

AGENDA
WOOD COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

DATE: Tuesday, April 21, 2026
TIME: 9:30 AM
LOCATION: County Board Room

CALL TO ORDER

SWEARING IN OF COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS & SIGN OATHS OF OFFICE

ROLL CALL

INVOCATION: Supervisor Voight

ELECTION OF CHAIR, FIRST VICE CHAIR, & SECOND VICE CHAIR

READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

EXCUSALS:

RESIGNATIONS:

APPOINTMENTS/Re-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

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & RECOGNITIONS

Outgoing County Board Supervisors Hokamp & Brehm

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, May 19, 2026

ADJOURN

Join by phone

+1-408-418-9388 United States Toll

Meeting number (access code): 2492 006 0019

Join by WebEx App or Web

<https://woodcountywi.webex.com/woodcountywi/j.php?MTID=m3a8a066b728f587b71de64a6347ce471>

Meeting number (access code): 2492 006 0019

Meeting password: 042126

From the County Board Rules, re: Election of County Board officers

The County Clerk shall chair the organizational meeting of the board until all of the elections being conducted by secret ballot are concluded at which time the county board chair will assume the responsibility of running the meeting. No substantive matters will be brought before the board during the organizational meeting until the elections are concluded.

The County Clerk shall handle the elections by identifying in turn each office that is open for election. For each office, the Clerk will declare the floor open for nominations (including self-nominations). A nomination need not (but can) be seconded. The supervisor making a nomination or one supporting a nomination may speak for or against a nominee. After a reasonable time, the Clerk will declare the time for making nominations for an office closed.

If there is only one nominee, the Clerk will declare the sole nominee as the winning candidate for the office (no motion or vote is necessary).

If there are multiple nominees for an office, the Clerk shall conduct votes by secret ballot until one candidate receives a majority of the votes being cast. During the voting process, a candidate may withdraw their name from consideration for election to the office. If a majority cannot be reached, the Clerk may allow speeches for and against candidates as well as breaks to allow the supervisors to speak privately amongst themselves. Votes may be made for any person eligible for an office; they need not have been nominated. The Clerk may appoint tellers for assisting in the election process as the Clerk deems fit.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE WOOD COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

March 17, 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 March 17, 2026.

Chairman Pliml called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

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

Supervisor Hamilton gave the invocation led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Motion by Hamilton/Penzkover to approve the appointment of Rachel Stankowski to a 3-year term on the Health & Human Services Committee. Motion carried via voice vote.

There were no public comments.

The referrals were noted.

Committee minutes presented: Operations.

Chairman Pliml declared his intent on taking the first 5 resolutions with one vote. No objections heard.

RESOLUTION 26-3-1

Introduced by: Operations Committee

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To amend the 2025 Debt Service Paying Agent (58295) budget for debt issuance costs not anticipated during the original budget process.

FISCAL NOTE: No cost to Wood County. The source of funding is unanticipated revenues from Debt Service - Debt Premium revenue.

<u>Account</u>	<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Debit</u>	<u>Credit</u>
58295	Debt Service Paying Agent		\$86,990
48500	Debt Svc Debt Premium	\$86,990	

Motion by Zurfluh/Breu to adopt Resolution 26-3-1. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION 26-3-2

Introduced by: Health & Human Services and Operations Committees

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To amend the 2026 Norwood Health Center Maintenance (54351) and Capital Projects (57420) budgets to include expenditures for the water pipe replacement project (phase 1) and engineering and design costs in progress but not completed as of December 31, 2025.

FISCAL NOTE: No Cost to Wood County. The source of funding is from previously approved contingency and Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency funds and 2024 unspent capital projects funds.

<u>ACCOUNT</u>	<u>ACCOUNT NAME</u>	<u>DEBIT</u>	<u>CREDIT</u>
54351	Plant Op and Maint Other Eq		\$68,429.04
57420	Capital Projects – Norwood		\$17,040.02
34113	Capital Projects Fund Bal	\$17,040.02	
33900	NW Retained Earnings	\$68,429.04	

Motion by Zurfluh/Breu to adopt Resolution 26-3-2. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION 26-3-3

Introduced by: Judicial & Legislative and Operations Committees

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To amend the 2025 Child Support - 5 County (51333) budget for additional expenditures not anticipated during the original budget process:

FISCAL NOTE: No cost to Wood County. The source of funding is unanticipated revenues from Child Support-5 County state aid. The adjustment to the budget is as follows:

<u>Account</u>	<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Debit</u>	<u>Credit</u>
51333	CS - 5 County		\$11,796.91
43568	CS - 5 County State Aid	\$11,796.91	

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

RESOLUTION 26-3-4

Introduced by: Judicial & Legislative and Operations Committees

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To create a 0.5 FTE Program Assistant in Victim Witness and amend the 2026 Victim Witness budget to allow for the expense.

FISCAL NOTE: Wood County has been determined eligible for state reimbursement for this position between February 12, 2026 - February 11, 2027. The budget would be amended by the total below.

2026 Gross Wages	\$18,761.60
<u>Benefit Costs*</u>	<u>\$8,335</u>
Total	\$27,096.60

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

RESOLUTION 26-3-5

Introduced by: Highway Infrastructure & Recreation and Operations Committees

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To amend the 2025 budget of various Highway functions listed below for additional expenditures of \$3,322,740.31 not anticipated during the original budget process.

FISCAL NOTE: No additional cost to Wood County. The adjustment to the budget is as follows:

Account	Account Name	Debit	Credit
104-1616-43531-000-000	State Aid Transportation	30,141.81	
104-1650-47332-000-000	Revenue from Districts-Roads	160,378.73	
104-1660-47333-000-000	Revenue from Districts-Bridges	32,680.67	
404-1690-49110-000-000	Hwy Capital Proj-Debt Proceeds	273,750.00	
404-1690-49280-000-000	Transfer from Other Funds	470,745.05	
604-1623-53240-000-341	Machinery Operations	699,594.83	
604-1670-47230-000-000	State Revenue	921,997.03	
604-1670-47330-000-000	Local Revenue	733,452.19	
604-1620-53220-000-341	Field Tools-Operating		70,008.73
104-1609-53251-000-341	Crushing Ops Prod Supplies & Expense		37,482.73
104-1611-53120-000-341	Engineer Other Operating		17,824.08
104-1612-53191-000-349	Other Administration Other Operating		12,317.73
104-1617-53313-000-376	Operations Materials-Maint. GANG		124,209.56
104-1640-53312-000-341	Snow Removal CTHS Supplies		499,746.62
104-1641-53291-000-341	Salt Brine Operations – Production		4,674.16
104-1650-53340-000-730	County-Aid Road Construction		229,434.93
104-1660-53341-000-730	County-Aid Bridge Construction		8,780.59
404-1690-57310-501-340	HWY-Capital Projects		578,226.75
604-1625-53270-271-249	Buildings & Grounds		64,843.39
604-1627-53290-000-341	Salt Brine Ops Supplies & Expense		33,894.25
604-1628-53250-000-341	Crushing Ops Machinery Supp & Exp		31,003.69
604-1670-53320-000-343	State Highway Maintenance		921,997.03
604-1671-53330-000-340	Local Roads		493,167.60
604-1671-53331-001-340	Local Roads Chipseal		195,128.47

Motion by Zurfluh/Breu to adopt Resolution 26-3-5. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION 26-3-6

Introduced by: Operations Committee

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To show additional elements of committed and assigned governmental fund balance projected as of December 31, 2025:

FISCAL NOTE: Total committed and assigned governmental fund balance as of December 31, 2025 is projected to be \$7,339,251 detailed as follows:

Account	Account Name	Actual 12/31/24	Projected 12/31/2025
51440	Clerk Elections	\$242,329	\$258,559
52130	Police Radio	31,301	31,301
52530	Building Numbering	26,222	27,534
54122	Public Health WIC	4,169	4,170
54128	Health-Grants	6,430	3,789
54130	Health-Dental Sealants	51,496	51,029
54132	Juneau/Adams	388,510	457,633
51433	HR Labor Relations	170,001	182,791
56121	Land Conservation	89,105	107,221

59210	Permits & Fines	11,287	13,737
56315	Census Redistricting	4,500	4,500
51931	Property & Liability Ins	(165,318)	(155,866)
51711	Reg of Deeds-Redaction	2,387	12
52131	Indian Law Enforcement	51,712	55,557
52712	Electronic Monitoring	630,403	705,435
52721	Jail Surcharge	447,725	517,494
51451	Voice-Over IP	183,009	105,049
55660	UW Ext Project Accounts	176,816	159,400
54710	Veteran's Relief	25,652	24,309
54730	Veteran's Relief Donations	1,885	1,869
51316	Victim Witness Task Force	6,230	6,230
	Total Committed	\$2,385,850	\$2,561,753
Other Governmental Funds Assigned			
	County Highways	(31,725)	1,621,996
	Human Services Fund (before deferral of revenues)	1,484,960	1,766,037
	ADRC	174,287	174,287
	Parks and Forestry	(448,580)	15,925
	Land Records and Private Sewage	583,611	407,883
	Land Conservation	149,935	186,710
	Transportation and Economic Development	58,755	89,262
	Sheriff and corrections	515,398	515,398
	Total Other Governmental	2,486,642	4,777,498
	Total Governmental Funds Committed and Assigned	\$4,872,492	\$7,339,251

Motion by Clendenning/Schulz to adopt Resolution 26-3-6. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION 26-3-7

Introduced by: Operations Committee

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To establish the rate of pay for the Clerk of Courts and Sheriff for the 2027-2030 term of office, beginning January 2027.

FISCAL NOTE:

	Clerk of Courts	Sheriff
2027 Gross Wages	\$97,468.80	\$141,876.80
Benefit Costs*	\$33,036.50	\$51,626.73
Total	\$130,505.30	\$193,503.53

Motion by Zurfluh/Buttke to adopt Resolution 26-2-7. Motion carried unanimously.

Committee Minutes presented: Health & Human Services, Veterans Service Commission, Public Safety, Civil Service Commission, Conservation, Education, & Economic Development, Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development Council, Golden Sands RC&D, Citizens Water Group, Judicial & Legislative.

RESOLUTION 26-3-8

Introduced by: Judicial & Legislative Committee

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To amend County Board Rule 4.04(A) to state that all county board members must stand, if able, when waiting to address, or addressing the county board chair and county board at county board meetings.

FISCAL NOTE: None

Motion by Schulz/Clendenning to adopt Resolution 26-2-8. Motion carried unanimously.

Committee minutes presented: Highway Infrastructure & Recreation, Wood County Wildlife Area Advisory Committee, Property & Information Technology, Central Wisconsin State Fair Board.

Without objection, Chairman Pliml adjourned the meeting at 9:56 AM. Next scheduled county board meeting is April 21, 2026.

Trent Miner
County Clerk

REFERRALS FOR APRIL 21, 2026 – COUNTY BOARD

- April 6, 2026: An email from Wisconsin Counties Association calling for resolutions to be considered at the annual WCA Conference noting that all resolutions are due to WCA by Monday, June 22, 2026, at 4:30 PM. Referred to all Committee Chairs at the request of Supervisor Clendenning.

MINUTES OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, March 17, 2026
TIME: 9:15 AM
PLACE: Courthouse – County Board Room

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

MEMBER EXCUSED: Laura Valenstein

OTHERS PRESENT: Trent Miner, County Clerk; others in the county board room

1. Vice Chair Rozar called the committee to order at 9:19 AM.
2. A resolution adding a 0.5 FTE and amending the budget for said position for Victim Witness was presented. Motion by Zurfluh/Hahn to approve the resolution and forward onto the county board for their consideration. Motion carried unanimously.
3. Vice Chair Rozar declared the meeting adjourned at 9:20 AM.

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

MINUTES OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, April 7, 2026

TIME: 10:00 AM

PLACE: Courthouse – Rm 302

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

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

1. Chair Valenstein called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.
2. There was no public comment.
3. Motion by Pliml/Rozar to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried unanimously.
4. County Clerk Miner presented his 2027-2031 CIP for review. This entails the purchase of new election equipment and servers. Motion by Rozar/Pliml to approve the County Clerk CIP as requested. Motion carried unanimously.
5. Wellness Coordinator Peterson provided a monthly update on Wellness programming.
6. Yang presented a 2025 budget items that can be acted on at committee level, per policy, due to the low amounts being transferred. It includes:
 - Drug Court State aid to the Drug Court budget totaling \$210.Motion by Rozar/Hahn to approve the budget adjustments as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
7. Finance Director Yang presented 3 resolutions, housekeeping of nature, to the committee, as follows:
 - Amend 2025 Budget – Criminal Justice
 - Amend 2025 Budget – Property & Liability Insurance
 - Amend 2025 Budget – Health FundMotion by Pliml/Zurfluh to approve the aforementioned resolutions and forward onto the county board for their consideration. Motion carried unanimously.
8. HR Director McGrath reviewed the 2026 Wood County Employee Engagement Survey results with the committee. Each department got a copy of their own results and are reviewing them. She highlighted successes and areas of opportunity within the report.
9. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 5, 2026, at 10:00 AM.

10. Chair Valenstein adjourned the meeting at 10:17 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 – April 2026

- I will be presenting our CIP for our election upgrade to you at this meeting. As you recall, this encompasses a cost share hardware purchase with our municipalities as well as server replacement. This will set the county up, tabulation-wise, for another estimated 15-20 years (based on the life of our current infrastructure), with the exception of the servers which should be replaced every 6-7 years.
- Our committee meeting coincides with the Spring Election Day, so another 14-minute meeting as we had in March would be extremely welcome and appreciated! 😊 This is the second election we (myself and the chief deputy) programmed. I am surprised by how in-depth and challenging the programming is and am thankful that my team is fully on board with this endeavor because with the time it takes, it really requires the whole team to keep everything moving. While the Chief Deputy and I work on the programming, ballot ordering and L&A testing, the Program Assistant is busy making sure to have all the forms, notices, supplies, and chain of custody documents ready and distributed for all the municipalities, as well as helping our normal customer traffic with passports and marriage licenses. She also helps out with the L&A testing. I would be remiss if I did not remind and mention we do this with less staff (2.80 FTE) than any other county in the state that does internal programming.
- One of my municipal clerks recently lost everything her and her husband owned in a house fire that completely destroyed their home. This included all of the election material that she had just picked up the day prior to the fire. I ordered new items that were owned by us, as well as replacement ballots, all of which were destroyed. I also stepped in to help the town out with their public testing and will be doing all of the reconciling of the Spring Election in the statewide system.
- I have been asked to present to the Wood County Unit of the Wisconsin Towns Association in April.
- Pursuant to county board rules, I will be setting up the initial meetings of the various committees in order to elect their leadership for the next two years once the organizational meeting is held and the county board chair selects the committee membership.
- Once April settles down a little bit, we will be right into the fall election cycle and working on getting the annual directory completed and printed as quickly as possible.
- I will be in the office on Good Friday in order to comply with state statutes in case anyone comes in to file a campaign registration statement with me to run as a registered write-in for a county board seat or multi-jurisdictional judge. The courthouse is closed but I will have a sign in the entryway to call my office if they are here for that reason and I will come out and collect their

- I conducted two election training sessions in March for my clerks and chief election inspectors. The sessions were held on Wednesday, March 25th and Saturday, March 28th in Pittsville at the Community Hall. My Wednesday session had 72 in attendance (see below) and Saturday had 30. A little lower than normal but in-person absentee voting was already going on and it was Spring Break for a number of school districts. We basically just reviewed current laws and expectations. This counts towards their recertification hours for the next term as well.



- The chief deputy attended this session with me, and I also took her to the public testing I did in the Town of Dexter. She has not been present for and never had been a part of a public test in a municipality so this was a great opportunity for her to see how the work we do putting everything together on the programming ends up looking on the municipal side, as well as how the actual public test process works and the paperwork trail that we produce verifying those test results.



Wood County

WISCONSIN

Office of
Finance Director

PaNya Yang
Finance Director

Date: 3/31/2026
To: Operations Committee
From: PaNya Yang
Subject: Monthly Letter of Comments

DEPARTMENTAL ACTIVITIES

Finance Department Updates

1. ARPA Funds

As of February 28, 2026, we have roughly \$3.45 million remaining – the majority being \$2.78 million of park improvements/building, \$505,000 for radio system updates, Land & Water Conservation of \$104,000 for various projects, and Planning & Zoning of \$60,600 for LiDAR. Funds must be expended by the end of 2026.

2. Ongoing Audit Preparation

Preparations for our annual audit in four weeks are progressing smoothly. This year, we are resuming the preparation of the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (SEFA)* internally. Wipfli took on the additional task after a transition in leadership 6 years ago. This has added to our billable costs. Since we used to handle this internally, I'm hoping that by doing the legwork ourselves, we can save some money on the final audit bill.

** The Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (SEFA) is a mandatory financial report prepared by non-federal entities (states, local governments, non-profits) that spend \$1,000,000 or more in federal awards during a fiscal year. It acts as a comprehensive list of all federal assistance received, broken down by agency and program, ensuring compliance with the Single Audit Act.*

3. 2025 Year-end Numbers

Not much has changed from my predictions since last month. The General Fund is still looking good – a positive \$190,000 or so. It can still fluctuate a little as we go through our audit in May and June. As of now, it's looking like there will be inter-fund transfers of around \$2.5 million or so from Human Services, Norwood, and Edgewater. I will have better numbers to present at May's committee meeting.

4. 2027-2031 CIP Requests

CIP requests continue to come in. Some departments have already presented their requests to their oversight committees. If they haven't, then they should be presenting them to their oversight committee in April. We will hand out the CIP summary to the Operations Committee in May.

5. GFOA's Certificate of Achievement Award

I'm thrilled to share that the GFOA has awarded our 2024 annual financial report the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. This marks 24 consecutive years of receiving this honor! I am so proud of this track record. *The GFOA established the certificate program in 1945 to encourage and assist state and local governments to go beyond the minimum requirements of generally accepted accounting principles to prepare annual comprehensive financial reports that evidence the spirit of transparency and full disclosure and then to recognize individual governments that succeed in achieving that goal.*



Wood County

WISCONSIN

Office of
Finance Director

PaNyia Yang
Finance Director

AGENDA ITEMS

Motion to Transfer From Drug Court - Court Fees & Costs to Drug Court Budget

Criminal Justice's Drug Court Budget had additional operating expenditures not anticipated during the original budget process. This caused an overage in the overall budget of approximately \$210. The source of funding is unanticipated court fees & costs revenue that was received in excess of the original budgeted amount. Because the overage is the lesser of \$5,000 or 10% of the budgeted expenditure function, the Operations Committee is allowed to approve the budget amendment with a motion rather than a County Board resolution.

Therefore, I will be seeking a motion from the committee to approve the amendment of Criminal Justice's Drug Court (51242) 2025 budget by appropriating \$210 of unanticipated revenues from Drug Court – Court Fees & Costs (46146).

Resolutions

1. Amend 2025 Budget – Criminal Justice

This resolution seeks to amend the 2025 Criminal Justice budget for unanticipated expenditures for wages and contractual services related to treatment-based programs of \$78,385. The source of funding is unanticipated revenue from Criminal Justice State Aid of \$76,109 and available contingency of \$2,276. To date, contingency has not been tapped into and the full \$600,000 is still available.

The Criminal Justice Department was without a department head for the first two months last year. Dillon Ksionek, Criminal Justice Coordinator, did a tremendous job all year long working through his department budgets and making sure that all grants were utilized/reported correctly and efficiently. He worked with a budget that wasn't his own and worked hard to honor the previous coordinator's vision for grants and programming. Thanks to his leadership and his staff, everything stayed on track almost entirely.

