

AGENDA
JUDICIAL & LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, November 3, 2026
TIME: 8:30 AM
LOCATION: Courthouse, Room 300

1. Call meeting to order & declaration of quorum.
2. Public comments. Now or at the time the item is taken up. Rules may apply.
3. Review minutes from previous meeting of October 6, 2026.
4. Review any claims, notices of injury, or litigation against the County, as necessary.
5. Review any Dog License Fee Fund claims.
6. Review for approval the vouchers and monthly reports of departments the committee oversees to include any reports by outside entities submitted at the request of the committee.
7. Discuss 2027 County Budget – COLA.
8. Presentation of correspondence and legislative issues or referrals and recognition of Legislators who may be present.
 - a. Resolution from Marinette County; re: State fully funding all state-mandated programs
 - b. Resolution from Marinette County; re: Adoption of sales tax for roads & bridges
9. Attendance at meetings.
10. Consideration of agenda items for next meeting.
11. Set date and time of next meeting. Tuesday, December 1, 2026 – 8:30 AM.
12. The committee may go into closed session pursuant to Wis Stats 19.85(1)(c) to conduct performance evaluations for the department heads they oversee. (Move to Room 302)
13. Return to open session.
14. Adjourn.

Join by phone

+1-408-418-9388 United States Toll
Webinar number: 2484 924 2663

Join by WebEx App or website

<https://woodcountywi.webex.com/woodcountywi/j.php?MTID=m3e537edc12f17ec70754778acb545a16>
Webinar number: 2484 924 2663
Webinar password: 110326

MINUTES JUDICIAL & LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, October 6, 2026

TIME: 2:00 PM

PLACE: Courthouse – Room 300

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 2:00 PM and declared a quorum present.
2. Under public comment, two county residents spoke in opposition to the ICE agreement signed by the Sheriff.
3. Motion by Hovendick/Voight to approve the minutes of the August 31 & September 1, 2026, meetings as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
4. The vouchers and reports from the departments the committee oversees were reviewed and discussed. Motion by Perlock/Hovendick to approve them as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
5. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, November 3, 2026, at 8:30 AM.
6. Chairman Clendenning declared the meeting adjourned 2:20 PM.

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

Judicial & Legislative Committee
October 6, 2026

[illegible]

Committee Report

County of Wood

Report of claims for: BRANCH 1

For the period of: OCTOBER 2026

For the range of vouchers: 03260035 - 03260035

Voucher	Vendor Name	Nature of Claim	Doc Date	Amount	Paid
03260035	SWITS LTD	INTERPRETER FEES	10/21/2026	\$337.50	
Grand Total:				\$337.50	

Signatures

Committee Chair: _____
Committee Member: _____
Committee Member: _____
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Committee Report

County of Wood

Report of claims for: BRANCH 2

For the period of: OCTOBER 2026

For the range of vouchers: 04260026 - 04260029

Voucher	Vendor Name	Nature of Claim	Doc Date	Amount	Paid
04260026	WEBER LISA M	TRANSCRIPTS	09/25/2026	\$10.00	P
04260027	MENDEZ JOHN	SEPT INTERPRETER BR 1, 3 & 4	10/01/2026	\$480.00	P
04260028	DELUXE	2027 CALENDAR	10/16/2026	\$173.42	
04260029	SWITS LTD	INTERPRETER FEES	10/21/2026	\$337.50	
Grand Total:				\$1,000.92	

Signatures

Committee Chair: _____

Committee Member: _____

Committee Member: _____

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Committee Report

County of Wood

Report of claims for: BRANCH 3

For the period of: OCTOBER 2026

For the range of vouchers: 05260028 - 05260033

Voucher	Vendor Name	Nature of Claim	Doc Date	Amount	Paid
05260028	SWITS LTD	INTERPRETER FEES	10/21/2026	\$416.50	
05260029	PETERSON MICHELLE L	TRANSCRIPTS	10/01/2026	\$44.00	
05260030	PETERSON MICHELLE L	TRANSCRIPTS 05CF578	10/01/2026	\$26.00	
05260031	PETERSON MICHELLE L	TRANSCRIPTS 25CF514 26CF248	10/01/2026	\$30.00	
05260032	PETERSON MICHELLE L	TRANSCRIPTS 23CF670	10/02/2026	\$36.00	
05260033	PETERSON MICHELLE L	TRANSCRIPTS 24CF297	10/07/2026	\$32.00	
Grand Total:				\$584.50	

