

AGENDA
WOOD COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

DATE: Tuesday, September 16, 2025
TIME: 9:30 AM
LOCATION: Courthouse – Room 300

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

EXCUSALS:

INVOCATION: Supervisor Voight

READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESIGNATIONS:

APPOINTMENTS/Re-APPOINTMENTS:

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, October 21, 2025

ADJOURN

PROCEEDINGS OF THE WOOD COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

August 19, 2025 – 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, August 19, 2025.

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, Rozar, Schulz, Thao, Valenstein, and Voight.

Excused was Zurfluh.

Supervisor Rozar gave the invocation led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

There was no public comment.

There were no referrals.

Committee minutes presented: Operations.

RESOLUTION 25-8-1

Introduced by: Public Safety and Operations Committees

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To accept WI DOJ COSSUP grant funding totaling \$350,000 and create a Coordinated Response Specialist position. (1.0 FTE)

FISCAL NOTE: 2025 and 2026 will be entirely funded by grant. One half of 2027 will be funded by the grant but would require \$83,077.75 County budgeted funds to continue the position and contracted services.

Motion by Hamilton/Schulz to adopt Resolution 25-8-1. Motion carried unanimously. Excused was Zurfluh.

RESOLUTION 25-8-2

Introduced by: Operations Committees

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: Resolution authorizing the issuance and establishing parameters for the sale of not to exceed \$4,500,000 General Obligation Promissory Notes.

Motion by Clendenning/Voight to adopt Resolution 25-8-2. Motion carried unanimously. Excused was Zurfluh.

Committee minutes presented: Health & Human Services, North Central Community Action Program Board of Directors, Public Safety, Conservation, Education, & Economic Development, North Central Wisconsin Tourism Partnership Tourism Committee, Land Information Council.

RESOLUTION 25-8-3

Introduced by: Conservation, Education, & Economic Development Committee

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To designate the Citizens Water Group of Wood County as an advisory subcommittee of the Wood County Conservation, Education & Economic Development Committee.

FISCAL NOTE: No fiscal impact to Wood County.

Motion by Leichtnam/Schulz to adopt Resolution 25-8-3. Motion carried unanimously. Excused was Zurfluh.

Committee minutes presented: Judicial & Legislative.

RESOLUTION 25-8-4

Introduced by: Judicial & Legislative Committee

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To delegate the authority to enter into Settlement Agreements with Opioid Defendants.

FISCAL NOTE: Wood County is projected to receive approximately \$1.57 million from initial Opioid Settlements through 2038.

Motion by Hamilton/Schulz to adopt Resolution 25-8-4. Motion carried unanimously. Excused was Zurfluh.

Committee minutes presented: Highway Infrastructure & Recreation, Property & Information Technology, Junior Fair Board, McMillan Library Board of Trustees, South Central Library Board of Trustees.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS PARKS & FORESTRY ANNUAL REPORT

Parks & Forestry Director Schooley presented the 2024 Annual Report for his department, highlighting the construction projects completed, and various statistics tracked for previous year comparison.

Motion by Valenstein/Leichtnam to go into closed session pursuant to Wis Stats 19.85 (1)(e) to review the proposed development agreement with the City of Wisconsin Rapids. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Rozar/Schulz to return to open session.

RESOLUTION 25-8-5

Introduced by: Property & Information Technology Committee

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To authorize entry into the attached Agreement with the City of Wisconsin Rapids to provide for improved accessibility to the Courthouse.

FISCAL NOTE: The final cost of the improved accessibility is yet to be determined, decisions on how to fund the project will be decided by the County Board.

Motion by Hamilton/Brehm to adopt Resolution 25-8-5. Motion carried unanimously. Excused was Zurfluh.

Without objection, Chairman Pliml adjourned the meeting at 10:53 AM. Next scheduled county board meeting is September 16, 2025.

Trent Miner
County Clerk

REFERRALS FOR SEPTEMBER 16, 2025 – COUNTY BOARD

- NONE

MINUTES OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, September 2, 2025

TIME: 10:00 AM

PLACE: Courthouse – Rm 302

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

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

1. Chair Valenstein called the meeting to order at 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 reviewed updates of the Wellness Program.
5. Kelly Borchart from Child Caring reviewed the status of the ARPA funding distributed to date, reviewed the projects and number of children additionally served with those funds, as well as the state budgeted funding for child care.
6. County Clerk Miner and Chief Deputy County Clerk DeKleyn presented the 2026 County Clerk budgets. Motion by Rozar/Pliml to approve the budgets as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
7. Miner & DeKleyn reviewed the current status of the county's election tabulation system and the fact that a number of the tabulators in the county are not able to be upgraded any further. In order to get all municipalities on one system, new tabulators will be purchased in 2027, along with the servers required, to upgrade to the most secure and up-to-date version. The committee consensus was to approach the municipalities to fund a small portion of the purchase price of the new tabulators and bring back the request in further CIP discussions.
8. Ben Jennings returned to the committee in regards to additional granite pieces he would like to acquire from the old Port Edwards mill, as well as the statue out front. After discussion and review, he was instructed to work with Facilities Manager Van Tassel in identifying additional, but limited, granite removal, at which time an addendum to the existing agreement would be acted on.
9. Treasurer Gehrt presented the 2026 Treasurer's budget to the committee. Motion by Rozar/Valenstein to approve the budget as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

10. Gehrt presented a resolution to quit claim deed a tax deeded parcel back to the former owner. Motion by Rozar/Pliml to approve the resolution and forward to the county board for their consideration. Motion carried unanimously.
11. Finance Director Yang informed the committee of the continued Aa2 bond rating after the bond rating call recently held.
12. Yang presented the 2026 Finance Budget to the committee. Motion by Pliml/Zurfluh to approve the budget as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
13. The committee set Wednesday, September 24th at 10:00 AM as the date the committee would review county budgets.
14. Yang presented a resolution from the Sheriff's Dept. to create 1.0 FTE for the Auburndale School Resource Officer, which is funded in part by the school district as well as hopeful grant funding. Motion by Zurfluh/Hahn to approve the resolution and forward onto the county board for their consideration. Motion carried unanimously.
15. HR Director McGrath presented the 2026 HR budgets to the committee. Motion by Rozar/Zurfluh to approve the budgets as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
16. McGrath presented a change to the Employee Service & Retirement Recognition Policy whereby each department would be allotted a certain amount for employee recognition going forward. Motion by Pliml/Hahn to approve the policy change as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
17. McGrath stated because of lack of usage, the Core Values program and procedures is being eliminated at the end of this year. Motion by Rozar/Pliml to approve the discontinuation of the program. Motion carried unanimously.
18. McGrath presented three different policies noted below:
 - a. Overtime/Compensatory Time Policy (eliminate Essential Duty Pay provision for Crisis Intervention and Bridgeway staff)
 - b. Wage Plan Policy (eliminate Merit Pay)
 - c. Travel Policy (update reimbursement rates per revised County Board rules)Motion by Rozar/Hahn to approve the updates as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
19. Motion by Pliml/Rozar to move into closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. 19.85(1)(e) which reads "Deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session" for the purpose of

discussing Wood County Deputy Sheriff's Association WPPA/LEER Bargaining Agreement negotiations. Motion carried unanimously.

20. Motion by Rozar/Hahn to move back into open session. Motion carried unanimously.

21. The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 7, 2025, at 10:00 AM.

22. Chair Valenstein adjourned the meeting at 11:55 AM.

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

September 2, 2025

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Wood County WISCONSIN

OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY CLERK

Trent Miner

Letter of Comments – September 2025

- We will be presenting our 4 budgets to you at the September meeting. I will not get into the specifics here but will go more into detail at the meeting.
- We had another very successful STUFF THE BUS this year. Our office is a collection point for this United Way program, and many employees, along with county board supervisors, donated generously once again. The back of my pickup was filled once again with the drop off point being the old East Junior High gymnasium. That is a nice venue to be able to drive up and drop off.
- Preventative maintenance on the election equipment is scheduled the first week of September in the county board room. We have everyone bring their equipment here, so ES&S does not have to jump around the county. It's nice to be able to have a large area to do the PMs for over 80 pieces of equipment and have the storage associated with that room. My thanks to Security Services for letting my clerks be able to drop off their equipment as fast as they can without having to come into the building.
- I will be attending the WCA Conference in the Dells at the end of the month, which coincides with the fall meeting of the Wisconsin County Clerks Association. More time with the Elections Commission will be on the docket as we gear up for a busy election season next year. For those attending, I will have information to hand out to you at the September county board meeting and, as always, I will be available if anything comes up down there.
- I have another training to do before I am recertified to conduct Chief Election Inspector baseline training. I am recertified for Municipal Clerk Core training since my excursion to River Falls in June. I also want to get my clerks and CEIs together yet this year for a refresher training before we hit election season starting in December.
- After the last unwanted video that occurred at the county board meeting, and after consultation with IT, I made the decision to eliminate the WebEx options at meetings while a permanent fix is researched and implemented.
- I have another blood drive scheduled for Friday, September 26th in the County Board Room. Feel free to give us a call and we can get you (yes, you supervisors 😊) set up with an appointment.



Wood County

WISCONSIN

Office of
Finance Director

PaNyia Yang
Finance Director

Date: 8/27/2025
To: Operations Committee
From: PaNyia Yang
Subject: Monthly Letter of Comments

Departmental Activities

Finance Department Updates

a. ARPA Funds

As of July 31st, we have about \$4.5 million yet to spend – the majority being \$3.28 million of park improvements/building. The smaller amounts consist of \$577,000 for the radio system update, Land & Water Conservation of \$221,000 for various projects, Highway of \$232,000 for the Marshfield fuel system, Planning & Zoning of \$145,000 for LiDAR, and Sheriff of \$60,000 for the rescue truck.

b. 2026 Budget Update

What a busy month for all departments. Departments promoted their budgets to Finance on August 20th. Darrin and I have been busy analyzing budgets and working on updating budget summary reports for departments that have non-lapsing accounts. Questica does not have the capability to enter that data in; therefore, we have to export the summary report to excel and manually adjust amounts so that the true levy amount and budget increase/decrease shows. I expect to have a clear picture of where the budget stands sometime early to mid-September. Darrin and I will be busy analyzing budgets in the next week or so making sure we aren't missing anything significant. I can confidently say though that we'll yet again be looking at a deficit, which is not something that is out of the ordinary for us.

Agenda Items

Moody's Rating

The Moody's bond rating call took place on August 14th. It went very well in my opinion. We had prepared a lot of information in advance for their review before the call; therefore, the call was mainly follow-up questions. Moody's assigned us a Aa2 once again, which is what I had expected since not much has changed. I have included a summary of their rating in the packet that also lists factors that could lead to upgrades and/or downgrades of our current rating. These are items we will certainly keep in the back of our mind as we continue to borrow for future CIP projects.

2026 Finance Budget Review

We ended up with an overall 4.67% or \$27,735 increase. Like usual, a majority of the increase is related to wages/fringes, which increased 4.50%. This is in line with a COLA of 2.5% and step increases of 2.5% and maybe a little less due to changes within the department due to a retirement and promotions. The other portion of that increase is from our contractual services. We increased our software/contract costs by 6.84% or \$6,155. Audit costs are expected to increase 4%. The other increases (based on 5-year actuals) are under our software contracts (i.e. Dynamics, Aatrix E-Filing, HRMS, Questica, TimeStar, etc.). Overall, with not a very large budget and much wiggle room, this is a pretty typical budget for us. No significant changes to note.



Wood County

WISCONSIN

Office of
Finance Director

PaNyia Yang
Finance Director

Set time/date for 2026 Budget meeting

I'm looking to have the Operations Committee set up a special meeting sometime in late September to go over the 2026 budget. As we have done in prior years, we'll request that the selected departments attend this meeting and give an overview of their budget in more detail. Finance will communicate to department heads if they are the chosen ones.

Resolution – Create a School Resource Deputy position

Auburndale School District has approached the Sheriff's Department about establishing a School Resource Deputy position, which includes a commitment from the school district to fund the position for the next 3 years - \$60,000 annually. The Sheriff's Department will also be applying for grants in 2026 to help offset the additional wages/fringe.



Wood County WISCONSIN

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

August 29, 2025

To: Wood County Operations Committee

From: Kimberly McGrath, Director- Human Resources

Subject: Human Resources (HR) Monthly Letter of Comments – August 2025

Human Resources Activity

	August 2025	2025 Year-to-Date
Applications Received	83	1,250
Positions Filled	11	128
Promotions/Transfers	3	33
New Hire Orientations	10	99
Terminations, Voluntary	7*	59
Terminations, Involuntary	0	6
Retirements	0	10
Turnover Rate	.71%	.90%
Exit Interviews	2	26

*Three of these are casual

Human Resources Narrative

General Highlights

1. Began the preliminary stages of creating an Employee Engagement Survey. Met with members of the Workforce Development Department at Mid-State Technical College (MSTC) on August 5th to discuss our survey goals, timeline, questions, reporting, and analysis. Survey questions have been finalized and shared with Department Heads. MSTC is currently setting up the survey in an electronic format. A January 2026 launch date is anticipated. The survey will be optional and intended for all Wood County employees.
2. Continued preparations for the 2025 Leadership Retreat. We are again partnering with Mid-State Technical College for our annual professional development day, which is scheduled to take place on Thursday, November 13th. The agenda has been finalized and shared out to departments. This year's retreat will focus on Building High Functioning Teams, Team Problem Solving, and AI Leadership. All Wood County managers and supervisors are invited and encouraged to attend!
3. Completed the Q2 2025 Wood County Core Value Awards process. To be nominated, a Wood County employee would have been witnessed exemplifying one or more of the six identified Wood County Core Values. A total of 8 nominations were received for the quarter, of which Department Heads reviewed and voted on at their Q3 Department Head meeting. The following employees were selected to receive a Core Values Award:
 - Service: Tina Groshek, District Attorney's Office

- Compassion: Scott Goldberg, Sheriff's Department
- Initiative: Shawne Judnic, Human Services

These employees will receive their merit pay award on the September 4th payroll.

4. Finalized the Human Resources/Wellness/Risk Management 2026 budget. Budget reports and an overview will be presented to the Operations Committee on September 2nd.

Meetings & Trainings

1. Attended the Operations Committee meeting on August 5th.
2. Attended County Board on August 19th.
3. Attended the Network Exchange for HR Professionals on August 13th. Spectrum Solutions of Central WI presented "Health Benefits, Industry Trends, and Strategies for Managing Costs."
4. Attended the monthly conference call with The Horton Group on August 26th to discuss various benefit topics, including the 2026 renewal process.
5. Attended an Unemployment Appeal Hearing on August 26th.
6. Attended the quarterly Department Head Meeting on August 27th.
7. Held individual staff and team meetings to discuss and provide updates on the department's identified 2025 goals.
8. Team members attended various webinars related to benefits, employment law, and compliance.

Benefits

1. 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.
2. Processed and prepared monthly COBRA remittance, EBC admin fees, and stop loss admin fees.
3. Assisted multiple employees with questions related to FMLA, leaves of absence, retirement, and benefit claims concerns.
4. 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.
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	Clerk of Courts	Information Clerk	Position posted: interviews conducted, references completed, offer extended and accepted, filled 9/2/2025

Replacement(s)	Dispatch	Dispatchers (3 vacancies) – Establish Eligibility List	Position posted, interviews conducted, background/references completed, offers extended and accepted. Filled 8/25, 9/2, and 10/6/2025. Eligibility list established
Replacement	District Attorney	Legal Administrative Assistant	Position posted, interviews conducted, background/references completed, offer extended and accepted, filled 8/11/2025
Replacements	Edgewater	CNA, RN, LPN, and Dietary Assistant – (Multiple)	Ongoing recruitment- positions posted, applications reviewed, interviews, references, backgrounds, onboarding. Deadline 9/8/2025
Replacement	Human Services	Casual Bus Driver	Position posted; interviews conducted, references/DL check/background completed, offer extended and accepted, filled 7/28/2025
Replacement	Human Services	Family Interaction Worker	Position posted; deadline 9/8/2025, applications being reviewed
Replacements	Human Services	CCS Case Mgr (Support & Service Coordinator) 1-Mfld, 3-WR	Positions posted; two WR positions filled 7/14 and 8/4/2025. Two remaining positions (WR & Mfld) posted, deadline 9/1/2025
Replacement	Human Services	Case Mgr/SW-IA	Position posted; interviews conducted, background check/references pending
Replacement	Human Services	Mental Hlth/SUD	Position posted; interviews conducted, offer extended and accepted, filled internally 8/31/2025
Replacement	Human Services	Case Mgr/SW-Ongoing	Position posted; interviews conducted, references/background completed, offer extended and accepted, filled 8/11/2025
Replacement	Human Services	Children’s Waiver Case Mgrs (Support & Service Case Mgr) 1-Mfld, 1-WR	Position posted, deadline 9/1/2025
Replacement	IT/Systems	Network Analyst	Position posted; interviews conducted, references/background completed, offer extended and accepted, filled 8/4/2025
Replacement	IT/Systems	Services Support Analyst	Filled internally, 9/15/2025
Replacements	Norwood	Mental Health Technicians, Dietary Aides, RN, and LPN	Ongoing recruitment- positions posted, applications reviewed, interviews, references, backgrounds, onboarding; deadline 10/27/2025
Replacement	Planning & Zoning	County Planner	Position posted, deadline 9/15/2025
Replacement	Sheriff	Corrections Officers – Establish Eligibility List	Position posted; interviews being conducted, references/background completed, offer extended and accepted for two vacancies, filled 8/11 and 8/25/2025, deadline 9/8/2025
New Position – Resolution 25-8-1	Sheriff	Coordinated Response Specialist	Position posted, deadline 9/22/2025

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. Attended Edgewater Safety Committee on August 6th and Norwood Safety Committee on August 12th.
4. Conducted N95 fit testing at Edgewater Haven for six staff/contractors on August 27th.

5. Met with Emergency Management, Dispatch, Edgewater, Norwood, and IT staff on various dates to discuss messaging in the Everbridge System.

OPEN Workers' Compensation Claims (1)

1. 2/12/25 – EM – Employee slipped on ice, fell on L side hauling debris to bin at EM Shop (surgery required)

CLOSED Workers' Compensation Claims (2)

1. 7/4/25 – Sheriff's – Employee suffered various injuries while attempting to restrain combative individual
2. 7/11/25 – Sheriff's – Employee was kicked in the torso and head while attempting to restrain combative individual

First Aid Injuries (2)

1. 7/29/25 – Edgewater – Employee strained L side of neck lifting laundry from bin
2. 8/6/25 – Norwood – Employee had L foot run over by Broda chair while transferring resident

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. No recent activity.
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.

Other

1. Quarter 3 Random DOT selections distributed; due no later than September 2nd.
2. Posted multiple announcements on LinkedIn and Facebook throughout the month. These include job advertisements, employee recognition, and other relevant community-focused announcements.
3. Worked with Unemployment Insurance (UI) to provide additional information regarding multiple claims. Worked with various departments to compile information needed.
4. Reconciled and processed the July Unemployment Insurance payment.
5. Received and processed multiple invoices for HR, Safety & Risk, and Wellness.
6. Facilitated New Hire Orientation on August 4th, 11th, and 25th.
7. Conducted an exit interview on August 8th and 22nd.
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—SEPTEMBER 2025

1. Attended Wisconsin Counties Association weekly calls on Mondays in August.
2. Met with Corporation Counsel on August 4 regarding notification of eviction on tenants on a home that was tax deeded.
3. Attended Operations Committee meeting on August 5.
4. With the Assistance of the Sheriff's and Maintenance Departments, inspected and locked up several properties for upcoming tax deed sealed bid sale on August 12.
5. Attended United Way Board of Directors meeting on August 13.
6. Participated in United Way Campaign training on August 19.
7. Paid out all taxing jurisdictions their final settlement payments on August 19.
8. Participated in a Webinar with Catalis, our tax software program and Wood County municipalities on implementation of their new collection software from 1 pm-4 pm on August 20.
9. Per direction of the Finance Department, 2026 Treasurer's budget was submitted on August 20.
10. Hosted Associated Bank as we did a portfolio review on August 21.
11. Attended Department Head meeting at Courthouse on August 27.
12. This office sent out a little over 1,000 notices for all years' delinquent taxes (2022-2024) to try to lessen the amount of tax certificates that will need to be issued on September 1 for the delinquent 2024 taxes. Total amounts as of that printing outstanding was just over \$3 million.
13. Due to a municipality submitting the wrong directory information to the County Clerk for publication, Assessor Notices of Change for a municipality went out with the wrong phone number for the Clerk. The person who holds that phone number called our office to express his displeasure with the incorrect information going out and wanted us to "fix it." The office corrected the phone number in the system and then printed and mailed out new notices to the residents with a note of why they were receiving the notice again.
14. I will be out of the office on vacation August 28 & 29. Please get a hold of me ahead of time if you have any questions.



Wood County

WISCONSIN

Employee Wellness

Riley Peterson

Letter of Comments – August 2025

- This past month, there has been a focus on creating and registering participants for the Q3 Neuro Wellness challenge. The goal of this challenge is to encourage participants to improve their cognitive health through various activities that promote critical thinking skills, positive reasoning, and overall brain health. This challenge will end mid-September.
- I have been reviewing different resources that Wood County employees can utilize while planning for future challenges for this year and potentially for the following year. My hope is ManageWell will clearly display resources available to them for various topics like financial guidance, mental health and smoking.
- I will be conducting body composition testing in September via the InBody analysis machine. Participants will have the opportunity to get measurements such as fat mass/percentage, skeletal muscle mass, lean dry mass, and water weight tested all in less than 10 minutes. After the assessment, the participants will get a detailed review of the numbers from the Wellness Coordinator. An initial kickoff email was sent last week, and registration is now available at www.managewell.com.
- I have transitioned to being onsite on Tuesdays at the Riverblock building. This will give employees the opportunity to do in person coaching and will increase their accessibility to wellness.
- I am continuing to work with new hires and/or employees who have previously not enrolled in the Wellness Program to get accounts setup on www.managewell.com so they may begin the process of completing the qualifying activities and become more involved in the Wellness Program.



RESOLUTION#

DATE

September 16, 2025

Effective

Date

Upon passage & posting

Page 1 of 2

Introduced by

Public Safety and 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 accept Auburndale School District funding totaling \$60,000 annually for 3 years and create a School Resource Deputy position. (1.0 FTE)

FISCAL NOTE: The remainder of 2025 will be entirely funded by school district funds. County budgeted funds in addition to the \$60,000 annual contribution from Auburndale School District will be used to continue the position. Additional grant funding has been applied for that would support the position for the next 3 years.

Anticipated wages and benefits based on the current collective bargaining agreement with the Wood County Deputy Sheriffs' Association:

	2025
Wages:	\$23,976
Fringe:	\$11,444
Total:	\$35,420
School District funds:	\$60,000
Cost to County	\$0.00

WHEREAS, Wood County Sheriff's Department has a long history of positive relationships with schools throughout the county. Most schools in municipalities with police departments already have school resource officers (SROs) onsite, and

WHEREAS, The Auburndale School District serves approximately 850 students from the village of Auburndale (population 698) and the surrounding rural areas and employs a staff of 100. Auburndale does not have a municipal police department and relies on WCSD for law enforcement activities, and

Adopted by the County Board of Wood County, September 16, 2025

County Clerk

County Board Chairman

WHEREAS, WCSD deputies are a routine presence at Auburndale School District but are dispatched on an as needed basis limiting continuity and opportunities for relationship building with students, families, and staff, and

WHEREAS, Auburndale School District administration has approached WCSD about establishing a School Resource Deputy program, including a financial commitment to the position for the next three years, and

WHEREAS, the Wood County Sheriff's Department is also applying for grant funding to offset wage and benefit costs associated with the position starting in 2026, 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 function level"

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, to accept Auburndale School District funds and create a Deputy Sheriff position assigned as a School Resource Deputy (1.0 FTE), Department: Sheriff, pay in accordance with the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Wood County Deputy Sheriffs' Association, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED to amend the Sheriff's Department Traffic-Police budget (52140) for 2025 by appropriating \$60,000 of unanticipated revenue from Auburndale School District funding into the Intergovernmental Revenue account (43529).



RESOLUTION#

DATE September 16, 2025
Effective
Date September 16, 2025

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: Authorize the sale of tax deed property back to former owner.

FISCAL NOTE: Paid Amount \$5,460.60

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 25-7-4, the Wood County Board of Supervisors authorized the taking of a tax deed on parcel number 34-03133, more particularly described as:

Lot 14 and the West half of Lot 15, Block 9, Lyon Park Addition to the City of Wisconsin Rapids, Wood County, Wisconsin.

WHEREAS, Wood County Ordinance 904 and Wis. Stat. § 75.35(3) authorizes Wood County to sell tax deed property back to the former owner upon payment of all taxes, interest, fees, and special charges and assessments,

WHEREAS, it is beneficial for Wood County to sell to the former owner of this property because the funds received on August 8, 2025 will compensate the County in full for the amounts due and owing,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wood County Board of Supervisors authorize the County Clerk to sell the above referenced property back to the former owner by Quit Claim Deed.

		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, September 16, 2025

County Clerk

County Board Chairman

MINUTES

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, August 28, 2025
TIME: 4:00 PM
PLACE: Wood County Annex & Health Center - Classroom

MEMBERS PRESENT: Donna Rozar, Tom Buttke, John Hokamp, Lee Thao, Laura Valenstein, Leslie Kronstedt, Dr. Tim Golemgieski (arriving at 5:15 PM)

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Rachel Stankowski, Marie Topping

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

1. Chair Rozar called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM and declared a quorum present.
2. Under public comment, Public Health Manager Kathy Alft noted that the Health Department was recognized for 25 years in the Healthy Smiles/Seal a Smile program, the only one in the state with this many years of service put into this program.
3. The consent agenda was reviewed with inquiries being addressed. Errors in the previous minutes, including date and location, were noted. Motion by Buttke/Thao to approve the consent agenda with the minutes corrected as noted. Motion carried unanimously.
4. Health Department Director Smith and Alft reviewed the 2026 Health Department budgets and noted the changes made due to federal funding being cut. There are still unknowns but the budget presented is a best guess at this point in time. Motion by Buttke/Kronstedt to approve the 2026 Health Department budgets as presented and forward to the Finance Department. Motion carried unanimously.
5. Norwood Administrator Kornack reviewed the current status of the Norwood water management noting that design work continues with plan design meeting coming up before going to the bid process.
6. Edgewater Haven Administrator Cieslewicz reported that the insurance company has once again denied the claim on the generator conduit line cleaning. The project is out to bid at present.
7. Edgewater Haven Administrator Cieslewicz, Norwood Administrator Kornack, and Human Services Director Vruwink presented the 2026 Human Services budgets. There were decreases in levy support for Edgewater Haven and Norwood, and a small increase, within the parameters set by the Operations Committee, for the Community portion of the Human Services budgets. The department heads

discussed the various challenges moving forward, such as a decrease in federal funding and the unknown direction of the ADRC for the meals program. Motion by Buttke/Kronstedt to approve the 2026 Human Services budgets as presented and forward to the Finance Department. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Veterans Service Officer Larson presented the 2026 Veterans budgets. He reviewed the request of the Veterans Service Commission for an increase in the Veterans Relief budget and explained its uses. Motion by Thao/Valenstein to approve the 2026 Veterans budgets as presented and forward to the Finance Department. Motion carried unanimously.
9. Motion by Hokamp/Thao to go into closed session pursuant to 19.85(1)(f) Wis. Stats to consider leave of absence requests. Motion carried unanimously.
10. Motion by Buttke/Kronstedt to return to open session. Motion carried unanimously.
11. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, September 25th at 5:00 PM at the Edgewater Haven Nursing Home Conference Room.
12. Chair Rozar declared the meeting adjourned at 6:31 PM.

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

Health & Human Services Committee

August 28, 2025

[illegible]

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:** The Wisconsin Rapids Finance Committee as well as the City Council met on August 19. In the end, they directed the city attorney and fire chief to work with the Safe Haven Baby Box organization on a contract to have a box installed at one of the fire department locations. I followed up to both the city attorney and fire chief offering to assist however I can.
- **Opioid Settlement:** We received several deposits from various opioid settlement agreements. The current balance is \$374,336.43. We will again be convening the Opioid Task Force to make some tweaks to our grantmaking process and then put out a request for applications and get these funds out the door to community partners, other county departments, etc.
- **Legislative Update:** I was invited to attend the signing of three bills by Governor Evers.
 - 2025 Senate Bill 43/Assembly Bill 44 (Relating to: allowing advanced practice nurse prescribers to pronounce the date, time, and place of a patient's death for purposes of the preparation of death records.)
 - 2025 Assembly Bill 257/Senate Bill 258 (Relating to: advanced practice registered nurses, extending the time limit for emergency rule procedures, providing an exemption from emergency rule procedures, and granting rule-making authority.)
 - 2025 Senate Bill 31/Assembly Bill 145 (Relating to: state agency status for certain advanced practice nurses and physician assistants who provide services without compensation for local health departments or school districts.) Chair Rozar worked diligently to get this bill drafted and moved through the legislature.

SUPERVISOR OF STRATEGIC INITIATIVES REPORT – KRISTIE RAUTER EGGE, MPH

- Staff updated the department's Workforce Development Plan with 2024 Public Health Workforce Interests and Needs Survey (PH WINS) results.
- Staff presented on a panel for UW Public Health Infrastructure Grant Immersion webinar about WCHD's deliberative dialogue work and another webinar on how neighboring health departments (Portage and Wood) have collaborated through the years.
- Staff are updating the Community Engagement Toolkit for the department.
- Staff were invited to attend the Governor's bill signing as WPHA Policy & Advocacy Committee Chair.
- Staff are serving as a mentor for a group of 3 residents in the N2PH (New to Public Health) residency program.
- Fun personal update from Niki Lucht – My twins turned 3 on 7/29, and my daughter who had esophageal atresia and was in the NICU for 7 months had surgery on July 31 to remove her g-tube! She eats 100% by mouth, and both girls are doing incredible!

Communication/Branding

Ongoing updates are being finalized and published to the Healthy People Wood County website. Visit healthypeoplewoodcounty.org to explore the updated pages, which include resources, support, and efforts focused on improving community health.

Community Health Improvement Plan Work

- The Community Health Improvement Plan is being disseminated and implemented through a variety of channels, including actively engaging with elected officials, conducting outreach to municipalities and villages, facilitating group discussions, holding one-on-one meetings, and sharing at community events. We invite partners and organizations interested in learning more about the action plan or exploring potential collaboration opportunities to connect with us to schedule a meeting or presentation.
- Meetings with staff are ongoing to review and update the 2025-2027 Community Health Improvement Monitoring and Evaluation plan.
- Meetings and engagement are ongoing with our partner health systems to align efforts and outline future collaborative initiatives.

Mental Health

- Staff completed the WeCope: Connecting Our Positive Emotions for Rural Public Service, a seven-week program through Great Lakes ROTA-RC hosted by University of Wisconsin-Madison, Division of Extension.
- Meetings are being scheduled and held with partners and organizations to align objectives, foster collaboration, and provide support.
- Activities outlined in the action plan are being implemented to address the use of technology and social media on youth mental health, social isolation, and loneliness, and the impact of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs).

- Staff participated in the MACY (Marshfield Area Coalition for Youth) Mental Health Task Force Meetings. The task force is actively engaged in strategic planning and identifying the needs of Marshfield youth to develop strategies and initiatives to impactfully move forward with.
- Staff participated in AI Literacy: A Toolkit for Family Engagement to learn about strategies to share with partners in addressing the impact of the use of technology on youth mental health.
- Staff are revising a Policy Brief on Adolescent Youth Mental Health from UW-Milwaukee Students.