2. Amend 2025 Budget – Property & Liability

This resolution seeks to amend the 2025 Property & Liability budget for higher than anticipated deductible expenditures of \$400,902. The source of funding will be unanticipated insurance recovery revenue of \$337,796 and available contingency of \$63,106.

3. Amend 2025 Budget – Employee Health Fund

This resolution is to amend the Health Fund budget for 2025. Health claims expenses were over budget by \$1,708,694, but other line items were underspent. So, the net amount over budget is \$1,453,778. A total of \$480,809 of unanticipated revenue was received from Health Fund Departmental Charges, Stop Loss Reimbursement, Unrealized gain on investment, and Investment interest. The remaining \$972,969 will be appropriated from the employee health fund cash reserves. The fund balance is \$8,799,432.78 before the 2025 net loss consideration.



Wood County WISCONSIN

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

March 31, 2026

To: Wood County Operations Committee

From: Kimberly McGrath, Director- Human Resources

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

Human Resources Activity

	March 2026	2026 Year-to Date
Applications Received	204	390
Positions Filled	19	32
Promotions/Transfers	1	4
New Hire Orientations	11	23
Terminations, Voluntary	12*	26
Terminations, Involuntary	0	1
Retirements	0	2
Turnover Rate	1.58%	4.08%
Exit Interviews	8	13

*Three of these are casual

Human Resources Narrative

General Highlights

1. We concluded our Employee Engagement Survey project this month. All eligible departments received their respective reports/results including a Department Executive Summary, Department Results spreadsheet, Supervisor Tool, and Action Planning Guide. Departments were encouraged to share their departmental reports with their team(s) and work towards actionable goals to increase engagement. The comprehensive organization-wide report will be shared with the Operations Committee at their April meeting. We sincerely appreciate the support of all Wood County staff and leadership who participated in the survey process and are thankful for the collaboration with the Workforce Development Department at Mid-State Technical College on working through our first-ever Wood County Employee Engagement Survey.

Meetings & Trainings

1. Attended the Operations Committee meeting on March 3rd.
2. Attended County Board on March 17th (Asst HR Director).
3. Attended Health & Human Services Committee on March 26th.
4. Attended the monthly conference call with The Horton Group on March 24th to discuss various benefit topics.

5. Held individual staff and team meetings to discuss and provide updates on the department's identified 2026 goals.
6. 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 three positions in Human Services.
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	Case Worker	Position posted; filled internally 4/13/26
Replacement	Child Support	Intake Worker	Position posted; deadline 4/6/26
Replacement	Corporation Counsel	Legal Admin Assistant – PT 70%	Position posted; interviews conducted, references completed, offer extended and accepted, filled 3/30/26
Replacement/ Eligibility List	Dispatch	Dispatcher	Position posted; interviews conducted, references completed, offer extended and accepted, filled 4/13/26. Eligibility list established.
New Position	Victim Witness/ District Attorney	VW Program Asst (50%)	Position posted; deadline 4/6/26
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	Director-Health Officer	Position posted; interview conducted, filled internally 3/15/27

Replacement	Highway	Mechanic II	Position posted; interviews conducted, references/DL checked, offer extended and accepted, filled 4/6/26
Replacements	Highway	Truck Operators (2)	Position posted; interviews conducted, DL & references checked, offer extended and accepted, filled 3/9/26 and 4/6/26
Replacement	Highway	Engineering Intern	Position posted; deadline 4/13/26
Replacement(s)	Highway	LTE Truck Operators	Position posted; deadline 4/13/26
Replacement(s)	Highway	Summer Help	Position posted; deadline 4/13/26
Replacement	Highway	LTE Mechanic	Position posted; deadline 3/30/26
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 vacancy posted, deadline 5/11/26
Replacement	Human Services	Family Interaction Worker	Position posted; deadline 5/4/26
Replacement	Human Services	Mental Health Case Mgr (CCS Service Facilitator)	Position posted; deadline 5/11/26
New positions (3)	Human Services	CLTS Support & Service Coordinators (I & II)	Positions posted; deadline 3/30/26, one position filled 2/23/26
Replacement	Human Services	Mental Health Case Mgr (EMH/APS Coordinator)	Position posted; deadline 4/13/26
Replacement	Human Services	Case Mgr/SW – IA	Position posted; deadline 4/6/26
Replacement	Human Services	Case Mgr/SW – Ongoing	Position posted; deadline 4/20/26
Replacement	Human Services	Admin Asst II – CCS/CSP	Position posted; interviews being conducted
Replacement	Human Services	Admin Asst II – FS/Payroll	Position posted; interviews being conducted
Replacement	Human Services	Birth to Three Coordinator	Position posted; deadline 4/20/26
New Position	Maintenance	Maintenance Technician (moved from Building Automation Specialist)	Position posted; 2 nd interviews conducted on 3/25/26
Replacements	Norwood	Mental Health Technicians, Dietary Aides, RN, and LPN	Ongoing recruitment- positions posted, applications reviewed, interviews, references, backgrounds, onboarding; deadline 4/20/2026
Replacement	Norwood	Food Services Supervisor	Position posted; deadline 5/11/26
Replacement	Parks	Summer Help	Position posted; deadline 4/13/26
Replacement	Parks	Camp Ranger – CERA Park	Position posted; interviews conducted, references/DL check completed, offer extended and accepted, filled, start TBD
Replacement	Parks	Program Assistant	Position posted; deadline 3/30/26
Replacements	Sheriff	PT Deputy Sheriff	Position posted; interviews conducted, references checked, offer and acceptance received for five vacancies, filled 3/10/26
Replacement	Sheriff	Deputy Sheriff – Establish Eligibility List	Position posted; offer extended, start date is delayed. Eligibility list established.
Replacements	Sheriff	Correction Officers	Position posted; deadline 4/6/26. Interviews conducted, references completed, offer and acceptance received for two vacancies, filled 3/2/26 and 3/23/26

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 28 students/staff at Edgewater Haven on March 13th, 17 staff on March 17th, and 19 staff on March 18th. This is part of the facility's annual fit testing schedule.
4. Attended Edgewater Safety Committee on March 4th, Norwood Safety Committee on March 10th, and Highway Safety Committee on March 30th.

NEW Workers' Compensation Claims (1)

1. 3/15/26 – Sheriff's – Employee injured L arm after slipping on ice while assisting citizen on roadside

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. 12/26/25 – Edgewater – Employee injured R side of body slipping on ice while leaving work
4. 1/20/26 – Sheriff's (Corrections) – Employee injured L knee while responding to emergency in Jail (surgery required)
5. 2/6/26 – Norwood – Employee strained lower back while transferring resident

CLOSED Workers' Compensation Claims (4)

1. 10/27/25 – Edgewater Haven – Employee strained R bicep/arm while lifting resident
2. 1/5/26 – Human Services – Employee was involved in MVC with private vehicle while returning from home visit
3. 1/29/26 – Norwood – Employee strained lower back while providing care to resident
4. 2/11/26 – Highway – Employee cut R thumb while trying to loosen brushing blade

First Aid Injuries (4)

1. 2/26/26 – Highway – Employee experienced low back pain after lifting rumble strips into trailer
2. 3/15/26 – Highway – Employee twisted R knee/ankle after slipping on roadside ice while plowing
3. 3/17/26 – Human Services – Employee slipped on ice in River Block parking lot
4. 3/20/26 – Highway – Employee strained R pectoral muscle moving pallet of salt with pallet jack

Property/Vehicle Damage Claims (4)

1. 3/3/26 – Sheriff's – Squad struck raccoons while responding emergently (actual damage \$2,570.88)
2. 3/6/26 – Sheriff's – Deer ran into side of squad while traveling on local road (actual damage \$350.00)
3. 3/16/26 – Sheriff's – Squad sustained paint/body damage from snow removal during winter storm (est. damage \$7,819.20)
4. 3/24/26 – Sheriff's – Squad struck deer while on routine patrol (est. damage \$349.85)

Liability Claims

Claims for mailbox damage were received and investigated from plowing operations on March 15th and 16th.

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 quarterly employee newsletter, County Connection.
2. Created and distributed the Monthly Manager Resource, titled "My Employee Resigned- Now What?" to all Wood County managers and supervisors.
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 March 2nd, 9th, 23rd, and 30th.
7. Conducted exit interviews on March 3rd, 4th, 9th, 17th, 19th, 20th, 26th, and 27th.
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—APRIL 2026

1. Attended Wisconsin Counties Association weekly calls on Mondays in March.
2. Attended a follow up virtual meeting with cashVest March 11.
3. Participated in a virtual United Way Board of Directors meeting on March 11.
4. Participated in a virtual meeting with State Local Finance and others on March 12.
5. Paid the State taxes for charitable/penal owed by March 15. We do not always have charges every year
6. Attended Wood County Board meeting virtually on March 17.
7. Participated in Zoom Meeting with Catalis, our tax software system, and VPS our credit card side vendor to discuss things that went wrong this year on March 18.
8. Participated in a Zoom Meeting with PMA, one of our investment agencies, to see a new product they have come up with regarding cash flow and maximizing investments on March 20.
9. Attended WCA in the Board room with Andy Phillips on the topic of Removing Elected Officials from Office on March 25.
10. Participated in a Zoom Meeting with WCA General Government & Finance Steering Committee on March 26.
11. For the month of March, as some of you may know, I have been working from home except for March 24 & 25. I slipped and fell on the ice on 02/28 at home and broke my fibula bone in my right ankle and tore the ligament. This resulted in pins, screws, and plates in the ankle and non-weight bearing for 6 weeks and unable to drive. ☹️ If you need to get a hold of me, please email me or call the office to get my phone number. I hope to be back in the office full-time during the week of April 13. I am 3 weeks down, 3 more to go!!!





Wood County

WISCONSIN

Employee Wellness

Riley Peterson

Letter of Comments – March 2026

- The deadline for the first two qualifying activities (biometrics and health assessment) is March 31, 2026. These are the first two steps participants need to complete to enroll in the Wellness Program and earn the 2027 health insurance premium discount rate, if applicable. As of writing this, there are 470 people who completed biometrics.
- The 2026 onsite biometric screenings wrapped up this month. In total, we had 292 participants complete their biometric component by attending one of the 8 onsite screenings at the various county locations. This continues to be the preferred option to complete biometrics (62% chose this option). Thank you to all those involved that helped me with location/room access, and to ensure the rooms had the necessary equipment that was needed for successful screenings.
- Health coaching has been in progress for those who have completed the first 2 qualifying activities this year. As a reminder, health coaching is the third and final step to becoming eligible for any Wellness Program incentives. As of writing this, I have spoken with 81 people in March to review their biometric results and discuss any wellness goals they may have. Health coaching will continue in the upcoming months.
- I have opened the schedule for Body composition testing via InBody, which will take place in April. These assessments measure body composition (body fat, muscle mass, water weight, bone mass, etc..) all in under 5 minutes. Signups are currently open and I will continue to send out communications promoting this service.
- The weekly occurrence of working with new hires and/or employees who have previously not enrolled in the Wellness Program continues. I've been working with them to create their wellness portal accounts so they may begin the process of completing the qualifying activities and become more involved with wellness.



RESOLUTION#

DATE April 21, 2026

Effective
Date

Upon passage and posting

Page 1 of 2

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 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 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

WHEREAS, Health Fund expenses were approximately \$1,453,778 higher than anticipated during the original 2025 budget process, and

WHEREAS, additional revenue totaling \$480,809 was received from Health Fund Departmental Charges, Stop Loss Reimbursement, Unrealized Gain/Loss on Investment, and Investment Interest, and

WHEREAS, the balance of the health fund reserve is \$8,799,433 prior to the closing of the 2025 net loss, 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 2025 Health Fund (51430) budget for \$1,453,778 by appropriating \$972,969 from Employee Health Retained Earnings (33990) and appropriating unanticipated revenues of \$242,068 from Health Fund Departmental Charges (47410), \$121,648 from Health

Adopted by the County Board of Wood County, April 21, 2026

County Clerk

County Board Chairman

Fund Stop Loss Reimbursement (48440), \$94,677 from Unrealized Gain/Loss on Investment (48113), and \$22,416 from Investment Interest (48114), 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 April 21, 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: _____
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 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	

WHEREAS, Property Insurance deductible costs were greater than anticipated during the 2025 budget process due to a larger amount of claims than usual, and

WHEREAS, the County has already recovered \$337,796 from repairs already made in 2025, 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, and

WHEREAS, the budget for the contingency account was adopted for the purpose of funding unanticipated expenditures.

		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			

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, to amend the Property & Liability (51931) 2025 budget of \$400,902 with unanticipated revenues from Insurance Recoveries (48440) of \$337,796 and with a transfer from the contingency fund (51590) of \$63,106 to fund the unanticipated expenditures, 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.

Adopted by the County Board of Wood County, April 21, 2026

County Clerk

County Board Chairman



RESOLUTION#

DATE April 21, 2026

Effective
Date

Upon passage & posting

Page 1 of 2

Introduced by Judicial and Legislative & Operations Committee

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

INTENT & SYNOPSIS: To 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	

WHEREAS, Criminal Justice incurred unanticipated expenditures for wages and contractual services related to treatment-based programs in 2025, and this was primarily due to several initiatives to increase jail programming late in 2024. Being that changes were made so late in the year, these efforts were not all reflected in the initial Criminal Justice Budget for 2025, and

WHEREAS, Criminal Justice received unanticipated revenues from state aid to cover \$76,109 of the overage in expenditures, and this was due to extra grant dollars being obtained late in the year (2024) to finance several initiatives to increase jail programming. Thus, these efforts were also not reflected in the initial Criminal Justice Budget for 2025, and

WHEREAS, \$2,276 not covered with additional state aid is requested to be covered with available contingency funds, 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, and

Adopted by the County Board of Wood County, April 21, 2026

County Clerk

County Board Chairman

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, to amend the 2025 Criminal Justice (51240) budget for \$78,385 by appropriating \$76,109 of unanticipated revenues from Criminal Justice-State Aid (43515) and \$2,276 from Contingency (51590), and

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

MINUTES HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, March 26, 2026
TIME: 5:00 PM
PLACE: Edgewater Haven Nursing Home – Conference Rm

MEMBERS PRESENT: Donna Rozar, Tom Buttke, John Hokamp, Lee Thao, Laura Valenstein, Marie Topping, Rachel Stankowski, Leslie Kronstedt

MEMBER EXCUSED: Dr. Tim Golemgski

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

1. Chair Rozar called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM and declared a quorum present.
2. There were no public comments.
3. Motion by Buttke/Thao to go into closed session pursuant to 19.85 (1) (c) and (e) Wis. Stats., to conduct interview(s) of candidate(s) for the Health Officer position and to discuss qualifications of the candidate(s). Motion carried unanimously.
4. Motion by Valenstein/Hokamp to return to open session. Motion carried unanimously.
5. The consent agenda was reviewed and items discussed. Motion by Hokamp/Stankowski to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
6. Norwood Administrator Kornack reviewed the current status of the water system replacement. Initial drawings are expected, hopefully next month.
7. Kornack reported that the Norwood medical director, Dr. Moldysz, is retiring and that the current courtesy medical director, Dr. Greenberg, is willing to step in as the active medical director. Motion by Topping/Thao to approve Dr. Greenberg as the medical director for Norwood. Motion carried unanimously.
8. Human Services Director Vruwink reported that Inclusa will not contract directly with the county transportation program as of March 31st, and instead, the county will have to apply through a third-party entity, MTM, to provide services. There have been issues reported to the state concerning this entity, and because of this, the new start date has been pushed back to May 31st. Vruwink will keep the committee apprised of any changes to the transportation model currently being used.

9. Vruwink shared a letter from Wisconsin Dept. of Children & Families commending the Wood County Human Services Dept. on exceptional performance in completing and documenting case worker contacts for children in out-of-home care. In 2025, Wood County achieved a performance rating of 99.74%, one of the top scores in the state. The committee extends its congratulations and appreciation to all employees involved in this effort.
10. Vruwink presented the 2027-2031 CIP for Human Services. Motion by Valenstein/Topping to approve the 2027-2031 CIP for Human Services. Motion carried unanimously.
11. Edgewater Haven Administrator Cielewicz presented the 2027-2031 CIP for that facility. Motion by Stankowski/Thao to approve the 2027-2031 CIP for Edgewater Haven. Motion carried unanimously.
12. Norwood Maintenance Supervisor Ackerman and Administrator Kornack reviewed the 2027-2031 CIP for Norwood. Motion by Buttke/Hokamp to approve the 2027-2031 Norwood CIP. Motion carried unanimously.
13. Vruwink discussed legislative changes as it relates to backfilling the federal dollars lost with state dollars for the SNAP Program, as well as other issues within the program. Veterans Service Officer Larson reported on various veterans' changes happening in the legislature at the moment.
14. Motion by Buttke/Hokamp to go into closed session pursuant to Wis Stats 19.85(1)(f) to consider leave of absence request. Motion carried unanimously.
15. Motion by Thao/Valenstein to return to open session. Motion carried unanimously.
16. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, April 30, 2026, at 5:00 PM at the Wood County Annex & Health Center.
17. The committee recognized, thanked, and congratulated Supervisor Hokamp on his 6 years of service on the committee as this will be his last meeting before stepping down from the county board.
18. Chair Rozar declared the meeting adjourned at 6:54 PM.

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



North Central Community Action Program- Board Meeting Minutes-2/9/26

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of North Central Community Action Program, Inc. was held on Monday, February 9, 2026, via zoom, as individual staff and Board members logged in from their remote locations. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by President Lenore Breit.

Pam took roll:

Present	Absent	Staff
Robinson	Lang (ex)	Diane
Dorava	Lemmer (ex)	Pam
Guerrero	Fischer (ex)	Tony
Rotter	McGivern (ex)	
Zacher	Vorpagel	
Kearns	Conway	
West		
Breit		
Kieper		
Valenstein		

Minutes: Lenore Breit asked if there were any changes or questions. A motion was made by Laura Valenstein to accept the December minutes as presented. Second was made by Joe Dorava. Motion carried.

Approval of December expenses: Pam reviewed the December financial statements. Pam reviewed the balance sheet. Pam discussed the accounts receivable balance being higher as we received an interest payment in January for one of the CHDO housing projects that needed to be recorded as a calendar year 2025 receivable. Pam reviewed the Other liabilities which included 2025 staff pension, accrued year end payroll, and accrued year end PTO. Pam reported our beneficiary expenses were higher than budgeted due to additional PSH and TBRA funding. The budget for weatherization contractor and measure costs were \$3,749,092 and the actual calendar year costs were \$4,406,795. Most of the increased expenses were due to the program services emergency furnace and water program as Program Services jobs are completed as they are issued to us. There is not an actual budget for those services, only an estimate based on the prior contract. Motion was made by Steve Robinson to approve the financial statements as presented. Second was made by Peter Rotter. Motion carried.

2025 Agency Audit: Pam reported the agency audit is scheduled for the week of February 23rd. Most of the audit work will be completed virtually but they will be on site at least one day that week.

Customer Service Satisfaction Surveys 2025 for housing programs and outreach: Diane reported 915 surveys were distributed and 139 surveys were returned. 45% of the time people were very satisfied, 58% felt they were adequately helped, and 13% were not satisfied with the service at all. Most who were not satisfied did not receive rental assistance. When we turn a client down for rental assistance,

we either determine that they are over income, or they don't have income to sustain rent, or our housing programs are full or funding is depleted.

