

AGENDA
WOOD COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

DATE: Tuesday, May 19, 2026
TIME: 9:30 AM
LOCATION: County Board Room

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

INVOCATION: Supervisor Hahn

READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 21, 2026, COUNTY BOARD MEETING

EXCUSALS:

RESIGNATIONS:

APPOINTMENTS/Re-APPOINTMENTS

Chair's Appointments to Committees & Commissions – 2026-2028 (As attached)

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.

SET DATE FOR NEXT COUNTY BOARD MEETING – Tuesday, June 23, 2026 – NOTE DATE CHANGE

July County Board Meeting Date Change Request due to NACo Conference – Tuesday, July 28, 2026

ADJOURN

Join by phone

+1-408-418-9388 United States Toll

Meeting number (access code): 2483 272 3568

Join by WebEx App or Web

<https://woodcountywi.webex.com/woodcountywi/j.php?MTID=mecf389d69f6009c0912e2604df707411>

Meeting number (access code): 2483 272 3568

Meeting password: 051926

PROCEEDINGS OF THE WOOD COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

April 21, 2026 – 9:30 a.m.

The Wood County Board of Supervisors, composed of nineteen members convened in the Wood County Boardroom at the Courthouse in Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin on April 21, 2026.

County Clerk Miner called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. and administered the Oath of Office to the newly seated Board of Supervisors.

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

Supervisor Voight gave the invocation led the Pledge of Allegiance.

County Clerk Miner opened the floor for nominations for County Board Chair. Zurfluh nominated Pliml. There being no other nominations, Miner declared that Pliml had been duly elected County Board Chair.

Miner opened the floor for nominations for 1st Vice Chair. Hamilton nominated Valenstein. Clendenning nominated Hahn. There being no other nominations, Miner appointed Chief Deputy County Clerk DeKleyn and Corporation Counsel Flanagan as ballot tellers. Balloting completed and counted, Hahn was duly elected 1st Vice Chair.

Miner opened the floor for nominations for 2nd Vice Chair. Hamilton nominated Zurfluh. There being no other nominations, Miner declared that Zurfluh had been duly elected as 2nd Vice Chair.

Pliml assumed the gavel.

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

Motion by Breu/Schulz to approve the following appointments: Land Information Council – 2 year term: Paul Bernard, Andrew Jennings, Brian Spranger, Tony Bastien, Kevin Boyer, Allen Breu; Wood County Library Board – 3-year term: Brad Hamilton, Joseph Zurfluh, Linda Schmidt, Rachel Stankowski; McMillan Library Board of Trustees – 3-year term: Susan Feith, Bill Clendenning; CEED Committee Producer Member – 2-year term: George Gilbertson. Motion carried via voice vote.

There were no public comments.

Chairman Pliml recognized outgoing Supervisor Brehm for his years of service on the county board and presented him with a plaque.

The referrals were noted.

Committee minutes presented: Operations.

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

RESOLUTION 26-4-1

Introduced by: Operations Committee

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To amend the 2025 Employee Health Fund (51430) budget for additional expenditures that were not anticipated during the original budget process.

FISCAL NOTE: No cost to Wood County. The source of the funding is unanticipated revenues and use of cash reserves in the Employee Health retained earnings account. The adjustment to the budget is as follows:

Function	Account Name	Debit	Credit
47410	Health Fund Dept Charges	\$242,068	
48440	Health Fund Stop Loss Reimb.	\$121,648	
48113	Unrealized Gain/Loss on Invest.	\$ 94,677	
48114	Investment Interest	\$ 22,416	
33990	EE Health Retained Earnings	\$972,969	
51430	EE Health Fund		\$1,453,778

Motion by Zurfluh/Rozar to adopt Resolution 26-4-1. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION 26-4-2

Introduced by: Operations Committee

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To amend the 2025 budget for Property and Liability Insurance (51931) for higher than anticipated deductible expenses.

FISCAL NOTE: The source of funding is unanticipated revenues from Insurance Recoveries (48440) and transfers of \$63,106 from available balance in contingency (51590) to the Property and Liability Insurance budget (51931). At the time of this request the funds available in contingency are \$600,000. The adjustment to the budget is as follows:

Account	Account Name	Debit	Credit
51931	Property & Liability Insurance		\$400,902
48440	Insurance Recoveries	\$337,796	
51590	Contingency	\$63,106	

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

RESOLUTION 26-4-3

Introduced by: Judicial & Legislative and Operations Committees

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To amend the 2025 Criminal Justice (51240) budget for additional expenditures not anticipated during the original budget process:

FISCAL NOTE: The source of funding is unanticipated revenues from Criminal Justice-State Aid and available contingency funds. At the time of this request, the funds available in contingency are \$600,000. The adjustment to the budget is as follows:

Account	Account Name	Debit	Credit
51240	Criminal Justice		\$78,385
43515	C. Justice-State Aid	\$76,109	
51590	Contingency	\$2,276	

Motion by Zurfluh/Rozar to adopt Resolution 26-4-3. Motion carried unanimously.

Committee Minutes presented: Health & Human Services, North Central Community Action Program Board of Directors, Public Safety, Traffic Safety Commission, Conservation, Education, & Economic Development, North Central Wisconsin Tourism Partnership Board of Directors, North Central Wisconsin Tourism Partnership Tourism, Judicial & Legislative, Criminal Justice Task Force, Highway Infrastructure & Recreation, Property & Information Technology, Central Wisconsin State Fair Board.

Without objection, Chairman Pliml adjourned the meeting at 9:58 AM. Next scheduled county board meeting is May 19, 2026.

Trent Miner
County Clerk

Katie DeKleyn
Chief Deputy County Clerk

WOOD COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS 2026-2028

Chairperson Lance A. Pliml
1st Vice Chairperson Jake Hahn
2nd Vice Chairperson Joseph H. Zurfluh

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Laura Valenstein, Chair
Donna Rozar, Vice Chair
Jake Hahn
Lance Pliml
Joseph H. Zurfluh

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

Donna Rozar, Chair
Lee Thao, Vice Chair
Tom Buttke
Laura Valenstein
Linda Casper

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Joseph H. Zurfluh, Chair
Brad Hamilton, Vice Chair
William Voight
Jeff Penzkover
Dennis Polach

CONSERVATION, EDUCATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Bill Leichtnam, Chair
Tom Buttke, Vice Chair
Wayne Schulz
Russ Perlock
Tim Hovendick

JUDICIAL COMMITTEE & LEGISLATIVE

Bill Clendenning, Chair
William Voight, Vice Chair
Russ Perlock
Tim Hovendick
Bill Leichtnam

HIGHWAY INFRASTRUCTURE & RECREATION

Jake Hahn, Chair
Allen Breu, Vice Chair
Wayne Schulz
Lee Thao
Jeff Penzkover

PROPERTY & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Allen Breu, Chair
Dennis Polach, Vice Chair
Paul Goldberg
Linda Casper
Brad Hamilton

Aging and Disability Resource Center Committee ADRC

Bill Clendenning
Paul Goldberg

Central Records Advisory Committee

Joseph H. Zurfluh

Criminal Justice Task Force

Lance Pliml

Ethics Committee

Jake Hahn

Fair Boards:

Board of Marshfield Fairground Commission

Tom Buttke
Wayne Schulz
Jeff Penzkover

Central Wisconsin State Fair - Board of Directors

Brad Hamilton

Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development

Bill Clendenning

North Central WI Tourism Partnership Board of Directors

Brad Hamilton (Chair's Designee)
Lance Pliml (At-Large Member)

Liaison Officer

William Voight

Liaison Officer to Ho-Chunk Nation

William Voight

Library Boards:

McMillian Memorial Library Board (Note to Chrm – do not appoint to this – these are 3 yr terms – only appoint if this CB member did not get re-elected)
Bill Clendenning

Wood County Library Board (Note to Chrm – do not appoint to this – these are 3 yr terms – only appoint if this CB member did not get re-elected)
Joseph H. Zurfluh
Brad Hamilton

South Central Library Board (Note to Chrm – do not appoint to this – these are 3 yr terms – only appoint if this CB member did not get re-elected)
Bill Clendenning

Local Emergency Planning Committee – Hazardous Waste

Paul Goldberg

North Central Community Action Board –Term: Indefinite

Laura Valenstein

Advance Wisconsin Employment

Bill Leichtnam

Northeast Wisconsin Public Safety Communications (NEWCOM)

Wayne Schulz

PACE Commission

Laura Valenstein

Security and Facilities Committee

Wayne Schulz

State Wildlife Advisory Committee

Dennis Polach

Traffic Safety Commission

Joseph H. Zurfluh

University Commission – UW Marshfield/Wood County

Donna Rozar

Al Breu

Jake Hahn

Wood County Board Chaplain

Joseph H. Zurfluh

WOOD COUNTY BOARD SUPERVISORS AND COMMITTEES
2026-2028

Breu, Al

Highway Infrastructure & Recreation, Vice Chair
Property & Information Technology, Chair
UW Commission

Buttke, Tom

Health & Human Services
Conservation, Education, & Economic Development, Vice Chair
Fairgrounds Commission

Casper, Linda

Health & Human Services
Property & Information Technology

Clendenning, Bill

Judicial & Legislative, Chair
ADRC
Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development
McMillan Memorial Library Board
South Central Library Board of Trustees

Goldberg, Paul

Property & Information Technology
ADRC-CW
Local Emergency Planning Committee

Hahn, Jake

Operations
Highway Infrastructure & Recreation, Chair
University Commission
Ethics Committee

Hamilton, Brad

Public Safety, Vice Chair
Property & Information Technology
Wood County Library Board
CW State Fair Board of Directors
North Central WI Tourism Partnership Board of Directors

Hovendick, Tim

Conservation, Education, & Economic Development
Judicial & Legislative

Leichtnam, Bill

Conservation, Education & Economic Development, Chair
Judicial & Legislative
Advance Wisconsin Employment
Land Information Council, Chair

Perlock, Russ

Conservation, Education, & Economic Development
Judicial & Legislative

Pliml, Lance

Operations
Criminal Justice Task Force
North Central WI Tourism Partnership Board of Directors

Penzkover, Jeff

Public Safety
Highway Infrastructure & Recreation
Fairgrounds Commission

Polach, Dennis

Public Safety
Property & Information Technology, Vice Chair
State Wildlife Advisory Committee

Rozar, Donna

Operations, Vice Chair
Health & Human Services, Chair
University Commission

Schulz, Wayne

Conservation, Education, & Economic Development
Highway Infrastructure & Recreation
Fairgrounds Commission
NE Wisconsin Public Safety Commission
Security & Facilities Committee

Thao, Lee

Health & Human Services, Vice Chair
Highway Infrastructure & Recreation

Valenstein, Laura

Operations, Chair
Health & Human Services
North Central Community Action Board
PACE Commission

Voight, William

Public Safety
Judicial & Legislative, Vice Chair
Liaison Officer
Liaison Officer to HoChunk Nation

Zurfluh, Joseph

Operations
Public Safety, Chair
Wood County Library Board
Central Records Advisory
Traffic Safety Commission
Chaplain

REFERRALS FOR MAY 19, 2026 – COUNTY BOARD

- NONE

MINUTES OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, May 5, 2026

TIME: 10:00 AM

PLACE: Courthouse – Rm 302

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

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

1. Chair Valenstein called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.
2. There was no public comment.
3. Chair Valenstein opened the floor for nominations for Vice Chair of the Operations Committee. Zurfluh nominated Rozar. There being no other nominations, Chair Valenstein declared that Rozar has been duly elected as Vice Chair.
4. Motion by Rozar/Zurfluh to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried unanimously.
5. County Clerk Miner presented a resolution increased the marriage license fee, effective January 1, 2027. Motion by Rozar/Hahn to approve the resolution and forward it onto the county board for their consideration. Motion carried unanimously.
6. Wellness Coordinator Peterson provided a monthly update on Wellness programming.
7. Finance Director Yang presented 4 resolutions amending both the 2025 budget and 2026 budget. Chair Valenstein indicated that these would be voted on with one vote. No objection heard. They include:
 - Amend 2025 Budget – ADRC
 - Amend 2025 Budget – HS Community, Edgewater, Norwood
 - Amend 2026 Budget – LWCD Surface Water Grant Nepco
 - Amend 2026 Budget – LWCD Surface Water Grant FourmileMotion by Zurfluh/Hahn to approve the budget resolutions as presented and forward onto the county board for their consideration. Motion carried unanimously.
8. Yang reviewed the proposed year end transfers from Human Services to the General Fund. Human Services Director Vruwink provided an explanation of the amounts. Motion by Rozar/Hahn to approve the following transfers to the General Fund, pending final adjustments by the auditors:
 - Human Services – Community: \$864,415.64

- Norwood - \$1,566,317.39
- Edgewater Haven - \$238,920.84

Motion carried unanimously.

9. Yang reviewed the proposed CIP for 2027 totaling \$14,824,257. A meeting of the Operation Committee and the affected Department Heads will be held on Tuesday, June 9, 2026, at 10:00 AM.
10. Yang reviewed the proposed debt service timeline, with the initial resolution for borrowing coming in August.
11. HR Director McGrath reviewed the current status of the health fund and the updated stop-loss cases affecting the financial picture. Continued updated information will be shared with the committee at their next meeting.
12. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 2, 2026, at 10:00 AM.
13. Chair Valenstein adjourned the meeting at 10:27 AM.

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



Wood County

WISCONSIN

OFFICE OF THE
COUNTY CLERK

Trent Miner

Letter of Comments – May 2026

- Before I get to my usual statistics of the Spring Election, I want to address a social media post that hit on Election Day. A graphic appeared on a page that endorsed candidates for that election. This included the Supreme Court, Branch 3 Judge, County Board, and Marshfield City Council. At the top, it stated it was put out by the Republican Party of Wood County. It was not. At the bottom it listed Wood County Clerk, with our contact information on it. It looked as if I was the one doing the endorsing and posting. I posted a reply to this post under my personal Facebook account that I did not have anything to do with that graphic and **ABSOLUTELY WOULD NEVER, EVER, EVER**, endorse candidates on the ballot in Wood County. It is my signature on the certification of those elections, and this office must not only appear, it **MUST** be impartial in how we administer our elections. The author did pull that original posting down. However it was replaced with a posting that had a disclaimer on it stating that the endorsements did not come out of my office or the actual party but because my office was still listed at the bottom of that disclaimer, it looked like I was the one that authored it. A post like this can, and I am sure has, left questions in some people's minds about my integrity and impartiality.

Let me be perfectly clear. As I stated in my reply on that page, I **ABSOLUTELY WOULD NEVER, EVER, EVER**, endorse candidates on the ballot in Wood County. I do not sign nomination papers for anyone, to which Vice Chair Hahn can attest when he stopped by our house and asked if I would sign his nomination papers this winter. Granted, my office is a partisan one. I run in the November election as a Republican. I am a Republican. However, when I took this office, I made a conscious decision not to engage in any partisan or election related activities aimed at choosing one candidate over another. This is the same exact way my predecessor, a Democrat, ran her office. We work hard to keep politics out of this office. Decisions we make and the guidance and training we provide to the clerks, chief inspectors, and the public are rooted in the statutes, not political affiliation.

- The Spring Election went well, overall. Total percentage turnout (of registered voters) was 45.82%. Not a bad showing for the Spring Election. Less than a year ago, but there just was not the attention paid to the Supreme Court race this year as there was last year. Top turnouts from the municipalities were Town of Cranmoor = 55.32%; Town of Grand Rapids = 51.13%; Town of Hansen = 51.11%. I posted the first results at 8:12 PM and had everyone posted online by 9:09 PM. I know we beat most everyone in the state. And, as I always say, our website is so much better than anyone else's in the state. Much more interactive with ability to drill down on the information farther than anyone else. Chris in IT is a magician when it comes to our website.
- The Chief Deputy and myself assisted the City of Wisconsin Rapids for a recount in Aldermanic District #4. After a couple of bumps in the road during the recount, the results remained the same as election night.

County Clerk Comments – page 2

- My office is finishing up on annual directory. I have once again cut down on the number of directories I am printing to try and save on costs. The county board will get a hard copy, and I will have a few available to those that want a hard copy, but I am not automatically going to give them out to every town, village, or city official. We have determined most do not want them. Over half of them never picked up their copies last year. We will have the most current version on the county’s website.
- I was supposed to do a presentation for the Towns Association meeting in April, but severe weather ended up cancelling the meeting. I have now been asked by the next host town to do the presentation in May.
- I filed the maintenance of effort documents for this year as required by law. Recall, this has to do with the Shared Revenue package that passed the legislature in 2023.
- You will note a resolution in packet looking to raise the marriage license fee for 2027. I know this budget will, again, be challenging. This will help offset some of the levy increase in my department. Both Marathon and Portage Counties are moving to this amount in 2027 as well. We all discussed this as a group and want to make sure we are all relatively equal moving forward. The last time we increased this amount went into effect in 2019.
- We are already starting to program the elections for the August Partisan Primary and the November General Election. The programming is more complicated for the Partisan Primary since voters must vote in one party and not cross over which requires additional programming, and subsequent L&A testing.
- I want to take a moment to, once again, give kudos to our website. I find it much easier to navigate than other county’s pre-canned versions. Not only do we post the agendas and meeting times, but the meeting packets and subsequent minutes are all posted within the actual meeting page. In addition, the videos of the county board meeting are also posted with the county board meeting detail. Here is the link to the last county board meeting. If you scroll down to the bottom, you will note the video is there as well.

<https://woodcountywi.gov/CountyBoard/MeetingDetail.aspx?MeetingID=4667>

Meeting Information

Meeting Of	Wood County Board of Supervisors
Date	Tuesday, April 21, 2026
Time	9:30 AM
Location	Courthouse County Board Rm 400 Market St Wisc Rapids, WI
Status	
Agenda	Agenda
Packet	Packet
Minutes	Minutes
Videos	

- Board of Supervisors
- Committees
- Meetings
- Manage Members
- Manage Pictures
- Manage Boards
- Manage Committees
- Manage Meetings

Wood County Board of Supervisors - April 21, 2026





Wood County

WISCONSIN

Office of
Finance Director

PaNyia Yang
Finance Director

Date: 4/29/2026
To: Operations Committee
From: PaNyia Yang
Subject: Monthly Letter of Comments

DEPARTMENTAL ACTIVITIES

Finance Department Updates

1. ARPA Funds

As of March 31, 2026, we have roughly \$3.27 million remaining – the majority being \$2.6 million of park improvements/building, \$505,000 for radio system updates, Land & Water Conservation of \$104,000 for various projects, and Planning & Zoning of \$43,700 for LiDAR. Funds must be expended by the end of 2026.

2. Audit Kick-off

Our annual audit with Wipfli kicks off this week. In a shift from previous years, the process will be fully remote. While we value the face-to-face time we've had in the past, moving entirely online is more efficient for the audit team and eliminates travel and lodging costs. Thanks to the hard work of all departments involved, we've already uploaded most of the required documentation. We appreciate everyone's help in getting this information to Finance so quickly! Hoping for another great audit year.

3. New ERP System

With our financial software, Dynamics GP, reaching its end-of-life in 2029, IT has been actively evaluating RFP submissions for a replacement. We met with IT this month and went over vendors and pricing. Vendor demos will be scheduled in the next month. Software migrations are a big undertaking, but we're committed to finding a new platform that will work for our needs and our budget.

AGENDA ITEMS

Resolutions

1. Amend 2025 Budget – Aging and Disability Resource Center

This resolution seeks to amend the 2025 Aging and Disability Resource Center budget of \$33,642. The ADRC spent more than what was budgeted, but the difference will just come from their cash reserves. Therefore, there is no fiscal impact.

2. Amend 2025 Budget – HS Community, Edgewater, and Norwood

This is an annual housekeeping resolution to amend the previous year's budgets for Human Services. Overages in expenditures will be covered by either additional state aids or transfers of available appropriations from other functions.



Wood County

WISCONSIN

Office of
Finance Director

PaNyia Yang
Finance Director

3. Amend 2026 Budget – Land and Water Conservation Development (Surface Water Grant Nepco)

This resolution seeks to amend the 2026 budget for Land and Water Conservation for unanticipated DNR grant monies of \$37,531.80 for the purpose of testing water quality at the inlets and outlets of Nepco and Lake Wazeecha. There is no fiscal impact.

4. Amend 2026 Budget – Land and Water Conservation Development (Surface Water Grant Fourmile)

This resolution seeks to amend the 2026 budget for Land and Water Conservation for unanticipated DNR grant monies of \$37,631 for the purpose of testing water quality in the Fourmile Creek watershed. There is no fiscal impact.

Year-end Transfers from HS Community, Edgewater, and Norwood

Based on current estimates, we expect to transfer \$2,669,653.87 to the General Fund. This total comes from Community (\$864,415.64), Norwood (\$1,566,317.39), and Edgewater (\$238,920.84). For Norwood and Edgewater, I have retained enough funds to maintain a 15% working capital reserve (exceeding the GFOA-recommended 12% or 45 days of operating expenditure) and to cover requested capital project carryovers. I will ask the committee to motion for the transfer of unused levy—pending final audit entries—to the General Fund, consistent with last year’s process. A summary of the calculations for each department is provided in the packet also.

Preliminary CIP Discussion

The committee will receive the 2027-2031 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) information for review and analysis. Included in the packet is a summary of 2027 requests categorized by funding source, noting a debt funding request of \$11,788,023. I’d like the committee to schedule a special meeting in June to review these requests in detail with the relevant Department Heads.

Debt Timeline

The packet includes a tentative financing timetable for this year’s debt borrowing. We aim to bring a parameters resolution for the GO Promissory Notes to the County Board at the August meeting. To stay on schedule, I would like to provide Baird with the final borrowing amount and the anticipated CIP project breakdown by June or July.



Wood County WISCONSIN

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

April 30, 2026

To: Wood County Operations Committee

From: Kimberly McGrath, Director- Human Resources

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

Human Resources Activity

	April 2026	2026 Year-to Date
Applications Received	165	555
Positions Filled	12	44
Promotions/Transfers	7	11
New Hire Orientations	9	32
Terminations, Voluntary	9*	35
Terminations, Involuntary	2	3
Retirements	2	4
Turnover Rate	1.84%	5.92%
Exit Interviews	3	16

*Four of these are casual

Human Resources Narrative

General Highlights

1. The annual Wage Grade Appeal process opened on April 1st and will remain open through May 31st. Department Heads were notified of the timeline and process to share appropriately with staff, as well as cost information. All appeals received within the two-month window will be sent to McGrath Human Resources Group on June 1st. McGrath will review them and provide a recommendation to the Committee at their July meeting as final wage grades will be necessary as departments begin entering their 2027 budget.

Meetings & Trainings

1. Attended the Operations Committee meeting on April 7th.
2. Attended and presented at the County Board Supervisor Orientation on April 15th.
3. Attended the Highway, Infrastructure, & Recreation Committee on April 20th.
4. Attended County Board on April 21st.
5. Attended “In the Board Room with Andy Phillips” via webinar on April 22nd where the topic presented was “Compliance with ADA & FMLA”.
6. Attended von Briesen’s Breakfast Briefing webinar on April 23rd where the topic presented was “The High Cost of Getting it Wrong: Wage & Hour Compliance for Employers”.

7. Attended the monthly conference call with The Horton Group on April 28th to discuss various benefit topics.
8. Held individual staff and team meetings to discuss and provide updates on the department's identified 2026 goals.
9. 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. Currently running an Indeed campaign for nursing positions at Edgewater and Norwood.
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	Child Support	Intake Worker	Position posted; interviews conducted, filled internally 4/20/26
Replacements	County Clerk	County Board	Appointments selected
Replacement	Dispatch	Lead Dispatcher	Filled internally 4/12/26
New Position	Victim Witness/ District Attorney	VW Program Asst (50%)	Position posted; interviews conducted, references completed, offer extended and accepted, filled 4/2026
New Position	District Attorney	Legal Administrative Assistant	Position posted; deadline 5/4/26
Replacements	Edgewater	CNA, RN, LPN, and Dietary Assistant – (Multiple)	Ongoing recruitment- positions posted, applications reviewed, interviews, references, backgrounds, onboarding. Deadline 6/8/26
Replacement	Health	Supervisor of Strategic Initiatives	Position posted; deadline 4/27/26
Replacement(s)	Highway	LTE Truck Operators	Position posted; checking references/DL

Replacement(s)	Highway	Summer Help	Position posted; interviews conducted, offers extended and accepted, two positions filled, start dates to be determined
Replacements	Human Services	Mental Health/SUD Therapist (2)	Positions posted; interviews conducted, references completed, offer extended and accepted for one vacancy, filled 4/20/26. 2 nd position, references/background being conducted
Replacement	Human Services	Family Interaction Worker	Positions posted; deadline 5/4/26
Replacements (2)	Human Services	Mental Health Case Mgr (CCS Service Facilitator)	Position posted; interviews conducted, filled both positions internally 5/11/26
New positions (3)	Human Services	CLTS Support & Service Coordinators (I & II)	Positions posted; deadline 5/11/26, one position filled 2/23/26
Replacement	Human Services	Mental Health Case Mgr (EMH/APS Coordinator)	Position posted; deadline 5/18/26
Replacement	Human Services	Case Mgr/SW – IA	Position posted; deadline 5/4/26
Replacement	Human Services	Case Mgr/SW – Ongoing	Position posted; deadline 5/11/26
Replacement	Human Services	Admin Asst II – CCS/CSP	Position posted; deadline 4/27/26
Replacement	Human Services	Admin Asst II – FS/Payroll	Position posted; deadline 5/11/26
Replacement	Human Services	Birth to Three Coordinator	Position posted; interviews being conducted
Replacement	Human Services	Economic Support Specialist	Position posted; deadline 5/4/26
Replacement	Human Services	Youth Mentor Case Mgr	Position posted; deadline 5/18/26
Replacement	Human Services	Fiscal Services Supervisor	Position posted; deadline 5/11/26
New Position	IT/Systems	Programmer/Analyst	Position posted; deadline 5/4/26
Replacement	Land Conservation	LWCD Summer Intern	Internship filled 5/18/26
New Position	Maintenance	Maintenance Technician (moved from Building Automation Specialist)	Position posted; 2 nd interviews conducted on 3/25/26, references/background/DL checked, offer extended and accepted, filled 5/26/26
Replacements	Norwood	Mental Health Technicians, Dietary Aides, RN, and LPN	Ongoing recruitment- positions posted, applications reviewed, interviews, references, backgrounds, onboarding; deadline 7/13/26
Replacement	Norwood	Food Services Supervisor	Position posted; deadline 5/11/26
Replacement	Norwood	Cook	Position posted; interviews being conducted
Replacement	Norwood	Head Nurse – LTC	Position posted; deadline 5/18/26
Replacement	Norwood	Maintenance Technician	Position posted; deadline 5/18/26
Replacement	Parks	Summer Help	Position posted; multiple interviews conducted, references completed, offer extended and positions filled
Replacement	Parks	Camp Ranger – CERA Park	Position posted; interviews conducted, references/DL check completed, offer extended and accepted, filled 4/8/26
Replacement	Parks	Program Assistant	Position posted; interviews conducted, references completed, offer extended and accepted, filled 4/27/26
Replacement	Sheriff	Deputy Sheriff – Establish Eligibility List	Position posted; offer extended internally, filled 3/30/26

Replacements	Sheriff	Correction Officers	Position posted; deadline 5/11/26. Interviews conducted, references completed, offer and acceptance received for two vacancies, filled 3/2/26 and 3/23/26
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Safety/Risk Management

1. Managed open claims with Aegis/Charles Taylor throughout the month.
2. Corresponded with various insurers regarding claims and pending litigation.
3. Conducted N95 fit testing for 32 staff and six (6) students of Edgewater Haven and five (5) Highway Department employees on April 6th, 7th, and 23rd.
4. Attended Edgewater Safety Committee on April 1st and Norwood Safety Committee on April 21st.
5. Conducted AHA HeartSaver First Aid/CPR for 14 total Highway staff on April 20th, 27th, and 28th.
6. Attended Heart of Wisconsin Chamber Network Exchange for HR/Safety on April 29th.

NEW Workers' Compensation Claims (4)

1. 12/15/25 – District Attorney – Employee alleges health concerns due to environmental factors in the Courthouse (late report)
2. 4/3/26 – Norwood – Employee suffered knee/back injury while assisting resident during fire drill
3. 4/13/26 – Norwood – Employee suffered R lower back/hip injury while repositioning resident
4. 4/16/26 – Sheriff's – Employee injured R knee while participating in K9 training

OPEN Workers' Compensation Claims (5)

1. 2/12/25 – EM – Employee slipped on ice, fell on L side hauling debris to bin at EM Shop (surgery required)
2. 7/13/25 – Health – Employee injured L knee after falling at work-related conference
3. 1/20/26 – Sheriff's (Corrections) – Employee injured L knee while responding to emergency in Jail (surgery required)
4. 2/6/26 – Norwood – Employee strained lower back while transferring resident
5. 3/15/26 – Sheriff's – Employee injured L arm after slipping on ice while assisting citizen on roadside

CLOSED Workers' Compensation Claims (1)

1. 12/26/25 – Edgewater – Employee injured R side of body slipping on ice while leaving work

First Aid Injuries (3)

1. 4/2/26 – Edgewater – Employee was struck in L side of face by resident
2. 4/13/26 – Norwood – Employee strained R lower back and R hip while positioning resident
3. 4/17/26 – Highway – Employee injured R upper arm/back while carrying snow fence in private field

Property/Vehicle Damage Claims (1)

1. 4/22/26 – Sheriff's – Squad struck deer while on routine patrol (est. damage unknown)

Liability Claims (1)

1. 4/2/26 – Highway – Claimant alleges siding damage while Highway Department crews were cutting trees during ice storm (est. damage \$300.00)

OPEN EEOC/ERD Claims (1)

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.

