

MINUTES OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, September 24, 2025
TIME: 10:00 AM
PLACE: Courthouse – County Board Room

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

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

1. Chair Valenstein called the committee to order at 10:00 AM.
2. There was no public comment.
3. Finance Director Yang provided the committee with the current overview of the 2026 budget as it stands as of today.
4. Department Heads and Committee Chairs listed below presented further clarification of their budget requests to the committee:
 - a. Maintenance – Reuben Van Tassel – related to the additional FTE for automation infrastructure
 - b. Edgewater Haven – Justin Cieslewicz – Reviewed a calculation error in Medicare revenues and various changes to the budget made to compensate for the error.
 - c. Human Services (Community & Norwood) – Brandon Vruwink – Reviewed the positions approved by county board and possible census adjustments that could be made to increase revenue projections.
 - d. Highway Dept. – Roland Hawk & John Peckham – Reviewed increased costs and adjustments made to date to lower levy request.
 - e. Sheriff's Dept – Shawn Becker & Quentin Ellis – Reviewed increases in FTE counts, two of which have been approved by county board previously. The other two are correction officers needed in the new jail.
 - f. Coroner – Yang reviewed the vehicle request, which is dependent on the Emergency Management CIP being approved in the budget, whereby their vehicle would be transferred to the coroner.
 - g. Clerk of Courts – Kimberly Stimac and Chair Clendenning – Review of additional hours from 2015 to 2080 for full time employees due to increase of Assistant District Attorneys and an additional judge.
 - h. Criminal Justice Coordinator – Dillon Ksionek and Chair Clendenning – Review of both Dept. of Justice grant funding for diversion courts, as well as grant funding of jail programming and their effect on FTE count and services.
 - i. District Attorney – Jonathan Barnett & Chair Clendenning – Review of additional FTEs coinciding with additional ADAs the state is providing.

- j. Extension – Jason Hausler & Chair Leichtnam – Review of new fully county funded nutrition position (80% FTE) to replace federally funded position that has been cut by the federal budget.
 - k. Information Technology – Amy Kaup & Chair Breu – Review of additional FTE request.
5. Yang reviewed the following proposed budgets:
- a. Library Tax
 - b. UWSP at Marshfield
 - c. Ho-Chunk Nation funding
 - d. Contingency
 - e. Payment in lieu of taxes
6. The committee will continue to review the budget numbers as they are amended by the departments.
7. Chair Valenstein declared the meeting adjourned at 12:37 PM.

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

Operations Committee
September 24, 2025

NAME	REPRESENTING
Bill Cledanning	WCB #15
DENNIS POLACH	WCB - #14
Darrin Steinbach	Finance
Panyia YANG	Finance
Katie Miloch	WCHSD
Bill Leichtnam	WCB #19
Kim Shmal	Clerk of Courts
SHAWN BECKER	SHERIFF'S DEPT
QUENTIN ELLIS	"
JOHN PECKHAM	HIGHWAY
AL BREU	PIT, HIRC WC#6
AMY KAUP	IT
Katie DeKleyn (Web Ex)	County Clerk
Jodi Liegel (Web Ex)	Human Services
Quentin Ellis (Web Ex)	Sheriff's Dept
Justin Cieslewicz (Web Ex)	Edgewater Haven
Amy Kaup (Web Ex)	IT
Jason Hauster (Web Ex)	Extension
Katie Haganstad (Web Ex)	Human Services
Roland Hawk (Web Ex)	Hwy
Nick Flanagan (Web Ex)	Corp Counsel
Brad Hamilton (Web Ex)	County Board Dist 18