

AGENDA
WOOD COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

DATE: Tuesday, March 17, 2026
TIME: 9:30 AM
LOCATION: Courthouse – County Board Room

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

EXCUSALS:

INVOCATION: Supervisor Hamilton

READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESIGNATIONS:

APPOINTMENTS/Re-APPOINTMENTS:

Health & Human Services Committee – 3-year term – Rachel Stankowski

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & RECOGNITIONS

READING OF MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS, RESOLUTIONS. RESOLUTIONS INTRODUCED BY COMMITTEES SHALL BE PRESENTED IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE READING OF THAT COMMITTEE'S MINUTES

PRESENTATION OF LETTERS, PETITIONS, REMONSTRANCES, COMMUNICATIONS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

SET DATE FOR NEXT COUNTY BOARD MEETING – Tuesday, April 21, 2026

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE WOOD COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

February 17, 2026 – 9:30 a.m.

The Wood County Board of Supervisors, composed of nineteen members convened in the Wood County Boardroom at the Courthouse in Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin on Tuesday, February 17, 2026.

Chairman Pliml called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

Supervisors present: Brehm, Breu, Buttke, Clendenning, Hahn, Hamilton, Hokamp, Hovendick, Leichtnam, Penzkover, Perlock, Polach, Pliml, Schulz, Thao, Valenstein, Voight, and Zurfluh.

Excused was Rozar.

Chairman Pliml gave the invocation led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Hovendick/Breu to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Motion carried by voice vote.

There were no public comments.

The referrals were noted.

Committee minutes presented: Operations.

Chairman Pliml declared his intent on taking the first 12 resolutions with one vote. No objections heard.

RESOLUTION 26-2-1

Introduced by: Operations Committee

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To amend the 2025 Treasurer (51520) budget for additional expenditures that were not anticipated during the original budget process.

FISCAL NOTE: No cost to Wood County. The source of funding is unanticipated revenues from Tax Increment Revenues. The adjustment to the budget is as follows:

Account	Account Name	Debit	Credit
51520	Treasurer		\$7,500
41120	Tax Increments	\$7,500	

Motion by Zurfluh/Hovendick to adopt Resolution 26-2-1. Motion carried unanimously. Excused was Rozar.

RESOLUTION 26-2-2

Introduced by: Health & Human Services and Operations Committees

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To Amend the 2026 Edgewater Administration (54219) budget to include expenditures for the CBRF architectural design which was in progress but not completed as of December 31, 2025.

FISCAL NOTE: No Cost to Wood County. The source of funding is from previously approved 2024

Edgewater Haven budget surplus.

<u>ACCOUNT</u>	<u>ACCOUNT NAME</u>	<u>DEBIT</u>	<u>CREDIT</u>
54219	EW Administration		\$127,325
33900	EW Retained Earnings	\$127,325	

Motion by Zurfluh/Hovendick to adopt Resolution 26-2-2. Motion carried unanimously. Excused was Rozar.

RESOLUTION 26-2-3

Introduced by: Public Safety & Operations Committees

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To amend the 2025 Emergency Management Admin (52520) budget for additional expenditures that were not anticipated during the original budget process.

FISCAL NOTE: No additional cost to Wood County. The source of funding is unanticipated revenues from donations and the Legacy Foundation. The adjustment to the budget is as follows:

<u>Account</u>	<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Debit</u>	<u>Credit</u>
48500	Donations	\$7,623	
48900	Other Misc. Revenue	\$358,858	
52520	Emergency Mgmt. Admin		\$366,481

Motion by Zurfluh/Hovendick to adopt Resolution 26-2-3. Motion carried unanimously. Excused was Rozar.

RESOLUTION 26-2-4

Introduced by: Public Safety & Operations Committees

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To amend the 2025 Dispatch (52601) budget for additional expenditures that were not anticipated during the original budget process.

FISCAL NOTE: No cost to Wood County. The source of funding is unanticipated grant revenues from the Department of Military Affairs (DMA). The adjustment to the budget is as follows:

<u>Account</u>	<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Debit</u>	<u>Credit</u>
52601	Dispatch		\$363,849.94
43528	State Grants	\$363,849.94	

Motion by Zurfluh/Hovendick to adopt Resolution 26-2-4. Motion carried unanimously. Excused was Rozar.

RESOLUTION 26-2-5

Introduced by: Public Safety & Operations Committees

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To provide for unanticipated revenue from the Bureau of Traffic Safety, housed with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation's Division of State Patrol, to finance additional patrol for seat belt enforcement from January 1, 2026 through September 30, 2026.

FISCAL NOTE: The costs to be funded in the 2026 budget are in lines 101-2504-52140-000-115 (Traffic Police Overtime). The adjustment to the budget is as follows:

Account	Account Name	Debit	Credit
52140	Sheriff Traffic Police		\$22,000.00
43521	State Aids Traffic	\$22,000.00	

Motion by Zurfluh/Hovendick to adopt Resolution 26-2-5. Motion carried unanimously. Excused was Rozar.

RESOLUTION 26-2-6

Introduced by: Conservation, Education, & Economic Development and Operations Committees

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To amend the 2025 Land Water Conservation Department of Agriculture, Trade, Consumer Protection (DATCP) (56122) grant budget for additional expenditures not anticipated during the original budget process.

FISCAL NOTE: No cost to Wood County. The source of the funding is unanticipated DATCP State Aid grant revenues and use of DATCP grant fund balance. The adjustment to the budget is as follows:

Account	Account Name	Debit	Credit
43586	State Aid	\$7,054.00	
34112	Fund Balance – DATCP	\$11,104.64	
56122	DATCP Grant		\$18,158.64

Motion by Zurfluh/Hovendick to adopt Resolution 26-2-6. Motion carried unanimously. Excused was Rozar.

RESOLUTION 26-2-7

Introduced by: Conservation, Education, & Economic Development and Operations Committees

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To amend the 2025 Planning and Zoning Land Records (56320) budget to reflect additional expenditures funded by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

FISCAL NOTE: No additional cost to Wood County. The source of funding is American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. The adjustment to the budget is as follows:

Account	Account Name	Debit	Credit
43300	Other Federal Grants	\$63,000	
56320	Land Records		\$63,000

Motion by Zurfluh/Hovendick to adopt Resolution 26-2-7. Motion carried unanimously. Excused was Rozar.

RESOLUTION 26-2-8

Introduced by: Judicial & Legislative and Operations Committees

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To amend the 2025 budget for Corporation Counsel function (51320) for purpose of

funding higher than anticipated personnel costs.

FISCAL NOTE: The source of funding is unanticipated revenues from Corporation Counsel Court Fees (46140) and Corporation Counsel Local Department Charges (47413). The adjustment to the budget is as follows:

<u>Account</u>	<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Debit</u>	<u>Credit</u>
51320	Corporation Counsel		\$11,300.00
46140	Court Fees	\$6,000	
47413	Local Department Charges	\$5,300	

Motion by Zurfluh/Hovendick to adopt Resolution 26-2-8. Motion carried unanimously. Excused was Rozar.

RESOLUTION 26-2-9

Introduced by: Judicial & Legislative and Operations Committees

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To amend the 2025 Register in Probate (51215) budget for additional expenditures not anticipated during the original budget process.

FISCAL NOTE: No cost to Wood County. The source of funding is unanticipated revenues from Court Fees & Costs. The adjustment to the budget is as follows:

<u>Account</u>	<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Debit</u>	<u>Credit</u>
51215	Register in Probate		\$2,200
46144	Court Fees & Costs	\$2,200	

Motion by Zurfluh/Hovendick to adopt Resolution 26-2-9. Motion carried unanimously. Excused was Rozar.

RESOLUTION 26-2-10

Introduced by: Highway Infrastructure & Recreation and Operations Committees

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To amend the 2025 Parks and Forestry Department Administration Budget (55210) for additional expenditures that were not anticipated during the original budget process.

FISCAL NOTE: No additional cost to Wood County. The source of funding is unanticipated revenues from Insurance Recoveries (48440) and County Forest Revenue (46813) revenue accounts. The adjustment to the budget is as follows:

<u>Account</u>	<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Debit</u>	<u>Credit</u>
55210	Parks and Forestry Admin		\$28,335
48440	Parks Insurance Recoveries	\$22,500	
46813	County Forest Revenue	\$ 5,835	

Motion by Zurfluh/Hovendick to adopt Resolution 26-2-10. Motion carried unanimously. Excused was Rozar.

RESOLUTION 26-2-11

Introduced by: Highway Infrastructure & Recreation and Operations Committees

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To amend the 2025 budget for the Parks & Forestry Capital Projects function (56913) for expenditures not anticipated during the 2025 budget process.

FISCAL NOTE: No additional cost to Wood County. The source of funding is unanticipated revenues from Parks State Aid (43576). The adjustment to the budget is as follows:

<u>Account</u>	<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Debit</u>	<u>Credit</u>
56913	Parks & Forestry Capital Projects		\$244,917
43576	Parks State Aid	\$244,917	

Motion by Zurfluh/Hovendick to adopt Resolution 26-2-11. Motion carried unanimously. Excused was Rozar.

RESOLUTION 26-2-12

Introduced by: Property & Information Technology and Operations Committees

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To amend the 2026 Maintenance Capital Projects (57119) budget to include expenditures for the Courthouse HVAC project that was in process but not completed on December 31, 2025.

FISCAL NOTE: No cost to Wood County. The source of funding is previously approved and unspent jail contingency funds placed in the capital projects fund balance:

<u>Function</u>	<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Debit</u>	<u>Credit</u>
34113	Capital Projects Fund Bal.	\$343,205	
57119	Maintenance Capital Projects		\$343,205

Motion by Zurfluh/Hovendick to adopt Resolution 26-2-12. Motion carried unanimously. Excused was Rozar.

Committee minutes presented: Health & Human Services, Public Safety, Civil Service Commission, Conservation, Education, & Economic Development, North Central Wisconsin Tourism Partnership Tourism, Citizen Water Group.

RESOLUTION 26-2-13

Introduced by: Conservation, Education, & Economic Development Committee

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To request the Wisconsin Counties Association to lobby the State Legislature and Governor on Legislation for Greater Local Control for Wisconsin Counties

FISCAL NOTE: None

Motion by Schulz/Leichtnam to adopt Resolution 26-2-13. Motion carried unanimously. Excused was Rozar.

Committee minutes presented: Judicial & Legislative.

RESOLUTION 26-2-14

Introduced by: Judicial & Legislative and Highway Infrastructure & Recreation Committees

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To encourage the Governor of Wisconsin and the State Legislature to enact a comprehensive, sustainable transportation funding solution

FISCAL NOTE: None

Motion by Brehm/Clendenning to adopt Resolution 26-2-14. Motion carried unanimously. Excused was Rozar.

Committee minutes presented: Highway Infrastructure & Recreation.

ORDINANCE 26-2-15

Introduced by: Highway Infrastructure & Recreation Committee

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To amend Wood County Ordinance #400, Speed Limits Ordinance, to change the speed limit on a portion of County Trunk Highway B

FISCAL NOTE: None

Motion by Clendenning/Breu to ordain Ordinance 26-2-15. Motion carried. Voting no was Voight. Excused was Rozar.

Chairman Pliml declared his intent on taking the next 3 resolutions with one vote. No objection heard.

RESOLUTION 26-2-16

Introduced by: Highway Infrastructure & Recreation Committee

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To become eligible for maintenance monies on the existing:

- a) Wood County ATV Intensive Use Area (All-Terrain Vehicle) trail, in the designated area of T22N, R35E, S31, 32, and;
- b) The Kimball & Hazelnut Connector Trail of 5.1 miles at T22N, R5E, S32 and T21N, R4E, S18, 19, 30, 13, 24, 25, and;
- c) The Hay Creek-Peterson Road Connector Trail of 4.0 miles at T22N, R2E, S8, 17, 20, 21, and;
- d) The Range Road Connector Trail of 1.5 miles at T22N, R5E, S29, 32.

FISCAL NOTE: No cost to Wood County. Total reimbursement from the State Aid Registration Fund, account #43572, and for the ATV Intensive Use Area, donated services by the Central Wisconsin ATV Riders Club, account #48503.

Motion by Brehm/Voight to adopt Resolution 26-2-16. Motion carried unanimously. Excused was Rozar.

RESOLUTION 26-2-17

Introduced by: Highway Infrastructure & Recreation Committee

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To become eligible for snowmobile trail maintenance monies on the existing trail

on County and private lands for the 2026-2027 snowmobile year.

FISCAL NOTE: No cost to Wood County. Total reimbursement from the State Snowmobile Trail Aid account #43574.

Motion by Brehm/Voight to adopt Resolution 26-2-17. Motion carried unanimously. Excused was Rozar.

RESOLUTION 26-2-18

Introduced by: Highway Infrastructure & Recreation Committee

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To become eligible for 2026-2027 snowmobile trail maintenance monies for the proposed additional 13.64 miles of snowmobile trail for the Rudolph River Rovers Snowmobile Club.

FISCAL NOTE: No cost to Wood County – Total reimbursement from State Snowmobile Trail Aid account #43574.

Motion by Brehm/Voight to adopt Resolution 26-2-18. Motion carried unanimously. Excused was Rozar.

Committee minutes presented: Property & Information Technology.

RESOLUTION 26-2-19

Introduced by: Property & Information Technology Committee

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: Support Wisconsin establishing a Membership with the Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center (MS-ISAC) to Cover the Cost of Membership for all State, Local, Tribal and Territorial (SLTT) Organizations.

FISCAL NOTE: None

Motion by Clendenning/Leichtnam to adopt Resolution 26-2-19. Motion carried unanimously. Excused was Rozar.

Committee minutes presented: Central Wisconsin State Fair Board of Directors, Wood County Library Board.

RESOLUTION 26-2-20

Introduced by: Chairman Lance Pliml

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To approve the 2026 Wood County Emergency Fire Warden List

FISCAL NOTE: None

Motion by Clendenning/Zurfluh to adopt Resolution 26-2-20. Motion carried via voice vote.

Without objection, Chairman Pliml adjourned the meeting at 9:56 AM. Next scheduled county board meeting is March 17, 2026.

Trent Miner, County Clerk

REFERRALS FOR MARCH 17, 2026 – COUNTY BOARD

- March 2, 2026: Resolution from Winnebago County requesting the state legislature act on AB580/SB558 establishing individual assistance disaster recovery grant program. Referred to Judicial & Legislative Committee
- March 2, 2026: Resolution from Winnebago County requesting the state legislature act on AB713/SB702 requesting at least one collection opportunity in every county annually for household batteries and provide funding for the state administration of the program. Referred to Judicial & Legislative Committee

MINUTES OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, March 3, 2026

TIME: 10:00 AM

PLACE: Courthouse – Rm 300

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

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

1. Chair Valenstein called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.
2. There was no public comment.
3. Motion by Rozar/Hahn to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried unanimously.
4. Wellness Coordinator Peterson provided a monthly update on Wellness programming.
5. Finance Director Yang presented 5 resolutions, housekeeping of nature, to the committee, as follows:
 - Committed Funds Year End Balances
 - Amend 2025 Budget - Child Support-5 County
 - Amend 2025 Budget - Highway
 - Amend 2025 Budget - Debt Service
 - Amend 2026 Budget – Norwood Maintenance & Capital ProjectsMotion by Zurfluh/Rozar to approve the aforementioned resolutions and forward onto the county board for their consideration. Motion carried unanimously.
6. Yang presented two 2025 budget items that can be acted on at committee level, per policy, due to the low amounts being transferred. They include:
 - State Aid Courts (III) budget to Branch III budget (\$215)
 - State Aid Courts (IV) budget to Branch IV budget (\$700)Motion by Rozar/Hahn to approve the budget adjustments as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
7. McGrath a resolution setting the payrates for the Clerk of Courts and Sheriff for their next term of office. She provided the committee with up-to-date comparables and believes this resolution keeps these positions competitive and alleviates any compression within the departments. Motion by Rozar/Zurfluh to approve the resolution and forward onto the county board for their consideration. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Human Services Director Vruwink is requesting a short term policy adjustment whereby CLTS staff will be able to work extra hours, at straight time due to their exempt status, to clear a back log of cases that the state has mandated be cleared by May 31, 2026. They have hired additional staff, however recruitment was slow and the new hires will not be fully trained in time to clear the backlog. This extra amount of pay is reimbursable and will not add to the county levy. Motion by Hahn/Zurfluh to approve the policy adjustment as requested, with an end date of June 5, 2026 (end of payroll week). Motion carried unanimously.
9. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 7, 2026, at 10:00 AM. The committee will need to meet prior to the county board meeting to act on a resolution creating a 0.5 FTE and budget amendment for Victim Witness.
10. Chair Valenstein adjourned the meeting at 10:14 AM.

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

**Operations Committee
March 3, 2026**

NAME	REPRESENTING
Bill Coady (writing)	WCB #15
PANYA yang	Finance
DARRIN STEINBACH	Finance
DENNIS POLACH	WCB - 14
Kim McGrath	HR
QUENTIN ELLIS	SHERIFF'S
CHARLIE HOOGESTEGGER	SHERIFF'S
Cheryl Krohn	Treasurer
Kimberly Stimac	Clerk of Courts
Brandon Vruwink	Human Services
Brent Vruwink	Child Support
Katie DeKleyn (Web Ex)	County Clerk
Brad Hamilton (Web Ex)	CB District 18
Amy Kaye (Web Ex)	IT
Mary Schlagenhart (Web Ex)	Human Services
Katie Miloch (Web Ex)	Human Services
Tony Bastien (Web Ex)	Dispatch
Justin Cielewicz (Web Ex)	Edgewater Haven
Nick Flugaur (Web Ex)	HR
Tiffany Ringer (Web Ex)	Register of Deeds
Health Dept ?? (Web Ex)	
Shawn Becker (Web Ex)	Sheriff's Dept
Sarah Christensen (Web Ex)	Emergency Mgmt



Wood County

WISCONSIN

OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY CLERK

Trent Miner

Letter of Comments – March 2026

- The Spring Primary is now behind us and we are finalizing the Spring Election and getting into the Fall Election cycle. We only had 12 municipalities that had a Spring Primary, which included those in County Board District #9, as well as the primary for the Marshfield School Board. Highest percentage turnout was the Village of Vesper with 30.14% turnout. The lowest was the City of Wisconsin Rapids, Ward 6, which was the only ward in the entire City that had a primary, and came in at 3.88%. They had it kind of rough. Out of 464 registered voters, they only had 18 voters, with 13 of those being absentee ballots. I'll let you do the math on how many folks came through the door that day. I, personally, have sat through a day like that. It is incredibly long. At night, the Chief Deputy and I handled the results coming in and those folks that brought their returns in that night. All of the Marshfield area contingent brought their returns in early the next morning.
- My thanks to Security Services for their service on Election Night. I was grateful to Lt. Peterson, Officer Burroughs and the entire staff for keeping everything flowing so well as the verdict for the 8-day murder trial was announced the same evening as our election activities.
- As mentioned previously, I wanted to take a look at the way we process outgoing mail to see if, at the end of the current lease for our mail machine, whether or not it paid to get another machine or to pay to have our mail carrier apply all postage to our outgoing mail. That analysis has been completed and by the looks of things, if we did not lease another mail machine and had our mail carrier apply all postage, it could save the county an estimated \$4,000 - \$5,000 per year. There are still some issues to be worked out, so this preliminary decision is not final yet, but if I was forced to make that decision today, we would be tossing our mail machine into the river.
- The election agreements with the municipalities have been coming in slowly but surely and I anticipate, and have requested, that they all be in by the end of March. This will relate to the CIP request I will present to you at the April meeting. I am currently awaiting updated costs of the hardware/software, as the current figures I have are from last year when I presented this to you then.
- I presented at the Leadership Class from the Heart of Wisconsin Chamber of Commerce that was held here recently. I discussed the roles and responsibilities of the County Clerk.
- I've scheduled election trainings on Wednesday, March 25th and Saturday, March 28th at the Pittsville Community Hall and will be discussing the new observer rule as well as the status of some current election-related lawsuits that have had some actions associated with it. I am anticipating this to be a two-hour session and will count towards recertification hours for clerks and chief inspectors.



Wood County

WISCONSIN

Office of
Finance Director

PaNya Yang
Finance Director

Date: 2/26/2026
To: Operations Committee
From: PaNya Yang
Subject: Monthly Letter of Comments

DEPARTMENTAL ACTIVITIES

Finance Department Updates

1. ARPA Funds

As of January 31, 2026, we have roughly \$3.66 million remaining – the majority being \$2.95 million of park improvements/building, \$505,000 for radio system updates, Land & Water Conservation of \$105,729 for various projects, and Planning & Zoning of \$94,572 for LiDAR. Funds must be expended by the end of 2026.

2. 2025 Budgets/Year-end

We are still reviewing 2025 budgets and making sure to draft budget amending resolutions as necessary. We'll most likely have a couple more as we wait for some last-minute entries.

Reports generated currently show a General Fund surplus of approximately \$270,000. It could be a little higher as some last-minute revenues come in. While this is a preliminary and unofficial figure, it suggests a significant improvement over our initial (\$2.56) million budget deficit. Provided there are no major fluctuations from now until June, an overall increase in the General Fund of around \$3 million (more or less) is possible, primarily supported by interfund transfers from the Human Services, Edgewater, and Norwood departments. We estimated an increase of about \$2.3 million during the 2026 budget, so I think we're somewhat in the ballpark. Again, take this with a grain of salt as numbers will not be finalized until June.

3. 2027-2031 CIP Requests

The Finance Department issued instructions for the 2027-2031 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) in early February. All department heads should submit their requests to Finance by March 31, with the goal of presenting them to their respective oversight committees by April. Any final updates must be provided to Finance by Friday, April 24, so a draft summary can be prepared for the May Operations Committee meeting. Notably, we have increased the capital expenditure threshold from \$5,000 to \$10,000. This change aligns with the 2024 revision of the Federal Uniform Guidance (2 CFR 200.1)*, which governs our federal funding requirements.

**The Federal Uniform Guidance is the official "rulebook" for managing federal grants and agreements. It establishes a standardized framework for how federal funds are awarded, spent, and audited across all non-federal entities, such as state and local governments, universities, and nonprofits.*



Wood County

WISCONSIN

Office of
Finance Director

PaNya Yang
Finance Director

AGENDA ITEMS

Resolutions

1. Committed Funds YE Balances

This resolution is an annual requirement under governmental accounting standards to ensure our financial reporting is accurate. By passing this, the Board formally 'earmarks' specific funds for designated projects. This official action is necessary for these funds to be properly classified as committed or assigned in the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR).

2. Amend 2025 Budget – Child Support – 5 County

This resolution seeks to amend the 2025 Child Support-5 County budget for unanticipated expenditures of \$11,796.91. The source of funding is unanticipated revenue from Child Support-5 County State Aid. There is no fiscal impact.

3. Amend 2025 Budget – Highway

This is an annual housekeeping resolution for Highway. This resolution seeks to amend various Highway functions across governmental and enterprise funds for a total of \$3,322,740.31. Sources of funding are \$2,623,145.48 of unanticipated revenues from various functions and transfer of available appropriations of \$699,595.00 from the Highway Machinery Operations Supplies & Expenses budget. There is no fiscal impact.

4. Amend 2025 Budget – Debt Service

This resolution seeks to amend the 2025 Debt Service Paying Agent budget for additional cost issuance fees not anticipated during the original budget process of \$86,990. The source of funding is unanticipated revenues from Debt Premium revenue. There is no fiscal impact.

Motion to Transfer From:

1. State Aid Courts (III) budget to Branch III Budget

Circuit Court Branch III had additional interpreter fees not anticipated during the original budget process. This caused an overage in the overall budget of approximately \$215. The source of funding is unanticipated state aid revenue that was received in excess of the original budgeted amount. Because the overage in Branch III's budget is the lesser of \$5,000 or 10% of the budgeted expenditure function, the Operations Committee is allowed to approve the budget amendment with a motion rather than a County Board resolution.

Therefore, I will be seeking a motion from the committee to approve the amendment of Circuit Court Branch III's (51214) 2025 budget by appropriating \$215 of unanticipated revenues from State-Aid Courts (43512).

2. State Aid Courts (IV) budget to Branch IV Budget

Circuit Court Branch IV had additional interpreter fees not anticipated during the original budget process. This caused an overage in the overall budget of approximately \$700. The source of funding is unanticipated state aid revenue that was received in excess of the original budgeted amount. Because the overage in Branch IV's budget is the lesser of \$5,000 or 10% of the budgeted expenditure function,



Wood County

WISCONSIN

Office of
Finance Director

PaNyia Yang
Finance Director

the Operations Committee is allowed to approve the budget amendment with a motion rather than a County Board resolution.

Therefore, I will be seeking a motion from the committee to approve the amendment of Circuit Court Branch IV's (51216) 2025 budget by appropriating \$700 of unanticipated revenues from State-Aid Courts (43512).



Wood County WISCONSIN

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

February 27, 2026

To: Wood County Operations Committee

From: Kimberly McGrath, Director- Human Resources

Subject: Human Resources (HR) Monthly Letter of Comments – February 2026

Human Resources Activity

	February 2026	2026 Year-to Date
Applications Received	83	186
Positions Filled	5	13
Promotions/Transfers	1	3
New Hire Orientations	5	12
Terminations, Voluntary	9*	14
Terminations, Involuntary	1	1
Retirements	0	2
Turnover Rate	1.3%	2.5%
Exit Interviews	3	5

*Three of these are casual

Human Resources Narrative

General Highlights

1. We are continuing to work with the Workforce Development Department at Mid-State Technical College on our first-ever Wood County Employee Engagement Survey. The survey was completed last month; total participation by Wood County employees was 68%. Results are expected to start rolling out to departments in early March. The comprehensive report will be provided to the Operations committee at their April meeting. Departments will be encouraged to share their reports/results with their staff and begin action planning on any identified opportunities for improvement.
2. Gathered salary comparables for the positions of Clerk of Courts and Sheriff and drafted a resolution for presentation and discussion at the Committee's March meeting. These salaries need to be set by resolution prior to April 15, 2026 for the term starting January 2027.