Other

1. Created and distributed the Monthly Manager Resource, titled “The Importance of Accurate Job Descriptions” to all Wood County managers and supervisors.
2. Quarter 2 Random DOT Selection Lists sent to affected departments, deadline 6/1/26.
3. Posted multiple announcements on LinkedIn and Facebook throughout the month. These include job advertisements, employee recognition, and other relevant community-focused announcements.
4. Worked with Unemployment Insurance (UI) to provide additional information regarding multiple claims. Worked with various departments to compile information needed.
5. Received and processed multiple invoices for HR, Safety & Risk, and Wellness.
6. Facilitated New Hire Orientation on April 6th, 13th, 20th, 21st, and 27th.
7. Conducted exit interviews on April 21st, 22nd, and 28th.
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—MAY 2026

1. Wired our bonding interest payment out to DTCC on April 1.
2. Participated in a zoom call with three + one representatives regarding cash investments on April 1.
3. Attended Wisconsin Counties Association weekly calls on Mondays in April.
4. Participated via zoom for the Operations Committee meeting on April 7.
5. Cleared from the Dr. and able to come back to work in the office on April 14!!!!!!!
6. Participated with the County Clerk and Chief Deputy Clerk in canvas on April 14.
7. Paid out all taxing jurisdictions their Lottery Credit money on April 15.
8. Attended Foundation for Rural Housing Board of Directors meeting in Wisconsin Dells on April 20.
9. Met with a representative from three + one in the office on April 21.
10. Participated in a meeting with other county employees regarding the replacement of our financial system/payroll/ap program on April 23.
11. Attended United Way Board of Directors Officer Meeting on April 24.
12. Met with the County's new representatives at WoodTrust Bank as the bank restructures focus areas on April 29.
13. Participated in a meeting with Corporation Counsel and Real Property Lister on April 29.



Wood County

WISCONSIN

Letter of Comments – April 2026

- The table below indicates statistics from the last three years of the qualifying activities. The number for health coaching will continue to increase as I will be conducting health coaching sessions with participants until June 30, 2026. As of writing this, I have met with over 50% of participants for either telephonic or in-person coaching sessions.

Annual Report of Qualifying Activities			
	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>
Biometric Screening	452	479	478
Health Assessment	449	475	463
Health Coaching	451	471	316*

*Deadline for Health Coaching is June 30, 2026

- A large majority of April was spent health coaching with participants. 123 appointments were completed in April; during these appointments we review biometric results and discuss health and wellness goals. Additional dates/times for health coaching are available for participants in the Managewell portal. As a reminder, health coaching is the third and final step to enrolling in the Wellness Program and becoming eligible for any Wellness Program incentives.
- The body composition assessments via InBody for the spring season wrapped up this month. These assessments measure body composition (body fat, muscle mass, water weight, bone mass, etc..) all in under 5 minutes. Each participant received a comprehensive report on their numbers and were reviewed with me. I am planning on conducting body assessments again in quarter 4.
- The quarter 2 wellness challenge has started this week, this is a step challenge that allows participants to virtually explore different areas by tracking their steps in their ManageWell portal. The virtual map that was chosen by the wellness committee this year is the Ice Age Trail. This is a 6-week activity that will encourage participants to be active and will provide information on the benefits of physical activity.
- Conducted weekly onboarding for new hires and employees who have not yet enrolled in the Wellness Program, including creating wellness portal accounts and initiating the qualifying activity process.



RESOLUTION#

DATE May 19, 2026

Effective
Date

Upon passage & posting

Page 1 of 1

Introduced by Operations Committee

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

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To amend the 2025 Aging & Disability Resource Center (54611) budget for additional expenditures not anticipated during the original budget process.

FISCAL NOTE: No cost to Wood County. The source of funding is available cash reserves in the ADRC fund balance. The adjustment to the budget is as follows:

Account	Account Name	Debit	Credit
54611	ADRC		\$33,642
34112	ADRC Fund Balance	\$33,642	

		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	Goldberg, P			
10	Thao, L			
11	Penzkover, J			
12	Valenstein, L			
13	Casper, L			
14	Polach, D			
15	Clendenning, B			
16	Pliml, L			
17	Zurfluh, J			
18	Hamilton, B			
19	Leichtnam, B			

WHEREAS, the Aging & Disability Resource Center expended the full \$208,190 received from Wood County for 2025 and an additional \$33,642 from previous years' surplus, and

WHEREAS, the additional \$33,642 in expenditure was not anticipated or budgeted for, and

WHEREAS, the Aging & Disability Resource Center fund balance has sufficient funds to cover the unanticipated expenditures, and

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

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, to amend the Wood County Aging & Disability Resource Center (54611) 2025 budget with a transfer

of \$33,642 from the Aging & Disability Resource Center fund balance (34112) to fund unanticipated expenditures, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that pursuant to Wis. Stats. 65.90 (5), the County Clerk is directed to post a Class 1 notice of the budget change within 15 days.

Adopted by the County Board of Wood County, May 19, 2026

County Clerk

County Board Chairman



RESOLUTION#

DATE May 19, 2026

Effective
Date

Upon passage & posting

Page 1 of 2

Introduced by Health & Human Services & 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: <u>NF</u> , Corp Counsel	
Reviewed by: <u>PY</u> , Finance Dir.	

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To amend the 2025 Budget for Human Services Norwood Health Center (NHC), Edgewater Haven (EWH) and Community programs for additional expenditures that were not anticipated during the original budget process.

FISCAL NOTE: No additional cost to Wood County. The source of funding is unbudgeted/unanticipated revenue in NHC Crossroads Public Charges (46526) and NHC Pathways Public Charges (46526) AND available unused appropriations in EWH Nursing (54210), NHC Inpatient (54326), and Community Child Welfare (54401).

The adjustment to the budget is as follows:

ACCOUNT	ACCOUNT NAME	DEBIT	CREDIT
54210	EWH NURSING	\$22,052	
54214	EWH MAINTENANCE		\$4,707
54217	EWH ACTIVITIES		\$1,096
54219	EWH ADMINISTRATION		\$16,249
46526	NHC CR PUBLIC CHRGS	\$20,535	
46526	NHC PW PUBLIC CHRGS	\$48,693	
54326	NHC INPATIENT	\$67,061	
54324	NHC CROSSROADS		\$20,535
54325	NHC PATHWAYS		\$48,693
54365	NHC ADMINISTRATION		\$67,061
54401	CHILD WELFARE	\$52,480	
54450	CHILDREN'S WAIVERS		\$52,480

		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	Goldberg, P			
10	Thao, L			
11	Penzkover, J			
12	Valenstein, L			
13	Casper, L			
14	Polach, D			
15	Clendenning, B			
16	Pliml, L			
17	Zurfluh, J			
18	Hamilton, B			
19	Leichtnam, B			

WHEREAS, EWH Nursing budget has available and unused appropriations to cover expenditure budget overages in the EWH Maintenance, Activities, and Administration units, and

WHEREAS, NHC Crossroads and Pathways have unbudgeted/unanticipated revenue to cover expenditure budget overages in each of its units. Additionally, there is available and unused appropriations in the NHC Inpatient budget to cover expenditure budget overages in the NCH Administration unit, and

Adopted by the County Board of Wood County, May 19, 2026

County Clerk

County Board Chairman

WHEREAS, Community Child Welfare program had available and unused appropriations to cover Children’s Waivers expenditure budget overages, and

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

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, to amend the 2025 Wood County budget for Edgewater Haven by transferring available unused appropriations of \$22,052 from EWH Nursing (54210) to EWH Maintenance (54214) of \$4,707, to EWH Activities (54217) of \$1,096, and to EWH Administration (54219) of \$16,249;

to amend the 2025 Wood County budget for Norwood Health Center by transferring unanticipated/unbudgeted revenue of \$20,535 from NHC Crossroads Public Charges (46526) to NHC Crossroads (54324) and \$48,693 from NHC Pathways Public Charges (46526) to NHC Pathways (54325) AND to transfer available unused appropriations of \$67,061 from NHC Inpatient (54326) to NHC Administration (54365);

to amend the 2025 Wood County budget for Community by transferring available unused appropriations of \$52,480 from Child Welfare (54401) to Children’s Waivers (54450), and

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



RESOLUTION#

DATE May 19, 2026

Effective
Date

Upon passage & posting

Page 1 of 1

**Conservation, Education and Economic Development
Committee and Operations Committee**

Introduced by _____

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

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To seek County Board approval to amend the 2026 Wood County Land & Water Conservation budget for unanticipated State of Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources (DNR) Surface Water -Nepco Lake Grant monies and to appropriate those monies to the Land & Water Conservation budget for expenditures.

FISCAL NOTE: No cost to Wood County. The source of the funding is unanticipated revenue from a DNR Surface Water Grant. The adjustment to the budget is as follows:

Account	Account Name	Debit	Credit
56121	Land & Water Cons.		\$37,531.80
43586	State Grants Surf. Water	\$37,531.80	

WHEREAS, the Land & Water Conservation Department will receive additional grant funds in the amount of \$37,531.80 to disburse for water quality testing at the inlets and outlets of Nepco and Wazeecha lakes; and,

WHEREAS, additional funds were not expected to be obtained and therefore were not included in the 2026 budgeted amount; and,

WHEREAS, the \$37,531.80 will have no impact on the county tax levy; and,

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

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, to amend the Wood County Land and Water Conservation budget (56121) by appropriating \$37,531.80 from unanticipated State of Wisconsin DNR Surface Water Nepco Lake Grant funds (43586) for the purpose of water quality testing at the inlets and outlets of Nepco Lake and Wazeecha Lake; and,

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

Adopted by the County Board of Wood County, May 19, 2026

County Clerk

County Board Chairman



RESOLUTION#

DATE May 19, 2026

Effective
Date

Upon passage & posting

Page 1 of 1

**Conservation, Education and Economic Development
Committee and Operations Committee**

Introduced by _____

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

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To seek County Board approval to amend the 2026 Wood County Land & Water Conservation budget for unanticipated State of Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources (DNR) Surface Water Fourmile Creek Watershed Grant monies and to appropriate those monies to the Land & Water Conservation budget for expenditures.

FISCAL NOTE: No cost to Wood County. The source of the funding is unanticipated revenue from a DNR Surface Water Grant. The adjustment to the budget is as follows:

Account	Account Name	Debit	Credit
56121	Land & Water Cons.		\$37,631.00
43586	State Grants Surf. Water	\$37,631.00	

WHEREAS, the Land & Water Conservation Department will receive additional grant funds in the amount of \$37,631.00 to disburse for water quality testing in the Fourmile Creek watershed; and,

WHEREAS, additional funds were not expected to be obtained and therefore were not included in the 2026 budgeted amount; and,

WHEREAS, the \$37,631.00 will have no impact on the county tax levy; and,

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

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, to amend the Wood County Land and Water Conservation budget (56121) by appropriating \$37,631.00 from unanticipated State of Wisconsin DNR Surface Water Fourmile Creek Watershed Grant funds (43586) for the purpose of water quality testing in the Fourmile Creek watershed; and,

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

Adopted by the County Board of Wood County, May 19, 2026

County Clerk

County Board Chairman



RESOLUTION#

DATE May 19, 2026

Effective
Date

January 1, 2027

Page 1 of 1

Introduced by Operations Committee

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

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To increase the Marriage License & Domestic Partnership issuance fees, effective January 1, 2027.

FISCAL NOTE: Increase in yearly revenues by approximately \$8,500.

WHEREAS, Resolution 18-5-3 raised the marriage license fee from \$75.00 to the current \$100.00, and

WHEREAS, the marriage license fee has not been increased for 8 years, and

WHEREAS, personnel and technology costs associated with issuance of marriage licenses and domestic partnerships continue to rise, and

WHEREAS, in order to keep in line with what surrounding counties are anticipating for 2027, this increase is warranted, and

WHEREAS, Wis. Stats. 765.15, 770.17, & 765.08(2) allow for the county board to increase these fees, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that effective January 1, 2027, the Wood County Marriage License fee shall be \$125.00 and the waiver for the statutory 3-day waiting period shall be \$25.00, and such fees will also apply to domestic partnership terminations.

		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	Goldberg, P			
10	Thao, L			
11	Penzkover, J			
12	Valenstein, L			
13	Casper, L			
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, May 19, 2026

County Clerk

County Board Chairman

MINUTES HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, April 30, 2026
TIME: 5:00 PM
PLACE: Wood County Annex & Health Center - Classroom

MEMBERS PRESENT: Donna Rozar, Tom Buttke, Linda Casper, Lee Thao, Laura Valenstein, Marie Topping, Rachel Stankowski, Dr. Tim Golemgieski

MEMBER EXCUSED: Leslie Kronstedt

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

1. County Clerk Miner called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM and declared a quorum present.
2. Miner opened the floor for nomination for Chair of the Health & Human Services Committee. Buttke nominated Rozar. There being no other nominations, Miner declared Rozar duly elected as Chair.
3. Miner opened the floor for nomination for Vice Chair of the Health & Human Services Committee. Buttke nominated Thao. There being no other nominations, Miner declared Thao duly elected as Vice Chair.
4. Rozar assumed the gavel.
5. There were no public comments.
6. The consent agenda was reviewed and items discussed. Motion by Valenstein/Golemgieski to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
7. Health Director Smith provided the new preliminary goals for the updated strategic plan as well as status of the previous strategic plan goals. A finalized version of the upcoming goals will be distributed at a later meeting.
8. Smith requested permission for out of state travel for herself & Rozar to attend the National Association of Counties 2026 Annual Conference, July 16-20, 2026 in New Orleans LA with all expenses paid by grant funds. Motion by Valenstein/Thao to approve the request as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
9. Smith requested permission for out-of-state travel for Niki Lucht to attend the APHA Policy Action Institute, June 9-10, 2026, in Arlington VA with all expenses paid by the

Wisconsin Public Health Association. Motion by Golemgieski/Buttke to approve the request as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

10. Norwood Administrator Kornack reviewed the current status of the water system replacement. The initial plans are being reviewed and will be going to the state for their approval. Once that is complete, the project will go out to bid.
11. Kornack reported that she is reviewing various job descriptions and positions and looking to hire unit coordinators to alleviate some of the administrative duties currently being performed by registered nurses.
12. Human Services Director Vruwink stated he is reviewing two fiscal services positions and maybe adjusting the hours for them. It will not result in any budgetary changes, just the adjustment of hours between the two positions.
13. Vruwink reviewed the financial picture of Human Services as of December 31, 2026, and in consultation with the Finance Dept., is recommending a transfer of the maximum allowable amount by policy, \$250,000, to the Human Services Risk Reserve Fund, which brings the total to the maximum allowable by policy, \$1.5 million. Motion by Thao/Golemgieski to transfer \$250,000 to the risk reserve fund for Human Services. Motion carried unanimously.
14. Vruwink reported that a part of the state using funds for the Food Share program that were cut by the federal government, there is a need for counties, and our consortium, to hire Quality Assurance specialists to go through and review each case to ensure accuracy. Currently, the consortium is at a 0% error rate. Any new positions would be fully funded by the state.
15. Vruwink presented a resolution to amend the 2025 budget to fund those areas over budget in the various Human Services line items with either additional revenues or underspent functions within the budget. Motion by Buttke/Valenstein to approve the resolution as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
16. Edgewater Haven Administrator Cielewicz shared with the committee various financial models for the proposed Edgewater CBRF. Plans are being finalized and should be submitted to the state by June or July.
17. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, May 28, 2026, at 5:00 PM at Edgewater Haven Nursing Home Conference Room.
18. Chair Rozar declared the meeting adjourned at 5:55 PM.

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

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:** Linda Casper, who will soon be a Wood County Board Supervisor and is the resident who has been leading this initiative, organized a fundraiser at Culvers on April 28 from 4-8pm. These funds will be held to pay for any ongoing maintenance and repairs as well as the annual registration fee. The baby box has been ordered and should be here by late April or early May!
- **Strategic Planning:** I look forward to sharing our new strategic plan with the committee! Also at this month's meeting, I will share the tracking log from our previous strategic plan, so you get an idea of the types of things that are accomplished because of this thorough planning process.
- **Congratulations to Donna** on her decisive election win to earn another term on the county board!!
- I was able to attend the **Marshfield Medical Center Partner Breakfast** this month and heard updates about the health system, its merger with Sanford Health, and upcoming plans.
- I was also able to attend the **Legislative Breakfast** in Marshfield.
- I am thrilled that **Kristie Egge will be taking the reins** following my retirement!!! She is the only perfect person for this position and will be able to hit the ground running. The extra time will be so valuable as I continue to mentor Kristie, introduce her to people, and assure she feels confident and ready to succeed next spring!

SUPERVISOR OF STRATEGIC INITIATIVES REPORT – KRISTIE RAUTER EGGE, MPH

- Meetings and planning are underway with Aspirus to collaborate, align strategies, and plan future initiatives.
- Staff developed the 2026-2028 Health for All Action Plan and updated Workforce Development Plan objectives and strategies for 2026.
- Staff attended the Wisconsin Public Health Association (WPHA) Leadership Retreat.
- The WPHA Legislative Toolkit was updated, and a Community Engagement Toolkit was developed.
- Staff continue working on the 2025 Wood County Health Department Annual Report.

Communication/Branding

- The WCHD Communication Survey received 954 responses. The Communications Committee met to discuss next steps for analyzing the data and creating an action plan following the results.
- Staff met with Public Information Officer Network Leadership to plan the next Public Information Officer meeting.
- Staff attended a Public Information Officer meeting and learned how to make websites and materials accessible.

Community Health Improvement Plan

- A meeting was held with representatives from the Wood County Health Department, Aspirus, and Marshfield Clinic to start discussions on Community Health Improvement Planning and the upcoming assessment cycle. A follow-up meeting has been scheduled.
- In March, the Healthy People Wood County Advisory Council convened to receive updates from Marshfield Clinic and to discuss the Community Health Improvement Plan, action items, and other related topics.
- Staff are working on a 2025 Year in Review for Healthy People Wood County.
- Healthy People Wood County website updates are ongoing to support initiatives and share data and resources.

Mental Health

- Staff are implementing the mental health action plan and making updates to reflect community efforts.
- The Mental Health Task Force is working to distribute resources for the 988 service to the Marshfield community. They are also planning the fall "Let's Keep Talking" series, which is designed for parents, caregivers, and individuals who work with youth. Additionally, they are organizing the distribution of Mental Health May baskets to the community in observance of Mental Health Awareness Month.

Performance Management and Quality Improvement

- Performance management workbooks and the department dashboard are currently being updated to ensure alignment of objectives and indicators with data tracking for 2026.
- Program areas are establishing, refining, and implementing goals and performance measures, as well as storyboards and improvement projects for 2026, reflecting on insights and outcomes from 2025 to implement necessary changes.
- Program area leads are entering objectives and performance measures for the first quarter and monitoring progress.
- The Quality Council is drafting the department's 2026 Performance Management and Quality Improvement Plan.

Financial Security

Staff attended Economic Well-being naming and framing meetings to develop a statewide issue guide on economic well-being and developed a community events calendar for Healthy People Wood County (HPWC) to do more community outreach.

- **Central Wisconsin Regional Farmers Market Efforts:**
 - Completed the 4-part vendor webinars in partnership with UW Extension on pricing, food safety, and customer engagement.
 - Prepared for and hosted market manager workshop with 26 market managers from across the state in attendance in Plover at the Food and Farm Exploration center (expected closer to 40 guests but that was the big snowstorm weekend). The focus for the workshop was on vendor applications process, legal assistance, focus groups on chosen topics, communication, and nutrition incentives.
 - Assisted Waupaca Farmers market with staffing changes.
 - Working closely with all markets to prepare for their pre-season vendor meetings, creating agendas, sending invitations, etc. that will occur throughout April.
 - Connected with farmers markets to integrate them into the statewide double up food bucks program launching in May 2026: Weston, WI Rapids, Stevens Point, Wausau, Clintonville, Ashland, Bayfield, and Merrill markets.
 - Assisted Clintonville Farmers Market in a location and time change along with an organizational leadership shift to becoming a non-profit, instead of being under the chamber.
 - Attended the Wausau Farmers Market pre-season meeting where members voted to increase vendor fees to support hiring a staff member to increase capacity at the market and reduce board member burnout.
- **Farmer's Market:**
 - We are getting ready for the 2026 season, and the Wisconsin Rapids Downtown Farmers' Market is actively in its planning phase. We are excited about the continued growth of the market and are currently seeking to expand our team by adding support to the manager booth on Saturdays. Conversations are happening with folks who are interested in working toward a strong and successful season.
 - In preparation for the upcoming year, the team is hosting a vendor meeting on Thursday, April 16, from 2:00-4:00pm. This meeting is open to anyone interested in becoming a vendor, as well as individuals or organizations looking to partner on events at the market. We welcome new ideas and collaborations that help strengthen our market and community.
- **Food Insecurity:**
 - Toured FOCUS food pantry to learn more about their services.
 - Hosted a community listening session at the Pittsville Community Library to learn about food insecurity in Wood County through Marshfield Clinic & Security Health Plan grant.
 - Attended Marshfield Food Insecurity Grantee Meet & Greet.

Access to Care

The WCHD Healthy Smiles Team, Public Health Nursing Supervisor, and WIC Supervisor met to discuss summer clinic expansion to the Marshfield area for oral health services, immunizations, and WIC support. Offerings of these combined services will be available this summer in both Wisconsin Rapids and Marshfield.

Housing

- Finalized plans at the Central Wisconsin Housing Summit Planning Meeting for the event held on April 15, 2026, in Stevens Point, WI.
- Met with Wisconsin Balance of State Continuum of Care to discuss resources and barriers for people who are homeless in Wood County.

Substance Use – IMPACT and MACY (Marshfield Area Coalition for Youth)

- **Providers and Teens Communicating for Health (PATCH):** Two enrichment meetings were held in March, one with Nicotine Prevention Alliance of Central WI - Vaping education and prevention efforts, and the other on Food Systems (Farmers Market) and how to get connected with organizations like this to volunteer and give back to the community. The end of the year celebration for the teens will be on May 5. After that job applications will be posted to start recruiting for the next school year.
- **Public Health Vending Machines (PHVM):** The total supplies vended in March was 448 with Narcan as the number one vended item. The machine that was at MSTC in Marshfield was moved to All of the Above Tattoo in downtown Marshfield. A vending machine was also moved from 6th floor of Patriots Tower to 7th floor as 6th floor is no longer open to the public. These new locations were selected based on vending machine use data and community input.
- **Peer Support:** Our Certified Peer Specialist has 8 individuals on her caseload with all individuals meeting or exceeding their recovery goals. Pamela has been attending some Youth Justice meetings to segway into offering Youth Recovery Coaching to the minors in the youth justice system. She will start with 3-5 youth at time on her caseload. Pamela is currently taking the Parent Peer Support training; she will begin working with parents of children with mental health conditions and/or substance use disorder. The Childhood Trauma course in the Jail has been expanded to also serve women. This is a weekly class offered in the Recovery Pods.
- **We Heart You event:** Four public health staff attended the We ♥ You recovery event in Oshkosh to see how a Wisconsin grassroots effort has grown into a powerful community movement. Speakers included various community

partners involved in the We Heart You movement, people living in recovery from substance use disorder, and international speaker, trainer, and consultant Mark Sanders. Tom Farley, brother of the late Chris Farley, was the event facilitator who continues to advocate for recovery support services in Wisconsin and will be coming to MSTC Wisconsin Rapids campus in May. A [video](#) from the event was shared.

- **LifePoint:** LifePoint is a satellite syringe service program through Vivent Health. Research supports the effectiveness of syringe service programs to connect people who use drugs to effective treatment services, reduce overdose deaths, and reduce transmission of communicable disease such as HIV and Hepatitis C. Six individuals participated in the Wisconsin Rapids LifePoint Program in March and helped an additional 37 people with sterile supplies and community resources. The program continues to grow as a trusted resource in Wisconsin Rapids. The Marshfield site will move to a more accessible floor at Patriots Tower in May 2026.
- **Risk Reduction efforts:** Due to low registration, the MSTC Overdose Prevention and Naloxone Administration training sessions were cancelled. Additional training was provided to participants of the Adult Day Treatment group and youth attending Lifesaver Week over spring break. Six naloxone kits were distributed through in-person training and distribution. The team will consider ways to make the community more familiar with various brands of naloxone that are available through our department. A recent interaction with a community non-profit revealed an opportunity to partner on naloxone trainings taking place in Marshfield. IMPACT hopes to capitalize on this opportunity to increase our training capacity in Wood County.
- **State Opioid Response (SOR):** SOR mid-term reports were completed for MACY and IMPACT. Both coalitions are on track for utilizing this state funding to address opioid-related concerns throughout Wood County.
- **Drug Task Force (DTF):** The task force met on March 3 to discuss their strategic action plan goals related to substance use work, including the promotion of the April Drug Take Back Event. The task force promoted the event to local businesses and pharmacies and distributed posters and cards for the event. They are collaborating with Marshfield Clinic staff to promote the event. Additionally, the task force utilized State Opioid Response funds to purchase medication lock boxes, which will be distributed to local pharmacies and during the take back event. The team also finalized their nicotine and alcohol action plan. They plan to involve representatives from Marathon County to discuss the next steps in initiating a teen court focused on youth nicotine use at the April meeting.
- **Mental Health Task Force (MHTF):** The task force held training on the topic of isolation and loneliness. The group identified resources related to these issues and outlined next steps to address isolation and loneliness in the community. They are distributing 988 materials and collaborating with Parks and Recreation to add additional signage in parks. The group is promoting the "Let's Keep Talking" community education series, including an event in April focused on Healthy Relationships. The team is also working with MCLA (Marshfield and Columbus Leadership Alliance) students to create mental health baskets to raise awareness about mental health and healthy coping strategies.
- **Board Meeting:** The MACY Board met on March 18 to discuss the non-competing Drug-Free Communities (DFC) continuation application. The board received updates from the Mental Health Task Force, Drug Task Force, and the MCLA team. The board meets again on April 15.
- **Marshfield and Columbus Leadership Alliance (MCLA):** MCLA hosted a collection box for homeless hygiene products and attended an event in Madison. They are also continuing their pen-pal program with third-grade classes. They hosted a "Pour it Forward" event, offering hot drinks to peers and teachers and providing materials for the "Find Your Balance" mental health and substance use prevention campaign. Additionally, they delivered an AODA (alcohol and other drug abuse) lesson during Tiger Time that focused on nicotine education and awareness, with students responding to a survey regarding the knowledge gained from the lesson.
- **Drug-Free Communities (DFC) Support Program:** The non-competing Year 3 DFC grant renewal was submitted, which included a working action plan and budget for the upcoming fiscal year beginning September 30, 2026. The Action Plan focuses on addressing underage drinking and youth nicotine use.
- **Place of Last Drink (POLD):** Members met with Wood County law enforcement agencies to review the 2025 POLD data. This data identifies establishments that have been named as places of last drink to help educate them on overserving and best practices to reduce alcohol-related harms. The group discussed follow-up items regarding these establishments and planned Alcohol Age Compliance Checks for 2026. The team will review the mid-year 2026 report in July to determine if any establishments require further outreach.

Transportation

- Staff met with Rusk County and Walworth County to learn about their transit services and met with MTM and Aspirus to discuss barriers to transportation and areas for MTM to improve service.
- The Catch a Ride program received a Marshfield Area United Way Grant. Staff submitted the Phase 2 grant application to Legacy Foundation and submitted a grant application to the Packers Foundation.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH REPORT – BEN JEFFREY, R.S.

New Businesses and Consultations

A pre-licensing inspection was completed for Double J Feed Supply, a prepackaged meat retailer in the Wisconsin Rapids area. A pre-licensing inspection was completed for Mini Rapids for pre-packaged ice cream and other items. A pre-licensing inspection was completed for Simplicity Inn, located in Marshfield, due to a change of ownership.

Staff Trainings

The following training courses were completed during the month of March by members of the environmental health staff:

- MAHC (motel aquatic health code) Network Webinar: Cold Plunge Pools and Safety Measures Confirmation
- AEC (Annual Education Conference) 2025 Food Safety: Retail and Home Restaurants - All About Plumbing and Backflow in Food Establishment
- AEC 2025 Food Safety: Retail and Home Restaurants - Cold Brew Coffee: CFP Guidance Document
- NEHA (National Environmental Health Association) From Droppings to Doorsteps: The Public Health Impact of Flies and Roaches
- Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection: ATCP 72 Hotels, Motels, and Tourist Rooming Houses Updates and Frequently Asked Questions

Complaint Investigations

Six complaints were completed in the month of March.

- A caller reported mold and other building code concerns inside a rental unit. Environmental health staff have referred to the complaint to the local building inspector. No public health hazards currently.
- An illness complaint was received believed to be caused by a licensed food establishment. Environmental health staff completed a complaint inspection. Food was discarded due to temperature errors and equipment failure. A follow-up inspection has since been completed to ensure compliance.
- A caller reported mold in the attic of a rental home due to an active water leak. Environmental health staff have contacted the landlord and required immediate repair of the water leak and actions for mold clean up.
- A complaint was received regarding illegal burning. Environmental health staff have sent education materials as well as an advisory letter to the parties responsible for burning.
- A caller reported bedbugs in a rental home. Environmental health staff discussed bedbugs and best practices to limit the spread as well as treatment options. The landlord has scheduled professional treatment for the home.
- A complaint was received regarding a sandwich that was gross and lettuce that was not date marked at a licensed food establishment. Environmental health staff notified the manager of the complaint and discussed the lettuce date marking. No violations or concerns noted.