Farmer's Market

July was a vibrant month at the Farmers Market; we welcomed 75 vendors and several community businesses, filling the market with fresh food, handmade goods, and friendly faces. Here a quick look at the impact:

- \$972 in Debit/Credit transactions
- \$698 in SNAP/EBT transactions
- \$240 in SNAP/EBT Double Dollar Match benefits
- \$500 in Aspirus Fruit and Veggies RX redemptions
- \$46,297 in total vendor sales self-reported

Central Wisconsin Regional Farmers Market Collaborative

- A bimonthly newsletter was sent out to the Central WI Farmers Market Collaborative. Staff are entering collected Farm2Facts data into the data base and collecting more data and forging new relationships with market vendors and market managers alike. Data collection took place at Waupaca Farmers Market, WI Rapids Farmers Market, Rome Farmers Market, Clintonville Farmers Market, and Stevens Point Market (we also hosted a tour with FoodWise colleagues at this market in early August). Staff wrote and presented on a Wood County Economic Development grant that was written to benefit the Marshfield and WI Rapids Farmers Markets.
- Staff created a survey for our vendors to fill out to configure what types of educational interests they may have for our vendor webinar series.
- Staff completed a Delta Dental Grant Application for the Stevens Point Double Dollars program in partnership with UWSP Graduate assistant students
- UWSP Intern hosted a Mental Health at the Farmers Market data collection survey with input from the Portage County Health Department.
- Staff wrote multiple press releases for Farmers Markets to celebrate National Farmers Market Week which occurs the first full week in August every year.

Safe Kids Wood and Clark Counties

Staff completed car seat reporting/Department of Transportation reporting and completed training on data entry for Child Death Review.

IMPACT (Substance Use)

- *Harm Reduction Conference*: Members attended the 2025 Wisconsin Harm Reduction Conference held on July 16-17 in Wisconsin Dells and virtually. This second Harm Reduction Conference focused on learning and networking, aiming to unite experts and those interested in expanding harm reduction services and policies. It provided an opportunity to build relationships among partners committed to advancing harm reduction in the state, addressing complex challenges facing the movement and drug user health.
- *HOPE Consortium*: Members attended the HOPE Consortium all-regions meeting in July. This meeting featured presentations from various partners in Central and Northern Wisconsin. The agenda also included a tour of Arbor Place, a women's recovery and inpatient treatment center that allows mothers to keep their children with them during the treatment process.
- *Wisconsin Coalition Collaborative*: On July 29, IMPACT met with various coalitions from across Wisconsin to discuss plans for future collaborations. Representatives from the city of Oregon, Waunakee County, Polk County, and Milwaukee attended the meeting. The team discussed potential future partnerships and agreed to keep in communication to share ideas and collaborate on effective strategies for coalition work.
- *Alcohol Workgroup*: The IMPACT Alcohol Workgroup met on July 24, during which a representative from Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) presented various opportunities for free presentations and programs that can be offered to the community. The group is also working on providing resources and materials to alcohol retailers in Wood County around alcohol age compliance and compiling a Mid-Year Place of Last Drink report.
- *THC Committee*: UWSP Students, in collaboration with IMPACT, conducted in-person scans on Wood County THC retailers. These scans will be part of a Wood County report on THC that will provide an overview of the current THC retail landscape in Wood County, including where THC products are being sold and emerging trends
- *Public Health Vending Machines (PHVM)*: The PHVM vended a total of 278 harm reduction supplies. The most used machine was the River Block building machine vending a total of 166 supplies. The top vended product was Naran, vending a total of 98 boxes, followed by Feminine Hygiene Kits vending a total of 31. Three new supplies were added to the regular sized machines (reusable water bottle, insect repellent wipes and body wipes) while some of the out-of-stock supplies have again been restocked.

Transportation and Recreation

Join Sheriff Becker on a beautiful fall evening for a community bike ride! We will host a community bike ride around Lake Wazeecha on Wednesday, September 10 at 6:00pm. Meet at White Sands Beach. Bring your own bike/helmet or ride a River Riders Bike Share bicycle for free. Riders will receive a River Riders Bike Share t-shirt (while supplies last). See you there!

Communication/Branding

- Updated HPWC Brand Guide with staff.
- Continue to attend Wisconsin Department of Health Services Communications Strategy Workgroup meetings where we conducted asset mapping and drafted a communications plan for public health in Wisconsin.
- Assisted staff with writing press releases, social media posts, and newsletters.

Transportation

- Met with staff at Feonix Mobility Rising to discuss a coordinated fundraising approach for Catch a Ride. Central Wisconsin Catch a Ride was awarded \$10,000 per year for 3 years from the Marshfield Area Community Foundation.
- Updated the CHIP Monitoring Plan for Transportation.
- Presented to the Health and Human Services Committee on the Catch a Ride program.
- Working with a UWSP student to collect local transportation data.

Housing

- Attended A Home for Everyone Conference and learned about Community Land Trusts, Supportive Housing, Affordable Housing, opportunities to work with landlords, current housing legislation, and more.
- Attended South Wood County's Financial Security Coalition meeting to discuss housing and financial projects in the area.
- Updated the CHIP Monitoring Plan for Housing.
- Co-facilitated Wood County Housing Task Force meeting.
- Attended North Central Local Homeless Coalition Meeting to discuss the current state of homelessness in the area and get updates from different agencies.
- Attended a Housing Summit Planning Meeting.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH REPORT – BEN JEFFREY, R.S.

New Businesses and Consultations

A pre-licensing inspection was completed for Yeah Ya'll Food Truck, a new mobile food establishment in the Wisconsin Rapids area. A pre-licensing inspection was completed for Sleep Inn in Wisconsin Rapids due to new ownership. A pre-licensing inspection was completed for Sweet Lemon Lab, a new mobile food establishment serving lemonade. A pre-licensing inspection was completed for Still Willy's in Auburndale due to new ownership. The Locker Room in Marshfield also received a pre-licensing inspection due to new ownership; previously known as Crabby Dave's.

Water Lab Update

Logan Manthe completed our annual nitrate lab proficiency testing successfully. The Wood County Water Lab will continue with proper accreditation through August 2026 for both bacteria and nitrate testing capabilities.

Complaint Investigations

Nine complaint investigations were completed in the month of July.

- A complaint was received regarding poor living conditions in a home and the lack of potable water. Environmental health issued orders for the homeowner to abate all health hazards.
- A caller reported fleas inside a residence. Environmental health staff investigated the complaint. Fleas had been treated and were no longer present. Education was also provided to the homeowner.
- A complaint was received regarding secondhand smoke inside a rental complex causing health issues. Environmental health staff provided information for possible resources, but it was ultimately a tenant/landlord issue to work out as well as refer to any rental agreements.
- A tenant reported leaking pipes and possible mold issues. Environmental health staff spoke with property management about the issue. The leaks have been repaired.
- A complaint was received regarding weeds growing in front of a home. This was not deemed a public health hazard.
- A caller reported poor food safety practices at a meat processing facility. The complaint was referred to Wisconsin Department of Trade and Consumer Protection, the licensing agency for meat processing facilities.
- A complaint was received regarding bed bugs in a rental complex. Environmental health staff have been in contact with property management and a licensed pest control company has been hired and treatment has been started.
- A complaint was received regarding cockroaches in an apartment. Property management has hired professional pest control and treatment has begun.
- Poor living conditions were reported inside a home. Environmental health staff have been in contact with multiple agencies regarding the home. The owner of the home has received assistance, and the home has been cleaned and deemed free of any health hazards at this time.

HEALTHY SMILES FOR WOOD COUNTY REPORT – NICOLE BURLINGAME, RDH

Healthy Smiles received our award letter from Wisconsin Seal-A-Smile for the 2025-26 school year. We will be paid for providing screenings, sealants, multiple fluoride varnish applications, and entering data. Wisconsin Seal-A-Smile will be holding their annual meeting in Wausau August 27-28.

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

Parents as Teachers (PAT)

- Our PAT Affiliate Performance Report has been submitted and approved by the national PAT Center. For the 2024-2025 PAT year, our program has met 20 of the 21 Essential Requirements. For the 2025-2026 year, we will begin working on PAT's quality assurance measures in hopes of obtaining Blue Ribbon status in 2027.
- From July 1, 2024, thru June 30, 2025, our PAT program has served 30 families, including 41 children. More than 350 personal visits were completed, and 12 group connections were held. An outcomes report will be available later this year.
- A grant proposal is being submitted to Wisconsin Maternal-Child Health Title V to support the work of our PAT group connections. This grant would support staff time along with supplies to support Parent Cafes and group education/support for lactation and safe infant sleep.
- PAT hosted a Day at the Farmer's Market group connection in July. Four families were in attendance. Children enjoyed creating the rainbow kabobs and tasted each of the fruits and vegetables. Parents had fun learning the importance of eating a rainbow of fruits/veggies a day and what each color represented in vitamins or nutrients. Families also learned how to redeem WIC and Aspirus Fruit & Veggie RX vouchers.

Maternal-Child Health (MCH)

Public Health Nurses have recently resumed Plain Community outreach which had been on hold since the COVID pandemic. Nurses are working on communications with this population to educate the community on public health services that are offered including newborn screening, child developmental screening, well water testing, immunizations, dental screening and fluoride varnish application, injury prevention programming, among other services.

Communicable Disease (CD)

Wisconsin has seen its first cases of measles. Cases reside in Oconto County and were exposed outside of Wisconsin. Risk in Wood County remains low currently, however, preparations and planning continue in anticipation of other measles cases in Wisconsin.

Emergency Preparedness (EP)

- Our emergency preparedness coordinator is working with Emergency Management and the Finance Department to create emergency finance guidelines to assist the county in the event of emergencies.
- We are planning a discussion-based exercise for health department nursing staff to ensure nurses can provide support and guidance to the public in the event of a measles exposure. Additionally, the annual review of the Public Health Emergency Response plan is underway. This year's focus is to align the layout of the plans into a capability-based format, to allow for ease of use and quick reference for all health department staff.

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

- The Farmers Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) usually starts June 1 but was delayed until July 1 due to a decrease in program funding. WIC has issued 300 FMNP voucher packets valued at \$25 to eligible WIC participants from July 1 through August 8 and will continue issuing through the end of September.
- WIC is partnering with MCH and Aspirus this year to help families gain additional access to farmers market produce through the Aspirus Fruit and Veggie Rx Program. We have issued 9 of these \$20 vouchers to eligible families with a determined need for additional access to local produce.
- We've had a drop in caseload over the past couple of months. There has been an increase in families that are ineligible for the WIC program due to no longer being eligible for BadgerCare and an increase in families moving out of state and dropping off our WIC program. We are actively working on reenrolling families that may have fallen off the program due to missed appointments and continuing outreach work with HMOs, schools, and health care providers.

Caseload for 2024 (Contracted caseload 1676)

	Dec 2024	Jan 2025	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Active (initial)	1517	1531	1532	1528	1504	1471	1398	1387					
Active (final)	1529	1534	1541	1527	1508	1478	1416						
Participating	1518	1534	1540	1527	1504	1479	1408	1395					

WOOD COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT REPORT August 2025

Director Update by Brandon Vruwink

The Human Services Department continues to work on our 2026 budget. The budget will be complete by the August 20th due date. The budget, like most budgets, has had its challenges. Because of the Medicaid rate increases, both Edgewater and Norwood fared well. However, the Community budget has proven to be more challenging. The state budget was mostly status quo for Human Services programming, which takes us backwards with the increasing costs of contract providers and wage increases for our staff. Further, we experienced the first small cuts related to Federal funding changes to the Food Stamp program. Overall, we have not proposed any new programs or initiatives within the budget; our goal was to maintain the services we currently offer. I will be drafting a budget narrative to share with you before the budget meeting.

We continue to follow the changes from the implementation of the large bill passed by Congress and signed by the President (One Beautiful Big Bill). While many of the changes will not be implemented until 2027 and 2028, we are still planning in preparation for some of the larger changes. For example, because the Federal Fiscal Year begins on October 1, we did plan for a cut to Food Stamp eligibility determinations. That change cost us about \$45,000 for the last quarter of next year. The overall cost will be approximately \$180,000, which will be reflected in our 2027 budget. We are also beginning to plan for the Medicaid Work Requirement, which takes effect January 1, 2027. We anticipate that the work program will be implemented by having FSET Case Managers handle Medicaid cases as well. However, we must await direction from the State of Wisconsin Department of Health Services to provide guidance. I will continue to keep you updated as more information becomes available.

Looking ahead, we have about four years left on our lease at Patriots Tower in Marshfield. Currently, we occupy the second and fourth floors. The space is getting tight; as a result, we have relocated some staff to the Wood County Annex and Health Center to accommodate. Unfortunately, we do not have additional space at the Annex and Health Center, so we are limited with future needs. I anticipate needing extra space for Medicaid Work Requirement Case Managers and potentially Children's Long Term Support Case Managers. Both of these programs are fully funded, so the expenses would not be an additional cost to Wood County. I bring this to your attention, as the H&HS Committee will want to begin planning for future space needs in the next 12 to 18 months. I will plan to bring this topic up in the future so the Committee can start the planning process.

Deputy Director Update by Katie Miloch

Hope you all are having a nice summer! APS remains busy and on pace for similar numbers to 2024. We were fortunate enough to have applied for and been selected to receive additional ARPA funds to help support our at risk adults. There is a very short turn around to use these funds and they must be used by the end of September. We will be hosting several learning opportunities for internal and external community partners with this money as well as being able to purchase some equipment to help keep our vulnerable adults safe in the home longer.

On September 3rd, there will be a hearing at the capitol and I have been asked to sit on this panel. Wisconsin Elder Abuse Crisis: Frontline Briefing for Policymakers will be comprised of a national expert on prosecuting elder abuse cases, representation from financial institutions, and myself representing the Adult Protective Services system throughout Wisconsin. I am honored to be asked to present and have emailed you the flyer about this hearing for your information.

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; work continued for Annual Budget with input from all departments
- Additional accomplishments: Ongoing EHR SmartCare learning, Cross training, workflows and processes reviewed and updated as need.
- Continued onboarding of Administrative Services Assistant Manager

Accounting and Accounts Payable Team

- Children's Long Term Support SAS Software report training & Webinars
- Procedure Updates for Crisis Vendor
- Budget Process updated
- Contract coordinator added 2 contracts & 1 addendum
- EW and NWH Accounting Clerks cross-trained on Payroll Based Journal (PBJ) training for Nursing Home Direct Care Time Reporting.
- Accountants and Program Assistants performed calculations for 2025 payroll estimates, confirmed Expense, Revenue and payroll data and entered in Questica, all locations, all verified against location specific control documents.
- All monthly State aid expense reports filed timely
- Submitted Service Authorizations for 13 CLTS new enrollments (from waitlist)
- Assisted in completing upload files for WIMCR
- Assisted DHS in identifying errors in updated SAS reports
- Edgewater had 6 new staff orientation
- Edgewater Norwood reviewed SNF Audit Results, scheduled meeting with Auditor
- Edgewater was selected to have Cost Report Reviewed by Wisconsin Nursing Home Rate Setting (WINHRS) audit firm, and completed all request timely
- Webex with Wipfli re: afterglow for Cost Report Discussion/2024
- Admin Assistant attended Financial Managers Meeting

Support Services Team

Behavioral Health Clinic service notes: We are transcribing 8/04/25; 0 notes are outside a 14-day window. We currently have a total of 39 dictations waiting for transcriptionists as of 8/15/25

Total Service Notes created in July 158, 187 entered

Records Released:

Behavioral Health Records Released: 64

Family Service Record / Background checks released: 39

Records pending/in progress: 10

Total Completed: 103

Other Unit Information

- Support Services Staff updates – no vacant positions; 1 staff on intermittent FMLA; 3 annual evals completed
- Attend OPC Intake Unit Meeting
- Attend Smartcare superuser mtgs & SHS WI users mtgs
- Attend demos/meetings /review department needs for speech to text software solutions, finalize selection
- HIPAA:

0 HIPAA/ Confidentially breaches - investigated /resolved *ONGOING

- IMS/TCM migration to Laserfiche- in progress- retention list was provided to IT- 4/1/2025. IT will be granting permissions to designated staff.
- Dictation Software Updates-Winscribe is sunsetting; in progress -Coordinate with IT on Dragon. Finalize option; purchase approved for replacement
- Records Retention: Continue w/ destruction of past retention client documents
FS MFLD records 4th floor - up to date
RB- FS records destruction/move to vault continues.

*ONGOING

- Privacy/Security: in progress- SRA risk mitigation 2 of 11 completed; partnership with *MetaStar- BH Connect*; DHS funded
- Attend WI Counties 42-part 2 SUD privacy rules webinar
- Updates effecting 42 CFR part 2 and 45 CFR 160 & 164
- update forms, practices, EHR-capabilities

Claims & Accounts Receivable, Client Interactions

- Testing of 835 Electronic EOB file at NHC location. Additional review of Matrix set up for pathing needs
- Monthly A/R review to determine collectability at all locations
- Presented rate changes for OPC services effective 10/1/2025

Insurance Claims created and submitted for current reporting period

- Norwood: 242 Claims Billed: \$1,197,103
- Edgewater: \$738,068
- Community: 1,976 Claims submitted in the amount of \$220,767, Cash Receipts \$474,685

Service Admission Intakes - by Location

- NHC Admissions: 24 Hospital, 0 LTC
- Edgewater: 13
- Community
 - 26 intakes for new clients conducted. (currently no waiting list for therapy at OPC)
 - 1,576 appointments scheduled, 1,104 Attended (70%)

2025 TRIP Monies received YTD:

- Norwood: \$34,492
- Community: \$29,445

Community Resources Update by Olivia Lloyd

Transportation: In July, the Transportation program provided 779 bus rides. Of these rides, 245 were for employment, and 125 were for medical. The program also provided 106 volunteer rides. Of these, 24 were for employment, and 56 were for medical.

WHEAP: Since the 2025 heating season began October 1, 2024, Wood County has provided Energy Assistance services to 2362 households. The program has also provided HVAC services to 79 households. All HVAC (furnace and A/C) referrals have been placed on hold by the state due to the high number of referrals they've already received. The water conservation program has also been put on hold.

Edgewater Haven Update by Justin Cieslewicz

Census Update: In the month of July, we had 13 admissions and 6 readmissions. Current Memory Care census is 17 residents. Census comparison to last year:

July 2024 – 44.45 average census with 7.68 rehab

July 2025 – 43.42 average census with 11.29 rehab

July 2024 – Admissions 6/Discharges 4/Readmissions 10/Deaths 3

July 2025 – Admissions 13/Discharges 10/Readmissions 6/Deaths 1

Personnel Update: Open positions of writing this:

Nursing: Licensed Nurses: 3 Full-time Nurses, 1 Part-time Certified Nursing Assistant

Therapy Provider Transition: On July 22, 2025, Edgewater Haven transitioned to Greenfield Rehabilitation for therapy services. Prior to the transition Greenfield worked to secure therapists in PT, OT, and ST to ensure an adequate staffing pattern to meet the needs of all of Edgewater Haven's residents. The transition to Greenfield has been positive as routine therapists now onsite at Edgewater Haven will allow the facility to increase the ability to serve individuals with higher acuity needs for special rehabilitative services.

Edgewater Haven CBRF Update: Director Vruwink, Facilities Manager Van Tassel, and Edgewater Administrator Cieslewicz met with Samuels Group on July 29, 2025, to begin the design phase for the CBRF concept. The proposed floor plan of the CBRF was reviewed and Wood County Personnel provided feedback on efficiencies for the CBRF, as well as suggestions to ensure the unit meets all necessary regulatory requirements. Samuels Group toured the unit to ensure that they have all information necessary for their project. Samuels Group will be working on an updated design concept and would like to provide a presentation to the Health and Human Services Committee at the September meeting.

Annual State Survey: On August 11, 2025, the State of Wisconsin Department of Health Services Division of Quality Assurance entered Edgewater Haven for the annual survey. The survey lasted three full days, and the inspectors provided positive feedback to Edgewater Haven's leadership on the quality of the facility and positive remarks from the residents and their family members. The health survey did end up resulting in 4 minor citations, which is below the state and national average of 10 citations per survey. Edgewater Haven Leadership is working on the plan of correction for the citations which will be submitted in September.

Norwood Health Center Update by Marissa Kornack

The updated nursing staff shift differentials and wage adjustment for RNs were effective 8/3. We are already seeing positive improvements recruitment wise, and current staff were very appreciative.

For the congregate meal/Meals on Wheels program, we will only be bidding a one-year contract instead of the normal 3-year contract with the ADRC for 2026 when they release their RFP. This is due to the decrease in meals being much larger than the estimated cuts provided to us by the ADRC, which has led to increased volatility and a decrease in confidence in their projections. Additionally, due to the volume decrease, our costs continue increasing year to year, putting the possibility of future contracts with the ADRC in jeopardy because the cost per meal could become unreasonable due to the overhead costs associated with our operation.

Health Information Department by Jerin Turner

The vacant casual receptionist position has been filled, and the department is now fully staffed.

We have gone live with WISHIN (Wisconsin Health Information Network – a cloud-based Health Information Exchange) on Admissions (hospital unit). Participating in WISHIN is now a requirement for Wisconsin hospitals, with Medicaid reimbursement being tied to participation. The purpose of this program is to facilitate better continuity of care. Our patients can opt in or out of exchanging information of their hospitalization. Norwood is also able to pull collateral records from participating facilities on our patients. Even though we have only been live for a couple weeks, the change is going well and has been helpful. This is a project that we have been working on for over a year and half, with many challenges interfacing our EHR (Matrix Care) with WISHIN effectively. Thank you to the IT department (specifically Sharon Dvoran) for their project management and support on this project!

Every summer, the department reports to CMS/Quality Net on patient level data for patients on the hospital unit. This reporting is open for a period of about 6 weeks and is for discharges in the previous calendar year. This reporting requires many hours of data entry and precision to ensure the accuracy of the data reported. Fulfilling this requirement is directly tied to reimbursement. Currently, the Health Information department is more than 75% percent done with the reporting and will be completed before the August 18, 2025, deadline.

Norwood Nursing Department by Liz Masanz

For nurses, we have a 60% weekender position and two casual positions vacant. We still have one agency nurse on board covering the 60% weekend position. We are very happy to report we were able to successfully recruit and onboard two 100% RNs in the past couple of months. We do anticipate a full time RN going on a 12-week leave at the end of August, which for now, we plan to cover with our other nurses picking up hours.

For CNAs, we have two 100% and two 50% positions that will be vacant soon related to current employees pursuing education opportunities and dropping their status to casual or part time. The upcoming vacant positions are posted, and interviews are under way for their replacements.

Admissions Unit: The average census for the month of July was 7.68 and 7.99 YTD through July. Average length of stay for July was 8.5 and 8.27 YTD. There were twenty-four admissions and twenty-eight discharges, with two 30-day readmissions.

We are still waiting for our CMS survey for the hospital unit.

Head nurse, Krissy, completed annual Vistelar (verbal and physical de-escalation) training for all staff the past couple of months. Krissy is a certified trainer in Vistelar.

Long Term Care: The long-term care unit had one admission and one discharge in July, with an average census of 12.00 on Crossroads and 12.67 on Pathways, and 12.15 and 13.46 YTD respectively, all of which are above budgeted census.

Melanie, new head nurse, has been working on some great ideas for streamlining some processes and procedures. She continues her MDS training with Engage Consulting through August.

Norwood Dietary Department by Larry Burt

Congregate meals for the month of July were 4,783 with revenue of \$36,599. Congregate meals year to date were 33,562 (18.7 % decrease compared YTD to last year), with revenue of \$256,830 (15% decrease compared YTD to last year). Meal reductions and impact on budget continue to be monitored and managed closely.

Of the 7,613 meals decrease YTD compared to July of 2024, Marshfield site makes up 72% of the decrease at 5,501. The Marshfield site also makes up \$42,141 of the total revenue decrease. Since the closing of Cedar Rail in October of 2024, the Marshfield site located at the Senior Center, has not made up the gap in meals lost due to the closing.

Norwood Maintenance Department by Lee Ackerman

CIP Updates:

Water Pipe Replacement- Civil engineering firm, Lampert-Lee & Associates, performed a survey of the property as part of the preparations for installing new water main services to the building. We are still waiting to hear back from WI DSPS on several technical points in the design plan, though they have agreed with CMG's advisement that the new pipes be downsized to increase water velocity and improve self-cleaning properties.

Over the last month, we have had several significant sewer line ruptures due to degradation of the cast iron pipes, all occurring below the kitchen, requiring temporary shutdown of water usage in that area to allow for repairs to be made. Unfortunately, some of those failures have occurred under concrete floors in the lower level of the building, necessitating excavation of concrete and soil to make those repairs. The design engineer has been consulted to ensure these areas of the system will be addressed in the upcoming renovation.

As part of our preparations for this upcoming project, North Star Environmental was brought in to test various samples throughout the building to ensure there are no hazardous materials that would be disrupted during the renovation process, such as lead or asbestos in walls. Much to our surprise, low levels (2%) of asbestos were detected in both original drywall compound and paint texture. Previous testing led us to believe asbestos was not used during the construction of walls in 1972-73. This presents a new challenge that must be addressed before drywall can be removed to access the existing pipes, which is being discussed with the design engineer, architect, and an asbestos remediation contractor. There will be an added expense due to this issue.

Once these test results were identified, a discussion occurred including Reuben, Marissa, Nick Flannagan, and myself to ensure we are taking the correct precautions and to decide how we will proceed with any future construction/renovations. Norwood Maintenance staff was made aware of this discovery and directed not to make any repairs or removal of drywall without the assistance of a certified remediation contractor. There is no risk to residents or staff if these walls are not disrupted in a manner that creates airborne dust, and procedures for future renovations and repairs will be formed to ensure the safety of Norwood's occupants.

No lead was detected in any area of the building tested.

Circulating Fans- Focus on Energy responded to our application for energy incentives for the upgrades to the circulating fans, stating that the expected credit will be \$8,479.37. This will be paid out once the project has been completed later this year.

Passenger Elevator Repairs- This project has been pushed back to mid to late August due to a delay in availability of materials.

Badge Readers- It was decided that this project, originally scheduled for 2026, will be completed in 2025 using Operations Budget. Materials have been ordered, and Maintenance staff will begin pulling the wire once it arrives.

Circulating Fan Repairs- The cost of materials for this project came in higher than anticipated due to price increases, leaving less funds to perform the installation of the new fan components. We have asked Finance if it would be allowable to use CIP funds allocated for the Laundry Water Heater replacement be used to supplement the fan project, and they agreed this could be done. The water heater replacement has been added to the 2026 Water Pipe Replacement project and, therefore, will not be used this year.

Other Maintenance:

Water Management- Since making corrections to the water disinfectant system last month, free chlorine level tests have been in the acceptable range. A solution was also found for maintaining adequate disinfectant levels during low usage times; an automatic watering valve was added to a janitor closet that opens at prescheduled intervals. The result of this is that 'demand' draws in fresh disinfectant into the system to replace it as it depletes due to inactivity. Another round of water samples was tested, and all came back clear of legionella.

Chiller- Repairs to the chiller refrigerant leak have been scheduled for early August.

Cameras on the Admissions Unit- Several observation cameras will be installed in the Admissions unit to assist staff with monitoring patient safety. None of the cameras will have the ability to record, only to monitor in real-time.

MINUTES PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

DATE: Monday, September 8, 2025
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 previous 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, October 13, 2025, at 9:00 AM.
5. The Communications Department presented their report and bill listing for review.
6. Communications Director Engel presented the 2026 Communications budget for review. Motion by Hamilton/Voight to approve the budget as presented and forward to the Finance Dept. Motion carried unanimously.
7. The Emergency Management Department presented their report and bill listing for review.
8. Emergency Management Director Christensen presented the 2026 Emergency Management budgets for review. Motion by Voight/Hamilton to approve the budget as presented and forward to the Finance Dept. Motion carried unanimously.
9. The Dispatch Department presented their report and bill listing for review.
10. Dispatch Manager Bastien presented an incentive pay policy for the Dispatch Dept. to better ensure staffing levels during the year. It is modeled after the incentive pay policies already being used at both Norwood Health Care Center and Edgewater Haven Nursing Home. Motion by Penzkover/Voight to approve the policy as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
11. Bastien presented the 2026 Dispatch budget for review. Motion by Hamilton/Penzkover to approve the budget as presented and forward to the Finance Dept. Motion carried unanimously.
12. Coroner Patton was on a call during the meeting; the committee reviewed the monthly report and bill listing.
13. The 2026 Coroner budget was reviewed. Motion by Hamilton/Voight to approve the 2026 Coroners budget as presented and forward onto the Finance Dept. Motion carried unanimously.

14. Sheriff Becker reviewed various reports and activities of the Sheriff's Department. He highlighted the following:
- Special recognition was given to Security Services Deputy Sara McCormick on her upcoming retirement and her 29 years of service to Wood County.
 - Central Wisconsin State Fair attendance by the Sheriffs Dept.
 - Applicants for the co-responder grant funded position will be interviewed shortly.
15. Sheriff Becker & Chief Deputy Ellis presented the 2026 Humane Officer and Sheriff Dept. budgets. Motion by Hamilton/Penzkover to approve the budgets as presented and forward to the Finance Dept. Motion carried unanimously.
16. Becker presented a resolution to amend the 2025 budget to fund a school resource officer position for Auburndale Schools through the Sheriff's Dept. Motion by Hamilton/Penzkover to approve the resolution and forward onto the county board for their consideration. Motion carried unanimously.
17. Motion by Hamilton/Voight to approve the voucher listings for Communications, Coroner, Dispatch, Emergency Management, and Sheriff's Department. Motion carried unanimously.
18. Chairman Zurfluh declared the meeting adjourned 10:17 AM.

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

Public Safety Committee
September 8, 2025

[illegible]

MINUTES CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

DATE: Tuesday, August 19, 2025
TIME: 8:00 AM
LOCATION Courthouse – Room 302

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mike Meyers, Bob Levendoske, Dave Laude, Lee Garrels, Gus Mancuso

1. Chairman Meyers called the meeting to order at 8:04 AM.
2. There were no public comments.
3. The minutes of July 17, 2025, were reviewed. Motion by Laude/Garrels to approve them as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
4. Motion by Laude/Garrels 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 Department. Motion carried unanimously.
5. Motion to return to open session by Garrels/Laude. Motion carried unanimously.
6. Motion by Meyers/Laude to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously at 11:40 AM.

Robert Levendoske
Secretary

MINUTES CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

DATE: Wednesday, August 20, 2025
TIME: 8:00 AM
LOCATION Courthouse – Room 302

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mike Meyers, Bob Levendoske, Dave Laude, Lee Garrels, Gus Mancuso

1. Chairman Meyers called the meeting to order at 8:00 AM.
2. There were no public comments.
3. The minutes of August 19, 2025, were reviewed. Motion by Laude/Garrels 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 Department. Motion carried unanimously.
5. Motion by Mancuso/Garrels to return to open session. Motion carried unanimously.
6. Motion by Garrels/Mancuso to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously at 11:30 AM.

Robert Levendoske
Secretary

MINUTES CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

DATE: Thursday, August 21, 2025
TIME: 8:00 AM
LOCATION Courthouse – Room 302

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mike Meyers, Bob Levendoske, Dave Laude, Lee Garrels, Gus Mancuso

1. Chairman Meyers called the meeting to order at 8:00 AM.
2. There were no public comments.
3. The minutes of August 20, 2025, were reviewed. Motion by Laude/Garrels 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 Department. Motion carried unanimously.
5. Motion by Garrels/Laude to return to open session. Motion carried unanimously.
6. Motion by Garrels/Laude to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously at 10:55 AM.

Robert Levendoske
Secretary



August Monthly Report

Wood County Sheriff's Rescue

Submitted by: Ann Burger, WCSR Secretary

August Training Descriptions

Date	Type	Description
4-Aug	Business Meeting	August Business Meeting
11-Aug	Water Rescue	Training with wave runners and dingy.
18-Aug	Work Night	Organized meeting room.
25-Aug	Work Night	Truck check over.