Signatures

Committee Chair: _____

Committee Member: _____

Committee Member: _____

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Committee Report

County of Wood

Report of claims for: BRANCH 4

For the period of: OCTOBER 2026

For the range of vouchers: 34260030 - 34260031

Voucher	Vendor Name	Nature of Claim	Doc Date	Amount	Paid
34260030	SWITS LTD	INTERPRETER FEES	10/21/2026	\$225.00	
34260031	LIVERNASH ALICIA	TRANSCRIPTS 24CF324	10/01/2026	\$42.00	
Grand Total:				\$267.00	

Signatures

Committee Chair:

Committee Member:

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Committee Report

County of Wood

Report of claims for: CHILD SUPPORT

For the period of: OCTOBER 2026

For the range of vouchers: 02260100 - 02260108

Voucher	Vendor Name	Nature of Claim	Doc Date	Amount	Paid
02260100	CW SOLUTIONS LLC	ELEVATE PROGRAM COSTS	09/30/2026	\$863.95	P
02260101	CW SOLUTIONS LLC	ELEVATE PROGRAM COSTS	09/30/2026	\$7,970.26	P
02260102	CW SOLUTIONS LLC	A&V PROGRAM COSTS	10/21/2026	\$4,078.00	P
02260103	DANE COUNTY CIVIL PROCESS LLC	5-PROCESS OF SERVICE FEES	10/27/2026	\$460.00	
02260104	DNA DIAGNOSTICS CENTER INC	20-GENETIC TESTS	10/27/2026	\$514.75	
02260105	ODP BUSINESS SOLUTIONS LLC (OFFICE DEPOT)	OFFICE SUPPLIES	10/27/2026	\$96.18	
02260106	RADKTE JEFFREY L	26-PROCESS OF SERVICE FEES	10/27/2026	\$1,415.00	
02260107	RADTKE LONN J	24-PROCESS OF SERVICE FEES	10/27/2026	\$1,330.00	
02260108	WI DEPT OF ADMINISTRATION	CSA/DHSS SHARED ROUTER	10/27/2026	\$50.00	
Grand Total:				\$16,778.14	

Signatures

Committee Chair:

Committee Member:

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Committee Report

County of Wood

Report of claims for: Corporation Counsel

For the period of: October 2026

For the range of vouchers: 09260034 - 09260035

Voucher	Vendor Name	Nature of Claim	Doc Date	Amount	Paid
09260034	WOOD COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION	Wood County 2026 Dues	10/05/2026	\$20.00	
09260035	WEILAND LEGAL SERVICES	Outside Counsel	10/12/2026	\$200.00	
Grand Total:				\$220.00	

Signatures

Committee Chair:

Committee Member:

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Committee Report

County of Wood

Report of claims for: CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATOR

For the period of: OCTOBER 2026

For the range of vouchers: 35260085 - 35260094

Voucher	Vendor Name	Nature of Claim	Doc Date	Amount	Paid
35260085	INVISIBLE CONNECTIONS	A.W. TRANSITIONAL HOUSING	10/08/2026	\$400.00	P
35260086	OPPORTUNITY DEVELOPMENT CENTER	TREATMENT SVCS SEPT 2026	09/30/2026	\$562.50	P
35260087	OPPORTUNITY DEVELOPMENT CENTER	DHS PROGRAM SEPT 2026	09/30/2026	\$1,500.00	P
35260088	SOUTHERN HEALTH PARTNERS INC	SEPT 2026 MEDS	09/30/2026	\$883.36	P
35260089	THREE BRIDGES RECOVERY WI INC	SMART RECOVERY GROUP-SEP 2026	10/07/2026	\$1,000.00	P
35260090	THREE BRIDGES RECOVERY WI INC	DHS GRANT SERVICES - SEP 2026	10/08/2026	\$3,726.00	P
35260091	THREE BRIDGES RECOVERY WI INC	RSAT GRANT SERVICES - SEP 2026	10/08/2026	\$2,079.00	P
35260092	THREE BRIDGES RECOVERY WI INC	WC OPIOID SERVICES - SEP 2026	10/08/2026	\$2,157.33	P
35260093	OPTIONS LAB INC	DRUG TESTING - SEPT 2026	09/30/2026	\$5,185.25	P
35260094	US BANK	DHS EXP,LEGACY EXP,DC,LODGING	10/19/2026	\$2,399.24	
Grand Total:				\$19,892.68	