Point in Time Recap: Diane explained because we receive grant dollars for Rapid Rehousing, Prevention, and Permanent Supportive Housing, (these are all HUD or DEHCR dollars), we are required to do the homeless count called the Point in Time, every January and every July. This January the PIT was conducted on January 28th and 1 survey was completed. There were 3 observation only surveys completed as well, meaning no volunteer had spoken with the individuals so by their observation the volunteer thought they were homeless. These observation only Surveys do not count for HUD purposes because they can't be validated. All people were found in Marathon County, none were found in Wood or Lincoln Counties. Wisconsin Rapids Mayor Matt Zacher participated in the Wood County count. Diane stated it was the lowest count we have ever had. Peter Rotter discussed when the temperatures fall below zero people somehow find a place to stay. Diane explained with the addition of the new shelter in Wausau that added 60 beds has really seemed to help. She reported the shelter would soon be moving to Bridge Street and would provide beds and programming. Steve Robinson asked how many beds would be available at the new location and Diane thought it would be about the same. Lenore asked if requirements for the PSH program had changed and if it was HUD funded. Diane explained the PSH program stands for Permanent Supportive Housing but it is not a permanent program. We are hoping the program would allow us to make some changes to make people more accountable.

Approval CSBG Year End Expenditure report: Diane discussed the CSBG funded activities for outreach and housing programs and reviewed the year end report. A motion was made by Holly Kieper to approve the 2025 Year end CSBG report as presented. Second was made by Matt Zacher. Motion carried.

Weatherization: Tony reported we are on target with our contract goals. We have completed 255 units and 54 limited jobs from July 1 through January 31st and our goal was 254 units and 50 limited baseload jobs. Our current deferral rate is 52%. Tony reported we just completed our Financial Administrative Review and Program Administrative Review and both went well.

Next Meeting Date: Our next meeting will be April 13, 2026, via Zoom, 5:30 p.m.

A motion to adjourn was made by Steve Robinson. Second was made by Mayor Matt Zacher. Motion carried. Lenore Breit declared the meeting adjourned at 5:53 pm.

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, the resident who has been working with us on this initiative (and really leading it well!), has been keeping on top of City staff to get the baby box ordered. We're getting closer to making this a reality. It will take about six weeks to receive the box once it is ordered.
- **Strategic Planning:** We are making progress with our strategic planning. We are in the process of finalizing goals and strategies to help us meet each goal. Donna has been a blessing to have at the table with our planning team. We will share the final plan at the April meeting.
- **National Public Health Accreditation:** We were notified that we successfully achieved national public health reaccreditation once again!! This is a significant accomplishment and shows that we are meeting the highest expectations and providing efficient, effective, and high-quality services.

SUPERVISOR OF STRATEGIC INITIATIVES REPORT – KRISTIE RAUTER EGGE, MPH

- Analyzed biannual health for all staff survey results. Results will inform the next two-year action plan.
- Updated the Wood County Health Department Workforce Development Plan with results from recent staff surveys.

Communication/Branding

- Updates have been published to the Healthy People Wood County website, featuring new resources and information. Visit healthypeoplewoodcounty.org for more details.
- The public Wood County Health Department Communication Survey is open until March 20. The quick, five-minute survey can be completed at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VF6BM23>.
- Updates were made to the Wood County Health Department website.
- A column was written for the Pittsville Record on the importance of sleep.
- Working on the 2025 Wood County Health Department Annual Report and the 2025 Healthy People Wood County Year in Review.

Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP)

- Staff are actively engaged in implementing the Community Health Improvement Plan and have reached the midpoint of the improvement cycle. If you are interested in getting involved and addressing action items outlined in the plan, please reach out to the Healthy People Wood County Team. <https://www.healthypeoplewoodcounty.org/s/HPWC-2025-2027-CHIP-tlbk.pdf>
- A staff member is participating in the Wisconsin Department of Health Services OPPA: CHA-SHA and CHIP-SHIP Community of Practice Series. The March topic series was AI and Public Health Planning.
- We are planning and preparing for the upcoming year with the Health People County Advisory Council, discussing future initiatives, meetings, and updating coalition materials.
- Staff collaborated with the Community Benefits Coordinator of Aspirus Hospital and Clinic to further plan and align strategies for future initiatives.
- Staff presented to Marathon County community coalition on policy and advocacy.

Access to Care

- Staff analyzed prenatal care data to dig into factors contributing to decreasing rates of accessing timely care.
- Planning has begun to include summer oral health clinics at the WIC office in Marshfield.

Financial Security

- **Food Insecurity:**
 - Hosted a community listening session at FOCUS in Wisconsin Rapids to learn about food insecurity in Wood County through Marshfield Clinic & Security Health Plan grant. Five participants attended the event.
 - We are planning for three additional community listening sessions with individuals and families who are experiencing food insecurity in collaboration with UW Extension Wood County. The goal of these sessions is to gather qualitative data from residents with lived experience of food insecurity to better understand the barriers they face and the solutions they believe would be most effective. The second half of this project will be taking feedback from each session to help guide our strategies to reduce food insecurity in Wood County. Sessions are held in Wisconsin Rapids, Marshfield, and Pittsville.
- **Central Wisconsin Regional Farmers Market Collaborative (USDA grant):**
 - Hosted two out of the four farmers market vendor specific webinars. About 30 people attended each session. A landing page and recording of each session was created to ensure accessibility.

- Finalized plans and attendance for the Market Manager and Hmong Grower gathering, including discussion groups, break outs, and tabling materials.
- Finalized MOU between Stevens Point Farmers Market and their downtown Business Improvement District to host a collaborative partnership intern position.
- Configured a financials report plan for the WI Farmers Market Association.
- Marketed and supported a community input session with UWSP students to explore potential different locations for the Marshfield Farmers Market. About 35 people attended!
- Worked with Clintonville Farmers Market to transition market leadership from the chamber to a local nonprofit that has more capacity.
- Created pre-season meeting plans (location, agendas, invitations, timelines) with Wausau, Stevens Point, Marshfield, Rapids, Clintonville, Waupaca, and Rome farmers markets.

Housing

- Attended another planning committee meeting to plan for the Central Wisconsin Housing Summit, which will be held April 15, 2026, in Stevens Point, WI. Over 50 people were registered as of March 10.
- Held multiple conversations with groups to discuss how we can help people who are homeless in Wood County.

Mental Health

- Staff attended the Center Advisory Committee Meeting and participated in the Wisconsin Coalition for Social Connection Network Meeting, spotlighting Intergenerational Connection.
- *Marshfield Area Coalition for Youth (MACY) Mental Health Task Force*: In March, the coalition met and received a presentation on Social Isolation and Belonging from Missy Wachuta with Wood County Human Services and the 4Sight Program. Planning and distributing the May Mental Health Baskets is also underway.

Substance Use – IMPACT and MACY

- Analyzed data from the 2025 Community Opinion Survey on Alcohol & Other Drugs for Wood County as a whole and for North Wood County.
- Presented 2025 Community Opinion Survey on Alcohol & Other Drugs results to the MACY Board.
- Facilitated Overdose Fatality Review meeting where we had a partner presentation and reviewed one fatality.
- *Provider and Teen Communication for Health (PATCH)*: Teens presented to two health classes at the Nekoosa High School on teen health touching on roles and responsibilities. Held two enrichment meetings where the teens learned about Mothers Against Drunk Driving and how to support your friends in making healthy choices around teen drinking and driving. Teens practiced the new Peer-to-Peer workshop materials and did the health knot team building actively.
- *State Opioid Response (SOR) 4.0 funding*: Wisconsin Department of Health Services held a statewide summit for SOR 4.0 grantees. Healthy People Wood County – IMPACT is utilizing this funding to purchase and distribute free medication lock boxes and lock bags, promote spring and fall Drug Take Back events, program promotional campaign, drug checking strips, and overdose prevention and awareness campaign. The team is hoping to have a UWSP student support the program promotional campaign by developing creative promotional content that appeals to community residents.
- *LifePoint Program*: Although we are not seeing participation at the Marshfield LifePoint office, we know a community need exists and are spending time promoting the program through local businesses. New fliers and business cards were created and are being distributed. There were 5 participants at the Wisconsin Rapids office who additionally supported 43 other individuals with sterile supplies.
- *Naloxone Direct Program*: Staff provided an Overdose Prevention and Naloxone Administration training to 20 Opportunity Development Center staff and replaced their agency's expired naloxone. The program is promoting the new brands of naloxone that are not as recognizable as NARCAN®. We will continue stocking Public Health Vending Machines (PHVM) with NARCAN, and distribute the other brands through LifePoint, community trainings, Hope Kits, and through individual agency requests. In February, 54 doses of naloxone were distributed.
- *Drug Checking Technologies*: Outside of PHVMs, WCHD distributed 45 drug checking strips (fentanyl and xylazine test strips) to community members in February. These resources empower people who are using drugs to know whether they are using the substances being tested for and plan accordingly to keep themselves as safe as possible. Fentanyl can be a deadly adulterant if someone assumes they are only using a stimulant (like methamphetamine or cocaine), and xylazine (a veterinary tranquilizer) can complicate an opioid overdose, as naloxone will not reverse the effects of a tranquilizer.
- *Overdose Fatality Review Team*: A guest speaker with Wisconsin Department of Corrections shared some statewide trends with the group including the increased need for community supported recovery due to overdose deaths declining. There has been an increased effort to bridge gaps for people who use drugs with peer support to connect individuals to appropriate resources. One fatality was reviewed at the meeting with local recommendations noted to be addressed through community efforts.
- *Focus Group*: Vivent Health hosted their third focus group in Wood County for people who use drugs. The individuals shared useful information to improve community conditions and increase access to support services. Vivent Health shared plans for a mobile service unit and gained valuable feedback on where and when to offer services.

- *Northwoods Coalition meeting:* Presentations were provided on an underage drinking campaign, highlights from Capitol Hill Day, and an update on the statewide alcohol age compliance check system. There was good discussion around members' comfort levels advocating for their areas of priority.
- *Public Health Vending Machines:* Starting to look for more funding to support the warm weather supplies that will be restocked in the spring. Our total number of supplies vended overall is now 6,620 with Narcan remaining the number the product vended.
- *Peer Support:* CPS added two clients to the caseload. Policy and Consent to offer Youth Recovery Coaching is approved and the coach will meet with the Youth Justice team again next week. Pamela is now part of the oversight committee for the new Deflection program; we will now meet every month. A meeting was held with the jail to expand the childhood trauma course to women, with the first class being on March 17.
- *Wi Wins:* The site coordinator and two teens started the tobacco compliance checks in Wis. Rapids. We checked 15 locations with no sales to minors.

Transportation

- Discussed transportation barriers for the Parents as Teachers program and how Mid-State could potentially help fill the gap.
- *Catch a Ride Update:* Working on phase 2 of the grant application to the Legacy Foundation. Accepted a grant award from Marshfield Area United Way for a total of up to \$20,000. Preparing for a private stakeholder lunch and learn meeting to be held in Pittsville in April. Had conversations with stakeholders from Loyal to expand our conversations about Catch a Ride, available to serve parts of Clark County.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH REPORT – BEN JEFFREY, R.S.

Licensing Updates

Our agent program licensing fees have been updated. These include pre-licensing inspection fees and annual license fees as required by the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection as well as Department of Safety & Professional Services.

New Businesses and Consultations

A pre-licensing inspection was completed for Mushu's, a restaurant in the Marshfield area. A consultation and follow-up inspection was completed for Salt & Peppers Drive In in Wisconsin Rapids.

Complaint Investigations

Five complaints were completed in the month of February.

- A complaint was received regarding poor cleaning practices and a few food safety concerns at a licensed food establishment. Environmental health staff conducted a complaint inspection and discussed the complaint with the manager. No violations were noted at the time of inspection.
- 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

We have completed our sealant program at the elementary and middle schools. We are in the middle of our 2nd visits of oral screenings, education, and fluoride varnishes. We just scheduled our 3rd and final visits for the Wood County Head Start programs. We've provided preventative dental care to 1,997 children so far this school year. We are implementing a summer program that coordinates with the WIC program. We are also continuing to see the residents for prophies at Norwood Health Center and Boys and Girls Club.

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

Parents as Teachers (PAT)

- Our PAT program has been invited to participate in the national Quality Endorsement and Improvement Process (QEIP). The first step in the process is the front-end Essential Requirements Review that we will submit this August. If we meet all the Essential Requirements we will move ahead to step 2, the self-study process, which officially begins October 2026.
- We received a book donation from Thrivent to support early literacy promotion during PAT personal visits.
- We continue to collaborate with Human Services to support Parent Cafes. In March, there will be three sessions held in Pittsville, and one in Marshfield. So far this year, attendance has ranged from 9-13 adults per session.

- Our February group connection, Winter Wonderland, was held in Marshfield at Melody Gardens and covered making nutritious crockpot meals and creating stimulating learning environments for children with household items. It was a hit!

Family Health & Injury Prevention (FHIP)

- Please see attached, corrected data sheet for 2025. There was an error on the number reported for Cribs for Kids in the document shared in February.
- FHIP lactation staff attended the Wisconsin Association of Lactation Consultants conference this month to learn, collaborate, and bring back new knowledge to better support Wood County families.

Communicable Disease

Local emergency room (ER) data shows respiratory viruses trending downward. There continues to be moderate activity statewide with RSV causing most ER visits.

Emergency Preparedness

This past month, the Health Department focused on strengthening preparedness and cross-sector coordination. We will be convening a new countywide emergency planning team to begin addressing gaps in joint planning and communication across public health, emergency management, healthcare, schools, and community partners. Additional efforts include supporting partners with planning resources, refining internal preparedness materials, and preparing for upcoming exercises (Point of Dispensing) and response activities. These efforts aim to build a more coordinated and resilient system for Wood County.

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 the number of in person appointments and local agency Facebook presence. We plan to start weekly local agency Facebook posts in March with goals to increase building rapport with families and increase word of mouth and social media WIC referrals.
- We are working with the state WIC office and OnMedia to coordinate a one-month media campaign on video and audio streaming platforms aiming to increase WIC participation.
- I completed clinic observations and goals for improvement with 4 out of 6 WIC staff during the month of February in preparation for our Management Evaluation (ME) in May which occurs every other year.

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										
Active (final)	1369	1356											
Participating	1356	1352	1350										



Family Health & Injury Prevention 2025

Family Health

Public health nurses (PHNs) and community health workers (CHWs) provide prenatal care coordination, maternal-child health home visiting, lactation services, and Parents as Teachers programming to improve health outcomes.

Injury Prevention

Child passenger safety and Cribs for Kids® programs are educational programs designed to give caregivers the knowledge and skills to prevent unintentional injury/death and improve access to car seats and safe sleep environments.

278 Referrals received follow-up for family health services

566 Home and personal visits completed

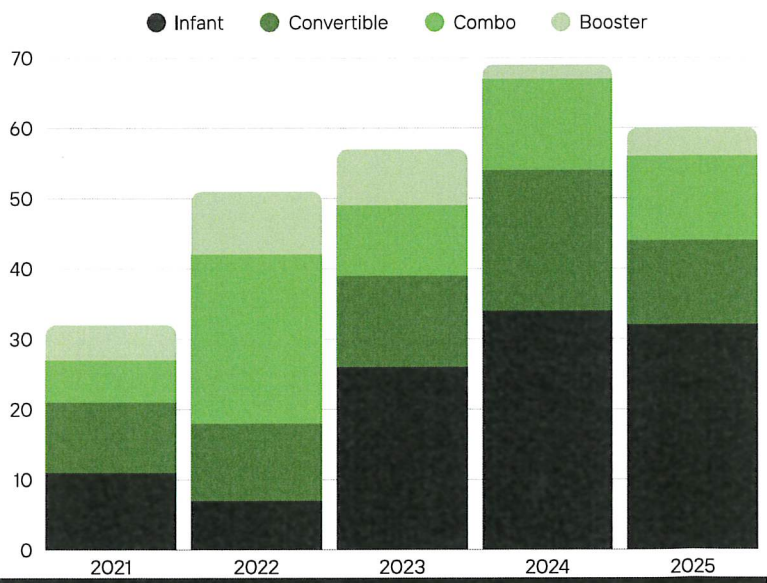
33 Families participated in Parents as Teachers

15 Parents as Teachers group connections held

35 Developmental screenings completed

21 Pack N Play portable cribs provided to eligible families

60 Car seats provided to eligible families



WOOD COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT REPORT
March 2026

Director Update by Brandon Vruwink

The Human Services Department received notice from INCLUSA at the end of February, indicating they were transitioning to a broker to operate their transportation services. The letter also indicated they would no longer contract with the Wood County Transportation Program and all service authorizations would end effective March 31, 2026. Instead of authorizing transportation services internally at INCLUSA, they have contracted with a company (MTM) to act as their transportation broker. This means that if the Wood County Transportation Program wants to continue providing services to INCLUSA clients, we would need to work through MTM. This may sound simple enough on the surface; however, the process is anything but simple. First, we need to apply to be a provider with MTM. Next, we need to compete for available rides by logging in to the MTM portal and selecting them. MTM sets the price, and at this point, we are not aware of any opportunity to negotiate the fee for service. We are currently evaluating whether working with MTM is in the best interest of Wood County and the residents we serve. More information on this process will be provided as it becomes available.

We were recently notified by the Wisconsin Department of Administration (DOA) that all online Energy Assistance applications would be returned to the individual counties for processing. This is a change from the current practice, which the state had contracted with a vendor to process all online applications throughout the state. While we welcome this change, which allows us to handle all Wood County applications, there remains uncertainty about how much additional funding will be provided to take on this work. This change will become effective 10/1/26, when the federal fiscal year begins. We will be working with DOA on this and will determine our next steps after receiving all the information to make an informed decision.

I attended the March Operations Committee to request permission to temporarily allow our CLTS staff to work over 40 hours per week and be paid "straight time". The Operations Committee approved this request. The reason behind this request was to ensure we had the staffing capacity to eliminate our CLTS waitlist by May 31, 2026.

There has been a great deal of discussion about federal funding over the past year. We have one program that has been subject to review since the beginning of the 2026 calendar year. We receive funding from the State of Wisconsin to operate our Adolescent Diversion Program. This program is designed to divert youth from entering the Youth Justice system through a 16-week case management intervention program. Unfortunately, the funding we receive from the state is subject to federal review because it is federal money passed down to the state. Typically, all federal funding is released annually. The funding for this grant is now reviewed every three months. So rather than being assured we have funding for a full year, we are only assured of funding for three months at a time. This makes future planning difficult and creates uncertainty. We are hopeful that, after multiple reviews, the program will return to annual reviews.

As the state's legislative session comes to a close, debate over the Administrative Cost Share change to the SNAP (FoodShare) program continues in the state legislature. While the Assembly has passed a bill, as of this writing, the Senate has not taken action. We have continued to advocate with our Senators and are hopeful we will receive good news before they adjourn for the session.