Call Summary

Call #	52	53	54	55	56
Date	8/2/2025		8/2/2025		
Time	15:53		18:51		
Day of Week	Saturday		Saturday		
Township	Grand Rapids		Wisconsin Rapids		
Location	STH 54 & EAGLE RD	SKIPPED COMPLAINT NUMBER	CHASE ST & RIVERVIEW EXPRESSWAY	SKIPPED COMPLAINT NUMBER	SKIPPED COMPLAINT NUMBER
Rescue 3	D. Westfall		B. Franz		
Rescue 4	B. Franz				
Rescue 5					
10-22ed					
Call Type	Traffic/Scene Containment		Other		
Medical/Extrication					
Ambulance					
EMR					
Fire					
Air					
Tools/Equipment Used	traffic cones, stop signs				
Notes					
Other members on scene	M. Wiberg (R2) Z. Dahl				

Call Summary

Call #	57	58	59	60	61
Date	8/4/2025		8/9/2025	8/11/2025	8/15/2025
Time	16:37		12:26	19:06	18:00
Day of Week	Monday		Saturday	Monday	Friday
Township	Saratoga		Saratoga	Saratoga	Port Edwards
Location	2663 MILL AVE	SKIPPED COMPLAINT NUMBER	STH 73 S & YOUNG ST	5540 CHURCH AVE	CTH JJ & GRUNDWALD LN
Rescue 3	M. Wiberg		M. Wiberg	B. Franz	J. Van Ert
Rescue 4					
Rescue 5					
10-22ed					
Call Type	10-50 w/ Unknown Injuries		10-50 w/ Unknown Injuries	10-50 w/ Injuries	10-50 w/ Injuries
Medical/ Extrication					
Ambulance	WRFD		WRFD	WRFD	WRFD
EMR	Saratoga		Saratoga	Saratoga	Saratoga
Fire	Grand Rapids		Nekoosa	Grand Rapids	Nekoosa
Air					
Tools/ Equipment Used					
Notes					PEFD also on scene.
Other members on scene				M. Wiberg (R2)	M. Wiberg (R2)

Call Summary

Call #	62	63	64	65	66
Date	8/18/2025	8/19/2025	8/22/2025	8/23/2025	8/27/2025
Time	19:38	10:45	13:04	12:36	7:44
Day of Week	Monday	Tuesday	Friday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Township	Grand Rapids	Rudolph	Port Edwards	Grand Rapids	Marshfield
Location	80TH ST S & HELKE RD	CTH DD & STH 34	5005 STH 54 W	64TH ST S & GRIFFITH AVE	1401 E BECKER RD
Rescue 3	B. Franz	T. Young	M. Wiberg	D. Westfall	M. Wiberg
Rescue 4					
Rescue 5					
10-22ed				Yes	Yes
Call Type	10-50 w/ Injuries	10-50 w/ Injuries	10-50 w/ Unknown Injuries	10-50 w/ Injuries	Project Lifesaver
Medical/Extrication					
Ambulance	UEMR	UEMR	WRFD	UEMR	Marshfield
EMR	Grand Rapids	Rudolph	Port Edwards	Grand Rapids	Grand Rapids
Fire	Grand Rapids	Rudolph	Port Edwards	Grand Rapids	Marshfield
Air					
Tools/Equipment Used					
Notes		WRFD also on scene.			Saratoga, Rudolph, and Vesper EMR also on scene
Other members on scene	T. Young M. Wiberg (R2)				

Call Summary

Call #	67				
Date	8/28/2025				
Time	19:08				
Day of Week	Thursda				
Township	Wisconsin Rapids				
Location	GRIFFITH AVE & LINCOLN ST				
Rescue 3	D. Westfall				
Rescue 4					
Rescue 5					
10-22ed	Yes				
Call Type	10-50 w/ Unknown Injuries				
Medical/ Extrication					
Ambulance	WRFD				
EMR	Grand Rapids				
Fire	Grand Rapids				
Air					
Tools/ Equipment Used					
Notes					
Other members on scene	M. Wiberg				

Special Events Summary

Date	8/2/2025				
Day of Week	Saturday				
Event	Rapids Rumbler Car Cruise				
Host	Giving Back, Inc.				
Location	500 32ND ST N				
Vehicle Used	R2, R3, R4				
Tools/ Equipment Used	traffic cones, stop signs				
Members at event	M. Wiberg (R2) D. Westfall (R3) B. Franz (R4) Z. Dahl				
Event Description	Traffic control for the Rapids Rumblers Car Cruise. Rescue personnel did traffic control at the intersection of STH 54 and Eagle Road.				



WOOD COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT



SHAWN BECKER, SHERIFF

Aug 31st, 2025

MEMORANDUM FOR Sheriff Becker; Public Safety Committee

SUBJECT: Monthly Crime Stoppers Report – August 2025

The Crime Stoppers program received 40 tips in the month of August 2025 that were forwarded to the appropriate agencies for follow-up, as reported by P3.

The last monthly board meeting was held on August 13th, 2025. The next regular meeting will be on September 10th, 2025, at 6:30 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Daniel Berres
Investigator Sergeant
Wood County Sheriff's Department



WOOD COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT



SHAWN BECKER, SHERIFF

August 2025 K9 Report

	TRAINING HOURS	USEAGE/ DEPLOYMENTS	DEMO/ COMMUNITY
K9 Sig	12	3	2
K9 Bingo	15	2	1
K9 Timo	12	4	1
K9 Rosco	21	0	1
K9 Lola	SEE	BELOW	

TRAINING (MONTHLY) –

Wood County Sheriff's Department trained with the Wisconsin Rapids Police Department and Nekoosa Police Department. Training venues included Feltz property, Old Buffalo Building (Marshfield), and roadways in Marshfield. Training areas consisted of odor detection (interior/exterior building and vehicles), mock traffic stops, and building search for man ending both civil and with apprehension.

TRAINING (INDIVIDUAL) –

K9 Rosco and Deputy Beathard were off for majority of August, K9 Rosco was trained in obedience and general physical exercise while off duty. K9 Rosco also completed narcotic training individual.

Lieutenant Christianson and K9 Bingo completed on-duty training in the area of tracking, obedience, and odor detection.

USEAGE –

Deputy Pidgeon and K9 Sig had three deployments during the month of August. Two deployments were at the Oxford House and Cranberry House located in Wisconsin Rapids. No indication at one location. The other residence, K9 Sig had an indication in basement with nothing located. K9 Sig also assisted on a traffic stop with no indication.

Sergeant Arendt and K9 Timo had four deployments during the month of August assisting Wisconsin Rapids Police Department on traffic stops. All four deployments with K9 Timo had indications observed. On the first deployment methamphetamine, marijuana, and drug paraphernalia were



WOOD COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT



SHAWN BECKER, SHERIFF

located. Second and third deployment heroin and drug paraphernalia were located. On the fourth deployment drug paraphernalia was located.

Lieutenant Christianson and K9 Bingo had two deployments during the month of August. First was an attempt to locate a firearm that was believed to be ditched in a wooded area stemming from an incident several years ago. Nothing was located during this deployment. The second deployment was for a political event located at The Ridges in Wisconsin Rapids. This area was swept by K9 Bingo with no change of behavior or indication observed.

DEMO/COMMUNITY –

K9 Sig was at the Wheelers Brat Frys in Wisconsin Rapids.

K9 Rosco, K9 Sig, K9 Timo and K9 Bingo were at the Wheelers Brat Fry in Marshfield.

Lieutenant Christianson attended National Night Out in Wisconsin Rapids.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION –

Lola's working and training log for August 2025

August 1st

Jail interview

August 4th

Visited with Clerk of Courts and female waiting to attend a court hearing in branch 2

August 6th

National Night Out at Rafters

August 8th

Lola Visited Pods A,B,J,K,L on 2nd floor and dorms A,B,E,G, and H on 4th floor

August 12th

Visited all pods on 2nd and 3rd floors

August 19th

Fair Marshfield

August 20th

Fair Marshfield

August 21st

Wheeler's Brat Fry for K-9s in Marshfield

Fair Marshfield

August 22nd

Met with Chaplain Stacey



WOOD COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT



SHAWN BECKER, SHERIFF

August 25th

Visited kids at meet and greet for Pittsville Elementary

August 27th

Jail Interview

August 27th

Went through Pods on 4th floor

Respectfully,

Brandon Christianson

Brandon Christianson
Patrol Lieutenant



WOOD COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT



SHAWN BECKER, SHERIFF

HUMANE OFFICER

07-20-25 to 08-16-25

Animal Bites:	<u>Dog</u>	<u>Cat</u>	<u>Bat</u>
• Arpin	0	0	
• Auburndale	0	0	
• Grand Rapids	0	0	
• Nekoosa	0	0	
• Wis. Rapids	5	1	
• Wood	0	0	
• Marshfield	0	1	
• Saratoga	0	0	
• Port Edwards	0	0	
• Richfield	1	0	
• Cary	1	0	
• Rock	0	1	

Neglect/Abuse Case: 2

Abandonment: 0

Animal vs Animal: 1

Abatement Order: 0

Animals at Large: 4

Major Incidents: 0

Follow-up-Brooke: 0

Follow-up-Susa: 2

Monthly Hours: 42.50

2025 YTD Hours: 228.25

Submitted by: Mitzi Forde



WOOD COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT



SHAWN BECKER, SHERIFF

Department of Natural Resources Patrols

August 2025

ATV

- Patrol Hours - 49
- Citations - 4
- Warnings - 6

BOAT

- Patrol Hours - 4
- Citations - 0
- Warnings - 0

SNOWMOBILE

- N/A

Submitted by

Sgt. Matt Susa



WOOD COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT



SHAWN BECKER, SHERIFF

Operations Overtime/Comp Time Totals

AUGUST 2025 (08/03/25to 08/30/25)

Patrol

Overtime hours:	72.875
Comp time hours:	256.125
Holiday Pay/Comp hours:	0

Investigations

Overtime hours:	21
Comp time hours:	31.25

Security Services

Overtime hours:	24.25
Comp time hours:	5.625

TOTAL CALL OUT:	3
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Submitted By: Charles Hoogesteger – Operations Captain



Public Safety Committee Meeting

Security Services August 2025 Report

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

Guns -	0
Knives -	63
O.C. -	6
Misc. Items -	14

The miscellaneous items that were located were five (5) pairs of scissors, five (5) screwdrivers, two (2) self-defense tools and two (2) miscellaneous hand tools.

Security Services screened 9,974 people entering the courthouse in August. Security Services helped with two (2) jury trials and had 39 security requests from different departments within the Courthouse for the month. Security also assisted a patron with vehicle problems in the parking lot and found and returned a wallet.

We also served 7 civil process papers and assisted with an eviction, fulfilled 11 warrants and assisted patrol by helping with an arrest at the River Block Building.

In August, Security handled three (3) jail complaints. These complaints were for Criminal Damage to Property, theft and a sexual assault investigation.

During the Month of July, I utilize part-time employees for 20 hours to fill employee shortage hours. Several shifts ran short due to no part-time employees able to help.

Report submitted by: Lieutenant Bryan D. Peterson



WOOD COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT



SHAWN BECKER, SHERIFF

US HWY 10 Cross Traffic Monthly Report

AUGUST 2025 (08/01/25 to 08/31/25)

MINUTES – 1217
WARNINGS – 0
CITATIONS – 1
CRASHES – 1 (3 suspected minor injuries)

Intersection	Time Spent (min)	Citations	Warnings
USH 10/Day RD	501	0	0
USH 10/CTH T	110	0	0
USH 10/CTH E	0	0	0
USH 10/STH 186	438	1	0
USH 10/North RD	0	0	0
USH 10/CTH K	95	0	0
USH 10/Blueberry RD	0	0	0
USH 10/CTH N	0	0	0
USH 10/CTH S	0	0	0
USH 10/Brookside RD	0	0	0
USH 10/CTH F	0	0	0
USH 10 Patrol	73	0	0
Totals:	1217	1	0

Submitted By: Charles Hoogesteger – Operations Captain

**Wrong-Way Driving and Injury Risk on a Rural Four-Lane Corridor: A Descriptive and
Spatial Analysis of US Highway 10 (2019–2024)**

TITLE PAGE

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ACKNOWLEDGMENT

There are no conflicts of interest to share. Funding for this project was provided in part through philanthropic support of Marshfield Clinic Research Institute led by the Marshfield Clinic Health System Foundation (255800-00-RES SUPPT TRAUMA).

Wrong-Way Driving and Injury Risk on a Rural Four-Lane Corridor: A Descriptive and Spatial Analysis of US Highway 10 (2019–2024)

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

Highlight 1: Not All Rural Crashes Are Equal

Deer-related crashes made up 38% of all incidents on US Highway 10, yet they accounted for less than 5% of injuries. In contrast, angle collisions, though less common, were 2.5 times more likely to result in injury or fatality. Our findings challenge assumptions about rural crash severity and point to where prevention resources should be focused.

The data are clear: it's not just about frequency, but mechanism and impact.

Let's rethink how we prioritize rural highway safety.

#RuralTrauma #TrafficSafety #CollisionPrevention #WisconsinResearch #PublicHealth
#InjuryPrevention #HighwaySafety #EMSdata #TraumaEpidemiology

Highlight 2: Angle Collisions Drive Injury Risk on Rural Highways

While lighting, weather, and road surface conditions are often cited as major factors in crash outcomes, our multivariable model showed only one significant predictor of injury or death: angle collisions. These crashes, typically side-impact or T-bone events, had the highest odds of producing serious harm.

Infrastructure and signage should reflect this risk, not just for volume, but for violence.

#MotorVehicleCrash #RuralRoads #HighwayDesign #CrashPrevention #PublicHealthResearch
#TraumaEpidemiology #InjuryRisk #EMSdata #Wisconsin

Highlight 3: A Blueprint for Data-Driven Rural Safety

Using dispatch-level data from Wood County, Wisconsin, we analyzed over 230 motor vehicle collisions on Highway 10. Our study pairs real-time crash reporting with geospatial analysis to map injury risk. This approach can inform precision prevention, pinpointing high-risk segments, mechanisms, and times of day.

Rural crash prevention needs to be local, data-informed, and mechanism-specific.

#DataDrivenSafety #GeospatialHealth #TraumaResearch #EMSanalytics #RuralHealth
#PublicHealth #PrecisionPrevention #TransportationSafety #WisconsinTrauma

Wrong-Way Driving and Injury Risk on a Rural Four-Lane Corridor: A Descriptive and Spatial Analysis of US Highway 10 (2019–2024)

ABSTRACT

Background: Motor vehicle collisions (MVCs) on rural highways pose unique challenges due to high-speed limits, limited access points, and varied environmental conditions. This study aimed to describe crash characteristics, identify predictors of injury and fatality, and highlight spatial trends on a rural stretch of US Highway 10 in Wisconsin.

Methods: We conducted a retrospective analysis of MVCs reported on US Highway 10 between January 1, 2019, and March 1, 2024. Incident-level data from crash reports were linked with environmental and temporal variables. Descriptive statistics and logistic regression were used to identify factors associated with injury or fatality. Spatial trends were visualized using GIS mapping to identify high-risk segments.

Results: Among 239 MVCs, 21.3% (n=51) involved injury or death. Crashes involving angle collisions were significantly associated with injury or fatality (OR 2.52, 95% CI 1.04–6.09, $p=0.04$). Wrong-way driving, though rare, also correlated with higher injury proportions. Deer-related crashes comprised 38.0% of events but were rarely injurious (4.3%). Environmental factors such as light, road surface, and weather conditions were not independently predictive. Spatial clustering was observed in transitional rural zones and merging areas.

Conclusions: Collision mechanisms, particularly angle and wrong-way crashes, are key predictors of injury on rural four-lane highways. In contrast, deer-related collisions were frequent but low acuity. These findings support targeted roadway engineering, signage, and behavioral interventions along rural corridors such as Highway 10 to reduce injury burden.

Keywords: *rural trauma; motor vehicle collision; injury risk; wrong-way driving; geospatial analysis; Wisconsin*

Wrong-Way Driving and Injury Risk on a Rural Four-Lane Corridor: A Descriptive and Spatial Analysis of US Highway 10 (2019–2024)

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BACKGROUND

Motor vehicle collisions (MVCs) continue to be a leading cause of injury and death in the United States, with rural areas experiencing disproportionately high fatality rates due to factors such as excessive speed, delayed EMS response times, and limited access to trauma care facilities [1–3]. In Wisconsin, there is a high proportion of rural residents (32.9%), and the age-adjusted injury mortality rate is above what is seen nationally, highlighting ongoing geographic disparities in injury risk and outcomes [4]. Rural highways like US Highway 10 present unique hazards, long stretches without interruption, high speed limits, limited lighting, and increased wildlife crossings, all of which contribute to crash risk and severity [5,6]. Despite widespread public health initiatives to improve rural roadway safety, injury prevention efforts are often reactive and lack precise geospatial targeting [7]. Wrong-way driving incidents, though rare, have become especially dangerous due to their high-speed, head-on collisions [8]. Additionally, deer-related crashes remain a common environmental hazard on Wisconsin roads, but the clinical impact and severity of these crashes compared to other mechanisms are still not well understood [9].

OBJECTIVE

The objective of this study was to identify environmental, temporal, and mechanistic factors linked to injury or death in motor vehicle collisions along a rural section of US Highway 10 in Wisconsin from 2019 to 2024. We also aimed to analyze the spatial clustering of high-risk crash locations to support targeted infrastructure improvements and prevention efforts.

METHODS

Study Design and Data Source

This was a retrospective cohort study examining MVCs that happened along a rural section of US Highway 10 from January 1, 2019, to March 1, 2024. The study used incident-level data extracted from Wood County Sheriff's Office dispatch face sheets, which record real-time reports, scene descriptions, and emergency response details for each motor vehicle incident. These records included crash timing, location, weather and road conditions, crash mechanisms, and outcomes such as injury or fatality.

Data abstraction was limited to MVCs occurring specifically along the four-lane segment of US Highway 10 within Wood County, Wisconsin. Records were manually reviewed and cleaned for consistency, with additional variable coding applied for environmental conditions (e.g., light, road surface, weather), vehicle involvement, collision type, direction of travel, and driver status. When available, information on alcohol or drug testing and emergency medical service (EMS) response times was also extracted. Cases with incomplete outcome data were excluded from regression analysis.

This study was considered exempt from review by the [RHO10124] Institutional Review Board, by institutional policies and federal regulations related to minimal risk research and the use of pre-existing data. All analyses were performed following the ethical standards of the institution and the Declaration of Helsinki. Findings are reported in line with the Strengthening the Reporting of Observational Studies in Epidemiology (STROBE) guidelines for observational research. A completed STROBE checklist is included as Supplementary Table 1.

Study Population and Eligibility Criteria

The study population included all MVCs that happened along the four-lane rural section of US Highway 10 within Wood County, Wisconsin, from January 1, 2019, to March 1, 2024.

Eligible cases were identified using dispatch face sheets from the Wood County Sheriff's Office, which provided detailed information on crash timing, location, environmental conditions, vehicle involvement, and injury outcomes. Inclusion criteria included any reported MVC involving one or more motorized vehicles (such as passenger cars, trucks, or commercial vehicles) that occurred within the specified roadway corridor. Only events with complete data about crash location and outcome, mainly whether an injury or fatality occurred with geospatial locations, were considered for analysis. Events were excluded if they took place outside the targeted US Highway 10 corridor, involved only non-motorized participants (like pedestrians or cyclists), or lacked enough detail to assess crash severity or environmental conditions.

Outcomes of Interest

The main outcome of interest was whether there was an injury or fatality after a motor vehicle collision on the designated segment of US Highway 10. This yes-or-no result was based on dispatch records indicating if any occupant involved in the crash sustained injuries needing medical evaluation or died at the scene or during transport. Crashes were classified as either resulting in injury/fatality or causing no reported harm to occupants. To support the primary goal, secondary outcomes included crash-level environmental, temporal, and mechanistic factors believed to influence injury severity. These included time of day, lighting conditions (daylight, dawn/dusk, dark-unlit), weather, and road surface conditions (e.g., dry, wet, icy, snowy), direction of travel, number of vehicles involved, and specific collision types such as angle impact, front-to-rear, or wrong-way driving. In addition to identifying predictors of injury or fatality, a secondary outcome of interest was the geospatial distribution of crashes along the corridor (Figure 1-2). Incident location coordinates were analyzed to detect spatial clustering of

injury-producing crashes, to pinpoint roadway segments linked to a higher injury burden, and to guide future traffic safety measures.

Statistical Analysis

Descriptive statistics were used to characterize the entire sample of motor vehicle collisions occurring on US Highway 10 between 2019 and 2024. Categorical variables were reported as frequencies and percentages, while continuous variables were summarized using means, medians, standard deviations, and interquartile ranges (IQR), as appropriate. Group comparisons between crashes resulting in injury or fatality versus non-injury events were conducted using Pearson's Chi-square test for categorical variables and the Wilcoxon rank-sum test for non-normally distributed continuous variables. All statistical tests for descriptive analyses were performed using R version 4.4.1 (R Core Team, 2023). A descriptive geospatial analysis was also conducted to visualize the spatial distribution of MVCs along the study corridor. Incident locations were mapped using Power BI Desktop (Version 2.143.878.0, Microsoft), leveraging embedded geolocation features to identify clusters and high-frequency segments. Crash density and injury type were stratified separately into two figures. This visual approach complemented the statistical modeling and supported the identification of roadway segments warranting targeted intervention.

To identify factors independently linked to injury or fatality, multivariable logistic regression models were built. Candidate predictor variables included environmental, mechanistic, and temporal factors: event location on the roadway, collision type (e.g., angle collision), light conditions (e.g., daylight vs. dark), road surface condition (e.g., dry vs. other), weather conditions (e.g., clear vs. stormy), travel direction, and time elapsed before the crash. Variables were screened for multicollinearity using tolerance testing, with a threshold of greater

than 0.5 to ensure independence and model stability. Only variables that met this threshold were included in the final regression model. All analyses were performed using SPSS version 28 (IBM Corp., Armonk, NY). Model adequacy and effect estimates were expressed as odds ratios (OR) with 95% confidence intervals (CI). Statistical significance was set at a two-tailed p-value < 0.05.

RESULTS

Section I: First Analysis Patient Description

A total of 239 MVCs were reported along the designated rural segment of US Highway 10 between 2019 and 2024. Of these, 51 crashes (21.3%) resulted in injury or fatality. Deer-related collisions made up 38.0% (n = 91) of all MVCs, while the remaining 61.9% (n = 148) were non-deer-related. Although deer collisions were common, they were significantly less likely to cause injury or death compared to non- deer MVCs (4.3% vs. 31.7%, $p < 0.01$). Crash timing showed a bimodal distribution in injury outcomes, with injury or fatality crashes peaking in 2021 (25.4%) and again in 2024 (17.6%). The average crash time was 13:54 (SD 6:05), with no significant difference between injury and non- injury groups ($p = 0.06$). The response time to EMS arrival did not differ significantly between injury and fatality groups (mean 12:57 vs. 13:30, $p = 0.69$). Most crashes (69.0%) involved a single vehicle, but two- vehicle collisions were trending to result in injury or fatality, although not significant (62.7% vs. 20.7%, $p = 0.06$). Nearly all deer-related crashes involved a single vehicle (97.8%). The manner of collision significantly affected injury severity: angle collisions caused 33.3% of injury or fatality events compared to only 7.4% of non- injury crashes ($p = 0.01$). Wrong- way collisions, although rare (n = 5, 2.0%), were overrepresented among injury- causing crashes (5.8% vs. 1.0%, $p < 0.01$). Environmental factors also showed notable trends. Crashes happening under dark or unlit

conditions were more common among injury events (27.4% vs. 21.8%, $p < 0.01$). While dry roads were the most common overall, they were disproportionately linked to injury or fatality (70.5% vs. 29.7%, $p < 0.01$). Similar patterns appeared with weather: cloudy conditions and snow were more frequently associated with injury events (35.2% and 3.9%, respectively), although clear weather remained the most common overall. The direction of travel also influenced injury outcomes, with most crashes occurring while traveling westbound (38.9%) and a higher proportion of injury events happening in that direction (33.3%, $p = 0.01$). Driver status variables like license suspension, alcohol, or drug involvement were rarely documented and did not reach statistical significance. However, alcohol and drug use were observed more frequently in crashes with injury or fatality.

Section II: Second Analysis, Logistic Regression Model; Injury and Fatalities

A multivariable logistic regression model was developed to assess the relationship between crash characteristics and the risk of injury or death in MVCs on US Highway 10 from 2019 to 2024. The model included seven potential predictors: EMS elapsed time to crash, location on the roadway, angle of impact, daylight conditions, dry road surface, clear weather, and westbound travel direction. Of these, only the angle of impact was independently linked to higher odds of injury or death. Crashes involving an angle impact had a 2.52 times greater chance of resulting in injury or fatality compared to other types of collisions (OR 2.52; 95% CI: 1.04–6.09; $p = 0.04$). None of the environmental factors, daylight condition (OR 1.22; 95% CI: 0.56–2.65; $p = 0.60$), dry road surface (OR 1.41; 95% CI: 0.55–3.61; $p = 0.46$), or clear weather (OR 1.10; 95% CI: 0.47–2.56; $p = 0.81$), showed a significant link to injury outcomes. Likewise, westbound travel direction was not associated with increased injury risk (OR 1.00; 95% CI: 0.46–2.16; $p = 0.99$), nor was event location on the roadway (OR 1.26; 95% CI: 0.47–3.34;

$p=0.63$). The elapsed time to crash, treated as a continuous variable, was not a significant predictor (OR 1.00; $p = 0.87$), indicating that differences in timing between the incident and response did not significantly affect injury outcomes in the study population.

DISCUSSION

This study offers one of the first focused geospatial and mechanistic analyses of MVCs on a rural four-lane corridor in central Wisconsin. Despite the high frequency of deer-related crashes, our findings indicate that the most significant predictors of injury and fatality are collision mechanism and vehicle dynamics, rather than environmental factors like weather or lighting. Specifically, angle collisions were linked to more than a twofold increase in injury risk, consistent with national reports that identify side-impact collisions as disproportionately fatal due to reduced structural protection and a higher likelihood of intrusion into the passenger cabin.

Wrong-way driving events, although infrequent, were significantly overrepresented in injury crashes in our univariate analysis. This matches national data indicating that wrong-way crashes are usually head-on and often involve older drivers or impaired operation, resulting in high-impact velocity and high lethality [8,10]. These findings highlight the urgent need for improved detection and prevention infrastructure in rural areas, where long, straight roads can lead to disorientation or deliberate misuse of access points.

Interestingly, environmental variables like dry roads, daylight, and clear weather were not statistically significant predictors of injury or death in our multivariable model, even though these conditions were most common in the descriptive data. This supports prior research indicating that crash severity is more closely linked to crash type and vehicle interaction dynamics than to surface or visibility conditions alone [11]. Although lighting and weather are

often linked to crash causation, their independent effects on injury severity may be limited when accounting for mechanism and vehicle count [12].

A surprising finding was the low severity of deer-related collisions, which made up over one-third of all events but rarely caused injury (4.3%). While deer are often highlighted in rural safety campaigns, our data suggest they pose a greater risk of property and vehicle damage than of serious injury. These results align with previous studies showing that most deer-MVCs involve single vehicles traveling at moderate speeds and rarely lead to severe injuries [13].

The geospatial clustering of injury crashes, although not detailed in this regression model, was evident in rural transition zones and at key merge points along Highway 10. Previous geospatial analyses have similarly shown that high-speed rural corridors have concentrated patterns of crash risk that can be addressed with engineering interventions such as rumble strips, better signage, or lane separation [7,14]. Overall, this study emphasizes a critical need for prevention strategies tailored to specific mechanisms, with a particular focus on angle collisions and rare but severe wrong-way driving events. Investments in passive infrastructure (like median barriers and signage) and active technologies (such as vehicle-based detection and innovative alert systems) could significantly reduce injuries along high-speed rural corridors.

LIMITATIONS

This study has several key limitations. First, the data were obtained solely from Wood County Sheriff's Office dispatch face sheets, which may be affected by reporting inconsistencies, incomplete documentation, or classification errors, particularly for environmental variables like lighting and weather. Injury status was recorded at the scene or during transport, and we could not verify outcomes through hospital or trauma registry data, which may lead to an underestimation of the actual injury burden. Second, the dataset lacked detailed clinical

information about injury severity, medical interventions, or long-term outcomes, limiting the ability to categorize injuries by severity or resource use. Similarly, toxicology testing was inconsistently documented and not performed for all cases, reducing the ability to assess the impact of alcohol or drug impairment on crash outcomes. Third, although the geospatial focus was specific and intentionally limited to a rural part of US Highway 10, the findings may not apply to other highway types, urban roads, or regions with different traffic patterns and enforcement practices. Finally, while multivariable regression accounted for key confounders, the limited sample size restricted the number of variables included in the model, which may have excluded other relevant predictors such as driver behavior, seatbelt use, or vehicle type.

CONCLUSION

This analysis of motor vehicle collisions along US Highway 10 in a rural four-lane corridor found that collision mechanisms, especially angle impacts, are the strongest predictors of injury or fatality, regardless of environmental or time-related factors. Although deer-related crashes are common, they rarely cause injury, indicating a need to shift rural safety priorities towards high-severity but less frequent events such as angle and wrong-way collisions. These insights support targeted, mechanism-specific interventions, including road design changes, improved signage, and driver detection systems to lessen injuries on high-speed rural highways. Ongoing integration of dispatch data with clinical and spatial analytics offers a valuable approach for localized traffic safety planning and injury prevention in rural areas.

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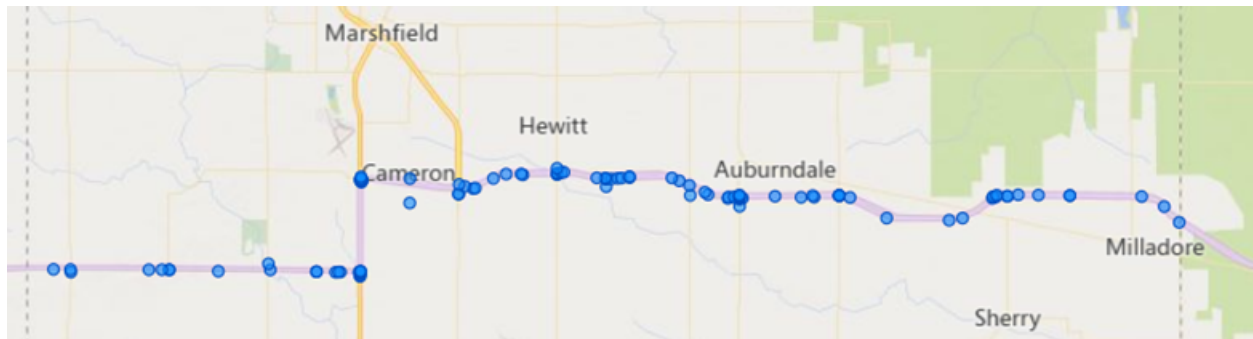
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Wrong-Way Driving and Injury Risk on a Rural Four-Lane Corridor: A Descriptive and Spatial Analysis of US Highway 10 (2019-2024)

Figure 1.