HEALTHY SMILES FOR WOOD COUNTY REPORT – NICOLE BURLINGAME, RDH

Healthy Smiles has completed all first screenings, sealants, and fluoride varnish visits for the 2025/2026 school year. We have started the second screenings and fluoride varnishes and are in process of completing the third fluoride applications for the head start programs.

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

Parents as Teachers (PAT)

- Parent Cafes are being hosted in both Wisconsin Rapids and Marshfield this April. There were four cafés held in March, three in Pittsville and one in Marshfield. Attendance was between 12-22 attendees per café.
- Parent Educators will also be attending the YMCA Healthy Kids Day in Marshfield on April 18 to do PAT outreach.

Family Health & Injury Prevention

- One of the Public Health Nurses presented on the Health Department's home visiting and injury prevention programs to Human Services staff (initial assessment and ongoing social workers) in March. She highlighted the importance of infant safe sleep environments and encouraged them to participate in the Safe Sleep Ambassador training series for child welfare workers.
- One of our Child Passenger Safety Technicians will represent Wood County Health Department at Healthy Kids Day in Marshfield on April 18. She will be showcasing the importance of proper booster seat use.

Lactation Support

- The Health Department and WIC are teaming up with Aspirus to explore starting a breastfeeding support group in Wisconsin Rapids. Plans are underway to have this group's first meeting in August.
- Lori Peterson, Community Health Worker, recently passed her coursework and exam to become a Certified Lactation Counselor (CLC)!

Communicable Disease

See attached first quarter summary of reported communicable diseases for 2026 in Wood County. Overall respiratory illness activity (based on emergency department data) is trending downward, including RSV, which is now at moderate level.

Emergency Preparedness

Sara Luchini is now one of only two individuals certified as Wisconsin Public Health Emergency Managers in the state. We are proud of Sara's hard work and perseverance!

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

- One of our quality improvement projects this year aims to increase WIC caseload by 1% by December 31, 2026, by increasing in person appointments and local agency Facebook presence. We completed 2 local agency posts in March and plan to start weekly local agency Facebook posts in April with goals to increase building rapport with families and word of mouth/social media WIC referrals.
- We are working with the state WIC office and OnMedia to coordinate a one-month media campaign on free video and audio streaming platforms in May aiming to increase WIC participation.
- Kayla Saeger, Whitney Armour, and I attended the Wisconsin Association of Lactation Consultants (WALC) 2026 Annual Conference March 5-6 to gain continuing education credits to maintain lactation credentials and meet WIC continuing education recommendations.

Caseload for 2025 (Contracted caseload 1676)

	Dec 2025	Jan 2026	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Active (initial)	1356	1344	1339	1319									
Active (final)	1369	1356	1353										
Participating	1356	1352	1350	1328									

WOOD COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT REPORT
April 2026

Director Update by Brandon Vruwink

We continue to work with INCLUSA and MTM, its transportation broker. We have received a draft contract from MTM. Corporation Counsel Flanagan has reviewed the draft and has additional questions regarding the contract because we did not receive all the appendices. We will continue to work with MTM and Corporation Counsel Flanagan to ensure the contract is in Wood County's best interest before proceeding. Because of the time this has taken, an extension was granted to Wood County through May 31, 2026. We hope to have a final decision on our future relationship with INCLUSA/MTM before May 31. I plan to provide an update at the May Health and Human Service Committee meeting.

The Human Resources Department, in collaboration with Mid State Technical College, completed an employee engagement survey with county staff in the early part of 2026. We have received the survey results and are conducting review sessions with our entire team. Each Division within the department has completed or will complete the review sessions with their teams by the end of May. We are seeking feedback from the respective teams on areas we can improve. This will be an ongoing project that offers us as a department an opportunity to facilitate positive change.

As we discussed at the March Health and Human Services Committee meeting, legislation was passed and signed by the Governor to provide additional funding for the FoodShare Administrative Cost Share. This is welcome news, which will prevent us from requesting an additional \$200,000 in county funding. Another part of this legislation was additional funding for Quality Assurance programming to ensure FoodShare error rates remain under the 6% threshold. The Department of Health Services plans to release funding to the Northern Income Maintenance Consortium in the near future. The estimated funds allocated to our Consortium are \$678,000. The requirement is that all funds are used for specific Quality Assurance positions. The funds also cannot supplant current funding. We are in the early stages of developing a plan and will come back to the Health and Human Services Committee in May with requests.

At this month's Health and Human Services Committee meeting, we will discuss adding an additional \$250,000 to the Human Services Risk Reserve account per the policy approved by the H&HS Committee and the County Board. We closed the 2025 budget year with sufficient dollars to make a deposit, increasing the Risk Reserve account to \$1,500,000. Per policy, the maximum amount we can deposit into the account is \$1,500,000. I look forward to providing you with the information necessary to make a decision on adding additional dollars to the Risk Reserve account.

Administrative Services Update by Mary Schlagenhaft

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

- Divisional budget meetings conducted, continued communication on budget. 2026 meetings scheduled with outcomes reviewed and conversations encouraged
- Edgewater claims billing "Triple Check Meeting" participating: EW Accountant, Assistant Manager, Billing representative
- Additional accomplishments: Ongoing EHR SmartCare learning, cross training, workflows and processes reviewed and updated as needed.
- 2025-County audit, various funding cost reports, Medicaid cost reports for Edgewater & Norwood nursing homes
- 1 open position in the Administrative Services Leadership team

Accounting and Accounts Payable Team

- 2 new contracts completed
- Submitted final 2025 (GWAAR/GEARS) reports and February 2026 (DCF/FSET/Energy/GEARS/GWAAR)
- NW and EW have completed the cost reports uploads to WIPFLI

- Edgewater had 7 new hires for March 2026, orientation completed for facility
- NW Accountant and Asst Manager attended Spring 2026 WHA Annual Survey Training
- Completed and submitted Norwood 2024 DSH survey report
- Assistant Manager attended Northern Region Financial Managers
- Currently working on submission for 2025 County audit needs

Support Services Team

Behavioral Health Clinic service notes: all appointments notes are accounted for through 3/31/2026 with system in place to review and communicate with clinicians twice a week about service notes or errors.

Records Released:

Behavioral Health Records Released: 104

Family Service Record/Background checks released: 20

Records pending/in progress: 7

Total Completed: 124

Records Retention: completion of destruction of past retention client documents

- FS MFLD records 4th floor- reviewing 2026 records due for destruction
- RB- FS and CCS records destruction/move to vault- reviewing 2026 records due for destruction
- RB Foster Care provider records in progress- scanning/destroying per retention guidelines

Other Unit Information

- Staff updates – Recruiting 2 positions re-posted; began interviewing
 - 1 vacant 2/24 Admin Asst II FS located in RB
 - 1 vacant 3/27 Admin Asst II CCS located in RB (candidate was hired 4/6, resigned 4/9- position re-posted)
- Compiled information needed for Title IV-E funding for DCF: tracking administrative services staff time and fees spent on CHIPS and TPR legal services
 - January: 180.75 hours and \$256.24 on misc. legal expenses
 - February: 154 hours and \$167.80 on misc. legal expenses
 - March: 99.75 hours spent on legal services \$0 on expenses
- Attend Smartcare super-user mtgs & SHS WI users mtgs
- Worked with Administrative Services and program managers on interim coverage for vacancies
- HIPAA:
 - 1 HIPAA/confidentially breach - investigated /resolved
 - Attend HIPAACOW Workgroup- privacy notices updates
 - HIPAA ROI training materials provided -EMH / APS
 - Privacy/Security: in progress- SRA risk mitigation 10 of 11 completed; partnership with MetaStar- BH Connect; DHS funded
 - Participate in HIPAACOW Privacy Notice- workgroup

Ongoing

- IMS/TCM migration to Laserfiche- in progress- retention list was provided to IT- 4/1/2025. IT began granting permissions to designated staff for viewing draft of repository
- ShareTru confidential document repository: 4 Admin Services staff are testing in various BH and FS programs- pending redaction issues found with pdfs

Claims & Accounts Receivable, Client Interactions

- MMP application process continues
- Monthly A/R review to determine collectability at Community, Norwood and EW
- Resignation of this position was accepted creating a vacancy effective 2/6/2026. This position is being reviewed to better suit the needs of our Human Services programs and was posted April 17th
- Engaged in Aspirus Network to ensure agency adherence for credentialing of providers, met with regional administrator

- Attended work groups to solve problems with other county billing teams as a team building workgroup

Insurance Claims created and submitted for current reporting period

- Norwood: 222 Claims Billed: \$1,102,432
- Edgewater: 73 Claims Billed, \$617,798
- Community: 6,869 claims submitted in the amount of \$680,143. Cash receipts \$430,479

Service Admission Intakes - by Location

- NHC Admissions: 28 hospital, 1 LTC
- Edgewater: 12
- Community
 - 28 intakes for new clients conducted. (current wait lists for all services at OPC)
 - 1,139 appointments scheduled, 943 Attended (71%)

2026 TRIP Monies:

- Norwood: \$23,557
- Community: \$24,407

Family Services Update by Jodi Liegl

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

Type of Facility	Number of Youth	Cost Per Day Range
Group Homes	2	\$491.50 - \$494.60/day
Residential Treatment Centers	1	\$869.06/day
Secure Detention	3	\$200 - \$500/day
Corrections (Lincoln Hills, Copper Lake, RISE=UP)	1	\$501/day
Secure Detention Programming (180/360 programs)	1	\$585/day
Mental Health Hospital (pending accepted placement)	0	\$1632/day with some MA reimbursement
Psychiatric Residential Treatment Centers (out of state)	1	\$1,350/day

In the month of February, eight youth served time in secure detention for a total of 44 day.
 In the month of March, seven youth served time in secure detention for a total of 84 days.

New Contract: On March 1, 2026, Wood County entered a contract with Marathon County Juvenile Detention Facility due to the increased challenges in locating beds in secured facilities when needs arise. With this contracted bed, youth placed in the facility will have access to case management, ongoing skill development, youth justice mental health therapy, and other intensive services resulting in frequent contact with providers. The contract will allow workers to maintain proximity with our youth, ensure community safety and address criminogenic needs. As the numbers reflect, there has been a drastic increase in utilizing secure detention in February and March. This has been due to an escalation in high-risk community safety incidents, several of which involved firearms.

Funding: All Wisconsin counties and tribes were awarded funds in March through the federal American Rescue Plan Act-State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (ARPA-SLFRF) to support children and families. Wood County received \$135,091.05. The use of these funds is flexible and designed to serve families involved in, or at risk

of involvement in, child protection or youth justice with the goals of preventing further system involvement and maintaining children and youth in their homes.

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

Community Resources Update by Olivia Lloyd

Transportation: In March, the Transportation program provided 658 bus rides. Of these rides, 189 were for employment, and 131 were for medical. The program also provided 85 volunteer rides. Of these, 24 were for employment, and 60 were for medical.

WHEAP: The 2026 heating season began October 1, 2025. Through March, Wood County has provided Energy Assistance services to 1878 households. The program has also provided HVAC services to 73 households.

Edgewater Haven Update by Justin Cieslewicz

Census Update: In the month of March, we had 12 admissions and 5 readmissions. Current Memory Care census is 15 residents. Census comparison to last year:

March 2025 – 46.35 average census with 10.71 rehab

March 2026 – 43.87 average census with 9.78 rehab

March 2025 – Admissions 6/Discharges 9/Readmissions 7/Deaths 2

March 2026 – Admissions 12/Discharges 12/Readmissions 5/Deaths 4

Personnel Update: Open positions of writing this:

Nursing: 5 Full-time Nurses, 1 Part-time Nurse

Dietary: 1 Full-time Dietary Aide

Activities: 1 Full-time Activity Aide

Significant Snow Event: On March 15 through March 16, over 20 inches of snow fell in central Wisconsin. Being a health care center, we operate 24 hours per day - 7 days per week. As this event was forecasted in advance, Edgewater Haven Leadership made plans to ensure proper staffing patterns. Staff were notified that they could occupy vacant areas of the facility during the storm to ensure their safety, and some staff did utilize this option. Edgewater's maintenance lead ensured all emergency exits and major paths of egress were clear of snow, and Edgewater's contracted snow removal partner spent significant hours keeping the main driveways and parking lot open for staff and any essential resident visitors. Through the storm there were minimal staff call-ins, and the facility maintained adequate staffing levels to care for our residents.

Norwood Health Center

Norwood Health Center Update by Marissa Kornack

Our Food Services Supervisor, Larry Burt, will be retiring on July 1. His position has been posted, and recruitment is underway. We have received several qualified applicants and are conducting interviews. The plan is to have a few weeks of overlap to ensure our new hire is adequately onboarded and trained.

The head nurse and social services coordinator positions on our long term care units are vacant, but the positions are posted. Assistant Administrator Weller and our client services assistant are covering the social work duties, and Director of Nursing Masanz is covering the head nurse vacancy. We also have Engage Consulting completing the MDS assessments.

Norwood Nursing Department by Liz Masanz

For nurses, we currently have four 100%, one 60%, and five casual RN positions available. We currently have three agency RNs on board to help cover these vacant positions, and one more coming on board soon. We haven't had any applicants.

For mental health technicians (MHT), we have three 100%, two 50%, and one casual position available. Again, we have very few applicants.

March saw one of the worst blizzards in many years. We had so many staff who stayed at the facility or in town to make sure they could be at work to care for our clients. They did a wonderful job of pitching in and helping where needed.

Admissions Unit: The average census for the month of March was 5.68 and 6.83 YTD. The average length of stay was 5.63 and 6.76 YTD. There were 28 admissions and 27 discharges.

Long Term Care: The long-term care unit had two admissions and no discharges in March, with an average census of 10.77 on Crossroads and 13 on Pathways.

Norwood Dietary Department by Larry Burt

Congregate meals for the month of March were 4,774 with revenue of \$40,720, with 11,900 (18% decrease from 2025) meals and \$101,434 (8.7% decrease from 2025) in revenue YTD.

March meal totals represent the highest total since July 2025.

Projecting out the experience through March, we would expect to serve 47,600 meals in 2026, compared to our budget of 48,700. We hope those numbers will improve as the year goes on as we evaluate the feasibility of continuing this contract past 2026.

Norwood Building Operations by Lee Ackerman

CIP Updates

Water Pipe Replacement – Work continues on the design plans; engineer has been giving weekly updates on progress, and we are on track to have completed documents by April 10th. Once we have the plans, we will review and make any necessary corrections.

Circulating Fans – The manufacturer of the fan units agreed to replace the fan impellers for both fans that failed. This component is the most expensive part of the unit and should ensure there are no imbalance issues moving forward.

5-Year CIP – The 2027-2031 CIP was presented to the Health & Human Services Board who, in turn approved plans to be sent forward to the Operations Committee for review.

Admissions Nurse Call System – A Request for Bids has been published for this project and a pre-bid walk-through of the site has been scheduled for April 7th.

Other Maintenance

Staff Locker Room – The staff locker room has been completed, and locks were issued to staff to be used for storing their personal items during their shift. The time clock was relocated to this room as well.

Donn Ress, Norwood Maintenance Specialist, will be retiring on April 3rd. His job has been posted.

The countertop for the new Receptionist workspace developed some cracks due to an installation issue. Ascent Construction will replace this section under warranty.

CVSO Report to the Wood County Health and Human Services Committee

Meeting Date: April 30, 2026

March 2026 Activity: During the month of March, we completed/submitted 288 federal forms to include:

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

Activities:

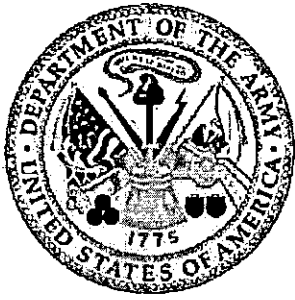
1. Completed as of April 22, 2026:
 - a. April 1 – Wood County Crisis Intervention Training
 - b. April 2-3 National Association of County Veteran Service officer's Advance Appeal Training (via Video)
 - c. April 9 – Tomah VA Medical Center Directors Town Hall and outreach event in Marshfield at the Elks Club.
 - d. April 21 – Short notice event (same morning) Federal VA Deputy Secretary Paul Lawrence Round Table – Sparta VFW.
2. Near Future:
 - a. April 27 – May 1 CVSO Spring Training Conference in Stevens Point.
 - b. June date to be determined Tomah VA Medical Center outreach event/town hall proposed site Wisconsin Rapids Elks Club.
 - c. July 24- Burial of WWII remains of PVT. Elmer Blonien Rudolph WI.

Office Update:

1. One of our staff will be going on approx. 12 weeks of FMLA due to surgery on May 13, 2026.
2. In January the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency identified the remains of WWII Private Elmer F Blonien (see attached sheet). Private Blonien was a resident of Rudolph WI and the Rudolph American Legion Post 485 is named after him. On July 24th his remains will be interned back home in Rudolph with a mass at Saint Phillips Church.
3. Tomah VA Medical Center's Town Hall in Marshfield was a great success with 83 veterans attending.

Agenda Item 5b– Consent Veterans Department Head Narrative page 2

4. On the morning of April 21, the CVSO was invited to attend a round table with a high level VA official that evening at the Sparta WI VFW hall. It was a short notice event not publicized. It turned out to be a small round table discussion with VA Deputy Secretary Paul Lawrence (the #2 person at the Federal VA). In attendance were about 15 Veterans (including the VFW State Commander), 3 CVSOs and some staff from the Milwaukee VA Regional office and cemetery along with the Tomah Medical Center director and select staff. It was a unique chance to express our thoughts to the top of the VA food chain.
5. This month the County received the State Grant for improvement of veteran services in the amount of \$16,600. This amount was included in the 2026 Veterans Department budget.



Service Member PVT. ELMER F BLONIEN

Conflict	WORLD WAR II
Service	UNITED STATES ARMY
Status	Accounted For
Date of Identification	01/05/2026
Unit	192 TANK BATTALION
Historical Country of Loss	Philippine Islands
Current Country of Loss	PHILIPPINES
Home of Record*	WI

*Home of record is the city and/or state where the service member joined the service. This may not be the same location as where the service member was from.

On Jan. 5, 2026, the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) identified the remains of Pvt. Elmer F. Blonien, missing from World War II.

Blonien entered the U.S. Army from Wisconsin and served with Company A the 192nd Tank Battalion, which was stationed in the Philippines during World War II. He was captured following the American surrender of the Bataan Peninsula on April 9, 1942, and forced on the Bataan Death March. He was ultimately interned in the notorious Cabanatuan Prison Camp in Nueva Ecija Province, where he died on Nov. 15, 1942. At its peak, Cabanatuan held approximately 8,000 American and Filipino prisoners of war who were captured during and after the Fall of Bataan. Conditions at the camp were poor, with food and water extremely limited, leading to widespread malnutrition and outbreaks of malaria and dysentery. By the time the camp was liberated in early 1945, approximately 2,800 Americans had died at Cabanatuan. Blonien was buried in Common Grave 721 at the local Cabanatuan Camp Cemetery along with other deceased American POWs. Following the war, American Graves Registration Service (AGRS)



personnel exhumed those buried at the Cabanatuan cemetery and relocated the remains to a temporary U.S. military mausoleum near Manila. In 1947, the AGRS examined remains from Common Grave 721. The ten sets of remains which could not be identified at the time were buried at the Manila American Cemetery and Memorial as Unknowns. In 2019, as part of the Cabanatuan Project, the unidentified remains associated with Common Grave 721 were disinterred and sent to the DPAA laboratory for scientific analysis. The laboratory analysis and total circumstantial evidence available identified one set of these unknown remains as those of Blonien.

He is memorialized on the Walls of the Missing at the Manila American Cemetery in the Philippines.

If you are a family member of this serviceman, you may contact your casualty office representative to learn more about your service member.

MINUTES PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, April 28, 2026

TIME: 9:00 AM

PLACE: Courthouse – Room 300

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Trent Miner, County Clerk; others listed on sign-in sheet

1. County Clerk Miner called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.
2. There was no public comment.
3. Miner opened the floor to nominations for committee chair. Hamilton nominated Zurfluh. There being no other nominations, Miner declared Zurfluh duly elected as committee chair.
4. Miner opened the floor to nominations for committee vice chair. Penzkover nominated Hamilton. There being no other nominations, Miner declared Hamilton duly elected as vice chair.
5. By committee consensus, the meetings will be held on the second Mondays of the month at 9:00 AM.
6. Miner declared the meeting adjourned at 9:01 AM.

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

MINUTES PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

DATE: Monday, May 11, 2026
TIME: 9:00 AM
PLACE: Courthouse – Conference Rm 302

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

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 April 13 & 28, 2026, meetings were reviewed. Motion by Zurfluh/Hamilton to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
3. There was no public comment.
4. The next meeting will be held on Monday, June 8, 2026, at 9:00 AM.
5. The Communications Department presented their report and bill listing for review noting the work being done for power redundancy.
6. The Emergency Management Department presented their report and bill listing for review. Director Christensen highlighted that the deadline for municipalities to turn in paperwork for reimbursement from the blizzard event is this Friday, May 15th. A number have not returned it or answered emails.
7. The Dispatch Department presented their report and bill listing for review.
8. The Coroner presented their monthly report and bill listing for review.
9. Sheriff Becker reviewed various reports and activities of the Sheriff's Department.
10. Motion by Zurfluh/Hamilton to approve the voucher listings for Communications, Coroner, Dispatch, Emergency Management, and Sheriff's Department. Motion carried unanimously.
11. Chairman Zurfluh declared the meeting adjourned 9:17 AM.

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



April Monthly Report

Wood County Sheriff's Rescue

Submitted by: Ann Burger, WCSR Secretary

April Training Descriptions

Date	Type	Description
7-Apr	Work Night	Truck review at Stainless.
14-Apr	Work Night	Moved Marine 1 so it's accessible for warmer weather. Discussed recent calls.
21-Apr	Work Night	Truck checks and call sheet completed.
28-Apr	Work Night	Truck checks and call sheet completed.

Call Summary

Call #	27	28	29	30	31
Date	4/3/2026	4/13/2026	4/14/2026	4/14/2026	4/15/2026
Time	10:51	17:10	12:35	21:18	5:33
Day of Week	Friday	Monday	Tuesday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Township	Saratoga	Sigel	Grand Rapids	Rudolph	Saratoga
Location	9041 STH 13 SOUTH	STH 73 & APPLE ROAD	32ND ST & CTH W	975 TOWER RD	STH 54 & CTH G
Rescue 3	M. Wiberg	T. Young	T. Young	B. Franz	B. Franz
Rescue 4					
Rescue 5					
10-22ed					Yes
Call Type	10-50 w/ Unknown Injuries	10-50 w/ Unknown Injuries	Other	Project Lifesaver	10-50 w/ Injuries
Medical/Extrication					
Ambulance	WRFD	UEMR	UEMR	UEMR	WRFD
EMR	Saratoga	Vesper		Rudolph	Saratoga
Fire	Nekoosa	Vesper	Grand Rapids	Rudolph	Nekoosa
Air					
Tools/Equipment Used		Cribbing		PLS Receiver	
Notes					
Other members on scene		M. Wiberg		C. Stoflet	D. Westfall

Call Summary

Call #	32	33	34	35	
Date	4/22/2026	4/24/2026	4/25/2026	4/25/2026	
Time	19:51	0:04	17:45	22:38	
Day of Week	Wednesday	Friday	Saturday	Saturday	
Township	Rudolph	Cranmoor	Saratoga	Port Edwards	
Location	975 TOWER RD	STH 173 & CTH RR	6510 STH 13 S	PLEASANT VIEW DR & PORT RD	
Rescue 3	C. Stoflet	C. Stoflet			
Rescue 4					
Rescue 5					
10-22ed	Yes	Yes			
Call Type	Project Lifesaver	10-50 w/ Unknown Injuries	10-50 w/ Unknown Injuries	10-50 w/ Unknown Injuries	
Medical/Extrication					
Ambulance					
EMR					
Fire					
Air					
Tools/Equipment Used					
Notes					
Other members on scene					



WOOD COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT



SHAWN BECKER, SHERIFF

May 5th 2026

MEMORANDUM FOR Sheriff Becker; Public Safety Committee

SUBJECT: Monthly Crime Stoppers Report – April 2026

The Crime Stoppers program received 14 tips in the month of April that were forwarded to the appropriate agencies for follow-up, as reported by P3.

The last monthly board meeting was held on April 8th, 2026. The next regular meeting will May 13thth, 2026

Respectfully Submitted,

Daniel Berres
Investigator Sergeant
Wood County Sheriff's Department



WOOD COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT



SHAWN BECKER, SHERIFF

2026 APRIL K9 Report

	TRAINING HOURS	USEAGE/ DEPLOYMENTS	DEMO/ COMMUNITY
K9 Bingo	26	0	0
K9 Timo	26	4	0
K9 Rosco	24	3	1
K9 Lola	SEE	BELOW	
K9 Ripp	SEE	BELOW	

TRAINING (MONTHLY) –

The Wood County Sheriff's Department trained with the Wisconsin Rapids Police Department and Portage County Sheriff's Office K9 teams during the month of April. The training venues consisted of the WOSO/WRPD range house and Nieman's Towing. Areas of training consisted of odor detection (building, lockers, vehicles, and luggage), gun fire neutrality, apprehension recalls, handler protection certification practice drills, and obedience around bite equipment.

TRAINING (INDIVIDUAL) –

- Sergeant Arendt and K9 Timo had two hours of on duty training in the month of April focusing the areas of obedience and odor detection. Sergeant Arendt and K9 Timo also had 12 hours of training on April 30th while at Jessiffany K9.
- Deputy Beathard and K9 Rosco had 12 additional training hours at Jessiffany K9.
- Lieutenant Christianson and K9 Bingo completed on duty training with focus area of odor detection and obedience. Also attended Jessiffany for additional training/recertification.

USEAGE –

- Sergeant Arendt and K9 Timo had four deployments in the month of April. All four of these deployments were for vehicle sniffs. Two of these deployments resulted in no indication. The other two deployments resulted in indication and vehicle searches. Located during these searches was cocaine, marijuana, and drug paraphernalia.
- Deputy Beathard and K9 Rosco had three deployments in the month of April. One usage was a drug search warrant where cocaine and THC were located within the residence. One usage was tracking to locate an individual with a felony warrant. K9 Rosco successfully tracked the



WOOD COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT



SHAWN BECKER, SHERIFF

individual who surrendered after being located and arrested. K9 Rosco also had one traffic deployment with indication, nothing of evidentiary value located.

DEMO/COMMUNITY – Deputy Beathard and K9 Rosco made an appearance at the rainy egg hunt for easter at the Vesper ball diamonds.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION –

- Lieutenant Christianson w/ K9 Bingo, Sergeant Arendt w/ K9 Timo, and Deputy Beathard w/ K9 Rosco attended the 2026 Jessiffany K9 certification and competition in Iron Ridge, WI from April 30th – May 2nd

Ripp's Training/Work Log- April 2026

April 1

- K9 Training
- Visited Bethel Academy School-Presentation W/Ripp

April 7

- Student of the Month Ceremony- Elementary/Middle/High School

April 8

- Mock Crash Scenario/Requested by students for emotional support following Mock Crash and Assembly

April 10

- Pittsville Carnival W/ Ripp

April 14

- Veterans Coffee/Veteran Interviews

April 15

- Community Coffee

April 22

- K9 Training (Completed Advanced Obedience)
- Ripp Vet Appt.

April 23

- Wellness Visit

April 27



WOOD COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT



SHAWN BECKER, SHERIFF

- Requested in Counseling Office by student
- K9 Therapy Class Training

April 28

- Attended Elementary Spring Concert

April 29

- Attended Veterans Ducks Trip Assembly/Escort

April 2026 Lola's Work and Training Schedule

April 1st

Jail Mental Health Meeting

April 2nd

Film crew introductions

Attended CIT Training

April 6th

Visited Pinnacle Therapy

April 7th

MSTC Advisory Committee Meeting

April 9th

Attended Fire Training

April 10th

Jail interviews

Pittsville Elementary School Carnival

April 14th

Assisted Provider to see inmates

Lt Meeting

April 15th

Went into most pods on the 2nd and 3rd floor



WOOD COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT



SHAWN BECKER, SHERIFF

April 16th

Went to Jacoby Custom Cues to say thank you for donating to our K9 Unit at the Elk's Club

April 17th

Greeted Courthouse Employees coming into work
MSTC Trish's mom funeral

April 18th

Family Center Wellness Clinic at the Biron Community Center
Met with inmates concerning their MH

April 19th

Escorted Inmates to see Provider
Jail Interviews
Wellness Appointment with Holly Hakes

April 22nd

Jail Interview

April 28th

Jail Interviews

April 29th

Jail Interview

April 30th

Fire Training
Job Fair in Wausau

Respectfully,

Brandon Christianson

Brandon Christianson
Patrol Lieutenant



WOOD COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT



SHAWN BECKER, SHERIFF

HUMANE OFFICER

03-01-26 to 03-31-26

Animal Bites:	<u>Dog</u>	<u>Cat</u>	<u>Squirrel</u>
• Arpin	0	0	0
• Biron	1	0	0
• Grand Rapids	2	0	0
• Nekoosa	0	0	0
• Wis. Rapids	1	0	0
• Wood	0	0	0
• Marshfield	0	0	0
• Rudolph	0	0	0
• Seneca	0	0	0
• Saratoga	0	1	0
• Pittsville	0	0	0
• Richfield	0	0	0
• Lincoln	0	0	0
• Port Edw	0	0	0

Inhumane /Abuse Case: 0

Abandonment: 0

Animal vs Animal: 0

Abatement Order: 0

Animals at Large: 0

Major Incidents: 0

Follow-up-Brooke: 1

Follow-up-Susa: 0

Monthly Hours: 20

2026 YTD Hours: 78.5

Submitted by: Jenna McDonald



WOOD COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT



SHAWN BECKER, SHERIFF

Department of Natural Resources Patrols

April 2026

ATV

- Patrol Hours 78
- Citations- 1
- Warnings- 4

BOAT

- Patrol Hours 0
- Citations- 0
- Warnings- 0
- 20 Hours of DNR Training

SNOWMOBILE

- Patrol Hours 0
- Citation- 0
- Warnings- 0
- 16.5 Hours of DNR Safety Course

Submitted by

Sgt. Matt Susa



WOOD COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT



SHAWN BECKER, SHERIFF

Operations Overtime/Comp Time Totals

APRIL 2025 (03/29/26to 04/25/26)

Patrol

Overtime hours:	219.5
Comp time hours:	319.875
Holiday Pay/Comp hours:	96

Investigations

Overtime hours:	47
Comp time hours:	68.75

Security Services

Overtime hours:	72.25
Comp time hours:	36.75

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



Public Safety Committee Meeting

Security Services April 2026 Report

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

Guns -	0
Knives -	85
O.C. -	4
Misc. Items -	7

The miscellaneous items that were located were 2 (two) pairs of scissors, 3 (three) hammers, a corkscrew and an empty holster.