Meetings & Trainings

1. Attended the Operations Committee meeting on February 3rd.
2. Attended Public Safety Committee on February 9th.
3. Attended County Board on February 17th (Asst HR Director).
4. Attended Health & Human Services Committee on February 26th.

5. Attended the Heart of WI Network Exchange for HR Professionals on February 4th. Atty Tichareva, Nash Law Group, presented on “Critical Employee Documentation and Key Employment Law Changes for 2026”.
6. Attended the monthly conference call with The Horton Group on February 24th to discuss various benefit topics.
7. Attended the February von Briesen Public Sector Town Hall, “Navigating Problematic Public Records Requests” on February 24th.
8. Attended the quarterly Department Head Meeting on Feb 25th.
9. Held individual staff and team meetings to discuss and provide updates on the department’s identified 2026 goals.
10. Team members attended various webinars related to benefits, employment law, and compliance.

Benefits

1. Distribution of 2025 1095-C forms took place this month to all full-time and part-time employees enrolled in medical insurance. The filing of Form 1094-C was submitted timely to the IRS.
2. Processed Family and Medical Leave requests, address changes, beneficiary designations, qualifying events, benefit elections or contributions for new hires, terminations, and cancellation/reporting of benefits.
3. Processed and prepared monthly COBRA remittance, EBC admin fees, and stop loss admin fees.
4. Assisted multiple employees with questions related to FMLA, leaves of absence, retirement, and benefit claims concerns.
5. Processed COBRA notifications for dependents on the health plan reaching age 26.

Recruitment

1. Updated the Status of Open Positions, Headcount Sheet (FTE Control), New Hire, and Termination spreadsheets daily.
2. Assisted multiple departments with interviews and selection process.
3. Reported new hires with the Wisconsin New Hire Reporting Center.
4. Posted multiple vacancies on Cyber Recruiter and other pertinent employment sites based on the Request for Hire submitted. Closed multiple positions in Cyber Recruiter upon successful acceptance of an offer and notified all remaining applicants of position status.
5. Communicated with multiple applicants, employees, and supervisors regarding varying positions.
6. Continue to work with Edgewater, Norwood, and Human Services to review and update/pause/re-instate subscriptions with Indeed. Continually looking into different options to ensure we are reaching out to interested candidates in a timely manner. Currently running an Indeed campaign for three positions in Human Services.
7. Scheduled multiple post-offer, pre-employment drug tests with multiple testing locations for applicants offered employment.

The following chart shows position activity during the month. Positions that are filled are dropped from the list the following month.

<u>Refilled Position</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Status</u>
Replacement	Branch I	Legal Admin Assistant – Floater	Position posted; interviews conducted, references completed, offer extended and accepted, filled 2/16/26
Replacement	Corporation Counsel	Legal Admin Assistant – PT 70%	Position posted; interviews being conducted
Replacements	Edgewater	CNA, RN, LPN, and Dietary Assistant – (Multiple)	Ongoing recruitment- positions posted, applications reviewed, interviews, references, backgrounds, onboarding. Deadline 3/9/26

Replacement	Highway	Mechanic II	Position posted; deadline 3/2/26
Replacement	Highway	Truck Operator	Position posted; interviews conducted, DL & references checked, offer to be extended, start date to be determined
Replacement	Highway	Engineering Intern	Position posted; deadline 4/13/26
Replacement(s)	Highway	LTE Truck Operators	Position posted; deadline 4/13/26
Replacement(s)	Highway	Summer Help	Position posted; deadline 4/13/26
Replacement	Human Services	Mental Health/SUD Therapist	Position posted; deadline 3/2/26
Replacement	Human Services	Family Interaction Worker	Position posted; deadline 3/16/26
Replacement	Human Services	Mental Health Case Mgr (CCS Service Facilitator)	Position posted; deadline 3/2/26
New positions (3)	Human Services	CLTS Support & Service Coordinators (I & II)	Positions posted; deadline 3/9/26, one position filled 2/23/26
Replacement	Human Services	Mental Health Case Mgr (EMH/APS Coordinator)	Position posted; deadline 3/2/26
Replacement	Human Services	Case Mgr/SW – IA	Position posted; deadline 3/16/26
Replacement	IT	Network Analyst	Position posted; interviews conducted, references completed, offer extended and accepted, filled 3/2/26
New Position	Maintenance	Maintenance Technician (moved from Building Automation Specialist)	Position posted; deadline 3/9/26
Replacements	Norwood	Mental Health Technicians, Dietary Aides, RN, and LPN	Ongoing recruitment- positions posted, applications reviewed, interviews, references, backgrounds, onboarding; deadline 4/20/2026
Replacement	Parks	Summer Help	Position posted; deadline 4/13/26
Replacement	Parks	Camp Ranger – CERA Park	Position posted; deadline 3/9/26
Replacement	Sheriff	Deputy Sheriff – Establish Eligibility List	Position posted; written test conducted on 1/31/26. Interviews conducted 2/24 & 2/26/26
Replacements	Sheriff	Correction Officers	Position posted; deadline 4/6/26

Safety/Risk Management

1. Managed open claims with Aegis/Charles Taylor throughout the month.
2. Corresponded with various insurers regarding claims and pending litigation.
3. Conducted N95/P100 fit testing for 31 Highway staff on February 4th, and 15 students/staff at Edgewater Haven on February 23rd.
4. Attended Edgewater Safety Committee on February 4th and Norwood Safety Committee on February 17th.
5. Continuing to track down and collect 2025 Annual Safety Training certifications. This annual training was due January 16, 2026. Currently, approximately 30 certificates remain outstanding.

NEW Workers' Compensation Claims (4)

1. 1/20/26 – Sheriff's (Corrections) – Employee injured L knee while responding to emergency in Jail
2. 1/29/26 – Norwood – Employee strained lower back while providing care to resident
3. 2/6/26 – Norwood – Employee strained lower back while transferring resident
4. 2/11/26 – Highway – Employee cut R thumb while trying to loosen brushing blade

OPEN Workers' Compensation Claims (5)

1. 2/12/25 – EM – Employee slipped on ice, fell on L side hauling debris to bin at EM Shop (surgery required)
2. 7/13/25 – Health – Employee injured L knee after falling at work-related conference
3. 10/27/25 – Edgewater Haven – Employee strained R bicep/arm while lifting resident
4. 12/26/25 – Edgewater – Employee injured R side of body slipping on ice while leaving work
5. 1/5/26 – Human Services – Employee was involved in MVC with private vehicle while returning from home visit

CLOSED Workers' Compensation Claims (3)

1. 12/13/25 – Sheriff's – Employee suffered pain/swelling to R hand after going to ground while taking combative juvenile into custody (restitution will be requested).
2. 12/22/25 – County Board – Elected official slipped and fell on snow/ice outside Courthouse.
3. 12/26/25 – Human Services – Employee injured lower back slipping on ice in Centralia lot.

First Aid Injuries (8)

1. 1/19/26 – Human Services – Employee was bitten on L hand by dog at home visit
2. 2/2/26 – Human Services – Employee was bitten on L earlobe by cat during home visit
3. 2/2/26 – Emergency Management – Employee strained lower back after slipping on ice at Powers Bluff Shop
4. 2/3/26 – Edgewater – Employee crushed L pointer finger in pill crusher
5. 2/4/26 – Human Services – Employee was bitten on back of L arm by dog at home visit
6. 2/6/26 – Norwood – Employee strained R shoulder/lower back while transferring resident
7. 2/19/26 – Human Services – Employee slipped on snow/ice in River Block parking lot
8. 2/23/26 – Dispatch – Employee struck back of head on bottom side of desk while cleaning

Property/Vehicle Damage Claims (1)

1. 2/5/26 – Sheriff's – Squad struck concrete pillar in underground parking area of Courthouse (est. damage \$1,698.25)

Liability Claims

Various mailbox claims were received throughout the month. All claims were investigated by Highway Department and Safety/Risk.

OPEN EEOC/ERD Claims (3)

1. 2/14/22- Former Norwood employee submitted a claim alleging violation of the Equal Employment Opportunity Act (EEO), experiencing discrimination based on creed/religion. We received a Notice of Complaint on February 16, 2022. Chubb Insurance assigned external counsel to Jackson Lewis. Our position statement was drafted, finalized, and submitted to the EEOC on April 15, 2022. No recent activity.
2. 12/13/24- Former Clerk of Courts employee submitted a claim alleging violation of the Equal Employment Opportunity Act (EEO), experiencing discrimination based on national origin and sex. County Mutual assigned external counsel to Lindner Marsack. Our position statement was drafted, finalized, and submitted to the EEOC on January 21, 2025. The EEOC issued a dismissal of the claim on February 19, 2026.
3. 6/4/25- Former Human Services employee submitted a claim alleging violation of the Equal Employment Opportunity Act (EEO), experiencing discrimination based on pregnancy and sex. County Mutual assigned external counsel to Lindner Marsack. Our position statement was drafted, finalized, and submitted to the EEOC on June 18, 2025. The EEOC issued a dismissal of the claim on February 17, 2026.

Other

1. Created and distributed the Monthly Manager Resource, titled "Department Recognition Program" to all Wood County managers and supervisors.
2. Posted multiple announcements on LinkedIn and Facebook throughout the month. These include job advertisements, employee recognition, and other relevant community-focused announcements.
3. First quarter Random DOT selections completed.
4. Worked with Unemployment Insurance (UI) to provide additional information regarding multiple claims. Worked with various departments to compile information needed.
5. Received and processed multiple invoices for HR, Safety & Risk, and Wellness.
6. Facilitated New Hire Orientation on February 9th, 16th, and 23rd.
7. Conducted exit interviews on February 10th, 12th, and 13th.
8. Responded to multiple verifications of employment.
9. Replied to requests from surrounding counties with varied information.
10. Met with several County employees and managers individually over the month to listen to concerns, provide advice, counsel, resources, and appropriate follow-up.



Wood County

WISCONSIN

OFFICE OF THE
TREASURER

Heather L. Gehrt

LETTER OF COMMENTS—MARCH 2026

1. Attended Wisconsin Counties Association weekly calls on Mondays in February.
2. Attended Operations meeting on February 3.
3. Participated in United Way Board of Directors meeting and Annual Meetings on February 11.
4. Participated in Government Day for Heart of Wisconsin Leadership Day on February 12.
5. Attended County Board meeting on February 17.
6. Participated in a Zoom Meeting with a new company vetted by WCA, cashVest, which conducts transaction-level analysis to determine if Wood County has our money invested to give us our best return possible. I have a follow up meeting with examples scheduled in March.
7. Participated in Zoom Meeting with Catalis, our tax software system, for a semi-annual review of our account satisfaction on February 20.
8. Participated in a Zoom Meeting with other Treasurer's regarding planning for the October Conference and having tax software system user meetings and topics on February 24.
9. Attended Department Head meeting on February 25.
10. Participated in a Zoom Meeting with other members of the WCCO Legal Defense Fund where I serve as 2nd Vice President on February 25.
11. Added new participants to the HSA account in the banking program for automatic deductions and adjusted deposit amounts on some.
12. The office sent out 1,338 delinquent notices for 2022-2025 years taxes. This number is slightly up from last year 2021-2024 with 1,240 notices. This equates to about \$500,000 more in delinquencies this year. I firmly believe a lot of the 2025 delinquent taxes are due to the mail system. This office has received many more phone calls than in previous years about mail never making it to the municipal treasurer and checks not being cashed. Many of the envelopes show up without postal stamps on them and so this office must consider them delinquent per state statute.
This year the County switched the Municipalities software to the same one used by the County, which allowed everyone to collect online payments. With the price of postage going up and the uncertainty of the mail, the online option to pay by electronic check for a fee of \$1.50 is looking better and better!
13. I will not be attending the meeting, so if you have questions, please reach out before then. Thank you!



Wood County

WISCONSIN

Employee Wellness

Riley Peterson

Letter of Comments – February 2026

- The 2026 onsite biometric screenings remain in progress. There have been 6 screenings completed thus far, covering Riverblock, Courthouse, Highway, Edgewater and Norwood locations. There are 2 more screenings scheduled and will be held at Riverblock and Courthouse again. These screenings have been well attended and running smoothly.
- The Quarter 1 challenge “Under Pressure” is in its final week. This 4-week challenge was created to help participants lower their blood pressure through education and challenging them to embrace different habits around nutrition, exercise, stress and sleep. This topic was chosen due to the increased number of high blood pressures seen in the 2025 aggregate report.
- Participants continue to sign up for health coaching (the 3rd qualifying activity). This schedule was opened earlier than in previous years in hopes of discussing biometric results sooner to their testing dates. These appointments have been with me and another Aspirus Health Coach, Isabella Berg.
- Monthly educational topics have been added to the wellness portal; if a participant passes the quiz attached to the topic, they earn points for the wellness program. The topic this month is reading nutrition labels.
- The Wood County Intranet Employee Wellness page has added Financial Wellness to the “Additional Wellness Resources” tab. This provides financial security resources for employees in addition to the resources page added in ManageWell this year.
- The weekly occurrence of working with new hires and/or employees who have previously not enrolled in the Wellness Program continues. I’ve been working with them to create their wellness portal accounts so they may begin the process of completing the qualifying activities and become more involved with wellness.



RESOLUTION#

DATE March 17, 2026

Effective
Date

Upon passage & posting

Page 1 of 1

Introduced by Operations Committee

Motion:	Adopted: <input type="checkbox"/>
1 st _____	Lost: <input type="checkbox"/>
2 nd _____	Tabled: <input type="checkbox"/>
No: _____ Yes: _____ Absent: _____	
Number of votes required:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Majority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Two-thirds
Reviewed by: _____ NF _____, Corp Counsel	
Reviewed by: _____ PK _____, Finance Dir.	

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To amend the 2025 Debt Service Paying Agent (58295) budget for debt issuance costs not anticipated during the original budget process.

FISCAL NOTE: No cost to Wood County. The source of funding is unanticipated revenues from Debt Service - Debt Premium revenue.

Account	Account Name	Debit	Credit
58295	Debt Service Paying Agent		\$86,990
48500	Debt Svc Debt Premium	\$86,990	

		NO	YES	A
1	Schulz, W			
2	Rozar, D			
3	Buttke, T			
4	Perlock, R			
5	Hovendick, T			
6	Breu, A			
7	Voight, W			
8	Hahn, J			
9	Brehm, S			
10	Thao, L			
11	Penzkover, J			
12	Valenstein, L			
13	Hokamp, J			
14	Polach, D			
15	Clendenning, B			
16	Pliml, L			
17	Zurfluh, J			
18	Hamilton, B			
19	Leichtnam, B			

WHEREAS, the County issued debt in 2025 to fund 2026 CIP projects and any related professional fees incurred for the debt issuance, and

WHEREAS, debt issuance fees were higher than anticipated during the original budget process, and

WHEREAS, unanticipated revenue of debt premium received was \$302,020.50 and is more than sufficient to cover the overage in debt issuance fees, and

WHEREAS, Rule 5.03 of the Wood County Board of Supervisors states that an amendment to the budget is required any time the actual costs will exceed the budget at the function level, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, to amend the 2025 Debt Service Paying Agent (58295) budget by appropriating \$86,990 of unanticipated revenues from Debt Service Debt Premium (48500), and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that pursuant to Wis. Stats. 65.90 (5), the County Clerk is directed to post notice of this budget change within 15 days.

Adopted by the County Board of Wood County, March 17, 2026

County Clerk

County Board Chairman



RESOLUTION#

DATE March 17, 2026

Effective
Date

Upon Passage & Posting

Page 1 of 2

Health & Human Services Committee & Operations Committee

Introduced by _____

Motion:	Adopted:	<input type="checkbox"/>
1 st	Lost:	<input type="checkbox"/>
2 nd	Tabled:	<input type="checkbox"/>
No: _____	Yes: _____	Absent: _____
Number of votes required:		
<input type="checkbox"/> Majority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Two-thirds	
Reviewed by: _____, NF _____, Corp Counsel		
Reviewed by: _____, PY _____, Finance Dir.		

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To amend the 2026 Norwood Health Center Maintenance (54351) and Capital Projects (57420) budgets to include expenditures for the water pipe replacement project (phase 1) and engineering and design costs in progress but not completed as of December 31, 2025.

FISCAL NOTE: No Cost to Wood County. The source of funding is from previously approved contingency and Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency funds and 2024 unspent capital projects funds.

ACCOUNT	ACCOUNT NAME	DEBIT	CREDIT
54351	Plant Op and Maint Other Eq		\$68,429.04
57420	Capital Projects – Norwood		\$17,040.02
34113	Capital Projects Fund Bal	\$17,040.02	
33900	NW Retained Earnings	\$68,429.04	

WHEREAS, The Health and Human Services Committee as well as the Operations Committee authorized the Water Pipe Replacement Project engineering/design costs and phase 1 expenditures for a total of \$200,000 for 2024, and

WHEREAS, on July 23, 2024, the Wood County Board of Supervisors approved Resolution 24-7-2 to amend the 2025 Plant and Operation Maintenance Budget (54351) by transferring \$50,000 from Contingency and \$100,000 from the Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund (LATCF) to fund the design and engineering costs for the Norwood water pipe replacement project, and

WHEREAS, \$50,000 of 2023-2024 CIP debt funding was also appropriated to the Norwood water pipe replacement project for phase 1, and

WHEREAS, unexpended funds of \$31,200 and \$150,000 were carried over into 2025 from both the Norwood Capital Projects budget and the Norwood Health Center Plant Operations & Maintenance budget with resolution # 25-3-2 to continue the work in progress, and

Adopted by the County Board of Wood County, March 17, 2026

County Clerk

County Board Chairman

WHEREAS, at the end of 2025, there is \$17,040.02 of unexpended funds from Norwood’s Capital Projects budget and \$68,429.04 of unexpended funds from NHC’s Plant Operations and Maintenance budget, and

WHEREAS, rule 5.03 of the Wood County Board of Supervisors states that “an amendment to the budget is required any time the actual cost will exceed the budget at the function level”, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, to amend the 2026 Norwood Health Center Plant Operations & Maintenance (54351) budget by appropriating \$68,429.04 of unexpended funds from Retained Earnings (33900) and to amend the 2026 Norwood Capital Projects (57420) budget by appropriating \$17,040.02 of unexpended funds from Capital Projects Fund Balance (34113), and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that pursuant to Wis. Stats. 65.90 (5), the County Clerk is directed to post a notice of this budget change within 15 days.



RESOLUTION#

DATE March 17, 2026

Effective
Date

Upon passage & posting

Page 1 of 1

Introduced by Judicial and Legislative & Operations Committee

Motion:	Adopted: <input type="checkbox"/>
1 st _____	Lost: <input type="checkbox"/>
2 nd _____	Tabled: <input type="checkbox"/>
No: _____ Yes: _____ Absent: _____	
Number of votes required:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Majority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Two-thirds
Reviewed by: _____ NF _____, Corp Counsel	
Reviewed by: _____ PY _____, Finance Dir.	

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To amend the 2025 Child Support - 5 County (51333) budget for additional expenditures not anticipated during the original budget process:

FISCAL NOTE: No cost to Wood County. The source of funding is unanticipated revenues from Child Support-5 County state aid. The adjustment to the budget is as follows:

Account	Account Name	Debit	Credit
51333	CS - 5 County		\$11,796.91
43568	CS - 5 County State Aid	\$11,796.91	

WHEREAS, the Child Support – 5 County budget incurred unexpected 2025 expenditures for other professional services, and

WHEREAS, Child Support received additional state aid revenue for the 5 County program that was not anticipated during the original budget process, and the amount received is sufficient to cover the unanticipated overage in expenditures, and

WHEREAS, Rule 5.03 of the Wood County Board of Supervisors states that an amendment to the budget is required any time the actual costs will exceed the budget at the function level, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, to amend the 2025 Child Support – 5 County (51333) budget by appropriating \$11,796.91 of unanticipated revenues from Child Support – 5 County State Aid (43568), and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that pursuant to Wis. Stats. 65.90 (5), the County Clerk is directed to post notice of this budget change within 15 days.

Adopted by the County Board of Wood County, March 17, 2026

County Clerk

County Board Chairman



RESOLUTION#

DATE March 17, 2026

Effective
Date

Upon Passage & Posting

Page 1 of 2

Introduced by Judicial & Legislative and Operations Committees

Motion:	Adopted: <input type="checkbox"/>
1 st _____	Lost: <input type="checkbox"/>
2 nd _____	Tabled: <input type="checkbox"/>
No: _____ Yes: _____ Absent: _____	
Number of votes required:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Majority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Two-thirds
Reviewed by: _____ NF _____, Corp Counsel	
Reviewed by: _____ PY _____, Finance Dir.	

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To create a 0.5 FTE Program Assistant in Victim Witness and amend the 2026 Victim Witness budget to allow for the expense.

FISCAL NOTE: Wood County has been determined eligible for state reimbursement for this position between February 12, 2026 - February 11, 2027. The budget would be amended by the total below.

2026 Gross Wages	\$18,761.60
Benefit Costs*	<u>\$8,335</u>
Total	\$27,096.60

Source of Funding: DOJ Victim Witness 950 State Reimbursement

WHEREAS, Wood County’s Victim/Witness Services Department provides victims and witnesses of crimes in Wood county information related to the rights granted them by Wisconsin State Statute 950 and the Wisconsin State Constitution, and

WHEREAS, Wood County has been determined eligible for state reimbursement for this position between February 12, 2026 - February 11, 2027, and

WHEREAS, the county currently has 957 open cases with victims, and their current program assistant is on an unexpected leave of absence, and

WHEREAS, the additional program assistant will provide vital assistance in meeting Wisconsin Statutory requirements for victim notification timelines and services.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, to accept DOJ reimbursement funding and create of a 0.5 FTE Program Assistant position in Victim Witness Services Department.

Pay Grade: F, Step 1
Hours: 1040 per year (February 12, 2026 – February 11, 2027)

Adopted by the County Board of Wood County, March 17, 2026

County Clerk

County Board Chairman

FLSA Status: Exempt

Department: Victim Witness Services

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, [to amend the Victim Witness \(51315\) budget for 2026 by appropriating \\$27,096.60 of unanticipated revenue from State Aid-Victim Witness \(43511\) and](#) pursuant to Wis. Stats. S. 65.90(5), the County Clerk is directed to publish a Class 1 notice of this budget change within 15 days.



RESOLUTION#

DATE March 17, 2026
 Effective _____
 Date Upon Passage & Posting

Page 1 of 2

Introduced by Highway Infrastructure and Recreation and Operations

JBP

Motion:	Adopted:	<input type="checkbox"/>
1 st _____	Lost:	<input type="checkbox"/>
2 nd _____	Tabled:	<input type="checkbox"/>
No: _____ Yes: _____	Absent:	_____
Number of votes required:		
<input type="checkbox"/> Majority	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Two-thirds	
Reviewed by: _____	NF _____	, Corp Counsel
Reviewed by: _____	PY _____	, Finance Dir.

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To amend the 2025 budget of various Highway functions listed below for additional expenditures of \$3,322,740.31 not anticipated during the original budget process.

FISCAL NOTE: No additional cost to Wood County.

The adjustment to the budget is as follows:

		NO	YES	A
1	Schulz, W			
2	Rozar, D			
3	Buttke, T			
4	Perlock, R			
5	Hovendick, T			
6	Breu, A			
7	Voight, W			
8	Hahn, J			
9	Brehm, S			
10	Thao, L			
11	Penzkover, J			
12	Valenstein, L			
13	Hokamp, J			
14	Polach, D			
15	Clendenning, B			
16	Pliml, L			
17	Zurfluh, J			
18	Hamilton, B			
19	Leichtnam, B			

Account	Account Name	Debit	Credit
104-1616-43531-000-000	State Aid Transportation	30,141.81	
104-1650-47332-000-000	Revenue from Districts-Roads	160,378.73	
104-1660-47333-000-000	Revenue from Districts-Bridges	32,680.67	
404-1690-49110-000-000	Hwy Capital Proj-Debt Proceeds	273,750.00	
404-1690-49280-000-000	Transfer from Other Funds	470,745.05	

Adopted by the County Board of Wood County, March 17, 2026

County Clerk

County Board Chairman

Account	Account Name	Debit	Credit
604-1623-53240-000-341	Machinery Operations	699,594.83	
604-1670-47230-000-000	State Revenue	921,997.03	
604-1670-47330-000-000	Local Revenue	733,452.19	
604-1620-53220-000-341	Field Tools-Operating		70,008.73
104-1609-53251-000-341	Crushing Ops Prod Supplies & Expense		37,482.73
104-1611-53120-000-341	Engineer Other Operating		17,824.08
104-1612-53191-000-349	Other Administration Other Operating		12,317.73
104-1617-53313-000-376	Operations Materials-Maint. GANG		124,209.56
104-1640-53312-000-341	Snow Removal CTHS Supplies		499,746.62
104-1641-53291-000-341	Salt Brine Operations – Production		4,674.16
104-1650-53340-000-730	County-Aid Road Construction		229,434.93
104-1660-53341-000-730	County-Aid Bridge Construction		8,780.59
404-1690-57310-501-340	HWY-Capital Projects		578,226.75
604-1625-53270-271-249	Buildings & Grounds		64,843.39
604-1627-53290-000-341	Salt Brine Ops Supplies & Expense		33,894.25
604-1628-53250-000-341	Crushing Ops Machinery Supp & Exp.		31,003.69
604-1670-53320-000-343	State Highway Maintenance		921,997.03
604-1671-53330-000-340	Local Roads		493,167.60
604-1671-53331-001-340	Local Roads Chipseal		195,128.47

WHEREAS, final funding of expenditures for field tools, crushing production operations, engineer services, other administration services, GANG maintenance, snow removal, salt brine production operations, county-aid road construction, county-aid bridge construction, capital projects, buildings and grounds, salt brine machinery operations, crushing machinery operations, state highway maintenance, local roads maintenance, and local roads chipseal operations are able to be funded by higher than anticipated revenues, as well as functions under budget, and

WHEREAS, Rule 5.03 of the Wood County Board of Supervisors states that “an amendment to the budget is required any time the actual costs will exceed the budget at the function level,” and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, to amend the Wood County Highway budget for 2025 by appropriating unanticipated revenues of \$2,623,145.48, and functions under budget funds of \$699,594.83, thereby approving the allocation of the additional revenues and functions under budget funds to the expenditures as set forth above, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that pursuant to Wis Stats. 65.90 (5), the County Clerk is directed to post a notice of this budget change within 15 days.