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: Claims Specialist, Therapy Provider, Business office management team
- 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

- Submitted State Aid Final Reports for 2025 (DCF) and January 2026 (DCF/FSET/Energy/GEARS)
- Completed 85.21 and filed CST Fiscal Annual Report
- Completed 8 contracts
- Completed final summary for 2025 NIMC
- 7 new CLTS enrollments (6 enrollments were from the waitlist)
- Reviewed list of Human Services General Ledger accounts and identified over 400 “unused” accounts that can be made inactive, provided to County Finance Department
- Edgewater (EW) Nursing Home had 2 new hire orientations
- EW completed and timely submitted PBJ audit request
- EW and Norwood (NW) accountants worked on year-end entries and 2025 Medical Assistance cost report requests, submitted timely
- EW and NW accountants and Admin Asst Manager attended the 2025 SNF reimbursement seminar presented by Leading Age

Support Services Team

Behavioral Health Clinic service notes: all appointments notes are accounted for through 3/2/2026

Records Released:

Behavioral Health Records Released: 56

Family Service Record/Background checks released: 32

Records pending/in progress: 6

Total Completed: 90

Records Retention: Completion of destruction of past retention client documents

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

Other Unit Information

- Support Services Staff updates – Recruiting for 2 positions posted: interviewing in progress
 - 1 vacant 2/24 Admin Asst II FS located in RB
 - 1 upcoming effective 3/27 vacancy Admin Asst II CCS located in RB
- Compiled information needed for Title IV-E funding for DCF: tracking administrative services staff time and fees spent on legal services
 - January: 180.75 hours and \$256.24 on misc. legal expenses
 - February: 154 hours and \$167.80 on misc. legal expenses
- Attend Smartcare superuser mtgs & SHS WI users mtgs
- Attend JET (Judicial Engagement Team) meeting: Deputy Dir/FS team, DA’s Office, State Rep
- Work with Administrative Services and program managers on interim coverage for vacancies
- HIPAA:
 - 1 HIPAA/confidentially breach - investigated /resolved
 - Attend HIPAACOW Workgroup -Privacy Notices updates
 - Attend *MetaStar- BH Connect* workgroup -EHR staff client audits process
 - 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

- Clients are slowly applying for MMP program
- Monthly A/R review to determine collectability at Community & Norwood and EW locations
- Attended monthly BH and claims meeting for continuity in claim/service documentation needs
- 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
- Engaged in Aspirus Network to ensure agency adherence for credentialing of providers
- Attended work groups to problem solve with other county billing teams as a team building workgroup

Insurance Claims created and submitted for current reporting period

- Norwood: 258 claims billed: \$1,324,282
- Edgewater: 64 claims billed: \$567,774
- Community: 4,870 claims submitted in the amount of \$489,694. Cash Receipts \$637,453

Service Admission Intakes - by Location

- NHC Admissions: 28 hospital, 2 LTC
- Edgewater: 8
- Community
 - 28 intakes for new clients conducted. (current wait lists for all services at OPC)
 - 1,137 appointments scheduled, 754 attended (66%)

2026 TRIP Monies:

- Norwood: \$12,419
- Community: \$16,480

Employment & Training Programs Update by Lacey Piekarski

FoodShare Employment & Training (FSET) Program Update, Serving Wood, Portage, Adams, Marathon, Lincoln, Langlade, Oneida, Vilas, Forest Counties. In the first Federal Fiscal Year quarter (October – December 2025), the FSET Program achieved the following:

- 75.60% of enrolled customers were *participating* in assigned FSET activities (>1 hour/week).
- 55.58% of enrolled customers were participating in an *education and/or training activity*, such as GED/HSED completion, driver's education, or employment readiness support.
- More than 100 employer partnerships were created to advocate for customer employment connections.

The final policy rollout impacting FoodShare members required to meet a work requirement to maintain FoodShare benefits is now complete, increasing the number of referred individuals to the FSET Program. Our team continues to connect with referred individuals to encourage enrollment for voluntary employment and training case management support, including outreach in our communities. As of 3/9/26, 46.34% of referred customers enrolled in FSET. Of those enrolled, 17% have a work requirement to maintain FoodShare benefits, which FSET assists to meet through activity completion and goal achievement, such as obtaining employment 20 hours/week or more.

Independent Living Program Update: Serving Wood, Portage, Adams, Marathon, Lincoln, Langlade, Oneida, Vilas, Forest Counties. The regional Independent Living (IL) Program youth ages 17.5 – 23 who have aged out of the child welfare system through a court order, serving youth aging into adulthood as they transition from foster homes, residential care center or other approved eligibility situations. In 2025, the IL Program captured the following program metrics:



Edgewater Haven Update by Justin Cieslewicz

Census Update: In the month of February, we had 8 admissions and 3 readmissions. Current Memory Care census is 15 residents. Census comparison to last year:
 February 2025 – 44.93 average census with 8.04 rehab
 February 2026 – 46.71 average census with 11.39 rehab

February 2025 – Admissions 11/Discharges 6/Readmissions 4/Deaths 2
 February 2026 – Admissions 8/Discharges 6/Readmissions 3/Deaths 3

Edgewater Haven's occupancy rate for the month of February was 93.4%.

Personnel Update: Open positions of writing this:

Nursing: 4 Full-time Nurses, 1 Part-time Nurse, 1 Full-time CNA, and 1 Part-time CNA

Norwood Health Center

Norwood Health Center Update by Marissa Kornack

Progress continues to be made on the design/engineering plans for the water pipe replacement project. Building Operations Manager Ackerman, Facilities Manager Van Tassel, and I remain in regular communication with the engineers and architects as they work to complete the plans. A large focus this month has been the asbestos abatement/remediation plans.

We currently have a vacancy in the Long-Term Care Social Services Coordinator position, which we are recruiting for. Our assistant administrator, client services assistant, head nurse, and director of nursing have all stepped up to cover various aspects of this role. We also appreciate our hospital social workers and occupational therapist stepping in to help provide the psychoeducational programming for our long-term care residents.

Norwood Nursing Department by Liz Masanz

For nurses, we currently have two 100%, one 60%, and five casual RN positions available. We currently have three agency RNs on board to help cover these vacant positions. We primarily have large gaps on the weekends with all our casual RN positions being vacant, since they are scheduled every third weekend. We have very few applicants.

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

Admissions Unit: The average census for the month of February was 7.21 and 7.46 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 one admission and no discharges in February, with an average census of 10.64 on Crossroads and 11.64 on Pathways.

The IDT continues survey preparations, as we expect annual survey any day. We are at 14-months since our last annual survey, and surveyors have up to 15 months since the last one to complete the inspection.

Norwood Dietary Department by Larry Burt

Congregate meals for the month of February were 3,746 with revenue of \$31,918, with 7,126 (28% decrease from 2025) meals and \$60,715 (18.5% decrease from 2025) in revenue YTD.

Projecting out the experience through February, we would expect to serve 42,756 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 – Lee met with Dave Barret from NorthStar Environmental Testing to work on final asbestos abatement plan, including how areas will be sealed off, paths to move materials through the building, etc. This information will be included in the project plan specifications to ensure bidders have a clear understanding of expectations, especially working in an occupied area with vulnerable residents.

Circulating Fans – We continue to work through the warranty process for the two fan motors that failed.

5-Year CIP – Work is nearly finished on the 5-Year CIP for Norwood.

Other Maintenance

Staff Locker Room- Progress has been made with setting up a centrally located staff locker room for nursing staff to store personal items safely. Lockers were relocated from areas on lower level that were not utilized.

CVSO Report to the Wood County Health and Human Services Committee

Meeting Date: March 26, 2026

February 2026 Activity: During the month of February, we completed/submitted 234 federal forms to include:

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

Activities:

1. Completed as of March 19, 2026:
 - a. February 29 – National Veterans Legal Services Webinar on Special Monthly Compensation ratings.
 - b. March 14 – Congressmen Van Orden's Wood County Veterans round table at the Wisconsin Rapids VFW.
2. Near Future:
 - 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 27 – May 1 CVSO Spring Training Conference in Stevens Point.

Office Update:

Certified Veterans Advocate (CVA) training. This year because we are saving training (WDVA Grant money) with the Spring Conference in Stevens Point, we are enrolling three staff members in this training. The cost is a one time enrollment fee of \$300 per person.

CVA is an advanced training certification course designed for NACVSO-Accredited Veteran Service Officers. The CVA Program will provide a high-level skill set unique to a CVSO to assist a claimant beyond the point of filing claims and/or Supplemental Claims or Higher Level Reviews. The CVA training will also cover more complex and comprehensive claims. The goal of the CVA certification is to enable NACVSO-Accredited CVSOs to analyze VA Benefit Decisions and strategize the best course of action for the claimant. In order to qualify as a Certified Veterans Advocate, CVSOs must pass a rigorous final exam and have a strong working knowledge of the subject matter in the NVLSP Veterans Benefits Manual. Quite simply, CVA graduates are elite County Veteran Service Officers. CVA courses are offered at the conference (in-person) and in December virtually.

CVA COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Complete a total of 27 hours of formal training which will be offered twice a year - at the NACVSO Annual Conference and virtually in December. 9 hours of CVA training will be offered at each CVA course. Attendees will be granted CEU credit. CVA candidates must attend 3 CVA courses within a 5-year period.

2. Exhibit thorough knowledge of VA claims representation in all entitlement areas by:

Completing an examination with a minimum score of 80%.

CVA candidates that are eligible to take the final exam need a copy of the NVLSP Veterans Benefits Manual, either print or electronic. A practice exam/study guide will be made available 2 weeks prior to the CVA session. It is highly recommended that candidates utilize that time to study for the exam.

A prerequisite for the CVA course is the advanced appeals training which the staff will be attending in April.

Veterans Office Employee Engagement Survey. The department results of the Wood County Employee Engagement Survey show three statistically significant findings when compared to the County Employees as a whole.

1. Compared to the rest of the county, the Veterans Department believed that their workload was not reasonable. They also believed that they do not have adequate time to complete their workload.
2. They believe that they have enough autonomy in how they do their work.
3. They believe that they get adequate training to do their job well.

The next step will be to review the survey results with the staff and look for areas that we can impact on internally. Unfortunately,

without funding for additional staff or redefining our level of service our department will continue to struggle with our workload.

MINUTES PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

DATE: Monday, April 13, 2026
TIME: 9:00 AM
PLACE: Courthouse – Conference Rm 302

MEMBERS PRESENT: Joseph Zurfluh, Dennis Polach, William Voight, Brad Hamilton (WebEx)

MEMBER EXCUSED: 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 March 9, 2026, meeting 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 determined by the new committee.
5. The Communications Department presented their report and bill listing for review noting the completion of the radio upgrade.
6. The Emergency Management Department presented their report and bill listing for review. Director Christensen highlighted the recent winter storm events and possible reimbursement available to municipalities if they meet a certain per capita threshold of expense.
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. With Coroner Patton & Facilities Manager Van Tassel reported that racks are being ordered to accommodate the space needs identified by the Coroner.
10. Sheriff Becker reviewed various reports and activities of the Sheriff's Department. He noted the recent passing and signing of the bill regulating Crypto Currency Kiosks and reviewed various components of the bill.
11. Motion by Zurfluh/Voight to approve the voucher listings for Communications, Coroner, Dispatch, Emergency Management, and Sheriff's Department. Motion carried unanimously.
12. Chairman Zurfluh declared the meeting adjourned 9:22 AM.

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

**Public Safety Committee
April 13, 2026**

NAME	REPRESENTING
Bill Voight	Deit >
Bill @ Leand emmy	wCB 15
R VANTASSEL	MAINT.
Dennis Polach	wCB- 14
David Patton	Coroner
Erik Engel	LCC COM
Shir Beck	WCSO
AELLS	WCSA
C. Hoogstra	WCSO
Tony Bastien	DISPATCH
Sarah Christensen	EM
Lance Pliml (WebEx)	CB Chain
Darrin Steinbach (WebEx)	Finance
Tyler Mellinger (WebEx)	Emergency Mgmt
TeNyia Yang	Finance

**WOOD COUNTY
TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING**

Date: Wednesday, March 11th, 2026

Time: 10:30 AM

Place: Conference Room
Wood County Highway Dept
Wisconsin Rapids, WI

WebEx Info:

<https://woodcountywi.webex.com/woodcountywi/j.php?MTID=mf620d2d4d7141c231092d62f3ffbba6d>

Agenda

Present – Roland Hawk – Wood Co Highway, Brandon Whipple – Wood Co Highway, Emily Arendt - Wood Co Emergency Management, William Clendenning – Wood County Board, Dennis Polach – Wood County Board, Joseph H. Zurfluh– Wood County Board, Charles Hoogesteger – Wood Co Sheriff Dept, Matthew Susa – Wood Co Sheriff Dept, Todd Horn – Wis DOT BOTS, Lance Pliml - Wood County Board Chairman

1. Meeting called to order by Roland Hawk at 10:30 AM.
2. Minutes of the December 2025 Traffic Safety Commission Meeting.

**Motion by Joseph H. Zurfluh to accept the minutes, second by Brandon Whipple.
Motion carried unanimously.**

3. Updates on Wood County Highway Projects delivered by Brandon Whipple. Crews plan to work on the areas of County Highway U, County Highway AA, the 8 Corners roundabout, and bridge work on County Trunk N to be completed in the Spring.
4. Roland Hawk delivered updates from WIS DOT. Updates included potential projects on the intersection of 13 and 54, 8th Street and an intersection at Griffith St. and 13.
5. Todd Horn, Law Enforcement Liaison, reporting from WIS DOT. The quarterly slideshow was presented. Details from the traffic fatality from last quarter in Wood County were shared, county crash statistics, WiSTAR data tracking updates through Community Maps, law changes to Wisconsin Act 54 and information on R-Cuts (Restricted Crossing U-Turns).

6. Other business brought before the commission.
 - a. Governor's Conference on Highway Safety dates announced for August 24th – 25th, 2026.
 - b. Reminder of date/time for next meeting – June 10th, 2026 at 10:30 AM.
7. Public Comments - No public comments
8. Adjournment – **Motion to adjourn by Roland Hawk, second by Brandon Whipple at 11:05 a.m.**

Minutes taken by: Emily Arendt – Wood County Emergency Management

These minutes are preliminary until reviewed and voted on at the next Traffic Safety Meeting



Wood County

WISCONSIN

OFFICE OF CORONER

David A. Patton

DATE: April 04, 2026
TO: Wood County Public Safety Committee
FROM: David A. Patton, Wood County Coroner
SUBJECT: Monthly Activity Report – March 2026

The following is a list of services rendered by the Wood County Coroner’s Office for: March 2026.

Deaths in Wood County.....	135
Calls for Service.....	144
Natural.....	26
Falls.....	1
Covid.....	0
Traffic Fatalities.....	0
UTV/ATV/Snowmobile.....	0
Suicides.....	3
Homicides.....	0
Suspected Overdoses.....	0
Other.....	0
Pending.....	0
Death Certificates Signed.....	31
Cremation Permits Signed.....	95
Autopsies Performed.....	4

Remarks:

What a month! Early March, we stopped receiving medical records from Marshfield Medical (Sanford Health.) We would send multiple requests and receive nothing. We would contact medical records and were told they had been faxed but received nothing. This affected signing death certificates for the end of February and anything in March. I contacted Datavant, who releases the records. I was told that all former MMC employees were blocked from accessing and releasing the records. This eventually was

worked out in mid-March and now we send requests direct to Datavant and Sanford Health. We are caught up with signing death certificates, finally.

New vehicle update: In mid-March, I was backed into the entrance at MMC to remove 2 decedents. I was taking one to autopsy and the other to Madison to a funeral home. I started the van and put it into drive and the "D" light just flashed and wouldn't move forward. It would back up but not move forward. It was too early to call the dealership for guidance, so, I called Travis, woke him up and had him bring the "reserve" van to MMC. It's the old van I bought from the county as surplus. We switched everything over. I arranged for a tow for the new vehicle to V&H for warranty repairs. Ultimately, I had to shuffle the order of things but made the autopsy on time. To date, the van is still out of commission awaiting parts.

Respectfully Submitted,

David A. Patton
Wood County Coroner

Wood County Coroner monthly statistics (YTD) for 2026

1. Deaths in Wood County:

Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
117	120	135										372

2. Calls for Service:

Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
110	113	144										367

3. Natural:

Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
17	19	26										62

4. Falls:

Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
3	3	1										7

5. Covid:

Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
0	0	0										0

6. Traffic Fatalities:

Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
0	0	0										0

7. UTV/ATV/Snowmobile:

Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
0	0	0										0

8. Suicides:

Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
0	2	3										5

9. Homicides:

Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
0	0	0										0

10. Suspected Overdoses:

Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
1	0	0										1

11. Other:

Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
0	0	0										0

12. Pending:

Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
1	1	0										2

13: Death Certificates signed:

Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
21	24	31										76

14. Cremation permits signed:

Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
74	75	95										244

15. Autopsies completed:

Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
1	1	4										6

Notes: The notes reflect the current month for the report numbers

#2 – Calls for Service: North end Wood County received a total of 91 calls for service, 5 of which were requests to respond to scene calls. South end Wood County received a total of 42 calls for service, 11 of which were requests to

respond to scene deaths. I received a total of 11 calls requesting follow-up or requesting copies of reports.

#4 – Falls: We had one fall related death this past month. This was in our elderly population who had fallen and fractured their upper left arm and unexpectedly passed the following day. I contacted Dr. Corliss and inquired to the possibility of a pulmonary embolism occurring from a fractured humerus. Based on the proximity of injury to death, it was very probable this is what happened.

#8 – Suicides: Sadly, this past month, we had 3 confirmed suicides. Two were in our elderly population. The third was in their mid 30's.

#15 – Autopsies: We had 4 autopsies in March. Three were medical related and the third was ultimately ruled a suicide.



March Monthly Report

Wood County Sheriff's Rescue

Submitted by: Ann Burger, WCSR Secretary

March Training Descriptions

Date	Type	Description
3-Mar	Business Meeting	March Business Meeting
10-Mar	Work Night	Cleaned spreaders + cutters.
17-Mar	Work Night	Truck checks and call sheet completed.
24-Mar	Work Night	Truck checks and call sheet completed.
31-Mar	Work Night	Truck checks and call sheet completed.

Call Summary

Call #	20	21	22	23	24
Date	3/3/2026	3/7/2026	3/10/2026	3/12/2026	3/14/2026
Time	18:24	16:32	20:18	15:01	22:17
Day of Week	Tuesday	Saturday	Tuesday	Thursday	Saturday
Township	Sigel	Saratoga	Rudolph	Port Edwards	Port Edwards
Location	5506 STH 186	STH 73 S & TESSERVILLE RD	5TH AVE & CTH C	2609 STH 73 S	CTH GG & CTH G
Rescue 3	T. Young	D. Westfall	T. Young	C. Stoflet	
Rescue 4					
Rescue 5					
10-22ed			Yes	Yes	
Call Type	10-50 w/ Unknown Injuries	10-50 w/ Unknown Injuries	10-50 w/ Unknown Injuries	10-50 w/ Unknown Injuries	
Medical/Extrication					
Ambulance	UEMR	WRFD			
EMR	Vesper	Saratoga			
Fire	Vesper	Nekoosa	Rudolph		
Air					
Tools/Equipment Used	Stop signs				
Notes					
Other members on scene	D. Westfall B. Franz	M. Wiberg	M. Wiberg	M. Wiberg	

Call Summary

Call #	25			
Date	3/15/2026			
Time	19:29			
Day of Week	Sunday			
Township	Grand Rapids			
Location	HERITAGE RIDGE & WHITROCK			
Rescue 3	M. Wiberg			
Rescue 4				
Rescue 5				
10-22ed				
Call Type	10-50 w/ Unknown Injuries			
Medical/ Extrication				
Ambulance	UEMR			
EMR	Grand Rapids			
Fire	Grand Rapids			
Air				
Tools/ Equipment Used				
Notes				
Other members on scene				



WOOD COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT



SHAWN BECKER, SHERIFF

March 31st 2026

MEMORANDUM FOR Sheriff Becker; Public Safety Committee

SUBJECT: Monthly Crime Stoppers Report – March 2026

The Crime Stoppers program received 30 tips in the month of March that were forwarded to the appropriate agencies for follow-up, as reported by P3.