Security Services screened 8,877 people entering the courthouse in April. Security Services had 65 security requests from different departments within the Courthouse for the month and we had four (4) jury trials.

We also served nine (9) civil process papers, executed 2 (two) evictions and fulfilled 5 (five) warrants for the month.

Security Services handled eight (8) complaints in the jail this month of April. Three (3) of those reports were for inmate fights, one (1) was an inmate vs. CO altercation, three (3) were criminal damage to property complaints and one (1) was a sexual crime. We also handled a Preliminary Hearing for one of the Investigators.

Tuesday, April 7th was election night, so one of the Security Deputies assisted the County Clerk's Office by staying late and letting the clerks from Wood County in after the polls closed.

During the Month of April, I utilize part-time employees for 12 hours to fill employee shortage hours. Several shifts ran short due to no part-time employees being able to help.

Report submitted by: Lieutenant Bryan D. Peterson



WOOD COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT



SHAWN BECKER, SHERIFF

Public Safety Committee Meeting

School Resource Officer (Auburndale) April 2026 Report

For the month of April, the School Resource Officer initiated/responded to 19 calls of service while at the Auburndale High School/Middle School/Elementary School. The calls for service included:

- Disturbances (Threats)
- Traffic Stops/Enforcement at the schools
- Child Sexual Assault Investigation
- Truancy
- Welfare Check (Multiple)
- Traffic Crash Investigation
- Possession of THC
- Chapter 51.15
- Financial Theft
- Several Follow Ups for past investigations
- Truancy for Think Academy in Rudolph

The School Resource Officer also participated in the following:

- Safety walk at the High School/Middle/Elementary School
- Weekly training with K9 Ripp-Obedience/Therapy Classes
- Attended Veterans Coffee and Community Coffee at High School
- Provided escort for Tractor Day @ Auburndale High School
- Student interviews for classroom activities
- Participated with Veterans Duck Trip- Provided Veterans W/ Escort
- Visited Pittsville School District with K9 Ripp
- Attended Pittsville Carnival with K9 Ripp
- Mock Crash Scenario for Auburndale High School



WOOD COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT



SHAWN BECKER, SHERIFF

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

Report submitted by: SRO Nehls #441



WOOD COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT



SHAWN BECKER, SHERIFF

US HWY 10 Cross Traffic Monthly Report

April (03/01/26 – 03/31/26)

Intersection	Time Spent (min)	Citations	Warnings
USH 10/Day RD	145	0	1
USH 10/CTH T	675	0	3
USH 10/CTH E	35	0	0
USH 10/STH 186	990	7	16
USH 10/North RD	118	0	2
USH 10/CTH K	0	0	0
USH 10/Blueberry RD	0	0	0
USH 10/CTH N	110	0	1
USH 10/CTH S	40	0	1
USH 10/Brookside RD	0	0	0
USH 10/CTH F	0	0	0
Totals:	2113	7	24

MINUTES – 2113

WARNINGS – 24

CITATIONS – 7

REPORTED WW DRIVERS – 1

CRASHES – 2 (1 deer and 1 with Injuries)

Submitted By: Charles Hoogsteger – Operations Captain

WOOD COUNTY JAIL

JANUARY - JUNE 2026

TOTAL POPULATION / DAILY POPULATION / ELECTRONIC MONITORING

DAY	JANUARY			FEBRUARY			MARCH			APRIL			MAY			JUNE		
	TOTAL	IMMG	EMP	TOTAL	IMMG	EMP	TOTAL	IMMG	EMP	TOTAL	IMMG	EMP	TOTAL	IMMG	EMP	TOTAL	IMMG	EMP
1	180	0	22	177	3	23	175	4	19	175	5	23	171	4	22	0	0	0
2	175	0	21	177	3	23	177	4	19	179	6	23	166	4	22			
3	177	0	19	175	4	24	169	4	21	180	6	22	167	4	21			
4	177	0	19	173	4	24	170	5	22	182	6	22	163	4	20			
5	177	0	19	177	6	23	174	5	22	185	6	21						
6	177	1	21	176	6	22	169	5	21	185	6	20						
7	183	1	22	175	6	23	171	5	21	180	5	19						
8	184	1	24	180	6	22	171	5	21	178	5	19						
9	179	1	24	181	6	21	172	5	21	181	5	19						
10	174	1	22	178	6	21	175	5	23	181	5	19						
11	176	1	22	180	6	21	175	4	24	185	5	20						
12	175	1	22	183	6	21	175	5	24	185	5	20						
13	163	1	22	176	6	22	169	5	22	189	5	20						
14	167	1	23	177	6	21	169	5	22	187	7	21						
15	162	1	23	177	6	21	176	5	22	178	7	22						
16	164	1	23	179	6	21	176	5	22	174	5	22						
17	159	1	23	171	8	21	179	5	22	168	5	23						
18	165	3	23	171	8	23	169	5	22	169	4	23						
19	169	3	23	171	7	24	167	4	22	171	4	22						
20	171	3	24	175	6	24	166	4	21	169	4	21						
21	173	3	25	171	5	24	173	4	22	170	4	21						
22	171	3	24	172	5	24	174	6	22	174	4	20						
23	172	1	26	171	5	23	175	6	22	172	4	20						
24	167	1	27	169	5	23	174	6	22	169	4	20						
25	170	1	26	169	4	23	174	6	22	172	4	21						
26	175	1	26	171	4	23	176	6	22	172	4	21						
27	173	2	26	174	4	22	174	6	21	180	4	21						
28	171	2	26	173	4	20	178	5	21	182	4	22						
29	172	3	26				180	5	21	179	4	22						
30	170	3	26				181	5	21	174	4	23						
31	178	3	24				178	5	22									
AVERAGES																		
Total Jail	172.45			174.96			173.58			177.50			166.75			0.00		
IMMG	1.42			5.39			4.97			4.87			4.00			0.00		
EMP	23.32			22.39			21.65			21.07			21.25			0.00		
Length of Stay	26.70			40.80			28.40			26.60			0.00			0.00		

WOOD COUNTY JAIL

JULY - DECEMBER 2026

TOTAL POPULATION / DAILY POPULATION / ELECTRONIC MONITORING

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

2026 YEARLY AVERAGES	
OVERALL POPULATION	173.05
IMMG HOLDS	4.13
ELECTRONIC MONITORING	21.94
AVERAGE LENGTH of STAY	30.63

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

	DATE	POPULATION
Color indicates low population	1/15/2026	162
Color indicates high population	1/8/2026	184

MONTHLY	HIGH	LOW
JANUARY	184	162
FEBRUARY	183	169
MARCH	181	166
APRIL		
MAY		
JUNE		
JULY		
AUGUST		
SEPTEMBER		
OCTOBER		
NOVEMBER		
DECEMBER		

Electronic Monitoring 2026

Month	Monthly Average
January	23.32
February	22.39
March	21.65
April	21.07
May	21.25
June	0.00
July	0.00
August	0.00
September	0.00
October	0.00
November	0.00
December	0.00
TOTAL	21.94

Wood County Sheriff's Department Kitchen

MONTH		Breakfast	Lunch	Dinner	Special	
January	1/09/2026	WEEK 1	1241	1242	1216	0
	1/16/2026	WEEK 2	1186	1196	1145	0
	1/23/2026	WEEK 3	1114	1133	1102	0
	1/30/2026	WEEK 4	1124	1128	1107	0
	2/6/2026	WEEK 5	1146	1137	1141	0
			5811	5836	5711	0
February	2/13/2026	WEEK 6	1193	1182	1188	0
	2/20/2026	WEEK 7	1202	1181	1159	0
	2/27/2026	WEEK 8	1131	1126	1125	0
	3/6/2026	WEEK 9	1131	1126	1125	0
			4657	4615	4597	0
March	3/13/2026	WEEK 10	1146	1146	1129	0
	3/20/2026	WEEK 11	1154	1156	1139	0
	3/27/2026	WEEK 12	1161	1154	1150	0
		WEEK 13	1199	1178	1188	0
			4660	4634	4606	0
April		WEEK 14	1237	1220	1229	0
		WEEK 15	1234	1229	1212	0
		WEEK 16	1158	1182	1153	0
		WEEK 17	1200	1203	1182	0
		WEEK 18	0	0	0	0
			4829	4834	4776	0
May		WEEK 19	0	0	0	0
		WEEK 20	0	0	0	0
		WEEK 21	0	0	0	0
		WEEK 22	0	0	0	0
			0	0	0	0
June		WEEK 23	0	0	0	0
		WEEK 24	0	0	0	0
		WEEK 25	0	0	0	0
		WEEK 26	0	0	0	0
			0	0	0	0
July		WEEK 27	0	0	0	0
		WEEK 28	0	0	0	0
		WEEK 29	0	0	0	0
		WEEK 30	0	0	0	0
		WEEK 31	0	0	0	0
			0	0	0	0
August		WEEK 32	0	0	0	0
		WEEK 33	0	0	0	0

	WEEK 34	0	0	0	0
	WEEK 35	0	0	0	0
		0	0	0	0
September	WEEK 36	0	0	0	0
	WEEK 37	0	0	0	0
	WEEK 38	0	0	0	0
	WEEK 39	0	0	0	0
		0	0	0	0
October	WEEK 40	0	0	0	0
	WEEK 41	0	0	0	0
	WEEK 42	0	0	0	0
	WEEK 43	0	0	0	0
	WEEK 44	0	0	0	0
		0	0	0	0
November	WEEK 45	0	0	0	0
	WEEK 46	0	0	0	0
	WEEK 47	0	0	0	0
	WEEK 48	0	0	0	0
		0	0	0	0
December	WEEK 49	0	0	0	0
	WEEK 50	0	0	0	0
	WEEK 51	0	0	0	0
	WEEK 52				
		0	0	0	0
TOTAL		19957	19919	19690	0

Annual Report - 2026

Total meals	Food Cost plus Labor
3699	\$9,351.08
3527	\$9,230.16
3349	\$9,095.88
3359	\$9,123.04
3424	\$8,960.61
17358	\$45,760.77
3563	\$9,324.37
3542	\$9,269.41
3382	\$8,850.70
3382	\$8,850.70
13869	\$36,295.18
3421	\$8,952.75
3449	\$9,026.03
3465	\$9,067.91
3565	\$9,329.61
13900	\$36,376.30
3686	\$9,318.21
3675	\$9,290.40
3493	\$9,141.18
3585	\$9,062.88
0	
14439	\$36,812.67
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0	\$0.00
59566	\$155,244.92

Cost per meal \$2.61

Cost Per day \$7.82

MINUTES
CONSERVATION, EDUCATION, & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, April 28, 2026

TIME: 9:01 AM

PLACE: Courthouse – Room 300

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Trent Miner, County Clerk; others listed on sign-in sheet

1. County Clerk Miner called the meeting to order at 9:01 AM.
2. There was no public comment.
3. Miner opened the floor to nominations for committee chair. Hovendick nominated Leichtnam. There being no other nominations, Miner declared Leichtnam duly elected as committee chair.
4. Miner opened the floor to nominations for committee vice chair. Leichtnam nominated Buttke. There being no other nominations, Miner declared Buttke duly elected as vice chair.
5. By committee consensus, the meetings will be held on the first Wednesdays of the month at 9:00 AM.
6. Miner declared the meeting adjourned at 9:03 AM.

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

**Committee Organizational Meetings
April 28, 2026**

NAME	REPRESENTING
JOSEPH H. ZURFLUH	WCB-D17
DENNIS POLACH	WCB-14
BILL VOIGHT	WCB-7
Bill Leichtnam	WCB-19
AL BREU	WCB-5
Russ Perlock	WCB-4
Jake Hahn	WCB-8
Wayne Schindler	WCB-1
Scott C. Soik <i>list 12/1/26</i>	Congressman Van Orden's office
Victoria Wilson (WebEx)	P-3
Lance Pimpl (WebEx)	CB Chair

MINUTES

CONSERVATION, EDUCATION, & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, May 6, 2026

TIME: 9:00 AM

PLACE: Courthouse – Room 302

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bill Leichtnam, Tom Buttke (arrived at 9:04 AM), Wayne Schulz, Russ Perlock, Tim Hovendick, George Gilbertson

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

1. Chairman Leichtnam called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM and declared a quorum present.
2. There were no public comments.
3. Under Chair's remarks, Chair Leichtnam thanked the committee for their work over the past two years and expressed his desire to dig deeper into Economic Development as a committee. More details will follow.
4. The minutes of the April 1 & 28, 2026, meetings were presented. Motion by Buttke/Hovendick to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
5. Motion by Schulz/Perlock to approve the vouchers, monthly department reports and committee reports. Motion carried unanimously.
6. Jason Sachs from the Aqua Skiers is requesting a release of REDI funds to fund a site plan development for additional permanent structures on Red Beach in the South Wood County Park. The committee reviewed the documentation presented in the packet. Motion by Schulz/Hovendick to approve the release of \$14,163.75 to fund the site plan as described above. Motion carried unanimously.
7. Dale Christensen from the Central Wisconsin State Fair provided an update on last year's fair and showed a video and the effect of the fair on the exhibitors. He requested the release of economic development grant funds in the amount of \$38,000 to the Junior Fair. Motion by Buttke/Hovendick to approve the release of \$38,000 of economic development grant funding to the Junior Fair. Motion carried unanimously.
8. Emily Oetzman from the Health Dept. provided the committee an update on the Catch-A-Ride startup program. She reviewed funding already received and shared they hope to have enough funding in place for an October 1, 2026 launch. She is requesting the release of \$20,000 of economic grant funding. Motion by Buttke/Schulz to approve the release of \$20,000 for the Catch-A Ride program. Motion carried unanimously.
9. Planning & Zoning Director Grueneberg provide the committee with a history and an update on the Central Wisconsin Economic Development Fund and projects it has helped in Wood County. There is currently 9 loans in Wood County. CWED lowered their borrowing rate and this has spurred numerous additional loan requests.

10. Grueneberg updated the committee on the status of the state economic development grant received to update the Helen Connor Laird theater on the UWSP at Marshfield campus. They are hoping to have final state approval of the plans sometime in June.
11. There were no bids received again for the Gilbertson grassed waterway project. This will be bid one more time before going directly to a contractor and hiring the project done. This is a low dollar amount project.
12. Additional funding from the state was received for projects on Four Mile Creek as well as Nepco Lake, thereby needing a resolution to expend those funds. Motion by Buttke/Hovendick to approve the two budget amending resolutions and forward onto the county board for their consideration. Motion carried unanimously.
13. County Conservationist Wucherpfennig reported that the DNR is asking counties to ensure compliance with NR151 on numerous sites, some that have never had Land Conservation employees on before. For Wood County, this amounts to 16 sites. Wucherpfennig expressed concern about this approach stating that some farmers may not be open to a perceived intrusion on their property. The committee suggested calling the around 8 producers to see how this is perceived by property owners and report back to the committee.
14. Wucherpfennig reviewed the current status of the ARPA funds for ground water testing being conducted through UWSP. The spots to test have been determined and letters will be going out to those landowners shortly.
15. There will be committee training coming up June 9th for all Land Conservation Committee members sponsored by North Central Land + Water Conservation Association and will be held in Merrill.
16. Area Extension Director McNelly highlighted her departments' monthly activity report and what the educators are working on.
17. Extension Area Director McNelly reported that currently there are two half time positions for Natural Resources Educator. In order to ensure the position, since there were two halftime positions, McNelly is looking to make one full-time, county funded position. Since we were already paying the two half time positions, the full-time position will come at no cost. Motion by Buttke/Perlock to approve the hiring of one full-time position and amend the Extension contract to show the change. Motion carried unanimously.
18. McNelly received word that the cranberry specialist position was approved for rehire with anticipation it will be filled by the fall. The Associate 4H position open will be filled and will be taking a larger role in expanding 4H into South Wood County.
19. Ka Zoua Thao, Community Health worker received an outstanding programming award from the state for her work in the jail. This now goes to the national level competition. The committee expressed their congratulations.

20. Requests for per diems are as follows:

- Supervisor Hovendick for attendance at the Witter Field Lighting ceremony
- All Committee members to attend the Citizens Water Group meetings for this term.
- Supervisor Leichtnam to Golden Sands RC&D for this term.

Motion by Schulz/Hovendick to approve the per diems as requested. Motion carried unanimously.

21. The next regular meeting will be on Wednesday, June 3rd at 9:00 AM..

22. Chair Leichtnam adjourned the meeting at 11:21 AM.

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

**Conservation, Education, & Economic Development Committee
May 6, 2026**

NAME	REPRESENTING
Bill Cleland	WCB #15
Emily Oetzman	Wood County Health Dept.
Jason Sachs	Aqua Skiing
Dennis Polach	WCB-14
JFP Knzke	WCB #11
Shane Wachspfer	CWC
Jen McNelly	UWEX
Jason Grossberg	P+Z
Dale Christman	CWSF
Kayla Rombalski	Extension
Katie Kleyn (Web Ex)	County Clerk
Darr Petterson (Web Ex)	LWS
Ben Jeffrey (Web Ex)	Health Dept
Victoria Wilson	P-3
Lance Pliml	CB Chair

Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development Council, Inc.
Personnel/Finance Committee Meeting Minutes
March 19th, 2026
Golden Sands RC&D Office/Online

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

CALL TO ORDER: Wucherpfennig called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

INTRODUCTIONS: None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Leichtnam, which was seconded by Beastrom, to approve the minutes of the January 2026 meeting. Motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION: A motion was made by Leichtnam, which was seconded by Walker, to go into closed session at 9:05 a.m. Motion carried. Within the closed session, members agreed to hold a special P&F meeting at 9:30 a.m. on Monday, March 23rd at the River Block building in Wisconsin Rapids to discuss a variety of administrative items.

OUT OF CLOSED SESSION: A motion was made by Leichtnam, which was seconded by Beastrom, to come out of closed session at 9:45 a.m. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Glad presented the treasurer's report. A motion was made by Leichtnam, 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 opportunities for federal funding are diminishing, and that the organization is actively exploring alternative sources of revenue.

2025 YEAR-END FINANCIALS: Thorstensen reported that a few details still need to be resolved, and a final report will be available soon.

2025 AUDIT: Glad reported that options and pricing for a formal audit are being explored.

EMPLOYMENT UPDATES: Glad reported out of the ten seasonal field positions, five have been filled, and five are pending. The regenerative ag specialist position is open again, after a new hire left shortly after coming on board, for a job that offered better benefits.

AL BARDEN TRIBUTE: A ceremony is tentatively planned for May 6, 2026 in Eagle River.

POLICY AND PROCEDURE: Glad encouraged more board involvement in minutes-taking at board meetings.

PR & COMMUNICATIONS: Glad reported that the newsletter was published.

OTHER BUSINESS: Glad gave a brief update on an opportunity related to the Vista Sands solar project.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Leichtnam, which was seconded by Beastron, to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 10:17 a.m.

Minutes by: Bob Walker, Secretary

Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development Council, Inc.
Agriculture Committee Meeting Minutes
March 19th, 2026
Golden Sands RC&D Office/Online

Attendees: Brent Tessmer (Taylor); Gary Beastrom (Member-at-Large); Gabby Buckholt (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Annika Waltenberg (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Asher Maliepaard (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Jennifer Glad (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Brooke Patrick (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Ben Babcock (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Brady Albers (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Robert Bauer (Golden Sands RC&D Staff).

CALL TO ORDER: Tessmer called the meeting to order at 10:24 a.m.

INTRODUCTIONS: Everyone introduced themselves.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Beastrom, which was seconded by Tessmer, to approve the January 2026 minutes. Motion carried.

STAFF & COUNTY MEMBER UPDATES:

Tessmer (Taylor): He reported on nutrient management planning, construction plans for the upcoming season, closing 4 or 5 unused manure pits, and the tree sale is going well.

Patrick: She reported on her grazing plan requests. There won't be a second round of EQIP funding. She is preparing to inform producers that NRCS is limiting EQIP funds. She is planning for summer events. There will be a spring meeting in Marion to bring Central Wisconsin graziers together. There will be a G-Team Meeting for teaching other ag professionals how to use QGIS.

Bauer: He reported on his applications to train to be a technical service provider, to write grazing plans in Illinois, write soil health plans, and to take soil samples.

Albers: He reported that there hasn't been much new for grazing in Green Lake County.

Babcock: He reported on finishing his first grazing plan and working on some other ones in the NRCS office.

Maliepaard: He reported that the grant he was working under was wrapped up at the end of the year. A new Regenerative Agriculture Specialist, Drew Carlson, was hired recently and then parted with us. He reported on the various conferences that he attended and upcoming conferences. He also reported on upcoming pasture walks. He reported that there are many grazing plans queued up and that site visits will be starting up soon.

Glad: She reported that Annika Waltenberg has been hired as this summer's Managed Grazing Intern and many funding proposals are being worked on.

Waltenberg: She reported that the neighborhood gardens have had a rule change to build community and an introductory meeting is coming up. There is an upcoming rain barrel

workshop event in Amherst this summer. There have been a lot of promotional materials being made and seeds have been planted for the gardeners to use in the neighborhood gardens.

NEW PROJECTS: None.

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

Minutes by: Gabby Buckholt

Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development Council, Inc.
Forestry/Wildlife Committee Meeting Minutes
March 19th, 2026
Golden Sands RC&D Office/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); Shala Pence (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Amy Thorstenson (Golden Sands RC&D Staff).

CALL TO ORDER: Drabek called the meeting to order at 10:21 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 January 2026 meeting. Motion carried.

HABITAT FOR KARNER BLUE BUTTERFLY, POWESHIEK SKIPPERLING & OTHER POLLINATORS: Harwood reported that the project is wrapping up. Funding is being sought for future work.

COOPERATIVE FORESTRY/DEMO FORESTS: Harwood & Fluor reported. A banquet for demo forest owners will be held next week. A video presentation series for demonstration forests is being considered. Funding opportunities are being explored.

CENTRAL WISCONSIN INVASIVES PARTNERSHIP (CWIP) / NORTHEAST WISCONSIN

INVASIVES PARTNERSHIP (NEWIP): Fluor & Harwood reported. Planning is underway for the 2026 season, with projects on both public and private lands. Staff have attended events and public outreach activities.

TREE SHELTERS: Tuma reported that orders are coming in for the 2026 season, and that we are off to a good start. Promotions are planned.

NEW PROJECTS:

55-6003-999-890 - AIS Prevention for Yard Waste Facilities and Landscaping Companies (CWIP area). Fluor presented the project, which is funded by a \$24,000 Wisconsin DNR grant for services in Portage, Wood, Waushara, and Marathon counties. The project involves collaborative efforts with municipalities, yard waste facilities, and local landscape companies in an effort to reduce transportation of invasive species to and from these facilities and educate about proper invasive disposal. Runs from March 2026 through December 2029.

55-6003-999-889 - Yard Waste Facility and Landscape Company Outreach in Northeast Wisconsin (NEWIP area). Harwood presented the project, which has funding, scope and duration similar to the project above, but in Winnebago, Outagamie and Waupaca counties.

A motion was made by Walker, which was seconded by Clendenning, to recommend full board approval of both projects. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS: Harwood and Fluor reviewed a list of other project grants that they applied to. Thorstenson mentioned a potential project with emerald ash borer control. Also discussed was a plan for administering contracted services for terrestrial species control.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Clendenning, which was seconded by Walker, to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Minutes by: Bob Walker

Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development Council, Inc.
Waters Committee Meeting Minutes
March 19th, 2026
Golden Sands RC&D Office/Online

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

CALL TO ORDER: Tomandl called the meeting to order at 10:21 am.

INTRODUCTIONS: Everyone introduced themselves.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Leichtnam, which was seconded by Wucherpennig, to approve the January 2026 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

NEW PROJECTS:

55-6003-999-888 - AIS Prevention for Trappers. Golden Sands will work with the WI DNR, WI Trappers Association (WTA), and other partners to update and create educational outreach materials for trappers to reduce the spread of aquatic invasive species. Funded by a \$24,00 grant from DNR, the project starts in March 2026 and runs through 2029 or 2030. A motion was made by Eggleston, which was seconded by Wucherpennig, to approve the new project and move it on to full counsel. Motion carried.

COUNTY AND STAFF UPDATES:

Hamerla: 2025 Regional LMPN reporting is done and final reimbursements were all received. 2026 Regional LMPN funding was received. He received notice that the AIS Prevention for Trappers Surface Water Grant was approved. The grant is statewide and is for \$24,000 plus a \$8,000 match. The Grant is 3 yrs. (2026-2029). Chris finished up the Brekke Lake aquatic plant management plan and DNR really liked it. They may use it as a template for other lakes.

Lince: She also wrapped up the 2025 LMPN Grant. She is working on AIS outreach for cranberry growers. She worked with Hamerla and Gurklis to write a grant for the Big Silver Pontoon event. She brought on Trempealeau County for the LMPN project. She is working with Justin Ladd, in Juneau County, for clean boat events on Lake Petenwell & Castle Rock boat landings. She is also working with Marquette County to Develop a 9-Key Element Plan for a watershed in that county.

Gurklis: She is teaching 5th graders about aquatic invasive species and groundwater. She is doing the groundwater lessons in Waupaca, Marquette, Green Lake, and Wood Counties. The AIS lesson is offered to schools within the LMPN Counties. She took over the clean boat/clean watercraft project and recruited summer help for Silver Lake, Waupaca Chain of Lakes, and Lake Helen.

Marathon (Mader): In 2025, he had successful shoreline projects using native plants. He plans to plant more native plants on shorelines in 2026. The Common Ground Event is coming up in a couple of weeks and he is working with the EPPIC Group for that event. He is working on a well head protection area project with the village of Rib Mountain.

Portage (Nancy): A well head protection plan revision went to the county board in March for a vote and was defeated 13/12. It will be revisited with the new board after the April elections. Also, a livestock siting ordinance is being tabled until after elections.

Taylor (Tomandl): Taylor County is working on their county tree sale. There is a gold mine being proposed in the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest.

OTHER BUSINESS: None.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Leichtnam, which was seconded by Eggleston, to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 10:52 am.

Minutes by: Shane Wucherpennig

Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development Council, Inc.
Regular Business/Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
March 19th, 2026
Golden Sands RC&D Office/Online

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

CALL TO ORDER: President Wucherpfennig called the meeting to order at 11:06 a.m.

INTRODUCTIONS: Everyone introduced themselves.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Clendenning, which was seconded by Tomandl, to approve the minutes from the January 2026 meeting. Motion carried.

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

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

FEDERAL FUNDING STATUS: Glad reported that opportunities for federal funding are diminishing, and that the organization is actively exploring alternative sources of revenue.

MEMBERSHIP DUES: Glad reported on the status of payments for 2026 voluntary county dues.

GROUNDWATER LEGISLATION/POLICY: Leichtnam reported that PFAs legislation has passed the Wisconsin Legislature and that the governor is expected to sign the bill.

MEETING LOCATIONS FOR SUMMER 2026: Several options were discussed.

COUNTY BOARD ELECTIONS: Wucherpfennig reminded Golden Sands RC&D county delegates to make board appointment changes if needed based on the outcome of the April election.

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

NEW PROJECTS:

55-6003-999-888 - AIS Prevention for Trappers. Golden Sands will work with the WI DNR, WI Trappers Association (WTA), and other partners to update and create educational outreach materials for trappers to reduce the spread of aquatic invasive species. Funded by a \$24,000 grant from DNR, the project starts in March 2026 and runs through 2029 or 2030. A motion was made by Walker, which was seconded by Clendenning, to approve this project. Motion carried.

55-6003-999-890 - AIS Prevention for Yard Waste Facilities and Landscaping Companies (CWIP area). The board reviewed the project, which is funded by a \$24,000 Wisconsin DNR grant for services in Portage, Wood, Waushara, and Marathon Counties. The project involves collaborative efforts with municipalities, yard waste facilities, and local landscape companies in an effort to reduce the transportation of invasive species to and from these facilities and educate about proper invasive disposal. Runs from March 2026 through December 2029.

55-6003-999-889 - Yard Waste Facility and Landscape Company Outreach in Northeast Wisconsin (NEWIP area). The board reviewed the project, which has funding, scope and duration similar to the project above, but in Winnebago, Outagamie and Waupaca counties.