RESOLUTION#

DATE March 17, 2026

Effective
Date

Upon passage & posting

Page 1 of 2

Introduced by Operations Committee

Motion:	Adopted: <input type="checkbox"/>
1 st _____	Lost: <input type="checkbox"/>
2 nd _____	Tabled: <input type="checkbox"/>
No: _____ Yes: _____ Absent: _____	
Number of votes required:	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Majority	<input type="checkbox"/> Two-thirds
Reviewed by: _____ NF _____, Corp Counsel	
Reviewed by: _____ PY _____, Finance Dir.	

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To show additional elements of committed and assigned governmental fund balance projected as of December 31, 2025:

FISCAL NOTE: Total committed and assigned governmental fund balance as of December 31, 2025 is projected to be \$7,339,251 detailed as follows:

Account General Fund Committed	Account Name	Actual 12/31/2024	Projected 12/31/2025
51440	Clerk Elections	\$242,329	\$258,559
52130	Police Radio	31,301	31,301
52530	Building Numbering	26,222	27,534
54122	Public Health WIC	4,169	4,170
54128	Health-Grants	6,430	3,789
54130	Health-Dental Sealants	51,496	51,029
54132	Juneau/Adams	388,510	457,633
51433	HR Labor Relations	170,001	182,791
56121	Land Conservation	89,105	107,221
59210	Permits & Fines	11,287	13,737
56315	Census Redistricting	4,500	4,500
51931	Property & Liability Ins	(165,318)	(155,866)
51711	Reg of Deeds-Redaction	2,387	12
52131	Indian Law Enforcement	51,712	55,557
52712	Electronic Monitoring	630,403	705,435
52721	Jail Surcharge	447,725	517,494
51451	Voice-Over IP	183,009	105,049
55660	UW Ext Project Accounts	176,816	159,400
54710	Veteran's Relief	25,652	24,309
54730	Veteran's Relief Donations	1,885	1,869
51316	Victim Witness Task Force	6,230	6,230
	Total Committed	\$2,385,850	\$2,561,753

		NO	YES	A
1	Schulz, W			
2	Rozar, D			
3	Buttke, T			
4	Perlock, R			
5	Hovendick, T			
6	Breu, A			
7	Voight, W			
8	Hahn, J			
9	Brehm, S			
10	Thao, L			
11	Penzkover, J			
12	Valenstein, L			
13	Hokamp, J			
14	Polach, D			
15	Clendenning, B			
16	Pliml, L			
17	Zurfluh, J			
18	Hamilton, B			
19	Leichtnam, B			

Adopted by the County Board of Wood County, March 17, 2026

County Clerk

County Board Chairman

Assigned Funds Account Name	Actual 12/31/2024	Projected 12/31/2025
Other Governmental Funds Assigned		
County Highways	(31,725)	1,621,996
Human Services Fund (before deferral of revenues)	1,484,960	1,766,037
ADRC	174,287	174,287
Parks and Forestry	(448,580)	15,925
Land Records and Private Sewage	583,611	407,883
Land Conservation	149,935	186,710
Transportation and Economic Development	58,755	89,262
Sheriff and corrections	515,398	515,398
Total Other Governmental	2,486,642	4,777,498
Total Governmental Funds Committed and Assigned	\$4,872,492	\$7,339,251

WHEREAS, governmental financial reporting rules require governments to report governmental fund balances in their various components of liquidity, and

WHEREAS, one component of fund balance is that portion that is constrained by limitations that the County imposes upon itself, and

WHEREAS, these commitments and assignments involve the reserve of resources resulting from unexpected revenues or other appropriations intended for specific future expenditures, and

WHEREAS, the reporting rules require that these limitations be imposed and approved at the County’s highest level of decision making (i.e. County Board of Supervisors), and

WHEREAS, each of the above elements of committed and assigned fund balance have been detailed in the 2025 and 2026 budgets as “carryover/non-lapsing” balances, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the above functions have their balances shown as “committed and assigned” for the financial statements dated December 31, 2025.



RESOLUTION#

DATE March 17, 2026

Effective
Date

January 4, 2027

Page 1 of 1

Introduced by Operations Committee

Motion:	Adopted: <input type="checkbox"/>
1 st _____	Lost: <input type="checkbox"/>
2 nd _____	Tabled: <input type="checkbox"/>
No: _____ Yes: _____ Absent: _____	
Number of votes required:	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Majority	<input type="checkbox"/> Two-thirds
Reviewed by: _____ NF _____, Corp Counsel	
Reviewed by: _____ PY _____, Finance Dir.	

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To establish the rate of pay for the Clerk of Courts and Sheriff for the 2027-2030 term of office, beginning January 2027.

FISCAL NOTE:

	Clerk of Courts	Sheriff
2027 Gross Wages	\$97,468.80	\$141,876.80
Benefit Costs*	\$33,036.50	\$51,626.73
Total	\$130,505.30	\$193,503.53

*Benefit costs include the employer-provided portion of FICA/Social Security, Retirement/WRS, Worker’s Compensation, Health, Vision, and Life Insurance premiums. All benefits are calculated using the 2026 rates and may be subject to change annually. The PEHP is not an included benefit for Elected Officials.

WHEREAS, 59.22(1)(a) Wis. Stats., requires that the County Board establish the total annual compensation for county elected officials (other than supervisors and circuit judges) prior to the earliest time for filing nomination papers, and

WHEREAS, the earliest time for filing nomination papers for the Clerk of Courts and Sheriff is April 15, 2026, and

WHEREAS, the annual rates of pay for the Wood County elected officials are included in the attached Wood County Elected Officials Pay Structure, and

WHEREAS, an increase of 5% shall be applied to the Clerk of Courts wage for 2027 and an increase of 8% shall be applied to the Sheriff wage for 2027. No other wage adjustment shall be applied to the Clerk

of Courts or Sheriff wages in 2027.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the compensation for the Clerk of Courts shall be a newly created Grade 12A of the Wood County Elected Officials Pay Structure with a one-time 5% increase applied to Step 11 (based off of the existing Grade 12 of the current structure) and the compensation for the Sheriff shall be Grade 18 of the Wood County Elected Officials Pay Structure with a one-time 8% increase applied to Step 11, effective January 4, 2027;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that commencing 2028, the only wage adjustment that can be made to the annual rates of pay during the elected officials’ term of office is the application of the of the cost of living adjustment (COLA) as determined and approved by the Wood County Board of Supervisors and applied uniformly to all Wood County Pay Plans;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk of Courts and Sheriff shall be paid for a total of 2,080 hours annually based on the rate of pay in the assigned Wood County Elected Officials Pay Structure;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk of Courts and Sheriff are eligible for the same health, vision, dental, and life insurances and retirement benefits available (with the exclusion of the PEHP benefit) to the non-elected department heads and that said benefits are subject to the same terms and conditions as the non-elected department heads.

Adopted by the County Board of Wood County, March 17, 2026

County Clerk

County Board Chairman

Wood County Elected Officials Pay Structure 2027 DRAFT

Grade	JOB TITLE	Job Code	DEPARTMENT	Step 11
18	Sheriff	1901	25-Sheriff & Corrections	\$68.21 \$141,876.80
12A	Clerk of Courts	3142	07-Clerk of Courts	\$46.86 \$97,468.80
12	County Clerk	1301	06-Clerk	TBD (\$44.63 + COLA)
	Register of Deeds	3001	24-Register Of Deeds	
	Treasurer	3401	28-Treasurer	

* All elected officials listed above are placed at Step 11 of their respective Grade

* All elected officials listed above are budgeted at 2080 annual hours

Per resolution #18-3-10 (dated 3/20/2018 and effective 1/7/2019), the compensation for the elected Coroner is set at:
 \$15,000 salary per year
 \$85 per diem for calls (regardless of duration)

MINUTES HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, February 26, 2026
TIME: 5:00 PM
PLACE: Wood County Annex & Health Center - Classroom

MEMBERS PRESENT: Donna Rozar, Tom Buttke, John Hokamp, Lee Thao, Laura Valenstein, Marie Topping, Rachel Stankowski, Leslie Kronstedt, Dr. Tim Golemgski (arriving at 5:05 PM)

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

1. Chair Rozar called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM and declared a quorum present.
2. There were no public comments.
3. The consent agenda was reviewed. Motion by Buttke/Thao to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
4. Henry Kropp and Kurt Berner from the Samuels Group, along with Edgewater Administrator Cielewicz, were present and provided the committee with an updated floor plan with elevations of the proposed CBFRR at Edgewater. Some items had to be adjusted due to the new ADA building requirements adopted by the state. Motion by Topping/Golemgski to approve the plans and send onto the state for their consideration. Motion carried unanimously.
5. Ms. Stankowski's term on the HHS Committee is expiring. Consensus of the committee was to recommend her reappointment to the committee to the County Board Chair and have it on the next county board agenda.
6. Environmental Health Supervisor Ben Jeffrey reviewed the proposed fee schedule for 2026-2029 and how it compares to the DATCP licensing fees. Motion by Hokamp/Kronstedt to approve the fee schedule as amended and presented. Motion carried unanimously.
7. Health Director Smith updated the committee on the status of the Strategic Plan currently being updated and reviewed the top 3 items being discussed and expanded upon. More information will be forthcoming as the process progresses.
8. Chair Rozar read the resignation/retirement letter of Health Director Smith, being effective March 18, 2027. Human Resources Director McGrath reviewed the timeline in the posting and hiring process with the hopes of having someone on board soon so there can be ample cross training.

9. A resolution amending the 2026 budget for Norwood for the purpose of funding engineering and design costs of the water system upgrade was presented. Motion by Kronstedt/Golemgieski to approve the resolution and forward onto the county board for their consideration. Motion carried unanimously.
10. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, March 26, 2026, at 5:00 PM at Edgewater Haven Nursing Home Conference Room. A tour of the facility will be conducted prior to the meeting.
11. Chair Rozar declared the meeting adjourned at 6:28 PM.

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

MINUTES OF THE VETERANS SERVICE COMMISSION

DATE: January 6, 2026

PLACE: Room 115 Courthouse, Wisconsin Rapids, WI

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT: 1:32 P.M.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT: 2:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Beverly Ghiloni, Present via phone Tom Heiser and Michael Feirer

MEMBERS ABSENT: none

ALSO PRESENT: Rock Larson, Wood CVSO Secretary to the Veterans Service Commission.

Chairman Tom Heiser called the meeting to order at 1:32 P.M.

1. Public input: None.
2. Election of Commission Chairperson. Beverly Ghiloni. nominated Tom Heiser to serve as chairperson of the commission. Nomination was seconded by Michael Feirer. The voice vote was unanimous.
3. The December 08, 2025 minutes were reviewed. Beverly Ghiloni motioned to approve the minutes the motion was seconded by Tom Heiser. Motion passed unanimously.
4. Wisconsin's open meeting law requirements were posted with the County Clerk's Office as required.
5. At 1:34 P.M. Beverly Ghiloni moved and Michael Feirer seconded to enter closed session pursuant to exemption contained in Chapter 19.85(1)(f), to audit grants and loans to needy veterans and address new applications for grants and loans. Motion carried unanimously. Michael Feirer moved and Beverly Ghiloni seconded to exit closed session at 1:45 P.M. Motion carried unanimously.
6. Motion to approve grant for veteran rent assistance for totaling \$650 by Beverly Ghiloni seconded by Michael Feirer. Motion passed unanimously. Note Tom Heiser recused himself from discussion and vote as he new the applicant more that casually.
7. Audit of grants and loans- At the end of the 2025 fiscal year the commission had granted loans or grants to seven veterans and denied one application as that veteran had no long term fix for his ongoing problem. A total of \$5774.09 for past due rent/mortgage, \$894.74 automotive repairs, \$631.72 for utilities, and \$2912.74 for miscellaneous issues (cell phone, rotor router, car payments etc.).
8. The ending 2025 budget and the county board approved 2026 budget for Veterans relief were reviewed.
9. The next scheduled meeting will be held on June 16, 2026 at 1:30 P.M. in the Courthouse, in Wisconsin Rapids.
10. Michael Feirer moved and Beverly Ghiloni seconded a motion to adjourn at 2:00 P.M. Motion carried unanimously.

Rock A. Larson, Administrative Secretary, VSC

If you have any questions about this report, please contact Sue Smith at 715-421-8928 (W) or 715-213-8493 (Cell) or ssmith@co.wood.wi.us

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT – SUE SMITH, RN, MSN, CPM

- **Safe Haven Baby Box:** Fundraising is complete!! The Wisconsin Rapids Finance Committee and Common Council did their final approval of the contract and funding and will be ordering the baby box soon. It takes about six weeks to manufacture the box.
- **Opioid Settlement:** We received all signed contracts for each of the successful opioid settlement applicants and funds have been dispersed. We also collected end-of-year reports for the 2025 programs, which we are in the process of compiling for the county's required annual report on opioid spending. We will also share this information with the committee.
- **Strategic Planning:** We are making progress with our strategic planning. We are in the process of finalizing goals and strategies to help us meet each goal. Donna has been a blessing to have at the table with our planning team. I will share more details of the current draft at our meeting this month.
- **National Public Health Accreditation:** We continue to wait for the results of our site visit, which occurred in early December. We should be hearing by the end of the month. In addition, we received notification that WI Department of Health Services will pay this year's accreditation fee for us using grant funds (about \$5500).
- **Child Care Grants:** I participated with Childcaring, Inc. and UW Extension to review applications for a \$100,000 grant to one childcare center. These are still the ARPA funds that the county provided. There were eight excellent applicants and the decision was difficult, but one rose to the top. Building Blocks in Wisconsin Rapids was the successful applicant.
- **Kathy Alft has submitted her retirement notice** as planned and Macy Mancl, an internal staff member, is being trained by Kathy. This advanced recruitment and promotion decision will be invaluable as we seek a seamless transition. Macy is remaining in her current position while she is being trained, and the promotion will take effect in July when Kathy departs. Kathy has been a tremendous asset to our department. Her budgeting and fiscal management skills are second to none. She will be missed by all of us, and we will enjoy our time with her until she retires in July.
- **I have also submitted my retirement notice** as planned with an effective date of March 18, 2027. The Committee will discuss next steps for advanced recruitment and a hiring decision to allow time for training/mentoring and another seamless transition.

SUPERVISOR OF STRATEGIC INITIATIVES REPORT – KRISTIE RAUTER EGGE, MPH

- Started a weekly syndromic surveillance report using ESSENCE, which is a national syndromic surveillance platform that pulls data from emergency department records, to monitor real-time, local emergency department trends.
- A staff member was invited to present at the Wood County Comprehensive Community Support Advisory Council Meeting. In their presentation, they provided an overview of the department, highlighting services offered and resources available to the community.
- Wood County Health Department and Aspirus Hospitals and Clinic convened to increase awareness of initiatives and priorities within each organization, identify and expand opportunities for collaboration, and strategize for improving health outcomes in Wood County.
- The department conducted a biannual health for all staff survey to gauge staff understanding of social determinants of health.

Quality Improvement/Performance Management

- The Quality Council is developing a new 2026 Performance Management and Quality Improvement Plan for the department.
- Program areas are finalizing data entry for the 2025 performance management workbooks and improvement projects. In addition, they are actively planning and developing goals and performance measures while brainstorming ideas for improvement projects for 2026. Various program goals and improvement projects will continue into 2026.

Mental Health

- Staff are continuing to meet and collaborate with community partners and organizations to strategize, align efforts, and advance plans to address adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), the impact of technology use on youth mental health, and social belonging and connection.
- A staff member attended a meeting of the Office of Children's Mental Health. The topic discussed was "Profile of Today's Youth - Beyond the Headlines."
- The Marshfield Area Coalition for Youth Mental Health Task Force finalized the 2026 "Let's Keep Talking" Series, beginning in February. This series is hosted at the Everette Roehl Marshfield Public Library and is designed for parents, caregivers, and individuals who work with youth. Its purpose is to raise awareness and reduce the stigma surrounding the mental health challenges faced by young individuals.

Communication/Branding

- Worked with our Communication Committee to finalize an external communication survey that assesses what we are doing well and where we can improve.
- Made updates to the website.
- Wrote a column for the Pittsville Record on reducing salt intake to support heart health
- Staff attended a WI Public Information Officer Network meeting and learned more about communicating about immunizations.

Housing

Staff attended a planning committee meeting for the Central Wisconsin Housing Summit. The summit will be held April 15, 2026, in Stevens Point, WI.

Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP)

Staff updated the Healthy People Wood County data dashboards. The dashboards are located here, <https://www.healthypeoplewoodcounty.org/localhealthdatadashboards>.

Access to Care

- Staff continued work on increasing prenatal care and met with partners at Aspirus Wisconsin Rapids.
- A grant was secured from Delta Dental to support oral health service offerings at the department during the summer.

Financial Security

- Financial security resources were added to the employee intranet and ManageWell and were sent to all County employees through the Human Resources newsletter.
- Staff attended the United Way of South Wood & Adams Counties Financial Security Coalition meeting and met with various partners about the financial security priority.
- Staff are planning community listening sessions in March and April through the Marshfield Clinic & Security Health Plan grant to learn about food insecurity in Wood County.

Wisconsin Rapids Downtown Farmers Market

- The Wisconsin Rapids Downtown Farmers Market has renewed its application to vend at the downtown location with the City of Wisconsin Rapids for the upcoming season. The Market team is currently engaged in seasonal planning efforts, including organizing a spring vendor meeting to review proposed agenda items and identify potential guest speakers. As part of this process, the Market is also reviewing and updating its application procedures and rules and regulations to ensure clarity, compliance, and consistency.
- The Wisconsin Rapids Downtown Farmers market intends to apply for a \$2,500 Tourism Grant through the Wisconsin Rapids Area Convention & Visitors Bureau to support a public art enhancement adjacent to the market site. The proposed project would involve commissioning a local artist to design and install a permanent, farmers market-themed sidewalk artwork along a defined section of the city-owned bike and pedestrian path on the Ahdawagam trail. This project is intended to enhance the market environment, engage residents and visitors, highlight local artistic talent, and contribute to the overall aesthetic of the riverfront corridor. The initial request related to this project has been reviewed and approved by the city. The next steps will involve obtaining city approval of the proposed artwork, followed by submitting the grant application. Pending these approvals, the Market will proceed with implementation planning.
- Additionally, because the Fourth of July falls on Saturday this year, the Wisconsin Rapids Downtown Farmers' Market is seeking confirmation that the Farmer's Market may continue to operate on that date. Market representatives have been invited to attend the City's planning meeting to coordinate early planning efforts and ensure alignment between the Farmers' Market and the City's July 4 activities. This coordination will help maximize community participation and create a cohesive experience for residents and visitors

Central Wisconsin Regional Farmers Market Collaborative

- Staff worked closely with the Marshfield Farmers Market Cooperative board to host the first ever Marshfield Winter Farmers Market! Turn out and vendor satisfaction has exceeded expectations.
- We are working closely with all markets to build capacity, assist with application processes, and plan for improved marketing.
- Staff attended strategic planning meetings for the WI Farmers Market Association and WI Nutrition Incentive Network.
- We are building out a plan for the Northern Region Hub for the Double UP Foods Bucks Wisconsin pilot program, which creates educational resources for WI Farmers Markets to increase food access.
- Staff are working on marketing and planning for educational opportunities occurring this winter including a Market Manager workshop, Hmong Grower Gathering, and Vendor Webinars.

Substance Use – IMPACT and MACY

- Staff updated data through 2025 for the opioid data fact sheet.
- *LifePoint*:
 - LifePoint is a satellite syringe service program of Vivent Health in which participants receive resources, overdose reversal medication, and supplies needed to reduce their risk of injury and harm. Data from a focus group of people

who use drugs, LifePoint participants, and input from community partners has helped us identify the need to expand this service. On January 5, a LifePoint location opened in Marshfield. This service is offered every Monday from 12-2PM.

- Four individuals attended the LifePoint program in Wisconsin Rapids in January and were additionally supporting 28 others. We estimate over 2,000 syringes were returned this month, as incentivizing responsible syringe disposal has continued to show positive outcomes with our participants.
- Despite opening the Marshfield location, the office did not have participation in January. Staff are working on a plan to promote the program in the Marshfield and surrounding communities. Slow participation is common for new syringe service programs as the program becomes more well known, builds trust, and remains a reliable resource in the community.
- A 2025 end of year summary will be completed in February/March to show program data for the Wisconsin Rapids program.
- **Peer Support:** WCHD's Peer Specialist, Pamela, has a caseload of 6 individuals with all meeting or exceeding their recovery goals with 3 other cases being closed. Pamela is planning to attend training in April to become a Certified Parent Peer Support to support parents of youth who have a substance use disorder and/or mental health concern.
- **Public Health Vending Machines:** Staff updated public health vending machine data totals for 2024-2026 and implemented a new tracking tool. The 2025 PHVM data has been compiled and the total number of supplies vended was 4,227. The River Block Building machine vended the most supplies, and the top vended item was the lifesaving medication, naloxone (NARCAN®).
- **WPHA Hemp Education:** Wisconsin Public Health Association (WPHA) reached out to WCHD to create education around the public health impact of intoxicating hemp products in Wisconsin. Staff were able to provide considerations for Wisconsin lawmakers around ways intoxicating hemp products are impacting the public's health in our local communities.
- **Naloxone Direct program:**
 - Wisconsin Department of Health Services announced a new brand of naloxone that will be provided through the program, so the state is no longer distributing the commonly recognized brand, NARCAN®. WCHD has several NARCAN kits available through the public health vending machine funding sources that will be distributed this year, but WCHD will be distributing 4mg nasal spray (Padagis Naloxone™), 3mg nasal spray (RiVive®), and 0.4mg intermuscular naloxone. A plan was developed to clarify how each brand/formulation of naloxone will be distributed by the department.
 - WCHD provided an Overdoses Prevention and Naloxone Administration training course for 9 staff from The Hannah Center in Wisconsin Rapids. Two additional people were trained through the Adult Day Treatment group. A total of 49 naloxone kits were distributed in January.
- **Opioid Settlement:** Wood County distributed Opioid Settlement funding to seven of the twelve agencies that applied for funding for 2026. A total of \$362,414.74 was distributed to projects that address opioid-related issues in the community across the spectrum of substance use including prevention, harm reduction, treatment, recovery, criminal justice, bringing awareness/addressing stigma, and community grants/other. Funded projects include:

Title	Agency	Award
Prevention - IMPACT at Work	Wood County Health Department	\$ 25,000.00
Wood County Criminal Justice Department Opioid Relief Efforts	Wood County Criminal Justice Department	\$ 63,237.00
ROOT: Risk Reduction, Outreach and Opportunities Together	Vivent Health	\$ 61,033.00
Three Bridges Recovery Wisconsin, Inc. Peer Support and Community Outreach Recovery Project	Three Bridges Recovery Wisconsin, Inc.	\$ 70,587.00
Family Outreach and Support Services (FOSS)	Children's Wisconsin	\$ 66,778.87
Investing in Prevention: Strengthening School Based AODA Services to Prevent Substance and Opioid Misuse	Wisconsin Rapids Public Schools	\$ 66,778.87
WRFD Peer Support Team	Wisconsin Rapids Fire Department	\$ 9,000.00

- **HOPE Consortium:** The HOPE Consortium is a network of coalitions and organizations addressing substance use in central, northern, and western Wisconsin. The group is staffed by Family Health Center of Marshfield and offers free webinars and an annual virtual conference. HOPE Consortium met in January and shared their [resource guides](#), topics for their free [webinar series](#), and asked partners about trends or concerns they are seeing in their communities.

