

MINUTES OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, August 4, 2026

TIME: 10:00 AM

PLACE: Courthouse – Rm 300

MEMBERS PRESENT: Laura Valenstein, Donna Rozar, Lance Pliml, Jake Hahn (WebEx), 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/Pliml to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried unanimously.
4. Kelly Borchardt from Childcaring updated the committee on the ARPA dollars they were awarded and have spent to date. She reviewed the capacity grant applications as well as the shared services dollars spent.
5. Wood County has issued bonds to Bug Tussel to provide high speed internet to the county. This was done in conjunction with around 12-15 other counties and questions have arisen on just how much they have done and been providing. Attoles Law has stated they will look into exactly what has transpired since the bonds have been let. Motion by Rozar/Zurfluh to engage with Attoles Law to review the status of the bonding. Motion carried unanimously.
6. Wellness Coordinator Peterson provided a monthly update on Wellness programming.
7. Justin Fischer from Baird presented the bond information for the 2027 borrowing. He reviewed the county's financials and noted the increases in equalized value received over the past few years and the bond rates to date. Motion by Pliml/Rozar to approve the initial resolution for borrowing not to exceed \$4.5 million in general obligation promissory notes. Motion carried unanimously.
8. A resolution to hire a case worker for the Deferred Prosecution Agreement and Deferred Entry of Judgment programs was reviewed by the committee. Criminal Justice Coordinator Ksionek provided background. Motion by Pliml/Zurfluh to approve the resolution and forward it onto the county board for their consideration. Motion carried unanimously.

9. Yang reviewed the updated 2027 CIP with the committee as well as the funding sources. Motion by Rozar/Zurfluh to move forward with \$4.5 million in borrowing for 2027. Motion carried unanimously.
10. HR Director McGrath and Tim Deaton from the Horton Group reviewed the most current and projected claims for the Health Fund. He presented several options for the committee to consider for the 2027 renewal, including an 8% increase in premiums, adding Anovia Direct Primary Care, adding Holista Bundle Program, increasing primary care co-pays, as well as medication co-pays, and using Smart Scan for MRIs. Motion by Rozar/Pliml to approve the 2027 renewal projection as well as program recommendations outlined in the committee packet. Motion carried unanimously.
11. McGrath reviewed the current practice of paying Norwood social workers holiday pay in addition to staffing hours on holidays. This is due to the fact that social workers are a 24/7 function. This has been past practice but never formalized into a policy. Motion by Valenstein/Zurfluh to memorialize the aforementioned practice into the Wood County Policy Handbook, under Holiday Policy. Motion carried unanimously.
12. McGrath discussed a current employee that is in a dual role within the county for two different departments. Current county policy is that exempt employees do not get paid for any time worked over 40 hours, however this social worker works 40 hours for human services and picks up hours as a casual employee at Norwood. Motion by Valenstein/Pliml to allow this employee to be paid for working over 40 hours (not overtime pay) for the hours worked in the casual position. Motion carried unanimously.
13. The next monthly meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 1, 2026, at 10:00 AM.
14. Chair Valenstein adjourned the meeting at 11:22 AM.

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

Operations Committee

August 4, 2026

NAME	REPRESENTING
Bill Voight	WCB 07
DENNIS POLAKH	WCB 14
Bill Clendinning	WCB 15
Dillon Ksionek	CS
Tim Deaton	MMA - Horton
PAMPA Y	Finance
DARRIN S	Finance
JOHN PECKHAM	HIGHWAY
MariSSa Kannek	Norwood
Joe Ginz	Health
Lisa Lewandowski	Aspirus
Jason Gruenberg	P+Z
Riley Peterson	Wellness
Nick Flanagan	Carp Counsel
BRANDON DRUWINK	HSD
JUSTIN CIESLEWICZ	EDGBWATR
Kim McGrath	HR
Kelli Szymanski	HR
Kimberly Shmal	Clerk of Courts
Tim Barendse	WCD #3
Via WebEx	
Sarah Christensen - Emer Mgmt	Amy Kays - IT
"Mtn" ?	Shawn Becker - Sheriff's Dept
Linda Casper - County Board	Tiffany Ringer - Reg of Needs
Mary Schlagenhaff - Human Services	Michelle Wilk - Finance
Quentin Ellis - Sheriff's Dept	Katie Miloch - Human Services
Tony Bastien - Dispatch	Katie DeKleyn - County Clerk
Kelly Borchardt - Childcare	Jason DeMarco - IT