A motion was made by Clendenning, which was seconded by Drabek, to approve both projects 890 and 889. Motion carried.

Vista Plans Solar/Grass Bank Pilot Project: Glad presented information about a new project opportunity. The Grass Bank Pilot Project is in collaboration with Farmers of the Mill Creek Watershed and the Vista Sands Solar Stakeholder Group, which Golden Sands RC&D is a member of. The purpose is to improve habitat for the Greater Prairie Chicken in the agricultural area that surrounds the Paul J Olson State Wildlife Area (Portage and Wood Counties). The project is scheduled to start in April 2026 and will add additional funding of \$100/acre for up to 100 acres for 1-3 landowners, who will start a new Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) contract through USDA's Farm Services Agency (FSA), to convert row cropped lands to grassland. The CRP contracts and this additional funding opportunity will be in place for 10 years. Lands closest to known Greater Prairie Chicken leks will be given top priority. Additionally, there is the opportunity to add managed grazing of dairy heifers in an every-other year rotation for further grassland management and additional revenue for the farmer. The funding is being provided by Doral Renewables, the developer of the Vista Sands Solar project. A motion was made by Leichtnam, which was seconded by Tomandl, to allow participation in the project. Motion carried.

STAFF/PROJECT UPDATES: Glad reminded attendees that staff activity reports were included with information sent out prior to the meeting.

OTHER REPORTS: None.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Drabek, which was seconded by Clendenning, to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 11:53 a.m.

Minutes by: Bob Walker, Secretary



**NORTH CENTRAL WISCONSIN TOURISM PARTNERSHIP TOURISM
COMMITTEE**

April 8, 2026

Zoom Meeting

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Keri Beck called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m.

ROLL CALL: PRESENT: Keri Beck, Langlade County; Autumn Timblin, Marinette County; Ann Maletzke, Spur of the Moment Ranch (Oconto County); Michelle Eron, Shawano Country Tourism; James Przybylski, Shawano County; and Brad Hamilton, Wood County. **EXCUSED:** Mike Miller, Forest County; Sarah Brooks, Lincoln County; Malorie Paine, Plover CVB; and Matt McLean, Visit Marshfield. **OTHERS PRESENT:** Kelly Schwartz, TEDCOR; Jodi Maguire, Stevens Point Area CVB; Meredith Kleker, Visit Wisconsin Rapids; John Pavelski, Portage County Executive; and Christopher Jennings, Travel Wisconsin. **WCA STAFF:** Sarah Diedrick-Kasdorf.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion by Hamilton, second by Eron, to approve the minutes of the March 11, 2026 meeting. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Sarah Diedrick-Kasdorf reviewed the financial report that was previously emailed to committee members. A request was made to make a notation on the financial report noting Marathon County is a member and paid 2026 dues in 2025. Since the March report payments were made for travel expenses for the Green Bay and Madison shows and the co-op program's MN Star-Tribune Geofence Display. We are still awaiting an invoice from Marinette County for banners and stickers. The account balance is \$38,462.53 with unallocated revenue of \$21,170.47.

REVIEW OF PROMOTIONS BUDGET AND TOPICS: The Minnesota Star-Tribune Geofence Display started April 1. Results will be shared when received.

REPORT OF THE SOCIAL MEDIA SUBCOMMITTEE: The subcommittee held one meeting to date. Facebook and Instagram accounts were created – NorthCentralWisco. May posts will focus on the fishing opener – all counties asked to ensure their fishing pages are up to

date on the website. The subcommittee will meet one hour before each tourism committee meeting.

WEBSITE UPDATES AND ANALYTICS: There continue to be issues with the Travel Wisconsin widgets on the website. Counties were asked to review their information on the website – make sure all posts are up to date and that there are no broken links.

TRAVEL WISCONSIN UPDATE: Christopher Jennings reported on the following: winter campaign results – 75% increase in impressions with only a four percent increase in spending; What’s Next? – One More campaign with four strategies; Office of Outdoor Recreation Outdoor Industry Awards; and the latest call for PR – summer festivals and events that bring overnight stays and Wisconsin’s water trails.

NEXT MEETING DATE: The next meeting will be held on May 13, 2026 at 2:00 p.m. via Zoom.

ADJOURN: Chair Beck adjourned the meeting at 2:44 p.m.



Monday, April 20, 2026 @ 2:00pm (Riverblock Auditorium, room 206)

- 1.) The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bill Leichtnam at 2:00 pm.
- 2.) Public Comment - None
- 3.) Approve minutes of Feb. 16, 2026 mtg
 - a. Buttke made a motion to adopt the Feb. 16, 2026 meeting minutes as presented. Perlock 2nd the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- 4.) SPEAKERS – “Nitrates in Rural, Private Wells in Central Wisconsin”
 - a. Round robin introductions of meeting attendees
 - b. Bennet Goldstein discussed his research into the history of nitrates in groundwater in the Central Sands region and is attending to learn more and discuss current challenges with groundwater and private well contamination. Hall, Clendenning, Dimick, Hovendick, Carrell, Gottbeheut, and Winters shared information and stories of high nitrate contamination in their own or other’s private wells.
 - c. Ben Jeffrey discussed his position as Environmental Health Specialist in correspondence to private and public well contamination and discussed the health effects of high nitrates.
 - d. Shane Wucherpennig discussed the Wood County Land & Water Conservation Department’s history with gathering nitrate data and current ongoing projects.
- 5.) Correspondence / Updates / Handouts / Reports on meetings attended
 - a. None
- 6.) Discussion/Action from the floor
 - a. None
- 7.) Possible agenda items for next meeting
 - a. Discussion on the next steps to get education/outreach material to the public.
- 8.) Next mtg. — May. 18, 2026, 2:00 pm
- 9.) Adjourn –
 - a. Motion to adjourn was made by Buttke and 2nd by Carrell. Motion passed unanimously.
 - b. Chairman Bill Leichtnam adjourned the meeting at 3:23 pm.

Present in the meeting: Bill Leichtnam, Rhonda Carrell, Bill Clendenning, Bruce Dimick, Tom Buttke, Sandy Cain, Russ Perlock, Susie Ettner, Ken Winters, Bennet Goldstein, Shane Wucherpennig, Ben Jeffrey, Tim Hovendick, Sue Smith, Ron Hall.

Virtual: Gordon Gottbeheut, Kendra Wilhelm, Matt Zacher, Wayne Schultz

Respectfully submitted by Kendra Wilhelm on April 29th, 2026

Central Sands Groundwater County Collaborative (CSGCC) Meeting

December 8, 2025 - 10:00 am

Hancock Agricultural Research Station and via Zoom

Present: Chair Bill Leichtnam and Bill Clendenning (Wood County supervisors), Jen McNelly (Wood County UW-Extension), Todd Wahler, Josh Saykally (Waushara County conservation), Chris Zindorf (Juneau County supervisors), Dustin Ladd (Juneau County conservation), Tracy Arnold and Tyler Kunze (Portage County P&Z)

1. Chair called meeting to order at 10:10 am
2. Review and approval of Oct. 30, 2025 minutes (Motion by Tracy Arnold, second by Tyler Kunze)
3. County Groundwater Updates

Juneau: Dustin/: no groundwater updates. .

Waushara: Continuing long term water testing

Wood: Shane gave an update on the

Science by the River: Jen – community program on 10/18/2025 with about 300 attendees. Went really well.

Portage: Tyler –Wellhead Protection Ordinance is going for approval. The WATER project is continuing.

4. Discussion on potential letter about “Nitrates on Tap: The Cost of Nitrate Contamination in Wisconsin’s Drinking Water” Report by the Alliance for the Great Lakes and Clean Wisconsin sent on behalf of CWG.
 - a. A draft letter was presented to CSGCC and the following changes were asked to be made:
 - i. In the third paragraph after “a recent report” the wording “entitled “ Nitrates on Tap: The Cost of Nitrate Contamination in Wisconsin’s Drinking Water”” should be added.
 - ii. The second bullet point should be moved up to the first bullet point.
 - iii. Either DNR or WDNR should be consistently used throughout the document.
 - iv. The wording “due to potential health complications” should be added at the end of the paragraph on lowering groundwater and drinking water standards.
 - v. In the second to last paragraph the word “who” should be used instead of wo.
 - vi. In the last paragraph take out the word contact before information.

- vii. Add each County's conservationist and their contact information at the bottom.
 - b. Letters will be sent out to each County for their approval by their oversight committee and/or County board.
- 5. Discussion with County Cons about WGNHS Nitrate Flow Tracker App Rollout – The County Cons indicated that an online meeting would be best for the rollout of the app. Jen will work on setting up that meeting with WGNHS.
- 6. Discussion about contacts for individuals with private well contamination other than Nitrate – Jen said that she was contacted by a videographer from WI Conservation Voters who was looking for contacts with private well contamination to do a story. If you could forward any contacts to Jen she will work with videographer on connecting them.
- 7. Upcoming Meetings

Next quarterly CSGCC Meeting - Monday, March 23, 2025 10:00 am, in Hancock and virtual
- 8. Adjourn at 11:30 am (Motion by Tyler Kunze seconded by Tracy Arnold)



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

- A series of lessons, Life Management, for students at River Cities High School, where we engage them in lessons around topics such as budgeting/renting, cooking, nutrition, basic home repairs, and other essential life skills to prepare them for life after high school and help support their overall health and well-being for when they are on their own.
 - **Total Reach:** 81 students
- An in-person training for summer camp counselors in grades 8-12 and adult volunteers who will serve in leadership roles at summer camp. During training, participants worked on building trust in one another so that they can work as an effective team at camp.
 - **Total Reach:** 40 participants
- An in-person performing arts and creativity festival for youth in grades K-13. Participants acted, played musical instruments, practiced public speaking, sang, and exhibited arts and crafts. Through this effort, youth learn how to express themselves through the arts and how to use criticism to improve performance.

AGRICULTURE

Matt Lippert, Agriculture Educator

- A career fair where high school students became more aware of the diversity and breadth of career opportunities are available to them so that they make more informed decisions and better prepare to develop successful careers locally.
 - **Total Reach:** 350 students, 20 agri-business groups, 12 school districts
- Working with the Marshfield Area Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Agri-Business Committee, a scholarship program provided an opportunity for area students interested in agriculture to increase their ability for further education.
 - **Total Reach:** 12 school districts, 8 applicants, 4 recipients
- A meeting for farm owners/ calf managers, where participants learned about calf and heifer raising strategies. Through this program, attendees learned about the importance of socialization, colostrum feeding, and forage options for their calves to make them healthier and more robust so they have long term productivity in the herd.
 - **Total Reach:** Through this program, we reached 19 individuals, and just over 59,000 calves/heifers



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Kayla Rombalski, Community Development Educator

- **Central Wisconsin Housing Summit:** A day-long conference convening housing developers, municipal leaders, housing advocates, and regional partners to engage in cross-sector dialogue, share best practices, and explore innovative strategies to address local housing challenges. The summit's goal was to advance collaborative housing solutions by elevating both developer and municipal perspectives, strengthening regional relationships, and aligning efforts across sectors. As a result of this convening, Central Wisconsin is better positioned to respond to housing shortages and support sustainable community growth.
 - **Total Reach:** 134 registrants
 - **Testimonial:** *"The event, content and attendees were top notch.", "Great event! Thanks for organizing."*
- **Small Business Academy Preparation:** Ongoing preparation for the Central Wisconsin in-person session of the Lieutenant Governor's Small Business Academy, to be held Friday, May 8, 2026, at the Marshfield Chamber of Commerce. The Academy is a free, statewide training and networking initiative hosted by the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation that supports small business owners, entrepreneurs, and individuals exploring business start-up opportunities. The program combines three days of virtual educational sessions with concurrent in-person events across Wisconsin. Current efforts are focused on coordinating logistics and local partnerships to ensure a high-quality learning experience and strengthen the small business ecosystem in Central Wisconsin.
- **Strategic Planning Support:** Continued facilitation support for the Wood County Health Department's 2026–28 Strategic Plan, which will serve as a clear roadmap for advancing the Department's mission, addressing emerging public health needs, and strengthening internal operations. An Executive Summary outlining the plan's strategic priorities was shared with staff and partners this month. The full strategic plan is scheduled for review and approval by the Health and Human Services Committee in May.
- **Planning for Grant Writing Workshops:** Continued planning for Grant Writing Basics Virtual Workshops scheduled for April 27–28, as well as an in-person workshop for the Municipal Treasurers Association of Wisconsin at its Spring Conference on April 30, 2026. These workshops support participants from across the state and beyond by building foundational grant-seeking skills and providing step-by-step guidance and practical tools for developing competitive, fundable grant proposals.



HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Ka Zoua Thao, Bilingual (Hmong) Community Health Worker
Hannah Wendels Scott, Health and Well-Being Educator

Behavioral Health

- A weekly virtual program for community members from across the state of Wisconsin, where participants practice healthy coping strategies, build emotional awareness, and strengthen skills for managing stress in daily life. Through this effort, community members gain practical tools that support their well-being in both personal and professional settings.
 - **Total Reach:** 47 participants
- A weekly program for incarcerated people in the Wood County Jail, where participants practiced healthy coping strategies, built emotional awareness, and strengthened skills for managing stress in daily life. Through this effort, participants gained tools that support their well-being during incarceration and increase their capacity to navigate reentry with resilience and confidence.
 - **Total Reach:** 14 incarcerated people (6 female, 8 male)
- A Tai Chi class for older adults and individuals with arthritis, where participants learn gentle, low-impact movements designed to improve balance, flexibility, and joint health. Through this activity, 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.
 - **Total Reach:** 25 participants in basic class, 8 participants in advanced class
- An after-school program for elementary and middle school students, where Extension colleagues across various institutes lead engaging activities focused on their area of expertise. My focus is on teaching simple coping skills and emotional awareness. Through this effort, students will strengthen their well-being and build confidence in managing everyday challenges.
 - **Total Reach:** 25 students each time
- Building and maintaining relationships and engaging with partners to address health needs with the community of Wood County.
- The support groups serve as a monthly gathering for women and allies of women and elders to engage in discussions about often overlooked topics within their community. These monthly gatherings create a space for participants to connect with one another, learn practical ways to care for their mental and social well-being, and strengthen community bonds. Through this effort, participants build healthier habits, deepen relationships, and feel empowered to advocate for the recognition of their voices.
 - **Total Reach:** 10 elders, 7 participants
- A bi-weekly meeting for youth to engage in open conversations, cultural storytelling, and guided activities to learn about mental health, domestic violence, and sexual assault within the community. They gain tools to recognize signs of trauma, understand healthy boundaries, and access support systems - all in a safe, judgement-free environment. Through this effort, we are fostering a generation of informed, compassionate youth who feel seen, heard, and empowered to break cycles of silence and advocate for healing and change in their families and communities.



- **Total Reach:** *61 students*
 - 7 in grades four and five*
 - 33 in grades 6-8*
 - 21 in grades 9-12*
- An as needed meeting with community members, where I met one-on-one with them to listen to their needs, offer support, and help them identify and access local health and community resources. Through this effort, participants will gain personalized support, clearer pathways to services, and greater confidence navigating systems.
 - **Total Reach:** *10 one-on-one clients*
- A monthly food pantry pick-up for community members in Wood County, where I support families in choosing foods that their household needs and share information about additional local resources. Through this effort, residents gain reliable access to healthier food options and feel better connected to community supports.
 - **Total Reach:** *12 families*

HEAL (Healthy Eating and Active Living)

- A 5-week nutrition education series for kindergarten classrooms at Grove, Howe and Mead Elementary Schools, where students will learn about MyPlate, the five food groups, and try new fruits and vegetables. The goal of the series is for students to learn about how making healthy food choices will help them to be healthier in school and at home.
- A series of lessons for adults who are incarcerated participating in the STRONG Recovery Pod Program in the Wood County Jail. Through this series, participants will learn nutrition education, cooking skills, and participate in the StrongBodies program that improves their physical and mental health.
- A listening session for individuals and families experiencing food insecurity hosted at FOCUS Food Pantry by Extension Wood County and the Wood County Health Department as part of a grant award to engage community members in conversations around food insecurity to learn about the barriers in place. Through this effort we will take information gathered to implement at least one effort to reduce food insecurity in Wood County. This is the second of three listening sessions. Completed in cooperation with Wood County Health Department.
- A partnership with United Way/Hunger Coalition, FOCUS Food Pantry, and the Housing Authority of Wisconsin Rapids that provides "Stockboxes for Seniors", a monthly food box service where low-income seniors can receive around 25-30 pounds of nutritious foods to stock their pantry with. The goal of this partnership is to promote the boxes with community partners with the overall goal to improve food security.
- A 15-week series of strength training sessions (StrongBodies) for older adults/adults in the Nekoosa community, where participants engage in regular, progressive strength training and health education to improve their physical and mental health and enhance social connectedness. This series is led by two Extension StrongBodies volunteers.
 - **Total Reach:** *38 participants*



- A series of lessons, Life Management, for students at River Cities High School, where we engage them in lessons around topics such as budgeting/renting, cooking, nutrition, basic home repairs, and other essential life skills to prepare them for life after high school and help support their overall health and well-being for when they are on their own.
 - **Total Reach:** 81 students
- A series of after-school lessons for elementary and middle school students at Pittsville Elementary School, where students learn about the five food groups, how they benefit from their overall health and well-being, and how to make healthy food and physical activity choices both at home and at school
 - **Total Reach:** 24 students
- An ongoing series of strength training sessions (StrongBodies) for older adults/adults in the Pittsville community, where participants engage in regular, progressive strength training and health education to improve their physical and mental health and enhance social connectedness. This series is led by two Extension StrongBodies volunteers.
 - **Total Reach:** 26 participants
- A listening session for individuals and families experiencing food insecurity hosted at Pittsville Area Neighbors Shelf by Extension Wood County and the Wood County Health Department as part of a grant award to engage community members in conversations around food insecurity to learn about the barriers in place. Through this effort we will take information gathered to implement at least one effort to reduce food insecurity in Wood County. This is the second of three listening sessions. Completed in cooperation with Wood County Health Department.
- Planning for a Falls Prevention Resource Fair in Marshfield in collaboration with the ADRC of Central WI, Marshfield Fire Department, and Marshfield Clinic. The Falls Prevention Resource Fair will focus on providing resources for individuals interested in learning more about how to prevent falls, offer screenings for risk of falls, and provide demonstrations of exercises one can do to improve their balance and bone density. Resource Fair will be held in October.
- A 5-week nutrition education series for 3rd grade students at Grove Elementary School, where students will learn about MyPlate, the five food groups, and how making healthy food choices will help them be healthier in school and at home.
- A listening session for individuals experiencing food insecurity hosted at the Marshfield Community Center in collaboration with the Wood County Health Department. This listening session is part of a grant award to engage community members in conversations around food insecurity to learn about the barriers in place. Through this effort we will take information gathered to implement at least one effort to reduce food insecurity in Wood County. This is the third of three listening sessions.

HORTICULTURE

Janell Wehr, Horticulture Educator

- The third in a series of four IPM based programs for the general public, where Arpin library constituents learned how to apply IPM concepts to disease management in backyard gardens. The goal of this effort is to reduce pesticide and fertilizer misuse in consumer landscapes.



- **Total Reach: 3**
- A recorded webinar for adults over 55 enrolled in the UWSP LIFE Continuing Education Program, where participants learned the benefits of landscaping with native plants. Through this effort, participants increased their knowledge of horticultural practices that improve biodiversity in landscapes.
- Presentation - IPM and Disease - General Public
- The fourth in a series of four IPM based programs for the general public, where Arpin library constituents learned how to apply IPM concepts to weed management in backyard gardens. The goal of this effort is to reduce pesticide and fertilizer misuse in consumer landscapes.
 - **Total Reach: 3**
- The fourth in a series of four IPM based programs for the general public, where Pittsville library constituents learned how to apply IPM concepts to weed management in backyard gardens. The goal of this effort is to reduce pesticide and fertilizer misuse in consumer landscapes.
 - **Total Reach: 14**

HUMAN RELATIONSHIPS & DEVELOPMENT

Ben Eberlein, Human Development & Relationships Educator

- A series of lessons, Life Management, for students at River Cities High School, where we engage them in lessons around topics such as budgeting/renting, cooking, nutrition, basic home repairs, and other essential life skills to prepare them for life after high school and help support their overall health and well-being for when they are on their own.
 - **Total Reach: 81 students**
- A 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.
- 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 individual**



LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT
STAFF REPORTS – APRIL 2026

Barb Peeters

Conservation Administrative Specialist

- Participated in Zoom meeting with County Conservationist and Kevin Masarik (Director & Extension Specialist/Center for Watershed and Education Analysis Lab (WEAL) with UWSP Laboratory) on March 27th regarding a Wood County water sampling project utilizing ARPA grant funds. 30 random sites will be sampled in hot spot areas (15 sites in Grand Rapids and 15 sites in Nekoosa/Port Edwards). Samples will be sent to the Water and Environmental Analysis Lab (WEAL) at UWSP (\$350.00 per test) for a contract total of \$10,500.00. Wood County staff will randomly select sites using historical data, send letters to landowners and utilize the summer intern to collect samples which will be delivered to the WEAL at UWSP for testing. This will have the added benefit of providing a student project for our summer intern who will have the ability to work with the lab this fall when intern is back in college to analyze and compile the data.
- Assisted with completion of 2026 DATCP Work Plan report that is a mandatory DATCP requirement to be eligible for 2027 state funding (i.e. 2027 SWRM grant). Downloaded revised DATCP template in early February, filled in several sections of report and reminded County Conservationist on March 26th to complete remaining sections prior to April 15th submission deadline.
- Completed 2027 Soil & Water Resource Management (SWRM) Joint Grant Application and submitted to County Conservationist for review/approval on March 27th. 2027 grant application submission deadline is April 15th.
- Completed three 2027-2031 capital improvement forms on behalf of the County Conservationist for replacement of the GPS unit and trucks. Obtained approval of County Conservationist via email (who was working remotely on March 30th prior to vacation) and submitted forms to Finance prior to March 31st submission deadline.
- Attended April 1st CEED meeting at courthouse and provided LWCD reports on behalf of County Conservationist.
- Finished prep for annual tree sale (customer receipts, tree labels, customer list for distribution, notified Highway Dept. of tree deliveries, printed final invoices, etc.).
- Updated Wellness bulletin board with 2nd quarter materials provided by Wellness Coordinator.
- Responded to inquiries via phone/email regarding tree/shrub/seed sale. Added customers to waiting list.
- Processed fruit tree orders and payments as received.
- Completed March sales tax report and forwarded to Finance.
- Downloaded the April DATCP monthly report and shared with LWCD staff.
- Received notice that my Notary Commission was approved for renewal by the Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions (through April 5, 2030).
- Assisted Conservation Technician (who was out of the office and then working remotely while recovering from an illness) with miscellaneous follow-up and contacting landowners.
- Printed and mailed Citizens Water Group materials (agenda and 4/20/26 meeting invitation flyer) to landowners who were contacted regarding nitrates exceeding 20ppm and/or installed nitrate removal systems in late 2025.
- Verified wildlife damage general ledger and assembled all invoices and attachments for first quarter 2026 reimbursement request to the WiDNR.
- Scheduled and attended April 9th staff meeting to discuss NR 151 Compliance Review being mandated by the DNR for all Wisconsin Land & Water Conservation departments. Staff outlined draft plan to complete the compliance review and suggested CEED committee be made aware of project. Added to May 6th CEED agenda.
- Assisted with arranging/receiving fruit tree deliveries/shipments to the Forestry Garage with two different carriers (one shipment came from nursery in Pennsylvania and the other from the state of Washington).
- Notified County Conservationist of potential grant in 2027 with the Green Bay Packers Foundation grant program. Their foundation is opening up the 4-year grant cycle to include environmental focus areas in 2027.

- Submitted final 2027 Soil & Water Resource Management (SWRM) Joint Grant Application to DATCP.
- Assisted in setting up forestry garage for tree distribution and finished preparations for tree sale.
- Assisted with sorting, labeling and bagging of fruit trees/trees/shrubs April 13th to 15th at the Forestry Garage.
- Worked with seed supplier regarding item that has been out of stock since fall of 2025 due to the fact we have customer orders for the item as part of the annual tree sale.
- Assisted with tree distribution at Forestry Garage on April 16th & 17th with Rod Mayer and Kyle Andreae.
- The week of April 20th contacted landowners on the waiting list to notify them of extra trees for sale; processed orders and arranged for customers to pick up orders.
- FINAL REPORT ON TREE SALE: processed a total of 226 tree/seed orders with orders for 10,905 trees (which includes 530 fruit trees sold individually), 12 pounds of root gel (sold in 4 oz packages) and 206 tree shelters. The addition of fruit trees to the annual tree sale was a huge hit with customers. Unfortunately we were unable to sell a few of the leftover Empire apple trees due to chipmunks or mice chewing the bark while they were housed in the Forestry Garage after the tree sale.
- Worked with Dan Vollert in Parks & Forestry dept. to donate the remaining extra trees/shrubs from the tree sale for planting in Wood County parks.
- Processed 14 payments for seed orders as part of the annual tree sale (supplier doesn't require payment until after tree sale is completed).
- Tallied results from customer survey regarding suggestions for trees to offer in the 2027 tree sale. We will take those suggestions into consideration when selecting species (pending availability by nurseries).
- Assisted with delivering blue work truck to Highway Dept for more repairs (A.C. not working) and processed journal entry for repairs to 4-wheel drive completed in March by the Highway Dept.
- Scheduled, set agenda, attended and took minutes at April 23rd staff meeting for follow-up by County Conservationist on agenda items from the Feb. 5th, Feb. 24th and March 18th staff meetings.
- Updated orientation checklist for summer intern (Abby Leis) who will be with our dept. May 18th to Aug. 7th (note: the intern will be out of the country for a mission trip between June 12th-30th).
- Completed LWCD payroll percentages and forwarded to Finance prior to the April 2nd, 16th and 30th payrolls.
- Organized County Board packet materials and electronically submitted to the County Clerk's office.
- Processed MDV payments as received. Worked with the DNR Water Resources Management Specialist regarding late MDV payment from one of the wastewater treatment plants.
- Generated two cost-share contracts for nutrient management for a Portage County landowner (C. Flaig) utilizing MDV funds (\$2,888.00) and SWRM funds (\$2,936.00).
- Worked with sales rep and Kendra Wilhelm to place order for water quality meters utilizing Surface Water grant funds.
- Generated bid letters for third re-bid of grassed waterway project (G. Gilbertson).
- Processed cash match payment for Surface Water Grant -Fourmile Watershed from Petenwell and Castlerock Stewards (PACRS) totaling \$2,000.00.
- Assisted with stuffing & mailing of informational flyers to Wood County farmers/landowners with general information about LWCD and cost-sharing opportunities available (sent to 555 farmers/landowners).
- Generated two resolutions to amend LWCD 2026 budget for unanticipated revenue from two Surface Water Grants (Nepco Lake & Fourmile Creek) and submitted to County Conservationist, Finance Director and Corporate Counsel for review/approval. Added to CEED agenda for May 6th meeting.
- Ordered department supplies as needed.
- Processed department invoices/vouchers and deposits weekly for submission to Finance/Treasurer.
- Reviewed payroll reports and verified distribution by accounts/department.
- Served as point of contact for LWCD staff while County Conservationist was on vacation March 30th through April 6th, and on partial/full days April 7, 9, 10, 21, 24 and 27.
- Electronically submitted staff reports/packet materials to the County Clerk's office for the CEED meeting packet and set/entered LWCD agenda items.

Emily Salvinski

Conservation Specialist

- **Wednesday, April 1.** Responded to nutrient management planners and processed nutrient management plans.
- **Thursday, April 9.** Prepared map from a list of sites for staff meeting. Attended NR 151 compliance review staff meeting. Assisted with tree sale preparation.
- **Friday, April 10.** Prepared name list and location map options for the upcoming water testing project.
- **Monday, April 13.** Reviewed a nutrient management plan and sent along findings. Helped prepare for tree sale.
- **Tuesday, April 14.** Reviewed grant application and sent along comments. Helped prepare for tree sale.
- **Wednesday, April 15.** Put together information from NMFE participants and sent to Clark Co. Helped prepare for tree sale.
- **Wednesday, April 22.** Looked into new streamflow sites. Processed NMPs, mapped. Collected extra trees for orders.
- **Thursday, April 23.** Attended staff meeting. Attended online badger crop connect webinar. Field checked some sampling sites.

Kendra Wilhelm

Conservation Specialist

(March & April 2026 Staff Reports)

- Presented poster contest winners at Auburndale’s Junior High School Assembly. The first-place poster for the grades 4-6 category was an Auburndale 6th grade student.
- Emailed all remaining teachers that had students participate in the poster contest to coordinate drop-off of posters and certificates.
- Participated in the annual Lake Monitoring and Protection Network Train the Trainer meeting.
- Submitted the new UWSP Lab project form for the two comprehensive management planning surface water grants that we recently received.
- Created a “slideshow” of the conservation poster contest winners and had it posted on the Wood County Facebook page and the Land & Water website.
 - The slideshow was also sent to participating teachers for sharing purposes.
- Sent out a press release to seven media outlets regarding the conservation poster contest winners.
- Fielded calls about the availability of fruit trees.
- Answered various questions about nutrient management plans via phone, email, and in-person while updating plans.
- Followed up with DNR on amendments to the Lake Monitoring and Protection Network Scope of Work due to future maternity leave. All changes were approved.
- Followed up with DNR on creating a SWIMS database station ID for a new water quality monitoring location.
- Worked with Solinst Instruments to receive quotes on equipment that will be ordered after the March 15th start date of the two new comprehensive management planning surface water grants.
- Continued planning of future events for invasive species education and outreach with cranberry growers.
- Worked with Caleb Armstrong, Marathon County, on updating our annual nutrient management presentation for UWSP.
- Participated as the acting secretary for the Citizens Water Group of Wood County. Coordinated the agenda posting and mailing. Communicated the cancellation of the meeting due to inclement weather.
- Assisted with the Wisconsin Rapids and Stevens Point nutrient management farmer education courses.
 - Presented on soil testing, soil test reports, soil pH, and potassium.
- Delivered stream flow monitoring device to the UWSP Water and Environmental Analysis Lab for calibration before the field season.
- Answered multiple questions via email about healthy shorelines.
- Created a template for shoreline assessment data results for individual landowners related to the shoreline assessment that was completed August of 2025 on Nepco Lake. Sent template to board members of the Nepco Lake District for their awareness and one parcel owner who requested their results.