- **Marshfield Area Coalition for Youth (MACY):**
 - Added new youth sector representative Kenai Volkman, student at Columbus Catholic Schools and new DFC School Representative Kim Kolstad, to replace Joanne Greenlee. We also finalized and submitted MACY's DFC Sector Representative Verification History forms.
 - The Drug Task Force met on January 6 to continue with strategic planning around the substance prevention work. The group worked through the alcohol section and plans to continue the nicotine section discussions in February.
 - New members have been added to the work to increase efforts to effectively fulfill the strategic action plan. including school representatives from Marshfield and Columbus. New community members have also joined, who are invested in the mental health task force and the drug task force.
 - The MACY Finance Committee met on January 9 to discuss the 2025 final budgets and review current budgets and grants moving forward into 2026. The committee will meet every month to review budgets and next steps.
 - The MACY website was updated to better reflect the current direction of the MACY work and resources. The website was also updated to include the new 2026 board member roster.
- **Coalition Training:** Members of the IMPACT Coalition and Health Department staff attended the Northwoods Coalition's Back to Basics Bootcamp. This was part four of a four-part training series that guides coalition members in understanding best practices in coalition work and identifying new ways to enhance their efforts to deliver effective substance prevention strategies in their communities.
- **Place Of Last Drink (POLD):** Health Department staff presented Marshfield's 2025 POLD data to the Marshfield Judiciary and Licensing Committee on January 20. The data showed the number of stops, where they came from, and trends by time of day, day of the week, and month, and identified locations that appeared multiple times in the report. The team also discussed the next steps for follow-up with the establishments.
- **School District of Marshfield Student Services Meeting:** Members of MACY, IMPACT, and the Nicotine Prevention Alliance of Central Wisconsin presented at the Marshfield Area Schools Student Services Professional Learning Communities on January 28. The team shared with counselors and school staff different AOD services, alternatives to suspension around nicotine/THC, vape disposal, educational resources, and discussed next steps with the schools and the work.
- **THC:** Health Department Staff met with the Program Director of Policy & Compliance Association for Nonsmokers-MN (ANSR) to learn more about the THC compliance checks in Minnesota. This representative will continue to serve as a point of contact for advice as the team develops guides for Wood County municipalities to help them adopt THC compliance checks.
- **Overdose Fatality Review:** Staff testified at the Senate Health Committee public hearing on Senate Bill 192, which would codify fatality review teams in state statute – shared the successes of Wood County's Child Fatality Review Team and Overdose Fatality Review Team.

Transportation

Staff met with WI DOT Transit Section to discuss details regarding the 5304-transportation planning grant. This grant is in collaboration with North Central Regional Planning Commission to conduct a transportation feasibility study for Wood County.

Catch a Ride

- Staff presented the Central Wisconsin Catch a Ride proposal to the public at the Marshfield Library and submitted the Phase 1 grant application to Legacy Foundation. In addition, we sent out informational mailers to organizations in Marshfield and met with partners to discuss marketing and partnership opportunities.
- Staff toured the future Catch a Ride office space at ODC in Marshfield and presented Catch a Ride to Aspirus Community Health Impact team and leaders.
- Staff conducted a grant application interview with Marshfield Area United Way.
- Staff analyzed Community Health Assessment survey transportation data at the zip code level to provide in grants and overall planning for improving transportation access.

Safe Kids Wood and Clark Counties

We received the DOT Grant for the next grant period! That grant period runs from October 2025-September 2026 and provides funding for the child passenger safety program.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH REPORT – BEN JEFFREY, R.S.

Radon Awareness Month

January was radon awareness month. Radon is a naturally occurring gas that is radioactive and can cause lung cancer. About 1 out of 10 homes in Wisconsin have high radon levels. Radon test kits were available for \$10 from the Wood County Health Department during the month of January. During the month, 75 kits were sold throughout Wood, Adams, and Juneau Counties.

New Businesses and Consultations

A pre-licensing inspection was completed for Hyped Nutrition due to a change in ownership. A pre-licensing inspection was completed for Sustainable Stewards Farmstead for meat sales in the Auburndale area. A pre-licensing inspection was completed for Anchor Bay in Biron due to a change in ownership. A pre-licensing inspection was completed for Cobblestone Hotel Inn and Suites, also due to a change in ownership.

Complaint Investigations

Nine complaint investigations were completed in the month of January.

- A complaint was received regarding a decomposing rodent near the dumpsters causing a strong odor in a mobile home facility. Environmental health staff were onsite to complete a complaint inspection but did not observe a rodent near the dumpsters nor a strong odor.
- A complaint was received regarding mold in a licensed lodging facility. Environmental health staff completed a complaint inspection and did see a bit of visual mold near an air conditioning unit. The mold was cleaned by lodging staff during the inspection.
- A caller reported a lack of heat in a rental unit. Environmental health staff were onsite and discovered that although it wasn't a health hazard, it was well below the required temperature in tenant/landlord code. Staff spoke with property management and supplemental heating was supplied to the tenant.
- A caller reported very dirty floors in a licensed food establishment. Environmental health staff completed a complaint inspection at the facility and reviewed cleaning frequency for floors, walls, and ceilings per the food code.
- A caller reported a licensed restaurant that had a mouse problem and was not using gloves for food service. Environmental health staff conducted a complaint inspection and reviewed glove use. Regular pest control was in place and there were no major concerns related to mice at the time of inspection.
- A caller reported non-functioning restrooms and a lack of heat in a licensed food facility. Environmental health staff were onsite and observed functioning bathrooms and adequate heat.
- A complaint was received regarding a possible illness from a licensed food facility. Environmental health staff conducted a complaint inspection. No violations were observed at the time of inspection, nor were any other illness complaints received.
- A caller reported several maintenance issues not being taken care of in a rental home. Environmental health staff were onsite but didn't observe any public health hazards.
- A complaint was received regarding heat inside a rental complex; explaining the furnace kicks on and off and doesn't heat efficiently. No public health hazards were identified.

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE SUPERVISOR REPORT – ERICA SHERMAN, MSN, RN, IBCLC

Parents as Teachers (PAT)

The Wisconsin Partnership Program (WPP) has published an outcome report on Wood County's implementation of Parents as Teachers. Initial program implementation was made possible by funding from WPP in 2022-2024. The report is available online at <https://wpp.med.wisc.edu/funded-project/family-health-outcomes-evidence-based-visiting/>

Family Health & Injury Prevention

See attached data summary for 2025.

Communicable Disease

- We continue to see measles spreading across the United States with four cases now confirmed in Wisconsin; one has been hospitalized. We have had no cases in Wood County.
- Norovirus wastewater monitoring is now being tracked in Wisconsin. Levels in our area (reported by the Marshfield facility) are currently very high.
- Respiratory illnesses appear to be declining statewide. This does not mean we are in the clear for respiratory season. Locally, we are still seeing higher levels of influenza and a slight increase in RSV. Another wave of COVID or influenza is also possible.

Emergency Preparedness

We have been working to improve how real-time health data is collected and shared internally and with partner agencies. This includes using syndromic surveillance, which are early signals from clinics and hospitals based on symptoms people report before a diagnosis is made, along with wastewater monitoring and laboratory testing data. These data sources are being combined into simple dashboards that will be shared with partner agencies to support faster, more informed decision-making during public health events.

WOMEN, INFANTS AND CHILDREN (WIC) REPORT – CAMEN HOFER, RD, CD, IBCLC

- One of our quality improvement projects this year aims to increase WIC caseload by 1% by December 31, 2026, by increasing in person appointments and local agency Facebook presence. We plan to start weekly local agency Facebook posts in March with goals to increase building rapport with families and increase word of mouth and social media WIC referrals.

Caseload for 2025 (Contracted caseload 1676)

	Dec 2025	Jan 2026	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Active (initial)	1356	1344											
Active (final)	1369												
Participating	1356	1352											

WOOD COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT REPORT
February 2026

Director Update by Brandon Vruwink

As the state's legislative session comes to a close, debate over the Administrative Cost Share change to the SNAP (FoodShare) program continues in the state legislature. The Wisconsin Counties Association continues to push a bill that would make counties whole; however, momentum has stalled at this point. There is still hope that something can get done, but with each passing day, the prospects seem to be dimmer. We are likely to have a conclusion to this debate within the next couple of weeks.

Advocacy efforts on the SNAP cost share continue on the federal level. There is more time to get something done on this front, as the cost share does not go into effect until October 1, 2026. If the state does not pass the bill, our hopes will rest with Congress and the president. NACO continues to work on this, but as of today, there is no solution.

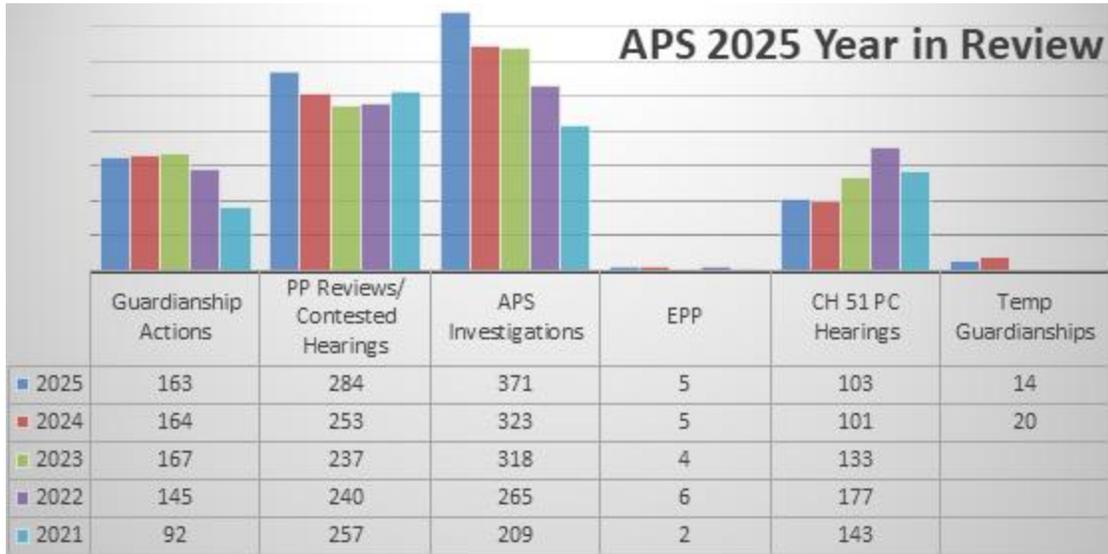
Another bill was authored in the state senate to stop the collection of child support for children placed in out-of-home care. This bill, if passed, would reduce our funding by about \$100,000 annually. The belief is that stopping child support collections would lead to children being returned to their homes more quickly, thereby reducing out-of-home care expenses. While in theory this sounds like a good option, I am not convinced that the data correlates, particularly in rural areas. My other concern is the loss of local control. Currently, counties have discretion on whether to attempt to collect child support in these cases. If we believe it is in the family's best interest not to pursue child support, we can make that determination. This bill would take that control away from counties. This bill is coming forward late in the legislative session, so it's hard to say if it will have the momentum to pass before the legislature adjourns.

The initial space buildout is progressing nicely on the first floor of River Block. The Maintenance Team is once again doing a great job of completing the work without interrupting our flow of work within the building. The buildout should be completed within the next month. Once completed, we can begin looking at options for the next potential build. While these are relatively small projects, they put the department in a good position for future space needs. Thank you to the Maintenance Team for their support and hard work.

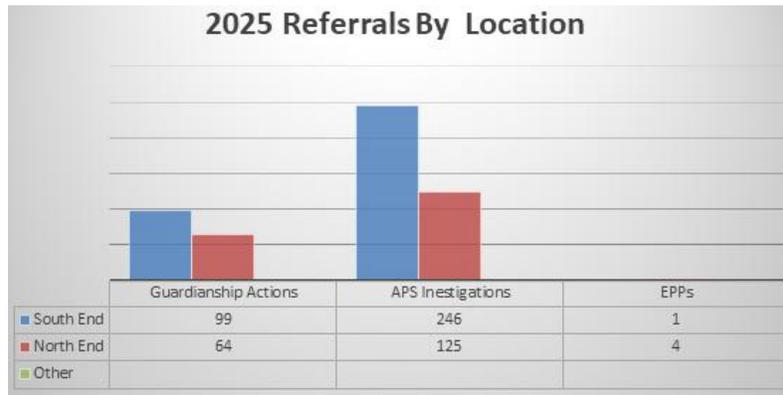
Deputy Director Update by Katie Miloch

Human Services began partnering with the jail at the beginning of the year to provide mental health case management and support to the inmates. I have spent the last month working often in the jail as we were recruiting for this full-time position. This has afforded me the opportunity to get a good grasp on the needs of the inmates and how we can best team with the corrections officers, medical providers, chaplain, and community providers. I am happy to share that the full-time case manager started this week and is off to a great start. Camryn Webster transitioned from a Human Services case manager to take this role in the jail. Her time with Human Services has provided a good foundation to be able to meet the inmate's needs. In addition to Camryn, we also have a part time case manager position, Cara, that has been working with me for the last month. Camryn's move to the jail leaves a vacancy in the Emergency Mental Health/Adult Protective Services unit for which we are currently recruiting to fill.

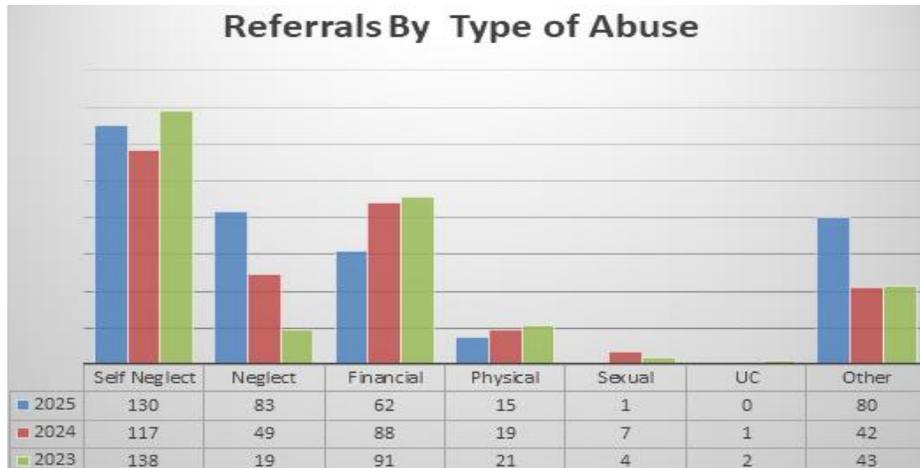
Below is the 2025 year-in-review for Adult Protective Services (APS) team. Wood County has seen a 15% increase in the number of APS referrals, compared to the year prior. The complexity and challenges in each case continue to grow, particularly related to substance use and lack of housing.



This chart shows a breakdown of the referrals by location. South Wood County continues to have a larger representation of APS referrals, which we've addressed by having an additional case manager located in Riverblock.



This chart breaks down the types of referrals we've received in 2025. As you can tell, neglect related cases have increased, and we attribute this to the additional tasks of investigating facilities and the care they're providing. In the last two years, the number of neglect cases reported in Wood County has increased 400%. Local APS teams are now responsible for the initial investigation of facilities, whereas this had been done by the state in the past.



If anyone is interested in learning more about the Emergency Mental Health/Adult Protective Services team and our roles please let me know.

Administrative Services Update by Mary Schlagenhaft

Administrative Services Team members attended various meetings specific to their job duties during the month. These included, but not limited to:

- Divisional budget meetings conducted, continued communication on budget. 2026 meetings scheduled with changes suggested and planned for.
- Edgewater claims billing “Triple Check Meeting” participating: Claims Specialist, Therapy Provider, Business office management team
- Additional accomplishments: Ongoing EHR SmartCare learning, cross training, workflows and processes reviewed and updated as needed.
- Preparation for 2026 needed tracking worksheets and 2025-year end close out.
- Discovery of Claim submission error for 2024 and 2025 CCS Masters level services. Working with State/Medical Assistance to appropriately correct errors. Procedure in place to eliminate future errors of such occurring again.
- Resignation of A/R Manager. Job Description under review to better serve our agency’s evolving needs. Recruitment will commence upon completion.

Accounting and Accounts Payable Team

- 1099 Vendor List- review & verify the list of vendors (from Finance) scheduled to receive a 1099 for payments made to them in 2025; provide adjustments to Finance.
- Payroll Accrual- prepare year end payroll accrual spreadsheet from 1/8/26 payroll and post to 12/31/25 in Dynamics.
- State Aids- submitted December reports.
- 27 vendor contracts completed
- CLTS 6 new enrollments (4 from waitlist)
- Verified staff pay rates and distributions for 2026
- Submitted NIMC Fiscal Monitoring requirement
- NW & EW fiscal staff attended Wipfli Cost Report Webinar
- Admin Asst Mgr attended Northern Financial Managers Meeting
- Edgewater Business Office- continuously update billing processes and working on efficiencies with the changes within the department
- NW & EW preparing entries for 2025 adjustments
- Weekly meeting with contracted billing vendor

Support Services Team

Behavioral Health Clinic service notes: All appointments are accounted for through 1/15/2026. We currently have a system in place to review and communicate with clinicians twice a week ensuring all appointments have service notes and errors or missing notes are identified- notify OPC Manager

Records Released:

Behavioral Health Records Released: 90
 Family Service Record/Background checks released: 34
 Records pending/in progress: 6
 Total Completed: 124

Records Retention: Completion of destruction of past retention client documents

- FS MFLD records 4th floor- up to date
- RB- FS and CCS records destruction/move to vault- up to date
- RB Foster Care provider records in progress- scanning/destroying per retention guidelines

Other Unit Information

- Support Services Staff updates- no vacant positions

- Work on Title IV-E funding for legal services DCF: Deputy Dir/FS Administrator, DA's Office- create and implement time study for administrative services staff
- Finalize BAA w/ new interpreting company to broaden department languages needs
- Attend Smartcare superuser mtgs & SHS WI users mtgs
- Complete final 2025 Smartcare audit: Staff/Client access- working with supervisors- no findings or concerns
- Work with Administrative Services management on interim coverage for AR Supervisor vacancy
- HIPAA:
 - HIPAA/ Confidentially breaches - investigated /resolved
 - Attend HIPAACOW Workgroup -Privacy Notices updates
 - HIPAA Behavioral Health ROI updated - ensure compliance with 42 CFR part 2 language
 - HIPAA ROI Unit trainings provided -CLTS

Ongoing

- Privacy/Security: in progress- SRA risk mitigation 9 of 11 completed; partnership with *MetaStar- BH Connect*; DHS funded
- Participate in HIPAACOW Privacy Notice- workgroup
- IMS/TCM migration to Laserfiche- in progress- retention list was provided to IT- 4/1/2025. IT began granting permissions to designated staff for viewing draft of repository
- ShareTru confidential document repository: 4 Admin Services staff are testing in various BH and FS programs- pending redaction issues found with pdfs

Claims & Accounts Receivable, Client Interactions

- Minimum Monthly Payment Policy and procedures are in place as needed for HSRA Grant
- Added additional payers for 835 files
- Monthly A/R review to determine collectability at Community & Norwood locations.
- Attended Monthly BH and Claims meeting for continuity in claim/service documentation needs.
- All clients who come into Reception area of OPC are presented with applications for Minimum Monthly Payment. These will be processed as they come in completed.
- Resignation of this position was accepted creating a vacancy effective 2/6/2026. This position will be assessed to better fit our changing needs.

Insurance Claims created and submitted for current reporting period

- Norwood: 241 claims billed: \$1,468,478
- Edgewater: 58 claims billed, \$700,357
- Community: 6,644 claims submitted in the amount of \$683,390. Cash Receipts \$73,600

Service Admission Intakes - by Location

- NHC Admissions: 35 hospital, 0 LTC
- Edgewater: 8
- Community
 - 18 Intakes for new clients conducted. (Current wait lists for all services at OPC)
 - 1,155 appointments scheduled, 757 attended (66%)

2026 TRIP Monies:

- Norwood: \$0
- Community: \$7,560

Family Services Update by Jodi Liegl

Out of Home Care Numbers: As of the end of January, we have the following number of youth court ordered in restrictive placements:

Type of Facility	Number of Youth	Cost Per Day Range
Group Homes	1	\$300/day
Residential Treatment Centers	1	\$869.06/day
Secure Detention	0	\$150 - \$500/day
Corrections	1	\$501/day
Mental Health Hospital (pending accepted placement)	0	\$1632/day with some MA reimbursement
Psychiatric Residential Treatment Centers (out of state)	1	\$1,350/day

In the month of January, no youth served time in secure detention.

Training: On January 28, 2026, staff were invited to attend an internal training opportunity on Executive Function Skills and their impact on children, youth and families. We focused on learning about the 12 different Executive Functions: Response Inhibition, Working Memory, Emotional Control, Cognitive Flexibility, Sustained Attention, Task Initiation, Planning & Prioritizing, Organization, Time Management, Goal Directed Persistence, Metacognition, and Stress Tolerance. In addition to defining these skills, we learned how to assess and recognize these skills as strengths and gaps that affect our abilities to complete daily tasks.

In February, we will host part two of this training. This session will focus on strategies that can be implemented to encourage and support Executive Functioning skill development in the work done with children, youth, and families as well as in our own lives. This knowledge will help workers better target their focus and provide relevant skill building to those they serve where it is needed most.

Personnel: We continue to recruit for two vacant positions: a child protection initial assessment worker and a child protection ongoing worker.

Employment & Training Programs Update by Lacey Piekarski

Independent Living Program Update: The regional Independent Living Program serves youth ages 17.5 – 23 who have aged out of the child welfare system through a court order, serving youth aging into adulthood as they transition from foster homes, residential care center or other approved eligibility situations. Two Independent Living (IL) Coordinators serve the nine-county region, focusing on the transition-to-discharge with county child welfare agencies upon transition to foster successful outcomes to independence.

From July 1 – December 31, 2025, the IL Program highlights the following:

- 108 youth were actively served, averaging a 69.47% engagement rate.
 - o 48 of those youth were 21-23 years old; case management primarily focused on stability, employment and education assistance, and resource connections.
- 22 youth continue their education in 2025, 1 graduated with their high school diploma.
- 73% of the caseload had an employment goal, 23 reporting new employment during the period.
- During the period, 8 youth reported homelessness with 7 obtaining housing by the end of the period.
- 100% of youth reported feeling a part of their community (as defined by the youth) during this period. The IL Program continues to assess and support connections through ongoing, youth-centered conversations and informal assessment tools to strengthen connections.

A complete summarization of 2025 data will be available in a future 2026 update.

Personnel Update: We welcomed a social work intern from UW-Stevens Point in January, supporting the regional IL Program through summer 2026.

Community Resources Update by Olivia Lloyd

Transportation: In January, the Transportation program provided 611 bus rides. Of these rides, 152 were for employment, and 126 were for medical. The program also provided 71 volunteer rides. Of these, 20 were for employment, and 45 were for medical.

WHEAP: The 2026 heating season began October 1, 2025. Through December Wood County has provided Energy Assistance services to 1567 households. The program has also provided HVAC services to 56 households.

Edgewater Haven Update by Justin Cieslewicz

Census Update: In the month of January, we had 8 admissions and 15 readmissions. Current Memory Care census is 16 residents. Census comparison to last year:

January 2025 – 41.03 average census with 6.42 rehab

January 2026 – 46.03 average census with 8.39 rehab

January 2025 – Admissions 13/Discharges 7/Readmissions 9/Deaths 2

January 2026 – Admissions 8/Discharges 5/Readmissions 15/Deaths 4

In addition to the inpatient census average of 46.03, there were 42 billable bedhold days (41 Medicaid billable bedhold days, 1 private pay billable bedhold day). A bedhold occurs when a resident is sent to an inpatient hospital for an acute care episode. In order to bill Medicaid for bedhold the previous month must have an occupancy rate of at least 94%. With factoring billable bedhold days the adjusted average census for Edgewater Haven was 47.35, which equates to a 94.7% occupancy rate for January. January 2026 is the first time Edgewater Haven was eligible for Medicaid billable bedhold in over a decade.

Personnel Update: Open positions of writing this:

Nursing: Licensed Nurses: 3 full-time nurses, 1 part-time nurse, and 2 full-time CNAs

Quality Assurance Performance Improvement: Edgewater Haven's Quality Assurance Performance Improvement (QAPI) Committee meeting was held on January 20, 2026. At the meeting all of the facility's quality metrics were reviewed, and our total five-star rating was reviewed, in which Edgewater remains a 5 out of 5-stars. At the meeting, the Facility Assessment was reviewed to ensure proper compliance with the regulation. Thorough discussion was held, and our Medical Director discussed regulatory trends throughout the state. The next QAPI meeting will be scheduled for the month of April.

Norwood Health Center

Norwood Health Center Update by Marissa Kornack

Progress continues to be made on the design/engineering plans for the water pipe replacement project. Building Operations Manager Ackerman, Facilities Manager Van Tassel, and I remain in regular communication with the engineers and architects as they work to complete the plans. We will be bringing forward a resolution to our February meeting to carry over the unused capital funds from 2025 to 2026 for this work in progress.

Food Services Supervisor Burt and I met with ADRC leadership to touch base on the congregate/Meals on Wheels program contract. They reported they are planning to marginally increase meal offerings starting in March related to some grant funding received. We will continue to regularly meet with them as the year progresses.

Norwood Nursing Department by Liz Masanz

For nurses, we currently have two 100%, one 60%, and five casual RN positions available. We currently have two agency RNs on board to help cover these vacant positions. For mental health technicians (MHT), we have three 100%, two 50%, and one casual position available.

Admissions Unit: The average census for the month of January was 7.84. The average length of stay was 7.74. There were 35 admissions and 39 discharges.

We were able to coordinate some more regular spiritual service offerings through the volunteerism of some local pastors.

Long Term Care: The long-term care unit had no admissions and four discharges in January, with an average census of 12.80 on Crossroads and 13.87 on Pathways.