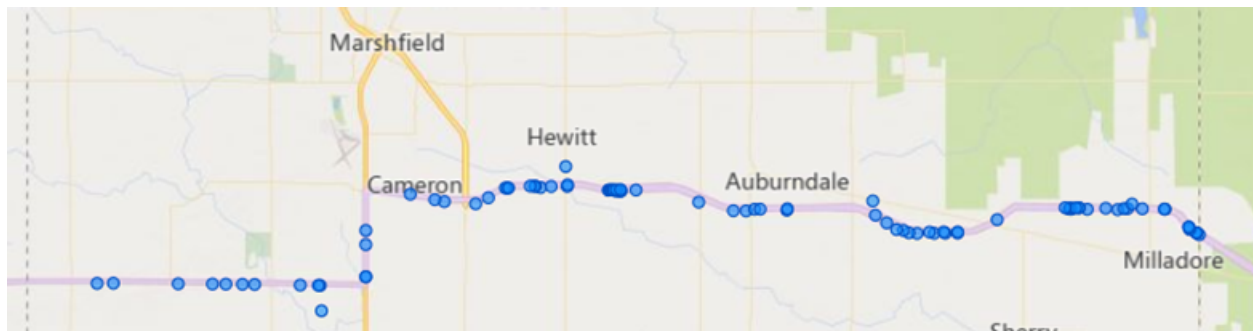
Geospatial Distribution of All Non-Deer-Related Motor Vehicle Accidents Along Highway 10, Wisconsin (2018-2023)



Wrong-Way Driving and Injury Risk on a Rural Four-Lane Corridor: A Descriptive and Spatial Analysis of US Highway 10 (2019-2024)

Figure 2.

*Geospatial Distribution of **Deer-Related** Motor Vehicle Accidents Along Highway 10, Wisconsin (2018-2023).*



Wrong-Way Driving and Injury Risk on a Rural Four-Lane Corridor: A Descriptive and Spatial Analysis of US Highway 10 (2019-2024)

Table 1.

Descriptive Characteristics of Motor Vehicle Crashes on US Highway 10: 2019 - 2024

	Total N = 239	Environmental Hazard			Injuries and Fatalities		
		MVC-No Deer (N = 148, 61.9%)	Deer Related MVC (N = 91, 38.0%)	P-Value	Incidents with Injury or Death (N = 51, 21.3%)	Survived (N = 188)	P-Value
Year							
2019 (N, %)	29, 12.1	22, 14.8	7, 7.6	0.14	11, 21.5	18, 9.5	< 0.01
2020 (N, %)	32, 13.3	22, 14.8	10, 10.9	0.51	8, 15.6	24, 12.7	< 0.01
2021 (N, %)	59, 24.6	35, 23.6	24, 26.3	0.74	13, 25.4	46, 24.4	< 0.01
2022 (N, %)	37, 15.4	18, 12.1	18, 19.7	0.10	2, 3.9	34, 18.0	< 0.01
2023 (N, %)	31, 12.9	23, 15.5	9, 9.8	0.36	8, 15.6	24, 12.7	< 0.01
2024 (N, %)	51, 21.3	28, 18.9	22, 24.1	0.49	9, 17.6	41, 21.8	< 0.01
Crash Time (N=234, 97.9%, Mean, Median [SD] IQR)	13:54, 14:15 [6:05] 11:24	13:19, 13:14 [5:19] 8:29	14:48, 17:22 [6:21] 14:02	0.07	13:27, 13:14 [5:12] 7:03	14:00, 14:58 [6:20] 11:44	0.06
Elapsed Arrival Time (N=148, 61.9%, Mean, Median [SD] IQR)	0:37, 0:13 [2:17] 0:14	13:29, 13:10 [5:16] 8:26	12:15, 12:50 [9:21] 13:37	0.69	12:57, 13:00 [5:06] 7:37	13:30, 13:36 [5:36] 10:13	0.69
Vehicles Involved							
1 Vehicle (N, %)	165, 69.0	76, 51.3	89, 97.8	< 0.01	18, 35.2	147, 78.1	0.03
2 Vehicles (N, %)	71, 29.7	71, 47.9	0, 0	-	32, 62.7	39, 20.7	0.06
3 Vehicles (N, %)	1, 0.4	1, 0.6	0, 0	-	1, 1.9	0, 0	-
Total Injured (N, %)	51, 21.3	47, 31.7	4, 4.3	0.78	-	-	-
Total Killed (N, %)	7, 2.9	7, 4.7	0, 0	-	-	-	-
Event Location							
On Roadway (N, %)	199, 83.2	108, 72.9	91, 100	< 0.01	42, 82.3	157, 83.5	< 0.01
Roadside (N, %)	17, 7.1	17, 11.4	0, 0	-	3, 5.8	14, 7.4	< 0.01
Manner of Collision							

No Collision with Vehicle in Transport (N, %)	165, 69.0	76, 51.3	89, 97	< 0.01	19, 37.2	146, 77.6	0.06
Angle (N, %)	31, 12.9	31, 20.9	0, 0	-	17, 33.3	14, 7.4	0.01
Front to Rear (N, %)	15, 6.2	15, 10.1	0, 0	-	6, 11.7	9, 4.7	< 0.01
Wrong Way Driver (N, %)	5, 2.0	5, 3.3	0, 0	-	3, 5.8	2, 1.0	< 0.01
Light Condition							
Dark/Unlit (N, %)	55, 23.0	48, 32.4	7, 7.6	< 0.01	14, 27.4	41, 21.8	< 0.01
Dawn (N, %)	7, 2.9	6, 4.0	1, 1.0	0.81	3, 5.8	4, 2.1	< 0.01
Daylight (N, %)	87, 36.4	87, 58.7	0, 0	-	32, 62.7	55, 29.2	0.06
Dusk (N, %)	4, 1.6	4, 2.7	0, 0	-	2, 3.9	2, 1.0	< 0.01
Road Surface							
Dry (N, %)	92, 38.4	84, 56.7	8, 8.7	0.04	36, 70.5	56, 29.7	< 0.01
Ice (N, %)	32, 13.3	32, 21.6	0, 0	-	9, 17.6	23, 12.2	< 0.01
Slush (N, %)	1, 0.4	1, 0.6	0, 0	-	-	1, 0.5	-
Snow (N, %)	14, 5.8	14, 9.4	0, 0	-	1, 1.9	13, 6.9	< 0.01
Wet (N, %)	14, 5.8	14, 9.4	0, 0	-	5, 9.8	9, 4.7	< 0.01
Weather Condition							
Clear (N, %)	72, 30.1	65, 43.9	7, 7.6	0.04	26, 50.9	46, 24.4	0.88
Cloudy (N, %)	46, 19.2	45, 30.4	1, 1.0	0.47	18, 35.2	28, 14.8	0.03
Fog (N, %)	4, 1.6	4, 2.7	0, 0	-	1, 1.9	3, 1.5	< 0.01
Rain (N, %)	8, 3.3	8, 5.4	0, 0	-	3, 5.8	5, 2.6	< 0.01
Severe Winds (N, %)	2, 0.8	2, 1.3	0, 0	-	-	2, 1.0	-
Snow (N, %)	19, 7.9	19, 12.8	0, 0	-	2, 3.9	17, 9.0	< 0.01
Direction of Travel							
Eastbound (N, %)	86, 35.9	48, 32.4	38, 41.7	0.23	18, 35.2	68, 36.1	0.03
Northbound (N, %)	29, 12.1	23, 15.5	6, 6.5	0.05	9, 17.6	20, 10.6	< 0.01
Southbound (N, %)	25, 10.4	24, 16.2	1, 1.0	< 0.01	7, 13.7	18, 9.5	< 0.01
Westbound (N, %)	93, 38.9	48, 32.4	45, 49.4	0.01	17, 33.3	76, 40.4	0.01
License Status							
Expired (N, %)	1, 0.4	1, 0.6	0, 0	-	-	1, 0.5	-
Not Licensed (N, %)	4, 1.6	4, 2.7	0, 0	-	1, 1.9	3, 1.5	0.56
Revoked (N, %)	2, 0.8	2, 1.3	0, 0	-	1, 1.9	1, 0.5	0.56

Suspended (N, %)	4, 1.6	3, 2.0	1, 1.0	0.76	1, 1.9	3, 1.5	0.56
Alcohol Test (N=1 Result 0.17% BAC) (N, %)	6, 2.5	6, 4.0	0, 0	-	4, 7.8	2, 1.0	0.12
Drug Test (N, %)	5, 2.0	5, 3.3	0, 0	-	4, 7.8	1, 0.5	0.18

Note: SD=standard deviation, IQR=interquartile range

**Wrong-Way Driving and Injury Risk on a Rural Four-Lane Corridor: A Descriptive and Spatial
Analysis of US Highway 10 (2019-2024)**

Table 2.

Logistic Regression Among the Injuries and Fatalities by Motor Vehicle Crashes on US Highway 10: 2019 – 2024

	Standard Error	Odds Ratio	95% Confidence Interval of Odds Ratio		P-Value
			Lower	Upper	
Elapsed time to Crash	0.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.87
Event Location on Roadway	0.49	1.26	0.47	3.34	0.63
Angle Collision	0.45	2.52	1.04	6.09	0.04
Daylight Condition	0.39	1.22	0.56	2.65	0.60
Dry Road Surface	0.47	1.41	0.55	3.61	0.46
Clear Weather Condition	0.43	1.10	0.47	2.56	0.81
Westbound Direction	0.39	1.00	0.46	2.16	0.99

WOOD COUNTY JAIL

January - June 2025

DAILY POPULATION / INMATES SHIPPED OUT / EMP

Day	January			February			March			April			May			June		
	Total	SK	EMP	Total	SK	EMP	Total	SK	EMP	Total	SK	EMP	Total	SK	EMP	Total	SK	EMP
1	189	77	30	198	75	30	188	71	29	188	0	24	192	0	24	193	0	35
2	189	77	30	197	75	30	188	71	29	185	0	25	185	0	27	194	0	35
3	187	76	28	201	75	30	189	71	28	188	0	24	187	0	30	185	0	35
4	190	75	27	195	72	30	177	69	26	179	0	25	191	0	30	190	0	35
5	193	75	27	199	72	34	181	69	25	187	0	25	189	0	29	187	0	34
6	193	75	27	202	73	34	184	70	25	185	0	24	188	0	29	189	0	34
7	189	73	28	198	69	34	183	69	26	185	0	24	187	0	29	194	0	34
8	194	72	29	194	69	34	179	68	26	179	0	23	187	0	29	198	0	34
9	193	69	29	193	69	32	177	68	26	184	0	23	184	0	29	200	0	34
10	193	68	31	195	69	32	175	68	23	187	0	23	185	0	28	204	0	34
11	197	73	32	197	69	32	178	65	23	192	0	26	188	0	28	202	0	33
12	196	73	32	200	67	32	177	65	24	193	0	25	189	0	26	198	0	31
13	198	73	32	199	64	33	179	62	24	196	0	24	189	0	27	196	0	33
14	195	70	31	202	67	33	178	61	26	200	0	24	185	0	27	196	0	33
15	195	70	30	200	70	34	180	59	27	197	0	24	185	0	28	195	0	31
16	201	73	31	201	70	33	179	59	27	198	0	24	194	0	32	198	0	31
17	194	72	30	202	70	32	180	59	27	202	0	24	194	0	32	198	0	31
18	200	74	31	193	68	32	180	56	28	196	0	24	194	0	32	200	0	31
19	205	74	31	187	66	32	181	53	28	196	0	25	190	0	32	198	0	33
20	207	74	31	194	72	32	177	50	30	197	0	25	190	0	33	192	0	32
21	208	74	31	191	70	31	180	47	30	200	0	25	187	0	33	194	0	32
22	203	74	32	195	72	31	184	44	30	202	0	24	188	0	35	193	0	32
23	204	75	32	195	72	31	189	44	30	200	0	24	192	0	35	191	0	31
24	200	77	32	197	72	30	188	44	29	197	0	24	192	0	35	194	0	30
25	204	74	32	186	70	31	182	41	29	192	0	24	191	0	33	188	0	30
26	202	73	32	185	69	29	190	35	28	194	0	25	191	0	33	186	0	30
27	203	73	32	187	71	29	191	33	28	192	0	25	190	0	33	189	0	29
28	201	73	33	183	70	29	192	30	28	193	0	25	195	0	36	190	0	28
29	199	72	34				205	10	27	190	0	26	187	0	35	195	0	28
30	201	76	34				199	10	27	188	0	24	183	0	34	199	0	28
31	198	74	33				198	0	27				185	0	35			
WCJail	197.5			195.2			184.1			192.1			188.8			194.20		
Shipped	73.5			70.3			52.3			0.0			0.0			0.00		
EMP	30.8			31.6			27.1			24.4			30.9			32.03		
Avg Length of Stay (Days)	30.2			44.9			30.5			33.3			24.3			28.3		

WOOD COUNTY JAIL

July - December 2025

DAILY POPULATION / INMATES SHIPPED OUT / EMP

Day	July			August			September			October			November			December		
	Total	SK	EMP	Total	SK	EMP	Total	SK	EMP	Total	SK	EMP	Total	SK	EMP	Total	SK	EMP
1	202	0	28	191	0	31	201	0	28	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	201	0	26	187	0	31	201	0	28									
3	202	0	25	187	0	31	196	0	27									
4	201	0	23	188	0	29												
5	201	0	23	186	0	30												
6	208	0	22	185	0	29												
7	213	0	22	186	0	30												
8	205	0	24	192	0	31												
9	200	0	26	190	0	31												
10	203	0	26	192	0	31												
11	196	0	27	192	0	31												
12	196	0	27	186	0	31												
13	200	0	28	185	0	30												
14	199	0	28	186	0	29												
15	192	0	28	183	0	30												
16	190	0	27	183	0	30												
17	192	0	27	186	0	30												
18	189	0	27	184	0	30												
19	191	0	28	186	0	29												
20	196	0	28	186	0	28												
21	195	0	28	185	0	28												
22	195	0	30	188	0	28												
23	196	0	30	183	0	27												
24	195	0	32	183	0	26												
25	195	0	32	188	0	26												
26	194	0	31	189	0	26												
27	194	0	31	184	0	28												
28	191	0	30	184	0	28												
29	188	0	30	189	0	28												
30	186	0	31	189	0	28												
31	190	0	31	199	0	28												
WCJail	196.65			187.16			199.33			0.00			0.00			0.00		
Shipped	0.00			0.00			0.00			0.00			0.00			0.00		
EMP	27.61			29.13			27.67			0.00			0.00			0.00		
Avg Length of Stay (Days)	32.5																	

2025 Yearly Averages

Total	192.78
EMP	29.03

Date Population

Color indicates low population	3/10/2025	175
Color indicates high population	7/7/2025	213

Orange indicates the last day of Safe Keeper housing

Electronic Monitoring 2025	
Month	Monthly Average
January	30.80
February	31.60
March	27.10
April	24.40
May	30.90
June	32.03
July	27.61
August	29.13
September	0.00
October	0.00
November	0.00
December	0.00
TOTAL	29.20

Wood County Sheriff's Department Kitchen Report 2025						
MONTH	Breakfast	Lunch	Dinner	Special	Total meals	Food Cost plus Labor
January	3559	3500	3446	0	10505	\$26,833.08
February	2891	2875	2790	0	8556	\$21,648.28
March	2968	2959	2902	0	8829	\$21,999.17
April	6348	6304	6159	30	18841	\$37,158.87
May	4907	4817	4748	8	14480	\$28,526.84
June	5097	4855	4919	0	14871	\$29,281.01
July	6667	6466	6494	0	19627	\$38,698.73
August	4991	4897	4927	0	14815	\$29,170.74
September	0	0	0	0	0	\$0.00
October	0	0	0	0	0	\$0.00
November	0	0	0	0	0	\$0.00
December	0	0	0	0	0	\$0.00
TOTAL	37428	36673	36385	38	110524	\$233,316.72

Cost per meal **\$2.11**

Cost per day **\$6.33**

Wood County Jail Kitchen Expenses					
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Food & Labor	\$335,733.47	\$312,317.25	\$285,692.96	\$275,088.44	\$289,481.66
Number of Meals	103,993	86,637	77,044	88,993	118,016
Cost per Meal	\$3.23	\$3.60	\$3.71	\$3.09	\$2.45
Cost per Day	\$9.69	\$10.81	\$11.12	\$9.27	\$7.36
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Food & Labor	\$262,016.71	\$262,906.02	\$233,270.65	\$251,935.30	\$247,728.79
Number of Meals	122,668	111,439	81,970	86,838	80,356
Cost per Meal	\$2.14	\$2.36	\$2.85	\$2.90	\$3.08
Cost per Day	\$6.41	\$7.08	\$8.54	\$8.70	\$9.25
	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
Food & Labor	\$248,125.14	\$269,109.64	\$233,316.72	\$0.00	\$0.00
Number of Meals	87,953	104,072	110,524	0	0
Cost per Meal	\$2.82	\$2.59	\$2.11	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!
Cost per Day	\$8.46	\$7.76	\$6.33	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!
	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032
Food & Labor	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Number of Meals	0	0	0	0	0
Cost per Meal	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!
Cost per Day	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!

WOOD COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT
JAIL DIVISION
TEK84 INTERCEPT BODY SCANNER 2025

MONTH	FOUND ITEMS Male or Female		CONTRABAND FOUND INTERNAL EXTERNAL		DRUGS MALE or FEMALE		TOTAL SCANNED MALE FEMALE		Monthly Total
JANUARY	1	0	1	0	1	0	130	53	183
FEBRUARY	0	0	0	0	0	0	33	18	51
MARCH	0	0	0	0	0	0	48	13	61
APRIL	0	0	0	0	0	0	149	50	199
MAY	0	0	0	0	0	0	141	44	185
JUNE	0	0	0	0	0	0	149	51	200
JULY	0	0	0	0	0	0	145	53	198
AUGUST	0	0	0	0	0	0	124	50	174
SEPTEMBER	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	5	13
OCTOBER	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NOVEMBER	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DECEMBER	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	1	0	1	0	1	0	927	337	

TOTAL SCANNED

1264

MINUTES

CONSERVATION, EDUCATION, & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, August 13, 2025

TIME: 9:00 AM

PLACE: Courthouse – Room 300

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bill Leichtnam, Tom Buttke, Tim Hovendick, Russ Perlock, Wayne Schulz

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

1. Chairman Leichtnam called the meeting to order at 9:02 AM and declared a quorum present.
2. Under public comment, Supervisor Donna Rozar discussed her thoughts and recommendations of the criteria that, in her opinion, should be used in judging the merits of the applications going forward. Supervisor Clendenning was recognized and agreed with Rozar's comments.
3. The resolution recognizing the Citizens Water Group as an advisory subcommittee of the CEED committee was presented. Motion by Schulz/Hovendick to approve the resolution and forward it onto the county board for their consideration. Motion carried unanimously.
4. The request for economic development grant funding release from Main Street Marshfield was reviewed by the committee once again. Motion by Buttke/Schulz to approve the release of \$18,875 to Main Street Marshfield for the Welcome Back grant. Motion carried unanimously.
5. Each of the applications were reviewed by the committee with the following motions being offered, noting that they still need to be approved by the entire county board during the budget process:
 - a. Motion by Schulz/Perlock to decline the request of Wood County Parks & Forestry for CERA Park signage. Motion carried unanimously.
 - b. Motion by Schulz/Perlock to approve the amount of \$9,000 for the Remington Fire Dept. building addition. Motion carried 4-1. Voting no was Buttke.
 - c. Motion by Leichtnam/Hovendick to deny the request from the Village of Vesper for Community Center revitalization. Motion carried 4-1. Voting no was Buttke.
 - d. Motion by Buttke/Hovendick to approve the amount of \$20,000 to the City of Pittsville for their Housing Incentive portion of the application only. Motion carried unanimously.
 - e. Motion by Hovendick/Buttke to approve the amount of \$12,000 to the Columbus Catholic School for their fieldhouse. Motion carried unanimously.

- f. Motion by Buttke/Hovendick to approve the amount of \$13,000 for the Child Care Centers of Marshfield for childcare accessibility and affordability. Motion carried unanimously.
- g. Motion by Leichtnam/Schulz to deny the request from the Village of Rudolph for park improvements. Motion carried unanimously.
- h. Motion by Schulz/Buttke to approve \$5,000 for Centergy for the Central Wisconsin Industry Study, if Centergy can get two other counties to also provide funding. Motion carried unanimously.
- i. Motion by Buttke/Schulz to deny the request from Marshfield YMCA for childcare accessibility and affordability. Motion carried 3-2. Voting no were Leichtnam and Schulz.
- j. Motion by Schulz/Hovendick to deny the request of the City of Marshfield for their historic district signage. Motion carried 3-2. Voting no were Buttke and Hovendick.
- k. Motion by Buttke/Leichtnam to deny the City of Marshfield building revitalization program funding request. Motion failed. Voting no were Buttke, Perlock, & Hovendick. Motion by Schulz/Perlock to grant \$8,000 to this request. Motion carried 4-1. Voting no was Buttke.
- l. Motion by Leichtnam/Schulz to deny the request of Midstate Technical College for Workforce Safety Training. Motion carried unanimously.
- m. Motion by Buttke/Hovendick to deny the request of Midstate Technical College for Production Process Improvement Training. Motion carried unanimously.
- n. Motion by Hovendick/Schulz to grant \$10,000 to the City of Nekoosa for the bike trail and Riverside Park rehabilitation. Motion carried unanimously.
- o. Motion by Schulz/Hovendick to grant \$20,000 to the City of Wisconsin Rapids for Witter Park lighting. Motion carried unanimously.
- p. Motion by Schulz/Hovendick to grant \$25,000 to the Village of Biron for a study on parcel of land for housing development. Motion carried unanimously.
- q. Motion by Buttke/Schulz to deny the request for Bike Share. Motion carried 4-1. Voting no was Leichtnam.
- r. Motion by Leichtnam/Schulz to grant \$4,000 for the City of Marshfield Farmers Market organizational start up funding. Motion failed 1-4. Voting no were Schulz, Buttke, Hovendick, & Perlock.
- s. Motion by Schulz/Leichtnam to grant \$20,000 for the Catch-a-Ride program. Motion carried 3-2. Voting no were Hovendick and Buttke.
- t. Motion by Buttke/Hovendick to grant \$20,000 to Cran City Corner development in Pittsville. Motion carried unanimously.
- u. Motion by Buttke/Perlock to deny Main Street Marshfield Welcome Back project funding. Motion carried unanimously.
- v. Motion by Schulz/Buttke to grant \$5,000 to the Marshfield and Wisconsin Rapids Convention & Visitors Bureau for trail maps. Motion carried unanimously.
- w. Motion by Buttke/Hovendick to grant \$30,500 to the Village of Vesper for the Stemperosa Estates garage build. Motion failed 0-5 with all committee

members voting no. Motion by Schulz/Hovendick to grant \$25,000 to the Village of Vesper Stemperosa Estates garage build. Motion carried unanimously.

- x. Motion by Buttke/Hovendick to approve an additional \$5,500 to the City of Pittsville for their housing incentive project. Motion carried unanimously.
6. The committee will address further clarification on the economic development grant process at a future meeting.
7. Motion by Buttke/Hovendick to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously at 12:09 PM.

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

Conservation, Education, & Economic Development Committee

August 13, 2025

NAME	REPRESENTING
Amanda Blashowski	Marshfield Area YmCA
Sarah Franken	Child Care Centers of Marshfield
Hannah Munnell Scott	Wood County Health Dept.
Jordan Munger	City of Marshfield
Jeremy Sickler	Alexander Field
Jan Brodman	RUFD
Bill Clendinning	WCB #15
Isabell Grethen	Main Street Marshfield
Jenna Hanson	"
Meredith Kleck	Wis Rapids Area CVB
Jake Klingforth	City of Wis. Rapids
David Eaton	Columbus Catholic Schools
Jason Gruenberg	P & Z
Angel Laidlaw	Centergy
Julie Marci	P & Z
Jon Evenson	Village of Bron
JEFF PERKOVER	WCB #11
Jake Hahn	WCB
Donna Roger	CB Dist 2
Via Web Ex:	
Brad Hamilton	CB Dist 18
Katie Kleyn	County Clerk
Kallee Ferk	C/Nekoosa
Scott Brehm	V/Vesper
Staci Kivi	Heart of Wisconsin
Julie Strenn	Gran City
Kristie Egge	Health Dept

Conservation, Education, & Economic Development Committee

August 13, 2025

[illegible]

#	Wood County Proposed Economic Development Grant Requests for 2025	Description of project	2025 Total Grants Requested	Match	2025 CEED Approved
	North Central WI RPC	This is a separate budget item & not included in above total.	\$40,000.00	NA	\$0
	Central Wisconsin Junior Fair	This is a separate budget item & not included in above total.	\$38,000.00	NA	\$0
	REDI Implementation		\$50,000.00	NA	\$50,000
1	Wood County Parks & Forestry	CERA Park Signage	\$27,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$0
2	Remington Volunteer Fire Department	Building Project	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$ 9,000
3	Village of Vesper	Vesper Community Center Revitalization	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00	0
4	City of Pittsville	Building Incentive Fund/Walking Bridge	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$25,500
5	MLC Productions/North Wood County Hist Soc	Adler Theater Business History Docufilm	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$0
6	Columbus Catholic Schools	Fieldhouse	\$50,000.00	\$200,000.00	\$12,000
7	Child Care Centers of Marshfield	Engaging in solutions for Child Care Accessibility & Affordability	\$60,000.00	\$60,805.00	\$13,000
8	Village of Rudolph	Park Improvements	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$0
9	Centergy, Inc	Central Wisconsin Industry Study	\$5,000.00	\$125,000.00	\$5,000
10	Marshfield Area YMCA	Engaging in solutions for Child Care Accessibility & Affordability	\$144,000.00	\$144,000.00	\$0
11	City of Marshfield	Historic District Signage	\$4,675.00	\$4,675.00	\$0
12	City of Marshfield	Building Revitalization Grant Program	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$8,000
13	Mid-State Technical College	Workforce Safety Training	\$76,500.00	\$76,500.00	\$0
14	Mid-State Technical College	Production Process Improvement Training	\$55,000.00	\$55,000.00	\$0
15	City of Nekoosa	Nekoosa Bike Trail and Riverside Park Rehabilitation	\$12,500.00	\$12,500.00	\$10,000
16	City of Wisconsin Rapids	Witter Park Lighting	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00	\$20,000
17	Village of Biron	Street Connection to STH 54 at Dollar General	\$49,600.00	\$49,600.00	\$25,000
18	Wood County Health Dept	Bike Share-Operate, Sustain and Grow	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$0
19	Wood County Health Dept/WRDT FM & MFM	Farmer's Market Website Development & Branding	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$0
20	Wood County Health Dept	Catch A Ride Program	\$42,000.00	\$42,000.00	\$20,000
21	CranCity Corner	Pittsville Economic Development	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$20,000
22	Main Street Marshfield	Downtown Welcome Back Grant	\$25,000.00	\$22,500.00	\$0
23	WI Rapids Area CVB & Visit Marshfield	Trails Map for Wood County	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000
24	Village of Vesper	Stemparosa Estates Garage Build	\$50,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$25,000
	Ongoing Grant Applications				
1	Marshfield Chamber of Commerce & Industry	General Funding for Economic Development	\$30,000.00		\$25,000
2	Heart of Wisconsin Chamber of Commerce	General Funding for Economic Development	\$25,000.00		\$25,000
3	Marshfield Municipal Airport	General Funding for Economic Development	\$15,000.00		\$15,000
4	South Wood County Airport Commission	General Funding for Economic Development	\$15,000.00		\$15,000
	Total		\$1,147,275.00		
				Budget	\$327,500
				Funds used	\$327,500

Remaining: \$0

MINUTES

CONSERVATION, EDUCATION, & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, September 3, 2025
TIME: 9:00 AM
PLACE: Courthouse – Conference Rm #302

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bill Leichtnam, Tom Buttke, Wayne Schulz, Russ Perlock, Tim Hovendick,

MEMBER EXCUSED: George Gilbertson

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

1. Chairman Leichtnam called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM and declared a quorum present.
2. There was no public comment.
3. The minutes of the August 6 & 13, 2025 meetings were presented. Motion by Buttke/Hovendick to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
4. Motion by Schulz/Hovendick to approve the vouchers, monthly department reports and committee reports. Motion carried unanimously.
5. Planning & Zoning Director Grueneberg and Darryl Landeau from the North Central Wisconsin Regional Plan Commission presented the updated Bike and Pedestrian Plan highlights to the committee. This plan updates the 1995 version and allows for grant funding opportunities going forward. A resolution was drafted to approve the plan at county board. Motion by Buttke/Perlock to approve the resolution and forward onto the county board for their consideration.
6. Tyler Freund from the Auburndale Park Association presented an update on the progress made at the Auburndale Park in the village and requested the economic funding grant dollars be released at this time. Motion by Buttke/Hovendick to approve the release of \$4,000 of economic development grant dollars to the association. Motion carried unanimously.
7. Extension Area Director Gatterman and Associate Dean Hausler presented the 2026 Extension budget which included an increase of FTE based on the loss of federal funding for the SNAP program. They propose having a county funded 80% position to replace the federally funded position. Motion by Buttke/Hovendick to approve the budget as presented and forward onto the Finance Dept. Motion carried unanimously.
8. Land & Water Conservation Dept. Program Assistant Peeters presented the revised 2026 LWCD budgets, amended from last month to incorporate additional state funding. Motion by Schulz/Buttke to approve the budget as presented and forward to the Finance Dept. Motion carried unanimously.
9. Peeters reviewed the current status of the Nitrate Well Testing and the funding of reverse osmosis systems, the Mill Creek Water Shed testing now being conducted by Wood County instead of Portage County, as well as the ongoing violations.

10. A field day is coming up highlighting various land conservation practices will be held at Albert Acres' in Junction City on October 7th. The committee was advised that if they plan to attend to let the County Clerk's office know so that it can be noticed in accordance with the Open Meetings Law.
11. Grueneberg, along with Planning & Zoning Staff presented the various 2026 Planning & Zoning budgets. The committee reviewed some of the projects and funding mechanisms within the department. Motion by Buttke/Schulz to approve the budgets as presented and forward them to the Finance Dept. Motion carried unanimously.
12. The CEED tour of Friday, September 12th highlighting various departmental projects within the county, was brought up with a reminder to register by September 5th.
13. Melissa Haack, the regional farmers market coordinator discussed the changes made in the administration of farmers markets in the state, requiring additional paperwork and reporting. They are requesting REDI funds in the amount of \$6,000 to help organize the Marshfield Festival Foods market and upgrade the Wisconsin Rapids Farmers Market. Motion by Schulz/Hovendick to approve the release of \$6,000 of REDI Implementation grant funding as requested. Motion carried unanimously.
14. Grueneberg presented the 2026 Transportation & Economic Development budget. Motion by Buttke/Hovendick to approve the budget as presented and forward to the Finance Dept. Motion carried unanimously.
15. Chair Leichtnam presented some ideas on changes to the parameters for the economic development grant requests and requested the committee to come with their ideas to the October CEED meeting, where this item will be discussed.
16. The next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 1st, at 9:00 AM.
17. Motion by Buttke/Hovendick to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously at 11:06 AM.

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

Conservation, Education, & Economic Development Committee
September 3, 2025

[illegible]

Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development Council, Inc.
Personnel/Finance Committee Meeting Minutes
July 17th, 2025
Boston School Forest/Online

Attendees: 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); Amanda Gurklis (Golden Sands RC&D Staff). Bill Clendenning (Wood) also attended.

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

INTRODUCTIONS: Everyone introduced themselves.

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

CLOSED SESSION: A motion was made by Walker, which was seconded by Leichtnam, to go into closed session at 9:03 a.m. Motion carried.

OUT OF CLOSED SESSION: A motion was made by Walker, which was seconded by Beastrom, to come out of closed session at 9:15 a.m. Motion carried.

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

FEDERAL FUNDING STATUS: Glad reported that the NRCS co-employment contract has been "unpaused" and extended, following some changes in language within the agreement.

EMPLOYEE RETENTION CREDIT: Glad reported the long-awaited Employee Retention Credit from the IRS has been received, along with interest. The credit was based on keeping staff on payroll through the period when many employers laid off staff due to Covid concerns.

CONFERENCE ROOM EQUIPMENT: A motion was made by Leichtman, which was seconded by Walker, to spend up to \$700 for a new smart TV and related equipment, to be used in the Golden Sands RC&D Stevens Point office conference room (Suite 140). Motion carried.