Signatures

Committee Chair: _____

Committee Member: _____

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Committee Report

County of Wood

Report of claims for: DISTRICT ATTORNEY

For the period of: OCTOBER 2026

For the range of vouchers: 11260060 - 11260070

Voucher	Vendor Name	Nature of Claim	Doc Date	Amount	Paid
11260060	MARATHON CO SHERIFFS DEPT	CIVIL PROCESS FEE 26JV13A	08/07/2026	\$85.00	P
11260061	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	TRANSLATION EQUIPMENT	09/29/2026	\$186.56	P
11260062	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	CREDIT - ELLIPTICAL	10/02/2026	(\$84.99)	P
11260063	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	OFFICE SUPPLIES, ELLIPTICAL	10/14/2026	\$163.25	P
11260064	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	CREDIT - WHITEBOARD	10/14/2026	(\$24.02)	P
11260065	MARATHON CO SHERIFFS DEPT	CIVIL PROCESS FEE 26JV13A	10/13/2026	\$85.00	P
11260066	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	OFFICE SUPPLIES	10/19/2026	\$94.82	P
11260067	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	HDMI CABLES	10/20/2026	\$27.32	P
11260068	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	CHAIR MATS	10/21/2026	\$89.85	P
11260069	US BANK	EMP LUNCH, LODGING, CONF REG	10/19/2026	\$396.60	
11260070	ZAMOW DENISE	TRANSCRIPTS 26CF188 25TR894	10/02/2026	\$112.00	
Grand Total:				\$1,131.39	

Signatures

Committee Chair: _____

Committee Member: _____

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Committee Report

County of Wood

Report of claims for: REGISTER OF DEEDS

For the period of: OCTOBER 2026

For the range of vouchers: 24260028 - 24260031

Voucher	Vendor Name	Nature of Claim	Doc Date	Amount	Paid
24260028	FIDLAR TECHNOLOGIES INC	SEPT 2026 LAREDO USAGE	09/18/2026	\$2,635.43	P
24260029	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	OFFICE SUPPLIES	10/20/2026	\$43.30	P
24260030	US BANK	LODGING	10/19/2026	\$236.00	
24260031	FIDLAR TECHNOLOGIES INC	OCT 2026 LAREDO USAGE	10/21/2026	\$2,690.27	
Grand Total:				\$5,605.00	

Signatures

Committee Chair: _____

Committee Member: _____

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Committee Report

County of Wood

Report of claims for: VICTIM WITNESS

For the period of: OCTOBER 2026

For the range of vouchers: 32260025 - 32260026

Voucher	Vendor Name	Nature of Claim	Doc Date	Amount	Paid
32260025	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	SUPPLIES	10/20/2026	\$33.82	P
32260026	US BANK	BROCHURES	10/19/2026	\$149.00	
Grand Total:				\$182.82	

Signatures

Committee Chair:

Committee Member:

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Wood County

WISCONSIN

CHILD SUPPORT
AGENCY

NOVEMBER 2026

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL AND LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Prepared by Child Support Director Brent Vruwink

- Five staff members and I attended the annual Wisconsin Child Support Enforcement Associations Fall Conference in Wisconsin Dells.
- We were notified we were tentatively approved for ten Children First slots for 2027. With the ELEVATE program sunseting in the first quarter of 2029 we wanted to develop a Children First Program to help our customers find employment. In 2029 we will look to expand the number of slots. There is no cost to Wood County to operate the Children First Program. My mission has been and continues to be one of offering as many opportunities as possible to our customers without putting financial strain on the County.
- I will be attending the Wood County Leadership Retreat on November 11th.
- I will be attending the WCA Health and Human Services Steering Committee meeting on November 13th.
- The Federal Fiscal Year ended September 30th. The agency met three out of four performance measures. The measure we fell short on was current support collections where we collected 78.95% just missing the 80% mark.
- The current IV-D case count is 3,585.