- Distributed all remaining conservation poster contest posters and certificates to students and/or teachers.
- Watched webinars during the National Cover Crop Summit.
- Participated in a meeting to prepare for a joint presentation to cranberry producers regarding aquatic invasive species at an upcoming field day.
- Participated in a meeting with DNR to help plan out virtual activities for virtual participants at the upcoming spring aquatic invasive species partnership meeting.
- Attended the spring aquatic invasive species partnership meeting. Led a breakout activity for virtual participants across the state on the invasive species response framework.
- Attended the April Lakes & Rivers Partnership meeting. The focus was lakes and rivers in and under water.
- Participated in a meeting to finalize a joint presentation for the Cranberry Spring Mini Clinic. Presentation was given on April 9th.
- Participated in a workshop about engaging with natural resource volunteers.
- Worked multiple days on creating a spreadsheet with farm addresses across Wood County. This is for a targeted effort to send mailers about what the Land & Water Conservation Department does and what services we provide for farmers.
 - Folding of mailer and stuffing of envelopes for 555 individual addresses occurred on April 27th.
- Shared a known contact that works for American Drone with the County Conservationist.
- Created budget tracking spreadsheets for two new comprehensive management planning surface water grants.
- Created flyers for the Nepco Lake District educational sessions that will take place this summer.
- Documented all time and costs associated with the Lake Monitoring and Protection Network grant.
- Created and shared an “intern resource document” for the summer intern as I will be on maternity leave when she starts in May.
- Communicated with Shawn O’Connell, Portage County Conservation Technician, regarding a cost-share partnership opportunity for a farmer nutrient management plan. The farmer has fields in both Wood and Portage Counties.
 - Put together field information for the cost-share contracts to be drafted by Conservation Administrative Specialist, Barb Peeters.
- Started the WebEx meeting for the Citizens Water Group of Wood County and took minutes as acting secretary.
 - Shared all secretarial materials with the new permanent secretary, Susan Ettner.
- Attended the April Nepco Lake District Board meeting to answer questions about the Clean Boats Clean Waters program as well as give updates on the water quality monitoring grants.
- Participated in a meeting regarding next steps for the outreach to cranberry producers about aquatic invasive species.
 - Drafted “prevent the spread of invasive species” signage that is specific to cranberry producers and recreators that use their water sources for hunting, fishing, boating, etc..
- Participated in the April 23rd staff meeting.
- Received Clean Boats Clean Waters educational handout material. Organized the materials into separate bags for each Clean Boats Clean Waters watercraft inspector.
 - The Wood County LWCD intern along with the three inspectors for the Nepco Lake District will receive 50 Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers floating keychains, 75 towels to be used as giveaways during the statewide Drain Campaign, and 100 Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers magnets to be used during the regional Great Lakes Landing Blitz. Funds to purchase items came from the Lake Monitoring and Protection Network Program grant.
- Coordinated the pickup of our calibrated flow meter and water sampling bottles with Conservation Specialist Emily Salvinski and Jessica Haucke from the UWSP Water and Environmental Analysis Laboratory.
- Coordinated with Fondriest Environmental to order a dissolved oxygen meter, sensors, and calibration solutions which will be used with the two new water quality testing surface water grants.
- Coordinated with Conservation Administrative Specialist Barb Peeters and Conservation Technician Kyle Andreae about the no-till drill and scheduling while I am on maternity leave.
- Prepared any documents and other materials for easy access during my time away on maternity leave.
- Attended two webinars on invasive crayfish.
- Attended a webinar on incorporating off-farm waste in nutrient management planning.
- Discussed the 2027 tree and shrub sale options with Conservation Administrative Specialist, Barb Peeters.

Kyle Andreae *Engineer Technician*

- Staff report will be included in next month's meeting packet (out sick unexpectedly at report time).
-

Rodney Mayer *Conservation Program Manager*

- Draft 3 review for Bach (previously Mid-WI) non-metallic reclamation plan. Compared drafts, highlighted changes, etc.
 - DNR TEAMS meeting to review concerns with Bach non-metallic plan – draft issues, set up joint meeting with Quest Engineering and Bach excavating.
 - Star Environmental phone conference – extending deadline for Brehm violation application/plan submittal for Vision site. Updates to Brehm Vision timeline document.
 - Trailer prep for tree sale – unload crimper, strap pallets, etc.
 - Kolo/Scheunemann mine site correspondence. Nav. Review by DNR to prevent Chapter 30 permitting, request for updated permit boundary map, etc. Review of DNR findings.
 - Checked on Wendt winter stored crop damage.
 - Act 82 enrollment for Autumn Cranberry (Mike Brostowitz): Enrollment application, permit application, mapped lands, DNR database update, permits issued. Damage pics document created.
 - TEAMS meeting with DNR regarding Bach excavating and Quest engineering for needed changes and additions from Draft 3 plan.
 - Unloaded fruit trees from trucks. Sorted fruit trees and put into customer orders.
 - Completed Wildlife Damage and Abatement Program 1st quarter reimbursement report. Updated DNR database, submitted report to DNR (25 pages).
 - Went to Westfield to pick up and haul trees for sale. Unloaded, sorted, put into customer orders, etc.
 - Two days for tree distribution – loading trees into customers vehicles.
 - DNR discussion on Ron Bohn – Altmann site – not going active through Altmann this year – will need to get Bohn to reclaim to release permit.
 - Reviewed 4th draft of Bach non-metallic reclamation plan. Created GIS layer of permit boundary (conversion of digital layers). Issue with active area – requested revision of all maps. Contacted Bach for needed bank correspondence for financial assurance, changes in permit boundary, and road exemption form for issuance of permit transfer on site.
 - Info request to Quest Engineering for Kolo Scheunemann amendment map.
 - Reviewed Bach site road exemption app. – updated file.
 - Created preliminary GIS fence project map for Autumn Cranberry – wildlife damage.
 - Wendt farm site visit – from winter stored crop damage – picked up fox light used for abatement – etc.
 - Issued extension for Smalley pond site exemption to NMM reclamation permitting for completion of project.
-

Shane Wucherpennig *County Conservationist*

- No report submitted.
-



TO: Conservation, Education & Economic Development Committee

FR: Jason Grueneberg, Planning & Zoning Director
Emmett Simkowski, County Planner
Paul Bernard, Land Records Coordinator
Brad Cook, Code Administrator
Kayla Koziczowski, Code Technician
Victoria Wilson, Program Assistant
Julie Mancl, Program Assistant

RE: Staff Report for May 6, 2026

1. **Economic Development (Jason Grueneberg)**

Witter Field Lighting Ceremony – On April 7th I attended the Witter Field Lighting Ceremony along with County Board Supervisors Penskover and Hovendick. Wood County contributed \$20,000 of economic development grant funds towards this project. Over time the old lights became less bright and made it difficult for night play and television broadcast of night games. New LED lighting was installed and will provide adequate lighting for night games for many years to come. Witter Field is an economic driver for the County and promotes tourism, improves quality of life, generates economic activity and tax revenue. Other contributors to this project include the Legacy Foundation, a League Park grant, an American Legion donation, and Witter Field outlay funds.

Central Wisconsin Housing Summit- On April 15th I attended the Central Wisconsin Housing Summit in Stevens Point. The conference was focused on addressing the real challenges contractors, developers, and partners face today. Some of the sessions focused on real housing solutions, expanding the contractor workforce, table discussions on key housing topics, financing options, and an assessment of the current housing market.

Blenker-Sherry Sanitary District – Recently there has been a change in leadership of the Sherry-Blenker Sanitary District. I have been working with the Commissioners to identify the boundaries of the district since the district maps that exist are incomplete or outdated. The sanitary district was established in 1981 to provide wastewater treatment for residents and businesses in the Blenker and Sherry area. At that time, many Private Onsite Waste Treatment Systems (POWTS) were non-code compliant or failing and the area was experiencing groundwater contamination.

North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (NCWRPC) – On April 22nd I attended the NCWRPC meeting. Agenda items included election of officers, presentation of the 2025 audit, 2025 Annual Report adoption, and a presentation on utility scale solar.

Wisconsin Rapids Downtown Planning – We continue to meet with city of Wisconsin Rapids officials on implementing the intergovernmental agreement for redevelopment of the area in front of the Courthouse known as the “Triangle”. We are in the process of submitting the petition to vacate Market Street and anticipate that it will be approved by the City Council by the end of June. Once the perimeter of the County-owned property is established and necessary

property transfers have taken place for the Jackson Street reconstruction project, design of the parking lot will begin.

Helen Connor Laird Theater Renovations – The \$2,000,000 Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) grant application for renovations to the Helen Connor Laird Theater at the UW-Marshfield Campus is still in the underwriting process. Campus Executive Anthony Andrews and I have been working with WEDC to explain how the project meets the intent of the funding that was allocated for all branch campuses under 2023 Wisconsin Act 250. We have been assured that the application will continue to move through underwriting.

2. Planning & Zoning (Emmett Simkowski)

- **2026 Central Wi Housing Summit**
 - On April 15th Jason and I attended the Central Wi Housing Summit in Stevens Point where multiple presenters representing local municipalities, developers, realtors and financial institutions discussed housing trends, issues and opportunities in Central Wisconsin.
- **Understanding AI 201**
 - On April 22, Paul and I attended a conference on AI relating to its function in government. Overall, it was a good experience covering the good, bad and unknown functions of AI in government. The conference also had a good presentation on data centers emerging in Wisconsin and went into depth on the water and power requirements of said use. With AI as an emerging and present technology, the relationship between AI, data centers and alternative energy are not going to disappear and a land use concern communities will be exploring more in the coming future.
- **General Office Activities**
 - Survey activity is picking up and have approved a few CSM's while I am waiting on a few towns to approve and provide comments on others. The Town of Rock's 2026 Comprehensive plan is looking to be approved by the Town in early May, and I will be attending those meetings to support the Town. The Plan will hopefully be coming to CEED and County Board later this summer for approval. With POWTS notices going out and recent weather events, I have been assisting other office staff answer POWTS and flooding/floodplain questions.

3. Land Records (Paul Bernard)

- Parcel Mapping
- Address Mapping
- Custom Map Requests – Auburndale Fire Department
- Radon Dashboard
- Permit Explorer Web Mapping Application Improvements
- Reviewing DATAMARK Street Centerline improvements
- Working toward updates to our Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD)

4. Code Administrator (Brad Cook)

4-01-2026- (1) HS 26-006 reviewed, written, and sent to owner TN: 07, TN:21, answer, review,

and gather information for phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL/

4-02-2026- Organize office room and documentation, answer, review, and gather information for phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

4-03-2026- (1) well permit reviewed and issued TN:07, organize office room and documentation, answer, review, and gather information for phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

4-06-2026- Answer, review, and gather information for phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

4-07-2026- (1) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for reconnect conv TN:07, (1) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for new < 24 mound TN :03, answer, review, and gather information for phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

4-08-2026-(1) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for rep conv TN:13,answer, review, and gather information for phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

4-09-2026- ACE Leadership Program

4-10-2026- (1) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for new & rep HT TN: 05, answer, review, and gather information for phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

4-13-2026- Sick-Off

4-14-2026- Sick/Apt- Off

4-15-2026- (2) SF 26-002 & SF 26-003 reviewed, written, and sent to owner TN: 05, 07, answer, review, and gather information for phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

4-16-2026- WI DNR County Well Delgation Training,(1) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for new conv TN:07, (1) reviewed and issued FL permit TN:13, review, answer, and gather information for phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL

4-17-2026- (2) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for rep conv & new mound TN: 07, (2) reviewed and issued SL/FL permit TN: 07,15, answer, review, and gather information for phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL

4-20-2026- (1) reviewed and issued SL/FL permit TN: 18, (1) new HT Insp TN: 03, (1) new conv insp TN:18, answer, review, and gather information for phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL

4-21-2026- (1) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for new HT TN:03, answer, review, and gather information for phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL

4-22-2026- (1) HS 26-008 reviewed, written, and sent to owner TN:02, answer, review, and gather information for phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL

4-23-2026-(1) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for rec mound TN:10 , (2) HS 26-009 & HS 26-010 reviewed, written, and sent to owner answer TN: 11, 18, review, answer, and gather information for phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL

4-24-2026-(1) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for rec mound TN: 15, (1) SF 26-004 written, reviewed, and sent to owner TN: 07, (1) SL/FP In-person project/permit discussion TN: 07, answer, review, and gather information for phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL

4-27-2026- (1) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for rec mound TN: 16, (1) HS 26-011 written and issued TN: 08, (1) soil eval TN: 12 (1) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for rep mound TN: 22,(1) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for new conv. TN: 18, answer, review, and gather information for phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL

4-28-2026- (1) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for rec HT TN: 02, HS-26-010 call back, OR26-001 written and sent out, answer, review, and gather information for phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL

4-29-2026- POWTS Vio Onsite Visit TN: 07, OR 26-002 written and sent, HS 26-012 doc and easement drafted and sent out, answer, review, and gather information for phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL

5. Code Technician (Kayla Koziczkowski)

A. Reviewed and approved POWTS & well permit applications

B. Reviewed and approved soils evaluations

C. Studied shoreland & floodplain zoning

D. Reviewed POWTS codes

E. Assisted with daily phone calls/emails/office questions

F. Inspections/Investigations:

- 4-23-26: Conventional inspection TN: 18

G. Attended Meetings/Trainings/Etc.

- 3-31-26: Staff Meeting
- 4-16-26: POWTS Chat Update
- 4-16-26: DNR Well Delegation Meeting
- 4-29-26: Substantial Damage Training Webinar

6. Office Activity (Victoria Wilson & Julie Mancl)

a. Monthly Permit Activity – There were 27 sanitary permits, 2 shoreland permits, 2 floodplain permits and 6 well permits issued in April 2026.

b. Septic Maintenance Notices – 2,911 septic maintenance notices were mailed on Monday April 20th, 2026. Due to these postcards being mailed, phone traffic has picked up significantly with property owners calling with questions about the maintenance requirements.

- c. ArcGIS Pro Software Projects – Julie & Victoria continue to assist Paul with various mapping projects.
- d. Attended the following meetings/trainings & activities:
 - i. April 1, 2026 CEED meeting (VW & JM)

**MINUTES
JUDICIAL & LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

DATE: Tuesday, April 28, 2026
TIME: 9:03 AM
PLACE: Courthouse – Room 300

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Trent Miner, County Clerk; others listed on sign-in sheet

1. County Clerk Miner called the meeting to order at 9:03 AM.
2. There was no public comment.
3. Miner opened the floor to nominations for committee chair. Hovendick nominated Clendenning. There being no other nominations, Miner declared Clendenning duly elected as committee chair.
4. Miner opened the floor to nominations for committee vice chair. Hovendick nominated Voight. There being no other nominations, Miner declared Voight duly elected as vice chair.
5. By committee consensus, the meetings will be held on the first Tuesdays of the month at 8:30 AM.
6. Miner declared the meeting adjourned at 9:05 AM.

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

**Committee Organizational Meetings
April 28, 2026**

NAME	REPRESENTING
JOSEPH H. ZURFLUH	WCB-D17
DENNIS POLACH	WCB-14
BILL VOIGHT	WCB-7
Bill Leichtnam	WCB-19
AL BREU	WCB-5
Russ Perlock	WCB-4
Jake Hahn	WCB-8
Wayne Schindler	WCB-1
Scott C. Soik <i>list</i>	Congressman Van Orden's office
Victoria Wilson (WebEx)	P-3
Lance Pimpl (WebEx)	CB Chair

MINUTES JUDICIAL & LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, May 5, 2026
TIME: 8:30 AM
PLACE: Courthouse – Room 300

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

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

1. Chairman Clendenning called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM and declared a quorum present.
 2. There was no public comment.
 3. Motion by Leichtnam/Voight to approve the minutes of the April 10 & 28, 2026, meetings as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
 4. There was a notice of claim against the county filed by Vickie Koeshall. Corp Counsel Flanagan reviewed the claim with the committee. Motion by Leichtnam/Perlock to approve the claim of as presented and forward to County Mutual. Motion carried unanimously.
 5. A notice of claim against the dog fund by South Wood County Humane Society was reviewed. Motion by Hovendick/Voight to approve payment of the claim as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
 6. The vouchers and reports from the departments the committee oversees were reviewed and discussed. Motion by Leichtnam/Perlock to approve them as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
 7. Under legislative issues, the committee discussed the proposed data center that may be located in Wisconsin Rapids. County Board Chair Pliml will coordinate with the City of Wisconsin Rapids on a possible joint informational meeting.
 8. Agenda items for next meeting: Assign liaison supervisors; Register of Deeds – Overview of Fraud Alert program
 9. Motion by Voight/Leichtnam for the committee to go into closed session 19.85(1)(f) Wis. Stats. to consider leave of absence request. Motion carried unanimously.
 10. Motion by Voight/Clendenning for the committee to come back into open session. Motion carried unanimously.
 11. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, June 2, 2026, at 8:30 AM.
 12. Chair Clendenning declared the meeting adjourned at 9:10 AM.
- Minutes taken by Trent Miner, County Clerk, and are in draft form until approved at the next meeting.



Wood County

WISCONSIN

CHILD SUPPORT
AGENCY

MAY 2026

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL AND LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Prepared by Child Support Director Brent Vruwink

- The office is now fully staffed. Trisha Gellerman was hired to fill the vacant Intake position.
- I attended the State/County Child Support Contracts meeting on April 20th. Wood County will see a slight funding increase for 2027.
- I attended the WCSEA Board meeting on April 23rd and the WCSEA state meeting on April 24th. Shannon Lobner was recognized by the Bureau of Child Support for 30 years of service to the Child Support Program.
- Over the next month I will be preparing for the Child Support Annual Review. Every year the Bureau of Regional Operations completes review of the County Child Support Program.
- The March performance numbers are trending in the right direction; we still have work to do to get our current child support numbers up.
- The current IV-D case count is 3,673.



Wood County

CORPORATION

WISCONSIN

COUNSEL

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL AND LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

April 2026

Hearings and Court Cases:

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

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

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

County Board Orientation for New Elected Officials

On April 15, 2026, I joined the Board Chair, County Clerk, and a number of other departments to participate in an orientation session welcoming our new County Board Supervisors. It was a great opportunity for me to provide a general overview of County Government and Wis. Stat. Ch. 59, the role of County Board Supervisors, Wood County's standing committee structure, and outlining legislative responsibilities including setting policy through adopting resolutions, ordinances, and budget. The session also provided a primer in reviewing our County Board Rules, general open meetings and parliamentary procedure as well. I appreciate the time and thoughtful questions asked during the orientation session and again express my congratulations and welcome as they commence their position as County Board Supervisors and their important role in the County's public services!

2025-2026 Legislative Session – New Legislation of County Significance Signed into Law

The 2025-2026 Legislative Session saw bills enacted with broad Municipal significance, and for our County specifically. Notable law updates include:

- 2025 Act 188 - Modifications to bidding and notice thresholds for public construction projects (*except road construction projects*) from \$5,000 and \$25,000, raising those levels to \$10,000 and \$50,000 respectively.
- 2025 Act 115 – Aiming to make it easier for family members (next of kin) to help their loved ones gain access to prompt post-acute care if they are found to lack medical capacity while in a hospital and have not filled out a health care power of attorney.
- 2025 Act 226 - Requiring operators of cryptocurrency kiosks in Wisconsin to be licensed as money transmitters and establishes consumer protection and fraud prevention requirements applicable to those kiosks.
- 2025 Act 234 - Updating and reorganizes statutes governing county registers of deeds, including provisions related to document recording standards and formatting requirements.

I continue to meet with affected County departments to discuss these and other law changes, as well as update pertinent policies and internal procedures for the County and its departments.



Wood County

WISCONSIN

WOOD COUNTY CRIMINAL
JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

April 2026

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL AND LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Respectfully submitted by Criminal Justice Coordinator, Dillon Ksionek

Meetings/Trainings Attended:

4/1/2026: Collaborative meeting with Human Services and Sheriff's Department
4/6/2026: Presentation on Jail MAT Program
4/6/2026: Drug Court Staffing/Court (Hosted Waushara County Representatives)
4/8/2026: Mental Health Court Staffing/Court
4/9/2026: Hope Consortium Steering Committee Meeting
4/9/2026: Virtual Presentation to DOC on Jail Programming
4/10/2026: Judicial and Legislative Committee Meeting
4/13/2026: Drug Court Staffing/Court
4/14/2026: Met with DHS Representatives About 2027 Funding
4/14/2026: Oxford House Board Meeting
4/14/2026: Health and Wellness Committee Meeting
4/16/2026: Evidence Based Decision Making State Sub-Committee Meeting
4/20/2026: Drug Court Staffing/Court

Adult Drug Treatment Court:

Current Participants: 22
Active Referrals: 1
Pending Referrals: 0
YTD Admissions: 6
YTD Terminations: 4
YTD Graduations: 2
YTD Referrals: 6

We did not have a monthly sustainability meeting in April due to me needing to be in Madison for a state committee meeting during our normal meeting time.

We have a number of upcoming trainings within our department including WATCP (drug court state conference), ORAS (a universal risk assessment that can be used for any diversion program), and Motivational Interviewing (an evidence-based case management tool). There is also a DOJ drug court standards training opportunity in June that I will be asking team members to attend if available to do so.

Jail Programming (STRONG):

Medication Assisted Treatment Program (MARP):
Current Participants: 20
YTD Admissions: 60

I have met with DHS representatives, and they have informed me that a funding opportunity will exist to support MAT programs in 2027. They reported that it would most likely become available this summer, and

that it would be identical to our current funding arrangement (but that we would have to re-apply). This is encouraging, and the amounts that they are discussing would most likely allow us to sustain our current program through 2027.

Jail Residential Treatment Program (RSAT):

Current Participants: 11

YTD graduates: 6

YTD participants: 21 (including this current cycle)

The Department of Justice continues to pursue federal funding to support RSAT programs like ours. I completed a program narrative for the current project manager in order to assist with that process this month.

That individual had previously informed existing sites that the DOJ has enough funding for multiple years, and the money they are pursuing now would probably allow for at least two more. This is encouraging because it shows a commitment from the DOJ to continue to fund programs like ours.

Other Matters:

I was able to attend a state level evidence-based decision-making sub-committee meeting in Madison on 4/16/2026. Doing so allowed me to be a county level representative at a conference focused on DOJ's goals and priorities for the next several years of funding opportunities. This was an excellent opportunity to share how the funding affects us at the county level, and to advocate for goals and priorities that would best suit those of us that are utilizing these funds in our communities on a daily basis.



Wood County

WISCONSIN

**REGISTER IN
PROBATE**

May 2026

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL AND LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Prepared by Register in Probate, Tara Jensen

Our office continues to review and process Annual Accounts and Reports for those under guardianship. The filing of these Reports creates a large amount of follow up to address questions and concerns.

I met with Corporation Counsel, Attorney Nicholas Flanagan, to discuss Wisconsin Act 115, New Next of Kin Law. We are closely monitoring to see how the filing of these forms impacts County Departments. We are anticipating guidance and creation of the forms from the Dept. of Health Services which may clarify outstanding questions. I am also certain that this will be addressed at the RIP Spring Conference to clarify the role of probate in these filings.

Meetings Attended:

- 4/14 – Monthly Judges Meeting
- 4/29 – 5/1 – Attended the Wisconsin Register in Probate Association Spring Educational Conference in Pewaukee



Wood County

WISCONSIN

**REGISTER OF
DEEDS OFFICE**

Tiffany R. Ringer
Register of Deeds

MAY 2026

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL AND LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

- I attended WCA's County Leadership weekly meetings for the month.
- Clint Heitz, Project Manager from Fidlar, recently visited our office and shared some exciting updates. In 2025, we enrolled 1,528 new subscribers in Property fraud Alert (PFA), demonstrating continued growth in community engagement and awareness. We also achieved a major milestone by recording over 81% of all documents electronically. Additionally, our office generated a record of \$1,998 in revenue from Official Records Online (ORO), with usage rates among the highest in the state. Throughout the year, we sent 366 alerts to property owners, reinforcing our commitment to alerting residents of potential fraud.
- I attended Fidlar's in-person software training on April 7th in Columbia County, which provided valuable insights and hands-on experience to further enhance our office operations.
- I attended the governor's signing of AB 445, updates to Chapter 59.43, on April 8th in Madison. The bill went into effect April 10th. Corporation Counsel has approved the updates to all rejection language, and these changes have since been implemented in the Avid system.
- I attended the Judicial and Legislative committee meeting.
- I attended the Property Records Industry Association Local meeting in Weston.

MINUTES
HIGHWAY, INFRASTRUCTURE & RECREATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Monday, April 20, 2026

TIME: 9:20 AM

PLACE: via WebEx

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jake Hahn, Al Breu, Scott Brehm

MEMBERS EXCUSED: John Hokamp, Lee Thao

OTHERS PRESENT: Trent Miner, County Clerk; Roland Hawk, Highway Commissioner; Kimberly McGrath, HR Director

1. Chairman Hahn called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM and declared a quorum present.
2. There was no public comment.
3. Motion by Breu/Brehm to go into closed session pursuant to Wis Stats 19.85 (1)(f) to consider a leave of absence request. Motion carried unanimously.
4. Motion by Breu/Brehm to move back into open session. Motion carried unanimously.
5. Chairman Hahn declared the meeting adjourned at 9:05 AM.

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

MINUTES
HIGHWAY INFRASTRUCTURE & RECREATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, April 28, 2026
TIME: 9:05 AM
PLACE: Courthouse – Room 300

MEMBERS PRESENT: Wayne Schulz, Al Breu, Jake Hahn, Lee Thao, Jeff Penzkover

OTHERS PRESENT: Trent Miner, County Clerk; others listed on sign-in sheet

1. County Clerk Miner called the meeting to order at 9:05 AM.
2. There was no public comment.
3. Miner opened the floor to nominations for committee chair. Thao nominated Hahn. There being no other nominations, Miner declared Hahn duly elected as committee chair.
4. Miner opened the floor to nominations for committee vice chair. Penzkover nominated Breu. There being no other nominations, Miner declared Breu duly elected as vice chair.
5. By committee consensus, the meetings will be held on the first Thursdays of the month at 9:00 AM.
6. Miner declared the meeting adjourned at 9:06 AM.

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

**Committee Organizational Meetings
April 28, 2026**

NAME	REPRESENTING
JOSEPH H. ZURFLUH	WCB-D17
DENNIS POLACH	WCB-14
BILL VOIGHT	WCB-7
Bill Leichtnam	WCB-19
AL BREU	WCB-5
Russ Perlock	WCB-4
Jake Hahn	WCB-8
Wayne Schindler	WCB-1
Scott C. Soik <i>list 12/13</i>	Congressman Van Orden's office
Victoria Wilson (WebEx)	P-3
Lance Pimpl (WebEx)	CB Chair

MINUTES HIGHWAY, INFRASTRUCTURE & RECREATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, May 7, 2026
TIME: 9:00 AM
PLACE: Highway Dept., Conference Room

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jake Hahn, Al Breu, Wayne Schulz, Jeff Penzkover

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Lee Thao

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. Under public comment, inquiry was made by residents along CTH AA about the status of the bridge repair, to which Hawk responded.
3. The minutes of the April 2, 20, & 28, 2026, meetings were presented. Motion by Penzkover/Schulz to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
4. The Highway Dept. staff reports were highlighted and reviewed.
5. The Highway revenue report was reviewed.
6. Motion by Schulz/Penzkover to approve the Highway Dept. vouchers. Motion carried unanimously.
7. Highway Commissioner Hawk stated that there is a meeting of the Operations Committee on Tuesday, June 9th to review all CIP requests.
8. Hawk reviewed the status of the snow removal fund, which is a non-lapsing account. Because of the major storms we have had the past 2 years, they are in deficit by a large amount. Hawk will review with the Finance Director and work on a fix to the issue.
9. Hawk reported that when the first jurisdictional transfer (JT) connected to the development project was completed on CTH U in the village of Biron, there was a small 0.3 mile stretch that did not get recorded. On it, there is a culvert that needs to be replaced. This should have been done when the initial JT was completed. The Village of Biron has agreed to pay for half of the culvert replacement, and then will be taking over that section of road with a final JT. Motion by Schulz/Breu to direct the Highway Commission to move forward with the project and JT as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
10. There is a North Central Region Transportation Roundtable coming up on May 20th in Wausau and will be attended by some committee members.
11. The Parks & Forestry staff reports were reviewed. Forest Administrator Schubert highlighted the upcoming Summer Tour of the Wisconsin County Forest Association, which Wood County is

hosting. The committee directed that the county board be invited with information will be provided to them on registration.