The last monthly board meeting was held on March 11th, 2025. The next regular meeting will April 8thth, 2026

Respectfully Submitted,

Daniel Berres
Investigator Sergeant
Wood County Sheriff's Department



WOOD COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT



SHAWN BECKER, SHERIFF

March 2026 K9 Report

	TRAINING HOURS	USEAGE/ DEPLOYMENTS	DEMO/ COMMUNITY
K9 Sig			
K9 Bingo	14	0	1
K9 Timo	15	1	1
K9 Rosco	16	2	1
K9 Lola	SEE	BELOW	
K9 Ripp	SEE	BELOW	

TRAINING (MONTHLY) –

The Wood County Sheriff's Department trained with the Wisconsin Rapids Police Department K9 team during the month of March. The training venues consisted of the WOSO/WRPD range house and MidState Technical College Campus. Areas of training consisted of odor detection, door popper exercises (obedience and apprehension), high risk felony stops, article searches, mock traffic stops, building search for person (muzzle), and obedience.

TRAINING (INDIVIDUAL) –

- Sergeant Arendt and K9 Timo had 3 hours of on duty training focusing on tracking, odor detection, and general obedience
- Lieutenant Christianson and K9 Bingo completed on duty training focusing on the areas of tracking, odor detection and obedience.
- Deputy Beathard and K9 Rosco had 4 hrs of on duty training focusing on obedience, odor, and recalls.

USEAGE –

- Sergeant Arendt and K9 Timo had 1 deployment in the month of March. This deployment was a K9 sniff in the sally port and receiving area of the Wood County Jail. No indications observed.



WOOD COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT



SHAWN BECKER, SHERIFF

- Deputy Beathard and K9 Rosco had two deployments in the month of March. K9 Rosco was utilized for a sniff at the wood county jail and Mary's place in Marshfield. No CIB or indications at either location. A reward hide was used during both instances.

DEMO/COMMUNITY – All Wood County K9 teams were in attendance for Bingo Night on March 26, 2026. This event raised over 9K for the K9 unit! K9 Rosco completed a demo for the Boys Scout group in Auburndale at the elementary school.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION –

On March 1, 2026 Wood County Deputy James Pidgeon stepped down from his position as K9 handler and retired K9 Sig.

March 2026 Lola Training and Work Schedule

March 3rd

Escorted inmates to see provider concerning mental health needs

March 10th

Jail Interview and Lt. Meeting

March 12th

Attended meeting in Wausau concerning veterans and working with K9s in Law Enforcement

March 13th

**Visited DA and Clerk of Courts offices
Attended Basic Jail Officer Academy Graduation
Collected Raffle Baskets for K9 Bingo at the Elks**

March 23rd- March 27th

Visited All Pods

**Escorted 2 juveniles on transports and to court
Escorted inmates to see provider**

Escorted an inmate to a drug and alcohol assessment at River Block



WOOD COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT



SHAWN BECKER, SHERIFF

Visited DA's office and courthouse

March 31st

Attended Lt. Meeting

Met with Cub Scout Pack 110 for a tour of dept and Communications Center

Ripp's Training/Work Log- March 2026

March 2nd

- Attended Student of the Month Assembly- Elementary, Middle, High Schools

March 3

- Attended varsity basketball playoff game

March 4

- K9 training

March 5

- Attended spring concert W/ Ripp for Grant Elementary School

March 6

- Attended Send off ceremony for High School wrestling team going to State

March 9

- Attended Court Trial/Visited DA Office, Clerk of Courts, All Judge Branches at courthouse

March 10

- Veterans Coffee at AHS

March 11

- K9 training

March 12

- Requested in counseling office to help with student having emotional concerns

March 17

- Visited Courthouse, Sheriff's Dept, Dispatch Center

March 22

- AHS Pancake Feed for FFA. Community Relations with Ripp

March 25

- Suicide Prevention Training at Elementary School W/ Ripp

- K9 Training

March 26

- K9 Bingo Fundraiser



WOOD COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT



SHAWN BECKER, SHERIFF

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	1	1	0
• Nekoosa	0	0	0
• Wis. Rapids	0	1	0
• Wood	0	0	0
• Marshfield	0	0	0
• Rudolph	0	0	0
• Seneca	0	0	0
• Saratoga	1	0	0
• Pittsville	1	0	0
• Richfield	0	0	0
• Lincoln	0	0	0
• Port Edw	1	0	0

Inhumane /Abuse Case: 0

Abandonment: 0

Animal vs Animal: 1

Abatement Order: 0

Animals at Large: 0

Major Incidents: 0

Follow-up-Brooke: 2

Follow-up-Susa: 0

Monthly Hours: 29

2026 YTD Hours: 58.5

Submitted by: Jenna McDonald



WOOD COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT



SHAWN BECKER, SHERIFF

Department of Natural Resources Patrols

March 2026

ATV

- Patrol Hours 28
- Citations- 0
- Warnings- 0

BOAT

- Patrol Hours 2
- Citations- 1
- Warnings- 0

SNOWMOBILE

- Patrol Hours 2.5
- Citation- 0
- Warnings- 0

Submitted by

Sgt. Matt Susa



WOOD COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT



SHAWN BECKER, SHERIFF

Operations Overtime/Comp Time Totals

MARCH 2025 (03/01/26to 03/28/26)

Patrol

Overtime hours:	61.5
Comp time hours:	183.74
Holiday Pay/Comp hours:	0

Investigations

Overtime hours:	65.42
Comp time hours:	43.875

Security Services

Overtime hours:	49.5
Comp time hours:	9

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



Public Safety Committee Meeting

Security Services March 2026 Report

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

Guns -	0
Knives -	84
O.C. -	6
Misc. Items -	7

The miscellaneous items that were located were 2 (two) pairs of scissors, a screwdriver, a meat thermometer, a self-defense tool, a window punch and an empty holster.

Security Services screened 8,306 people entering the courthouse in March. Security Services had 70 security requests from different departments within the Courthouse for the month and we had four (4) jury trials.

We also served eight (8) civil process papers, executed 2 (two) evictions and fulfilled 5 (five) warrants for the month.

Security Services handled six (6) complaints in the jail this month of March. Five of those reports were for inmate fights and one was a sexual crime. We also handled a Preliminary Hearing for one of the road deputies and handled a domestic dispute after a woman entered the courthouse after being chased by her husband.

On Monday, March 16th the courthouse closed due to weather. Security Services came in though and worked the day just incase employees or the public did not know of the closure. Five people, employees and public, came to the courthouse that day.

During the Month of March, I utilize part-time employees for 67.5 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) March 2026 Report

For the month of March, the School Resource Officer initiated/responded to 25 calls of service while at the Auburndale High School/Middle School/Elementary School. The calls for service included:

- Alcohol Violation
- Disturbances (Threats, Disorderly Conduct Behaviors)
- Traffic Stops/Enforcement at the schools
- Child Abuse Investigation
- Truancy
- Project Lifesaver
- Welfare Check
- Traffic Crash Investigation
- Tobacco Violation
- Chapter 51.15
- Court Trial

The School Resource Officer also participated in the following:

- Safety walk at the High School/Middle/Elementary School
- Weekly training with K9 Ripp-Obedience Classes
- Attended FFA sponsored pancake breakfast with K9 Ripp
- Attended Veterans Coffee and Community Coffee at High School
- Reading with elementary classroom
- Student interviews for classroom activities
- Behavioral meetings with students/parents
- Mental Health Training at Elementary School
- K9 Bingo event
- Occupational Health Class presentation- 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

March (03/01/26 – 03/31/26)

Intersection	Time Spent (min)	Citations	Warnings
USH 10/Day RD	235	0	2
USH 10/CTH T	704	0	2
USH 10/CTH E	0	0	0
USH 10/STH 186	595	2	5
USH 10/North RD	30	0	0
USH 10/CTH K	75	0	1
USH 10/Blueberry RD	0	0	0
USH 10/CTH N	40	0	0
USH 10/CTH S	60	0	0
USH 10/Brookside RD	0	0	0
USH 10/CTH F	0	0	0
Totals:	1739	2	10

MINUTES – 1739

WARNINGS – 10

CITATIONS – 2

REPORTED WW DRIVERS - 2

CRASHES – 4 Property Damage Only – (3 related to Winter Storm Elsa)

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	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	175	0	21	177	3	23	177	4	19	179	6	23						
3	177	0	19	175	4	24	169	4	21	180	6	22						
4	177	0	19	173	4	24	170	5	22	182	6	22						
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									
8	184	1	24	180	6	22	171	5	21									
9	179	1	24	181	6	21	172	5	21									
10	174	1	22	178	6	21	175	5	23									
11	176	1	22	180	6	21	175	4	24									
12	175	1	22	183	6	21	175	5	24									
13	163	1	22	176	6	22	169	5	22									
14	167	1	23	177	6	21	169	5	22									
15	162	1	23	177	6	21	176	5	22									
16	164	1	23	179	6	21	176	5	22									
17	159	1	23	171	8	21	179	5	22									
18	165	3	23	171	8	23	169	5	22									
19	169	3	23	171	7	24	167	4	22									
20	171	3	24	175	6	24	166	4	21									
21	173	3	25	171	5	24	173	4	22									
22	171	3	24	172	5	24	174	6	22									
23	172	1	26	171	5	23	175	6	22									
24	167	1	27	169	5	23	174	6	22									
25	170	1	26	169	4	23	174	6	22									
26	175	1	26	171	4	23	176	6	22									
27	173	2	26	174	4	22	174	6	21									
28	171	2	26	173	4	20	178	5	21									
29	172	3	26				180	5	21									
30	170	3	26				181	5	21									
31	178	3	24				178	5	22									
AVERAGES																		
Total Jail	172.45			174.96			173.58			181.00			0.00			0.00		
IMMG	1.42			5.39			4.97			5.83			0.00			0.00		
EMP	23.32			22.39			21.65			21.83			0.00			0.00		
Length of Stay	26.70			40.80			28.40			0.00			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																		
4																		
5																		
6																		
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28																		
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	175.50
IMMG HOLDS	4.40
ELECTRONIC MONITORING	22.30
AVERAGE LENGTH of STAY	31.97

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	21.83
May	0.00
June	0.00
July	0.00
August	0.00
September	0.00
October	0.00
November	0.00
December	0.00
TOTAL	22.30

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	0	0	0	0
			3461	3456	3418	0
April		WEEK 14	0	0	0	0
		WEEK 15	0	0	0	0
		WEEK 16	0	0	0	0
		WEEK 17	0	0	0	0
		WEEK 18	0	0	0	0
			0	0	0	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		13929	13907	13726	0

n 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
0	
10335	\$27,046.69
0	
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41562	\$109,102.64

Cost per meal \$2.63
 Cost Per day \$7.88

MINUTES

CONSERVATION, EDUCATION, & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, April 1, 2026

TIME: 9:00 AM

PLACE: Courthouse – Room 302

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bill Leichtnam, Tom Buttke, 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. The minutes of the March 4, 2026, meeting were presented. Motion by Hovendick/Perlock to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
4. Motion by Buttke/Schulz to approve the vouchers, monthly department reports and committee reports. Motion carried unanimously.
5. The term of office for the Producer Member of the committee is expiring. Motion by Schulz/Hovendick to recommend to the County Board Chair that George Gilbertson be reappointed for the next 2-year term. Motion carried unanimously.
6. The economic development grant request for Stemperosa Estates Garages in the Village of Vesper has been mostly completed with information given to the committee showing the progress. Motion by Buttke/Perlock to approve the release of \$25,000 in economic grant funding for this project. Motion carried unanimously.
7. The City of Wisconsin Rapids has completed the lighting at Witter Field for which there were economic development grant funds applied for. The City is requesting release of those funds. Motion by Buttke/Hovendick to approve the release of \$20,000 to the City of Wisconsin Rapids for this project. Motion carried unanimously. A ribbon cutting will be held on Tuesday, April 7th at 7:30 PM at Witter Field.
8. Melissa Haack, the regional farmers market coordinator, updated the committee on the use of REDI funds that were released by the committee last fall. She highlighted the improvements to the Wisconsin Rapids market as well as the incorporation of the Marshfield Farmers Market Cooperative. She discussed work on the websites as well. More information will be forthcoming as the rest of the funds are expended.
9. Conservation Administrative Specialist Peeters reported that no bids were received for the Gilbertson grassed waterway project on the second try so this will be rebid for a third time so this will again be on the agenda for next month.

10. Peeters reviewed the current status of the ARPA funds for ground water remediation and will now be looking at expanding this out from the original footprint to hot spots within the Towns of Grand Rapids and Port Edwards with additional testing being conducted through UWSP. More information will follow.
11. There will be committee training coming up in June for all Land Conservation Committee members sponsored by North Central Land + Water Conservation Association. If interested, let Peeters know.
12. The 2025 Wood County Land & Water Conservation Dept. Annual Report was included in the committee packet. Questions in this regard can be directed at Peeters or County Conservationist Wucherpfennig.
13. Extension Area Director McNelly reported that the Cranberry Outreach Educator has resigned. The growers are currently discussing future needs of this position at this time. In addition, the funding for the Natural Resources Educator is unknown so this empty position will remain until the funding mechanism is finalized.
14. The 4H Educator was able to acquire an AmeriCorps person for the to help out the 4H during the summer months. McNelly is recommending that unused funding from vacant positions be used to fund the \$2,000 match needed to pay for this temporary position. Motion by Schulz/Hovendick to approve the reallocation of \$2,000 from unfilled/vacant positions to fund the AmeriCorps 4H position. Motion carried unanimously.
15. The next regular meeting will be determined at a later date.
16. Motion by Buttke/Schulz to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously at 9:39 AM.

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



NORTH CENTRAL WISCONSIN TOURISM PARTNERSHIP BOARD OF DIRECTORS

January 29, 2026

Zoom Meeting

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Brad Hamilton called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL: PRESENT: Mike Miller, Forest County; Keri Beck, Langlade County; Terry Poltrock, Langlade County; Greg Hartwig, Lincoln County; Ginger Deschane, Marinette County; Stephanie Holman, Oconto County; Ray Reser, Portage County; James Przybylski, Shawano County; Lance Pliml, Wood County and Brad Hamilton, Wood County. **EXCUSED:** Chase Erickson, Florence County; Autumn Timblin, Marinette County and Jacob Hartwig, Shawano County. **OTHERS PRESENT:** Renee Krueger, Lincoln County. **WCA STAFF:** Sarah Diedrick-Kasdorf.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion by Pliml, second by Przybylski, to approve the minutes of the September 25, 2025 meeting. Motion carried.

CHAIR'S REMARKS: Chair Hamilton discussed the positive impact finally having snow will have on the winter tourism season.

2026 MEMBERSHIPS: Sarah Diedrick-Kasdorf shared that dues invoices for 2026 were sent out in mid-January. Marathon County paid their membership dues in 2025 for 2026. The Tourism Committee is working on getting Marathon County added to the website.

NORTH CENTRAL WISCONSIN TOURISM PARTNERSHIP FINANCIAL REPORT: Sarah Diedrick-Kasdorf reviewed with the board the financials dated December 31, 2025 and January 27, 2026.

REPORT OF THE NORTH CENTRAL WISCONSIN TOURISM PARTNERSHIP TOURISM COMMITTEE: The Tourism Committee reported on several projects it is currently working on, including a half-page ad in the 2026 Travel Wisconsin Travel Guide, participation in the Travel Wisconsin Co-op program – Minnesota Star Tribune Geofence Display, completion of

the new logo and tagline, and participation in two shows – Green Bay RV and Camping Expo and the Madison Fishing Show.

CONSIDERATION OF NORTH CENTRAL WISCONSIN TOURISM PARTNERSHIP 2026 BUDGET: Sarah Diedrick-Kasdorf presented the 2026 budget to the board as recommended by the Tourism Committee. Motion by Miller, second by Deschane, to approve the 2026 budget as presented. Motion carried.

CONSIDERATION OF AMENDMENT TO THE BYLAWS FOR THE NORTH CENTRAL INTERNATIONAL TRADE, BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL: Motion by Pliml, second by Hamilton, to amend section 3.5.6 (b) of the bylaws to add the following language: In the absence of a quorum at a meeting of the Board of Directors the Executive Committee may take action at such meeting if a quorum of the Executive Committee is present. Motion carried.

PARTNER REPORTS: No reports provided, the partner agencies were unable to attend the meeting.

WCA UPDATE: The WCA Legislative Conference will be held on February 10-11, 2026.

2026 MEETING SCHEDULE: Following the April elections the board will reconsider its current meeting schedule.

ADJOURN: Chair Hamilton adjourned the meeting at 10:46 a.m.



NORTH CENTRAL WISCONSIN TOURISM PARTNERSHIP TOURISM COMMITTEE

March 11, 2026

Zoom Meeting

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Keri Beck called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion by Miller, second by Paine, to approve the minutes of the February 11, 2026 meeting. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Sarah Diedrick-Kasdorf reviewed the financial report dated March 5, 2026. The report was emailed out to committee members as well. Ten counties paid membership dues for 2026. Expenses paid in 2026 total \$5,820.28 (from both the 2025 and 2026 budgets); the account balance is \$41,852.22; and unallocated revenue totals \$21,170.30.

REVIEW OF PROMOTIONS BUDGET AND PROJECTS:

Madison Fishing Expo: Show not as good as Green Bay in terms of visitors looking for travel destinations; had to engage people to give away guides; more families in attendance on Sunday, a lot of men interested in purchasing fishing gear; only distributed 300 bags compared to 700 in Green Bay; lots of extra fees associated with the show. Will recommend not returning in 2027. Sarah indicated she will hold off on processing expense forms from the show until the board approves the increased rate for lodging.

Minnesota Star-Tribune Geofence Display: Malorie Paine reported. All materials were turned in on time for the project. Will follow up once data/results received.

Social Media Presence – Site Population: The state required the NCWTP to include its social media accounts on its Wisconsin Travel Guide ad. The NCWTP does not have social media, so a Facebook page and Instagram account were created. The pages are ready for content – will need to be populated when the travel guide is released May 1. The subcommittee will begin meeting to discuss content.

CREATION OF A PHOTO AND VIDEO LIBRARY: In order to assist with ad creation and social media members were encouraged to place photos and videos in the Google drive.

WEBSITE UPDATES AND ANALYTICS: Tim White requested this topic – we will discuss when he is available to attend the meeting. Michelle Eron worked on website updates – the widgets were updated due to modifications made on the state site. Committee members discussed the image at the bottom of the website – map will be a static image if we are unable to make it interactive for all member counties.

TRAVEL WISCONSIN UPDATE: Christopher Jennings reported on the following: WiGCOT starts on Sunday; Wisconsin is a top 10 state for motorcoach travel; tourism is economic development – Wisconsin ranked 23 in direct visitor spend; the Fall Color Report showed a 22.43% increase in arrivals per thousand; Snow Report tracked more than a million views; Partner Portal is live, provide feedback to Travel Wisconsin; outdoor recreation industry delivered a record \$12 billion economic impact in 2024 – third record breaking year in a row; county forest road aid; DIY economic impact program. The latest PR opportunities from Turner focus on flavorful flora and immersive outdoor adventures.

NEXT MEETING DATE AND TIME: The next meeting will be held on April 8 at 2:00 p.m.

ADJOURN: Chair Beck adjourned the meeting at 2:53 p.m.

