grant requires the funding recipient to complete work on the proposal/project within one calendar year (2026).

The building project began on June 9, 2025. The total cost of the project is \$280,000.00. To date, the Remington Volunteer Fire Department has raised \$55,000.00 and has received \$95,000.00 in grants. The Town of Remington has pledged \$50,000.00 to the project. This leaves us with an \$80,000.00 shortfall. The plan is to finish the project by this fall with the town securing a loan. This grant will allow us to pay the loan needed for the shortfall to make sure that the building addition is complete. The blacktop approach will not occur until 2026 due to the limited funds.

- 5. Explain how this proposal will provide a Return on Investment (ROI) to Wood County.** Please be as specific as possible. E.g. The housing incentive we offered with County Economic Development funds will lead to an annual tax levy increase of \$X.

We are in desperate need of decontamination facilities and equipment in our department. At this time, the firefighters and the public only have access to an outdoor port-a-potty. There is no hot water, no bathroom, no shower, and no sink in the department. We cannot clean our personal protective equipment such as turnout gear, wildland fire gear, masks, or gloves. Currently, packages of wipes are used to clean and disinfect our hands or bodies. This also holds true for the public when we hold education or training opportunities for the community and during our fundraising and open house activities. This lack of just a simple bathroom continues to put our firefighters and community members in harm's way. During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, the firefighters had PPE masks and gloves but were unable to perform basic handwashing to mitigate the chance of spreading the virus. Not only do our firefighters encounter contaminants during fires and traffic accidents, but they also run the risk of exposure from railroad accidents.

- 6. Describe the match for this proposal.** Note that a 1:1 match is preferred. E.g. For a \$5,000 grant award, the grantee must provide \$5,000 of in-kind or financial match. The match must occur within the calendar year (2026) the funds are awarded for.

The total cost of the project is \$280,000.00. To date, the Remington Volunteer Fire Department has raised \$55,000.00 and has received \$95,000.00 in grants. The Town of Remington has pledged \$50,000.00 to the project. We do an annual brat fry fundraiser with an average net income around \$10,000. We could match this grant with this year's fundraiser and next year's fundraiser for a total of \$20,000.00.



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Funding Considerations/Request Summary
(provide separate spreadsheet/budget if needed)

Budget Summary		Budget Detail	
Total Organization Budget	\$ 11,000.00	Revenue/Income	
Total Proposal Cost	\$ 280,000.00	Funding Source A	\$ 150,000.00
Total Amount Requested	\$ 20,000.00	Funding Source B	\$ 50,000.00
Total Match *	\$ 20,000.00	Total Revenue/Income	\$ 200,000.00
* Please provide a match explanation in question 6.		Expenses	
		Expense A	\$ 270,00.00
		Expense B	\$ 10,000.00
		Expense C	\$
		Total Expense	\$ 280,00.00

Project Reporting Requirement

As a reporting requirement of receiving an Economic Development Grant, a one-page summary project report will be prepared and presented to the CEED Committee. This report must be submitted no later than Tuesday, October 1, 2026. Funding will not be released to the applicant prior to the reporting requirement being met. Please also note that funds are not able to be carried over into the following year.

Signatures

I attest that the information in this application submitted to Wood County is true and correct.

Applicant

	Jan Brockman	6-17-25
Signature	Printed Name	Date

Highest Organization Elected Official/Board Chair

	Rodney Brockman	6-17-25
Signature	Printed Name	Date



Remington Volunteer Fire Department Addition Update



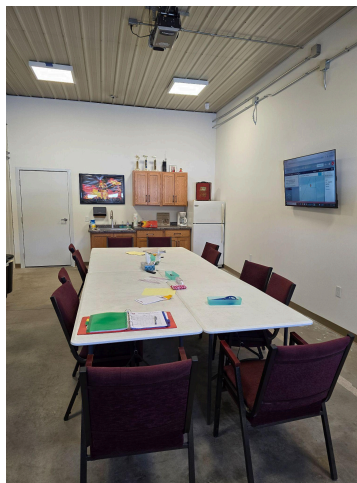
Department Prior to Addition



Department After Addition



Prior meeting and training area



New meeting and training area



Previous space



New Space



Previous space for turnout gear



New space for turnout gear



Previous bathroom



New bathroom and decontamination area