STAFF & MEMBERSHIP: Glad reported that phased-in re-hiring is underway for positions affected by layoffs when NRCS contracts were suspended earlier in 2025. Jacob Abrahamson, a former NRCS affiliate, has been hired for a staff position. Katherine Jaeger, former executive director at Glacierland RC&D, has been brought on board as a part-time, limited term employee for the position of Admin Resource Coordinator.

MEMBERSHIP DUES: Glad encouraged counties that have not paid 2025 membership dues to do so. Unrestricted income from dues is important to Golden Sands RC&D to cover expenses that project grants often cannot.

AL BARDEN TRIBUTE: An event was planned but needed to be postponed. A new date has not yet been set.

POLICY AND PROCEDURE: No report.

PR & COMMUNICATIONS: Gurklis reported that the June newsletter was sent out, and that work is underway on the July newsletter.

OTHER BUSINESS: Glad gave a status update on the Vista Sands solar project. Golden Sands RC&D continues to have an active role in the project's development.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Walker, which was seconded by Beastron, to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 9:53 a.m.

Minutes by: Bob Walker, Secretary

Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development Council, Inc.
Agriculture Committee Meeting Minutes
July 17th, 2025
Boston School Forest/Online

Attendees: Brent Tessmer (Taylor); Jennifer Glad (Golden Sands RC&D); Denise Hilgart (Golden Sands RC&D); Brooke Patrick (Golden Sands RC&D); Asher Maliepaard (Golden Sands RC&D); Jacob Abrahamson (Golden Sands RC&D); Kristin McAdow (Golden Sands RC&D); Natalie Grueben (Golden Sands RC&D); Gary Beastram (Member-at-Large); Annika Waltenberg (Golden Sands RC&D).

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

INTRODUCTIONS: Everyone introduced themselves.

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

STAFF & COUNTY MEMBER UPDATES:

Tessmer (Taylor): Updates included wetland projects, manure storage, and wild parsnip treatments.

Maliepaard: He explained that there were very impactful events, such as the Bison Pasture Walk. Since most events have happened, it is now time that they focus on projects. He is also working on a new grant that was submitted two days prior to this meeting.

Patrick: She explained that she is currently working on grants that have a due date in September. She also talked about the various events that had taken place so far this summer such as the 'Back to Basic' farm tour.

Grueben: She discussed working on follow ups with farmers, working on a podcast, and working on a map to help show progress of grazing impacts.

McAdow: Discussed an event held by the Wisconsin Bison Producer Association in Spooner. She also brought up a survey that should be shared with anyone interested in grazing dairy cattle.

Glad: She spoke on Robert Bauer's behalf and updated everyone on what he has been doing. She explained that there is going to be a bigger focus in Southern Wisconsin as well as having a larger focus on outreach and education. Bauer started a podcast and will continue interviewing producers. There will also be an upcoming event discussing the economics of grazing. There was an interview held by the Portage County Business Association to interview the PCI intern, Annika Waltenberg. She also explained the importance of the PCI program and how it helps businesses employ interns.

Abrahamson: There has been a focus on the Mead Community Garden to make basic improvements, such as building raised beds and mulching areas around garden beds. He explained that there is a new project called “Growing The Giving Farm” which will provide a space to grow food to be donated to economically disadvantaged individuals. The Giving Farm recently held a welcome event on July 12th and there was a good turnout.

NEW PROJECTS: The Buffalo Lake District 9 Key Element Plan Development was presented and discussed. A motion was made by Beastram, which was seconded by Tessmer, to approve the project and send it on to the full council. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Beastram, which was seconded by Tessmer, to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

Minutes by: Annika Waltenberg

Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development Council, Inc.
Forestry/Wildlife Committee Meeting Minutes
July 17th, 2025
Boston School Forest/Online

Attendees: Al Drabek (Marathon); Bill Clendenning (Wood); Bob Walker (Member-at-Large); Jacob Fluor (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Claire Harwood (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Katherine Jaeger (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 Drabek, to approve the minutes from the May 2025 meeting. Motion carried.

HABITAT FOR KARNER BLUE BUTTERFLY, POWESHIEK SKIPPERLING & OTHER POLLINATORS: Fluor and Harwood reported that habitat restoration and improvement work is continuing.

CENTRAL WISCONSIN WINDSHED PARTNERSHIP: No report.

COOPERATIVE FORESTRY/CWIP/NEWIP: Fluor and Harwood reported. Final reporting has been completed on the Woods and Wildlife project. A demonstration forest event was held. Additional events are being planned for September and October. Staff are monitoring the presence of a new invasive plant species that has been found in Wisconsin. Field work on invasive control is underway. Additional funding for projects is being sought.

TREE SHELTERS: No report.

NEW PROJECTS: None.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Clendenning, which was seconded by Drabek. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 10:47 a.m.

Minutes by: Bob Walker

Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development Council, Inc.
Waters Committee Meeting Minutes
July 17th, 2025
Boston School Forest/Online

Attendees: Bill Leichtnam (Wood); Amanda Gurklis (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Amy Thorstenson (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Joe Tomandl (Taylor); Jenna Tuma (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Amberle Schwartz (Portage).

CALL TO ORDER: Tomandl called the meeting to order at 10:19 a.m.

INTRODUCTIONS: Everyone introduced themselves.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion was made by Leichtnam, which was seconded by Schwartz, to approve the May 2025 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

NEW PROJECTS: The Buffalo Lake District 9 Key Element Plan Development project was presented and discussed. Motion was made by Leichtnam, which was seconded by Schwartz, to approve the new project and send it to the full council. Motion carried.

COUNTY AND STAFF UPDATES:

Gurklis: CBCW projects are going well. She is busy planning for the Waupaca County Conservation Field Day. She had an AIS boot with Mackenzie Weber at the Levitt AMP Music Series. She also presented Lince's staff report.

Tuma: She talked about the Karner Blue Butterfly Event staff attended. She has been posting a lot of Facebook content. She also presented Hamerla's staff report.

Tomandl (Taylor): The county released Purple Loosestrife Beetles. Water testing will begin in September. Gold mine testing is in progress. No spills occurred in the county, but many erosion events did.

Leichtnam Wood): AARPA funds will be used for rural wells with high nitrates. Residents are having to buy water. The tree sale ended and the county is looking to expand it next year.

Schwartz (Portage): The county has been busy hiring new employees. She attended a potato field day at the Hancock Agricultural Research Station. About fifty percent of wells are high in Nitrates in Nelsonville. Tracer testing will begin to see where the Nitrates are coming from. Approval was received to start a committee for the industrial livestock ordinance.

Thorstenson: CBCW invoices were sent out.

OTHER BUSINESS: None.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 11:04 am. Motion was made by Leichtnam, which was seconded by Schwartz.

Minutes by: Amanda Gurklis

Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development Council, Inc.
Regular Business/Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
July 17th, 2025
Boston School Forest/Online

Attendees: Bob Walker (Member-at-Large); Al Drabek (Marathon); Bill Leichtnam (Wood); Gary Beastrom (Member-at-Large); Amanda Gurklis (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); 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); Kristin McAdow (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Bill Clendenning (Wood); Amberle Schwartz (Portage); Katherine Jaeger (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Todd Morris (Green Lake); Ron Luethe (Monroe); Brooke Patrick (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Natalie Gruben (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Annika Waltenberg (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Jacob Abrahamson (Golden Sands RC&D Staff).

CALL TO ORDER: Vice-President Leichtnam called the meeting to order at 11:09 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 May 2025 meeting. Motion carried.

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

WI RC&D ASSOCIATION: Glad reported on a joint grant application, in partnership with Glacierland and River Country RC&Ds, from Grassworks to support managed grazing.

FEDERAL FUNDING STATUS: Glad reported that the NRCS co-employment contract has been "unpaused" and was extended, following some changes in language within the agreement. Phased-in re-hiring is underway for positions affected by layoffs when the contract was suspended earlier in 2025.

EMPLOYEE RETENTION CREDIT: Glad reported the long-awaited Employee Retention Credit from the IRS has been received, along with interest. The credit was based on keeping staff on payroll through the period when many employers laid off staff due to Covid concerns.

MEMBERSHIP DUES: Glad encouraged counties that have not paid 2025 membership dues to do so. Income from dues is important to Golden Sands RC&D to cover expenses that project grants often cannot.

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

VISTA SANDS SOLAR PROJECT: Glad gave a status update. Golden Sands RC&D continues to have an active role in the project's development.

NEW PROJECTS: The Buffalo Lake District 9 Key Element Plan Development was presented and discussed. A motion was made by Clendenning, which was seconded by Schwartz, to approve the project. Motion carried.

STAFF/PROJECT UPDATES: Glad reminded attendees that staff activity reports were included with information sent out prior to the meeting. Glad also highlighted a number of upcoming events that Golden Sands RC&D is sponsoring or participating in.

AGENCY/PARTNER REPORTS: Schwartz gave a presentation on the history of the Boston School Forest and its many uses as an educational resource today. The forest is owned by the Stevens Point Area School District. Following the meeting, Schwartz led a tour of the buildings and grounds for interested board members and Golden Sands RC&D staff.

OTHER REPORTS: None.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Drabek, which was seconded by Walker, to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 12:24 p.m.

Minutes by: Bob Walker, Secretary



Monday, August 18 @ 2:00pm (Riverblock Auditorium, room 206 and virtually on Webex)

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bill Leichtnam at 2:00 pm.

There was no public comment.

Motion to approve July 21, 2025, meeting minutes was made by Rhonda Carrell and seconded by Gordon Gottbeheut. Motion passed unanimously.

There was nothing reported under the agenda item entitled “Correspondence/ Updates/ Handouts/ Reports on Meetings Attended.”

Chairman Leichtnam introduced our guest speaker, Kathy McGrath, who brought her Pollinator Initiative Monarch program to share with the CWG. Pesticides kill Monarchs in all stages of life, from egg to butterfly. Kathy has been working with Monarchs for decades, from finding the eggs on milkweed leaves, to caterpillars, to chrysalis, and finally the butterfly. Adults are tagged so they can be tracked through Monarch Watch www.MonarchWatch.org. As the result of this dedication to the preservation of Monarchs, Port Edwards has been named The Monarch Village. They do education and releases for the public often.

Chairman Leichtnam asked the CWG about the direction the CWG wished to go in pertaining to pollinators. We will explore/seek more knowledge on this subject.

Chairman Leichtnam announced he will, on behalf of the Conservation, Education & Economic Development Committee (CEED Committee), introduce a resolution on Tuesday, August 19, 2025 asking the Wood County Board to approve designation of the Citizens Water Group of Wood County as an advisory subcommittee of the Wood County.

We discussed Science by the River and who can attend and oversee our booth. Bruce Dimick cannot be there on October 18, 2025.

Motion to adjourn made by John Endrizzi. Seconded by Gordon Gottbeheut. Motion passed unanimously.

The next meeting of the CWG will be on September 15, 2025, at 2:00pm.

Present in the meeting: Bill Leichtnam, Kathy McGrath, Bill Clendenning, Shane Wucherpfennig, Kendra Wilhelm, Gordon Gottbeheit, Sandy Cain, John Endrizzi, Bruce Dimick, Tom Rayome.
Rhonda Carrell

Virtual: Lance Pliml, Scott Provost

Respectfully submitted by Rhonda Carrell on August 18, 2025

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

- Planning for a Juntos Career Pathways Programs for Youth and Families in collaboration with local school districts and technical colleges. The goal is to provide families with career pathway information and build community between families so that are better able to prepare for their students future career goals.
 - **Total Reach:** 115 youth and 67 adults

AGRICULTURE

Matt Lippert, Agriculture Educator

- An article written for dairy farmers and advisors that explores formulating diets for milk fever prevention via the negative dietary cation anion difference (DCAD) strategy. The purpose of this article is to provide the readers with background knowledge and management recommendations when feeding negative DCAD diets as a milk fever prevention strategy
 - **Total Reach:** The reach of the articles posted on the Dairy Team website is unknown at the time of reporting. The article was shared in the Team's e-newsletter which has 1700+ subscribers. A summary of this article was shared by Hoard's Dairyman in their Intel newsletter to 25,000 subscribers, posted on their social media channels, and on their website homepage.
- An article series was written for dairy farmers and advisors that explores how feed efficiency can guide decision-making, the factors that influence it, and its limitations. The purpose of this article is to support informed and strategic on-farm management related to feed efficiency data.
 - **Total Reach:** The reach of the articles posted on the Dairy Team website is unknown at the time of reporting. Four selected articles will be published in Dairy Herd Management Magazine's "Dairy Nutritionist e-Network" newsletter in the fall of 2025, shared on their website, and may also appear in their print edition. Dairy Herd Management has approximately 2,000 Dairy Nutritionist e-Network subscribers, 47,000 print subscribers, and 170,000 average monthly website views.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Kayla Rombalski, Community Development Educator

- Planning for a strategic planning meeting with "Build the Basin", a collaborative regional advancement effort in Northcentral Wisconsin, in collaboration with UW Stevens Point. The goal of this meeting is for



the group to establish a shared vision, mission, and priorities of this work in order to support entrepreneurial and placemaking efforts in the region.

- **Total Reach:** 12 planning committee members
- Planning for a regional rural housing summit hosted in Stevens Point in collaboration with state and regional CDI educators, and local, regional, and state housing partners. The goal is to engage developers, local government, and housing practitioners around rural housing solutions and best practices in order to increase affordable workforce housing and local economies in their area.

CRANBERRIES

Allison Jonjak, Cranberry Outreach Specialist

- An updated suite of nutrient management publications is being prepared to enable cranberry farmers to reference the most up-to-date information regarding nitrogen, phosphorous, potassium, and micronutrient needs and efficiency for cranberry production. The current publication suite is from 2000 and does not address modern hybrids in sufficient depth.
- A series of 3 mini-clinics was held at the Cranberry Summer Field Day. While growers are gathered for a trade show and marsh tours, they are able to meet directly with University researchers and hear current research on weed management, protoventuria leaf spot, and physiology research including calcium supplementation and heat stress. These topics were requested by growers to meet their direct needs.

FOODWISE

Hannah Wendels, FoodWise Nutrition Educator

Mallory McGivern, FoodWise Administrator

Michelle Van Krey, Healthy Communities Coordinator

- An introductory series of StrongBodies and Tai Chi for adults who are incarcerated, where during Tai Chi they learn gentle, low-impact movements designed to improve balance, flexibility, and joint health. During StrongBodies they engage in regular, progressive strength training and health education to improve their physical and mental health and enhance social connectedness. Through both of these activities, the program helps reduce the risk of falls and empower participants to lead healthier, more active lives, fostering independence and confidence in their daily routines.
- A series of strength training sessions (StrongBodies) for adults in the community, where participants engage in regular, progressive strength training and health & nutrition education to improve their physical and mental health and enhance social connectedness.
 - **Total Reach:** 20 registered adults/older adults
- 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-

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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.

- Planning for and supporting the StrongBodies volunteers in the start-up of the upcoming 12-week StrongBodies series in Pittsville. StrongBodies helps increase muscle mass, bone density, improve balance, and improves one's overall health and well-being.
- Planning for and supporting the StrongBodies volunteers in the start-up of the upcoming 11-week StrongBodies series in Nekoosa.

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Ka Zoua Thao, Bilingual (Hmong) Community Health Worker

- Bi-weekly summer meetings for Hmong youth, attending Wisconsin Rapids Area Middle School and Lincoln High School, where participants engage in healthy eating, active living, and behavioral health topics affecting their communities. This effort is designed to build a better understanding of these topics and promote advocacy for change in the Hmong community.
 - **Total Reach:** 15 youth registered, 11 attended
- An introductory series of StrongBodies and Tai Chi for adults who are incarcerated, where during Tai Chi they learn gentle, low-impact movements designed to improve balance, flexibility, and joint health. During StrongBodies they engage in regular, progressive strength training and health education to improve their physical and mental health and enhance social connectedness. Through both of these activities, the program helps reduce the risk of falls and empower participants to lead healthier, more active lives, fostering independence and confidence in their daily routines.
- A series of strength training sessions (StrongBodies) for adults in the community, where participants engage in regular, progressive strength training and health & nutrition education to improve their physical and mental health and enhance social connectedness.
 - **Total Reach:** 20 registered adults/older adults
- Building relationships and engaging with partners to address health needs with the Hmong community within Wood County.
- Ongoing one-on-one meetings with Hmong clients, where resources and referrals are made. Through these efforts, individual clients are able to receive support navigating through the healthcare and legal systems, and get connected with community resources.
 - **Total Reach:** 13 one-on-one clients
- 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.

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- **Total Reach:** 8 participants

- Planning for a community resource enhancement effort for underserved Asian households in the Wisconsin Rapids Public School in collaboration with the local food pantry. The goal is to integrate food security resources and culturally tailored nutrition guides into the FOCUS Asian Family Backpacks, so that families feel supported in both their physical health and cultural identity.
- A tabling event for 4th and 5th grade students at Howe Elementary, where students and their parents learn about the support group that will explore emotions, coping strategies, and the importance of mental wellness, to encourage sign-ups for a student support group that fosters emotional resilience, peer connection, and lifelong habits for well-being.

- **Total Reach:** 10 Hmong families

HORTICULTURE

Janell Wehr, Horticulture Educator

- A diagnostic service for the general public, where Marathon and Wood County residents' horticultural inquiries are answered through evidence-based resources. This effort is designed to reduce pollution through horticultural product (pesticides and fertilizers) misuse.

HUMAN RELATIONSHIPS & DEVELOPMENT

Ben Eberlein, Human Development & Relationships Educator

- A coaching program for families and individuals, where participants learn how to create financial goals and gain money management skills. The goal of this program is to enable participants to prepare for and take charge of household financial situations that occur due to changes in income or unforeseen hardships.

- **Total Reach:** 1 justice-involved male participating in a substance abuse recovery program

- A coaching program for families and individuals, where participants learn how to create financial goals and gain money management skills. The goal of this program is to enable participants to prepare for and take charge of household financial situations that occur due to changes in income or unforeseen hardships.

- **Total Reach:** One 2-hour session.

- 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:** Met with 3 individuals for 3 sessions (2 hours each).

NATURAL RESOURCES

Jen McNelly, Natural Resources Educator

Anna Mitchell, Natural Resources Educator

- A Grow & Tell field day for Farmers of the Roche-A-Cri members, agriculture industry professionals, water protection groups, and conservation professionals, where participants learned about conservation initiatives to improve the Big and Little Roche-A-Cri creeks, how sweet corn is grown, conservation practices implemented through the Healthy Grown program, food production at Nortera Foods, and using drones to seed cover crops. Through this Grow & Tell field day participants grew more connected to citizen-led organizations that are working to protect and enhance natural resources and became aware of local food systems and what farmers are doing to help protect water quality.

- **Total Reach:** 21 participants

- A prairie walk for Heartland Farms and Pheasants Forever, where native plants were identified and prairie health was discussed. This prairie walk was designed to assess the progress of the pollinator plot that was established in 2023 as part of Farmers of the Roche-A-Cri, a producer-led watershed protection group. The prairie walk also helped informed future management decisions to ensure the prairie continues developing.

- **Pictured right:** *Black-Eyed Susan (Rudbeckia hirta)* and *Spotted Bee Balm (Monarda punctata)* growing in the pollinator plot at Heartland Farms.



- Planning for a Health and Conservation Fall Summit for County Health and Land and Water Conservation Department Staff, as well as state agency representatives in collaboration with Wisconsin Land and Water. The goal is for county representatives to learn more about emerging water-related health and conservation issues, so that they can use the information from the summit to address these issues in their counties.
- Planning for a nutrient loss reduction strategy stakeholder roundtable event for agricultural producers, partners and agency representatives in collaboration with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Wisconsin Land and Water, and UW-Madison Division of Extension. The goal is for stakeholders to come together at a one-day event to discuss nutrient loss reduction strategy actions that can help inform and guide an updated state nutrient loss reduction strategy.
- Facilitation of monthly meetings of the Wood County Citizen Water Groups, where stakeholders meet to 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 Wood County, and identify new collaborations for future work/projects.

- **Total Reach:** *15 Citizen Members of the Wood County Citizen Water Group*



Wood County, Wisconsin LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT

Activities Report for Barb Peeters - August 2025

- Reviewed final 2026 LWCD budget figures/data for all LWCD budgets (Land & Water, DATCP, Wildlife, Nonmetallic Mining, MDV, Mill Creek, Surface Water, LMPN, ARPA grant funds). Submitted additional estimated 2025 LWCD budget information breakdown requested by Deputy Finance Director.
- Reprinted wildlife damage general ledger after working with I.T. to have missing Wildlife copy charges included in reports for the second quarter 2025 reimbursement request to the WiDNR.
- Worked with Engineer Technician and landowner to determine final head count for the LWCD Field Day event on August 12th and submitted final tally to caterer.
- Drafted order forms and product descriptions for the 2026 tree/shrub sale and 2026 wildflower/seed sale.
- Notified by county treasurer dept. of three checks that haven't been cashed to date; contacted all three landowners/vendors (checks issued in January 2025, April 2025 and May 2025). One check was never received so check was reissued.
- Attended August 6th CEED committee meeting in person.
- Scheduled, created agenda, attended and took minutes at August 6th and 28th staff meetings.
- Downloaded the DATCP monthly report for August and shared with LWCD staff.
- Assisted LWCD staff with cleaning Forestry shed after summer intern left numerous items laying around the shed from the LWCD vehicle that he cleaned prior to internship ending.
- Prepped for Keuffer grazing tour and obtained supplies for event.
- Processed reimbursements for Nutrient Management Farmer Education (NMFE) as received. Wood County is the financial manager for the DATCP NMFE Grant in 2025 and responsible for processing reimbursements to class attendees for Wood, Marathon, Taylor, Clark, Portage and Lincoln counties.
- Assisted with development of a LWCD summary flyer for distribution at the Nepco Centennial Bash on August 16th.
- Generated cost share contract for whole-house reverse osmosis system (R. & J. Millard)
- Worked with the owner/CEO of Hauke Honey to draft information for the flyer for the visit to Hauka Honey on the CEED Fall Tour. It will be an interesting stop on the tour!
- Processed Biron Quarry nonmetallic mine permit fee and violation fee (for failure to obtain a reclamation permit prior to beginning mining per Wood County Ordinance 802.16(1).
- Assisted with set-up, lunch and take down for Keuffer Grazing Tour on August 12th. Attendees enjoyed the unique tour that showcased the best management practices Luke Keuffer has installed on his land including a managed rotational grazing system, stream crossing (on Rock Creek), and a solar watering system (designed by our own Kyle Andreae/Engineer Technician and the only one like it in the state of Wisconsin). Several partnering agencies (from NRCS, Chippewa County Land Conservation, Marathon County Land & Water, etc.) attended the event to learn more about the solar watering system design which Kyle might be presenting at the WI Land+Water Convention in March 2026.
- Shared Wellness Committee August updates with LWCD staff.
- Attended Canva training class in Merrill on August 13th. It was very beneficial training and a great opportunity provided free of charge through the WI Land + Water organization and arranged by Kirstie Heidenreich, Marathon County Conservationist. Our department utilizes a "pro" Canva license provided free of charge through WI Land+Water (annual pro account price is \$120.00). Canva is a graphic design platform used to create visual content for presentations, flyers, signs, etc. Started on a draft of the 2025 LWCD annual report using the Canva program.
- Received notification of DATCP 2026 Preliminary Allocations on 8/13/25 which reflect an increase in grant monies as follows: Staff & Support Grant – increase from \$167,730 in 2025 to \$202,581 in 2026 as well as an increase in structural (bond) grant funds from \$50,000 in 2025 to \$54,800 in 2026. Entered revised revenues in budget and worked with finance to reconfigure 2026 LWCD payroll allocations. The revised 2026 LWCD budget will result in a decrease in LWCD tax levy from +5.25% (as approved by CEED committee on 8/6/25) to revised LWCD 2026 tax levy of +0.91%. Printed reports and added to agenda for the Sept. 3rd CEED meeting to approve revised 2026 LWCD budget.
- Attended the North Central Area Land & Water Conservation Association Summer Tour and Meeting in Merrill on August 15th. Very informative event where we observed a wetland restoration project and discussed the design, installation and maintenance of the project; toured Copper River Cranberry to discuss bog operations and highlight irrigation systems

NRCS assisted with; visited the Merrill School Forest building (with presentation on their focus of teaching students about conservation) and visited a 12-acre nonmetallic mine that was recently reclaimed by Milestone Materials.

- Reviewed 2026 LWCD budget after payroll allocations were corrected; reprinted reports and submitted to Finance.
- Attended the EPPIC farm tour at Rock Ridge Orchards on August 20th. Working with EPPIC (Eau Pleine Partnership for Integrated Conservation), Rock Ridge has adopted the use of both cover crops and pollinators into their orchard system, which is very unique for that industry.
- Processed payments for rental of no-till drill as received and took calls to reserve the no-till drill.
- Completed LWCD payroll percentages and forwarded to Finance prior to the August 7th and 21st payrolls.
- Reviewed payroll reports and verified distribution by accounts/departments.
- Reviewed drafts of two surface water grant applications for the Fourmile Creek Watershed that Kendra is writing for 2026 and provided input/feedback.
- Processed department invoices/vouchers and deposits weekly for submission to the Treasurer/Finance.
- Organized County Board packet materials and electronically submitted to the County Clerk's office.
- Ordered department supplies and processed invoices/payments.
- Worked with I.T. regarding options and logistics for a LWCD cell phone as we are exploring the pro's/cons of an office cell phone to communicate with landowners/farmers. We're seeing a trend of customers preferring to text and most LWCD staff don't utilize the \$30.00 monthly reimbursement for a personal phone with a data plan used to conduct county business (per Wood County policy) and prefer not to give our personal cell phone for work purposes (currently only Shane and Rod receive the monthly stipend).
- Notified by tree nursery of increase in price for one species of tree for the 2026 sale. Reconfigured pricing and updated draft of the 2026 tree order form.
- Processed deposit of nonmetallic mine review fees as received.
- Assisted Conservation Program Coordinator with mailing Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program enrollment applications to landowners.
- Served as point of contact for LWCD staff while County Conservationist was out of the office Aug. 1, 4, 8, 14, 18, 19, 22, 25.
- Notified I.T. of issues with computer and phone access due to intermittent outages on Aug. 14, 19, 25 and for over half of the day on August 26th resulting in staff leaving work or working remotely with very limited access to shared files. All River Block phones and computers were out of commission during the outages.
- Uploaded information for Albert Acres' Demo Trials Field Day being held on October 7th to LWCD website and sent flyer electronically to the Wisconsin Land+Water distribution groups.
- Electronically submitted staff reports/packet materials to the County Clerk's office for the CEED meeting packet.

Activities Report for Emily Salvinski

-August 2025-

- **Thursday, August 7.** Assisted with Lake Wazeecha survey for aquatic invasives. Processed new to us nutrient management plan.
- **Wednesday, August 13.** Hand entered soil test results from pdf into snap plus for farmer. Emailed back and forth for clarification. Took soil test report from snapplus and processed it for reimbursement thru the Nutrient Management Farmer Education grant from DATCP.
- **Thursday, August 14.** Took streamflow measurements at 6 locations in southeast Wood Co. Entered results into DNR's database called SWIMS and our files. Attended online badger crop connect.
- **Friday, August 15.** Used snap plus to plug in information and create different scenarios for reduction information. Added that to GIS. Reviewed a nutrient management plan. Question came in from farmer on how to get fertilizer recommendation from snap plus so prepared fertilizer information using snapplus, took screenshots and forwarded.
- **Tuesday, August 19.** Worked as a group with the help of UW Extension with a farmer on his nutrient management plan using the latest version of Snapplus.
- **Wednesday, August 20.** Attended an Eau Pleine Partnership for Integrated Conservation group's farm tour at Rock Ridge Orchard to see the conservation practices they implemented and how they run their orchard, which included a lot of pest management.
- **Thursday, August 21.** Took samples from 4 set locations throughout the Mill Creek watershed to be tested at Agsource for total phosphorus and total suspended solids as part of a long term project related to the 9 Key Element Plan.

Activities Report for Kyle Andreae – August, 2025

- August 1 – Krohn design
- August 4 – Krohn design
- August 5 – Krohn design
- August 6 – Krohn design, staff meeting, Keuffer grazing tour prep
- August 7 – Krohn design, Cherney site visit
- August 8 – Lippert design
- August 11 – Lippert design
- August 12 – Keuffer grazing tour
- August 13 – Lippert design, Hayden site visit
- August 14 – Lippert design
- August 15 – NCLWCA tour
- August 18 – Lippert design
- August 19 – Staff meeting, Technical Committee meeting
- August 20 – EPPIC Field day, Cohort meeting, DNR meeting
- August 21 – Lippert design, Dupee design
- August 22 – Cutler site visit, Hayden site visit, Dupee site visit
- August 25 – Dupee design
- August 26 – Lippert design
- August 27 – Lippert design, No-till Drill assessment and transport
- August 28 – Lippert design
- August 29 – Lippert design



Activities Report for Kendra Wilhelm – August 2025

- Coordinated the use and transport of the no-till drill for 4 operators.
 - This consists of answering questions via phone, managing the schedule of the no-till drill, and transporting the no-till drill to renters.
- Created pressed plant specimens from both native and invasive plants to use at future educational events as visuals.
- Watched the recording of the July Lakes & Rivers Partnership meeting.
- Attended a webinar called “Is AIS Spread Inevitable? Fact or Fiction.”
- Attended the August Lakes & Rivers Partnership Meeting which focused on watersheds and surface waters.
- Met with Roths to discuss potential harvestable buffers they will plant this fall.
 - Mapped the rough acreage and differentiated whether surface water grant, ARPA or a combination of both funds will be used for each field.
- Met with Caleb Armstrong from Marathon County to finalize the flyer for the field day at Dustin Albert’s on October 7th.
- Participated in the August 6th staff meeting.
- Assisted Barb and Kyle with preparations for the Grazing Tour at Luke Keuffer’s.
- Replenished Nepco Lake’s Clean Boats Clean Waters watercraft inspectors with needed supplies to get them through Labor Day Weekend.
- Entered Clean Boats Clean Waters data into the SWIMS database on August 6th and August 27th.
- Reviewed WI Land + Water’s Climate Resiliency Toolkit.
- Hosted Snapshot Day at Lake Wazeecha – Snapshot Day is an annual statewide one-day event in educating volunteers to search for aquatic invasive species.
 - Eight volunteers participated this year.
 - One new aquatic invasive species was found in Lake Wazeecha.
 - All data was uploaded to the appropriate databases.
- Attended and assisted with the Grazing Tour at Luke Keuffer’s.
- Attended a Canva workshop in Merrill (hosted by the North Central Land and Water Area Association).
- Completed Dexter and Wazeecha water quality sampling for the month of August.
- Attended the North Central Land and Water Area Association tour in Merrill (hosted by Lincoln County).
- Attended the Nepco Lake District Annual Meeting.
- Attended the Citizens Water Group August Meeting.
- Attended the Nepco Lake District August Board Meeting.
- Worked on the Lake Monitoring & Protection Network grant application for 2026.
- Wrote and shared an article with the Nepco Lake District to share with parcel owners regarding the Nepco Lake shoreland assessment survey.
 - The survey was completed on August 25th and 26th in partnership with Portage County Land & Water Conservation Department as an effort to gather baseline information within the Nepco Lake Catchment Area.
- Updated the list/emails of teachers that get an email blast about the Wood County Conservation Poster Contest.
 - Emailed 335 educators about the poster contest. Received responses from 10 educators requesting lessons and/or additional information.
- Transported the no-till drill from Arpin to Wisconsin Rapids.
- Began writing two surface water comprehensive planning grants for Nepco Lake and the Fourmile Creek Watershed. The focus will be on water quality testing to establish baseline data and identify areas of protection and restoration.
- Attended a field day at Rock Ridge Orchard hosted by EPPIC.
- Talked to producers via phone regarding cost-sharing for cover crops.