The IDT reviewed and revised all care plan target behaviors to prepare for annual survey to ensure we are utilizing non-pharmacological interventions to the highest degree.

Norwood Dietary Department by Larry Burt

Congregate meals for the month of January were 3,380 with revenue of \$28,796, which was a 33.5% and 26% respective decrease from January of 2025. There were four days without meals (New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, and two weather cancellations) compared to three in 2025. Projecting out the January experience, we would expect to serve 40,560 meals in 2026, compared to our budget of 48,700. We hope those numbers will improve as the year goes on as we evaluate the feasibility of continuing this contract past 2026.

CVSO Report to the Wood County Health and Human Services Committee

Meeting Date: February 26, 2026

January 2026 Activity: During the month of January, we completed/submitted 233 federal forms to include:

- 33 Intent to file a claim (this marks the effective date while we assist the veteran in gathering all the required supporting documentation)
- 25 Appeals – Higher Level Review, Notice of Disagreement (appeal), appeals to Board of Veterans Appeals (Veterans Law Judge)
- 25 New claims for disability compensation
- 0 New claim for veterans' pension
- 2 New claims for surviving spouse benefits (DIC or surviving spouse pension)
- 13 New applications for VA Healthcare
- 23 Appointments of Claimants Representative (POA for American Legion, VFW, DAV etc.)
- 14 Burial and marker applications
- 17 Request for individual's VA or private medical records

Activities:

1. Completed as of February 18, 2026:
 - a. January 15 - Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs Video training to county and tribal staff. On Duty to Assist *"Identifying the Common VA Errors"*
 - b. January 21- Office Staff meeting and National Veteran Legal Services Program Webinar on Recent Court Decisions Veterans Advocates Need to Know About (May 2025- Dec. 2025)
 - c. January 28 – NE Wisconsin Homeless Coalition meeting (Video).
 - d. February 10-11 – Wisconsin Counties Association Legislative Conference
2. Near Future:
 - a. February 17 – Milwaukee VA Regional Office quarterly CVSO call in.
 - b. April 1 – Wood County Crisis Intervention Training
 - c. April 9 – Tomah VA Medical Center Directors Town Hall and outreach event in Marshfield at the Elks Club.

Office Update:

VA effective date errors. When the VA awards a monthly payment for either disability compensation (to include dependency and indemnity compensation to a surviving spouse) or a non-service-connected pension they assign an effective date which starts the payment. Most often that effective date is the date the claim was filed or the date the VA received a notice of intent to file a claim. The rules sometimes get complicated, or the VA just gets the effective date wrong:

This month we appealed two effective dates after review of the veteran's file-

1. Veteran filed an intent to file on February 26, 2025. On March 17 2025 our office submitted a new claim and an appeal for a previously denied issue. As they were submitted on the same day the intent to file covered both. The VA granted the new claim issues with an effective date of Feb 26, 2025 which becomes payable on March 1. The VA later granted the appeal with the wrong effective date March 17, 2025 (the date they received the actual appeal) which becomes payable on April 1, 2025. A disagreement was submitted on the effective date, and the veteran received an **additional \$1,926.**

2. Veteran filed a claim in another state when he retired from the military. He had come in with a family member on an issue for that veteran. We asked if it was ok if we reviewed his claim's folder for him. We identified an issue that the VA never finished and submitted an appeal on that issue on December 11, 2025. The VA awarded a 100% disability rating for that issue alone effective January 12, 2026, this award also included granting a special monthly compensation effective January 12 both payable on Feb 1 2026. We argued that as the VA in error never completed the claim identified in its decision dated June 20, 2025, that the claim was still open (a full year must pass before a claim is closed and final) and the effective date should be the date of the original claim January 25, 2024. Veteran received an **additional \$52,529** from the VA along with the original monthly compensation increase going forward of **\$2,351** per month. Veteran is also now eligible for the Wisconsin Disabled Veterans Property tax credit.

Homeless suicidal veteran recently released from prison. We talked to this veteran prior to his release from prison. He had filed a claim with another organization while near the end of his sentence. Veteran called out of the blue that he had a disagreement with his room mate and could no longer stay where he was living. He worked the night shift and therefore was not a fit for the Salvation Army shelter. We called around to various state and federal programs for homeless veterans and there was no help. One voice mail stated to try the American Red Cross Hero care network program which provided one week's rent a local motel after which the veteran would have his paycheck. We looked at the veteran's claim (which had alerts for homelessness and hardship). The claim for mental health had had the medical exam with a favorable opinion but was awaiting two other exams for other conditions before making a rating decision for all issues. We contacted the Milwaukee Regional Office by secure email (on January 29) asking them to pull the claim to Milwaukee and rate mental health and defer the other issues. They read the email in the morning, and the veteran was rated 70% disabled for his PTSD that day, a retroactive **payment for \$15,931** was deposited on February 5, 2026. Current ongoing award is \$1,808 per month with the other two issues still pending. Veteran is currently working with the VA Medical Center's Justice Outreach team and had his first primary care health visit. He will be getting ongoing mental health care and help with his substance use disorder.

MINUTES PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

DATE: Monday, March 9, 2026
TIME: 9:00 AM
PLACE: Courthouse – Conference Rm 302

MEMBERS PRESENT: Joseph Zurfluh, Dennis Polach, Jeff Penzkover, William Voight, Brad Hamilton

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

1. Chairman Zurfluh called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.
2. The minutes of the February 9, 2026, meeting were reviewed. Motion by Hamilton/Penzkover to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
3. There was no public comment.
4. The next meeting will be held on Monday, April 13, 2026, at 9:00 AM.
5. The Communications Department presented their report and bill listing for review.
6. The Emergency Management Department presented their report and bill listing for review.
7. The Dispatch Department presented their report and bill listing for review.
8. The Coroner presented their monthly report and bill listing for review.
9. With Coroner Patton being absent from today's meeting, the storage space agenda item will be moved forward to the next agenda. Facilities Manager Van Tassel reviewed the actions to-date on the next steps. Once the construction area is cleaned up, there is a storage unit that can be moved to the Highway Dept. area to store the larger items of concern. VanTassel and Patton communicated on this and were in agreement. This move should happen this summer.
10. Sheriff Becker reviewed various reports and activities of the Sheriff's Department.
11. The 2027-2031 Capital Improvement Plan for the Sheriff's Dept was reviewed by the committee. Sheriff Becker discussed the need to replace the M-RAP vehicle and different funding options available. Motion by Hamilton/Voight to approve the 2027-2031 Sheriff's Department CIP. Motion carried unanimously.
12. Motion by Zurfluh/Hamilton to approve the voucher listings for Communications, Coroner, Dispatch, Emergency Management, and Sheriff's Department. Motion carried unanimously.
13. Motion by Hamilton/Penzkover to move back into open session. Motion carried unanimously.

14. Chairman Zurfluh declared the meeting adjourned 9:27 AM.

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

**Public Safety Committee
March 9, 2026**

NAME	REPRESENTING
Bill Vaught	
R VANTASSEL	MAINT.
S. Zeen	WBO
C. Vayesta	WUSC
Q ELLIS	WOSU
Tony Bastien	Dispatch
Brycen Peterson	WOSO
Erik Engel	LEC Com
Two Approach	Woods County Sheriff's Dept. / JAIL.
Sarah Christensen (WebEx)	Emergency Mgmt
Tyler Mellinger (WebEx)	Emergency Mgmt
Brenda Nelson (WebEx)	Finance
Scott Boehm (WebEx)	CB Dist 9
Darrin Steinbach (WebEx)	Finance

MINUTES

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

DATE: Tuesday, February 24, 2026
TIME: 8:00 AM
LOCATION: Courthouse – Rm 302

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mike Meyers, Robert Levendoske, Dave Laude, Lee Garrels

MEMBER ABSENT: Gus Mancuso

1. Chairman Meyers called the meeting to order at 8:05 AM
2. There were no public comments.
3. The minutes of January 31, 2026, were reviewed. Motion by Garrels/Laude to approve them as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
4. Motion by Garrels/Laude to go into Closed Session pursuant to Wis. Stats 19.85(1)(c) to interview candidates for a new eligibility list for the Wood County Sheriff's Dept. Motion carried unanimously.
5. Motion by Laude/Garrels to return to open session. Motion carried unanimously.
6. Motion by Garrels/Laude to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously at 1:05 PM.

Robert Levendoske
Secretary

MINUTES

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

DATE: Tuesday, February 26, 2026
TIME: 8:00 AM
LOCATION: Courthouse – Rm 302

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mike Meyers, Robert Levendoske, Dave Laude, Lee Garrels

MEMBER ABSENT: Gus Mancuso

1. Chairman Meyers called the meeting to order at 8:15 AM
2. There were no public comments.
3. The minutes of February 24, 2026, were reviewed. Motion by Garrels/Laude to approve them as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
4. Motion by Garrels/Laude to go into Closed Session pursuant to Wis. Stats 19.85(1)(c) to interview candidates for a new eligibility list for the Wood County Sheriff's Dept. Motion carried unanimously.
5. Motion by Laude/Garrels to return to open session. Motion carried unanimously.
6. Motion by Garrels/Meyers to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously at 12:30 PM.

Robert Levendoske
Secretary



February Monthly Report

Wood County Sheriff's Rescue

Submitted by: Ann Burger, WCSR Secretary

February Training Descriptions

Date	Type	Description
3-Feb	Business Meeting	February Business Meeting
10-Feb	Work Night	Reviewed and finalized plans for new truck.
17-Feb	Work Night	Cleaned garage, discussed calls.
24-Feb	Work Night	Truck checks and call sheet completed.

Call Summary

Call #	11	12	13	14	15
Date	2/1/2026	2/4/2026	2/5/2026		2/6/2026
Time	19:53	17:32	5:39		15:06
Day of Week	Sunday	Wednesday	Thursday		Friday
Township	Rudolph	Port Edwards	Saratoga		Saratoga
Location	5011 STH 34	PORT RD & STH 54	STH 13 & STH 73		6100 CTH Z
Rescue 3	C. Stoflet	B. Franz	B. Franz		M. Wiberg
Rescue 4					
Rescue 5					
10-22ed					
Call Type	10-50 w/ Unknown Injuries	10-50 w/ Unknown Injuries	10-50 w/ Unknown Injuries		Snowmobile/AT V
Medical/Extrication					WRFD
Ambulance	UEMR		WRFD		Saratoga
EMR			Saratoga		Nekoosa
Fire	Rudolph	Port Edwards	Nekoosa		
Air					
Tools/Equipment Used			Broom		
Notes					
Other members on scene					

Call Summary

Call #	16	17	18	19	
Date	2/6/2026	2/17/2026		2/24/2026	
Time	16:48	7:42		22:22	
Day of Week	Friday	Tuesday		Tuesday	
Township	Saratoga	Grand Rapids		Grand Rapids	
Location	STH 13 & STH 73	48TH ST S & GRIFFITH AVE		GRIFFITH AVE & SAMPSON ST	
Rescue 3	M. Wiberg	T. Young		B. Franz	
Rescue 4					
Rescue 5					
10-22ed					
Call Type	10-50 w/ Unknown Injuries	10-50 w/ Unknown Injuries		10-50 w/ Unknown Injuries	
Medical/Extrication					
Ambulance	WRFD	UEMR		UEMR	
EMR	Saratoga	Grand Rapids		Grand Rapids	
Fire	Nekoosa	Grand Rapids		Grand Rapids	
Air					
Tools/Equipment Used					
Notes					
Other members on scene				M. Wiberg	



WOOD COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT



SHAWN BECKER, SHERIFF

February 28th 2026

MEMORANDUM FOR Sheriff Becker; Public Safety Committee

SUBJECT: Monthly Crime Stoppers Report – February 2026

The Crime Stoppers program received 27 tips in the month of February that were forwarded to the appropriate agencies for follow-up, as reported by P3.

The last monthly board meeting was held on February 11th, 2025. The next regular meeting will be March 11th, 2026.

Respectfully Submitted,

Daniel Berres
Investigator Sergeant
Wood County Sheriff's Department



WOOD COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT



SHAWN BECKER, SHERIFF

Feb 2025 K9 Report

	TRAINING HOURS	USEAGE/ DEPLOYMENTS	DEMO/ COMMUNITY
K9 Sig	14	5	0
K9 Bingo	14	8	0
K9 Timo	15	4	0
K9 Rosco	15.5	5	0
K9 Lola	SEE	BELOW	
K9 Ripp	SEE	BELOW	

TRAINING (MONTHLY) –

The Wood County Sheriff's Department trained with the Wisconsin Rapids Police Department K9 teams during the month of February. The training venues consisted of the WOSO/WRPD range house and the old Speak Easy 54 building in the Town of Grand Rapids. Areas of training consisted of odor detection, tracking, building search for person, decoy obedience, and deployments through basement window (muzzle apprehension).

TRAINING (INDIVIDUAL) –

- Deputy Pidgeon reviewed podcast related to K9.
- Sergeant Arendt and K9 Timo had 3 hours of on duty training. This training consisted of obedience, article detection, and K9 materials related to U.S v Johnson.
- Lieutenant Christianson and K9 Bingo completed 5 hours of on-duty training. Areas of training consisted of obedience, tracking, and odor detection.
- Deputy Beathard and K9 Rosco competed 3.5 hrs of on duty training in podcasts, obedience, slick floors, and narcotics.

USEAGE –

- K9 Sig was deployed on a traffic stop for WRPD no indication. K9 Sig was also deployed twice at the male and female houses the onyx houses. K9 Sig was also deployed to Assumption High School for a search no indications on anything .



WOOD COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT



SHAWN BECKER, SHERIFF

- Sergeant Arendt and K9 Timo had 4 deployments in the month of February. Two of these deployments were school sniffs at Assumption and River Cities High School. K9 Timo did indicate on one locker at Assumption High School but nothing of evidentiary value was located. The final two deployments were vehicle sniffs. One sniff resulted in no indication. The other sniff resulted in an indication and search. Located was drug paraphernalia.
- Lieutenant Christianson and K9 Bingo had eight deployments during the month of February. Two were planned school sniffs at Assumption and River Cities High School. A deployment was completed during early morning hours at the Wood County Courthouse the starting day of a high profile jury trial. Another deployment was assisting Wisconsin Rapids Police Department with high-risk traffic stop of vehicle listed as stolen. K9 Bingo was deployed from patrol vehicle as suspect was not complying. K9 Bingo was not sent for apprehension due to officer/K9 safety risks. Suspect did end up complying and taken into custody. K9 Bingo was deployed at WRAMS after school received alert from student regarding a “bomb” and the school. That incident was investigated prior to deployment and determined to be a “non-threat” and the student was consoled. Lieutenant Christianson and K9 Bingo were involved in vehicle pursuit of stolen ambulance in the City of Wisconsin Rapids. When suspect and vehicle became inoperable, K9 Bingo was deployed. Suspect did not immediately exit the ambulance, and Bingo was placed back into patrol vehicle. Suspect later taken into custody. Lieutenant Christianson and K9 Bingo were contacted and assisted Secret Service with detail involving The Vice President of the United States. K9 Bingo was utilized from area of the Mosinee Airport to location of event in Plover, WI. Lieutenant Christianson and K9 Bingo assisted in clearing travel route and any potential hazards. K9 Bingo did search several areas but no alert or change of behavior was observed. Lastly, Lieutenant Christianson and K9 Bingo were part of a vehicle pursuit that ended in the City of Wisconsin Rapids. When vehicle came to a stop, the driver door opened and K9 Bingo was removed from patrol vehicle. Suspect complied with officer’s commands and K9 Bingo was placed back inside patrol vehicle with no further incident.
- Deputy Beathard and K9 Rosco had 5 deployments for the month of February. K9 Rosco completed searches at the Wood County Jail, and Mary’s place in Marshfield with no CIB or indications. K9 Rosco had two traffic deployments one with no CIB or indication and one with indication and THC arrest. K9 Rosco lastly had a patrol deployment to assist in an arrest of a combative subject.

DEMO/COMMUNITY –

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION –

February Lola’s Work and Training 2026

February 3rd

Escorted inmates to see provider



WOOD COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT



SHAWN BECKER, SHERIFF

Met with Clerk of Courts

February 4th

Recovery Pod Females Pod Event

Met with Clark County Therapy Pup Handler for training

February 6th

Went through pods on 2nd and 3rd floors

February 10th

Escorted inmates to see provider

Visited inmate with Mental Health Issues in Receiving

February 11th

Visited inmates going to medical

February 12th

Recovery Pod Graduation

February 17th

Escorted inmates to provider

February 20th

HSED graduation

February 25th

Visited all pods on 2nd, 3rd and 4th floors

February 26th

Attended visitation for Rita Villeneuve

Visited Clerk of Courts, people going to court

Ripp's Training/Work Log- February 2026

February 2

- Ripp attended Students of the month assemblies- Elementary, Middle, High School

February 4

- Attended Community Coffee at High School



WOOD COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT



SHAWN BECKER, SHERIFF

- Attended National Letter of Intent for High School Student Athletics
- Ripp K9 Training

February 5

- Attended 100 Yr Old B-day at Elementary School

February 9

- Courthouse visit with employees/dispatch
- Varsity girls basketball game

February 10

- Attended Veterans Coffee to introduce Ripp

February 11

- Ripp K9 Training

February 13

- Ripp K9 Training (Graduated Basic Obediance)

February 17-February 26

- Ripp Vacation

February 27

- Attended school-wide basketball game at Elementary School

Respectfully,

Brandon Christianson

Brandon Christianson
Patrol Lieutenant



WOOD COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT



SHAWN BECKER, SHERIFF

HUMANE OFFICER

02-01-26 to 02-28-26

Animal Bites:	<u>Dog</u>	<u>Cat</u>	<u>Squirrel</u>
• Arpin	0	0	0
• Auburndale	0	0	0
• Grand Rapids	0	0	0
• Nekoosa	0	0	0
• Wis. Rapids	1	1	0
• Wood	0	0	0
• Marshfield	0	0	0
• Rudolph	0	1	0
• Seneca	0	0	0
• Saratoga	0	0	0
• Pittsville	0	1	0
• Richfield	0	0	0
• Lincoln	0	0	0
• Rock	0	0	0

Inhumane /Abuse Case: 0

Abandonment: 0

Animal vs Animal: 0

Abatement Order: 0

Animals at Large: 0

Major Incidents: 0

Follow-up-Brooke: 0

Follow-up-Susa: 0

Monthly Hours: 13

2026 YTD Hours: 29.5



WOOD COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT



SHAWN BECKER, SHERIFF

Submitted by: Jenna McDonald



WOOD COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT



SHAWN BECKER, SHERIFF

Department of Natural Resources Patrols

February 2026

ATV

- Patrol Hours 30
- Citations- 0
- Warnings- 0

BOAT

- Patrol Hours N/A
- Citations-
- Warnings-

SNOWMOBILE

- Patrol Hours 4
- Citation- 0
- Warnings- 0

Submitted by

Sgt. Matt Susa



WOOD COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT



SHAWN BECKER, SHERIFF

Operations Overtime/Comp Time Totals

FEBRUARY 2025 (02/01/26to 02/28/26)

Patrol

Overtime hours:	62.75
Comp time hours:	237.11
Holiday Pay/Comp hours:	0

Investigations

Overtime hours:	110
Comp time hours:	25.38

Security Services

Overtime hours:	22.5
Comp time hours:	54.375

TOTAL CALL OUT:	0
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Submitted By: Charles Hoogesteger – Operations Captain



Wood County

WISCONSIN

SHERIFF'S
DEPARTMENT

Shawn Becker
SHERIFF

Public Safety Committee Meeting

Security Services February 2026 Report

For the month of February, the total number of prohibited items prevented from entering the Courthouse are:

Guns -	0
Knives -	68
O.C. -	10
Misc. Items -	7

The miscellaneous items that were located were 4 (four) pairs of scissors, vise grips, a large punch and a screwdriver.

Security Services screened 8,005 people entering the courthouse in February. Security Services had 44 security requests from different departments within the Courthouse for the month and we had four (4) jury trials. One of those trials was a 8 day homicide trial that after day 3 ended in a mistrial and had to start again that next Monday.

We also served four (4) civil process papers and fulfilled a warrant for the month.

Security Services handled one (1) complaint in the jail this month and that was for an inmate fight.

In February there was an election that was being held, and security had to stay late to wait for some of the ballots to arrive from around the county. Security also located a set of keys in the courthouse and was able to identify the owner and return the keys to them.

During the Month of February, I utilize part-time employees for 170.5 hours to fill employee shortage hours. Several shifts ran short due to no part-time employees being able to help. This month was extremely high for part-time hours due to the homicide trial that took place over a ten-day time frame. Not only did I have to use the part-time deputies for the trial, I also had to use the road deputies, the Civil Process Sergeant and the Recreational Sergeant to supply coverage for not only the homicide trial but for the normal, day-to-day, tasks that security offers to the rest of the courthouse.

Report submitted by: Lieutenant Bryan D. Peterson



WOOD COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT



SHAWN BECKER, SHERIFF

Public Safety Committee Meeting

School Resource Officer (Auburndale) February 2026 Report

For the month of February, the School Resource Officer initiated/responded to 11 calls of service while at the Auburndale High School/Middle School/Elementary School. The calls for service included:

- Multiple Sexual Offense Reports (Social Media)
- Disturbance (Threats towards students)
- Traffic Stops/Enforcement at the schools
- Assisted patrol/investigations with several LE related incidents outside the school
- Trespassing
- Project Lifesaver

(Noted: Deputy Nehls was on vacation February 17th-25th. During that time patrol assisted at the school by walking through the schools and attending sporting events)

The School Resource Officer also participated in the following:

- Safety walk at the High School/Middle/Elementary School
- Weekly training with K9 Ripp-Obedience Classes
- Attended Varsity Basketball Games
- Attended Veterans Coffee and Community Coffee at High School
- Extra Patrols for monitoring traffic before/after school
- Attended 100 year old veteran birthday celebration with students
- Wrestling send-off escort for individuals going to state wrestling tournament
- Participated with staff vs 5th grade students basketball competition

As always, the School Resource Officer made a continued presence within the schools and continues to be a positive role model for students within the district.