Wood County

WISCONSIN

CORPORATION
COUNSEL

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL AND LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

October 2026

Prepared by Corporation Counsel Nick Flanagan

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 August 2026:

- 14 Mental Commitments (includes Probable Cause, Final Hearings, and Recommitments)
- 15 Guardianship/Protective Placement Hearings
- 21 WATTS Review/Contested Hearings

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

CAPTA Hearings– During the month of September, the Corporation Counsel's office participated in one CAPTA scheduled prehearing conference with the Wisconsin Division of Hearings and Appeals.

Investigation and Support for County Revenue Bond Issues and Bug Tussel:

Over the past several months I have been working with the Planning and Zoning Director to review documentation relating to the construction, disbursement, funding and other activities associated with the revenue bonds issued by Wood County; the proceeds of which were loaned to Bug Tussel entitles and guaranteed by the County for constructing infrastructure improvements (towers and in ground fiber) in Wood County. We recently joined with ten other Wisconsin Counties to retain both Attolles Law and Reinhart Boerner Van Deuren to aid in that investigation and advise on how to best position the County in light of Bug Tussel informing that they will be missing their upcoming debt service payments; which has sparked significant concerns surrounding Bug Tussel's ongoing solvency. This investigation and advisement will help us both understand project completion status, as well as the County's priority position in having a security interest for assets deployed.

Annual Corporation Counsel/Defense Counsel Forum:

Last month I attended the 33rd Annual Corporation Counsel/Defense Counsel Forum in Stevens Point, WI. The Conference served as a great opportunity to meet and talk with my counterparts from other Counties, as well as take part in sessions of relevancy to topics my office regularly works on. Specifically, sessions regarding Public Records as well as Open Meetings Law, Suppression Hearings and Civil Rights implications, and procedural/timing considerations regarding employment-related cases handled by the Equal Rights Division (ERD) were all particularly informative and valuable to take part in.



Wood County WISCONSIN

WOOD COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

October 2026

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL AND LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Respectfully submitted by Criminal Justice Coordinator, Dillon Ksionek

Meetings/Trainings Attended:

10/5/2026: Drug Court Staffing and Court
10/6/2026: Judicial and Legislative Sub-Committee Meeting
10/9/2026: Wood County Opioid Settlement Funds Meeting
10/13/2026: Invisible Connections Board Meeting
10/13/2026: Meeting with DHS Representative Concerning Funding
10/15/2026: Drug Court Monthly Sustainability Meeting
10/15/2026: RSAT Monthly Meeting with DOJ
10/19/2026: Drug Court Staffing and Court
10/19/2026: RSAT Facilitator Meeting
10/20/2026: County Board Meeting
10/21/2026: Meeting Concerning Veterans Court and Justice Programs
10/22/2026: Criminal Justice Task Force

Adult Drug Treatment Court:

Current Participants: 23
Active Referrals: 5
Pending Referrals: 0
YTD Admissions: 16
YTD Terminations: 5
YTD Graduations: 8
YTD Referrals: 27

The application for the 2027 TAD Grant, issued by the Department of Justice, was completed and submitted prior to the deadline on October 26th.

The sustainability meeting in October was mostly focused on the TAD Grant application. We discussed budgeting points, treatment expenses, and potential ways to save money in the next 5-year cycle. We also discussed some minor changes that we could make to our programming and to our intake process.

Jail Programming (STRONG):

Medication Assisted Treatment Program (MARP):
Current Participants: 21
YTD Admissions: 113

Our student intern from the University of Wisconsin Stevens Point continues to be heavily involved in this program. Having her here has allowed our case manager from the MARP program to assist with the Diversion Program as we work through the training process of that case manager.