- Attended a Fourmile Creek Watershed planning meeting with staff from stakeholder groups along with a producer within the watershed.
 - Met with Jen McNelly before the meeting to discuss the surface water grants narrative and budget.
- Participated in the August 28th staff meeting.
- Visited the field of K. Eastling with Kyle to discuss the potential installation of a grassed waterway.
- Assisted Rod with a non-metallic mine vegetative survey.

Activities Report for Rod Mayer – AUGUST 2025

- Mine exemption info & correspondence Sent to Schooley for pond build. Review and issuance of exemption – letter, file update, spreadsheet update, met with landowner.
- Bohon Apiary assistance. Set up file, input Wood Co. hive locations, create enrolment in database, met with Bohon and distributed supplies for 5 apiary fences for bear abatement. Create/update apiary inventory listing. Sent to DNR.
- Act 82 enrollments. Map enrolled lands, calculate acres (gross & huntable), create enrollment and permit applications, obtain signatures, update to database, confirm deer damage, send to DNR for tag issuance.
For the following crop owners in August: Dupee, Knuth, Ed Kollross, Saratoga Cranberry, Wayerski, Sawyer, Scheunemann, Behrend, Bymers, Spreeman, Vobora.
- Raikowski managed wildlife damage enrollment for claims. Map lands for public access, calculate acres, enrollment/permit form, signatures, update database, sent to DNR.
- Review Ron Bohn 48th mine plan for reclamation. Correspondence for Bohn questions. Site visit to assess vegetation currently at – advised Bohn. Created photo document – sent to DNR for update.
- Weichert correspondence for moving stockpile and DNR compliance – wetland evaluation.
- Conversion of digital files from Earth to input into GIS system for Biron mine site map boundaries and wetlands. Calculate disturbed acres. Sent fee and financial assurance amounts to Earth.
- Completed 2nd ¼ Wildlife Damage & Abatement Program reimbursement report (21 pages) – sent to DNR for payment.
- Staff meeting 8-6-25
- Records request sent to earth for example CH 30 – joint jurisdiction reclamation plan.
- Vruwink contact to explain wildlife program and options.
- Attended grazing tour at Keuffers.
- Town of Dexter correspondence for Knott pond. Additional correspondence with landowner.
- Informed Earth public notice timeline completed, review financial assurance, permit fee, created permit, permit letter, created site on mining software, update permit spreadsheet, update permit binder, issue email, mail laminate permit and approval letter, etc.
- Met with Jon Gust – over concerns/questions on the Mathy Marshfield joint jurisdiction mine site reclamation plan.
- Deer donation 2025. Research, contacted OMG Butchering, J&S Butchering, Pittsville Meats and set up enrollment packets. Sent for signatures. Contacted St. Vincent DePaul and PANS for pantrys to receive donated venison – sent info packets.
- Draft 1 review of new mine site (132 pages) – Milestone Dupee site. Created review, went over with Shane, typed review for additions needed to plan and clarifications – sent to Mathy.
- DNR correspondence for possible Peat mine in Wood county.
- DNR stormwater correspondence for possible change in Earth Biron discharge.
- Contact to Nowak for possible fish farm pond dredge exemption info.



Wood County WISCONSIN

OFFICE OF PLANNING AND ZONING

TO: Conservation, Education & Economic Development Committee

FR: Jason Grueneberg, Planning & Zoning Director
Emily Arndt, 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

1. Economic Development (Jason Grueneberg)

Central Wisconsin Economic Development Fund (CWED) – On August 20th I participated in a CWED Strategic Planning session. The session is typically held every 2 years to discuss priorities and entertain suggestions on other areas where the fund can promote economic development in the region.

Triangle Development – As you are likely aware, the County and the City of Wisconsin Rapids approved a development agreement this past month for the Triangle Block. Leading up to the approvals I participated in meetings and correspondence that put the finishing touches on the agreement. Now that the agreement is approved, I will be participating in the team effort of following through with implementing the development that is outlined in the agreement.

Broadband – I continue to observe how the Broadband Equity Access and Deployment (BEAD) grant cycle plays out. Wood County endorsed the application for Frontier Communications to provide fiber to underserved Broadband Serviceable locations in the Marshfield area. In that same area, 2 other providers submitted applications to provide broadband through fixed wireless or satellite. The Public Service Commission has reviewed the application and will make a recommendation to the federal National Telecommunications and Information Administration.

North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (NCWRPC) – In September I will be meeting with NCWRPC staff to discuss the Wood County work program for 2026. The work program will outline the projects that the Plan Commission works on for the County and municipalities in the year ahead

2. Planning & Zoning (Emily Arndt)

1. Returned from Maternity Leave on August 18, 2025
2. Catching up on emails from maternity leave
3. Connected with Town of Rock for a status check on their ordinance update.
4. Scheduled a meeting with the Town of Rock regarding their comp plan.
5. Working through review and approval of CSMs.
6. Continued working with staff to ensure that questions are answered in a proficient manner.

3. Land Records (Paul Bernard)

- Parcel Mapping
- Address Mapping
- Designing new Land Records Viewer Web Mapping Application
- Integrating City of Marshfield Permits into our GIS
- Scanning in old Section Summaries – a subset of survey records that has not yet been scanned in

4. **Code Administrator (Brad Cook)**

8-1-2025- (2) new conv inspection TN: 18, V: 27, (1) new replacement mound insp TN:04, (1) mound plow insp TN: 20 answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

8-4-2025-(5) well permits reviewed and issued TN: 07, 15, 18, 25, 27, (1) new conv insp TN: 07, (1) new mound abs cell & tanks insp TN: 20, (1) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for new mound TN: 21, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

8-5-2025- (2) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for rep HT and rep mound TN: 09, 12, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL

8-6-2025- (2) mound plow insp TN: 01,16, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL

8-7-2025- (1) mound abs cell insp TN:01, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL

8-8-2025- (2) well permits reviewed and issued TN: 02, 17, (1) mound abs cell & tanks insp TN: 01, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL

8-9-2025- (1) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for new conv TN: 07, (1) tanks insp TN: 01, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

8-11-2025- (1) mound plow, abs cell, tank insp TN: 10, (1) mound plow insp TN: 02, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

8-12-2025- (1) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for new mound TN: 02, (1) mound insp TN: 02, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

8-13-2025- (2) HS letters written and sent to owner TNL 03, 07, (1) well permit reviewed and issued, (1) mound plow insp TN 03: answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

8-14-2025-(1) mound abs cell insp TN 03, (1) HS Complaint Onsite TN: 03 04, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

8-15-2025- (1) mound tanks insp TN:03, TN:01, , answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

8-18-2025- (1) POWTS DSPS meeting, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

8-19-2025- (2) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for rep & new HT TN: 12, 17 answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL

8-20-2025- (3) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for new mound & HT TN: 10, 12,15, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

8-21-2025- (1) new conv inspection TN: 14, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

8-22-25- (2) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for rep HT TN:06, 18, (2) well permits reviewed and issued TN: 07,18, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

8-25-2025- (1) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for new mound TN: 22, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

8-26-2025- (2) new HT insp TN: 11, 14, answer phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

5. Code Technician (Kayla Rautio)

- A. Reviewed and approved POWTS & well permit applications
- B. Completed inspection reports
- C. Sent Holding Tank Agreement letters
- D. Assisted with daily phone calls/emails/office questions
- E. Reviewed POWTS codes
- F. Processed name change with HR/DSPS licenses/Notary Public
- G. Inspections/Investigations:
 - 8-6-25: Mound plow inspection TN: 01; Well inspection TN: 01
 - 8-7-25: Mound reinspection TN: 01
 - 8-8-25: Mound tanks inspection TN: 01
 - 8-19-25: Conventional inspection TN: 07
 - 8-21-25: Holding tank inspection TN: 03
 - 8-26-25: Conventional inspection TN: 27; Well inspection TN: 27
 - 8-27-25: Conventional inspection TN: 27; Well inspection TN: 27
- H. Attended Meetings/Trainings/Etc.
 - 8-26-25: Well & POWTS GIS project meeting

6. Office Activity (Victoria Wilson & Julie MancI)

- a. Monthly Sanitary and Well Permit Activity – There were 18 sanitary permits, 21 well permits issued, 2 CSMs reviewed, and 2 CSMs recorded in August 2025.
- b. ArcGIS Pro Software Project – Julie continues to assist Paul with various GIS mapping projects.
- c. Budget – Victoria reviewed the budget parameters for 2026 and worked with Finance, Jason and Paul to update and promote the 2026 budget to Finance.
- d. CEED Tour – Victoria worked with Land and Water Conservation, UW Extension, Pizza Ranch, Lamer's, Jason, and various others, to plan the stops and create the flyer for this year's CEED Tour.

e. Attended the following meetings/trainings & activities:

- i. August 6th CEED meeting (VW & JM)
- ii. August 13th Grant review meeting (JM)



RESOLUTION#

DATE September 16, 2025
Effective
Date September 16, 2025

Page 1 of 2

Conservation, Education and Economic Development Committee

Introduced by

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

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To adopt the Wood County Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan so that Wood County is eligible for future grant funding opportunities.

FISCAL NOTE: No fiscal impact to Wood County.

WHEREAS, the current Wood County Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan (the “Plan”) was originally adopted in 1995 and is in need of a comprehensive update to reflect current issues and opportunities; and

WHEREAS, communities across Wisconsin are increasingly recognizing the benefits that biking and walking-friendly places offer in terms of quality of life to residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, representatives from Wood County, municipalities, transportation agencies, planning agencies and many others in the County have worked cooperatively on updates to the Plan in order to make biking and walking safer and more accessible forms of transportation and recreation; and

WHEREAS, the updated Plan will improve the quality and safety of bicycling and walking through new and improved infrastructure, policies and programs, for all types of users; and

WHEREAS, the updated Plan will increase transportation choices by improving connectivity of the route and trail network while increasing accessibility to key destinations throughout the County; and

WHEREAS, the updated Plan will improve health and wellness by increasing access to routes and trails, thereby offering more opportunities for recreation, active transportation, and physical activity; and

WHEREAS, the updated Plan promotes trail-related tourism and economic development for communities in Wood County; and

Adopted by the County Board of Wood County, September 16, 2025

County Clerk

County Board Chairman

WHEREAS, an adopted Plan is very beneficial in obtaining grant money for trail projects; and

WHEREAS, supporting this resolution does not otherwise replace any local plans nor commit Wood County or any local units within to dedicate any funding, but rather indicates a willingness to consider support for the updated Plan's recommended projects and programs.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the County of Wood hereby adopts the updates to the Wood County Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan.

Link to Bike and Ped Plan below:

(Hard copy available in Planning & Zoning office)

<https://www.ncwrpc.org/wood-county-bicycle-and-pedestrian-plan-2023/>

MINUTES JUDICIAL & LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

DATE: Friday, August 29, 2025
TIME: 2:00 PM
PLACE: Courthouse – Room 302

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. There was no public comment.
3. Motion by Hovendick/Voight to approve the minutes of the previous meetings as presented.
Motion carried unanimously.
4. There were no claims against the county or dog fund.
5. The vouchers and reports from the departments the committee oversees were reviewed and discussed. Motion by Voight/Perlock to approve them as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
6. Supervisor Leichtnam provided a verbal report from the recent meeting of the Citizen Water Group.
7. IT Director Kaup reviewed the status of the court room audio project. The project will allow each courtroom audio to be controlled separately, and instead of it being in the Branch 3 courtroom, the new location is not in a courtroom whereby causing less disruption if work needs to be completed. This is an ongoing project.
8. The next meetings will be the following dates:
 - a. Review of 2026 budget proposals – Tuesday, September 9th at 9:00 AM.
 - b. October monthly meeting – Friday, September 26th at 9:00 AM.
9. Motion by Leichtnam/Hovendick to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously at 2:07 PM.

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

Judicial & Legislative Committee
August 29, 2025

[illegible]

MINUTES JUDICIAL & LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, September 9, 2025

TIME: 9:00 AM

PLACE: Courthouse – Room 302

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

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

1. Chairman Clendenning called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.
2. There was no public comment.
3. The committee reviewed the various 2026 budget proposals with, and made by, the individuals listed below with the following motions being made:
 - a. Victim Witness – Alicia Parenteau – Motion by Hovendick/Perlock to approve the budget proposal as presented and forward to the Finance Dept. Motion carried unanimously.
 - b. Register in Probate – Tara Jensen - Motion by Voight/Leichtnam to approve the budget proposal as presented and forward to the Finance Dept. Motion carried unanimously.
 - c. Branch 3 – Kayla Clark & Judge Nolan-Plutchak - Motion by Leichtnam/Voight to approve the budget proposal as presented and forward to the Finance Dept. Motion carried unanimously.
 - d. Branch 4 – Ashley Beard - Motion by Clendenning/Hovendick to approve the budget proposal as presented and forward to the Finance Dept. Motion carried unanimously.
 - e. Child Support – Brent Vruwink - Motion by Leichtnam/Hovendick to approve the budget proposal as presented and forward to the Finance Dept. Motion carried unanimously.
 - f. Clerk of Courts – Kimberly Stimac - Motion by Hovendick/Perlock to approve the budget proposal as presented and forward to the Finance Dept. Motion carried unanimously.
 - g. Corporation Counsel – Nicholas Flanagan - Motion by Voight/Perlock to approve the budget proposal as presented and forward to the Finance Dept. Motion carried unanimously.
 - h. Criminal Justice – Dillon Ksionek - Motion by Hovendick/Perlock to approve the budget proposal as presented and forward to the Finance Dept. Motion carried unanimously.
 - i. District Attorney – Jonathan Barnett - Motion by Voight/Leichtnam to approve the budget proposal as presented and forward to the Finance Dept. Motion carried unanimously.
 - j. Register of Deeds – PaNyia Yang - Motion by Hovendick/Perlock to approve the budget proposal as presented and forward to the Finance Dept. Motion carried unanimously.
 - k. Branch 1 & 2 – PaNyia Yang - Motion by Hovendick/Leichtnam to approve the budget proposal as presented and forward to the Finance Dept. Motion carried unanimously.
4. Motion by Leichtnam/Voight to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously at 9:40 AM.

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

Judicial & Legislative Committee
September 9, 2025

[illegible]



Wood County WISCONSIN

**CHILD SUPPORT
AGENCY**

SEPTEMBER 2025

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL AND LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Prepared by Child Support Director Brent Vruwink

- We submitted the agency budget to Finance for review.
- We will be short staffed over the next six weeks as two employees are on leave.
- The Bureau of Regional Operations visited the agency on August 12th to complete the Triennial Review. We spent the entire day going over agency policy, performance and conducting an IRS audit.
- I will be attending the State Policy Advisory Committee Meeting on August 28th.
- I will be attending the WCA Annual Conference on September 22nd. I will be working the vendor booth for the Wisconsin Child Support Enforcement Association.
- As we approach the end of the Federal Fiscal Year we are trying to meet and exceed all 4 performance measures. The arrears measure is becoming more of a challenge, but we are hopeful we can meet the measure.
- The current IV-D case count is 3,751.



Wood County

WISCONSIN

Kimberly A. Stimac

CLERK OF
CIRCUIT COURT

September 2025

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

Meetings Attended:

- Judicial & Legislative Committee meeting on 8/1/2025.
- Property and Information Technology Committee meeting on 8/4/2025.
- Operations Committee meeting on 8/5/2025.
- Monthly judges meeting on 8/12/2025.
- Wood County Board of Supervisors on 8/19/2025.

I'm happy to announce that we have a new Information Clerk starting on Tuesday September 2. This makes us fully staffed again!

This month the budget was my main focus. The WI Clerks of Circuit Court Association met with the Director of State Courts and her staff regarding the distribution of the \$10 million budget increase to the Circuit Court Support Payment (CCSP) and the intent appeared to be to the full amount being added to the CCSP. A version of the current funding CCSP disbursement formula will be used with the main adjustment being to the base level per circuit court branch from \$42,275 to \$65,000. No changes are expected to be made to the Guardian ad Litem or Interpreter reimbursements at this time. The Director's Office will be taking the next year to re-evaluate the formula and make some significant changes for Fiscal Year 2027 in terms of redistributing some of the CCSP. This change will be included in the 2nd half payment this year which they anticipated completing by the middle of August. As of 8/21/25, we have not received the payment.



Wood County

WISCONSIN

CORPORATION
COUNSEL

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL AND LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

August 2025

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 2025:

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

Child Support – During the month of July, the Corporation Counsel's office participated in one date for Child Support related hearings.

CAPTA Hearings– During the month of July, the Corporation Counsel's office participated in two CAPTA scheduled prehearing conferences.

2026 Budget Preparation: Our department has been busy working on the 2026 budget, which we have since promoted to the Finance Department for review. I express a sincere thanks to the Finance Department for assisting with questions throughout the process, and to Erin and Kathi in the Corporation Counsel's office for their knowledge and assistance in working with me in compiling our budget (current year projections and anticipated amounts for next year) and entering data into Questica.

Other Department Assistance: During the month of August, I have also assisted various County Departments, notable items are as follows:

- **County Forest Land Proposed Trade/License Agreement** – During the months of July and August, I met with the County Forest Administrator to review an application for trade proposal received pertaining to County Forest Land. In reference to the application received, I attended the August Highway, Infrastructure & Recreation Committee (HIRC) to review the proposal, provide guidance within our Land Transaction Policies and Procedures, and receive direction from the Committee on next steps. At the Committee's direction, I have since worked with the County Forest Administrator and the applicant's Counsel to prepare a proposed License Agreement for non-exclusive use of the property. We anticipate bringing this proposed agreement to the September HIRC meeting for consideration and possible approval.
- **Downtown Wisconsin Rapids Triangle Development** – During the past month, County and City staff have been meeting regarding the Triangle Development in front of the Courthouse. I assisted in reviewing/drafting proposed amendments to a Developer Agreement with the City.

I also joined County Chairperson Pliml in attending the City of Wisconsin Rapids Finance and Property Committee meeting to present the draft Agreement and answer questions the Committee had for us. A final draft of the Agreement will be presented to the County's Property and Information Technology Committee for review and recommendation to the County Board, for consideration of approval.

- **WPPA/LEER Successor Agreement** – Over the month of August, I assisted the Human Resources Department and Wood County Sheriff's Department in negotiating prospective terms of a successor agreement to the 2023-2025 Agreement between Wood County and the Wood County Deputy Sheriff's Association WPPA/LEER.



Wood County WISCONSIN

WOOD COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

August 2025

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL AND LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Prepared by Criminal Justice Coordinator, Dillon Ksionek

Meetings Attended:

7/24/2025: Administrative Review of Recovery Pods
7/24/2025: DHS Allotment Meeting
7/28/2025: Drug Court Staffing/Court
7/29/2025: Collaborative Meeting with Wood County Jail
7/30/2025: Mental Health Court Staffing/Court
7/31/2025: Wood County Outpatient Clinic Weekly Staffing
8/1/2025: Judicial and Legislative Sub-Committee Meeting
8/1/2025: Collaborative Meeting with Marathon County Jail
8/4/2025: Drug Court Staffing/Court
8/5/2025: Application review with jail administration and Three Bridges Recovery for recovery pod program
8/6/2025: DOJ Diversion Program Standards Training
8/7/2025: Wood County Outpatient Clinic Weekly Staffing
8/11/2025: Drug Court Staffing/Court
8/12/2025: Oxford House Board Meeting
8/13/2025: Mental Health Staffing/Court
8/14/2025: Statewide Diversion Coordinators Roundtable
8/14/2025: Collaborative Meeting with FSET
8/14/2025: Wood County Outpatient Clinic Weekly Staffing
8/18/2025: Drug Court Staffing
8/18/2025: Statewide Drug Court Coordinators Roundtable
8/19/2025: County Board Meeting

Adult Drug Treatment Court:

Current Participants: 27
Active Referrals: 2
Pending Referrals: 0
2025 Admissions: 18
2025 Terminations: 4
2025 Graduations: 9
2025 Referrals: 31

We continue to have monthly sustainability meetings with representatives from the district attorney's office, the division of community corrections, the state public defender, the criminal justice department, and with our treatment court judge. The conversation centers around all aspects of sustainability but varies from month to month. Our meeting is not until August 21st this month, but we have a full agenda as we have several matters to discuss concerning potential changes as we transition to a new Judge and address turnover on the team. We also have important matters to address as we look ahead to the coming TAD grant application for next year.

Jail Programming (STRONG):

Medication Assisted Treatment Program (MARP):

Current Participants: 29

Year to date participants: 95

Jail Residential Treatment Program (RSAT):

Current Participants: 12

Year to date graduates: 3

Year to date participants: 15

We continue to get regular requests and self-referrals from those that are incarcerated to participate in our jail programming. After reviewing the original grants that fund our programming, I determined that we should be focusing our case management on those who get into the recovery pods, those waiting to get in, and those on medication. We originally started taking clients prior to the recovery pods opening, and this resulted in us working with everyone who would have technically been eligible. However, the demand has now exceeded the ability to meet it, so we have narrowed our scope to solely work with those specifically identified by our grants. Now that programming is at full capacity, we are able to see who actually makes it into each program, and those that are not approved or found appropriate despite being eligible are screened out of the STRONG program.

We had a meeting with Three Bridges Recovery about the specifics of the recovery pods on 7/24/2025, and we spent a lot of time discussing how to increase the likelihood of success in this cycle. Last cycle we started with 13 participants but only graduated 3. Changes were made that we hope will create an environment that better fosters successful completions in the future. We reviewed over 20 applications for the second cycle of recovery pods on 8/5/2025, we picked those who seemed most appropriate, and we moved them into the recovery pods on the 4th floor prior to the end of that same week. We will continue to evaluate how best to serve those that we are working with moving forward, and are trying to introduce new programming wherever possible.

A large portion of our jail programming is funded by an Opiate Settlement Fund allotment from DHS. This allotment ran from July 2024-June 2025 and we have completed all of our final reporting requirements (including the narrative) at this time. I anticipate receiving the instructions soon for creating a new contract for our remaining balance and am optimistic that we will be hearing about the next contract year (one way or another) by this time next month.

In last month's meeting concerning the DOJ funding that supports our RSAT program they seemed to think that we would know more by the end of August concerning funding for next year. We have our monthly meeting on August 21st with them, and I am hopeful that we will receive more information at that time.

Other Matters:

Two members of our team attended a free half-day-training on State diversion standards on 8/6/2025 that is part of a larger series of trainings that is being coordinated by the DOJ. I attended this training with one of the departments case managers and with the District Attorney. It provided insight into evidence-based practices and federal/state standards for diversion programming, which is something that District Attorney Barnett and I have discussed pursuing in the future on multiple occasions.

I have continued to work on next year's budget with a lot of help from the finance department. They have provided a tremendous amount of insight and have been incredibly helpful throughout the process.



Wood County

WISCONSIN

DISTRICT ATTORNEY
Jonathan E Barnett

August 29, 2025
Report to Judicial and Legislative Committee

At the time of filing this report, there are 2,633 open files in this office. Just over 600 of those are currently in a warrant status of some sort. There have been 117 new referrals from August 1st through August 20th.

After spending the first eight months working on training staff on paperless and having an Officer Manager in place to address the necessary preliminary steps. We have now put in place a stepwise plan to have the office fully paperless by January 1, 2026. The District Attorney's Office will no longer create paper files on that date. We are working with Wisconsin DAIT to facilitate this plan and trying to remain flexible while still hitting the milestones put into memorandum form this month. The District Attorney is also finalizing the first Policy and Procedure Manual the office has ever had. This has been a long process and has involved setting specific standards and creating step-by-step instructions for all the day-to-day actions that are required to run this office. The District Attorney has been working to capture the existing institutional structures as well as conferring with the other District Attorneys around Central Wisconsin to craft an office standard. This will be a living document as we will be creating an internal committee that will review the Policy and Procedure Manual annually.

There were three trials in the month of August. One was a Disorderly Conduct Court Trial where ADA Zima oversaw the District Attorney's Office Intern Bryant Hedrington. This case resulted in an acquittal. The same day, and in the same branch, there was an OWI 1st trial to a six person jury. This matter resulted in a conviction. The only 12 person jury trial this month was a Fourth Degree Sexual Assault case in Branch 2 that ended in acquittal.

The District Attorney was out of the office on a family vacation during this month. The District Attorney held a staff meeting on August 1, 2025. This meeting was to role out the month-by-month stepwise plan toward paperless as well as address morale and interpersonal issues within the office. On August 6, 2025, District Attorney attended a State Diversion Training in Shawano. On August 7, 2025, the District Attorney attended the Wood County Law Enforcement Executives meeting. At this meeting, leadership discussed working with CIS to create an e-referral backdoor that will make submitting police reports and charges faster and easier. The District Attorney would like to specifically thank all the law enforcement agencies for their work on this and receptiveness to improving structures in the County. We anticipate the e-referral system will be functioning in January of 2026. On August 21, 2025, the District Attorney attended the Adult Treatment Court Sustainability meeting and also a District Attorney Roundtable meeting by Teams.



September 2025

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL AND LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Prepared by Register in Probate, Tara Jensen

- Attended Wisconsin Counties Association weekly Zoom meetings on Mondays.
- August 1– Judicial and Legislative Committee Meeting
- August 4 – PIT Committee Meeting
- August 5 – Operation Committee Meeting
- August 12 – Monthly Judges Meeting
- August 19 – County Board Meeting
- August 19 – Completed and submitted the 2026 budget for the Probate Office.
- August 20 – 22 – Karrie Moore, Juvenile Clerk, attended the Children’s Court Improvement Program Juvenile Conference in Stevens Point.
- August 27 – Department Head Meeting
- August 29 – Judicial and Legislative Committee Meeting

A Notice of Assignment of Judge was completed to transfer all case types handled in our office as a transfer from retiring Judge Todd Wolf to Judge Emily Nolan-Plutchak. These Notices were mailed to all interested parties who had cases transferred.

Tara Jensen
Register in Probate
Probate Registrar

Karrie Moore
Deputy Register in Probate
Juvenile Clerk



Wood County

WISCONSIN

REGISTER OF DEEDS OFFICE

Tiffany R. Ringer
Register of Deeds

SEPTEMBER 2025

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL AND LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

- I attended WCA's County Leadership meetings for the month.
- On August 1st, I attended the Judicial and Legislative committee meeting.
- Deputy Vruwink and Deputy Kraft are collaborating with the Child Support Agency to implement a process of informing new parents on how to obtain their child's vital record. This process will help retain funds within the County.
- I submitted the ROD 2026 Budget to Finance for review.
- I attended the Wood County Board meeting on August 19th.
- I will be attending the WRDA Advisory Committee meeting on August 26th.
- I will be attending Property Records Industry Association (PRIA) conference virtually.
- IT requested to replace some equipment in the ROD vault after work hours. I will be staying in the office to accommodate their request and lock the vault when they are finished.
- Fidlar is preparing to update Wood County with Notary Fraud Alerts. This free service is an addition to Property Fraud Alert. I'm always looking for new ways to combat fraud and I'm thrilled to offer this to the residents of Wood County.



VICTIM WITNESS SERVICES REPORT

July 21 – August 21 2025

This is a general overview of Victim/Witness services for above reporting period

218 Total Victim/Witness Contacts:

- Support to victims/ witnesses by phone/email and in person
- Meetings with victims and witnesses
- Coordinate consultation with attorneys
- Escort victims to hearings
- Assist with victim impact statements
- Restitution
- Community Referrals
- Crime Victim Compensation
- Trial Preparation

189 - Victim Notifications

(initial packet, hearings, bench warrant, dismissal, disposition, sentence after revocation, bond modification requests)

Victim / Witness Service Totals Served – YTD (1/1/2025-8/21/2025)

- 1627 total DA cases
- 888 parties identified as victims | 534 elected services (61%)
- Goal is to increase awareness and usage
- Monitor on monthly basis

Additional Information :

- 2026 annual budget completed

Respectfully,

Alicia Parenteau, Victim Witness Coordinator

MINUTES

HIGHWAY, INFRASTRUCTURE & RECREATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, September 4, 2025
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 previous meeting was presented. Motion by Brehm/Hokamp to accept the minutes as corrected. Motion carried unanimously.
4. The Highway Dept. staff reports were highlighted and reviewed.
5. A licensing agreement with Wilderness Cranberry was reviewed and discussed, whereby allowing the use of a small strip of county forest land that was encroached on by a cranberry marsh when built many years ago. Motion by Breu/Brehm to approve the licensing agreement as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
6. A proposed land trade of county forest from the Nekoosa Marsh Road Cranberry Co., was reviewed with the committee. The appropriate steps are being taken and in progress, but nothing is final as of yet. Committee consensus was to continue moving forward with the required steps.
7. The Highway revenue report was reviewed.
8. Motion by Brehm/Thao to approve the Highway Dept. vouchers. Motion carried unanimously.
9. Highway Commissioner Hawk reviewed the county set back rules that have been in place with the subdivision ordinance passage of 1969. In order for this to be enforceable with the highway department, it is recommended that it become a part of the highway access ordinance. Hawk will be working on this and have a draft to review at the next meeting.
10. Hawk & Accounting Supervisor Peckham reviewed the current status of the 2026 Highway Dept. budget and the variance associated with it. They will continue to work with Finance to come up with a finalized budget that fits more into the parameters.
11. The Parks & Forestry staff reports were reviewed.
12. Schooley gave an update on the status of the Powers Bluff shelter building project, which has begun. He is also meeting with a trail advisor about enhancing the trails at the top of the hill given its historical nature.

13. Schooley gave a report on the current status of CERA Park. A new roof is slated to be put on the shelter house yet this year.
14. The Parks & Forestry revenue reports were reviewed.
15. Motion by Hokamp/Thao to approve Parks & Forestry vouchers. Motion approved unanimously.
16. The committee reviewed the action of the Operations Committee as it relates to the Maintenance Supervisor position upgrade request.
17. The 2026 Parks & Forestry budget administration budget was presented and reviewed by the committee. Explanations were offered for variances.
18. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, October 2nd, at 8:00 AM at the Highway Department Conference Room.
19. Chairman Hahn declared the meeting adjourned at 10:39 AM.

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

September 4, 2025

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Wood County

WISCONSIN

OFFICE OF
HIGHWAY COMMISSION

Roland Hawk
COMMISSIONER

August 27, 2025

To: Highway, Infrastructure & Recreation Committee

From: Roland Hawk, PE Highway Commissioner

Subject: Commissioner Report for September 4, 2025, HIRC meeting

Department Activities

Personnel/Administration

The Highway Department currently has no vacancies.

The Highway Department has followed Planning & Zoning setback requirements established in the P&Z Land Subdivision Ordinance. According to the P&Z Director, this ordinance was developed for new land subdivisions. For existing lands platted or established prior to the subdivision ordinance, there should be an ordinance consistent with the subdivision ordinance for the Highway Department to impose. Therefore, Highway is proposing to revise the access policy to incorporate the same setback on existing lands adjacent to county highways.

(7) Building Setback Lines.

Building setback lines shall conform to the requirements of the applicable zoning ordinance or the following, whichever is more restrictive.

- A. Federal and State Highways. One hundred-ten (110) feet from the center line of the highway or fifty (50) feet from the right-of-way line, whichever is greater.
- B. County Highways. Seventy-five (75) feet from the centerline of such highway or forty-two (42) feet from the right-of-way line, whichever is greater.
- C. Town Roads. Sixty-three (63) feet from the centerline of such highway or thirty (30) feet from the right-of-way line, whichever is greater.

D. Visual Clearance Triangle.

- 1. In each quadrant of every public street intersection there shall be a visual clearance triangle. 701-34
 - a. At intersections with speeds of thirty-five (35) miles per hour or greater in both directions of travel, the visual clearance triangle shall be determined by measuring sixty (60) feet along the property line for any "uncontrolled" traffic (not regulated by stop sign) and thirty (30) feet along the property line for any "controlled" traffic (regulated by stop sign).
 - b. At intersections with speeds of less than thirty-five (35) miles per hour in either direction of travel the visual clearance triangle shall extend fifteen (15) feet along the lot line in all directions of travel.