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
- A virtual meeting where families learned about 4-H summer camp and the changes for this summer's program so that families are well-informed as they make decisions for their children. Total Reach: 10 families with youth in grades 3-7.
- An in-person activity for youth enrolled in Pittsville Elementary's After School Program where participants used the scientific method to discover how salt changes the freezing point of water. Students measured temperature over time while making individual ice cream cups. This fun activity helped students understand why plow trucks salt roads in winter.
 - **Total Reach:** 33 students in grades 1-8
- A county-wide roller-skating party for 4-H members and their friends where youth built social connection through fun physical activity. This this activity, youth 4-H members and their parents met 4-H members from other clubs. Youth practiced life skills like empathy, concern for others, personal safety, cooperation, and persistence.
 - **Total Reach:** 19 youth 4-H members 10 adult parents/guardians
- A pen pal project for youth in grades 5K - 2 where young people practice reading and writing skills in order to create and build new relationships across 8 counties in central Wisconsin.

AGRICULTURE

Matt Lippert, Agriculture Educator

- Planning April 2026 in-person Save a Calf Save A Cow Workshops for dairy and dairy workers (with Spanish interpretation) and beef producers. The goal is to provide information and techniques to boost cattle caretakers' confidence in preparing the cow for calving, obstetric techniques and newborn calf care so that their health and reproductive programs maintain their farm's economic viability.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Kayla Rombalski, Community Development Educator

- Economic Development Presentation: Delivered a presentation to the Heart of Wisconsin Chamber of Commerce's A.C.E. Leadership program titled "What Is Economic Development?". The session



provided participants with a foundational understanding of economic development, along with specific insights into Wood County’s economic development strategy, priorities, and current initiatives. By grounding the topic in local context, the presentation increased participants’ awareness of and engagement with Wood County’s economic development work and set the stage for deeper learning, serving as the kickoff for the program’s economic development themed day of programming.

- **Total Reach:** 20 participants
- **Small Business Academy:** 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. Preparation efforts are focused on coordinating logistics and local partnerships to deliver a high-quality learning experience that strengthens the small business ecosystem in Central Wisconsin.
- **Ongoing Strategic Planning Support and Housing Summit Preparation:** As reported previously, ongoing strategic planning support to the Wood County Health Department to strengthen organizational effectiveness and community-centered operations. Ongoing planning for the Central Wisconsin Housing Summit, a regional convening aimed at advancing collaborative housing solutions by elevating developer and municipal perspectives. Together, this work supports informed decision-making, cross-sector collaboration, and long-term community vitality.

CRANBERRIES

Allison Jonjak, Cranberry Outreach Specialist

- Allison is transitioning from her role as Cranberry Outreach Specialist to a terminal role as a Research Development Outreach Specialist, which will end on June 30, 2026.

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

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

Behavioral Health

- Bi-weekly support groups for Hmong students where they learn about feelings, safety, and respect through storytelling, art, and guided conversations. Using age-appropriate terms, basic concepts of mental health, personal boundaries, and trusted adults while honoring Hmong traditions and values will be introduced. Through this program, Hmong students will feel safe, heard, and confident to lay the foundation for lifelong emotional well-being and opening the door to healthier conversations in their families and communities.
 - **Total Reach:** 61 students
 - 7 students in grades 4-5



- 33 students in grades 6-8
- 21 students in grades 9-12
- 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 help reduce the risk of falls and empower participants to lead healthier, more active lives, fostering independence and confidence in their daily routines.
- A weekly program for incarcerated men 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, men gained tools that support their well-being during incarceration and increase their capacity to navigate re-entry with resilience and confidence.
 - **Total Reach:** 8 incarcerated males
- 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
- A weekly virtual program for educators from the Wisconsin Rapids Public School District, where participants practice healthy coping strategies, built emotional awareness, and strengthened skills for managing stress in daily life. Through this effort, educators will gain tools that support their well-being in their personal and professional lives.
 - **Total Reach:** 19 registered participants
- A monthly gathering for Hmong elder women where they connect with one another and learn ways to care for their mental and social well-being. Through this effort, they will strengthen community bonds and build healthier habits.
 - **Total Reach:** 6 Hmong women
- Building and maintaining relationships and engaging with partners to address health needs with the Hmong community of Wood County.
- An as needed meeting with Hmong clients, where I met one-on-one with clients 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:** 5 one-on-one Hmong clients
- A monthly food pantry pick-up for Hmong 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, Hmong residents gain reliable access to healthier food options and feel better connected to community supports.
 - **Total Reach:** 12 Hmong families



- The Hmong Women's Social Space serves as a monthly gathering for Hmong women to engage in discussions about often overlooked topics within their community. This initiative aims to foster relationships among participants and empower them to advocate for the recognition of their voices.
 - **Total Reach:** 7 participants
- A presentation at the Wisconsin IDEA Conference for educators, community partners, and university professionals, where I shared my work as a Bilingual Community Health Worker and highlighted how CHWs bridge cultural, linguistic, and system gaps for Hmong and other underserved families. Through this effort, participants gained a deeper understanding of culturally responsive support, the importance of trust-building, and the impact of CHWs in improving access, confidence, and wellbeing across communities.
- A roundtable discussion for Farmers Market managers across Wisconsin, where I shared cultural insights about Hmong traditions, communication styles, and market practices, and guided participants in strategies to better support and engage Hmong vendors. Through this effort, managers strengthened their understanding of culturally responsive approaches and gained tools to build trust, improve vendor relationships, and create more inclusive, welcoming market environments statewide.

HEAL (Healthy Eating and Active Living)

- A 5-week nutrition education series for kindergarten classrooms at Grove Elementary School, 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 first of three listening sessions.
- A 5-week nutrition education series for third grade classrooms at Howe Elementary School, where students will learn about MyPlate, making healthy food choices, how to read nutrition facts labels, and about being physically active to help students to be healthier in school and at home.
 - **Total Reach:** 57 third grade students
- A 5-week nutrition education series for third grade classrooms at Mead Elementary School, where students will learn about MyPlate, making healthy food choices, how to read nutrition facts labels, and about being physically active to help students to be healthier in school and at home.
 - **Total Reach:** 35 third grade students



- 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 weekly virtual program for educators from the Wisconsin Rapids Public School District, where participants practice healthy coping strategies, built emotional awareness, and strengthened skills for managing stress in daily life. Through this effort, educators will gain tools that support their well-being in their personal and professional lives.
 - **Total Reach: 19 registered 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 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
- Planning for 4 community listening sessions with individuals and families who are experiencing food insecurity in collaboration with the Wood County Health Department. The goal of these sessions is to gather qualitative data from residents with lived experience of food insecurity to better understand the barriers they face and the solutions they believe would be most effective. The second half of this project will be taking the feedback from each session to help guide our strategies to reduce food insecurity in Wood County. Sessions are held in Wisconsin Rapids, Marshfield, Pittsville, and Arpin.
- 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



HORTICULTURE

Janell Wehr, Horticulture Educator

- Planning for a bilingual agricultural conference for Hmong farmers in collaboration with local agencies and educators. The goal is to provide education on sustainable farming, business development, and pest management, so that participants can improve farm profitability, adopt resilient practices, and strengthen community connections.
- A program for the general public where Pittsville library constituents learned how to utilize the integrated pest management framework to reduce the impact of plant diseases. The goal of this effort is to reduce pesticide misuse in consumer landscapes.
 - **Total Reach:** 15
- A program for the general public where Arpin library constituents learned the framework of Integrated Pest Management and how to apply IPM principles to backyard gardens. The goal of this effort is to reduce pesticide and fertilizer misuse in consumer landscapes.
 - **Total Reach:** 3
- A presentation for Garden Dreams participants, where participants learned how to apply integrated pest management principles to early spring landscape activities. The goal of this effort is to reduce pesticide and fertilizer misuse in consumer landscapes.
 - **Total Reach:** 52

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 direct education activity for elementary & middle school students in which participants learn basic financial concepts like the difference between needs & wants and to identify personal financial values and goals. Through this, they establish a foundation of knowledge for positive money management later in life.
 - **Total Reach:** 30 students



- 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*

NATURAL RESOURCES

Anna Mitchell, Natural Resources Educator

- A four-session facilitated strategic planning workshop series for the Nepco Lake District Board and stakeholders, where participants created a shared 3–5-year practical vision, analyzed underlying contradictions that hinder progress, developed strategic directions to address those barriers, and identified first-year measurable accomplishments with timelines and responsibilities. Through this strategic planning process, the district built a clear, community-driven roadmap that strengthens organizational alignment, supports effective decision-making, and guides long-term stewardship of Nepco Lake.
 - **Total Reach:** *9 members of Nepco Lake District*



- As of March 9, 2026, Anna transitioned into a new role within Extension as a Natural Resources Educator supporting the Between the Lakes Demonstration Farm Network and Ozaukee County Demonstration Farm Network.



LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT

STAFF REPORTS – MARCH 2026

Barb Peeters

Conservation Administrative Specialist

- Processed payment to Wi-DNR for the DNR portion of nonmetallic mining annual permit fees (a total of \$51,970.00 in NMM permit fees were received with \$47,855.00 to Wood County and \$4,115.00 to Wi-DNR).
- Processed orders for fruit trees and fielded phone calls/emails regarding availability of fruit trees. Had a good response from the flyer placed on the Wood County Facebook page regarding the fruit tree sale.
- Responded to inquiries via phone and email regarding tree/shrub/seed sale (orders closed on January 16th). Took customer names/contact information for waiting list in the event there are any extra trees after distribution.
- Completed February sales tax report and forwarded to Finance.
- Processed 4th quarter Wildlife Damage Claims & Abatement Program reimbursement payment (\$22,998.84).
- Worked on Outlook email cleanup between Feb. 23 and March 6 (requested by Information Technology for all county staff) prior to deadline of March 9th. I.T. extended deadline to March 23rd so was able to finish clean-up of the Land Conservation shared Outlook email account.
- Worked with fruit tree nurseries and fruit tree broker to schedule delivery of fruit trees to coordinate with tree distribution dates and allow sufficient time for LWCD staff to sort, bag and label tree orders. The 2026 annual tree sale distribution dates are set for Thursday & Friday, April 16 & 17, 2026 at the Forestry Garage.
- Completed application, Oath of Office form and passed mandatory online test for renewal of my Notary Public with the State of Wisconsin. Submitted required documents to the Aegis Corporation for the Notary Bond.
- Generated cost-share contract for a manure pit closure in Portage County utilizing Mill Creek grant funds totaling \$6,615.00 (at direction of County Conservationist) and emailed contract to Shawn O’Connell, Senior Conservation Technician with Portage County.
- Processed late fee payment from BTE nonmetallic mine. Per county ordinance, if NMM permit fee is paid after payment deadline of January 31st, the permit fee is doubled.
- Completed 2025 NMFE Program Grant Extension Request for 2025 to extend remaining grant funds to 2026 (totaling \$3,455.00). Kirk Langloss/Marathon County initiated request. Obtained approval and submitted 2025 NMFE Program extension request to DATCP.
- Attended March 4th CEED meeting at courthouse.
- Attended the Wisconsin Land+Water Annual Conference in Wis. Dells on March 4-6. The conference was very beneficial with lots of great information provided at the breakout sessions that was taken back to share with LWCD staff. The conference also provided networking opportunities (i.e. made contact with Pheasants Forever representative regarding seed mixes and promotional items that have been out of stock on website with immediate follow-up on site at the conference). Also volunteered and assisted with the Silent Auction on March 5th & 6th which benefits conservation youth education programs. Attended the following break-out sessions:
 - Artificial Intelligence Policies and Elements of Governance;
 - Not Just for Pretty Pictures: Drone Uses in Ecological Restoration;
 - Advocating for Conservation;
 - Wisconsin Retirement System;
 - Taking Your Partnership to Light Speed Returns;
 - Protecting What We Can’t See: Municipal-Farmer Partnerships Drive Conservation;
 - Enhanced Wakes: Understanding Ecosystem Impacts and Local Management Approaches;
 - Solar Watering Systems, Design and Implementation (presented by Kyle Andreae, Wood Co. LWCD)
- Printed and mailed Citizens Water Group materials (agenda and meeting invitation flyer) to landowners who were contacted regarding nitrates exceeding 20ppm and/or installed nitrate removal systems in late 2025 as requested

by Chairman Leichtnam. Worked with Kendra Wilhelm/Conservation Technician & Chairman Leichtnam to identify landowners for mailing due to the fact the County Conservationist was out of the office/working remote.

- Sold out of the Wolf River apple trees the first week of March. Updated order form and had it put on website.
- Downloaded the March DATCP monthly report and shared with LWCD staff.
- Worked with Finance to create revenue and expense accounts for two DNR Surface Water Grants that were awarded to LWCD (grant applications submitted by Kendra Wilhelm, Conservation Specialist for the Fourmile Creek Watershed Surface Water Grant (3-year grant) totaling \$37,631.00 and Nepco Lake Surface Water Grant (3-year grant) totaling \$37,531.80).
- Processed payment to landowner for cover crop cost-share contract utilizing Mill Creek grant funds (\$420.00). Delay in payout due to the fact the land is being rented by grant recipient and the landowner passed away. Additional time was needed to obtain signature of family member.
- Revised bid letters for grassed waterway project to be sent out for re-bid (G. Gilbertson).
- Completed I.T. annual training (Security Snippets: How to Identify Malicious Links).
- Drafted letter regarding notification to customers of tree pick up dates and a survey requesting customer suggestions for the 2027 tree sale. Mailed/emailed to 170 customers (tree distribution is set for April 16 & 17).
- Finalized 2025 LWCD Annual Report and worked with I.T. to have report placed on LWCD website. Due to the fact the file was too large to send as an email attachment, sent link to the CEED committee and to the Wisconsin Land+Water email distribution group.
- Continued to compile spreadsheets/supporting documents and run reports for the upcoming Wood County 2025 Audit. Finance set a submission deadline of April 8, 2026 with the audit occurring April 27 to May 8, 2026. This includes compiling data for ARPA Grant funds (*Water Quality Practices, Groundwater Program; Drone; and Field Days/Training*); DATCP Grant funds (*Structural & SEG Grants, Staffing & Support Grant, Innovations Subaward-Hypoxia Grant*); Wildlife Damage Claims & Abatement Program; LMPN Grant, Mill Creek 9-Key TMDL Grant; MDV funds; DNR Surface Water Grant; and DNR TRM Grant. The Farmland Preservation Plan Grant was extended for two years at the request of the County Conservationist (Wood County's Farmland Preservation Plan was due for full revision by 12/31/25). Processing documents for the audit was time consuming and meticulous!
- Prepped for tree sale (printed tree tags to attach to trees, compiled spreadsheet for order pick-up, etc.)
- Scheduled, set agenda, attended and took minutes at March 18th staff meeting to discuss summer intern duties and for follow-up by County Conservationist on agenda items from the Feb. 5th & Feb. 24th staff meetings.
- Vacation days March 20 & 23, 2026.
- Worked with Finance dept to gather additional info for the Nonmetallic Mining program 2025 year-end justification.
- Created 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 on a mission trip between June 12th-30th). Scheduled intern to attend June 3rd CEED meeting with County Conservationist.
- Completed LWCD payroll percentages and forwarded to Finance prior to the March 5th & 19th payrolls.
- Organized County Board packet materials and electronically submitted to the County Clerk's office.
- Processed MDV payments as received. Followed up with Wi-DNR Phosphorus Implementation Coordinator regarding discrepancy in MDV payment and one late payment not received to date. Verified the revised 2026 MDV payments for Wood County with a total of \$23,215.89 (an increase of \$150.59).
- 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 when Conservationist was out of the office full days Feb. 27, March 9, 13, & 31 and partial days March 2, 3, 11, 19, 25, 26, & 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

- **March 2-4.** Vacation
 - **Tuesday, March 10.** Reviewed NMFE materials. Assisted farmer with their NMP. Caught up on emails. Prepared for upcoming farmer meetings.
 - **Wednesday, March 11.** Assisted multiple farmers with their nutrient management plan updates.
 - **Tuesday, March 17.** Assisted multiple farmers with their nutrient management plan updates.
 - **Wednesday, March 18.** Attended staff meeting. Processed nutrient management plans sent by e-mail.
 - **Thursday, March 19.** Added NMP acres to shapefile. Worked on issue relating to plans not opening. Helped with tree sale prep.
 - **Wednesday, March 25.** Processed nutrient management plans sent by e-mail. Worked on updating nutrient management plan ahead of meeting.
-

Kendra Wilhelm

Conservation Specialist

- Out of office unexpectedly and unable to submit staff report by deadline. Will include with April report.
-

Kyle Andreae

Engineer Technician

- March 2 – Solar Presentation Preparation
 - March 3 – Solar Presentation Preparation
 - March 4 – CEED Meeting, Annual Land and Water Conference
 - March 5 – Annual Land and Water Conference
 - March 6 – Annual Land and Water Conference (gave presentation at conference on *Solar Watering Systems, Design and Implementation*)
 - March 9 – Lippert Design
 - March 10 – Lippert Design
 - March 11 – Lippert Design
 - March 12 – Lippert Site Visit, Keuffer Site Visit, Ciesielski Design
 - March 13 – Ciesielski Design, Baltus Pit Review
 - March 16 – Off
 - March 17 – Baltus Pit Review, Ciesielski Design
 - March 18 – Staff Meeting, Lippert Design
 - March 19 – Technical Committee Meeting, Lippert Design
 - March 20 – Lippert Design
 - March 23 – Ciesielski Design, 2025 Aerial Conversions
 - March 24 – Eastling Design, 2025 Aerial Conversions
 - March 25 – Eastling Design, 2025 Aerial Conversions
 - March 26 – Eastling Design, Gilbertson Site Visit
 - March 27 – Gilbertson Design
 - March 30 – Gilbertson Design
 - March 31 – Gilbertson Design, Cohort Meeting
-

Rodney Mayer

Conservation Program Manager

- Reviewed financial assurance (for Earth Maple Ridge 2, Schneider, I Brandl (2 sites), and Laidlaw) and updated spreadsheet, software and files.
- Brehm file review – disturbed maps, Fruin plan, violation file, 2024 wetland review, correspondence, etc. Completed timeline summaries for both Fruin Site and Vision Site.
- Completed NMM Annual Report – records reviews, acres calcs (added/removed), fee amounts and DNR portions, completed DNR database input, signatures, submitted to DNR.
- Completed annual “Know Before” I.T. training.
- Correspondence for Brehm meeting set up.
- Plan review for Bach – Mid Wisconsin draft 2 NMM reclamation plan (120 pages) – completed notes, went over issues with Shane, drafted 2 page review for needed clarifications and sent to Quest Engineering. Copy sent to DNR stormwater.
- Contact and over phone correspondence with Wendt farm for stored crop damage. Existing shooting permits, keep deploying fox light, gave bag armor info.
- Attended staff meeting on 3/18/26.
- Correspondence with Quest for info on digital layers available for the plan etc.
- Held in office meeting with Brad Brehm (operator), Chris Lindemood (landowner of Vision), Scott Brehm (County Board), Nick Flanagan (Corp Counsel), Shane Wucherpfennig, and myself. Discussed Vision mining without a permit violation, timeline to get a plan, Star Environmental hired – will contact for extension of timeline for compliance, township issues, financial assurance requirements, etc. Discussed Fruin site mining outside of existing permit issues, will confirm Star environmental will be doing plan to get into compliance, wetland issues and DNR need for restoration of wetland ditch, explained and showed original plan vs where the mining took place causing out of compliance and destruction of wetlands, etc. Updated meeting notes into event summaries.
- Records reviews and drafted listing of plans needed in 2026 – Bach -Mid WI (transfer), Brehm Vision (Violation), Brehm Fruin (Violation), possible Tom Altmann/Ron Bohn (new Chapter 30), Earth Hansen Sand, Earth MR 1, Weichelt amendment maps.
- Completed new files for Brehm Fruin site records – re-organized.
- Had some time off due to son’s work accident and surgeries.