Report submitted by: SRO Nehls #441



WOOD COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT



SHAWN BECKER, SHERIFF

US HWY 10 Cross Traffic Monthly Report

January (02/01/26 – 02/28/26)

Intersection	Time Spent (min)	Citations	Warnings
USH 10/Day RD	205	0	0
USH 10/CTH T	453	0	0
USH 10/CTH E	0	0	0
USH 10/STH 186	320	0	2
USH 10/North RD	0	0	0
USH 10/CTH K	255	0	1
USH 10/Blueberry RD	0	0	0
USH 10/CTH N	115	0	2
USH 10/CTH S	0	0	0
USH 10/Brookside RD	0	0	0
USH 10/CTH F	30	0	0
Totals:	1378	0	5

MINUTES – 1378

WARNINGS – 5

CITATIONS – 0

CRASHES – 3 Property Damage Only

Submitted By: Charles Hoogesteger – Operations Captain

WOOD COUNTY JAIL

JANUARY - JUNE 2026

TOTAL POPULATION / DAILY POPULATION / ELECTRONIC MONITORING

DAY	JAUNUARY			FEBRUARY			MARCH			APRIL			MAY			JUNE		
	TOTAL	IMMG	EMP	TOTAL	IMMG	EMP	TOTAL	IMMG	EMP	TOTAL	IMMG	EMP	TOTAL	IMMG	EMP	TOTAL	IMMG	EMP
1	180	0	22	177	3	23	175	4	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	175	0	21	177	3	23	177	4	19									
3	177	0	19	175	4	24												
4	177	0	19	173	4	24												
5	177	0	19	177	6	23												
6	177	1	21	176	6	22												
7	183	1	22	175	6	23												
8	184	1	24	180	6	22												
9	179	1	24	181	6	21												
10	174	1	22	178	6	21												
11	176	1	22	180	6	21												
12	175	1	22	183	6	21												
13	163	1	22	176	6	22												
14	167	1	23	177	6	21												
15	162	1	23	177	6	21												
16	164	1	23	179	6	21												
17	159	1	23	171	8	21												
18	165	3	23	171	8	23												
19	169	3	23	171	7	24												
20	171	3	24	175	6	24												
21	173	3	25	171	5	24												
22	171	3	24	172	5	24												
23	172	1	26	171	5	23												
24	167	1	27	169	5	23												
25	170	1	26	169	4	23												
26	175	1	26	171	4	23												
27	173	2	26	174	4	22												
28	171	2	26	173	4	20												
29	172	3	26															
30	170	3	26															
31	178	3	24															
AVERAGES																		
Total Jail	172.45			174.96			176.00			0.00			0.00			0.00		
IMMG	1.42			5.39			4.00			0.00			0.00			0.00		
EMP	23.32			22.39			19.00			0.00			0.00			0.00		
Length of Stay	26.70			0.00			0.00			0.00			0.00			0.00		

WOOD COUNTY JAIL

JULY - DECEMBER 2026

TOTAL POPULATION / DAILY POPULATION / ELECTRONIC MONITORING

DAY	JULY			AUGUST			SEPTEMBER			OCTOBER			NOVEMBER			DECEMBER		
	TOTAL	IMMG	EMP	TOTAL	IMMG	EMP	TOTAL	IMMG	EMP	TOTAL	IMMG	EMP	TOTAL	IMMG	EMP	TOTAL	IMMG	EMP
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2																		
3																		
4																		
5																		
6																		
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27																		
28																		
29																		
30																		
31																		
AVERAGES																		
Total Jail	0.00			0.00			0.00			0.00			0.00			0.00		
IMMG	0.00			0.00			0.00			0.00			0.00			0.00		
EMP	0.00			0.00			0.00			0.00			0.00			0.00		
Length of Stay	0.00			0.00			0.00			0.00			0.00			0.00		

2026 YEARLY AVERAGES	
OVERALL POPULATION	174.47
IMMG HOLDS	3.604070661
ELECTRONIC MONITORING	21.5718126
AVERAGE LENGTH of STAY	26.70

NEW FACILITY	TOTAL BEDS
80% = 232	290
OPENED 03-22-2025	

	DATE	POPULATION
Color indicates low population		
Color indicates high population		

MONTHLY	HIGH	LOW
JANUARY	184	162
FEBRUARY	183	169
MARCH		
APRIL		
MAY		
JUNE		
JULY		
AUGUST		
SEPTEMBER		
OCTOBER		
NOVEMBER		
DECEMBER		

Electronic Monitoring 2026

Month	Monthly Average
January	23.32
February	22.39
March	20.25
April	0.00
May	0.00
June	0.00
July	0.00
August	0.00
September	0.00
October	0.00
November	0.00
December	0.00
TOTAL	21.99

Wood County Sheriff's Department Kitchen

MONTH		Breakfast	Lunch	Dinner	Special	
January	1/09/2026	WEEK 1	1241	1242	1216	0
	1/16/2026	WEEK 2	1186	1196	1145	0
	1/23/2026	WEEK 3	1114	1133	1102	0
	1/30/2026	WEEK 4	1124	1128	1107	0
	2/6/2026	WEEK 5	1146	1137	1141	0
			5811	5836	5711	0
February		WEEK 6	1193	1182	1188	0
		WEEK 7	1202	1181	1159	0
		WEEK 8	1131	1126	1125	0
		WEEK 9	0	0	0	0
			3526	3489	3472	0
March		WEEK 10	0	0	0	0
		WEEK 11	0	0	0	0
		WEEK 12	0	0	0	0
		WEEK 13	0	0	0	0
			0	0	0	0
April		WEEK 14	0	0	0	0
		WEEK 15	0	0	0	0
		WEEK 16	0	0	0	0
		WEEK 17	0	0	0	0
		WEEK 18	0	0	0	0
			0	0	0	0
May		WEEK 19	0	0	0	0
		WEEK 20	0	0	0	0
		WEEK 21	0	0	0	0
		WEEK 22	0	0	0	0
			0	0	0	0
June		WEEK 23	0	0	0	0
		WEEK 24	0	0	0	0
		WEEK 25	0	0	0	0
		WEEK 26	0	0	0	0
			0	0	0	0
July		WEEK 27	0	0	0	0
		WEEK 28	0	0	0	0
		WEEK 29	0	0	0	0
		WEEK 30	0	0	0	0
		WEEK 31	0	0	0	0
			0	0	0	0
August		WEEK 32	0	0	0	0
		WEEK 33	0	0	0	0

	WEEK 34	0	0	0	0
	WEEK 35	0	0	0	0
		0	0	0	0
September	WEEK 36	0	0	0	0
	WEEK 37	0	0	0	0
	WEEK 38	0	0	0	0
	WEEK 39	0	0	0	0
		0	0	0	0
October	WEEK 40	0	0	0	0
	WEEK 41	0	0	0	0
	WEEK 42	0	0	0	0
	WEEK 43	0	0	0	0
	WEEK 44	0	0	0	0
		0	0	0	0
November	WEEK 45	0	0	0	0
	WEEK 46	0	0	0	0
	WEEK 47	0	0	0	0
	WEEK 48	0	0	0	0
		0	0	0	0
December	WEEK 49	0	0	0	0
	WEEK 50	0	0	0	0
	WEEK 51	0	0	0	0
	WEEK 52				
		0	0	0	0
TOTAL		9337	9325	9183	0

Report - 2026

Total meals	Food Cost plus Labor
3699	\$9,351.08
3527	\$9,230.16
3349	\$9,095.88
3359	\$9,123.04
3424	\$8,960.61
17358	\$45,760.77
3563	\$9,324.37
3542	\$9,269.41
3382	\$8,850.70
0	
10487	\$27,444.48
0	
0	
0	
0	
0	\$0.00
0	
0	
0	
0	
0	
0	\$0.00
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0	\$0.00
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0	
0	
0	
0	\$0.00
0	
0	
0	
0	
0	\$0.00
27845	\$73,205.25

Cost per meal \$2.63

Cost Per day \$7.89

MINUTES

CONSERVATION, EDUCATION, & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, March 4, 2026

TIME: 9:00 AM

PLACE: Courthouse – Room 302

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bill Leichtnam, Tom Buttke, Wayne Schulz (WebEx), Russ Perlock, Tim Hovendick, 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. Under Chair's Comments, Leichtnam recognized Shane Wucherpfennig on his 35 years of service to the county.
4. No bids were received for the Gilbertson grassed waterway project. Wucherpfennig will reach out to more contractors and may have this on the agenda for next month.
5. Wucherpfennig highlighted the activities of the Mill Creek Watershed large scale TMR grant. He reviewed the amount received for the grant and the projects that have been completed. He is reapplying for another grant for this purpose.
6. Wucherpfennig reviewed the current status of the Mill Creek chloride issue and noted that the City of Marshfield will be conducting a plumbing inspection of a facility that may be the source of the chloride in the next week and will involve the wastewater treatment department as well. More information will follow.
7. Wucherpfennig brought the committee up to date on the current violations.
8. Chair Leichtnam highlighted the upcoming Citizens Water Group meeting of March 16th and the speakers that will be presenting information to that group.
9. Representatives of the Remington Fire Department presented an update on their construction project at their fire station and requested the release of the assigned economic development grant funding. Motion by Buttke/Perlock to approve the release of the \$9,000 economic development grant funding assigned to this project. Motion carried unanimously.
10. The minutes of the February 4, 2026, meeting were presented. Motion by Hovendick/Perlock to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
11. Motion by Buttke/Hovendick to approve the vouchers, monthly department reports and committee reports. Motion carried unanimously.

12. Planning & Zoning Code Administrator Cook presented the annual report of private sewage systems put in place in 2025 in Wood County and reviewed past numbers as well.
13. County Planner Simkowski presented the United States National Guard & Reserve Patriotic Employer Recognition to Director Grueneberg for his support of Simkowski's involvement with the National Guard.
14. Code Technician Koziczowski presented the annual report of well permits to the committee and highlighted the total number of wells drilled and put in throughout the county. She reviewed the requirements and setbacks for drilled wells.
15. Extension Educator Rombalski reviewed the actions taken by the Child Care Task Force with the allocated ARPA funding including projects in both the City of Wisconsin Rapids adding capacity to an existing daycare, as well as in the City of Marshfield at a Montessori school.
16. Director Grueneberg reviewed the current status of the 2027 Economic Development Grant process. The request for proposals will go out in the next couple of weeks with a deadline for return in the beginning of July.
17. The new Extension Area Director, Jen McNelly, was introduced to the committee. With her promotion comes a vacancy in the Natural Resources area. The other natural resources educator was reassigned to a different location, so Wood County is down both Natural Resource educators at the present time. McNelly is requesting ideas on what is expected out of the 2 educators by the committee and get back to her with your thoughts. More information will be forthcoming in this regard as will the funding mechanism for both positions.
18. The following request for per diems were brought forth to the committee:
 - Leichtnam – Huddle Up Sports Tourism session.
 - Leichtnam – Leadership class/Heart of Wisconsin
 - Hovendick – Mill Creek Watershed annual meeting
 - Perlock – Citizens Water GroupMotion by Buttke/Hovendick to approve the per diem requests as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
19. The next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 1, 2026, at 9:00 AM.
20. Chair Leichtnam declared the meeting adjourned at 10:45 AM.

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

Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development Council, Inc.
Personnel/Finance Committee Meeting Minutes
January 15th, 2026
Golden Sands RC&D Office/Online

Attendees: Shane Wucherpfennig (Wood); Bill Leichtnam (Wood); Gary Beastrom (Member-at-Large); Bob Walker (Member-at-Large); Jennifer Glad (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Amy Thorstenson (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Denise Hilgart (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Katherine Jaeger (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Brian Haase (Waupaca); Jared Mader (Marathon). Bill Clendenning (Wood) also attended.

CALL TO ORDER: Wucherpfennig called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

INTRODUCTIONS: Everyone introduced themselves.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Leichtnam, which was seconded by Beastrom, to approve the minutes of the November 2025 meeting. Motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION: A motion was made by Walker, which was seconded by Leichtnam, to go into closed session at 9:04 a.m. Motion carried. Within the closed session, members agreed to hold a special P&F meeting at 10 a.m. on January 22nd, at the River Block building in Wisconsin Rapids, to discuss a variety of administrative items.

OUT OF CLOSED SESSION: A motion was made by Walker, which was seconded by Leichtnam, to come out of closed session at 9:31 a.m. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Hilgart presented the treasurer's report. A motion was made by Walker, which was seconded by Leichtnam, to accept the treasurer's report and recommend for full council approval. Motion carried.

FEDERAL FUNDING STATUS: Glad reported that federal funding for existing contracts is catching up and stabilizing, following disruptions in 2025 caused by the federal government shutdown. Potential sources of revenue outside of federal contracts are being explored to reduce dependence on federal funding.

2026 OVERHEAD/ADMIN BUDGET: Glad presented a draft of the 2026 admin/overhead budget, which calls for a 2% wage increase for most employees. A motion was made by Walker, which was seconded by Beastrom, to recommend full board approval of the budget. Motion carried.

Employment Updates: Glad reported that NRCS affiliate staff, who were laid off due to the federal government shutdown, have been re-instated. Hiring for ten 2026 summer field season interns and LTE positions has begun. The Habitat Restoration Technician position, in collaboration with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, will be discontinued. Hiring is underway for a Regenerative Agriculture Specialist.

AL BARDEN TRIBUTE: No update.

POLICY AND PROCEDURE: No report.

PR & COMMUNICATIONS: Glad reported that the newsletter was published and social media efforts have been enhanced. A video production for 2025 annual highlights was created.

OTHER BUSINESS: None.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Beastro, which was seconded by Mader, to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 10:04 a.m.

Minutes by: Bob Walker, Secretary

Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development Council, Inc.
Agriculture Committee Meeting Minutes
January 15th, 2026
Golden Sands RC&D Office/Online

Attendees: Brent Tessmer (Taylor); Jenna Tuma (Golden Sands RC&D); Denise Hilgart (Golden Sands RC&D); Asher Maliepaard (Golden Sands RC&D); Robert Bauer (Golden Sands RC&D); Gary Beastrom (Member-at-Large); Amy Thorstenson (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Ben Babcock (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Angel Rakow (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Annika Waltenberg (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Gabby Buckholt (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Brooke Patrick (Golden Sands RC&D Staff).

CALL TO ORDER: Tessmer called the meeting to order at 10:20 a.m.

INTRODUCTIONS: Everyone introduced themselves.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Beastrom, which was seconded by Tessmer, to approve the November 2025 minutes. Motion carried.

STAFF & COUNTY MEMBER UPDATES:

Tessmer (Taylor) The main emphasis of the report was the meetings for and preparation of Nutrient Management plans for farms in the County. Tessmer also reported that there will be the first Chicken Barn in Taylor County.

Patrick: She reported on her work with developing grazing plans.

Bauer: He reported on his work in developing grazing plans and associated technology with those plans.

Albers: He reported on work associated with grazing plans and EQIP in Green Lake County.

Babcock: He was present online and presented a report that was unintelligible for the committee.

Maliepaard: He reported that he is in the process of completing a project with Grassworks and is submitting the necessary paperwork for that project. He also reported on a successful pasture walk in December.

Waltenberg: She reported on the success and plans for the community gardens. She is also looking ahead to next year and another successful growing season.

Kirk: She reported on the progress with her project.

NEW PROJECTS: None.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Beastro, which was seconded by Tessmer, to adjourn. The meeting adjourned.

Minutes by: Gary Beastro

Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development Council, Inc.
Forestry/Wildlife Committee Meeting Minutes
January 15th, 2026
Golden Sands RC&D Office/Online

Attendees: Al Drabek (Marathon); Bill Clendenning (Wood); Bob Walker (Member-at-Large); Claire Harwood (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Katherine Jaeger (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Jenna Tuma (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Jennifer Glad (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Jacob Fluor (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Bo Hendrickson (Golden Sands RC&D Staff).

CALL TO ORDER: Drabek called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m.

INTRODUCTIONS: Everyone introduced themselves.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Clendenning, which was seconded by Walker, to approve the minutes from the November 2025 meeting. Motion carried.

HABITAT FOR KARNER BLUE BUTTERFLY, POWESHIEK SKIPPERLING & OTHER POLLINATORS: Hendrickson reported that the project is wrapping up. All grant deliverables have been met, and remaining funds have been allocated/earmarked.

COOPERATIVE FORESTRY/DEMO FORESTS/CWIP/NEWIP: Harwood & Fluor reported. Planning is underway for warmer months. Staff is working to enhance/strengthen existing partnerships. Events are coming up in February. A banquet for demo forest owners is being planned for March. A video presentation series for demonstration forests is being considered. Funding opportunities are being explored. A grant application has been submitted that would support outreach to stem the spread of invasive species through recycling/compost facilities.

TREE SHELTERS: Glad reported that promotional materials have been developed for the 2026 sales season. She encouraged board members to help get the word out.

NEW PROJECTS: None.

OTHER BUSINESS: Claire mentioned that Noffke Lumber will be donating a chainsaw to Golden Sands RC&D, which will be very helpful in project work.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Walker, which was seconded by Clendenning, to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 10:54 a.m.

Minutes by: Bob Walker

Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development Council, Inc.
Waters Committee Meeting Minutes
January 15th, 2026
Golden Sands RC&D Office/Online

Attendees: Bill Leichtnam (Wood); Mara Lince (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Amanda Gurklis (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Jared Mader (Marathon); Shane Wucherpfennig (Wood); Nancy Eggleston (Portage); Chris Hamerla (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Joe Tomandl (Taylor); Scott Provost (WI DNR).

CALL TO ORDER: Leichtnam called the meeting to order at 10:14 am.

INTRODUCTIONS: Everyone introduced themselves.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Wucherpfennig, which was seconded by Eggleston, to approve the November 2025 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

NEW PROJECTS: None.

COUNTY AND STAFF UPDATES:

Hamerla: 2025 LMPN reporting is done and 2026 funding was received. He is working with various lake groups to plan work for the year and he is also finishing up the Brekke Lake management plan.

Lince: She is working on AIS outreach for cranberry growers. She had a booth at the cranberry school event.

Scott Provost (WI DNR): He is working with Hamerla to complete lake management planning for smaller lakes.

Gurklis: She has 51 groundwater lessons and 15 aquatic invasive species lessons confirmed with 5th grade teachers.

Wood (Wucherpfennig/Leichtnam): ARPA funds will be used for installing in-home filtration systems for private wells with high nitrate levels. There is a soil health day in January.

Marathon (Mader): There will be a conference in March. He is working to restore grasslands and prairies.

Portage (Nancy): A well head protection ordinance will go to the board next month.

OTHER BUSINESS: None.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Wucherpfennig, which was seconded by Eggleston, to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 11:02 am.

Minutes by: Amanda Gurklis

Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development Council, Inc.
Regular Business/Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
January 15th, 2026
Golden Sands RC&D Office/Online

Attendees: Bob Walker (Member-at-Large); Al Drabek (Marathon); Bill Leichtnam (Wood); Gary Beastrom (Member-at-Large); Jennifer Glad (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Amy Thorstenson (Golden Sands RC&D); Asher Maliepaard (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Denise Hilgart (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Claire Harwood (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Jenna Tuma (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Bill Clendenning (Wood); Katherine Jaeger (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Todd Morris (Green Lake); Shane Wucherpfennig (Wood); Brent Tessmer (Taylor); Nancy Eggleston (Portage); Ben Babcock (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Amanda Gurklis (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Robert Bauer (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Jared Mader (Marathon); Joe Tomandl (Taylor); Jacob Fluor (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Tracy Arnold (Portage); Bo Hendrickson (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Annika Waltenberg (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Gabby Buckholt (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Angel Rakow (Golden Sands RC&D Staff).

CALL TO ORDER: President Wucherpfennig called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

INTRODUCTIONS: Everyone introduced themselves.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Clendenning, which was seconded by Drabek, to approve the minutes from the November 2025 meeting. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Hilgart presented the treasurer's report. A motion was made by Walker, which was seconded by Eggleston, to accept the report and place it on file. Motion carried.

WI RC&D ASSOCIATION: Glad reported that there has been ongoing communication with other RC&Ds, and that the state association will be represented at an upcoming event.

FEDERAL FUNDING STATUS: Glad reported that the federal funding for existing contracts is catching up and stabilizing, following disruptions in 2025 caused by the government shutdown. Potential sources of revenue outside of federal contracts are being explored to reduce dependence on federal funding.

MEMBERSHIP DUES: Glad reported that invoices for 2026 dues were sent out.

ALLIANCE FOR GREAT LAKES AND CLEAN WISCONSIN: Leichtnam shared the letter that was sent by Golden Sands RC&D to state officials and organizations regarding our position on nitrate legislation and regulations. Our position aligns with most of the specific recommendations developed by the Alliance for the Great Lakes and Clean Wisconsin report of September 2025.

2026 OVERHEAD/ADMIN BUDGET: Glad presented a draft of the 2026 admin/overhead budget, which calls for a 2% wage increase for most employees. A motion was made by Eggleston, which was seconded by Tomandl, to approve the budget as presented. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Each of the four standing committees reviewed its actions from meetings held just before the full board meeting.

NEW PROJECTS: None.

STAFF/PROJECT UPDATES: Glad reminded attendees that staff activity reports were included with information sent out prior to the meeting. She also asked board members to help get the word out about summer LTE opportunities.

OTHER REPORTS: The board reviewed the 2025 highlights video production.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Clendenning, which was seconded by Drabek, to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 12:47 p.m.

Minutes by: Bob Walker, Secretary



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



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

MINUTES JUDICIAL & LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

DATE: Friday, March 6, 2026
TIME: 9:00 AM
PLACE: Courthouse – Room 133

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bill Clendenning, Bill Leichtnam, William Voight, Russ Perlock, Tim Hovendick

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

1. Chairman Clendenning called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM and declared a quorum present.
2. There was no public comment.
3. Motion by Hovendick/Perlock to approve the minutes of the February 6, 2026, meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
4. The 2 dog license claims from Castlerock Veterinary Hospital were received. Corp Counsel Flanagan noted items within the invoices that are not allowable expenses of the dog fund and recommended deducting those. Motion by Voight/Hovendick to pay the following:
 - Invoice #288769 - \$118.15
 - Invoice #289327 - \$445.80Motion carried unanimously
5. The vouchers and reports from the departments the committee oversees were reviewed and discussed. Motion by Hovendick/Perlock to approve them as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
6. Criminal Justice Coordinator Jolee presented a resolution amending the 2026 Victim Witness budget in order to hire a 0.5 FTE program assistant with grant funds. Motion by Leichtnam/Hovendick to approve the resolution and forward onto the county board for their consideration.
7. A resolution amending the 2025 budget for Child Support was reviewed. Motion by Clendenning/Hovendick to approve the resolution and forward onto the county board for their consideration. Motion carried unanimously.
8. The committee reviewed County Board Rule 4.04(A) – Recognition. The long standing rule has been to rise when addressing the county board after recognition by the chair. The committee reviewed the current practice and decided to recommend to the county board that the rule remain with the edit “if able”. Motion by Leichtnam/Voight to direct the County Clerk to develop a resolution with the suggested wording to stand “if able”. Motion carried unanimously.
9. Register of Deeds Ringer requested approval of out-of-state travel to attend the Fidlar Symposium in Illinois. Motion by Clendenning/Voight to approve the out-of-state travel request. Motion carried unanimously.

10. Criminal Justice Coordinator Ksionek, District Attorney Barnett, and Human Services Deputy Director Miloch reviewed a current pilot diversion program that has been started in the county. It is being patterned after the Portage County example and has proven to save on jail bed days and lowers recidivism rates. They discussed funding moving forward and how the program is anticipated to operate.

11. The next meeting will be held on Friday, April 10, 2026, at 9:00 AM.

12. Motion by Clendenning/Leichtnam to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously at 9:43 AM.

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



Wood County

WISCONSIN

CHILD SUPPORT
AGENCY

MARCH 2026

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL AND LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Prepared by Child Support Director Brent Vruwink

- The 2026-2027 Cooperative Agreements were submitted to the Bureau of Regional Operations and approved.
- At the end of 2025 we were offered additional funding to support our Access and Visitation Program. The only requirement was that we spend the money by the end of 2025, and it be directed to the specific program. A result of this additional funding was the need to prepare a resolution because we spent more on the program than was initially budgeted. The expenses were all covered by funds from the Federal and State Governments with no additional cost to the County.
- On February 12th I attended the WCSEA Board meeting.
- I attended the Department Head meeting on February 25th.
- We are currently recruiting for a Case Worker for the first time in several years.
- On March 5th I will be attending the Policy Advisory Committee meeting in the morning and the State Contracts Committee meeting in the afternoon.
- The January performance numbers have been released. We are on target to meet three of the four Federal Performance Measures. Current support collections have been down statewide, and Wood County is no exception. We are continuing to work on ways to improve the numbers.
- The current IV-D case count is 3,662.



Wood County

WISCONSIN

Kimberly A. Stimac

CLERK OF
CIRCUIT COURT

March 2026

Monthly Report to the Judicial and Legislative Committee
Prepared by Kimberly Stimac, Clerk of Circuit Court

Meetings Attended:

- Judicial & Legislative Committee 2/6/2026.
- Department Head meeting on 2/25/2026.
- Monthly judges meeting on 2/25/2026.

2/2/2026 – The 8 day homicide trial began.

2/4/2026 – The jurors were released due to a mistrial. Reimbursement was requested to be assessed to the State but was denied.

2/5/2026 – A motion hearing was held and it was determined that the trial would start again on 2/9/2026. We had to call in a new group of 75 jurors. This required us to move jurors who were previously assigned to the jury on 2/10 in Branch 2. Emails, text messages and phone calls were sent to all jurors that were affected by this change. As you can imagine, there were quite a few jurors who were upset with the change in dates and some jurors weren't able to make arrangements last minute. There were a few jurors that we had to excuse and replace with a new juror so that we maintained a list of 75.

2/9/2026 – The homicide re-trial began. Jurors were selected in the early afternoon and testimony began. The trial ran for 7 days rather than 8 days.

2/10/2026 – Jury trial in Branch 2 was set to begin. Neither of the parents appeared for this trial. Reimbursement was requested to be assessed to the parties but was denied.

Our ELMO document projector did not work with the updated audio/visual equipment during the first trial on 2/2. I worked with Portage County Judge Molepske and Clerk of Court Lisa Roth who were very gracious and allowed us to borrow theirs.

I appreciate all the help we had with getting everything set up for the jury trials. Thank you to Trent and Katie who helped get the county board room set up for orientation, maintenance for bringing up the additional chairs needed, security for making sure everyone was safe and IT for the help with testing the equipment being used.

I just wanted to share some comments from our jurors from the homicide trial. They were very pleased with the communication they had throughout the month. The calls, emails and text messages allowed them to be aware of all the changes. I have to say, this group of jurors we had for February were so great to work with.



Wood County

WISCONSIN

CORPORATION

COUNSEL

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL AND LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

February 2026

Hearings and Court Cases:

Health & Human Services – The following is a breakdown of Ch. 51 (mental commitment) and 54/55 (guardianship/protective placement) matters handled by my office in the month of January, 2026:

- 20 Mental Commitments (includes Probable Cause, Final Hearings, and Recommitments)
- 11 Guardianship/Protective Placement Hearings
- 18 WATTS Review/Contested Hearings

Child Support – During the month of January, the Corporation Counsel’s office participated in eight dates for Child Support-related hearings (in custody and hearing days).

CAPTA Hearings– During the month of January, the Corporation Counsel’s office participated in one CAPTA scheduled prehearing conference and advocated on behalf of the County to the Wisconsin Division of Hearings and Appeals.

Presentations at 2026 Wood County Jail Mental Health Training:

Last month, I had the opportunity to present during two sessions for Jail Mental Health Training, coordinated by Wood County Human Services. My presentation topic involved Ch. 51.15 (Emergency Detentions) for Involuntary Mental Commitments, including requisite criteria and special scenarios to be aware of in navigating the process, such as where an individual is more appropriate for a Guardianship/Protective Placement due to a- perhaps manageable- incapacity that is permanent or likely to be permanent and does not fit the legal criteria for rehabilitative or treatable. I very much appreciated the opportunity to take part in the training and was impressed with the questions and discussion from participants.

Corporation Counsel Legal Administrative Assistant Position Recruitment

Over the last month, Kathi Engels, who served as a Legal Administrative Assistant in the Corporation Counsel’s office, has accepted a position as Victim, Witness Coordinator with Vernon County. In the time I have had the opportunity to work with Kathi, she has been a great asset to Wood County, and I am thankful to her for making my transition into this position with the County a truly enjoyable one. I hope you will join me in congratulating her on her new role! Kathi’s last day with the county was February 13, 2026. In the meantime, our office met internally to ensure a smooth transition in case-management handoff. We have since transitioned Erin Trantow to the full time Legal Administrative Assistant position in our office and are working with Human Resources to recruit candidates for the vacant position, which includes screening and interviewing interested applicants.