2. Objects permitted within highway setback lines and visual clearance triangles:
 - a. Open fences.
 - b. Utility poles and lines, and portable equipment.
 - c. The planting and harvesting of field crops, shrubbery and trees except that no trees or shrubbery shall be planted within a visual clearance triangle so as to obstruct the view.
 - d. Corner lots shall meet building setbacks from both streets.

Commissioner and staff have been working on the proposed 2026 budget.

Highway/Facility Projects

- WisDOT STP Project CTH F & HH Intersection **Construction 2026**
 - Design Engineering complete
 - R/W acquisition complete.
 - Utility relocations in progress.
 - Project will be LET for Bids November 2025
- WisDOT STP Bridge CTH N (STH 186 – CTH N) **Construction 2025**
 - LET for Bids on 12-10-24 (\$416,823) Pheifer Brothers Construction Co
 - Preconstruction meeting held August 21
 - Issues with ATC and scheduled power outage
- WisDOT STP Urban (BIL) CTH U Village of Biron **Construction 2026**
 - Design Engineering 95% Complete
 - R/W Plat recorded and R/W acquisition nearly complete
 - Borrow site (pond) anticipated summer/fall 2025.
 - Coordination of box culvert replacement, to be performed by Wood Co Hwy. in August 2025
- CTH BB Realignment Project
 - Project completed August 2025
- Marshfield Brine Building
 - Work completed,
 - Commissioner obtained a new High-capacity brine maker through WisDOT. Expect to take delivery later in 2025, will be operational before 2026 winter season.
- CTH A Corridor Preliminary Engineering
 - 30% Preliminary engineering complete
 - Commissioner submitted Federal Build/Raise Grant 1-29-25/**NOT AWARDED in Round 1.**
 - Commissioner anticipates submitting CHI grant for 2 mile segment for 2028 construction.
- CTH AA Lynn Creek
 - Preliminary Road & Structure Plans 90% complete.
 - Preliminary Estimate \$1.9 million
 - Commissioner exploring funding options
 - Commissioner reassigned \$139,651 LRIP funds to the Lynn Creek Bridge replacement
- Marshfield Facility Fueling Station
 - Work began July 29 and is expected to take 6 – 8 weeks to complete
 - Contractor is behind schedule but anticipates completion before November.

Highway Maintenance

Work in July included:

- Asphalt patches
- Shoulder replacement
- Sign replacements
- Culvert replacements
- Mowing & spraying roadside vegetation

WCHA Events & Misc. Meetings since last HIRC meeting

Commissioner attended the following events/meetings:

- August 4 - WCHA Executive Committee meeting, Madison, WCA Office
- August 4 – WisDOT Leadership Meeting, Hill Farms, Madison
- August 5 – Meeting with Wisconsin Transportation Builders, Holiday Inn East, Madison
- August 7 – HIRC Meeting, Highway Conference Room
- August 11 – Stadt Road Bridges, Preconstruction meeting, Virtual
- August 11 – STH 13/CTH Z (Griffith Ave) WisDOT discussion
- August 12 – WisDOT LRIP Facilitator Feedback meeting
- August 12 – WisDOT/CTH N/ATC outage meeting
- August 19 – County Board Meeting
- August 19 – STH 34 School Bus/Semi Truck Crash Scene
- August 20 – NCR Commissioner Meeting, Plover, Portage Co
- August 21 – CTH AA Progress Meeting, Virtual
- August 21 – CTH N Preconstruction Meeting, WisDOT, Wisconsin Rapids
- August 25 – WCHA Board of Directors Meeting
- August 26 – WCHA/MTA LRIP Training, Virtual
- August 26 – Online permitting update with Delasoft, Virtual
- August 27 – Wood County Department Head Meeting, Court House

EQUIPMENT

A new high-capacity brine maker will be installed at the Marshfield facility between October and early December 2025. WisDOT is providing 100% of the funding to purchase the brine maker and equipment.

WisDOT has also committed to funding 60% of a new salt shed to be constructed on the Dexterville site located near the intersection of STH 80 and STH 54. The WisDOT funding is available as part of their FY 2026 budget. The Highway Department will be requesting \$300,000 for the County's share of the salt shed in the 2027 budget, and will be preparing the site for construction starting in late 2026..

Accounting Supervisor Report

By John Peckham, Wood County Highway Department Accounting Supervisor

HIRC Meeting

Revenues and Expenses

Revenues are as anticipated at this point of the year. We have been working on several Road Aid and Bridge Aid projects so the revenue will be booked as those projects get completed. We are also wrapping up our big County projects so we will be focusing on municipal work in the fall, causing those revenues to increase. Asphalt revenues continue to come in as we run the plant full-time. Revenues from the State are on target.

Many expense account year-to-date totals are as anticipated for this time of year. Crushing expenses are higher than budgeted but that is likely due to not having enough years of data to create an accurate budget figure. State maintenance expenses are in excess of budgeted but those are pass-through so they will be recovered from the State.

Other

As of the date of HIRC, the budget has been promoted to Finance and the Operations Committee.

County of Wood
DETAILED INCOME STATEMENT W/SUBTOTALS
 Highway Departmentwide
 Sunday, August 31, 2025

		2025		
		Actual	Budget	Variance
				Variance %
REVENUES				
Intergovernmental Revenues				
43300	Federal Grants-American Recovery & Reinvest Act	\$172,714.73	\$400,000.00	(\$227,285.27)
43531	State Aid-Transportation	1,909,049.31	2,497,341.00	(588,291.69)
43534	State Aid-LRIP	470,745.05	844,061.00	(373,315.95)
	Total Intergovernmental	2,552,509.09	3,741,402.00	(1,188,892.91)
Licenses and Permits				
44101	Utility Permits	19,001.16	30,550.00	(11,548.84)
	Total Licenses and Permits	19,001.16	30,550.00	(11,548.84)
Intergovernmental Charges for Services				
47230	State Charges	1,124,194.90	1,264,109.00	(139,914.10)
47231	State Charges-Highway	191,444.36	268,014.00	(76,569.64)
47232	State Charges-Machinery	26,423.91	(14,629.00)	41,052.91
47300	Local Gov Chgs	305,678.57	848,896.00	(543,217.43)
47330	Local Gov Chgs-Transp	515,551.55	1,964,726.00	(1,449,174.45)
47332	Local Gov Chgs-Roads		267,134.00	(267,134.00)
47333	Local Gov Chgs-Bridges		117,697.00	(117,697.00)
	Total Charges to Other Governments	2,163,293.29	4,715,947.00	(2,552,653.71)
Interdepartmental Charges for Services				
47470	Dept Charges-Highway	1,455,254.14	2,731,559.00	(1,276,304.86)
	Total Interdepartmental Charges	1,455,254.14	2,731,559.00	(1,276,304.86)
	Total Intergovernmental Charges for Services	3,618,547.43	7,447,506.00	(3,828,958.57)
Miscellaneous				
48340	Gain/Loss-Sale of Salvage and Waste	3,659.60	10,605.00	(6,945.40)
	Total Miscellaneous	3,659.60	10,605.00	(6,945.40)
Other Financing Sources				
49110	Proceeds from Long-Term Debt		2,451,500.00	(2,451,500.00)
49280	Transfer from Trust Funds	470,745.05		470,745.05
	Total Other Financing Sources	470,745.05	2,451,500.00	(1,980,754.95)
TOTAL REVENUES		6,664,462.33	13,681,563.00	(7,017,100.67)
EXPENDITURES				
Public Works-Highway				
53110	Hwy-Administration	264,707.57	437,391.41	172,683.84
53120	Hwy-Engineer	135,931.97	210,931.64	74,999.67
53191	Hwy-Other Administration	251,345.12	402,931.49	151,586.37
53210	Hwy-Employee Taxes & Benefits	(733,749.78)		733,749.78
53220	Hwy-Field Tools	27,490.76	(45,534.22)	(73,024.98)
53230	Hwy-Shop Operations	206,089.81	397,971.95	191,882.14
53232	Hwy-Fuel Handling	(15,851.70)	(17,766.00)	(1,914.30)
53240	Hwy-Machinery Operations	(1,143,001.63)	(71,912.30)	1,071,089.33
53250	Hwy-Crushing Operations	36,450.01	17,936.97	(18,513.04)
53251	Hwy-Crushing Operations Production	94,715.23	103,564.60	8,849.37
53260	Hwy-Bituminous Ops	102,502.26	214,888.22	112,385.96
53266	Hwy-Bituminous Ops	1,151,255.59	2,017,610.84	866,355.25
53270	Hwy-Buildings & Grounds	220,375.54	233,326.35	12,950.81
53290	Hwy-Salt Brine Operations	(7,834.97)	(1,013.49)	6,821.48
53291	Hwy-Salt Brine Operations	15,596.71	(4,800.49)	(20,397.20)
53281	Hwy-Acquisition of Capital Assets	252,518.70		(252,518.70)
53310	Hwy-Maintenance CTHS		65,522.15	65,522.15
53311	Hwy-Maint CTHS Patrol Sectn	1,548,430.77	2,296,960.44	748,529.67
53312	Hwy-Snow Remov	828,323.60	990,000.16	161,676.56
53313	Hwy-Maintenance Gang	156,538.08	217,072.03	60,533.95
53314	Hwy-Maint Gang-Materials	2,330.00	8,302.00	5,972.00
53320	Hwy-Maint STHS	1,339,945.22	1,264,109.05	(75,836.17)
53330	Hwy-Local Roads	816,551.31	1,964,726.04	1,148,174.73
53340	Hwy-County-Aid Road Construction	181,671.36	330,037.42	148,366.06
53341	Hwy-County-Aid Bridge Construction	83,441.30	250,731.09	167,289.79
53490	Hwy-State & Local Other Services	334,097.36	848,895.86	514,798.50
53491	Hwy-ATV Route Signage		17,346.37	17,346.37
	Total Public Works-Highway	6,149,870.19	12,149,229.58	5,999,359.39
Capital Outlay				
57310	Highway Capital Projects	2,678,503.89	3,423,665.39	745,161.50

County of Wood
 DETAILED INCOME STATEMENT W/SUBTOTALS
 Highway Departmentwide
 Sunday, August 31, 2025

		2025		
		Actual	Budget	Variance Variance %
	Total Capital Outlay	2,678,503.89	3,423,665.39	745,161.50 21.77%
	Other Financing Uses			
59210	Transfers to General Fund	470,745.05		(470,745.05) 0.00%
	Total Other Financing Uses	470,745.05		(470,745.05) 0.00%
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	9,299,119.13	15,572,894.97	6,273,775.84 40.29%
	NET INCOME (LOSS) *	(2,634,656.80)	(1,891,331.97)	(743,324.83) 39.30%



Parks & Forestry Department Reports

September 4, 2025

Director Report, by Chad Schooley

- Powers Bluff Trailhead Shelter project will begin on September 3rd.
- Continue design work for Dexter Beach House construction project.
- Continue planning for other ARPA projects: South Park shower building, playground equipment replacement, Powers Bluff old shop site, etc..
- Contractor will be replacing asphalt shingle roof on Cera Park shelter building and grill canopy.
- Continue assisting with update of Parks, Recreation, and Open Spaces plan.
- **Special Use Permits**
 - None at this time

Maintenance Program Supervisor Report, by Dan Vollert

Construction Projects

- South Park-cap north fireplace chimney on Red Beach Stone Shelter.
- South Park-Campground Storage Shed is ordered and site being prepped.
- CERA Park-Shelter Restroom Remodel Project complete.
- CERA Park-Reroofing small pumphouse and old scoreboard buildings.
- Dexter Park: Old beachhouse demolition and designs for new shelter being determined.
- Dexter Park: Shelter is getting new concrete approach from all sides and Parking Lot being resurfaced by Highway. Also adding a paved ADA walkpath to playground & Hwy 80 boat landing toilet building, from shelter.
- North Park: Looking at replacing hand railing on Suspension Bridge.
- Powers Bluff: New Trailhead Shelter started soon. Gates installed for trailhead entrance road & new shop.

Maintenance Operations

- ALL Parks: Closed beaches after Labor Day Weekend.
- Dexter Park: Mowing & improving walkpath.
- South Park: Continue storm cleanup, from June 23 storm, that took down many trees throughout park.
- North Park & Powers Bluff: Painting gates, staining tongue & groove planking for new Trail Head Building.
- Powers Bluff: New Shop setup. Moving things in from old shop. New work benches, air compressor with hose adapters, racking, etc.
- Powers Bluff: Start dismantling old shop.
- CERA Park: Replacing sand around playground structures. Landscaping around shelter area.
- CERA Park: Getting doors rekeyed in all buildings to common keys.
- CERA Park: Diagnosing Septic issues - replacing pump, and cleaning pool area out.

Employee Matters

- LTE's finishing up for the summer. All will be done by the end of September.
- Looking at updating three FTE's from Class B CDL to a Class A through Highway Department CDL training program.

Snowmobile/ATV

- Auburndale (DH) Snowmobile Bridge project off of CTH N east of Arpin is being done by Earth Inc. Abutments are installed, rip-rapped, and bridge is set. Project approaches will be completed once things dry up in area and frost firms things up.
- 2024-2025 Snowmobile Trail Maintenance Grant Reimbursement Request was sent in and payment has been received.
- 2024-2025 ATV Trail Maintenance Grant Reimbursement Request was sent in and awaiting payment.
- 2024-2025 ATV Intensive Use Area Grant Reimbursement Request was sent in and awaiting payment.
- Range Road ATV Connector Trail to Intensive Use Area is being stripped of stumps and shaped up by Highway Dept. Hoping to install road base this fall/winter.

Office Supervisor Report, by Stacie Kleifgen

- Created new templates for shelter calendars
- Prepared 2026 budget reports
- Attended summer employee meeting
- Researched and challenged 2 Paypal payment disputes

Forest Administrator Report, by Fritz Schubert

- Timber Sales: Two active timber sales in August. Logging activity may increase in the next couple months as ground conditions improve and seasonal contract restrictions expire.
- Worked with Nick Flanagan Corp. Counsel and attorney Luke Weiland to develop a license agreement with FGM Wilderness Cranberry as directed during August HIRC meeting.
- Investigated land trade proposal (information is in HIRC packet).
- Inspected last spring planting sites. Seedling survival appears mediocre to poor. Further evaluation will be undertaken. Some replanting will likely be necessary.
- Timber sale establishment in compartment 37.
- Worked with Bill Hatch, Cranberry Creek Cranberries on committee approved ditch cleaning project.
- Forestry Technician: Cleaned and mowed shooting range. Painted forestry gates. Skid steer maintenance and repairs. Mowed county forest roads and trails.

WOOD COUNTY PARK AND FORESTRY DEPARTMENT

LAND TRANSACTION APPLICATION

1. Type of request (mark one).

_____ a. Purchase of County land.

_____x b. Trade for County land.

_____ c. Easement request.

_____ d. Request permit or agreement for special use.

2. Applicant information.

Name _____ Nick Karris _____

Address 10430 Hollywood, Nekoosa WI 54457

Phone 312-521-9342

3. Brief description of your project or request.

Trade Privately owned vacant land: 46.95 acres located in Dexterville, WI Section 23, R22N-R3E, Pin #0600433

For Wood County Forest 20 acres located Section 15, T22N-R5E, Pin #1900425. Land logged by Wood County in 2025.

Terms of trade subject to appraisal and agreement between the parties.

4. Location (Legal description, attach map if possible).
See description above.

See Lot 1 attached Survey

5. Purpose and need (Include history and background as appropriate).

Buyer would add 20 acres to current farm to buffer current gun range/public land.

6. Physical changes proposed. Clearing clear cut stumpage in preparation of cattle grazing/farming.

LAND TRANSACTION APPLICATION
CONTINUED, PAGE 2

7. Farm/graze livestock.
8. Alternatives (Is it possible to do your proposal on other lands? Why or why not?)

Land adjoins current farm.

9. List any permits you will need to install this project.

No permits necessary. Land trade approved by DNR prior to trade.

I hereby certify that the information I have provided is true to the best of my knowledge.

8/5/2025 Vik Kai
Date Signature

WOOD COUNTY PARK AND FORESTRY DEPARTMENT

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING

APPLICATION FOR LAND TRANSACTION

This application must be filled out in full for your request to be properly considered by Wood County. You may be contacted for more detailed information. Please type or write legibly. Return the application to the Forest Administrator along with the appropriate application fee.

- Item #1** - Indicate the type of request or proposal you wish to make.
- Item #2** - Self-explanatory. Include office hours if applicable.
- Item #3** - Describe in general terms what you want to do. One or two sentences are enough.
- Item #4** - Give a legal description of the county land involved in your proposal. Describe the location of your land if it relates to the proposal. A map of the properties (plat map) would be helpful.
- Item #5** - What is the purpose of your proposal or project. Why do you need it on county land? Is there any background or history to your proposal which helps to explain it?
- Item #6** - What will you do to the vegetation and the land if this project is approved (bulldozing, ditching, land clearing, etc.).
- Item #7** - Will any structures be built on the site? What kind? How large? For what purpose? Where will they be located?
- Item #8** - Can you develop this project or proposal on your own land or on other private land without involving county land? If not, why not? Is cost a factor? if so, please explain.
- Item #9** - It will be your responsibility to get any permits required by other agencies for your project. List the necessary permits if any. Example: Army Corps of Engineers. county zoning changes. Wisconsin DNR water permits, etc.

FOREST ADMINISTRATOR'S INVESTIGATION & RECOMMENDATION

LAND TRADE PROPOSAL NEKOOSA MARSH ROAD CRANBERRY LLC

August 25, 2025

Nekoosa Marsh Road Cranberry LLC (NMRC) has proposed a land trade with Wood County which involves 20 acres of Wood County Forest land (WCF) in exchange for 46.95 acres of privately held property. NMRC is proposing that the final value of the trade be 2:1 in favor of Wood County based on land appraisal and as required by Land Transaction Policy. A summary of pertinent factors, attributes, considerations and Forest Administrator's recommendation follows:

Location (refer to attached map): The Wood County parcel is located in section 15, T22N – R5E, Seneca Township. The private parcel being offered in exchange is located in sections 23 and 26, T22N – R3E, Dexter Township, and lies within the blocking boundaries of the Wood County Forest established in the Wood County Forest Comprehensive 15-Year Land Use Plan.

Land Features and Condition: Wood County Parcel lies adjacent to snowmobile trail and just southeast of the WCF public shooting range. It is adjacent to NMRC land. The timber on this parcel has been recently harvested under a regeneration harvest prescription. Scattered mature white pine seed trees and abundant seedling and sapling regeneration are present. The NMRC parcel is adjacent to WCF on two sides and lies within the Yellow River bottoms. **Currently NMRC does not own** this parcel but has an offer accepted contingent upon Wood County approving this trade and proceeding to withdraw the 20 acres from the County Forest program. The timber on the NMRC parcel is primarily mature bottomland hardwoods and oak. Access for logging is difficult, and portions may not be economically feasible to harvest.

Environmental/ecological features associated with mature bottomland hardwoods in the Yellow River bottoms are considerable and much more significant than those associated with the WCF 20-acre parcel. County Forest blocking will be somewhat improved and simplified as result of this land trade.

Land Value: Unknown, will require DNR approved appraisals. Because the trade being proposed based on acreage, is much greater from NMRC side (greater than two to one), it is likely that the final trade package may require additional compensation from Wood County to NMRC.

Timber Value: Minimal on the Wood County parcel as very little timber remains due to recent regeneration harvest. Timber on the river bottom parcel has not been cruised or appraised but theoretically is greater. However, harvest on portions of the acreage may not be feasible due to ground conditions and other environmental factors associated with river bottom habitat.

Recreational Value: Recreational value associated with the WCF 20-acre parcel is comparable to much of the County Forest with hunting being the most likely activity. Walk-in access from Marsh Road and adjacent snowmobile trail is good. However, status of habitat and post-harvest

conditions will make hunting difficult for several years. The snowmobile trail itself will not be impacted by this land trade proposal as the trail lies just west of parcel to be traded. Recreational value on the river bottom parcel is good, however walk-in access may be more difficult due to greater distances and seasonal ground conditions associated with it. Most likely public uses are hunting, fishing, nature study and possibly canoeing/kayaking. Wildlife populations and species diversity are much greater on the river bottom parcel compared to the 20-acre WCF parcel.

Wisconsin DNR Approval: County Forest land trades require evaluation by WDNR. Part of the evaluation requires determination whether the proposal has a greater benefit to residents of the county and state by withdrawing the parcels from the County Forest vs maintaining entry of the parcels. Furthermore, the Wood County Forest 15-Year plan mentions *“If, in the opinion of the Committee and county board, the land will be put to better and higher use and will benefit people of the county and State to a greater extent by being withdrawn from the County Forest Law program, the County should follow the withdrawal procedure as outlined by the Public Lands Handbook”*. This trade proposal has a good chance of success based on acreages involved, ecological significance of the river bottom parcel, and potential recreational benefits.

Other considerations: If this land trade is to proceed there are going to be cost items to consider including DNR approved land appraisals, land surveying, drafting of documents, recording of deeds. NMRC has already ordered land appraisals from a qualified appraiser and is willing to pay for them. If in the course of appraisals and resulting negotiations, in order make the final result 2:1 based on \$ value, ample funds exist in the non-lapsing County Forest Land Fund for a payment to be made to NMRC.

Recommendation: In my opinion this proposal is worth pursuing and has the potential to be advantageous to both parties. Wood County Forest will acquire a parcel which: 1) contains mature timber which could provide future revenue, 2) blocks in well and slightly improves forest boundaries, 3) contains excellent wildlife habitat and supports a greater number of species, 4) provides greater recreational opportunities, 5) provides greater ecological benefits.

NMRC is a Wood County business and will acquire a parcel that fits in with their operations. Past Wood County Forest land trades have been win-win situations for both parties involved, and this proposal continues that track record. Therefore, my recommendation to the HIRC Committee is to proceed with this proposal. Once appraisals are completed and final values and any other details are addressed, the Forest Administrator will draft a resolution to withdraw the 20 acres from County Forest, followed by Committee and County board approval.

Fritz Schubert

Wood County Forest Administrator

Wood County Forest Nekoosa Marsh Road Cranberry LLC Land Trade Map

S23 T22 R3E SW SW SEC 23; & N 132.6' OF NW NW LYG E OF
YELLOW RIVER & N 132.6' OF NE NW LYG W OF HWY IN SEC
26 T22 R3E

NMRC
Land To
Be Added
To WCF
Parcel #
0600433
46.95 Acres

State Highway 54

State Highway 80

Pin
156

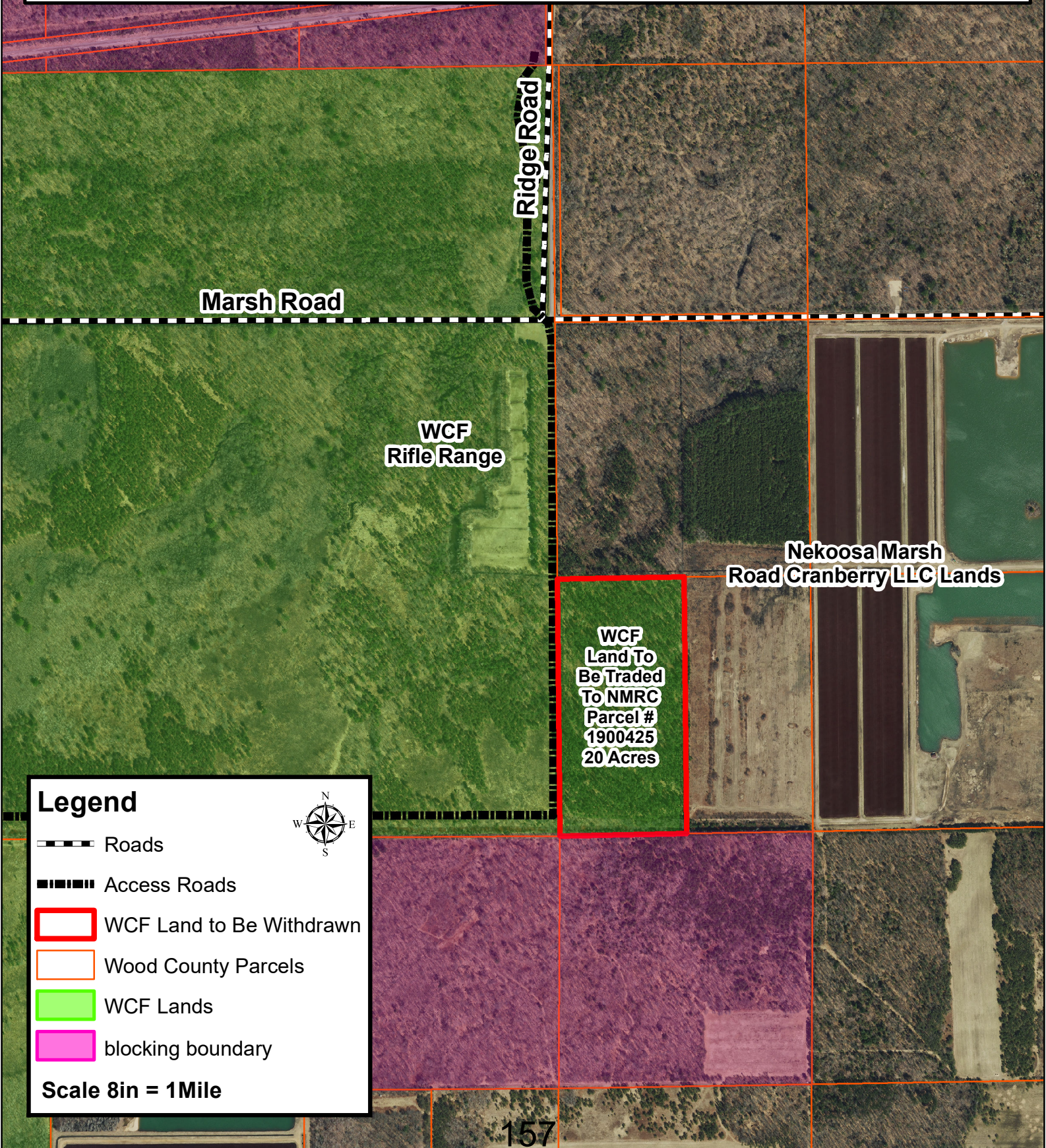
Legend

-  Roads
-  Access Roads
-  NMRC Lands to Be added to WCF
-  Wood County Parcels
-  WCF Lands
-  WCF blocking boundary

Scale 8in = 1Mile



Wood County Forest Nekoosa Marsh Road Cranberry LLC Land Trade Map S15 T22 R5E W 1/2 SW SW



WOOD COUNTY PARK & FOREST LAND TRANSACTION POLICY AND PROCEDURES

This policy pertains to proposals initiated by third parties. It does not apply to proposals introduced by the County.

STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT

Wood County is committed to the preservation of the open spaces created by the ownership of large blocks of public land. The County is committed to the concept that public land is beneficial to the people of the County. Wood County's public land provides the base resource for the local timber industry and for the County's tourist industry. It provides habitat for wildlife and fish, it provides watershed stability and protection and it provides extensive outdoor recreation opportunities for the general public.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Wood County's goal in establishing a public land ownership policy is to preserve, whenever possible, County-owned lands located within the County forest blocking boundaries, and the other lands managed by the Park & Forestry Department, and to actively manage those lands for multiple resource uses in an environmentally acceptable manner.

Objectives for the public land ownership policy are as follows:

1. Create a clearly defined, timely and orderly process for handling proposals to purchase, use and/or develop public lands for private purposes.
2. Ensure that any such proposals are truly beneficial to the people of the County.
3. Ensure that the proposals are viable, not speculative and that they are well planned and environmentally acceptable.
4. Establish minimum fee criteria for the sale of or conveyance of property rights on public lands.
5. Define types and categories of property rights conveyances.
6. Define minimum standards and requirements of grantees in ownership or property rights conveyances.

PROCEDURES

This section outlines the steps which will be followed in processing requests for the purchase or trade of County owned lands as well as requests for permits or agreements involving the use of county-owned lands. The procedures shall apply to all county-owned lands within the blocking boundaries of the land managed by the Park & Forestry Department.

A. Application, screening and referral.

1. Request for purchase, trade or special use is filed at the Park & Forestry Department on the prescribed application form. This form is available at the office of the Park & Forestry Department during normal business hours. The non-refundable fee for processing of the application is \$25.00 for an incidental proposal, \$50.00 for a minor proposal, and \$125.00 for a major proposal.

2. The application shall be referred to the Forest Administrator.

3. The Forest Administrator shall review the application for completeness and shall determine whether the proposal is incidental, minor, or major.

An incidental proposal is a request for a special use permit of very short time duration and involves no, or minimal, physical alteration of the land or vegetation and does not exclude the use of the land by others. An example of this would be a 3 month permit to cross county property using an existing road or frozen marsh to harvest timber on adjoining private property.

A minor proposal is a request for a special use permit or license which involves little or no physical alteration of the land or vegetation and which does not exclude the use of the land by others. An example would be a 5 year permit to cross County land, on an existing trail, to access private property.

A major proposal includes all easements, sales, trades, or leases of County lands.

B. Processing of referred applications.

1. The Forest Administrator shall investigate all proposals in detail and shall prepare a written recommendation to the Park & Forestry Committee. When appropriate, the Forest Administrator shall also inform the Chairperson of the affected township of the application and shall invite comment on the

proposal from the township. When appropriate, the Forest Administrator shall also inform the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources liaison forester of the application and shall consult with the liaison forester in the investigation and processing of the application in accordance with s. 28.11, Wis. Stats.

The Forest Administrator will work directly with the applicant and other persons as necessary in gathering information for completion of the written investigation.

2. For incidental proposals the Forest Administrator may approve and issue a permit for up to 4 months. Details of the approval will be forwarded, in writing, to the Park & Forestry Committee for their review and file.

3. For minor proposals the Park & Forestry Committee shall approve or deny the request in accordance with County policy for permitted uses of County lands.

4. For major proposals, which include land sale or exchange, the Park & Forestry Committee shall review the Forest Administrator's recommendation and, if unfamiliar with the properties, visit the sites involved.

If the Park & Forestry Committee determines the major proposal has merit and is in the best interest of the County, then prior to submitting a resolution to the County Board for approval consideration, the Park & Forestry Committee will schedule a public informational meeting.

The Park & Forestry Committee shall, as soon as practical after the public information meeting, deliberate to determine whether to accept or reject the proposal. It is understood the Park & Forestry Committee, at their discretion, may enter into further negotiations with the applicant. When appropriate, the Wisconsin DNR liaison forester shall be kept abreast of all actions taken and will be invited to submit responses in that regard.

a. If the major proposal, in its final form, is accepted by the Park & Forestry Committee a resolution detailing the terms of the transaction will be prepared and forwarded to the Wood County Board for approval consideration. Passage of a major proposal will require a two thirds majority vote of the Wood County Board.

b. Section 28.11, Wis. Stats., will govern resolutions involving the withdrawal of lands from the County Forest Program.

REQUIREMENTS

Because of the high value of public lands to all the people of the County, requests for the purchase of County-owned lands which lie within the county forest blocking boundaries will not normally be considered. If, after proper consideration, it is determined that the applicant's proposal will put the land to a higher and better use and will benefit the people of the County to a greater extent, then the land may be recommended, by the Park & Forestry Committee, for withdrawal from the County Forest Program.

When the proposed use of the land is acceptable but does not require a transfer of ownership, the County may, at its discretion, offer a conveyance of property right through the appropriate legal instrument.

A. Conveyance of Ownership.

County land ownership can be transferred either by outright sale, by land trade or by a combination of the two. Any conveyance of ownership must be accompanied by a separate agreement which lists the specific uses allowed for the land.

1. Outright Sales

The sale price of any county lands shall not be less than double the value set by a qualified real estate appraiser selected by the County (appraisal fees to be paid by the applicant). The final sale even then is subject to the discretion of the County Board. Approval requires a two-third majority vote of the Board.