I spoke with the DHS representative that manages the grant that primarily funds this program, and she led me to believe that both my grant application for next year and our supplemental funding for this year are very close to being approved.

Jail Residential Treatment Program (RSAT):

Current Participants: 10

YTD graduates: 15

YTD participants: 41

I anticipate that I will need to prepare a budget for our contract extension on this grant in the coming weeks. However, I have not yet received any word on a total amount for that extension or any of the materials required to complete one.

All the programming facilitators associated with the recovery pods were invited to a meeting on 10/19/2026. It provided the facilitators with an opportunity to meet one another, share more about the programming that they offer, and learn more about the core curriculum and services that are facilitated by Three Bridges Recovery. At the end of the meeting, a discussion occurred about other programming needs within the pods.

Diversion (DPA/DEOJ):

The District Attorney's office has actively been working with defense attorneys to identify cases that would be most appropriate for deferred prosecution, which has led to a significant number of referrals already. My department has been busy conducting assessments and developing contract recommendations for the prosecuting attorneys. I was able to distribute letters to local defense attorneys to raise awareness of the program as well. Once we have worked through the backlog of DEOJ contracts (from before we were managing them), I will have an accurate idea of how many open cases we are managing. At that time, I will start including referral and participation numbers like I do for my other programs.

We are making a concerted effort to remain mindful of community safety as we work through specific referrals and as we fine-tune our eligibility criteria. These efforts have resulted in a number of conversations with each of the judges here in Wood County, as well as with law enforcement and the victim witness coordinator.



Wood County WISCONSIN

REGISTER IN PROBATE

November 2026

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL AND LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Prepared by Register in Probate, Tara Jensen

Effective November 1, 2026, many circuit court fees are amended under 2025 Act 179. This increase in court support services impacts several fees through the Probate Office including: inventory filing fees in probate and guardianships; certification fees; search fees; objections to probate of a will and claims against estate. All information has been updated in our office to reflect these changes.

I have had several conversations with the Judges, IT and Maintenance Dpt regarding the meeting/public access room connected with our office. Reconfiguring of this space is going to take place to better serve the public.

Meetings Attended:

- 10/06 - Operation Committee Meeting
- 10/20 – Monthly Judges Meeting
- 10/20 – Wood County Board Meeting
- 10/16 – I attended the District 9 Register in Probate Meeting held in Lincoln County
- Staff was able to attend the Open Enrollment Meetings this month.



Wood County

WISCONSIN

REGISTER OF DEEDS OFFICE

Tiffany R. Ringer
Register of Deeds

OCTOBER 2026

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL AND LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

- I attended WCA's County Leadership weekly meetings for the month.
- During the month, our office collected and tracked document data to assist the WRDA Legislative committee in evaluating whether legislation requiring ID for documents submitted to county registers of deeds would be warranted. In states that have already enacted similar legislation ID requirements generally apply to documents presented in person or submitted by mail, while attorneys, title companies and other professional document preparers are exempt. Our data collection and review found that only 3% of paper documents were prepared by individuals. After reviewing these findings, the WRDA Legislative committee reached a unanimous decision not to pursue legislation at this time.
- I attended the WRDA Fall Conference in Carter, where several presenters provided updates on topics relevant to our offices. The State Registrar and her team were present to discuss the cancellation of the new WAVE software project. The state has decided to select a new vendor, and additional updates will be provided as more information becomes available.
- I attended the Operations Committee meeting and the virtual option of the Open Enrollment meeting.
- I completed the mandatory password training from IT.
- In further discussions with Amy Kaup, IT Director, we have decided not to move forward with Fidar's Bastion as an additional data backup option. The IT department has identified an alternative solution that better meets the needs of the County. Thank you to Amy and her team for taking the time to review these options.