Wood County

WISCONSIN

WOOD COUNTY CRIMINAL
JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

February 2026

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL AND LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Respectfully submitted by Criminal Justice Coordinator, Dillon Ksionek

Meetings Attended:

1/28/2026: All-Rise Zoom Training on Drug Court Phase Structure
1/28/2026: Mental Health Court Staffing/Court
1/29/2026: Collaborative Staffing with Wood County Human Services OPC
2/2/2026: Drug Court Staffing/Court
2/4/2026: Mental Health Court Staffing/Court
2/5/2026: Local Resource Meeting
2/6/2026: Judicial and Legislative Sub-Committee Meeting
2/9/2026: Drug Court Staffing
2/10/2026: Oxford House Board Meeting
2/11/2026: Hope Consortium Webinar Training
2/12/2026: Recovery Pod Graduation
2/12/2026: Wood County Wellness Committee
2/13/2026: Treatment Court Collaborative Meeting with Public Defense Representative
2/13/2026: Collaborative Meeting Involving Diversion Pilot
2/16/2026: Drug Court Staffing/Court
2/17/2026: County Board Meeting
2/18/2026: Mental Health Court Staffing/Court
2/19/2026: CJCC Evidence Based Decision Making Sub-Committee
2/19/2026: Drug Court Sustainability
2/19/2026: RSAT Grant Monthly Meeting (DOJ)
2/23/2026: Overdose Fatality Review Team Meeting (Health Department)
2/23/2026: Drug Court Coordinators Monthly Meeting

Adult Drug Treatment Court:

Current Participants: 22
Active Referrals: 2
Pending Referrals: 0
YTD Admissions: 4
YTD Terminations: 1
YTD Graduations: 1
YTD Referrals: 4

We had a monthly sustainability meeting for Adult Drug Treatment Court on 2/19/2026. These meetings will remain a monthly focus throughout 2026, especially with the number of changes that have been made to our team in 2025. This month we focused on changes to the referral process, MOU's for 2026, questions about insurance, team composition, and potential alternative treatment procedures. We also had an extensive conversation about the decrease in referrals late in 2025, and about potential solutions to that issue.

I have spent considerable time this month obtaining the necessary MOU's from community partners and contractors so that all of my necessary 2026 expenses will be reimbursable. I have also been working through our team roster to determine who to register to attend the WATCP conference in April (our biggest training opportunity of the year). It appears that 9 members of our team will attend this year.

Jail Programming (STRONG):

Medication Assisted Treatment Program (MARP):

Current Participants: 25

YTD Admissions: 29

We have scaled back our jail MAT program, so the numbers will most likely trend downward a little bit in 2026. We continue to provide medications for those with existing prescriptions in the community, actively experiencing acute withdrawals, and for those with clear discharge dates prior to re-entry. This decision was made with re-entry coordination, jail operations, and long-term sustainability in mind.

Jail Residential Treatment Program (RSAT):

Current Participants: 0 (Next cycle will start on 3/3 with 14 approved participants)

YTD graduates: 6

YTD participants: 6

We received over 30 applications for this round of recovery pod programming set to begin 3/3/2026. We were able to approve of 14 total participants (6 female and 8 male). We continue to work to fine-tune the application and vetting process to make sure the right people are getting into the recovery pods. In my conversations with other programs around the state it has become clear that we are not the only ones that have been struggling with settling on the best eligibility criteria (and with retention in general).

Other Matters:

I have now received all my expected reimbursements for 2025 (on all four of the grants that I manage). It does appear that I exceeded my 2025 budget, and that I was not able to make up for the difference despite additional revenue. I have been in communication with the finance department, who are working on a resolution at this time. I have not yet received confirmation on the final amount, but my understanding is that my deficit for 2025 is approximately \$506 dollars.

The soft launch of the diversion program pilot has come with a learning curve, but thus far things are going about as I expected they would. Portage County, who we are modeling our pilot after, was able to share their 2025 statistics with us, and they are very encouraging. In the last 3 years their program has had around an 80% completion rate, and they have done over 130 diversion contracts each year. Those who don't complete their diversion contracts are simply charged as they would have been had there not been a diversion program.

In 2025, Portage Counties program generated approximately \$26,000 in revenue, over 1,100 hours of community service, and over \$50,000 in restitution returned to victims. It also led to an estimated 14,000 jail days averted and 35,000 prison days averted. The recidivism rate of individuals who successfully complete a diversion contract from 2018-2020 was approximately 15%. Meaning that after 3 years of successfully diverting their charges, approximately 85% of individuals had not committed another crime. A program of this nature would have a major impact on the criminal justice system in Wood County. It would reduce pressure on the court calendar, jail census, and workloads in the district attorney office all while allowing participants to address frequent causes of early criminality.



Wood County

WISCONSIN

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

March 6, 2026

Report to Judicial and Legislative Committee

The District Attorney's Office welcomed Kiran Trikha as our newly hired ADA. She is new to the area and moved here from the New York area where she practiced in Immigration Law. She also previously worked in contract law. She will be doing some shadowing of the other attorneys for a few weeks before she starts taking on her own case load. We still have three openings for ADAs and are working to address that.

It has been a rather busy early part of the year in the District Attorney's Office. There was a Speedy Trial Homicide case. That ended up lasting two and a half weeks and the jury found that the Defendant acted in self-defense. There was also a Jury Trial in late January on a Child Sexual Assault charge. As of the writing of this report, there is an OWI Jury Trial currently happening in Branch 3. Additionally, we have been some recent requests for information on the recent ambulance incident. The District Attorney's Office has been directing more of those requests to the proper agencies. We work to avoid issues where it might be inferred we are attempting to litigate anything through the media.

The District Attorney's Office is now a paperless office. We are now longer creating paper files. There are several older files that we are transitioning to paperless by scanning the documents into the PROTECT system. This process will take some time, but the phasing out of paper is moving forward quickly. We are also working with the multiple Law Enforcement agencies on the e-Referral process. This process speeds up getting the reports from Law Enforcement to the District Attorney's Office. Additionally, it removes paper from both ends of the process. It will also decrease the data input times in the District Attorney's Office as much of the information will automatically load regarding the involved parties and the charges.

The District Attorney attended the Wisconsin Towns Association meeting on February 20, 2026. On February 17, 2026, Office Manager Julia Briski attended the Wood County Law Enforcement Executives meeting as DA Barnett was in trial. On February 19, 2026, DA Barnett attended the Adult Treatment Court Sustainability Meeting as well as the Child Welfare Working Group Meeting. On February 25, 2026, DA Barnett attended the Department Head Meeting, the Deflection Program Meeting, and the Judges' Meeting.



Wood County

WISCONSIN

REGISTER IN
PROBATE

March 2026

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL AND LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Prepared by Register in Probate, Tara Jensen

We have a new legal administrative assistant floater in the Probate Office, Caitlin Shaw. Her first day with Wood County was February 16, 2026. Caitlin will work primarily in the Probate Office. She will also become a judicial assistant floater so that when a judicial assistant is out of office, she will fill in.

Meetings Attended:

- 2/03 – Operation Committee Meeting
- 2/06 – Judicial & Legislative Committee Meeting
- 2/17 – Wood County Board Meeting
- 2/18 - Wisconsin Children's Court Improvement Program, Juvenile Clerk's Meet Up by Zoom. Training on a variety of topics: Driver's license suspensions, sex offender registry, firearm restrictions and notices to schools
- 2/25 – Wood County Department Head Meeting
- 2/25 - Monthly Judges Meeting



Wood County

WISCONSIN

**REGISTER OF
DEEDS OFFICE**

Tiffany R. Ringer
Register of Deeds

MARCH 2026

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL AND LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

- I attended WCA's County Leadership weekly meetings for the month.
- I attended the Assembly Public Hearing for AB445, updating Chapter 59.43, in Madison. A big thank you to Representative Krug for moving this Bill along and highlighting it in his newsletter. It was voted on and passed by the Assembly.
- I attended the Judicial & Legislative Committee meeting.
- I attended the Operations committee meeting.
- I attended the WRDA Spring Conference in Madison. State Vital Records Office and WI Department of Revenue attended to provide updated information to the Association. State Vitals Records is expected to move to their new software program (WAVE) in July.
- I provided requested statistical information to Finance for their 2025 Annual Comprehensive Finance Report.
- I attended the Property Records Industry Association conference virtually.
- I am requesting to attend the Fidlar Symposium in Illinois. The cost is hotel and mileage; no levy is used for this request. No registration fee is required. This is an annual conference, held in May, hosted & sponsored by Fidlar Technologies.



RESOLUTION#

DATE March 17, 2026

Effective
Date

March 17, 2026

Page 1 of 1

Introduced by Judicial & Legislative Committee

Motion:	Adopted: <input type="checkbox"/>
1 st _____	Lost: <input type="checkbox"/>
2 nd _____	Tabled: <input type="checkbox"/>
No: _____ Yes: _____	Absent: _____
Number of votes required:	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Majority	<input type="checkbox"/> Two-thirds
Reviewed by: _____ NBF _____, Corp Counsel	
Reviewed by: _____, Finance Dir.	

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To amend County Board Rule 4.04(A) to state that all county board members must stand, if able, when waiting to address, or addressing the county board chair and county board at county board meetings.

FISCAL NOTE: None

WHEREAS, in recent months, the topic of rising to address the chair and members of the county board at a county board meeting has been raised, and

WHEREAS, County Board Rule 4.04(A), titled “Recognition”, currently requires a board member be recognized by the board chair prior to speaking and shall do so by rising when waiting to address, or addressing the county board chair and county board at meetings.

WHEREAS, the Judicial & Legislative Committee has reviewed and discussed this topic and agrees that it is proper decorum to rise to address the chair and board during county board meetings, and

WHEREAS, there may be times that a supervisor, due to physical limitations, may not be able to rise and accommodations should be made for these rare instances.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the following rule be amended as drafted below (with **bold/underline** showing proposed language to be added):

4.04 Recognition, Debate and Voting at County Board Meetings

(A) Recognition. A Board Member must be recognized by the Board Chair prior to speaking and shall do so by rising, **if able**, and waiting to be recognized by the Chairperson. All members shall stand, **if able**, when speaking, unless excused by the County Board Chairperson, and shall use the microphone. When recognized, a member shall state “Thank you Mr./Madam Chairperson.” The Board Chair is responsible for determining recognition. If two or more members rise at the same time, the Chairperson shall decide who is entitled to speak first.

Adopted by the County Board of Wood County, March 17, 2026

County Clerk

County Board Chairman

MINUTES
HIGHWAY, INFRASTRUCTURE & RECREATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, March 5, 2026
TIME: 9:00 AM
PLACE: Highway Dept., Conference Room

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jake Hahn, Al Breu, Scott Brehm, Lee Thao, John Hokamp

OTHERS PRESENT: Trent Miner, County Clerk, see attached sign-in sheet

1. Chairman Hahn called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM and declared a quorum present.
2. There was no public comment.
3. The minutes of the February 5, 2026, meeting were presented. Motion by Breu/Thao to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
4. The Highway Dept. staff reports were highlighted and reviewed.
5. The Highway revenue report was reviewed.
6. Motion by Hokamp/Breu to approve the Highway Dept. vouchers. Motion carried unanimously.
7. The 2027-2031 Highway Dept. CIP was distributed and will acted on at the next meeting.
8. Accounting Supervisor Peckham presented a resolution amending the 2025 budget for various functions within the Highway Dept. This is the yearly housekeeping resolution to account for the additional revenue used to fund the various overages. Motion by Brehm/Thao to approve the resolution and forward onto the county board for their consideration. Motion carried unanimously.
9. The following quotes for goods and services were received and presented to the committee:
 - Private Truckers
 - Milling & Pulverizing
 - Bituminous
 - Sand/AggregateMotion by Breu/Brehm to accept the quotes and award it to those deemed most advantageous to Wood County. Motion carried unanimously.
10. The Parks & Forestry staff reports were reviewed.
11. Parks & Forestry Administrator Schooley presented a special use permit for approval:
 - a. Consolidated Muskie Club gathering – Nepco Shelter (rented at half price in lieu of services provided to the Parks & Forestry Dept.)Motion by Breu/Hokamp to approve the special use permits as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

12. Schooley presented the 2027-2031 Parks & Forestry Dept. CIP was distributed and will acted on at the next meeting.
13. The Wood County Wildlife Advisory Committee minutes were reviewed by the committee.
14. The Parks & Forestry revenue reports were reviewed.
15. Motion by Hokamp/Breu to approve Parks & Forestry vouchers. Motion approved unanimously.
16. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, April 2, 2026, at 9:00 AM at the Highway Department Conference Room.
17. Chairman Hahn declared the meeting adjourned at 9:14 AM.

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

Wood County Wildlife Area Advisory Council (WCWA AC)

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: January 12, 2026 5:30pm

Meeting Location: Sandhill Wildlife Area Outdoor Skills Facility, Babcock, WI

Members Present: Figueroa, Isensee, McAuley, Pluke, Winkler, Wipfli

Members Absent: Weiss, vacant (Kedrowski), vacant (Schmutzer)

Others Present: Zak Knab (WI DNR) Darren Ladwig (WI DNR), Dennis Polach (Wood County Board), Fritz Schubert (Wood County Forest)

Minutes:

1. Call meeting to order

- Vice-Chair Winkler called the meeting to order at 5:30pm

2. Declaration of Quorum

- Six of nine members present; quorum declared

3. **MOTION** to *Approve the minutes of the October 13, 2025 meeting.* (Pluke/McAuley) No discussion. Unanimous vote in favor; **MOTION CARRIED.**

4. Correspondence

- None

5. Public comments

- None

6. Election of Officers

- Secretary: Nominations: Isensee; Unanimous vote; **ISENSEE ELECTED SECRETARY**
- Vice Chair: Nominations: Winkler; Unanimous vote; **WINKLER ELECTED VICE-CHAIR**
- Chair: Nominations: McAuley; Unanimous vote; **MCAULEY ELECTED CHAIR**

7. Update on the Rules of Order

- Wood County corporate counsel made minor changes to Rules of Order proposed by this committee in October. The modified version has been approved by HIRC and will go to the County Board.

8. Sandhill - Meadow Valley - Wood County Wildlife Area updates

- Knab presented his report; attached
 - Proposed projects for 2026 WCWA AC funding:
 1. Ingraham Trail Repair
 2. Woodcock Factory Trail Brush Removal
 3. Ball Road Flowage Dike Repair
 4. Replace Wood Boards with Aluminum on Ingraham Flowage
 - Cranberry Rd access easement
 - Amundson access
 - Dairyland power transmission line replacement
- Ladwig presented his report; attached
 - Sandhill Firearm Deer Hunt - 2025
- **MOTION** to *Allocate our 2026 \$10,000 allotment to the four projects presented to be executed at the DNR's discretion.* (Isensee/Pluke). No discussion. Unanimous vote in favor; **MOTION CARRIED.**

9. Member matters

- Polach reminded the committee that the following members' terms are expiring in June: Isensee, Puke, Weiss

10. Set next meeting date

- Monday, April 6, 2026 at 5:30 at the Sandhill Wildlife Area Outdoor Skills Facility, Babcock, WI

11. Meeting adjourned by Winkler at 6:35pm.

Minutes Prepared By: Larry Isensee, Secretary

Minutes Approved By: Jim Winker, Vice-Chair



Wood County

WISCONSIN

OFFICE OF
HIGHWAY COMMISSION

Roland Hawk
COMMISSIONER

February 25, 2026

To: Highway, Infrastructure & Recreation Committee

From: Roland Hawk, PE Highway Commissioner

Subject: Commissioner Report for March 5, 2026, HIRC meeting

Department Activities

Personnel/Administration

Candidate offered mechanic position in January turned down the offer. The position was reposted and Commissioner will conduct interviews in mid-March.

Interviews for a truck operator were conducted February 10 & 11, offer has been made to a candidate, references have been reviewed, and offer has been made. Candidate expected to begin in early March.

Commissioner & Accounting Supervisor will present a resolution to amend the 2025 Highway Budget.

Commissioner has updated 2027 CIP Project List to present to HIRC.

Highway/Facility Projects

- WisDOT STP Project CTH F & HH Intersection **Construction 2026**
 - Bid Opening was November 11, 2025, Mashuda Contractors, Inc, is low bid at \$1,303,522.47
- WisDOT STP Bridge CTH N (STH 186 – CTH N) **Construction 2025-2026**
 - Work was suspended in January due to weather and low temperatures. Deck poured in late December under close supervision. Remaining work to proceed in spring 2026.
- WisDOT STP Urban (BIL) CTH U Village of Biron **Construction 2026**
 - Final R/W parcel purchased 9/24/25. Structure was raised Feb 23 & 24.
 - Commissioner working with Village, Tn of Grand Rapids, & Tn of Plover on Jurisdictional Transfer
- CTH AA Lynn Creek
 - Preliminary Road & Structure Plans complete.
 - Preliminary Estimate \$1.9 million
 - R/W acquisition scheduled for March 2026.
 - Commissioner reassigned \$139,651 LRIP funds to the Lynn Creek Bridge replacement.
 - Highway will assign 2026-2027 CHI (50/50) funds to this project to be constructed in 2026. HIRC approved moving CTH HH (CTH F – STH 186) to 2027 construction to make funds available for CTH AA in 2026.
 - Project will be advertised for bids in March.

Highway Maintenance

Work in December included:

- Sign replacements
- Tree & brush removal
- Mastic and asphalt patching
- Snow & ice removal

WCHA Events & Misc. Meetings since the last HIRC meeting

Commissioner attended the following events/meetings:

- February 5, HIRC Meeting, Highway Shop, Commissioner attended virtual
- February 5, WCHA CHAPP's update meeting with WCHA Exec Director, virtual
- February 10, Delasoft check in meeting, virtual
- February 12, Management Meeting, Virtual
- February 17, County Board Meeting, Virtual
- February 17, Delasoft check in meeting, virtual
- February 18, NC Region Commissioner meeting, virtual
- February 19, CTH AA progress meeting, virtual
- February 19, Management meeting, virtual
- February 19, WisDOT LRRIP webinar
- February 23, WisDOT Region meeting, CTH C/Seasonal postings
- February 23, WisDOT Local Program Advisory meeting, virtual

EQUIPMENT

Commissioner is working with WisDOT to secure 60% of cost to construct a salt shed for proposed Dexterville Highway facility to be constructed in 2027. DOT confirmed contract/agreement for funding in WisDOT FY 2027 (July 2026)

Accounting Supervisor Report

By John Peckham, Wood County Highway Department Accounting Supervisor

HIRC Meeting

Revenues and Expenses

We have received the first General Transportation Aids payment of \$731,802.23. This payment is equal to 25% of the total aids we will receive for the year 2026. We will receive two more payments this year; one in July for \$1,463,604.46 and one in October for \$731,802.23. Those monies are the main source of funding for the Maintenance Fund.

It has already been a bad winter for the Snow and Ice Control Fund as the fund balance is in the red.

We are chiefly engaged in Snow and Ice Control and Shop Operations at this time of year.

Other

I have concluded the closing of the 2025 books. I will now begin preparing audit workpapers and the State Annual Report.

County of Wood
 DETAILED INCOME STATEMENT W/SUBTOTALS
 Highway Departmentwide
 Saturday, February 28, 2026

		2026			
		Actual	Budget	Variance	Variance %
REVENUES					
Intergovernmental Revenues					
43531	State Aid-Transportation	\$731,802.23	\$2,927,208.95	(\$2,195,406.72)	(75.00%)
	Total Intergovernmental	731,802.23	2,927,208.95	(2,195,406.72)	(75.00%)
Licenses and Permits					
44101	Utility Permits	8,330.76	30,550.00	(22,219.24)	(72.73%)
	Total Licenses and Permits	8,330.76	30,550.00	(22,219.24)	(72.73%)
Intergovernmental Charges for Services					
47230	State Charges		1,442,179.00	(1,442,179.00)	(100.00%)
47231	State Charges-Highway	84,597.96	263,817.00	(179,219.04)	(67.93%)
47232	State Charges-Machinery	35,163.04	(14,629.00)	49,792.04	(340.37%)
47300	Local Gov Chgs		847,362.00	(847,362.00)	(100.00%)
47330	Local Gov Chgs-Transp	2.22	1,961,954.00	(1,961,951.78)	(100.00%)
47332	Local Gov Chgs-Roads		265,997.00	(265,997.00)	(100.00%)
47333	Local Gov Chgs-Bridges	(30,968.57)	117,349.00	(148,317.57)	(126.39%)
	Total Charges to Other Governments	88,794.65	4,884,029.00	(4,795,234.35)	(98.18%)
Interdepartmental Charges for Services					
47470	Dept Charges-Highway	6,586.02	2,862,576.00	(2,855,989.98)	(99.77%)
	Total Interdepartmental Charges	6,586.02	2,862,576.00	(2,855,989.98)	(99.77%)
	Total Intergovernmental Charges for Services	95,380.67	7,746,605.00	(7,651,224.33)	(98.77%)
Miscellaneous					
48340	Gain/Loss-Sale of Salvage and Waste	1,182.30	10,605.00	(9,422.70)	(88.85%)
	Total Miscellaneous	1,182.30	10,605.00	(9,422.70)	(88.85%)
Other Financing Sources					
49110	Proceeds from Long-Term Debt		4,261,700.00	(4,261,700.00)	(100.00%)
	Total Other Financing Sources		4,261,700.00	(4,261,700.00)	(100.00%)
TOTAL REVENUES		836,695.96	14,976,668.95	(14,139,972.99)	(94.41%)
EXPENDITURES					
Public Works-Highway					
53110	Hwy-Administration	58,100.99	427,565.04	369,464.05	86.41%
53120	Hwy-Engineer	29,464.88	272,041.52	242,576.64	89.17%
53191	Hwy-Other Administration	63,214.38	400,326.78	337,112.40	84.21%
53210	Hwy-Employee Taxes & Benefits	(879,747.54)		879,747.54	0.00%
53220	Hwy-Field Tools	(1,303.36)	(45,386.55)	(44,083.19)	97.13%
53230	Hwy-Shop Operations	47,455.53	325,400.34	277,944.81	85.42%
53232	Hwy-Fuel Handling	(766.65)	(17,415.00)	(16,648.35)	95.60%
53240	Hwy-Machinery Operations	(378,354.00)	(344,515.87)	33,838.13	(9.82%)
53250	Hwy-Crushing Operations		35,624.03	35,624.03	100.00%
53251	Hwy-Crushing Operations Production		127,671.91	127,671.91	100.00%
53260	Hwy-Bituminous Ops	10,669.74	215,368.25	204,698.51	95.05%
53266	Hwy-Bituminous Ops		2,032,292.73	2,032,292.73	100.00%
53270	Hwy-Buildings & Grounds	38,051.74	258,245.36	220,193.62	85.27%
53290	Hwy-Salt Brine Operations	(401.29)	(0.45)	400.84	(89,075.56%)
53291	Hwy-Salt Brine Operations	2,977.08	1,170.55	(1,806.53)	(154.33%)
53281	Hwy-Acquisition of Capital Assets	25,482.00		(25,482.00)	0.00%
53310	Hwy-Maintenance CTHS		62,998.99	62,998.99	100.00%
53311	Hwy-Maint CTHS Patrol Sectn	267,358.49	2,676,572.21	2,409,213.72	90.01%
53312	Hwy-Snow Remov	407,151.21	992,793.92	585,642.71	58.99%
53313	Hwy-Maintenance Gang	28,567.96	272,777.37	244,209.41	89.53%
53314	Hwy-Maint Gang-Materials	1,890.00	8,302.00	6,412.00	77.23%
53320	Hwy-Maint STHS	355,831.78	1,442,179.24	1,086,347.46	75.33%
53330	Hwy-Local Roads	93,218.69	1,961,954.25	1,868,735.56	95.25%
53340	Hwy-County-Aid Road Construction		326,618.11	326,618.11	100.00%
53341	Hwy-County-Aid Bridge Construction	2,491.06	249,955.50	247,464.44	99.00%
53490	Hwy-State & Local Other Services	53,996.82	847,361.79	793,364.97	93.63%
53491	Hwy-ATV Route Signage		17,080.61	17,080.61	100.00%
	Total Public Works-Highway	225,349.51	12,546,982.63	12,321,633.12	98.20%
Capital Outlay					
57310	Highway Capital Projects	67,346.21	4,233,864.78	4,166,518.57	98.41%
	Total Capital Outlay	67,346.21	4,233,864.78	4,166,518.57	98.41%

County of Wood
DETAILED INCOME STATEMENT W/SUBTOTALS
Highway Departmentwide
Saturday, February 28, 2026

	Actual	2026 Budget	Variance	Variance %
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	292,695.72	16,780,847.41	16,488,151.69	98.26%
NET INCOME (LOSS) *	544,000.24	(1,804,178.46)	2,348,178.70	(130.15%)



Parks & Forestry Department Reports

March 5, 2026

Director Report, by Chad Schooley

- Powers Bluff Trailhead Shelter project is moving along. Metal roof is complete. Plumbing, electric, HVAC, and A/V Equipment are all roughed in. Insulation is near completion and drywall installation will begin week of March 2nd.
- Dexter Beach Shelter Building plans have been conditionally approved by the State. Project to be let out for bid shortly. Bid approval scheduled for the April 2nd HIRC meeting.
- South Park 2nd Loop Campground Shower Building plans have been completed. Due to the size of the building- state approval is not necessary. Local review/permitting is required instead. Project will be let out for bid along with the Dexter Beach Shelter, with bid approval on April 2nd.
- I met with JT Sachs, representative from the Aqua Skiers, to discuss the proposed site improvements at Red Sands Beach. JT will be following up with a local civil engineering consultant to get a cost estimate to create a more detailed site plan. Cost of the plan may be eligible for grant reimbursement.
- The 2027-2031 draft CIP summary is in the packet for your review and consideration.
- **Special Use Permits**
 - None at this time.