Monetary proceeds from the sale of these lands shall be deposited in a non-lapsing fund known as the County Forest Land Fund. This fund shall be used only for the acquisition of other lands for addition to the County forest system in order to maintain the public land base.

2. Land Trades

From time to time it is advantageous to trade lands. Any trade proposals must include lands suitable to the County for timber production, wildlife management, outdoor recreation and/or watershed protection. The value of lands taken in trade shall not be less than double the value of lands being traded. All values are to be established by a qualified real estate appraiser selected by the County (appraisal fees to be paid by the applicant). The final terms of any trade are subject to the discretion of the County Board, and require a two-thirds majority vote for approval.

3. Combined Transactions

Combinations of cash plus land may be given consideration at the discretion of the Park & Forestry Committee, provided the terms and conditions hereinbefore set forth are adhered to.

B. Conveyance of Property Rights

Requests for the use of County lands may be granted by one of several legal instruments. The instrument used shall be the one which relinquishes the least amount of County control over the land. Examples of legal instruments and their appropriate application are listed below.

1. Easement.

An easement is a right which entitles the holder to use the land of another for a special purpose not inconsistent with the general property rights of the owner. This type of instrument is usually appropriate for utility routes and public road rights-of-way.

2. Lease.

A lease is a written document by which possession of real property and/or improvements is given by the owner to another for a specified period of time for consideration. Lands under the County Forest Law may only be leased under the conditions in s. 28.11, Wis. Stats.

3. License or Permit.

A license or permit is a written document conferring a right, power or privilege to do a particular act or series of acts on land of another without possessing any interest therein. A license or permit can be revoked at the owner's pleasure and is usually assignable. A license or permit is distinguished from an easement or a lease which implies an interest in the land.

Such things as the right to flow lands for agricultural purposes should be handled by this means as opposed to an easement. Most other activities dealing with private individual's specific use of County forest lands should also be handled by license or permit.

4. Agreement.

An agreement is a written document executed by two or more persons expressing a mutual and common purpose. An agreement usually spells out in detail the responsibilities, obligations, conditions, liabilities, etc. of all parties concerned and would be an appropriate instrument for dealing with such activities as public school forests and sanitary landfills because of the number of items of consideration usually involved.

C. Terms of Property Rights Conveyances.

Any agreement, license, permit, lease or easement granted must contain at least the following information, requirements and terms. More requirements and terms may be added as needed to protect the interests of the County.

1. Location by legal description.
2. Permitted use(s).
3. Fee for the use of the land (lump sum or periodic payment).
4. Expiration date - There will be no conveyances exceeding 99 years under this section. The shortest term possible shall be considered.
5. Right of the County to cancel or suspend conveyed rights with or without cause.
6. Requirement for grantee to restore the premises to original condition upon expiration or cancellation of the conveyance.

Any sale or trade must contain at least the following information requirements, or terms. More requirements and terms may be added as needed to protect the interests of the County.

1. Location by legal description.
2. Permitted use(s).
3. Sale price and terms of the sale or trade.
4. Reversionary clauses if any.

Other terms to be considered for inclusion into a sale, trade or other conveyance shall include timber, mineral, public hunting and fishing, and other rights and terms as appropriate

D. Exception

In instances involving encroachments that are the result of updated surveys, relocation of survey markers, property line changes as a result of previously mentioned survey activity; and the net impact to the County Forest is three acres or less; the Wood County Park and Forestry Committee may deviate from the previously mentioned guidelines and is empowered to resolve such situations as it sees fit. This exception requires that the County adhere to state statute 28.11 and all other statutes pertaining to the management of County Forest Lands.

TAX DEED LAND

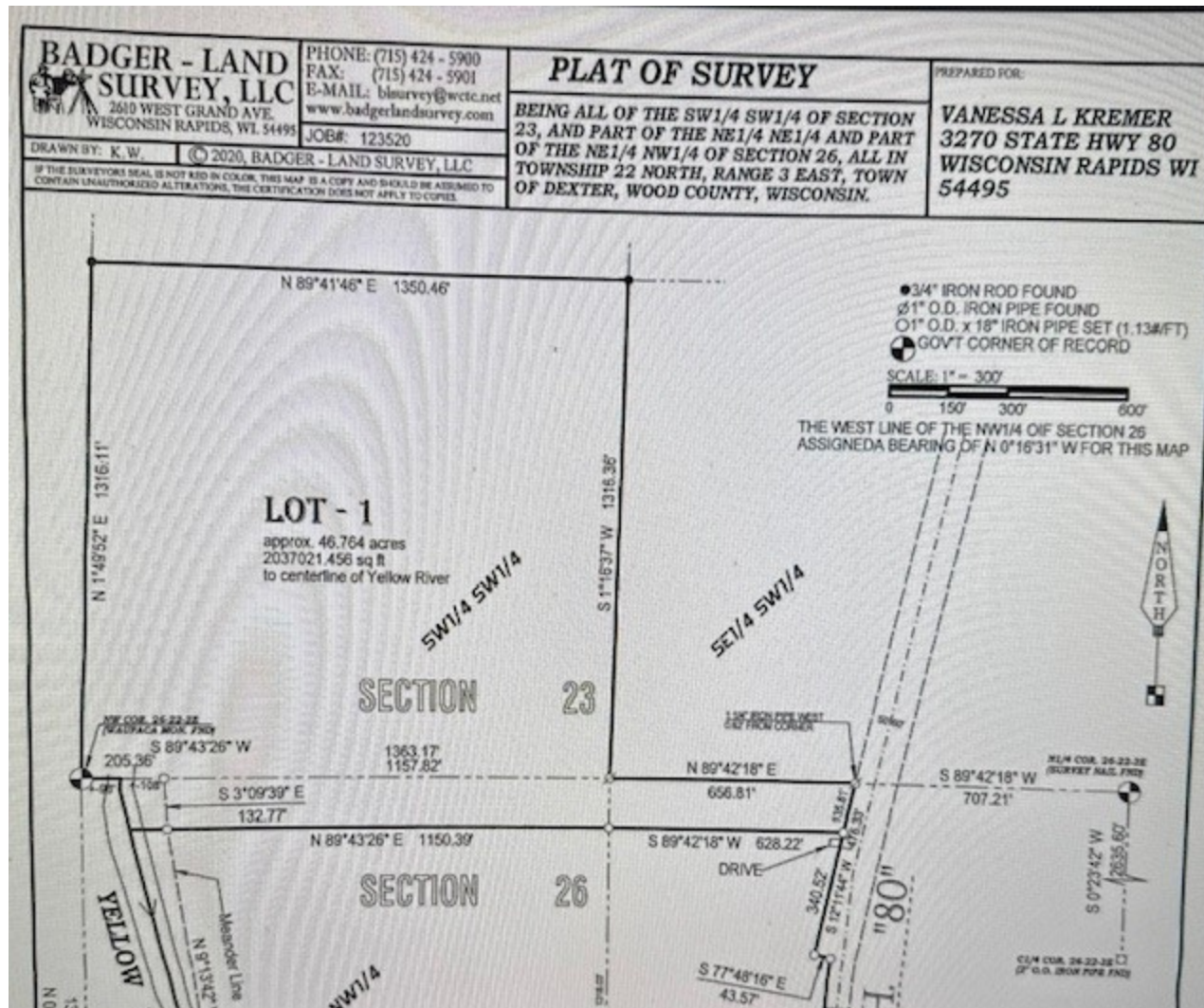
From time to time the County takes ownership of tax delinquent private lands. Some of these lands lie within the County Forest blocking boundaries and may be of interest for addition to the County Forest system.

Whenever the County takes a tax deed to lands the following procedure shall be observed.

1. Upon completion of tax deeding procedures the County Treasurer shall notify the Forest Administrator of the presence of property that has been tax deeded.
2. The Forest Administrator shall forward a recommendation to the Park & Forestry Committee to consider the land for addition to the county forest.
3. If the land is desirable the Park & Forestry Committee shall sponsor a resolution to the County Board to add the land to the County forest and (if applicable) to enter the land under the County Forest Law. Approval of the resolution requires a simple majority vote of the County Board.

APPLICATION FORM FOR LAND TRANSACTIONS

The application form referred to in the PROCEDURES section has been designed to solicit basic information from the applicant as to the nature of the proposal, the location and the urgency of using County lands as opposed to other lands in the area. It is designed to be straight forward and easy to complete, yet requires the applicant have a clearly thought out and planned proposal. A chart illustrating the application/approval process is contained in appendix 1.



**WOOD COUNTY PARKS & FORESTRY DEPARTMENT
REVENUE SUMMARY 2025**

August Revenue - September HIRC

BUDGETED REVENUES 2025	46721	FEES	YTD REVENUE	YTD REVENUE	AUG REV	AUG REV	ACTUAL REV
	SOURCE		2025	2024	2025	2024	2024
\$ 612,000.00	Camping Reservations	\$10 Resv. Fee+/\$21/\$26/\$29/\$36	\$482,322.59	\$ 432,333.82	\$76,837.55	\$ 90,250.29	\$ 559,084.56
\$ 45,000.00	Campground Firewood Sales	\$7 per rack	\$28,504.17	\$ 29,364.22	\$6,539.05	\$ 9,483.14	\$ 39,888.11
\$ 10,000.00	Ice	\$4 (small) /\$9 (large)	\$5,795.01	\$ 6,610.30	\$1,374.87	\$ 2,773.91	\$ 7,887.62
\$ 3,900.00	Non-Camper Dump Station	\$20	\$1,672.34	\$ 2,046.36	\$649.29	\$ 795.55	\$ 2,905.41
\$ 400.00	Camper Storage	\$20/wk - \$300/mo	\$0.00	\$ 93.46	\$0.00	\$ 37.91	\$ 99.87
\$ 900.00	Washer/Dryer/Showers	\$2 wash / \$2 dry/\$1 Laundry Pods	\$537.20	\$ 567.77	\$194.55	\$ 230.33	\$ 802.85
\$ 59,000.00	Shelters Enclosed	Various Fees based on 4 or 8 hrs or all day.	\$40,390.86	\$ 43,693.08	\$4,953.21	\$ 6,807.37	\$ 62,254.51
\$ 13,000.00	Shelters - Open	Various Fees based on location of shelter.	\$12,840.36	\$ 11,376.34	\$2,058.10	\$ 1,742.56	\$ 12,862.13
\$ 3,000.00	General Park User Fees (Use of open areas within parks)	\$75 / \$10 per picnic table	\$1,109.00	\$ 450.24	\$0.00	\$ -	\$ 450.24
\$ 38,000.00	Powers Bluff Winter Recreation Tickets, Parties, Rentals & Concessions	\$13/\$22/\$515/\$655/\$515/\$725/\$865	\$13,987.01	\$ 1,729.54	\$189.57	\$ -	\$ 1,824.33
\$ 5,000.00	Trail Passes (Ski/Snowshoe/Multi-Use)	\$8/daily; \$30/annual; \$60/family	\$2,462.75	\$ 3,826.96	\$218.45	\$ 314.45	\$ 4,936.78
\$ 8,500.00	Disc Golf	\$3 / \$5 / \$25 / \$50	\$3,371.07	\$ 3,901.10	\$248.74	\$ 463.46	\$ 4,677.66
\$ 500.00	Parks Pulpwood	Market Price	\$0.00	\$ -	\$0.00	\$ -	\$ -
\$ 25,000.00	Boat Launch	\$25/annual; \$7/daily	\$20,769.74	\$ 22,741.45	\$1,423.63	\$ 2,146.86	\$ 24,755.49
\$ 17,000.00	Miscellaneous		\$3,802.13	\$ 6,767.38	\$186.12	\$ 739.57	\$ 19,360.22
\$ 8,800.00	Gift Certificates	Gift Certificates	\$0.00	\$ 241.69	\$0.00	\$ -	\$ 9,035.75
\$ 850,000.00			\$617,564.23	\$565,743.71	\$94,873.13	\$115,785.40	\$ 750,825.53
\$ 400,000.00	46813 - Timber Sales & Wood Cutting (90%/County & 10%/Townships) Monthly totals = NET Revenue	CONTRACTED	\$201,727.97	\$ 300,956.80	\$714.06	\$ 3,075.63	\$ 377,740.88
\$ 1,250,000.00		TOTAL REVENUE:	\$819,292.20	\$866,700.51	\$95,587.19	\$118,861.03	\$1,128,566.41

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

August 2025 Revenue (September HIRC)

Budget Year 2025

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	12/31/2025		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
797	3-22	SCHREINER	\$30,770.00	5/27/2022	6/30/2026		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
800	6-22	SCHREINER	\$16,440.00	5/27/2022	7/31/2026		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$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		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
804	10-22	KOERNER	\$84,093.60	11/16/2022	12/3/2025		\$103,155.10	\$103,155.10	\$0.00
807	13-22	FLINK	\$9,450.00	12/31/2022	12/31/2025		\$2,274.03	\$2,274.03	\$0.00
812	4-23	FLINK	\$11,813.85	6/1/2023	6/30/2026		\$7,418.12	\$7,418.12	\$0.00
814	6-23	FLINK	\$21,055.00	4/28/2025	3/31/2028		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
816	8-23	KOERNER	\$31,625.00	1/4/2024	12/31/2025		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
817	9-23	KOERNER	\$17,310.00	1/4/2024	12/31/2025		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$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		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
821	1-24	KOERNER	\$26,270.00	4/30/2024	5/1/2026		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
824	5-24	KOERNER	\$53,280.00	4/30/2024	5/1/2026		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
826	6-24	BIEWER	\$158,818.20	12/19/2024	12/31/2026		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
827	7-24	MEDDA	\$60,286.80	12/19/2024	12/31/2026		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
828	8-24	MIDWEST HW	\$75,328.40	12/19/2024	12/31/2026		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
829	9-24	WEEKLY	\$34,063.30	6/18/2025	6/30/2027		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$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	\$773.40	\$773.40	\$773.40	\$0.00
755		FIREWOOD				\$20.00	\$124.66	\$124.66	

Total Active Contract Value

\$972,833.55

Payments Received This Month:

\$793.40

\$ RECEIVED CURRENT
MONTH

2025 Budgeted Total Revenues

\$400,000

2025 Total County Forestry Revenues this month (90%)

\$714.06

2025 Total Township Revenues this month (10%):

\$79.34

Jobs Finished

Jobs Started

Jobs Continuing/Reactivated

Jobs Gone Inactive

2025 TOTAL NET FORESTRY REVENUE TO DATE:

\$200,551.35

MINUTES
PROPERTY & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, August 19, 2025

TIME: 8:30 AM

PLACE: Courthouse – Room 114

MEMBERS PRESENT: Al Breu, Jeff Penzkover, Dennis Polach, Brad Hamilton

MEMBER EXCUSED: Scott Brehm

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

1. Chairman Breu called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM.
2. There was no public comment.
3. Motion by Hamilton/Penzkover to go into closed session pursuant to Wis Stats 19.85 (1)(e) to review the proposed development agreement with the City of Wisconsin Rapids. Motion carried unanimously.
4. Motion by Penzkover/Hamilton to return to open session. Motion carried unanimously.
5. Motion by Hamilton/Penzkover to approve the resolution approving the development agreement with City of Wisconsin Rapids and forward onto the county board for their consideration. Motion carried unanimously.
6. Chairman Breu declared the meeting adjourned at 8:56 AM.

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

Property & Information Technology Committee
August 19, 2025

[illegible]

MINUTES

PROPERTY & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

DATE: Monday, September 2, 2025

TIME: 8:00 a.m.

PLACE: Courthouse – Room 302

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

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

1. Chairman Breu called the meeting to order at 8:00 AM.
2. Under public comment, Brehm brought up a concern of security as it relates to contractors.
3. The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed. Motion by Hamilton/Penzkover to accept them as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
4. The Information Technology vouchers were reviewed. Motion by Hamilton/Polach to approve as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
5. The IT Report was reviewed and discussed.
6. IT Director Kaup presented the 2026 IT budget to the committee, highlighting an additional FTE request, as well as other financial implications within her budget. Motion by Hamilton/Brehm to approve the budget as presented and forward to the Finance Department. Motion carried unanimously.
7. The Maintenance vouchers were reviewed. Motion by Hamilton/Penzkover to approve as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
8. The Maintenance Report was reviewed and discussed.
9. Facilities Manager Van Tassel presented the 2026 Maintenance budget to the committee. He highlighted an additional FTE request as well as increased costs due to the new facility. Motion by Brehm/Penzkover to approve the budget as presented and forward to the Finance Dept. Motion carried unanimously.
10. Van Tassel presented a proposal for engineering and design for the parking improvements in front of the courthouse, now that the agreement for the parcels and Market St. have been received. This is the next step needed to comply with that agreement. Motion by Hamilton/Penzkover to approve the contract from Venture Architects for \$109,100. Motion carried unanimously.

11. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 6th at 9:00 AM.

12. Chairman Breu declared the meeting adjourned at 9:24 AM.

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

Property & Information Technology Committee
September 2, 2025

[illegible]



Wood County

WISCONSIN

Reuben Van Tassel
Facilities Manager

Letter of Comments September 2025

Ongoing Projects and Planning

Jail Project – Remaining construction is underway. Demolition of the approved structures adjacent to the Courthouse is scheduled to be complete before the end of September.

Building automation system programming and adjustments are ongoing.

Courthouse – The recent approval of our agreement with the City of Wisconsin Rapids for improved accessibility and parking at the Courthouse will provide a multi-generational improvement for our downtown campus. I will be working with project engineers and City staff to coordinate upcoming changes to Jackson and Second Streets that will affect the perimeter of our future parking lot.

We are working with the District Attorney's office to accommodate the additional staff who were recently approved by the State; some of the changes required are simple and low cost, while others may require budget adjustments.

HVAC system replacement will continue for the next few months. The contractor is doing their best to provide climate control during the work; employees working in the building have been patient and accommodating of the varying temperatures. Additional work related to the HVAC system update is ongoing throughout the building including control wiring, duct work reconfiguration, and miscellaneous work as needed.

River Block – The second phase of roof replacement has begun. Over the next several weeks a new roof system will be installed on the remaining portion of outdated roof; this will provide a much-improved building envelope and reduce the risk of water infiltration that the original design had allowed.

Miscellaneous

Assisting Edgewater and Norwood staff with project planning.

Attended PIT Committee, County Board, and numerous project meetings.

JUNIOR FAIR BOARD MINUTES

July 16, 2025

Village Hall - Hewitt

July meeting of the Central WI Jr. Fair Board was called to order by President Megan Kunder at 7:00 pm at the Hewitt Village Hall in Hewitt, WI.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jason Bernick, Brittany Bauer, Lisa Blanchard, Jodie Budtke, Kitty Bymers, Dale Christensen, George Gilbertson, Lori Haffenbredl, Bob Hartwig, Kurt Hartwig, Tim Heeg, Laura Huber, Katlyn Kohl, Virginia Krause, Megan Kunder, Jessica Lindow, Steve Redmond, Josh Sabo, Mark Seefeldt, Andrew Seefeldt, Heather Wellach, and Laura Strigel.

EXCUSED: Amanda Budtke, Romelle Bymers, Mallory Ceyress, Betty Peterson, and Dave Urban,.

ABSENT: Beth Spindler, Tracy Benson, Emma Kunder,

GUEST: Richard Haffenbredl, Wendy Weber, and Ann Lindow

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: 2025 Judging Schedule

SECRETARY'S MINUTES: Approved as printed.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Approved as submitted.

FAIR BOARD REPORT: Dale reported that the roof of Grandma's Shelter was remodeled. There is still some painting to do. Work has been done on the grandstand. Fill was added to Pat's Barn. It was questioned about measuring the bedding. It will be spot checked when it is obviously high. This is a work in progress. The rule was made to highlight the issue and to keep bedding under 6 inches. DATCP rule on age will proceed as in the past. They will be working on clearer guidelines for next year.

EXTENSION REPORT: Laura reported that in 2024 there were 499 exhibitors with 4998 entries made. Of which 3658 were actually shown. For 2025 there are 493 exhibitors and 5206 items entered. Hand-outs were given to the superintendents with the dept. entry totals. If they would like more specific information, they need to email or call the Extension Office.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Improvements -Peg Boards and Signage Tracy was not in attendance so no decisions were made. The pegboard has been moved to the front of the blue barn.
- Superintendent's Workshop – Postcards were sent to all superintendents and were handed out at the meeting to Jr. Fair members. The food for the workshop is set. Heather is planning the menu and will be turning in the receipts.
- Judges – Most judge's contracts have been returned. Still need a cat judge and sheep judge.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Junior Fair Office Schedule – The schedule was sent around for members to sign up for a time.
- Overnight Supervision – Tim will cover Monday night. Heather will cover Tuesday and Wednesday.

- Entry Problems – A call was received by the fair office and transferred to Romelle. She called the family and told them to be at the meeting tonight. They did not show. No action was taken. A discussion was held on the fact that the entries have been open for 45 days + 1 extra day. There was one other family who missed the deadline. They have had issues in the past. Communications were had with them. They did not appear at the meeting tonight. No action was taken. An explorer would like to enter 2 pigs. There was no official ruling on allowing them to enter 2 pigs. It was decided that they can enter 2 pigs, but they can only show 1 pig. They must follow all the animal rules and both pigs must be documented with health papers. Further decision is up to the superintendent.
In the dairy department all paperwork must be first checked before they unload. There are 27 cows entered. Exhibitors will still need to provide their own milking equipment.
- Entry Day Food - There is \$500 in budget for this item. Lisa Blanchard will pick up the food from Stratford Family Foods. Heather will order it and supply snacks for the rest of fair week.
- Workday Schedule – Workday will be Saturday August 16th starting at 8 am in the Jr. Fair building. The barns will open at 9 am. The shavings should be there on that day. Swine & sheep barns will be set-up on Wed., August 13 at 6:30 pm.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

- Market Animal: The last YQC was due. There are 150-160 youth entered this year
- Dairy: Nothing to report
- Horse: There are still a few more lessons coming up. Receipts for the awards were submitted.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING: Judges, Jr. Fair Office Schedule, Peg Board Work, Signage.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, August 6, 2025 at the Jr. Fair Building following the superintendent's workshop. George moved to adjourn the meeting. Tim seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:04 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jodie Budtke



Board of Trustees

Meeting Minutes for

July 16, 2025

1. Call to Order: Vice President Schill called the meeting of the McMillan Library Board of Trustees to order at 5:00pm.

2. Roll Call:

Board Members:

Andrea Galván	Evan O'Day - excused	Conni O'Keefe
Dennis Martin	Karen Schill	Emily Kent
Michael Timm - excused	Ron Rasmussen	Susan Feith
William Clendenning	Scott Kellogg	Susan Faust

Administration: Heather Kinkade, Library Director

Others in Attendance: Kevin Fangman, community member

3. Open Meetings Declaration: Vice President Schill established that this was a public meeting and appropriate public notice with Zoom access was given.

4. Public Comment: None

5. Motion to move Nominating Committee presentation of slate of officers to item #5 in the agenda.

M1: R Rasmussen M2: B Clendenning. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Proposed slate of officers:

a. Conni O'Keefe - President

Andrea Galván - Vice President

Secretary - Evan O'Day

Other nominations from the floor:

Andrea Galván - President

b. Three calls for additional nominations from the floor

c. Secret vote cast for President

Conni O'Keefe chosen as President

d. Nomination for Vice-President - Andrea Galván

M1: Ron Rasmussen M2: Dennis Martin. Motion carried unanimously.

e. Nomination for Secretary - Evan O'Day

M1: Scott Kellogg M2: Conni O'Keefe. Motion carried unanimously.

Board of Trustees

7. Approval of Previous Minutes

Motion by Bill Clendenning to approve the minutes of the June 18, 2025 Board Meeting, second by Susan Feith. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Treasurer's Report

a. Monthly Finance Reports

June reconciliation matches

We have spent 46% of our budget as of 6/30/25

b. Payment of the Bills

Motion to pay July bills totaling \$38,120.51 M1: Ron Rasmussen M2: Susan Feith

Motion carries unanimously.

Motion to pay Endowment bills totaling \$2,709.00 M1: Ron Rasmussen M2: Conni O'Keefe. Motion carries unanimously.

Update from Susan Feith on Endowment Fund balance: \$3,547,364.06. Current income \$7,872.08 from previous quarter. Contributions from Wysocki \$20,000 (unrestricted) and Ron and Deb McCabe \$5,000 (restricted to concerts). Fees: \$998.82 (portfolio management).

The Endowment Fund board needs one additional member. Please let Conni know if you are interested in joining the Endowment Board.

9. Director's Report

a. Library Use and Events

Claire is now on maternity leave until October 16.

Bid opening at Jewell for new entrance was held on July 10. Joe Eichstaedt (CoWR) will review plans and then give Jewell notice to proceed. Ascent Construction came in with the lowest bid.

Heather marked 90 days as library director this past Monday.

Will be bringing a work-from-home policy to Personnel in August.

Summer reading program registrations up from last year.

250 attendees for aquatic park program

Adult summer reading program and teen reading program statistics included in packet.

b. Statistics

c. Miscellaneous

d. Meet the Board: Alicia Woodland, Teen Librarian (not able to attend tonite)

10. Committee Reports

a. Services Committee

Did not meet this month

b. Buildings & Grounds Committee

Did not meet this month

c. Finance Committee

Did not meet this month

d. Personnel Committee

Reviewed job descriptions

Board of Trustees

11. Unfinished Business

a. Library Board By-Laws Review

By-laws went to City of Wisconsin Rapids Attorney for review

One question regarding number of members on standing committees

The final red-lined version has now been sent to all members for review before voting on in August. The red-lined version and clean version will be presented at the August meeting.

New committees will continue to consist of “no fewer than three members” (per by-laws). No Board members will be excluded from serving on committees.

b. Elevator Project Update

Bid process was on July 10.

c. Term Limits

Mike Timm (representative from City Council planned to discuss with County Board Supervisor Pliml)

d. Nominating Committee Presents Slate of Officers - Moved to item #5 in the agenda

i. Last Call for Nominations - Moved to item #5 in the agenda

e. Election of Library Board Officers - Moved to item #5 in the agenda

f. Committee Appointments

Tabled until by-laws are approved

12. New Business

a. Draft 2026 Budget

Budget with slight notifications presented

b. Director Credit Card and Allowance

Motion to approve credit card with \$20,000 limit M1: Ron Rasmussen M2: Conni O’Keefe. Motion carries unanimously.

c. Radtke's Clean Energy Design Findings

Email from Josh and Jeremy Radtke along with photos included in packet

d. Job Descriptions Update

i. Customer Service Associate → Update to Library Associate

ii. Lead Associate of Patron Services

iii. Makerspace Lead Associate

iv. Tech Services Lead Associate

v. Children's Librarian

vi. Teen Librarian

vii. Technology & Adult Services Librarian → Update to Information Technology and Programming Librarian

Motion to approve updated job descriptions with amended titles for i and vii M1: Conni O’Keefe M2: Bill Clendenning. Motion carried unanimously.

13. Information Requests

None

14. Items for the Next Agenda

Jewell and CoWR City Engineer have opportunity to present information from the three bids



Board of Trustees

Contact Radtke Clean Energy to let them know we will be in touch with them regarding solar panels

State increased library system funding in annual budget

Bill review process (any volunteers?) – Heather will email out a proposed date for anyone interested in the learning process.

15. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Scott Kellogg, second by Conni O’Keefe. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned by Vice President Schill at 6:17pm.

Respectfully Submitted: Andrea Galván, Secretary

Emily Kent excused at 5:30

Ron Rasmussen excused at 6:10

MINUTES
South Central Library System Board of Trustees
July 24, 2025

Present: Joan Honl (Portage Co.), President; Susan Feith (Wood Co.), Secretary; Mary Nelson (Adams Co.), Treasurer; Richard Bloomquist (Dane Co.); Brenda Carus (Green Co., online); Chassitti Clark (Dane Co.); Bill Clendenning (Wood Co.); Joan Fordham (Sauk Co., online); Nancy Foth (Portage Co., online); Michael Howe (Dane Co.); Marlee Jorgensen (Dane Co., online); David Peterson (Dane Co., online); Gary Poulson (Dane Co., online); Henry St. Maurice (Columbia Co.); Amanda Smith (Dane Co.). **Administration:** Shannon Schultz, Director; Kerrie Goeden, HR & Finance Coordinator.

Absent: Gen Carter (MPL Rep.); Ann Mueller (Green Co., Alternate); Jacob Wright (Dane Co., excused), Vice President.

1. Call to Order

President J. Honl called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m.

2. Welcome and Introductions

None.

3. Changes/Additions to the Agenda

None.

4. Requests to Address the Board

None.

5. Approval of the Previous Meeting Minutes

Motion by M. Howe to approve the minutes of the June 26, 2025, Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes. Seconded by M. Nelson. **Motion carried unanimously.**

6. Review of Financial Statements

K. Goeden provided an overview the financial statements.

7. Presentation and Approval of Bills for Payment

Motion by M. Howe to approve bills for payment in the amount of \$494,375.67. Seconded by S. Feith. **Motion carried unanimously.**

8. Reports

a. Committees

i. Budget & Finance/Personnel Committees

Budget & Finance Committee Chair M. Nelson stated that the joint committees reviewed the 2026 preliminary draft budget for 2026. The committees will review the final draft budget on August 19 before making a recommendation to adopt the proposed 2026 budget at the September meeting.

b. System Director's Report

S. Schultz's report is available in the documents online.

8. Announcements and Information Sharing

- a. The next meeting will take place on August 28, 2025. The bill examiner will be N. Foth, with C. Clark serving as alternate. K. Goeden will also provide an overview of the Board's financial statements.
- b. President J. Honl shared that the SCLS Foundation's Cornerstone Event will take place from 5:30-7:30 p.m. on October 23, at Fireman's Park Pavilion in Columbus. She asked that all trustees mark their calendars and that the board will discuss possible contributions, such as gift baskets, in the near future.

9. Adjournment

Motion by B. Clendenning to adjourn, seconded by R. Bloomquist. **Motion carried unanimously.** Meeting adjourned by President J. Honl at 12:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: S. Schultz, System Director

BOT/Minutes/07-24-2025



RESOLUTION # 25-9-4

Introduced by: WOOD COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

RELATING TO THE LIFE AND PUBLIC SERVICE OF MARION HOKAMP

WHEREAS, it has pleased the Almighty to call from this transitory life former County Board Supervisor Marion Hokamp, and

WHEREAS, Supervisor Hokamp was born June 13, 1931, and passed from this world on September 1, 2025, and

WHEREAS, Supervisor Hokamp, along with her beloved husband Joe, owned and operated Hokamp’s Root Beer Stand. She also worked at Woolworths, Wisconsin Rapids Water & Light, the Wisconsin Rapids School District, and

WHEREAS, Supervisor Hokamp was elected to the Wood County Board of Supervisors in April of 1994, and served until April of 2020, being succeeded by her son, John, and

WHEREAS, Supervisor Hokamp served with honor and distinction on the Commission on Aging (Chair), Sheriff & Traffic, Legislative, Edgewater Haven Board of Trustees (Chair), Highway, Board of Health, Northern Area Agency on Aging, McMillan Library, South Central Library, Judicial, ADRC-CW Board, Highway Infrastructure & Recreation, Health & Human Services Committees, and University Commission, and

WHEREAS, Supervisor Hokamp enjoyed the respect of her colleagues and the service organizations to which he belonged, including service as a member of the Wisconsin Rapids Common Council, Coalition of Ageing Group, and the Wood County Employees Credit Union Board, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wood County Board of Supervisors commend Supervisor Marion Hokamp’s public service, express their sorrow at her passing, and extend condolences to his family and friends.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be given to her son, Supervisor John Hokamp, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we stand in silence for one minute in respect to her passing.

WOOD COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Adopted by the Wood County Board of Supervisors this 16th day of September 2025.