12. Parks & Forestry Administrator Schooley presented a special use permit for approval:

- a. Bluegrass at the Lake – South Park
- b. Kiwanis Youth Outdoor Event – Wazeecha Disposal Site
- c. Ice Cream Vendor – South Park, Nepco, & CERA Park

Motion by Penzkover/Breu to approve the special use permits as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

13. The Parks & Forestry revenue reports were reviewed.

14. Motion by Hahn/Schulz to approve Parks & Forestry vouchers. Motion approved unanimously.

15. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, June 4th at 9:00 AM. The July meeting will be held on Thursday, July 9th at 9:00 AM.

16. Chairman Hahn declared the meeting adjourned at 10:03 AM.

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

**Highway Infrastructure & Recreation Committee
May 7, 2026**

NAME	REPRESENTING
DENNIS POLACH	WCB - 14
Dan Matthews	AA Lynn Creek Bridge
Pamela Lovesee	AA Lynn Creek Bridge
JOHN PECKHAM	HIGHWAY ACCOUNTING SUPERVISOR
Roland Hawk	Wood & Hwy
Fritz Schwbert	Forest
Chil Esholey	PoF
Lance Piml (Web Ex)	CB Chair
Katie DeKleyn (Web Ex)	County Clerk

Wood County Wildlife Area Advisory Council (WCWA AC)

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: April 6, 2026 5:30pm

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

Members Present: Isensee, McAuley, Pluke, Weis, Winkler, Wipfli, Wunrow

Members Absent: none

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

Minutes:

1. Call meeting to order

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

2. Declaration of Quorum

- Seven of seven members present; quorum declared

3. **MOTION** to *Approve the minutes of the January 12, 2026 meeting.* (Winkler/Pluke) No discussion. Unanimous vote in favor; **MOTION CARRIED.**

4. Public comments

- None

5. Correspondence

- None

6. Update on Rules of Order

- The Rules of Order proposed by the Committee were approved by the Wood County Board without discussion. Key changes: (1) reduces the membership from nine to seven; (2) open positions are not used to determine quorum.

7. Confirm & Review Expiring Terms

- Expiring in June of this year: Isensee, Pluke, Wies; Stacie Kleifgen will send notices and renewal forms
- Expiring in June 2027: Figueroa (now Wunrow); Winkler

8. Funded Projects Update

- No monies spent to-date
- Woodcock Factory Brush Removal and Ball Road Dike repair projects will start late summer / early fall
- Ingraham Flowage wood board replacement will start soon
- Winkler asked if these projects is a list we've approved to be performed at DNR discretion: yes, confirmed

9. Sandhill – Meadow Valley – Wood County Wildlife Area Updates

- Ladwig presented his report; attached
 - Schubert asked about the reduction in Sandhill Budget – 5%
 - Ladwig noted that the DNR is losing 24.5 FTE state-wide
 - Isensee asked when budget reductions take place – July 1st
 - Weis asked about the staff reduction locally – 0.5 FTE

10. Member Matters

- Isensee asked if the right-of-way issue on Cranberry Rd was resolved; Yes – the Wood County Board accepted a right-of-way from the landowner to the county in which the landowner assumes no liability
- Wipfli asked if a sales tax has been considered for addressing DNR funding issues – yes, considered, but nothing at this time
- Schubert noted that there has been a significant issue with deer damage to red pine plantations
- Pluke asked about hunting of white deer; Ladwig noted this is currently with the Governor and DNR Secretary

11. Set next meeting date

- Monday, July 13, 2026 at 5:30 at the Sandhill Wildlife Area Outdoor Skills Facility, Babcock, WI

12. Meeting adjourned by McAuly at 6:30pm.

Minutes Prepared By: Larry Isensee, Secretary

Minutes Approved By: Scott McAuley, Chair



Wood County

WISCONSIN

OFFICE OF
HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER

Roland Hawk
COMMISSIONER

April 29, 2026

To: Highway, Infrastructure & Recreation Committee

From: Roland Hawk, PE Highway Commissioner

Subject: Commissioner Report for May 7, 2026, HIRC meeting

Department Activities

Personnel/Administration

A truck operator who was hired in March (2026) has resigned, and the commissioner is contacting candidates from the February interview list. The second candidate ignored an offer, so an offer has been offered to the third candidate on the list. If the offer is not accepted, a candidate who interviewed for a LTE truck operator position may be offered the position.

A third candidate interviewed for a Summer Help position and has accepted an offer to begin on May 11.

The 2026 Highway Winter Maintenance Budget is already at **-\$780,000**. We ended 2025 with an **-\$878,635** balance. The 2026 Highway budget received \$993,965 so our starting balance in the Winter Maintenance Account was only \$115,330. FY 2023 and FY 2024 the Highway Department averaged \$975,000 for Winter Maintenance. However, 2025 Winter Maintenance expenses totaled \$1,498,000, and 2026 Winter Maintenance expenses are at \$902,545 without including September, October, November and December.

On April 28, Commissioner and Superintendent attended a planning meeting for the Dairyland Balloon Jubilee at the Town of Lincoln. This large event is scheduled for July 10-11, 2026 on the Heiman Brothers property in the southwest quadrant of CTH H and Lincoln Avenue on the westside of Marshfield. This event has been held in Marathon County for several years and is expected to draw 10,000 – 15,000 people. The Highway Department will work with the Sheriff's Department developing access in and out of the site, as well as directing and managing traffic. This non-profit has donated its proceeds to the Ronald McDonald House in Marshfield.

Commissioner met with Town of Plover Chairman regarding the Jurisdictional Transfer of CTH U (80th Street). He described issues that were not addressed in the first JT Agreement such as a failing culvert and deteriorated pavement. He asked if Highway Department would consider some assistance with upgrading the 0.3 mile of 80th Street.

Highway/Facility Projects

- WisDOT STP Project CTH F & HH Intersection **Construction 2026**
 - Bid Opening was November 11, 2025, Mashuda Contractors, Inc, is low bid at \$1,303,522.47
- WisDOT STP Bridge CTH N (STH 186 – CTH N) **Construction 2025-2026**
 - Contractor resumed work April 27 and has 10 working days to complete the project.

- WisDOT STP Urban (BIL) CTH U Village of Biron **Construction 2026**
 - Earth Inc was successful bidder for \$6,235,820.09 (this number includes the cost to the Village of Biron for water & sewer installation)
 - Project anticipated to begin in May
 - Commissioner working with Village, Tn of Grand Rapids, & Tn of Plover on Jurisdictional Transfer
- CTH AA Lynn Creek
 - Project was bid in March. Bids approved in April HIRC.
 - R/W acquisition is in progress.
 - Work anticipated to begin in July.
- North Park Bridge Replacement over Puff Creek
 - Highway received bids for a timber structure in February, approved by HIRC in March
 - Wheeler was awarded the project to deliver a 38 foot by 24 foot timber structure.
 - Highway crews;
 - removed existing steel/concrete structure
 - poured a peer cap on the existing masonry end walls
 - placed rip rap and armament along stream bank
 - assembled and set the new structure
 - approached will be paved as soon as asphalt plant starts running



Highway Maintenance

Work in April included:

- Sign replacements
- Tree & brush removal
- Mastic and asphalt patching
- Shoulder maintenance
- Culvert repair and replacement

WCHA Events & Misc. Meetings since the last HIRC meeting

Commissioner attended the following events/meetings:

- March 30, Delasoft check in meeting, virtual
- March 31, WCHA Board of Director's meeting, Green Lake
- March 31 – April 1, WCHA Spring Commissioner Training
- April 6, Road Toure with Town of Sigel
- April 7, STH 34/CTH C intersection local meeting, Dairy State Cheese
- April 8, Frost Solutions Weather Station presentation, Wood Co Hwy Conf Room
- April 8, FHWA Buy America Webinar
- April 9, County Owned Asphalt Plant User Group Meeting, Chippewa County of Wood
- April 11 – 15, National Association of County Engineers annual conference, Arlington, TX
- April 13, NACE Board of Director's Meeting, Arlington, TX
- April 15, NACE Pavement Committee Presentation, Recycle Asphalt & Recycle Asphalt Chipseal
- April 17, Meeting with Town of Plover Chairman, 80th Street Jurisdictional Transfer
- April 20, WCHA By-Law Committee meeting, Virtual
- April 20, HIRC meeting, Virtual
- April 20, STH 73/80 Roundabout Preconstruction meeting, WisDOT Office, WR
- April 21, County Board meeting
- April 22, Local Road Forum meeting with Towns, Villages and Cities, Pittsville
- April 23, Landfill Standing Committee meeting, Town of Sigel
- April 23, Interviews for LTE Truck Operator and Summer Help
- April 28, CPR Training
- April 28, Dairy Land Balloon Jubilee planning meeting, Town of Lincoln
- April 29, Meeting with Corporation Council, draft offer to purchase CTH B & BB property
- April 30, Spring Safety Training Day, WR Shop
- April 30, Town of Grand Rapids Public Works meeting, CTH U JT discussion

Accounting Supervisor Report

By John Peckham, Wood County Highway Department Accounting Supervisor
HIRC Meeting

Revenues and Expenses

Revenues and expenses are as anticipated at this point of the year.

Other

I have concluded the preparation of the audit workpapers for Finance and the auditors. There were no surprises during the preparation. I am prepared for the auditors on-site questions beginning in May.

I am preparing a series of annual surveys for the State. I will begin work on the Annual Financial Report in May.

County of Wood
 DETAILED INCOME STATEMENT W/SUBTOTALS
 Highway Departmentwide
 Thursday, April 30, 2026

		Actual	2026 Budget	Variance	Variance %
REVENUES					
Intergovernmental Revenues					
43531	State Aid-Transportation	\$731,802.23	\$2,927,208.95	(\$2,195,406.72)	(75.00%)
	Total Intergovernmental	731,802.23	2,927,208.95	(2,195,406.72)	(75.00%)
Licenses and Permits					
44101	Utility Permits	19,133.90	30,550.00	(11,416.10)	(37.37%)
	Total Licenses and Permits	19,133.90	30,550.00	(11,416.10)	(37.37%)
Intergovernmental Charges for Services					
47230	State Charges	492,759.05	1,442,179.00	(949,419.95)	(65.83%)
47231	State Charges-Highway	137,513.16	263,817.00	(126,303.84)	(47.88%)
47232	State Charges-Machinery	35,163.04	(14,629.00)	49,792.04	(340.37%)
47300	Local Gov Chgs	96,556.77	847,362.00	(750,805.23)	(88.61%)
47330	Local Gov Chgs-Transp	146,073.03	1,961,954.00	(1,815,880.97)	(92.55%)
47332	Local Gov Chgs-Roads		265,997.00	(265,997.00)	(100.00%)
47333	Local Gov Chgs-Bridges	(30,968.57)	117,349.00	(148,317.57)	(126.39%)
	Total Charges to Other Governments	877,096.48	4,884,029.00	(4,006,932.52)	(82.04%)
Interdepartmental Charges for Services					
47470	Dept Charges-Highway	25,427.84	2,862,576.00	(2,837,148.16)	(99.11%)
	Total Interdepartmental Charges	25,427.84	2,862,576.00	(2,837,148.16)	(99.11%)
	Total Intergovernmental Charges for Services	902,524.32	7,746,605.00	(6,844,080.68)	(88.35%)
Miscellaneous					
48100	Interest	2.22		2.22	0.00%
48340	Gain/Loss-Sale of Salvage and Waste	1,559.10	10,605.00	(9,045.90)	(85.30%)
	Total Miscellaneous	1,561.32	10,605.00	(9,043.68)	(85.28%)
Other Financing Sources					
49110	Proceeds from Long-Term Debt		4,261,700.00	(4,261,700.00)	(100.00%)
	Total Other Financing Sources		4,261,700.00	(4,261,700.00)	(100.00%)
TOTAL REVENUES		1,655,021.77	14,976,668.95	(13,321,647.18)	(88.95%)
EXPENDITURES					
Public Works-Highway					
53110	Hwy-Administration	131,665.94	427,565.04	295,899.10	69.21%
53120	Hwy-Engineer	69,597.18	272,041.52	202,444.34	74.42%
53191	Hwy-Other Administration	137,338.54	400,326.78	262,988.24	65.69%
53210	Hwy-Employee Taxes & Benefits	(962,913.63)		962,913.63	0.00%
53220	Hwy-Field Tools	(16,612.72)	(45,386.55)	(28,773.83)	63.40%
53230	Hwy-Shop Operations	99,701.80	325,400.34	225,698.54	69.36%
53232	Hwy-Fuel Handling	(3,737.10)	(17,415.00)	(13,677.90)	78.54%
53240	Hwy-Machinery Operations	(904,578.85)	(344,515.87)	560,062.98	(162.57%)
53250	Hwy-Crushing Operations		35,624.03	35,624.03	100.00%
53251	Hwy-Crushing Operations Production	(326.88)	127,671.91	127,998.79	100.26%
53260	Hwy-Bituminous Ops	90,562.18	215,368.25	124,806.07	57.95%
53266	Hwy-Bituminous Ops	1,701.46	2,032,292.73	2,030,591.27	99.92%
53270	Hwy-Buildings & Grounds	87,202.04	258,245.36	171,043.32	66.23%
53290	Hwy-Salt Brine Operations	(14,144.84)	(0.45)	14,144.39	#####
53291	Hwy-Salt Brine Operations	(25,442.72)	1,170.55	26,613.27	2,273.57%
53281	Hwy-Acquistion of Capital Assets	128,440.02		(128,440.02)	0.00%
53310	Hwy-Maintenance CTHS		62,998.99	62,998.99	100.00%
53311	Hwy-Maint CTHS Patrol Sectn	600,300.74	2,676,572.21	2,076,271.47	77.57%
53312	Hwy-Snow Remov	911,525.26	992,793.92	81,268.66	8.19%
53313	Hwy-Maintenance Gang	55,481.07	272,777.37	217,296.30	79.66%
53314	Hwy-Maint Gang-Materials	2,130.00	8,302.00	6,172.00	74.34%
53320	Hwy-Maint STHS	851,118.79	1,442,179.24	591,060.45	40.98%
53330	Hwy-Local Roads	215,094.14	1,961,954.25	1,746,860.11	89.04%
53340	Hwy-County-Aid Road Construction		326,618.11	326,618.11	100.00%
53341	Hwy-County-Aid Bridge Construction	63,747.81	249,955.50	186,207.69	74.50%
53490	Hwy-State & Local Other Services	128,647.42	847,361.79	718,714.37	84.82%
53491	Hwy-ATV Route Signage		17,080.61	17,080.61	100.00%
	Total Public Works-Highway	1,646,497.65	12,546,982.63	10,900,484.98	86.88%
Capital Outlay					
57310	Highway Capital Projects	138,806.55	4,233,864.78	4,095,058.23	96.72%
	Total Capital Outlay	138,806.55	4,233,864.78	4,095,058.23	96.72%

County of Wood
DETAILED INCOME STATEMENT W/SUBTOTALS
Highway Departmentwide
Thursday, April 30, 2026

	Actual	2026 Budget	Variance	Variance %
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	1,785,304.20	16,780,847.41	14,995,543.21	89.36%
NET INCOME (LOSS) *	(130,282.43)	(1,804,178.46)	1,673,896.03	(92.78%)



Parks & Forestry Department Reports

May 7, 2026

Director Report, by Chad Schooley

- Powers Bluff Trailhead Shelter construction project is coming to an end. Estimated completion date of June 1st. Site Amenities are being ordered. Future ribbon cutting date will be established and communicated to the public and County Board of Supervisors.
- Dexter Beach Shelter Building and South Park 2nd Loop Campground Shower Building projects have begun. September 15, 2026 is completion date deadline for both projects.
- Nearing completion of the Powers Bluff Historical Sign Development Project. This project has been in the works for the past 2 years. This has been a collaborative effort between UW Stevens Point, Ho-Chunk, Prairie Band Potawatomi, Wisconsin State Historical Society, and Wood County Parks and Forestry Department. In total, there will be 8 signs providing information about the history of the property currently known as Powers Bluff County Park. Sign installation is scheduled for early June.
- North Park Puff Creek bridge replacement is nearing completion. Hwy staff is doing a great job with the install.
- Compiling quotes for playground equipment replacement, road/parkinglot resurfacing, campground electrical upgrades, and dam maintenance repairs.
- **Special Use Permits**
 - None at this time.

Maintenance Program Supervisor Report, by Dan Vollert

Construction Projects

- South Park: Loop 2 Shower Building underway. Septic installed & forms being set for concrete.
- South Park: New doors installed in shop & ranger house.
- Dexter Park: Beach Shelter Building- Brush, trees, & stumps are cleared for new septic. Old septic being taken out and new mound installed.
- Powers Bluff: New Trailhead Shelter construction project continuing. Finish salt shed at Shop location.
- North Park: New Puff Creek bridge has been completed by Highway Dept. Approaches will be poured once Asphalt Plant opens.
- CERA Park: New VERSA Tube building, for firewood storage, has been delivered and plan to have concrete slab poured this summer. Trees & stumps have been removed.
- CERA Park: Alliant Energy has relocated primary power underground near the main park entrance.

Maintenance Operations

- Dexter Park: Getting building plumbing & electrical prepped for park opening.
- South Park: Storm damage cleanup, building plumbing/electrical fired up.
- NEPCO Park: Shelter cleaning, storm cleanup.
- North Park: High water cleanup. Building plumbing/electrical.
- Powers Bluff: Gravel trails open. Storm cleanup, grading, tree planting.

- CERA Park: New woodshed area prepped. Brush and building cleanup.

Employee Matters

- All parks LTE, Ranger, & Camp Host positions are full.
- On boarding & training underway for new hires.

Snowmobile/ATV

- Snowmobile trails are all closed at this time.
- Range Road ATV Connector Trail to Intensive Use Area road base is complete. Tentativeley, planning on opening this new section on May 15th , along with Peterson Road-Hay Creek Trail.

Office Supervisor Report, by Stacie Kleifgen

- Conducted Interviews for vacant Program Assistant position. Jennifer LaMontagne was selected as the final candidate and began in the department on April 27th.
- Completed designs for permanent informational signs at information stations.
- Finalized CIP documents and sent to finance.
- Updated reservation system page for South Park Community Shelter
- Attended Friends of Powers Bluff Meeting
- Work on agenda for WCFA Summer Tour
- Prepared documents for May Timber Bid
- Worked on training documents for new hire

Forest Administrator Report, by Fritz Schubert

- Timber Sales: Four active timber sales in April, no harvesting occurring this month but some limited hauling has taken place. Logging activity on Wood County Forest has slowed due to thawing ground conditions and spring road postings. Active timber sales have wood decked up, waiting to be hauled once road postings are lifted and access dries out.
- Timber sale establishment in compartment 37.
- Finalized timber bid documents for May 2026 timber bid opening.
- Began planning for the WCFA Summer Tour to be hosted by Wood County this year.
- Continued correspondence with DNR pertaining to paperwork/process to withdraw acres related to Nekoosa Marsh Road Cranberry land trade. DNR has finally signed off and approved the land withdrawal. Currently working with Nick Flanagan to finalize closing and proper documentation. Next and final step will be entry of the new parcel into the County Forest program.
- Forestry Technician: Continued project to mow brush and improve ATV trails in the ATV intensive use area. Assisted with ice storm damage cleanup at South Park/Wazeecha. Cleaned shooting range.

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

April Revenue - May HIRC Budget Year 2026

CONTRACT	TRACT	CONTRACTOR	CONTRACT AWARD AMOUNT	CONTRACT AWARD DATE	CONTRACT EXPIRATION DATE	\$ RECEIVED CURRENT MONTH	AMOUNT BILLED TO DATE	AMOUNT RCVD TO DATE	BALANCE
780	2-16	MIDWEST HW	\$42,886.00	7/10/2020	7/31/2026		\$31,778.92	\$31,778.92	\$0.00
800	6-22	SCHREINER	\$16,440.00	5/27/2022	7/31/2026		\$1,921.20	\$1,921.20	\$0.00
801	7-22	WILSON	\$11,750.00	8/4/2022	7/31/2026		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
804	10-22	KOERNER	\$84,093.60	11/16/2022	12/31/2026		\$103,155.10	\$103,155.10	\$0.00
807	13-22	FLINK	\$9,450.00	12/31/2022	12/31/2026		\$2,274.03	\$2,274.03	\$0.00
814	6-23	FLINK	\$21,055.00	4/28/2025	3/31/2028		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
817	9-23	KOERNER	\$17,310.00	1/4/2024	12/31/2026	\$155.83	\$18,621.11	\$18,621.11	\$0.00
818	10-23	MIDWEST HW	\$51,768.30	1/4/2024	12/31/2026		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
824	5-24	KOERNER	\$53,280.00	4/30/2024	5/1/2026	\$10,618.72	\$44,012.25	\$37,929.94	-\$6,082.31
827	7-24	MEDDA	\$60,286.80	12/19/2024	12/31/2026	\$3,112.94	\$63,118.82	\$63,118.82	\$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
836	9-24	WEEKLY	\$34,063.30	6/18/2025	6/30/2027		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
838	8-25	MATTICKS	\$10,890.00	12/11/2025	12/31/2027		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
839	9-25	KOERNER	\$9,810.00	12/11/2025	12/31/2027		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
840	14-25	KOERNER	\$57,865.00	12/11/2025	12/31/2027		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
755		FIREWOOD				\$20.00	\$60.00	\$60.00	

Total Active Contract Value	\$545,508.00	Payments Received This Month:	\$13,907.49
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		\$ RECEIVED CURRENT MONTH	
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2026 Budgeted Total Revenues	\$400,000	Jobs Finished
2026 Total County Forestry Revenues this month (90%)	\$12,516.74	Jobs Started
2026 Total Township Revenues this month (10%):	\$1,390.75	Jobs Continuing/Reactivated
		Jobs Gone Inactive
2026 TOTAL NET FORESTRY REVENUE TO DATE:	\$381,826.31	

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

April Revenue - May HIRC

BUDGETED REVENUES 2026	SOURCE	YTD REVENUE 2026	YTD REVENUE 2025	APR REV 2026	APR REV 2025	ACTUAL REV 2025
\$ 656,000.00	Camping Reservations	\$103,977.20	\$ 109,966.81	\$30,344.25	\$ 27,430.30	\$ 615,822.96
\$ 55,000.00	Campground Firewood Sales	\$0.00	\$ -	\$0.00	\$ -	\$ 38,413.07
\$ 4,000.00	Non-Camper Dump Station	\$0.00	\$ -	\$0.00	\$ -	\$ 2,287.78
\$ 500.00	Camper Storage	\$0.00	\$ -	\$0.00	\$ -	\$ 41.74
\$ 1,000.00	Washer/Dryer/Showers	\$0.00	\$ -	\$0.00	\$ -	\$ 772.03
\$ 75,000.00	Shelters Enclosed	\$20,482.59	\$ 20,185.14	\$4,618.01	\$ 3,942.83	\$ 62,509.69
\$ 25,000.00	Shelters - Open	\$4,566.06	\$ 4,874.39	\$1,216.96	\$ 777.92	\$ 14,075.70
\$ 3,000.00	General Park User Fees (Use of open areas within parks)	\$1,180.09	\$ 966.82	\$0.00	\$ -	\$ 1,260.66
\$ 45,000.00	Powers Bluff Winter Recreation	\$11,363.84	\$ 13,797.44	\$0.00	\$ -	\$ 38,148.71
\$ 5,000.00	Trail Passes (Ski/Snowshoe/Multi-Use)	\$1,510.83	\$ 909.09	\$133.91	\$ (55.47)	\$ 4,797.66
\$ 5,000.00	Disc Golf	\$114.42	\$ 358.87	\$91.50	\$ 215.07	\$ 3,984.96
\$ 30,500.00	Boat Launch	\$2,009.79	\$ 1,630.70	\$1,704.08	\$ 1,348.70	\$ 22,394.03
\$ 10,000.00	Gift Certificates	\$0.00	\$ -	\$0.00	\$ -	\$ 9,828.00
\$ 10,000.00	Miscellaneous	\$2,602.26	\$ 269.49	\$1,707.30	\$ -	\$ 6,217.70
\$ 925,000.00	Miscellaneous = scrap metal	\$147,807.08	\$ 152,958.75	\$39,816.01	\$33,659.35	\$ 820,554.69
\$ 400,000.00	46813 - Timber Sales & Wood Cutting (90%/County & 10%/Townships) Monthly totals = NET Revenue	\$381,826.31	\$ 187,572.74	\$12,516.74	\$ 23,942.65	\$ 459,136.61
\$ 1,325,000.00		\$529,633.39	\$340,531.49	\$52,332.75	\$57,602.00	\$1,279,691.30

MINUTES
PROPERTY & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, April 28, 2026
TIME: 9:07 AM
PLACE: Courthouse – Room 300

MEMBERS PRESENT: Al Breu, Paul Goldberg, Linda Casper, Dennis Polach, Brad Hamilton

OTHERS PRESENT: Trent Miner, County Clerk; others listed on sign-in sheet

1. County Clerk Miner called the meeting to order at 9:07 AM.
2. There was no public comment.
3. Miner opened the floor to nominations for committee chair. Hamilton nominated Breu. There being no other nominations, Miner declared Breu duly elected as committee chair.
4. Miner opened the floor to nominations for committee vice chair. Hamilton nominated Polach. There being no other nominations, Miner declared Polach duly elected as vice chair.
5. By committee consensus, the meetings will be held on the first Mondays of the month at 9:00 AM.
6. Miner declared the meeting adjourned at 9:08 AM.

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

**Committee Organizational Meetings
April 28, 2026**

NAME	REPRESENTING
JOSEPH H. ZURFLUH	WCB-D17
DENNIS POLACH	WCB-14
BILL VOIGHT	WCB-7
Bill Leichtnam	WCB-19
AL BREU	WCB-5
Russ Perlock	WCB-4
Jake Hahn	WCB-8
Wayne Schindler	WCB-1
Scott C. Soik <i>list</i>	Congressman Van Orden's office
Victoria Wilson (WebEx)	P-3
Lance Pimpl (WebEx)	CB Chair

MINUTES
PROPERTY & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

DATE: Monday, May 4, 2026
TIME: 9:00 AM
PLACE: Courthouse – Room 302

MEMBERS PRESENT: Al Breu, Dennis Polach, Brad Hamilton, Paul Goldberg, Linda Casper

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

1. Chairman Breu called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.
2. There was no public comment.
3. The minutes of the April 6 & 28, 2026, meetings were reviewed. Motion by Hamilton/Polach 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. The Maintenance vouchers were reviewed. Motion by Hamilton/Polach to approve as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
7. The Maintenance Report was reviewed and discussed.
8. Facilities Director Van Tassel briefly discussed the community area network infrastructure being proposed while the Jackson St. project is being done. Planning & Zoning Director Grueneberg was planning on being present today to explain it, however he was called to a different meeting. This will be on the agenda for next month.
9. The next meeting will be held on Monday, June 1, 2026, at 9:00 AM.
10. Chairman Breu declared the meeting adjourned at 9:30 AM.

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

**Property & Information Technology Committee
May 4, 2026**

NAME	REPRESENTING
JEFF RYZKOP	WCB # 11
AL BRED	WCB # 6
DENNIS POLACH	WCB - 14
R VANTASSEL	MAINT.
Bill Clelland	WCB # 15
AMY KAUF	IT
Jason DeMarco	IT
Nicole Gessert	WC maint.
Lance Pliml (WebEx)	CB Chair



Wood County WISCONSIN

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

April 2026

1. The Citrix environment, the County's virtual server and application software, major overhaul has been completed. This Citrix solution provides access to several key software systems. New storage hardware, infrastructure servers and Virtual Machines have been built and are in production. This overhaul has extended our support window and support OS updates. All users are utilizing the new environment. This provides increased performance and related servers are patched up to the most current level as well.
2. Decommissioned 2 legacy systems, TCM, former Human Services Electronic Health Record System and IMS, former Human Services Document Management System. New licenses were purchased for Laserfiche, the County wide Document Management system, so Human Services staff can access historical TCM/IMS data that was migrated. Assisted Human Services staff with Laserfiche onboarding.
3. Updated Laserfiche TCM/IMS archive with specified Human Services Family Services data. Migration work continues for TCM financial data.
4. The network team performed a network refresh at River Block that involved replacing all switching hardware and patch cables. This work was performed over the weekend to minimize impact to Riverblock staff. Staff also installed and replaced two wireless access points.
5. The Countywide backup solution is up for renewal in 2026. Staff continue to meet with vendors to review options to determine the best backup solution. IT continue to make progress with the migration to Exchange Online, a new backup solution was selected for M365 applications which include Exchange Online and SharePoint. This addresses immediate backup needs while allowing additional time to review options for onsite data backup.
6. Staff continue to assist county email users with mailbox cleanup in preparation with migration of the County Outlook email system.
7. Ordered replacement cell phones for various departments, performed device setup and configuration, and deployed phones to end users.
8. A pair of old Cisco Expressways were retired. These were previously used with older video conferencing equipment.