Shane Wucherpfennig

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 Rautio, Code Technician
Victoria Wilson, Program Assistant
Julie Mancl, Program Assistant

RE: Staff Report for April 1, 2026

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

TDS Telecommunications LLC (Telephone & Data Systems, Inc) - On March 5th, TDS announced a spring kickoff for the installation of nearly 400 miles of high-speed infrastructure to connect more than 3500 addresses in Wood County. This infrastructure will improve internet speeds to at least 100Mbps and up to 8 Gigabit in some locations. These network upgrades are being supported by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Enhanced America Cost Model (E-ACAM) program along with TDS investment. The upgrades will begin this spring and be completed by the deadline of December 31st, 2028. The March 5th press release is attached to this report.

Central Wisconsin Economic Development (CWED) Fund – On March 9th, I participated in the CWED Executive Committee Meeting to discuss renewing the administrative service provider contract. On March 18th I participated in the CWED Board of Directors' meeting. Agenda items for that meeting include approval of January and February financials, Loan Committee update, Administrative Service Provider update and monthly fund status report, and approval of a 1-year contract extension to Redevelopment Resources for administrative services.

UW-Marshfield/Wood County Commission Meeting – On March 11th, I attended the UW Commission meeting. At the meeting I provided a status update on the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) grant application that I submitted to secure \$2,000,000 in funding for the renovation of the Helon Connor Laird Theater. The grant application is currently going through the underwriting process with the WEDC.

Understanding AI: A Forum for Local Government – On March 18th, I attended an AI forum facilitated by UW Extension in Eau Claire. The forum provided an opportunity to learn about AI and how it can be applied through a variety of AI platforms. Sessions were held to discuss responsible use of AI as well as considerations for integrating AI tools in the workplace. A session was also held to learn how to effectively query or prompt.

Hub City Wind Farm – The past few years Wood County has considered participating in the Hub City Wind Farm. Wood County owns 144 acres in the project area in Marathon County, and leases (for \$1 per year) the property the UW-Board of Regents (BOR) for use by the Marshfield Agricultural Research Station. The Board of Regents has signed an agreement with Alliant Energy to participate UW-BOR-owned land in the Hub City Wind Farm. In January of

2026 the Wood County Conservation, Education, and Economic Development Committee decided not to sign an agreement with Alliant Energy, and as a result the 144 acres of County-owned land is not participating in the Hub City Wind Farm.

Witter Field Ribbon Cutting for New Lighting – On Tuesday, April 7th, at 7:30pm at Witter Field there will be a ribbon cutting to celebrate the new ball field lighting. The much-needed lighting was installed in 2025, and \$20,000 of Wood County economic development funding was put towards this \$200,000 project. All Wood County Board Supervisors are invited to attend the ribbon cutting to celebrate this investment and the impact that it will have on our regional economy by providing modern lighting for historic Witter Field for years to come. The invitation is attached to this report.

2. **Planning & Zoning (Emmett Simkowski)**

It is clear the field season is starting, and surveyors and property owners have been reaching out about CSM's and general zoning questions. On March 18th I attended the Wisconsin County Code Administrators conference and attended multiple presentations on large scale solar, joint development agreements, comprehensive planning, farmland preservation planning and DOT access and development near state and federal highways. I am continuing to iron out the finer details and maps for the Town of Rock's Comprehensive Plan and hope to have a complete draft to the Town early April. I received a couple requests from townships on an easier way to notify neighboring property owners for items like conditional uses, zoning changes, road projects etc. and worked with Paul to create a mailing list builder. You can select a parcel, portion of road or area and it will generate a list of all property owners' names and mailing addresses. Credit to Paul, it can be accessed here:

<https://woodwi.maps.arcgis.com/apps/instant/notification/index.html?appid=c5077f5932d3460c984d627c8df1b251>

3. **Land Records (Paul Bernard)**

- Map Printing – Town of Saratoga Zoning Maps
- Developing new Permit Explorer Web Mapping Application (Dashboard)
- Working with OnQ on the 2026 Right of Way Scanning Project
- Working with DATAMARK on the Street Centerline project
- Parcel Mapping
- Address Mapping

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

2-27-2026- (2) HS 26-004 & HS 26-004 reviewed, written, and sent to owner TN: 07, TN:21, gather and compile FP documentation for Dept, answer, review, and gather information for phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL/

3-02-2026- Organize office room and documentation, answer, review, and gather information for phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

3-03-2026- (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.

3-04-2026- CEED Annual Report/Meeting, answer, review, and gather information for phone

calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL

3-05-2026- (1) HS 26-005 reviewed, written, and sent to owner V:28, ACE Leadership Program Powerpoint, answer, review, and gather information for phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

3-06-2026- (2) well permits reviewed and issued TN: 07, 18, (1) HT plan review & HTA sent to owner TN: 11, ACE Leadership Program Powerpoint, answer, review, and gather information for phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

3-09-2026-(2) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for new HT TN: 11, V: 28, (1) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for rep conv TN: 07, answer, review, and gather information for phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL

3-10-2026- DSPS County Training-Wausau

3-11-2026- DSPS County Training-Wausau

3-12-2026- ACE Leadership Program

3-13-2026- (1) well permit reviewed and issued TN: 07, (1) SF 26-001 reviewed, written, and sent to owner TN: 22, answer, review, and gather information for phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL.

3-16-2026- Gather material/documents for WCCA conferenece, Answer, review, and gather information for phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL

3-17-2025-KnowB4 County training, (1) Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for new mound TN: 15, answer, review, and gather information for phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL

3-18-2025- (1)Reviewed soils, plan review, issued permit for rec conv TN: 18, answer, review, and gather information for phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL

3-19-2026- WCCA County Conference-Wausau

3-20-26- WCCA County Conference-Wausau

3-23-2026- (1) soil eval TN: 15, (1) soils eval, plan review, rep HT TN: 05, (1) SL permit reviewed and issued TN: 07, answer, review, and gather information for phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL

3-24-2026- (1) POWTS inspection report written and reviewed TN:13, answer, review, and gather information for phone calls and inquires with POWTS, SL, FL

5. **Code Technician** (Kayla Rautio)

- A. Reviewed and approved POWTS & well permit applications
- B. Reviewed and approved soil evaluations

- C. Studied floodplain zoning; FEMA, state, & county regulations
- D. Cleaned up email folders
- E. Assisted with daily phone calls/emails/office questions
- F. Attended Meetings/Trainings/Etc.
 - 3-4-26: CEED Committee Meeting
 - 3-5-26: KnowBe4 Security Training
 - 3-10-26 & 3-11-26: DSPS County Training – Wausau
 - 3-19-26 & 3-20-26: WCCA Spring Conference - Weston

6. Office Activity (Victoria Wilson & Julie Mancl)

- a. Monthly Sanitary and Well Permit Activity – There were 8 sanitary permits, 1 shoreland permit and 5 well permits issued in 2026.
- b. Septic Maintenance Postcards – Septic maintenance postcards are targeted to be mailed Monday April 20th. Approximately 3,110 cards will be mailed for various types of septic systems. The due date for maintenance in 2026 is Friday August 7th.
- c. ArcGIS Pro Software Project – Julie continues working on a “Parcel History Cards” GIS project and Victoria continues working on an “Address Enhancing Features” GIS project for Paul.
- d. TRIP - \$876.50 from the Tax Refund Interception Program was received in February from two past court cases.
- e. Attended the following meetings/trainings & activities:
 - i. March 4th CEED meeting (VW)

**MINUTES
JUDICIAL & LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

DATE: Friday, April 10, 2026
TIME: 9:00 AM
PLACE: Courthouse – Room 302

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

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

1. Chairman Clendenning called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM and declared a quorum present.
2. There was no public comment.
3. Motion by Leichtnam/Voight to approve the minutes of the March 6, 2026, meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
4. There were notices of claims against the county from Carlotta Ashbeck & Kurt Cook. Corp Counsel Flanagan reviewed both with the committee. Motion by Hovendick/Leichtnam to deny the claim of Carlotta Ashbeck. Motion carried unanimously.
5. The vouchers and reports from the departments the committee oversees were reviewed and discussed. Motion by Voight/Hovendick to approve them as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
6. District Attorney Barnett requested the committee to approve the hiring of one of the legal assistants that were scheduled to be hired in July, as the office is very short-handed with two legal assistants currently out on FMLA. Motion by Leichtnam/Hovendick to approve the immediate hiring of one legal assistant for the District Attorney's office. Motion carried unanimously.
7. Criminal Justice Coordinator Ksionek presented a resolution amending the 2025 Criminal Justice budget in order to account for additional funding and contingency. Motion by Voight/Perlock to approve the resolution and forward onto the county board for their consideration.
8. The next meeting will be determined by the new committee at a later date.
9. Motion by Leichtnam/Hovendick to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously at 9:12 AM.

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

MINUTES CRIMINAL JUSTICE TASK FORCE

DATE: Wednesday, March 18, 2026
TIME: 12:00 PM
PLACE: Courthouse – County Board Room

MEMBERS PRESENT: See attached sign-in sheet

OTHERS PRESENT: Trent Miner, County Clerk

1. Judge Jerabek called the meeting to order at 12:04 PM.
2. Motion by Pliml/Barnett to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. Motion carried unanimously.
3. There was no public comment.
4. Criminal Justice Coordinator Ksionek gave a yearly overview of Drug Court in 2025. They are on year 5 of a 5 year grant for this program (TAD Grant) and will be reapplying for another 5-year grant later this year. He also reviewed current jail programming including the Medication Assisted Treatment currently being done as well as different programming from various entities. He commented on how the new jail is much more conducive to this type of programming. He discussed the pilot diversion program being implemented and how it is based off of the Portage County model and the statistics they shared on its benefits.
5. Clerk of Courts Stimac reminded law enforcement to send written not-guilty pleas to the District Attorney immediately and not wait any extra days.
6. Coordinated Response Specialist DeFabbio reviewed the deflection program in Wood County and while it is a newer program in Wisconsin, many states have embraced diversion programs for over 10 years. She reviewed the various criteria used in determining participation in the program, nobody can be in the program without the victim of the crime being supportive of that participation.
7. Under agency roundtable, Sheriff Becker stated that AB968, a bill regulating crypto currency kiosks did finally pass the senate last night after appearing to have stalled out earlier in the day. It has also passed the Assembly and now just needs the Governor's signature to enact it. He, and members of his department, made numerous trips to Madison to testify on its behalf.
8. Motion by Pliml/Stimac to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously at 12:55 PM

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



Wood County

WISCONSIN

CHILD SUPPORT
AGENCY

APRIL 2026

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL AND LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Prepared by Child Support Director Brent Vruwink

- As we move into April we continue a period of transition. Our Intake Worker moved into a Case Manager position that was vacant. We are now recruiting for the Intake Position. Angel from Human Resources has been extremely helpful with the process.
- I will be attending the State Contracts Meeting on April 20th. This meeting allows Counties the opportunity to work with the Bureau of Child Support on funding allocation for 2027.
- I will be attending the WCSEA Board meeting on April 23rd and the WCSEA State meeting on April 24th.
- The February performance numbers have been released. The current support figures improved from January to February, but we are still below the 80% mark. The other three measures are on target.
- The current IV-D case count is 3,675.



Wood County

WISCONSIN

Kimberly A. Stimac

CLERK OF
CIRCUIT COURT

April 2026

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

Meetings Attended:

- Operations Committee meeting on 3/3/2026.
- Judicial & Legislative Committee meeting on 3/6/2026.
- County Board meeting on 3/17/2026.
- Criminal Justice Task Force meeting on 3/18/2026.
- Courthouse Security Committee meeting on 3/23/2026.
- Court Safety & Security Conference on 3/24/2026 thru 3/26/2026.

3/16/2026 – Courthouse closed. On Sunday 3/15/2026, I reviewed the court calendars and sent an email to the attorneys who had hearings scheduled on Monday informing them the courts were closed. I then sent text messages to parties we had cell phone numbers for informing them of the same. Rescheduling of the hearings was handled by the attorneys and the Judicial Assistants.

3/19/2026 – Completed the 2025 Annual Jury Report and submitted to the state. In 2024, our total associated costs were \$68,595.40 with 36 trial days. In 2025 we saw a huge drop in the number of trials. Our 2025 total associated costs were \$40,718.82 with only 20 trial days. At the current rate we are going, with 8 trials already having been held in the first 3 months of this year, I anticipate we will be close to, if not exceeding, the 2025 costs.

I will be working on the Annual Report of Actual Costs (CS-147) which takes a great deal of time and concentration and is due on May 15th.

Jury System Evaluation - Table Of Trends

DATA / RAW NUMBERS	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
Questionnaires Sent	2675	3196	2238	2240	2284	2247
Qualified to Serve	2178	2615	1673	1484	1437	1684
Final No Response	13	57	3	140	44	9
Summons Sent	2261	1781	1271	1527	1740	1020
Final FTA	14	11	13	3	10	3
Reported for Selection	535	831	577	744	979	228
Not Used	29	125	85	34	122	62
Sent to Voir Dire	510	735	510	737	892	169
Not Questionned in Voir Dire	184	263	209	251	247	51
Sworn Jurors	171	274	156	274	354	66
Cancelled / Called Off	1303	662	655	663	636	688
Projected Trials (Optional)	30	30	30	40	25	--
Voir Dires Begun	14	22	16	21	32	6
Trial Days	20	36	24	41	42	6
No Trial Start Days	1	3	3	1	4	2
Cost per Trial Day	\$1,477.66	\$1,544.27	\$1,492.46	\$1,557.63	\$1,460.17	\$2,147.96
Administrative Cost/Juror (Optional)	\$13.57	\$22.87	\$18.81	\$39.18	\$45.16	\$18.22

Jury System Evaluation - Table Of Trends

MEASURE / PERCENT	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
1. % Overall Yield (=> 60%)	64.53%	63.12%	63.40%	57.05%	53.01%	65.32%
2. % Sent To Jury Selection (=> 90%)	95.33%	88.45%	88.39%	99.06%	91.11%	74.12%
3. % Selected As Jurors (=> 30%)	31.96%	32.97%	27.04%	36.83%	36.16%	28.95%
4. % Used In Voir Dire (=> 80%)	63.92%	64.22%	59.02%	65.94%	72.31%	69.82%
5. % No Trial Start Days (= < 10%)	6.67%	12.50%	15.79%	4.76%	11.11%	25.00%
6. % Master List Inclusiveness (=> 85%)	100.67%	101.95%	96.10%	95.95%	0.00%	97.88%
7. % Trial Start Predictability ¹ (Optional)	46.67%	73.33%	53.33%	52.50%	128.00%	--
8. % Undeliverable	2.33%	0.90%	0.57%	0.64%	0.37%	0.80%
9. % Final No Response	0.49%	1.78%	0.13%	6.25%	1.93%	0.40%
10. % Final FTA	0.62%	0.62%	1.02%	0.20%	0.57%	0.29%
11. % Excused For Jury Year	6.10%	1.67%	4.87%	4.88%	4.52%	4.96%
12. % Permanently Excused	1.05%	4.14%	4.02%	3.69%	2.36%	4.04%
13. % Postponed	3.22%	4.46%	2.99%	3.58%	10.04%	2.45%
Last Updated	03-19-2026 12:12 pm	03-21-2025 09:14 am	03-21-2024 10:23 am	03-21-2023 07:37 am	03-19-2024 09:15 am	03-02-2022 11:18 am

¹ This data not available through CCAP reports; but if compiled by the county provides a way to measure the accuracy of projected trial starts, an important number when determining how many jurors to summon or call in. The percent of trial start predictability is calculated by dividing the number of voir dires begun by the number of projected trials.



Wood County

WISCONSIN

CORPORATION

COUNSEL

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL AND LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

March 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 February, 2026:

- 6 Mental Commitments (includes Probable Cause, Final Hearings, and Recommitments)
- 9 Guardianship/Protective Placement Hearings
- 16 WATTS Review/Contested Hearings

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

HIPAA Annual Breach Reporting:

Last month, I completed our annual HIPAA breach reporting for small breach incidents through the Health and Human Services (HHS) Website. HIPAA covered entities must report health information privacy breaches to the Secretary of HHS. During the year, I periodically receive notice of any discovered incidents and ensure that we have met our reporting obligations. Breach notification obligations differ based on whether they are categorized as small or large breaches. Small breaches (affecting fewer than 500 individuals) get logged and reported annually within 60 days after the end of the calendar year in which they were discovered.

Corporation Counsel Legal Administrative Assistant Position

Over the last month, our office has been working with Human Resources to advertise, screen and interview candidates for the vacant Administrative Assistant position. We received some great applications and were pleased overall with how the interviews went. We extended an offer to Amanda Dolph, who will be joining us March 30, 2026. Amanda brings familiarity with the Circuit Court system and office experience (having previously served Wood County working in the Cler of Court’s office), along with an enthusiasm for the position. We are looking forward to her joining us! We continue to meet internally to ensure a smooth onboarding and training in the various aspects of the position and office case-management. I appreciate all the assistance Human Resources provided in navigating recruitment for the vacant position, screening and interviewing interested applicants and extending an offer for the position!



Wood County

WISCONSIN

WOOD COUNTY CRIMINAL
JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

March 2026

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL AND LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Respectfully submitted by Criminal Justice Coordinator, Dillon Ksionek

Meetings/Trainings Attended:

2/24/2026: DOJ Monthly Diversion Coordinator Meeting
2/25/2026: Department Head Meeting
2/25/2026: Monthly Deflection Team Staffing
2/26/2026: Monthly DHS Grant Meeting
2/26/2026: OPC/Treatment Court Staffing
3/2/2026: Drug Court Staffing/Court
3/4/2026: Mental Health Court Staffing/Court
3/6/2026: Judicial and Legislative Committee Meeting
3/9/2026: Drug Court Staffing Court
3/10/2026: Oxford House Board Meeting
3/11/2026: Hope Consortium Mental Health Training
3/12/2026: Options Lab Toxicology Training
3/16/2026: Drug Court Staffing/Court
3/17/2026: County Board Meeting
3/17/2026: DOJ Monthly Diversion Coordinator Meeting
3/18/2026: Criminal Justice Task Force Meeting
3/18/2026: Mental Health Court Staffing/Court
3/19/2026: Drug Court Sustainability Meeting
3/19/2026: DOJ Monthly RSAT Meeting
3/23/2026: Drug Court Staffing/Court
3/25/2026: Monthly Deflection Team Staffing
3/25/2026: DOJ Monthly Drug Court Coordinator Meeting
3/25/2026: Mental Health Court Staffing/Court
3/30/2026: Drug Court Staffing/Court

Adult Drug Treatment Court:

Current Participants: 23
Active Referrals: 0
Pending Referrals: 0
YTD Admissions: 6
YTD Terminations: 3
YTD Graduations: 1
YTD Referrals: 5

We had a monthly sustainability meeting for Adult Drug Treatment Court on 3/19/2026. We re-visited and clarified the referral process, discussed the WATCP conference in April, looked at some policies surrounding pro-social expectations for participants, talked about changes to our UA policy and procedure, and discussed ways to potentially increase referrals again.

WATCP training and lodging costs have all been addressed for the year. We will have 10 attendees this year from our drug court team (many of whom have not previously attended). This is our primary training opportunity for the year, so it is good to get so many of our new members there. Judge Emily Nolan-Plutchak and I will be presenting at this year's conference, which allows us to both register for the full 3-day event for free.