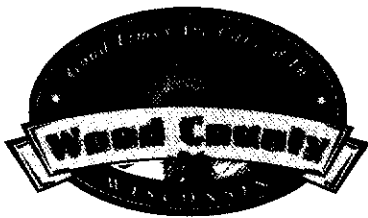
Meeting Minutes

October 19, 2026, 2:00 PM, Riverblock Auditorium Room 206

- 1.) The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bill Leichtnam at 2:00 pm.
- 2.) Public Comments: Chairman Leichtnam shared the news of the passing of Gordon “Gordy” Gottbeheut. Roundtable introductions. Bruce Demick shared the information on the \$245K DOJ ruling regarding the Central State Dairy.
- 3.) Motion to approve September 20th minutes: Buttke/Perlock
- 4.) New Business-Of the numerous items on the October 19th agenda, CWG decided to move forward with the following:
 - a) Creation of a 3 member CWG Planning Group
 - b) Recurring information booths at community-based events
 - c) Additional handouts/Additional booth banners
 - d) Invitations extended to subject matter experts to attend monthly meetings
 - e) Solicitation options for donations
 - f) Increase and improve CWG social media presence
 - g) Exploring student-lead marketing interships at Mid-State and UW for CWG promotion
 - h) Fees to be charged using coupons for Nitrate well water testing
 - i) Identifying next steps beyond education to remediate nitrate pollution
 - j) Next steps to Include:
 - WCA Advocacy, and a county resolution
- 5) Next meeting November 16th, 2:00 pm, River Block Auditorium
- 6) Meeting adjourned at 3:58-Motion by Clendenning/Casper

Present at the meeting: Bill Leichtnam, Susan Ettner, Bill Clendenning, Tom Buttke, Sandy Cain, Russ Perlock, Shane Wucherpfennig, Tim Hovendick, Sue Smith, Linda Casper, Lance Pliml, Bruce Dimick.

Respectfully submitted by Susan Ettner on October 21, 2026



Wood County WISCONSIN

LAND AND WATER
CONSERVATION
DEPARTMENT

CWG Mtg. Attendance (Oct. 19, '26)

1. Jon Beers
2. Bill Clendinning WCB.
3. Bill Cleburne WCB.
4. Shane Wicker/Ferry LWCD
5. Russ Perlock WCB #4
6. DAVE MANTHEY
7. Sandy Cain
8. Bruce Dimick
9. Linda Casper - WBB #13
10. Lance Fume WCB
11. T. Howard WCB #5
- 12.
- 13.
- 14.
- 15.

VIRTUAL

1. Sue Smith
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

RESOLUTION NO. 638 - 26**RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE STATE OF WISCONSIN TO FULLY FUND ALL STATE-MANDATED PROGRAMS AND POSITIONS**

WHEREAS, county governments serve as the administrative arm of the State of Wisconsin, delivering vital state services including public safety, health and human services, the judicial system, and statutory duties of constitutional elected officials; and

WHEREAS, the State continually enacts statutory requirements mandating counties to provide new or expanded programs and specific employment positions without providing adequate state revenue to cover the actual operational costs; and

WHEREAS, the State simultaneously imposes strict statutory levy limits on county property taxes, preventing local governments from generating the necessary revenue to absorb the rising costs of these state-mandated services; and

WHEREAS, shifting the financial burden of these state mandates onto the local property tax levy places an unsustainable hardship on residents in rural counties, particularly senior citizens on fixed incomes and young, growing families already struggling to meet basic household needs due to rising inflation; and

WHEREAS, the combination of flat state shared revenue and rising mandate costs forces counties to deplete funding for essential, non-mandated local services such as road maintenance, infrastructure, libraries, and parks; and

WHEREAS, the Marinette County Board of Supervisors firmly believes that if the State of Wisconsin deems a program or position important enough to mandate statewide, the State should take full financial responsibility for funding it rather than shifting the burden to local property taxpayers.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Marinette County Board of Supervisors respectfully requests the Governor of the State of Wisconsin and the Wisconsin State Legislature to fully fund all current and future state-mandated programs, services, and positions.

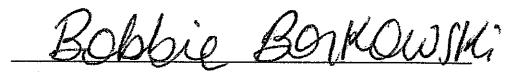
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the State should adopt legislation requiring any future mandates placed on local governments to include a reliable, permanent, and dedicated state funding source covering 100% of the associated local costs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Clerk is directed to forward a copy of this resolution to the Governor, Wisconsin state legislators, Wisconsin counties, and the Wisconsin Counties Association.