Wood County WISCONSIN

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

9. Programming staff composed an RFP for a replacement system for HRMS, payroll and Finance. The RFP was released in late January. Staff is reviewing responses received by the March 25th deadline. Finance, HR, the Treasurer and IT staff met to review RFP's and narrow down options. IT will be reaching out to schedule demos with the two vendors of interest.
10. After reviewing the feedback from the State audit on jail forms, research continues to obtain CJIS, Criminal Justice Information Services, compliance. Continue to work with Jail and Dispatch on CJIS follow up audit questions. IT continues to identify action-based items on the 2025 CJIS Audit and will work to implement.
11. Several staff attended the Governor's Cybersecurity Summit. Topics included cybersecurity; current threats, network protection needs, and user education on recognizing and reporting suspicious emails.
12. Time has been spent preparing for migrating Wood County's paging system to the latest version of software. There are some intricacies that need to be observed such as changing the way the paging system communicates with phones to allow for the old and new systems to be operating at the same time.
13. For the month of March, 595 helpdesk requests were created, with staff completing 588 tickets and leaving 123 open requests. In addition, there are currently 159 project requests.
14. Updated our print billing system to the latest version in preparation of upgrading the server operating system.
15. A total of 3 actionable Security alerts were received this month. Each incident was addressed and resolved.
16. Working on a request from the Clerk's office to simplify the expense submission process for Supervisors and address iPad usability concerns.
17. Worked with Parks and Forestry staff and an equipment vendor to resolve a remote monitoring and control equipment failure at Wazeecha dam.
18. Completed development of a bulk import program for Laserfiche document management for the Finance department. Finance staff are now using the program to import back-records.



Wood County WISCONSIN

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

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19. Wood County internet and intranet website updates are being posted continually as we work to keep employees and citizens informed. The IT intranet website has been improved for user ease of use and locating important resources and instructions.
 20. Programming staff continue courses and training to maintain and advance best practices concerning code, security and support of in-house developed systems.
 21. Work continues on year-end processes support, updating reports, W2 print management and multiple system configurations to support Finance and HR systems.
 22. Addressing recent Personnel Action Form and other onboarding process concerns. Composing online forms to streamline the flow of information to key stakeholders. Having all the information in one place will allow the onboarding process to be as smooth and as fast as possible for the hiring department, the new hire, and all the departments involved in making sure the employee is setup for their first day.
 23. Assisting Port Edwards with refreshing end-user computing devices for staff and Trustees.
 24. Preparation for replacing the Dispatch computers continue. These devices are replaced every three years and setup and configuration is very time-consuming due to the variety of software and hardware required. Staff is working to update software and installation instructions so when the new devices arrive configuration can begin right away.
 25. The new IT request form and procedure was developed and implemented to improve handling user requests to recover accidentally deleted data. Data recovery often consumes excessive IT staff resources and the new procedure should help mitigate that resource loss.
 26. IT staff work to outline and document proper procedures and best practices for system administration, especially regarding server and application maintenance and/or upgrades that may affect accessibility and functionality, is now complete.
 27. Met with various companies for an external network pen test. After reviewing proposals a vendor was selected to perform this test. Testing will be scheduled in the near future.



Wood County WISCONSIN

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

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28. Completed grant onboarding for new CrowdStrike modules that will last until 2027. These include File Information Monitoring, Exposure Management (Vulnerability Assessments), and Falcon Insight which provides us with the ability to manage and blacklist software on endpoints.
 29. Staff continue to work with CIS, Countywide law enforcement software, on a request for an interface to transmit electronic referrals to the DA's office. The eReferral, RMS PROTECT interface, work began on February 5th. CIS made the interface switch from Test to Live on March 27th. The interface is up and operational.
 30. Triaged and followed up with 20 alerts from the County's end point protection system. Manually investigated and cleaned up each detection and worked with the vendor as needed. In every instance, when an alert was triggered the end point protection system quarantined and stopped the process until an investigation could be completed.
 31. The IT Security Team continues the Security Awareness Program. Additional security training is being assigned to all who fail a phishing campaign.
 32. Employees submitted approximately 183 phishing emails to IT for review. Each submittal was reviewed. Several were identified as legitimate phishing attempts. Filters were put in place to disallow mail from known phishing senders.
 33. The EvenTide project for Dispatch was completed. This replaced their current solution as the emergency protocols recording software in Dispatch.
 34. The 2026 PC replacement 1st and 2nd quarter devices order has been placed. Unfortunately, there have been delays and hardware for the 1st order has yet to be delivered as there are constraints on machines nationwide right now. Staff work to prepare the 3rd and 4th quarter orders. Traveled for on-site visits to County facilities to place new equipment deployments for orders that did arrive.
 35. Implementation phase continues and training begins for a project for the Highway Department to replace the current Highway permit system with Delasoft vendor software. Project request is complete and approved for on an app requested by Highway staff that will assist in tracking Caterpillar equipment codes and parts. Highway project request research and approval for equipment needed for air emissions training and regulation compliance has been completed.



Wood County WISCONSIN

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

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36. Programming staff continue support and system functionality improvement coding for the ESS, employee self-service portal, system for payroll reports and employee benefits open enrollment.
 37. System\code improvement for the in-house Planning & Zoning permitting system continues.
 38. Continued work improving database server security.
 39. Norwood and Edgewater Matrix Claims Management support continues with multi-factor authentication (MFA) migration to a new system evolving constantly. Account work for new backup procedures for Claims Management is complete. Claims user setup process was tested, refined and step by step procedures documented. New Edgewater claims users have been setup, configured and the settings are continue to be adjusted.
 40. Support is ongoing for Cyber Recruiter upgrades and super user support, the HRMS extension system and website used for new hire applications. IT staff worked to resolve multiple serious issues that were caused by a very poorly developed error prone vendor supplied system upgrade. Cautious review and research begins regarding another proposed system update received in Spring 2026. We plan to eliminate and replace the Cyber Recruiter\Careers software as part of the HRMS and payroll system replacement project
 41. Support for Norwood Healthcare Center and Edgewater Haven Matrix (EHR) and CART (CMS abstraction and reporting tool) software is ongoing. IT support works to improve the user reliance on IT for basic system functionality. eMAR provides ability to dispense patient medication when the EHR system is not accessible. Super user training continues and results in improved support of the EHR (electronic health record) system. Work is complete for another annual change to the reporting procedures for hospital pricing transparency required by CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid), new data files have been published.
 42. The TimeStar, electronic timecard and time tracking software system configuration changes is ongoing. Staff works to adjust settings as change requests continue. PBJ reports are submitted to CMS (Centers for Medicare & Medicaid) using TimeStar data for both the Edgewater and Norwood Facilities. PBJ mapping update work is scheduled so we can support new job codes. Preparations continue to support CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid) PBJ data format and submission changes that were effective late March 2026. Training of PBJ backup super users continues and is now mostly conducted by PBJ submission staff.



Wood County WISCONSIN

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

43. The Register of Deeds work to upgrade another application is complete. IT staff escorts and assists the vendor, Fidlar Technologies, with server and application updates and maintenance on a regular basis. Work to increase server security via user account permissions and port access is scheduled for early May 2026. Review and research regarding the Fidlar Tech hosted solution and backup solution begins.
44. IT staff work to schedule and upgrade various server operating systems and database management systems, SQL servers, begins a new cycle. This ongoing project takes considerable time to plan, test, and implement. Continued work improving database server security.
45. Discussions with Maintenance continue regarding space needs for the IT department. There is significant increase of technology being supported in the LEC and the increase of staff and services in other Departments within the County increases the demands on IT support as well. IT will need additional IT staff and space in order to properly support the County's expanded facilities, staff, software, hardware, systems and the increased reliance on technology. The IT Conference room now serves as our vendor staging area, network setup area, equipment storage and conference room. We have repurposed and triple purposed as much space as possible. IT needs more space to function properly.



Wood County

WISCONSIN

Reuben Van Tassel
Facilities Manager

Letter of Comments May 2026

Ongoing Projects and Planning

Jail Project – The engineer and contractor have come up with some ideas for preventing the water infiltration affecting the first floor of the Courthouse where the old jail was demolished. Their solutions should be finalized soon and implemented over the next several weeks.

Building automation system adjustments are ongoing.

Courthouse – A thorough evaluation of the chiller has exposed some unexpected wear to parts that will need to be replaced; after all identified parts have been replaced, the chiller will be re-evaluated and programmed to help ensure efficient and reliable operation.

Reconstruction of Jackson Street, south of the Courthouse, has begun; the first phase of construction should not have any impact to current facility access or parking. The second phase of construction, scheduled to begin in July, will mark the beginning of a lengthy period of time during which facility access and parking will be moderately impacted.

A survey of parcels along Jackson and Market Streets will occur in the next few weeks; this survey will provide the information necessary for project engineers to begin designing the Market Street parking lot.

River Block – Working to replace and update lighting in multiple areas of the building, as well as adjust light levels to better accommodate employees.

Miscellaneous

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

Supporting Norwood and Edgewater with various project planning.

Planning & Zoning Director Grueneberg and I continue meeting with City staff regarding Courthouse parcel changes and an opportunity to coordinate street construction with infrastructure for a future Community Area Network.

CWSF Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 23rd, 2026, at 6:30 PM – Fair Office

513 East 17th Street, Marshfield, WI 54449

Call to Order: Sandi Leonhard called the meeting to order at 6:32pm

Roll Call: Dale Christiansen, Gary Bymers, Brad Hamilton, Joyce Karl, Scott Karl, Kate Kohl, Dave Lang, Heather Wellach, Rob Wiskerchen, Sandi Leonhard, present via Zoom: Peggy Sue Behselich

Not present- Nick Wayerski, Andrew Reigel

Public Comments: none

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Gary Bymers, 2nd Rob Wiskerchen to approve minutes as presented. -unanimous approval

Financial Report:

Park management- report presented- Ask from Commission to separate out – Gary moved 2nd by Scott Karl to accept the initial draft with more input to be talked about later in meeting. – no further discussion- Unanimous approval.

Fair Financial report- Difference in numbers is related to release date and ticket sales. Motion by Gary Bymers, 2nd by Scott Karl to approve treasures report as presented. - unanimous approval

Executive Director's Report: Dale spoke about District convention and how he presented on fair management. This was well received.

Ambassadors stopped by during their meeting to introduce themselves. Jessica Lindow started as one of our SR ambassadors with emphasis on working with kids during the fair. Ericka Sleznicow SR ambassador exhibits dairy and sheep at the fair. Favorite thing about fair is growing with the dairy program. Lyra VanHoof- SR ambassador- favorite thing at the fair is seeing the other showman grow and succeed- Alyssion Connetor- Sheep and beef- LOVES little bridges, Justine Lindow- shows a lot! dairy and meat goats are her favorite states she loves being in the show ring.

Melissa coordinator with Haylee talking about etiquette and team building- fair has tik tok now – videos to come!

The board also went around and introduced themselves with a highlight on what their favorite part of the fair is.

Sandi Leonhard president expressed that people watching and seeing the fair goers smile was her favorite part.

Dave Lang Vice president is very involved with Dairy and animals, leads dress an Animal previously dress a cow. Enjoys encouraging the exhibitors to be their best in and out of the show ring.

Gary Bymer- has been around the fair for many years. His focus now is working on building and grounds leads the go cart group helping transport people around the grounds to enjoy the fair in style.

Joyce Karl- highlighted her work with of Wonders Of Wisconsin with Cheryl. A growing area with a highlight on education.

Scott Karl- has also been a staple at the fair for many years. His love of the fair is evident in his volunteering and ability to help in all areas of the fair.

Rob Wiskerchen- new to fair board this year – involved with Market Sale and expressed his encouragement to grow with the fair and help where he can.

Katelyn Kohl- is our Jr Fair representative and the horse superintendent. She has a great love for the fair and youth.

Heather Wellach- current secretary. She expressed being a 4-H leader and involved in all things fair. Just a general enthusiasm for what the fair can teach all of us especially life skills for the youth.

Dale Christiansen – leader of this crew shares in the love of watching people enjoy themselves at the fair. He also stated that it is a labor of love doing this Job.

Commission update- Maintenance is currently designated out by simple projects discussion about separating out difference between time and working to develop a report that captures the divide.

Junior Fair Report: Kate Kohl- signage. Hockey building – fair board ask to purchase a blower. No decision made at this time. Discussion on barn clean out and chains across doors. Superintendents looking for Judges. Garbage cans down by Pats barn. Fair book changes submitted.

Discussion about the leaf blower and taking it livestock committee meeting to bring forward with a suggestion of type and more details.

Fair update: Hairball released unkind remarks on Facebook, Hairball is selling well fair board is confident in the decision to keep them coming back. Significant time is put into trying to find this music entertainment. Rise in gas prices and stage costs will impact the fair. Great new food vendors.

Topics to be Discussed:

Executive Committee- did not meet

Sponsorship Committee- New Flyers approved. New sponsorship goal set.

Market Committee- Utilizing resources to promote music entertainment releases.

Volunteer Committee- Volunteers are coming in. People calling to request

Livestock Committee- Meeting 630 pm Sr High – Motion by Gary Bymers to keep swine show terminal Dave 2nd – no further discussion -unanimously approved

Draft Horse Committee- Naming sponsor obtained – working on more sponsorship

Building and Grounds Committee- Rob Wiskerchen and Gary Bymers have a presentation that was done for the commission meeting. Presented sewer proposal for pig wash rack issues and future building planning. Motion made by Gary Bymers to spend up to 25,000 dollars on the sewer project 2nd by Dave Lang – unanimous approval. Transformer pad being poured and put in early this spring.

Fair Park Management- Our three-year lease runs out this year. Initial agreement with the amount given was in 1983. Itemized statement and more follow up to come

Rob brought up that a business plan creation is a full time Job. Suggested perhaps bring in another personnel/consultant to help grow this and pull the numbers together. Looking at that financial impact and ability to support additional individuals.

Old Business: Code of Conduct- Presented – motion by Rob Wiskerchen 2nd by Joyce Karl – unanimous approval. This will be located on our website and sighted in the fair book. Dale to investigate the follow up procedure for the board this may already be in our records .

New Business:

Committee Assignments- Sandi reviewed Committees and assignments-

Marketing Committee- Dale Kathy Tia Sierra

Sponsorship Committee- Kara Rob Peggy Sue

Live Stock- Dave Heather All animal superintendents

Volunteer Committee- Sandy (Bar) Kara (gates) Shelby (grand stand) Gary (carts)

Fair Park and Grounds Management- Dale, Nick, Scott, Rob

Events- Joyce, Sandy, Marion, heather

Fairest- Melissa, Hailey, Heidi?

Nominating- Sandy

Born to Dairy / Cheeselandia Event Follow-Up- Outline presented. Dale to follow up with Board via email to kick off. This event is to grow participation and partnerships within the community.

Agenda Item for next meetings. – Born to Dairy, Committees, Code of conduct/chain of command, Contact list per building

Adjournment: Motion by Gary Bymers 2nd by Dave Lang to Adjourn meeting- unanimous approval 902pm

MEETING MINUTES
South Central Library System Board of Trustees
March 26, 2026

Present: Nancy Foth (Portage Co.), President; Mary Nelson (Adams Co.), Vice President; Michael Howe (Dane Co., online), Secretary; Richard Bloomquist (Dane Co.); Brenda Carus (Green Co., online); Chassitti Clark (Dane Co., online); Bill Clendenning (Wood Co.); Susan Feith (Wood Co.); Joan Fordham (Sauk Co., online); Joan Honl (Portage Co.); Tayler Palkowski (Dane Co., online); Gary Poulson (Dane Co., online); Amanda Smith (Dane Co., online); Jordan Tilleson (Dane Co., online). T. Elias, Madison Public Library Director, was also in attendance.

Administration: Shannon Schultz, Director; Kerrie Goeden, HR & Finance Coordinator.

Excused: Gen Carter (MPL Rep.); Marlee Jorgensen (Dane Co.), Treasurer; Henry St. Maurice (Columbia Co.); Jacob Wright (Dane Co.).

Absent: Latonya Jackson-Flynn (Dane Co.); David Peterson (Dane Co.).

Recorder: S. Schultz, Director

1. Call to Order

N. Foth called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m.

2. Introduction of Guests and Visitors

None.

3. Changes or Additions to the Agenda

None.

4. Requests to Address the Board

None.

5. Approval of the Previous Meeting Minutes

Motion by M. Nelson to approve the minutes of the February 26, 2026, Board of Trustees meeting. Seconded by S. Feith. **Motion carried unanimously.**

6. Review of the Financial Statements

K. Goeden provided an overview the financial statements.

7. Presentation and Approval of Bills for Payment

Motion by J. Honl to approve bills for payment in the amount of \$486,829.30. Seconded by S. Feith. **Motion carried unanimously.**

8. Demonstration: SirsiDynix Symphony discovery layer and circulation module

Tabled until a future meeting due to staff capacity issues.

9. Reports

a. Committees

N. Foth indicated that she is still looking for an individual to serve on the Personnel Committee for 2026. Anyone interested should contact her.

b. Director's Report

S. Schultz's report is available in the documents online. Schultz fielded questions about the upcoming deadline for website accessibility compliance and its effects on the system and member libraries.

10. New Business

a. Review and Approval of the 2025 System Annual Report to DPI

Motion by M. Howe to approve the 2025 System Annual Report. Seconded by B. Clendenning.

Motion carried unanimously.

11. Announcements and Information Sharing

The next meeting is April 23, 2026 and the bill examiner will be M. Jorgensen, with N. Foth as alternate. Business will include the presentation and approval of the 2025 audit. N. Foth shared that the Portage County Library has received a \$10,000 grant from the Carnegie Foundation. B. Carus announced that this would be her last meeting, as she will no longer be eligible to represent Green County. N. Foth acknowledged that this would also be J. Honl's last meeting. J. Honl shared that there was news coverage last week on the fun programming at the Plover branch of the Portage County Library that included the catapulting of marshmallow peeps.

12. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned by President N. Foth at 12:53 p.m.

BOT/Minutes/03-26-2026

County of Wood / LIBRARY BOARD

The Wood County Library Board met on Thursday, January 15, 2026, at 6:00 P.M. at the Charles & JoAnn Lester Library, 100 Park St., Nekoosa.

Members in attendance:

County Library Board Members:

Susan Feith (Present)
Brad Hamilton (Present)
Andrea Halbersma (Zoom)
Linda Schmidt (Present)
Bill Voight (Zoom)
Joe Zurfluh (Present)
Jean Anderson, SCLS (Zoom)
Betsy Mancl (not present)

County Libraries and Directors:

Lester Public Library of Arpin; Stacy Kunding (Zoom)
Everett Roehl Marshfield Public Library; Jill Porter (Zoom)
McMillan Memorial Library Wisconsin Rapids; Heather Kinkade (Present)
Pittsville Community Library; Tammy Hardinger (Zoom)
Lester Library of Vesper; Wendy Wilson (Present)
Charles & JoAnn Lester Library Nekoosa; Darla Allen (Present)

AGENDA

- 1. Call to Order**
Chairman Brad Hamilton called the meeting to order at 6:20pm.
- 2. Approve minutes of the previous meeting**
Joe Zurfluh motioned to approve the minutes of the October 16, 2025 meeting. Second by Brad Hamilton.
- 3. Old Business**
Nothing to report
- 4. New Business**
Library and SCLS reports attached.
- 5. Public comments on agenda items and requests for future agenda items**
No public comments
- 6. Date, time and place of next meeting**
Our next meeting will be held at 6pm on Thursday, April 23, 2026 at McMillan Memorial Library, 490 E. Grand Ave., Wisconsin Rapids.
- 7. Adjourn**
Motion by Chairman Brad Hamilton to adjourn meeting at 6:53pm

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87017419707?pwd=bTINuLUyUyLfrZLijnAZ7WGkJBlih8t.1>

Meeting ID: 870 1741 9707

Passcode: 410943

8. New Business

Lester Library of Arpin Report to WCLB Jan 15, 2026: Director Stacy Kundinger

· Fall activities at the library included: Autumn themed Take 'n Make Activity kits, Teen & Young Adult Game Night at the Library, Trick or Treating and Paper Play Creative Cardmaking.

· December continues to be one of the busiest months at the library.

1. The Wooden Reindeer Ornament Take 'n Make **exceeded** all months to date with nearly 50 kits being handed out. (Secretary note: !!!)

2. The library once again partnered with Richfield 4-H in sponsoring the Angel Tree. All ornaments were adopted within two weeks. Special thanks go to the generosity of the community in making Christmas a little brighter for a local family.

3. On December 6, the library offered a Barnboard Snowman Sign class thanks to a large donation of rustic barnboards. This program filled to capacity within two days. In order to accommodate the space needed for a project of this size, two back-to-back programs were offered, making the project much more comfortable for participants.

4. The Christmas Movie Challenge was well received with over two hundred votes being cast between Facebook and the library. After several weeks of fierce competition, Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer took the top spot, winning by one vote.

5. Lionel, the little library elf, returned this year with a Christmas Riddle Challenge – a scavenger hunt of hidden ornaments with letter/number combinations needed to solve the silly riddle of Why did Lionel invite the turkey to join his Christmas carol band?

6. The 2025 Book Lottery Scratch Off Reading Challenge ended December 19 with eleven adults and thirteen young people participating. An adult and youth winner were chosen and received a MACCI gift certificate. (Marshfield Area Chamber of Commerce and Industry)

· January offerings include a Beaded Snowflake Take 'n Make kit and the start of the NEW Back in Time Reading Challenge.

Pittsville Community Library Report to WCLB Jan 15, 2026
Director Tammy Hardinger

November Porch Pots were a tremendous success again this year! Community members bring their own pots, and the Library provides the raw materials. The community really turns out for this program and it is very popular.

The Library hosted their annual Hot Chocolate Hustle again this year. T-shirts were sold which provided funding for two planters to be placed downtown for the entire community to enjoy.

We hosted an Angel Tree with over 84 tags on it, and ALL tags were claimed and presents supplied. (Amazing!)

We have kicked off our Winter Reading challenge: Get Cozy and Read!

We are working collaboratively with UW-Extension Horticulture Services, and we had 20 people attend our first program!

We continue to host the ADRC “Strong Bodies” program in our adjoining community center space, and it is very well attended.

Everett Roehl Marshfield Public Library Report to WCLB Jan 15, 2026
Director Jill Porter

- Busy holiday season starting with Downtown Trick or Treating. Five musical performances over the holidays with turnouts large enough that we brought all of our chairs into the Youth Services area.
- We have a new Circulation Supervisor, Robin Kober. She has been with us for two years now and completed her Associates Degree in Library Science at Chippewa Valley.
- Winter Reading Challenge starts next week and runs through February. This is a program for all ages.
- We have monthly STEM programs: an afternoon program for homeschool families and an evening program for the community. We see 60-70 people between the two programs.
- We're also preparing for the Annual Report and the ILS migration in the spring.
- Working on making website ADA-compliant by the 2027 deadline.
- Our Library of Things launches on Saturday. We will start by rolling out board games, but will also have kits for bird watching, snow shoeing, media conversion, etc. These are not available through interlibrary loan, have been underwritten by our Friends' group or through item donations, and are not dangerous!

A tangential discussion regarding “Library of Things” collections (LOT Collections) ensued. Very productive discussion regarding liability, what sort of items could be found in a “Library of Things” collection. Other libraries commented on what they have in their collections. It was clarified that items in “LOT Collections” are not sent out via red box. LOT items are loaned to walk-in patrons. Discussed how collections are curated based on community input and how items are paid for. Example: buying a mechanical snow removal tool would not be fiscally responsible nor prudent, but a manual snow removal tool could be considered.

McMillan Memorial Library Update Report to WCLB Jan 15, 2026
Director Heather Kinkade

Since this board met in mid-October, I have been steadily learning more about the library, the library team, community, and county. It has been interesting learning about the history and dynamics, for example, the publications that are not automatic and one must renew by hand.

The library's budget was approved in October, and the City of Wisconsin Rapids did increase municipal support by 7%, and the county reimbursement for 2024, which is dispersed in 2026, increased by 29%.

We were asked by the City of Wisconsin Rapids to make cuts, in order to help with the overall budget deficit, and we cut \$30,000.00.

In November the library's endowment fund board agreed to again sponsor the concert series, as well as financially contributing to adult, young adult, children, and maker space programming.

The endowment fund board agreed last summer to support remodeling the library's previous coffee shop into a teen space. Significant work needed to be completed with the City's Department of Public Works, and, due to medical leave, the crew was not able to seriously start until December. The furniture has arrived, and we are waiting for the remaining of the remodel to be completed, for example, putting in a new floor. The impetus for designing a teen space was due to not having a dedicated teen space, in addition to many teens congregating in the adult area on the second floor, which frequently caused problems with patrons studying or working in the computer area. With the soon-to-be teen area on the first floor, it will be semi-private, but also right around the corner from the teen librarian's office.

In other facility-related updates, the library has been working on installing an Americans for Disabilities Act-compliant elevator, in addition to ADA-compliant entry doors on Grand Avenue, as well as installing new entry doors by the parking lot. We are looking to have the two sets of entry doors installed by the end of this month, and the elevator will take longer.

Lastly, due to Wisconsin Rapids Job Center closing at the end of 2025, (the agencies making up the Job Center decided to look for another location and ended up scattering) McMillan has been looking into ways of supporting the community with Job Center-like needs, for example, working with former Job Center agencies in scheduling office hours at the library.

Lester Library of Vesper Library Report to WCLB Jan 15, 2026
Director Wendy Wilson

Vesper Public Works guys disassembled the circ desk from the Charles & JoAnn Lester Library prior to their desk being delivered, and reassembled it at the vesper Library. The kids' area has been moved around, the Young Adult and Local History areas are being flipped to give the community a larger Local History area, as there is a call for increased space. Wendy discovered some photo albums from a prominent local photographer that had been placed in a box years ago. They have been thrilled with the find! Wendy is also hoping to make the green books of 1880 era Vesper Newspapers available to the public, with preference for getting them digitized. The Wisconsin State Historical Society has them all scanned, but Vesper would have to pay \$2,500 to get the link for their patrons to access.

Vesper also hosted an Angel tree which was a success.

Let's Create out of Wisconsin Rapids has been holding card making classes at the library, which are well attended.

The Lester Library of Vesper Book Club has chosen non-fiction to be their them for this year's book club.

The Board of Trustees is seeking a new board member, as longtime library advocate and board member Sandy Weinfurter recently passed away.

Charles & JoAnn Lester Library Report to WCLB Jan 15, 2026
Director Darla Allen

Since our last meeting in October: I was short 2 staff members. We have hired Kim Kleba and Rosella Reinwand-Crooks, and both have been learning the ropes during a busy time. I attended WLA and hurried back to cover the library for Halloween. We stay open until trick or treating is over for the night. Okray donated potatoes to us when they heard we give kids a choice between candy or a potato. Once again, we ran out of potatoes before candy; approximately 2 large bags of potatoes vs leftover candy from our SLP.

In November, we organized electricians, desk movers, desk installers, and flooring. We closed the library the week of Thanksgiving to facilitate the disassembly of our old desk, paid forward to Vesper, and the install of our new desk. We did have to relocate some electrical, which was a blessing do to some issues with the conduit incased in the concrete slab. Patrons and staff are loving the new desk, with more than a few saying "I can't even remember the old desk, this just looks right. Like it should have always looked this way."

We held storytime and cookie decorating during Hometown Christmas, with approximately 75 participants. We shared leftover cookies with residents of Nekoosa Court, allowing them to also have some fun decorating cutout cookies.

The Library packaged 75 bags to hand out at the Visit with Santa and Mrs Claus event at Riverside Park on December 19th. There were 3 age ranges: 0-2 Santa Board Book, 3-7 Bear Stays Up, and 8 and up Best Christmas Pageant Ever, along with remaining snacks and trinkets from the SLP

We are back to weekly storytimes, with 13 in attendance for each of our first two sessions.

We are holding a Winter Reading Challenge through the end of February.

Charles & JoAnn Lester Library Report to WCLB Jan 15, 2026 Director Darla Allen; Continued

We are also preparing for the ILS migration and I am working on preliminary numbers for the Annual report.

We moved our Young Adult collection over the Adult side of the library. Our YA collection now consists of YA, Manga, and fantasy collections, with Sci-Fi in the second section.

Rick Schmidt from the DPW generously allowed two City guys to go to Portage and pick up some free to us media shelving. Staff got that assembled and transferred our entire DVD and audiobook collection over to the media shelving and everyone loves it!

Staff also moved the former DVD shelving to the Adult fiction area, giving us more room in the stacks, and allowing us to leave the lowest two shelves empty.

SCLS Report to WCLB Jan 15, 2026 Jean Anderson; (compiled by SCLS consultant staff)

SCLS Projects and News

Annual Reports, contact Tracie Miller with questions.

Important dates:

- January 20-21: Form opens
- February 13: First review
- February 23: All reports turned in

ILS Migration project: For updates, see the [SirsiDynix ILS Migration page](#).

Important dates:

- April 3-15: Technical Services freeze
- April 13-15: System down, use Offline Circulation
- April 16: Go live on SirsiDynix Symphony

Wisconsin's Digital Library surpassed 80 million all-time checkouts in December. View the Digital Title Circulation dashboard [here](#).

2025 Circulation Top 20: Lists are available [here](#). The updated dashboard includes library logos for easy branding. The lists can also be downloaded in print friendly formats. Contact Tim Drexler with questions.

ALA welcomes reinstatement of all federal IMLS grants to libraries. Details [here](#).

Events and Meetings

January 21 & 22: Wild Wisconsin Winter Web Conference ([Details and registration](#))

February 10: Library Legislative Day. Registration closes Jan. 9. ([Details and registration](#))

All Directors Meetings

March 19 - SCLS Offices

May 21 - Sun Prairie Public Library

July 16 - TBD

November 19 - TBD

SCLS Report to WCLB Jan 15, 2026

Jean Anderson; (compiled by SCLS consultant staff); Continued

Reminders

- Watch for Top 5 emails (weekly) and Online Update (monthly) for information on services, events, CE opportunities, and upcoming meetings.
- Committee and meeting agendas and minutes are available on the SCLS website.
- If you have information that you would like to share system wide through the SCLS Facebook page, you can email the details to either Shawn Brommer or Mark Jochem.

Minutes taken by Darla Allen, Charles & JoAnn Lester Library 01-15-2026