Maintenance Program Supervisor Report, by Dan Vollert

Construction Projects

- South Park: Prepping for new Loop 2 showerhouse. Highway taking down old building, vault and stumps in area. Filling in with sand and prepping for slab.
- Dexter Park: Plans done for new beachhouse building. Clearing brush/trees for new septic.
- Powers Bluff: New Trailhead Shelter construction project continuing. Parks staff has completed staining of tongue & groove boards and fireplace mantle.
- Powers Bluff: Power installed underground on top of hill (old part of park). Taking down old overhead powerlines once weather cooperates.
- North Park: New Puff Creek bridge being constructed. Highway Dept to install. Trees are cut out of the way for access.
- CERA Park: New VERSA Tube building, for firewood storage, has been purchased and plan to have concrete slab poured in the spring.
- CERA Park: Looking at getting quotes for new carpeting in mini golf area and putting a new roof on shop. (Roof leaks). Also meeting with Alliant Energy to discuss putting primary underground.

Maintenance Operations

- Dexter Park: Clear coating tongue & groove for new beachhouse. Dead tree cleanup, table repair, and snow removal.
- South Park: Dead tree cleanup, snow removal, shelter & bathroom cleaning.
- NEPCO Park: Shelter cleaning, snow removal, tree cleanup.
- North Park: Ash and other dead tree removal.

- Powers Bluff: Grooming tube/ski hills, x-country ski & multiuse trails. Winter operations. New Shop upgrades.
- CERA Park: New Woodshed area prepped. Brush and building cleanup.

Employee Matters

- All FTE's and some LTE's scheduled for Powers Bluff Winter Operations.
- Looking for new LTEs for summer operations at Dexter & South Parks.
- Looking for a new Camp Ranger at CERA Park.

Snowmobile/ATV

- Auburndale (DH) Snowmobile Bridge project off of CTH N east of Arpin has been completed and Grant Reimbursement has been submitted.
- Snowmobile trails are all closed at this time.
- Range Road ATV Connector Trail to Intensive Use Area road base is complete. Needs to be graded in spring to finish Grant.

Office Supervisor Report, by Stacie Kleifgen

- Submitted 2025 Fixed Assets to Finance
- Went to Powers Bluff to observe winter operations
- Created tracking folders for new 2026 projects
- Started working on 2025 Annual Report

Forest Administrator Report, by Fritz Schubert

- Timber Sales: Ten active timber sales in February. Logging activity on Wood County Forest has remained at a high level due to good winter logging conditions. Warm weather mid to late month slowed things down a little and contractors are saying their markets are getting filled up. We have had an excellent winter and will go into in spring in good shape as far as timber revenue is concerned.
- Sent out tree planting notices to prospective contractors. We are planning on planting 57,300 red pine seedlings on 64 acres, in three different sites.
- Corresponded with DNR and reapplied paperwork to withdraw acres related to Nekoosa Marsh Road Cranberry land trade. DNR has been very difficult to work with and is causing this to drag on.
- Forestry Technician: Plowed snow and assisted with freezing down logging roads for timber sale access. Moved, cleaned, and maintained department trucks and machinery. Began project to mow brush and improve ATV trails in the ATV intensive use area. We have rented a mini-excavator with a brush hog type head for this purpose.

**WOOD COUNTY PARKS & FORESTRY DEPARTMENT
REVENUE SUMMARY 2026**

February Revenue - March HIRC

BUDGETED REVENUES 2026	SOURCE	YTD REVENUE	YTD REVENUE	FEB REV	FEB REV	ACTUAL REV
		2026	2025	2026	2025	2025
\$ 656,000.00	Camping Reservations	\$51,947.56	\$ 45,481.53	\$24,694.54	\$ 20,299.86	\$ 615,822.96
\$ 55,000.00	Campground Firewood Sales	\$0.00	\$ -	\$0.00	\$ -	\$ 38,413.07
\$ 4,000.00	Non-Camper Dump Station	\$0.00	\$ -	\$0.00	\$ -	\$ 2,287.78
\$ 500.00	Camper Storage	\$0.00	\$ -	\$0.00	\$ -	\$ 41.74
\$ 1,000.00	Washer/Dryer/Showers	\$0.00	\$ -	\$0.00	\$ -	\$ 772.03
\$ 75,000.00	Shelters Enclosed	\$10,655.94	\$ 8,386.40	\$5,372.53	\$ 4,548.01	\$ 62,509.69
\$ 25,000.00	Shelters - Open	\$2,410.15	\$ 2,006.38	\$1,769.18	\$ 916.50	\$ 14,075.70
\$ 3,000.00	General Park User Fees (Use of open areas within parks)	\$1,180.09	\$ -	\$1,180.09	\$ -	\$ 1,260.66
\$ 45,000.00	Powers Bluff Winter Recreation	\$8,478.78	\$ 7,681.80	\$8,017.28	\$ 7,681.80	\$ 38,148.71
\$ 5,000.00	Trail Passes (Ski/Snowshoe/Multi-Use)	\$1,197.36	\$ 514.45	\$487.95	\$ 453.80	\$ 4,797.66
\$ 5,000.00	Disc Golf	\$22.92	\$ 10.99	\$22.92	\$ -	\$ 3,984.96
\$ 30,500.00	Boat Launch	\$282.81	\$ 45.83	\$282.81	\$ 45.83	\$ 22,394.03
\$ 10,000.00	Gift Certificates	\$0.00	\$ -	\$0.00	\$ -	\$ 9,828.00
\$ 10,000.00	Miscellaneous	\$450.00	\$ -	\$450.00	\$ -	\$ 6,217.70
\$ 925,000.00	Miscellaneous Feb 26 = advertising (48000)	\$76,625.61	\$ 64,127.38	\$42,277.30	\$33,945.80	\$ 820,554.69
\$ 400,000.00	46813 - Timber Sales & Wood Cutting (90%/County & 10%/Townships) Monthly totals = NET Revenue	\$314,365.59	\$ 82,655.32	\$211,904.29	\$ 64,407.73	\$ 459,136.61
\$ 1,325,000.00		\$390,991.20	\$146,782.70	\$254,181.59	\$98,353.53	\$1,279,691.30

**WOOD COUNTY, PARKS & FORESTRY - FOREST ADMINISTRATOR
REVENUE REPORT & TIMBER SALE BALANCES**

February Revenue - March HIRC

Budget Year 2026

CONTRACT	TRACT	CONTRACTOR	CONTRACT AWARD AMOUNT	CONTRACT AWARD DATE	CONTRACT EXPIRATION DATE	\$ RECEIVED CURRENT MONTH	AMOUNT BILLED TO DATE	AMOUNT RCVD TO DATE	BALANCE
780	2-16	MIDWEST HW	\$42,886.00	7/10/2020	7/31/2026		\$31,778.92	\$31,778.92	\$0.00
790	4-21	SCHREINER	\$15,600.00	11/24/2021	12/31/2026	\$17,378.82	\$18,855.46	\$18,855.46	\$0.00
797	3-22	SCHREINER	\$30,770.00	5/27/2022	6/30/2026	\$9,317.97	\$40,662.92	\$9,317.97	-\$31,344.95
800	6-22	SCHREINER	\$16,440.00	5/27/2022	7/31/2026	\$1,871.93	\$1,871.93	\$1,871.93	\$0.00
801	7-22	WILSON	\$11,750.00	8/4/2022	7/31/2026		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
803	9-22	KOERNER	\$21,057.80	11/16/2022	12/31/2025	\$563.16	\$34,866.88	\$34,866.88	\$0.00
804	10-22	KOERNER	\$84,093.60	11/16/2022	12/31/2026		\$103,155.10	\$103,155.10	\$0.00
807	13-22	FLINK	\$9,450.00	12/31/2022	12/31/2026		\$2,274.03	\$2,274.03	\$0.00
812	4-23	FLINK	\$11,813.85	6/1/2023	6/30/2026	\$1,443.21	\$8,861.33	\$8,861.33	\$0.00
814	6-23	FLINK	\$21,055.00	4/28/2025	3/31/2028		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
817	9-23	KOERNER	\$17,310.00	1/4/2024	12/31/2026	\$11,932.60	\$11,932.60	\$11,932.60	\$0.00
818	10-23	MIDWEST HW	\$51,768.30	1/4/2024	12/31/2026		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
819	11-23	TNT Timber	\$124,257.30	4/30/2024	5/1/2026	\$78,010.82	\$163,999.75	\$163,999.75	\$0.00
821	1-24	KOERNER	\$26,270.00	4/30/2024	5/1/2026	\$1,036.70	\$22,608.29	\$22,608.29	\$0.00
824	5-24	KOERNER	\$53,280.00	4/30/2024	5/1/2026	\$24,481.90	\$24,481.90	\$24,481.90	\$0.00
826	6-24	BIEWER	\$158,818.20	12/19/2024	12/31/2026	\$11,833.76	\$173,279.96	\$173,279.96	\$0.00
827	7-24	MEDDA	\$60,286.80	12/19/2024	12/31/2026	\$39,055.63	\$52,242.74	\$50,469.16	-\$1,773.58
828	8-24	MIDWEST HW	\$75,328.40	12/19/2024	12/31/2026	\$38,329.41	\$75,052.81	\$75,052.81	\$0.00
832	2-25	KOERNER	\$19,840.00	6/18/2025	6/30/2027		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
833	3-25	KOERNER	\$7,740.00	6/18/2025	6/30/2027		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
834	4-25	WEEKLY	\$36,980.00	6/18/2025	6/30/2027		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
835	7-25	FLINK	\$10,350.00	7/7/2025	6/30/2027	\$153.30	\$13,275.92	\$13,275.92	\$0.00
836	9-24	WEEKLY	\$34,063.30	6/18/2025	6/30/2027		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
837	1-25	WEEKLY	\$18,809.44	12/11/2025	12/31/2029		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
838	8-25	MATTICKS	\$10,890.00	12/11/2025	12/31/2027		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
839	9-25	KOERNER	\$9,810.00	12/11/2025	12/31/2027		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
840	14-25	KOERNER	\$57,865.00	12/11/2025	12/31/2027		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
755		FIREWOOD				\$40.00	\$40.00	\$40.00	
Total Active Contract Value			\$1,038,582.99						
						Payments Received This Month:	\$235,449.21		
						\$ RECEIVED CURRENT MONTH			
2026 Budgeted Total Revenues						\$400,000	Jobs Finished		
2026 Total County Forestry Revenues this month (90%)						\$211,904.29	Jobs Started		
2026 Total Township Revenues this month (10%):						\$23,544.92	Jobs Continuing/Reactivated		
Jobs Gone Inactive									
2026 TOTAL NET FORESTRY REVENUE TO DATE:						\$314,365.59			

MINUTES
PROPERTY & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

DATE: Monday, March 2, 2026
TIME: 9:00 a.m.
PLACE: Courthouse – Room 302

MEMBERS PRESENT: Al Breu, Jeff Penzkover, Dennis Polach, Scott Brehm

MEMBER EXCUSED: Brad Hamilton

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

1. Chairman Breu called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.
2. Chairman Breu presented an anniversary gift to Facilities Manager Van Tassel for his 10 years of service to the county.
3. There was no public comment.
4. The minutes of the February 2, 2026, meeting were reviewed. Motion by Brehm/Penzkover to accept them as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
5. The Information Technology vouchers were reviewed. Motion by Brehm/Penzkover to approve as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
6. The IT Report was reviewed and discussed.
7. The Maintenance vouchers were reviewed. Motion by Brehm/Polach to approve as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
8. The Maintenance Report was reviewed and discussed.
9. Agenda item for next meeting:
 - Possible design amendment for front of courthouse parking to include egress stair remodel
10. The next meeting will be held on Monday, April 6, 2026, at 9:00 AM.
11. Chairman Breu declared the meeting adjourned at 9:39 AM.

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



Wood County WISCONSIN

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

February 2026

1. Wood County internet and intranet website updates are being posted continually as we work to keep employees and citizens informed. The IT intranet website has been improved for user ease of use and locating important resources and instructions.
2. The Network Analyst vacancy was filled by Alex Drexler. This position has been vacant for over a year. Alex's first day is March 2nd.
3. Data connections between County facilities are being migrated to different service provider.
4. Worked with Communications and Dispatch to provide necessary information to a vendor who is implementing a new Storm Siren controller that will replace the existing system.
5. Received several reports of audio-visual equipment not working in the Riverblock Auditorium. The current configuration is tied to a switch Maintenance had installed for the Video Conference equipment. Although there is a sign indicating the switch should not be turned off, it has been turned off several times this month resulting in urgent requests for service to IT. IT staff work to increase user understanding that this switch has to stay on. IT will also request that Maintenance modify the existing configuration to avoid urgent calls for service.
6. Preparation for replacing the Dispatch computers has begun. These devices are replaced every three years and setup and configuration is very time-consuming due to the variety of software and hardware required. Staff is working to update software and installation instructions so when the new devices arrive configuration can begin right away.
7. Completed a project request for an application for officers to use in domestic violence calls. The software helps connect victims to the case and resources available for the victims.
8. After reviewing the feedback from the State audit on jail forms, research continues to obtain CJIS compliance. Completed response sheet for CJIS follow up questions for the Jail. Continue to work with Jail and Dispatch on CJIS follow ups. Port Edwards has reached out for assistance with CJIS compliance as well. At this time all follow ups with CJIS have been answered and there are no more pending audit questions. IT continues to identify action-based items on the 2025 CJIS Audit and will work to implement.



Wood County WISCONSIN

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

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9. For the month of January, 629 helpdesk requests were created, with staff completing 612 tickets and leaving 121 open requests. In addition, there are currently 140 project requests.
 10. Created accounts for all dispatchers in the Everbridge Management Portal so they all can initiate public emergency communications.
 11. A new IT request form and procedure has been developed and implemented to improve handling user requests to recover accidentally deleted data. Data recovery often consumes excessive IT staff resources and the new procedure should help mitigate that resource loss.
 12. A total of 4 actionable Security alerts were received this month. Two of those were definite security events that required immediate action. Both were unapproved software that was installed. One of these security events was self-reported which allows IT staff the ability to take prompt action to protect the County network. When seconds can matter, IT staff appreciate coworkers that alert us of anything suspicious. It really does take all of us to protect the County infrastructure and help avoid a more serious event from occurring.
 13. Completed rollout of Software Restriction Policy to all IT staff, effectively blocking software installation in known exploitable locations, massively shrinking the potential for users to install unapproved software either on purpose or by consequence of visiting a malicious internet site. Rollout of this system to other departments has begun.
 14. Assisting county email users with mailbox cleanup in preparation with migration of the County Outlook email system.
 15. Work continues on year-end processes support, updating reports, W2 print management and multiple system configurations to support Finance and HR systems.
 16. Assisted City of Marshfield Police Department with the installation of a new fingerprinting LiveScan machine. Continue to work with Marshfield PD and vendor to configure new LiveScan machine.
 17. The Countywide backup solution is up for renewal in 2026. Staff continue to hold meetings with vendors to review options to determine the best backup solution.



Wood County WISCONSIN

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

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18. The firewalls are also set for replacement this year. Staff are also reviewing options for replacement to determine which solution will best protect the County network and our data.
 19. Continued implementing Laserfiche document management for the Finance department.
 20. Created and deployed a requested Smartcare report comparing unit types between billing and procedure.
 21. Continued work on forms process improvement and document storage in Information Technology leveraging Laserfiche.
 22. Addressing recent Personnel Action Form and other onboarding process concerns. Composing online forms to streamline the flow of information to key stakeholders. Having all the information in one place will allow the onboarding process to be as smooth and as fast as possible for the hiring department, the new hire, and all the departments involved in making sure the employee is setup for their first day on the job.
 23. Assisting Port Edwards with refreshing end-user computing devices for staff and Trustees.
 24. IT staff work to outline and document proper procedures and best practices for system administration, especially in regard to server and application maintenance and/or upgrades that may affect accessibility and functionality, is now complete.
 25. Monitoring daily software installs for all computers managed by Desktop Central. Removed unapproved or questionable software as needed.
 26. Staff continue to work with CIS, Countywide law enforcement software, on a request for an interface to transmit electronic referrals to the DA's office. The eReferral, RMS PROTECT interface, work began on February 5th. Downtime was needed to implement this interface and has been communicated to those affected. Instructions will be available for staff once the interface is complete. CIS and IT staff continue to work on properly configuring the interface.
 27. Staff continue to work with CIS, Countywide law enforcement software, on a change that is required for Fire Departments. The format of information that Fire Departments need to report requires changes in CIS.



Wood County WISCONSIN

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

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28. Continue to work onboarding modules and outlining reporting requirements for the State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program (SLCGP) for the grant that we were awarded.
 29. Continue to work on creating financial statements from TCM data to be converted into PDF form and imported into Laserfiche.
 30. Triaged and followed up with 17 alerts from the County's end point protection system. Manually investigated and cleaned up each detection and worked with the vendor as needed. In every instance, when an alert was triggered the end point protection system quarantined and stopped the process until an investigation could be completed.
 31. The IT Security Team continues the Security Awareness Program. Additional security training is being assigned to all who fail a phishing campaign. Training on How to Identify Malicious Links was sent to all staff.
 32. Employees submitted approximately 144 phishing emails to IT for review. Each submittal was reviewed. Several were identified as legitimate phishing attempts. Filters were put in place to disallow mail from known phishing senders.
 33. Programming staff works to improve support documentation for the Sage HRMS, Human Resources Management System, system for employee benefit and payroll data. Programming staff work to compose an RFP for a replacement system for HRMS and payroll. The RFP was released in late January.
 34. The EvenTide project for Dispatch continues. This will replace their current solution as the emergency protocols recording software in Dispatch. EvenTide will interface with Total Response so this project is being scheduled now that the Total Response implementation is finalized.
 35. Implementation phase continues for a project for the Highway Department to replace the current Highway permit system with Delasoft vendor software. Research continues on an app requested by Highway staff that will assist in tracking Caterpillar equipment codes and parts. Highway project request for equipment needed for air emissions training and regulation compliance has been received and will be researched.
 36. Programming staff continue support and system functionality improvement coding for the ESS, employee self-service portal, system for payroll reports and employee benefits open enrollment.



Wood County WISCONSIN

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

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37. System\code improvement for the in-house Planning & Zoning permitting system continues.
 38. Continued developing a bulk import program for Laserfiche document management for the Finance department.
 39. Continued work improving database server security.
 40. Continued speaking with Compliant Technology, the vendor who provides GLOVE/Light Sound Shield software on their data management portal. They have provided technical details that need to be reviewed. This is in response to a request from the Jail to utilize this software.
 41. Norwood and Edgewater Matrix Claims Management support continues with multi-factor authentication (MFA) migration to a new system evolving constantly. Account work for new backup procedures for Claims Management continues. Claims user setup process was tested, refined and step by step procedures documented.
 42. Support is ongoing for Cyber Recruiter upgrades and super user support, the HRMS extension system and website used for new hire applications. IT staff worked to resolve multiple serious issues that were caused by a very poorly developed error prone vendor supplied system upgrade. We plan to eliminate and replace the Cyber Recruiter\Careers software as part of the HRMS and payroll system replacement project.
 43. Support for GCS\Catalis property tax systems is ongoing. The former property tax software version end-of-life is set for Fall of 2024 and was on-prem, servers at Wood County. The upgraded version is cloud based. System migration and training is complete and go-live was July 15, 2024. Initial training and migration of the 34 municipalities to the new system is complete. Security and best practice research to address a request by the County GIS specialist for the City of Marshfield GIS specialist to obtain direct access to the County tax database is on hold.
 44. Support for Norwood Healthcare Center and Edgewater Haven Matrix (EHR) and CART (CMS abstraction and reporting tool) software is ongoing. IT support works to improve the user reliance on IT for basic system functionality. eMAR provides ability to dispense patient medication when the EHR system is not accessible. Super user training continues and results in improved support of the EHR (electronic health record) system. Research and preparation work continues for another annual change to the reporting procedures for hospital pricing transparency required by CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid).



Wood County WISCONSIN

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

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45. The TimeStar, electronic timecard and time tracking software system configuration changes is ongoing. Staff works to adjust settings as change requests continue. PBJ reports are submitted to CMS (Centers for Medicare & Medicaid) using TimeStar data for both the Edgewater and Norwood Facilities. PBJ mapping update work is scheduled so we can support new job codes. Preparations begin to support CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid_ PBJ data format and submission changes that will be effective late March 2026. Training of PBJ backup super users continues and is mostly conducted by PBJ submission staff.
 46. The Register of Deeds work to upgrade multiple applications is complete. IT staff escorts and assists the vendor, Fidlar Technologies, with server and application updates and maintenance on a regular basis. Work to increase server security via user account permissions and port access is scheduled for early March 2026.
 47. Staff continue to review and update Active Directory (AD) to ensure employee details such as department, titles and managers are accurate.
 48. The 2026 PC replacement 1st quarter devices replacement order has been placed.
 49. IT staff work to schedule and upgrade various server operating systems and database management systems, SQL servers, begins a new cycle. This ongoing project takes considerable time to plan, test, and implement. Continued work improving database server security.
 50. Discussions with Maintenance continue regarding space needs for the IT department. There is significant increase of technology being supported in the LEC and the increase of staff and services in other Departments within the County increases the demands on IT support as well. IT will need additional IT staff and space in order to properly support the County's expanded facilities, staff, software, hardware, systems and the increased reliance on technology. The IT Conference room now serves as our vendor staging area, network setup area, equipment storage and conference room. We have repurposed and triple purposed as much space as possible. IT needs more space to function properly.
 51. Configured server resources to assist the GIS Coordinator with processing and deploying 2025 Wood County aerial photo data.



Letter of Comments March 2026

Ongoing Projects and Planning

Jail Project – Material to finish the exterior of the building where the old jail was demolished has arrived; the contractor should have remaining exterior work complete at the end of March.

The new jail design included a small work space in the new garage area for the Communications Director; there is an undesignated room adjacent to this work space, in a mechanical area of the existing Courthouse, that will make a reasonable temporary storage/office space in close proximity to the new work area. A future space-needs assessment will need to identify an appropriate long-term location for the Communications Department.

Building automation system adjustments are ongoing.

Courthouse – The HVAC contractor is evaluating an air flow report to identify additional duct sealing that must be completed as well as additional climate control measures that must be implemented in isolated areas.

Continuing to work with City of Wisconsin Rapids and other County staff to modify the Courthouse property boundary in conjunction with vacating Market Street.

Beginning to work through the steps of design for the future Market Street parking lot.

Miscellaneous

Attended PIT, County Board, and numerous project meetings.

Supporting Norwood and Edgewater with various project planning.

Updating five-year CIP, to be presented at the April meeting.

Working with Human Services to reconfigure areas within their office space to better accommodate staff.

Accompanied Planning & Zoning Director Grueneberg on a tour of the Marshfield UW campus, where he has been working to obtain funding for a facility update.

CWSF Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Monday, January 26, 2026

513 East 17th Street, Marshfield, WI 54449

Call to Order: Sandy Leonhard- 633 pm

Roll Call: Dale Christiansen, Gary Bymers, Brad Hamilton, Joyce Karl, Scott Karl, Sandy Leonhard, Kate Kohl, Dave Lang, Heather Wellach, Rob Wiskerchen

Not present- Nick Wayerski, Andrew Reigel, Peggy Sue Behselich

Public Comments: none

Approval of Minutes: Motion made by Brad Hamilton to approve minutes as presented, 2nd by Gary Bymers, no discussion- unanimous approval.

Approval of the financial reports: Motion made by Gary Bymers to approve as presented, 2nd by Brad Hamilton, no discussion- unanimous approval.

Wisconsin Association of Fairs Convention Recap: Overall, great information, looking to implement in the future. Went around recap from those that were there. Multiple comments on bonding with each other and great representation. Implementation will be key this year, working with each other. Focus on fairest of the fair, age, and polish of the contestants. Huge pride for Heidi and how well she did. She represented our fair well!

Executive Directors report: Dale voiced support for this board and continuing to work together with all our information. New logo reviewed. Gary Bymers moved to approve the new logo presented on the 2nd by Dave Lang- no new discussion. -unanimous approval

Jr Fair: No meeting in January – all fair book changes due at February meeting- no change to age to show. Recommendation voted on previously stands and will be presented again at the Jr Fair meeting to be placed in the Fair book.

Fair update: Review of acts for this year's fair and what is still in the works. Getting advertisements together for release to align with the new website design. Contracts going out in the next couple of weeks for food and merch vendors.

Topics to be discussed.

Executive, sponsorship, market, fairest Committees- no updates

Draft horse has a sponsor.

Building/Grounds and Fair Park management- discussion on new building and placement. Rough drawing done by Marawood. Fair commission meeting- transformer being put in the spring. Lots of talks about land division and what is to come. Working towards a presentation on what the board can take forward.

Old Business

Code of conduct policy- tabled

Committee assignments and holiday event more to come next meeting.

New Business- Chamber event annual meeting- February 26th, follow up with Dale on interest and final decision

Agenda items for next meeting- Code of conduct, committee assignments, holiday event, topics to discuss

Next meeting Feb 16th 2026

Adjournment without objection by Sandy, President, 7:43 pm