Approved by a majority vote of the quorum of the Marinette County Board of Supervisors on September 29, 2026.



John M. Guarisco, Chairperson



Bobbie Borkowski, County Clerk

Recommended: Administrative Committee on September 17, 2026

Marinette County Finance Department
Fiscal Impact Statement

Number 638 - 26

Ordinance

☐

Resolution

☒

**RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE STATE OF WISCONSIN TO FULLY FUND ALL
STATE-MANDATED PROGRAMS AND POSITIONS**

Fiscal Impact Statement:

While the exact cumulative cost of all state-mandated obligations cannot be precisely isolated, the chronic underfunding of these state requirements has directly created a severe structural deficit for Marinette County. The immediate, measurable fiscal impacts on the current budget cycle include:

Despite an anticipated slight increase in state aid, these funds fall critically short of covering the actual operational and inflationary costs of running state-mandated local departments.

Following the voter rejection of a \$1.5 million annual levy referendum intended to bridge the funding gap related to providing public safety within Marinette County, the County must absorb 100% of these inflationary mandated operational deficits internally.

To balance the 2027 annual budget, the County has been forced to hold or eliminate 42 county positions since the 2024 budget year shifting approximately \$3 million to offset the inflationary costs of providing essential services. This leaves departments short-staffed and affects frontline roles.

Hollie Viestenz

Hollie Viestenz
Finance Director

September 10, 2026

Date

RESOLUTION NO. 637 - 26

**REQUESTING AUTHORIZATION FROM THE WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE
FOR WISCONSIN COUNTIES TO ADOPT AN ADDITIONAL 0.5% SALES TAX FOR
ROAD AND BRIDGE INFRASTRUCTURE**

WHEREAS, Wisconsin counties currently have the statutory authority to adopt a 0.5 percent county sales and use tax; and

WHEREAS, Marinette County, like many counties across Wisconsin, faces increasing challenges in maintaining, repairing, and improving its road and bridge infrastructure due to rising construction costs, aging transportation assets, and limited revenue options; and

WHEREAS, local governments are responsible for a substantial portion of the state's transportation network, yet existing revenue sources are insufficient to meet long-term infrastructure needs; and

WHEREAS, providing counties with an additional, locally authorized revenue tool would allow them to address critical infrastructure needs without further burdening property taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, this resolution seeks statutory authorization from the Wisconsin State Legislature for counties to adopt an additional 0.5 percent sales and use tax, to be approved by each respective county board, with all revenue generated from the additional tax dedicated solely to maintaining, repairing, and improving road and bridge infrastructure within the county; and

WHEREAS, Marinette County further supports requiring that up to one-half of the revenue from any such additional 0.5 percent county sales and use tax be shared with municipalities within the county, to ensure that transportation improvements occur throughout the entire local road network; and

WHEREAS, Marinette County is committed to working with legislative and municipal partners to determine an equitable manner to distribute the funds to local municipalities; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Marinette County Board of Supervisors hereby respectfully requests that the Wisconsin Legislature enact legislation granting Wisconsin Counties the authority to adopt an additional 0.5 percent County sales and use tax, in addition to the existing 0.5 percent currently authorized by statute, with the following parameters:

- The additional 0.5 percent sales tax may be adopted by county ordinance with approval of the county board.
- All revenue generated from the additional 0.5 percent sales tax must be used exclusively for road and bridge maintenance, repair, and improvement within the county.
- Up to one-half of all revenue generated must be distributed to municipalities within the county; and

44 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that upon adoption, the Marinette County Clerk forward a
45 copy of this resolution to the Wisconsin Counties Association, the Governor, Wisconsin Towns
46 Association, all county boards in Wisconsin, and all local and state legislators who represent citizens
47 across Marinette County for consideration, support, and action.
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50 Adopted this 25th day of August 2026, by a majority of a quorum of the Marinette County Board of
51 Supervisors.
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56 John M. Guarisco, Chairperson

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59 Bobbie Borkowski, County Clerk
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