Jail Programming (STRONG):

Medication Assisted Treatment Program (MARP):

Current Participants: 26

YTD Admissions: 55

I have been meeting with other departments, as well as looking into other funding sources, to create a sustainability plan for our jail medication program moving forward from 2026. Right now, DHS is not committing to funding beyond this December, but there are some other federal grants that could be pursued. I am working on the most efficient model possible that will still meet the needs of all the departments that we collaborate with. Once I have that, I will determine how to proceed with funding.

Jail Residential Treatment Program (RSAT):

Current Participants: 14

YTD graduates: 6

YTD participants: 21 (including this current cycle)

We had several participants withdraw their applications after being accepted for the original 3/3/2026 start date (which has never happened before). Because of this, we delayed the start of the next cycle two weeks to allow for more applications to be submitted. The current pods launched on March 17th with 15 total participants (8 males and 7 females). We have already lost one individual to unexpected discharge, but no one has quit or been removed at this time.

Other Matters:

Finance was able to finalize all my accounts for the year, and they determined that my department had a final deficit of \$2,276. A budget amendment for 2025 has been included in this month's paperwork for this committee, and it is requested that this deficit be covered by contingency funds. I believe that the deficit was caused by a failure to properly report expenses and request reimbursement from the state on the DHS and RSAT grants. Measures have been taken in 2026 within my department to hopefully ensure that this does not happen again.

I was fortunate enough to secure free DOJ training for myself and both of my case managers in ORAS risk assessment screening and in motivational interviewing. I have advocated for free ORAS training since I started in this position, and the DOJ chose to make it available statewide (to a limited number of sites) this year. This is a tool that is useful for all diversion programs (including drug court) and would have otherwise cost us well over one thousand dollars.



Wood County

WISCONSIN

REGISTER IN PROBATE

April 2026

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL AND LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Prepared by Register in Probate, Tara Jensen

Annual Reports and Accounts for those under a guardianship were mailed from our office mid-January. These reports are required filings and are due by April 15th each year. Close to 1,000 reports and accounts were mailed from our office. All of these documents are returned to our office for processing with each report and account individually reviewed and filed in the case. Any concerns or questions noted by a guardian are addressed.

Meetings Attended:

- 3/17 – Wood County Board Meeting
- 3/18 - Completed and submitted the Continuity of Operations/Continuity of Government CCOP/COG Planning – Operations Plan for Wood County Probate Department
- 3/23 – Security Meeting
- 3/24 – District 9 Register in Probate Zoom Meeting
- 3/25 – Participated in a Zoom training by WI Appellate Court Chief Deputy Samuel Christensen on appellate procedures.
- 3/26 – Completed and submitted the 2025 Annual Report of Costs, an accounting that reports circuit court revenue, expenditure and staffing information that is due to the Director of State Courts Office.



Wood County

WISCONSIN

**REGISTER OF
DEEDS OFFICE**

Tiffany R. Ringer
Register of Deeds

APRIL 2026

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL AND LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

- I attended WCA's County Leadership weekly meetings for the month.
- I attended Operations committee and Judicial and Legislative committee meetings.
- ROD staff completed required IT training.
- AB445 – updates to Chapter 59.43 passed with a unanimous vote in the Senate and is headed to the Governor's desk for signature. Assuming the Governor will sign, this is a huge accomplishment for the WRDA. Thank you, Representative Krug, for all your work on this Bill!
- I completed Continuity of Operations/Continuity of Government plan for Emergency Management.
- I attended WCA General Government & Finance Steering Committee virtual meeting.
- I attended WRDA Advisory Committee meeting.
- With the assistance of IT, an informational survey regarding data backup procedures was completed. The request stemmed from an inquiry by the Wisconsin Land Title Association and the Wisconsin Realtors Association. Cyber incidents across the State continue to be on the rise and keeping our records safe is imperative. I am working with Fidlar on a quote for Bastion, a product that will assist IT in safeguarding all data in the Register of Deeds office.

MINUTES HIGHWAY, INFRASTRUCTURE & RECREATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, April 2, 2026
TIME: 9:00 AM
PLACE: Highway Dept., Conference Room

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jake Hahn, Al Breu, Lee Thao

MEMBERS EXCUSED: John Hokamp, Scott Brehm

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

1. Chairman Hahn called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM and declared a quorum present.
2. There was no public comment.
3. The minutes of the March 5, 2026, meeting were presented. Motion by Breu/Thao to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
4. The Highway Dept. staff reports were highlighted and reviewed. Of special note was WisDOT's denial of putting a roundabout in at the Griffith Ave/STH 13 corner. Hawk will be writing a letter in support of the roundabout for this project.
5. The Highway revenue report was reviewed.
6. Motion by Thao/Breu to approve the Highway Dept. vouchers. Motion carried unanimously.
7. The 2027-2031 Highway Dept. CIP was distributed and reviewed. Motion by Hahn/Thao to approve the Highway Dept. CIP as presented. Motion carried.
8. Because of some state construction coming up, there is a concern that some heavy trucks will create their own detour so Highway Commissioner Hawk is recommending a Class B posting on some roads surrounding the construction zones. Motion by Hahn/Breu to post the following roads as Class B from Memorial Day 2026 through October 31, 2026:
 - CTH O – from STH 66 to the Portage County line
 - CTH C – from STH 34 to CTH O
 - CTH DD – from STH 34 to CTH O
 - CTH E – from STH 73 to CTH C
 - CTH E – from STH 80 to CTH XMotion carried unanimously.
9. Hawk presented a bid for ROAD LRIP Project Grant ID NO 140584 and BRIDGE LRIP Project for CTH AA. One bid was received and is noted below:
 - a. Sheet Piling Services, LLC - \$1,055,964.76Motion by Breu/Thao to accept the low bid from Sheet Piling Services, LLC in the amount of \$1,055,964.76. Motion carried unanimously. Hawk noted that because of the funding

mechanism being used, the construction will start after July 4, 2026 and should be completed before October 31, 2026.

10. The Parks & Forestry staff reports were reviewed.
11. Parks & Forestry Administrator Schooley presented a special use permit for approval:
 - a. Endurance Race – Mountain Bike Series at Powers Bluff
Motion by Thao/Breu to approve the special use permits as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
12. Schooley presented the 2027-2031 Parks & Forestry Dept. Motion by Hahn/Thao to approve the Parks & Forestry CIP as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
13. Schooley presented the bids for the Dexter Park Pavillion and the South Park shower building projects. Motion by Thao/Breu to approve the bids deemed to be most advantageous to Wood County. Motion carried unanimously.
14. Forest Administrator Schubert reviewed the issue where the Wood County Wildlife Area that is leased by the state has a piece of land that has a small sliver of privately owned land on the same side of the road as the county land that is actually in Jackson County. The state would like to purchase an easement across this parcel. There is no cost to the county but the state is requesting the county's approval to purchase the easement. Motion by Breu/Thao to grant approval to the state to purchase the easement as described. Motion carried unanimously.
15. The Parks & Forestry revenue reports were reviewed.
16. Motion by Thao/Breu to approve Parks & Forestry vouchers. Motion approved unanimously.
17. The next meeting date will be determined after the new committee is seated.
18. Chairman Hahn declared the meeting adjourned at 10:00 AM.

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



Wood County

WISCONSIN

OFFICE OF
HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER

Roland Hawk
COMMISSIONER

March 26, 2026

To: Highway, Infrastructure & Recreation Committee

From: Roland Hawk, PE Highway Commissioner

Subject: Commissioner Report for April 2, 2026, HIRC meeting

Department Activities

Personnel/Administration

After a second round of Mechanic interviews in early March, an offer has been accepted and the candidate will start work on Monday, April 6, 2026.

Interviews for a truck operator were conducted February 10 & 11, an offer was made to a candidate, references were reviewed, then the candidate turned down the offer. A second candidate accepted the offer and started work March 9. Another truck operator resigned March 16, a third candidate from the February 10 & 11 interviews accepted an offer and is scheduled to start work on April 6. This will fill all vacate position in the Highway Department.

Commissioner has updated 2027 CIP Project List as well as Equipment CIP and will present to the HIRC for approval in April.

The Highway Department utilized a significant amount of resources during Blizzard Elsa between March 15 and March 23. We spent \$153,276 between 3/15 – 3/18 battling the storm. This includes labor, equipment, and materials. Between 3/19 – 3/23 we spent an additional \$55,910 on clean up and storm related activities. We also paid an invoice of \$4,125 for towing and retrieval to Nieman's towing. They did us a favor only charging us this amount. Total storm related costs for Blizzard Elsa is \$213,311. Highway has submitted a request to Emergency Management to see if we qualify for some FEMA reimbursement. We are not sure if this qualifies, and if so, when or how much could be reimbursed is unknown.

Commissioner met with WisDOT staff and Wisconsin Rapids City Engineer to discuss STH 13/Griffith Ave intersection improvement scheduled for 2028. WisDOT informed us that they have stopped pursuing the roundabout option because they felt it was too expensive and not a suitable option. WisDOT will pursue a signalized option. This was a complete 180-degree change from our last meeting in January. They want to keep the project on schedule for 2028 and not have to expand the NEPA process or acquire a possible relocation in either the SW or NE quadrant. Both Commissioner and City Engineer expressed deep concerns that their lack of interest in pursuing the RAB and the overwhelming local support for a RAB was disappointing.

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**
 - Work was suspended in January due to weather and low temperatures. Deck poured in late December under close supervision. Remaining work to proceed in spring 2026.
 - Anticipated date to resume work is week of April 27 weather dependent.
 - WisDOT approved a change order for approximately \$46,000 for cold weather work.
- 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)
 - Bid was very close to the Engineer's estimate
 - Project anticipated to begin in May
 - Commissioner working with Village, Tn of Grand Rapids, & Tn of Plover on Jurisdictional Transfer
- CTH AA Lynn Creek
 - Preliminary Road & Structure Plans complete.
 - Preliminary Estimate \$1.9 million
 - R/W acquisition scheduled to begin March 2026.
 - Commissioner reassigned \$139,651 LRIP funds to the Lynn Creek Bridge replacement.
 - Highway will assign 2026-2027 CHI (50/50) funds to this project to be constructed in 2026. HIRC approved moving CTH HH (CTH F – STH 186) to 2027 construction to make funds available for CTH AA in 2026.
 - Project bids will be opened April 1, Commissioner will seek approval at April 2 HIRC

Highway Maintenance

Work in March included:

- Sign replacements
- Tree & brush removal
- Mastic and asphalt patching
- Lots of Snow & ice removal

WCHA Events & Misc. Meetings since the last HIRC meeting

Commissioner attended the following events/meetings:

- March 3 – 5, TDA Fly-in, Washington DC
- March 9, NACE NC Region meeting, virtual
- March 10, Interviews for mechanic & summer help
- March 10, Delasoft check in meeting, virtual
- March 11, Interviews for mechanic & summer help
- March 11, Traffic Safety Committee meeting, Wisconsin Rapids
- March 15 – 16, Blizzard Elsa,
- March 17, County Board
- March 17, Delasoft check in meeting, virtual
- March 18, Delasoft set up and permit training
- March 19, Delasoft Essential Services, Seasonal Weight Restriction, OS/OW, & Special Event training
- March 23, Blizzard Elsa debriefing meeting with crew and managers
- March 24, Commissioner met with WisDOT staff for STH 13/CTH Z intersection (RAB)
- March 25, Commissioner & staff met with Town of Auburndale to discuss small bridge replacement
- March 25, Delasoft Access & Work in R/W permit training

Accounting Supervisor Report

By John Peckham, Wood County Highway Department Accounting Supervisor

HIRC Meeting

Revenues and Expenses

We have received the first General Transportation Aids payment of \$731,802.23. This payment is equal to 25% of the total aid we will receive for the year 2026. We will receive two more payments this year; one in July for \$1,463,604.46 and one in October for \$731,802.23. Those monies are the main source of funding for the Maintenance Fund.

We are chiefly engaged in Snow and Ice Control and Shop Operations at this time of year. The Snow and Ice Fund has been severely depleted by the blizzard though the total cost will not be shown on our Revenues/Expenses report until next month because the storm happened at the beginning of the pay period. We may receive some FEMA funds to pay back into that fund.

Other

I have completed the audit workpapers and forwarded them to Finance. Finance's Capital Improvement Plan worksheets have been completed and have been in draft forwarded to them. There is a summary spreadsheet of our Equipment Capital Improvement Plan in the HIRC packet.

County of Wood
 DETAILED INCOME STATEMENT W/SUBTOTALS
 Highway Departmentwide
 Tuesday, March 31, 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	11,940.55	30,550.00	(18,609.45)	(60.91%)
	Total Licenses and Permits	11,940.55	30,550.00	(18,609.45)	(60.91%)
Intergovernmental Charges for Services					
47230	State Charges	283,605.20	1,442,179.00	(1,158,573.80)	(80.33%)
47231	State Charges-Highway	113,399.69	263,817.00	(150,417.31)	(57.02%)
47232	State Charges-Machinery	35,163.04	(14,629.00)	49,792.04	(340.37%)
47300	Local Gov Chgs	53,178.31	847,362.00	(794,183.69)	(93.72%)
47330	Local Gov Chgs-Transp	90,403.94	1,961,954.00	(1,871,550.06)	(95.39%)
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	544,781.61	4,884,029.00	(4,339,247.39)	(88.85%)
Interdepartmental Charges for Services					
47470	Dept Charges-Highway	13,004.66	2,862,576.00	(2,849,571.34)	(99.55%)
	Total Interdepartmental Charges	13,004.66	2,862,576.00	(2,849,571.34)	(99.55%)
	Total Intergovernmental Charges for Services	557,786.27	7,746,605.00	(7,188,818.73)	(92.80%)
Miscellaneous					
48100	Interest	2.22		2.22	0.00%
48340	Gain/Loss-Sale of Salvage and Waste	1,223.10	10,605.00	(9,381.90)	(88.47%)
	Total Miscellaneous	1,225.32	10,605.00	(9,379.68)	(88.45%)
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		1,302,754.37	14,976,668.95	(13,673,914.58)	(91.30%)
EXPENDITURES					
Public Works-Highway					
53110	Hwy-Administration	92,991.30	427,565.04	334,573.74	78.25%
53120	Hwy-Engineer	47,639.60	272,041.52	224,401.92	82.49%
53191	Hwy-Other Administration	98,857.69	400,326.78	301,469.09	75.31%
53210	Hwy-Employee Taxes & Benefits	(921,661.33)		921,661.33	0.00%
53220	Hwy-Field Tools	(7,243.92)	(45,386.55)	(38,142.63)	84.04%
53230	Hwy-Shop Operations	78,643.00	325,400.34	246,757.34	75.83%
53232	Hwy-Fuel Handling	(3,737.10)	(17,415.00)	(13,677.90)	78.54%
53240	Hwy-Machinery Operations	(572,518.30)	(344,515.87)	228,002.43	(66.18%)
53250	Hwy-Crushing Operations		35,624.03	35,624.03	100.00%
53251	Hwy-Crushing Operations Production		127,671.91	127,671.91	100.00%
53260	Hwy-Bituminous Ops	77,090.92	215,368.25	138,277.33	64.21%
53266	Hwy-Bituminous Ops	499.00	2,032,292.73	2,031,793.73	99.98%
53270	Hwy-Buildings & Grounds	68,661.47	258,245.36	189,583.89	73.41%
53290	Hwy-Salt Brine Operations	(7,288.19)	(0.45)	7,287.74	#####
53291	Hwy-Salt Brine Operations	(7,622.01)	1,170.55	8,792.56	751.15%
53281	Hwy-Acquisition of Capital Assets	25,482.00		(25,482.00)	0.00%
53310	Hwy-Maintenance CTHS		62,998.99	62,998.99	100.00%
53311	Hwy-Maint CTHS Patrol Sectn	476,187.69	2,676,572.21	2,200,384.52	82.21%
53312	Hwy-Snow Remov	646,173.14	992,793.92	346,620.78	34.91%
53313	Hwy-Maintenance Gang	36,246.77	272,777.37	236,530.60	86.71%
53314	Hwy-Maint Gang-Materials	2,010.00	8,302.00	6,292.00	75.79%
53320	Hwy-Maint STHS	544,015.41	1,442,179.24	898,163.83	62.28%
53330	Hwy-Local Roads	161,516.27	1,961,954.25	1,800,437.98	91.77%
53340	Hwy-County-Aid Road Construction		326,618.11	326,618.11	100.00%
53341	Hwy-County-Aid Bridge Construction	62,791.06	249,955.50	187,164.44	74.88%
53490	Hwy-State & Local Other Services	96,212.68	847,361.79	751,149.11	88.65%
53491	Hwy-ATV Route Signage		17,080.61	17,080.61	100.00%
	Total Public Works-Highway	994,947.15	12,546,982.63	11,552,035.48	92.07%
Capital Outlay					
57310	Highway Capital Projects	134,718.87	4,233,864.78	4,099,145.91	96.82%
	Total Capital Outlay	134,718.87	4,233,864.78	4,099,145.91	96.82%

County of Wood
DETAILED INCOME STATEMENT W/SUBTOTALS
Highway Departmentwide
Tuesday, March 31, 2026

	Actual	2026 Budget	Variance	Variance %
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	1,129,666.02	16,780,847.41	15,651,181.39	93.27%
NET INCOME (LOSS) *	173,088.35	(1,804,178.46)	1,977,266.81	(109.59%)



Parks & Forestry Department Reports

April 2, 2026

Director Report, by Chad Schooley

- Powers Bluff Trailhead Shelter project is moving along. Drywall and painting beginning. Exterior siding and trim completed. Stone work to begin when temperatures are high enough.
- Dexter Beach Shelter Building plans have been conditionally approved by the State. Project currently let out for bid. Bid approval scheduled for the April 2nd HIRC meeting.
- South Park 2nd Loop Campground Shower Building plans have been completed. Project currently let out for bid, with bid approval on April 2nd.
- The 2027-2031 draft CIP summary is in the packet for your review and consideration.
- **Special Use Permits**
 - None at this time.

Maintenance Program Supervisor Report, by Dan Vollert

Construction Projects

- South Park: Prepping for new Loop 2 showerhouse. Old building and tank are gone. Trees and stumps are cut and removed. Project out for bid.
- South Park: Prepping new doors for installation in shop & ranger cabin.
- Dexter Park: Clearing brush/trees for new septic. Project out for bid.
- Powers Bluff: New Trailhead Shelter construction project continuing.
- North Park: New Puff Creek bridge being constructed. Highway Dept to install. Trees are cut out of the way for access.
- CERA Park: New VERSA Tube building, for firewood storage, has been delivered and plan to have concrete slab poured this spring.
- CERA Park: Looking at getting quotes for new carpeting in mini golf area and putting a new roof on shop. (Roof leaks). Also meeting with Alliant Energy to discuss putting primary underground.

Maintenance Operations

- Dexter Park: Clear coating tongue & groove for new beachhouse is complete. Dead tree cleanup, table repair, snow removal, and dam monitoring.
- South Park: Dead tree cleanup, snow removal, shelter & bathroom cleaning.
- NEPCO Park: Shelter cleaning, snow removal, tree cleanup.
- North Park: Ash and other dead tree removal. Table repair.
- Powers Bluff: Winter Sports is closed for the season.
- CERA Park: New Woodshed area prepped. Brush and building cleanup.

Employee Matters

- Looking for new LTEs for summer operations at Dexter & South Parks.
- Hiring new Camp Ranger at CERA Park.
- Camp Host volunteer positions are filled.

Snowmobile/ATV

- Snowmobile trails are all closed at this time.

- Range Road ATV Connector Trail to Intensive Use Area road base is complete. Needs to be graded in spring to finish Grant.

Office Supervisor Report, by Stacie Kleifgen

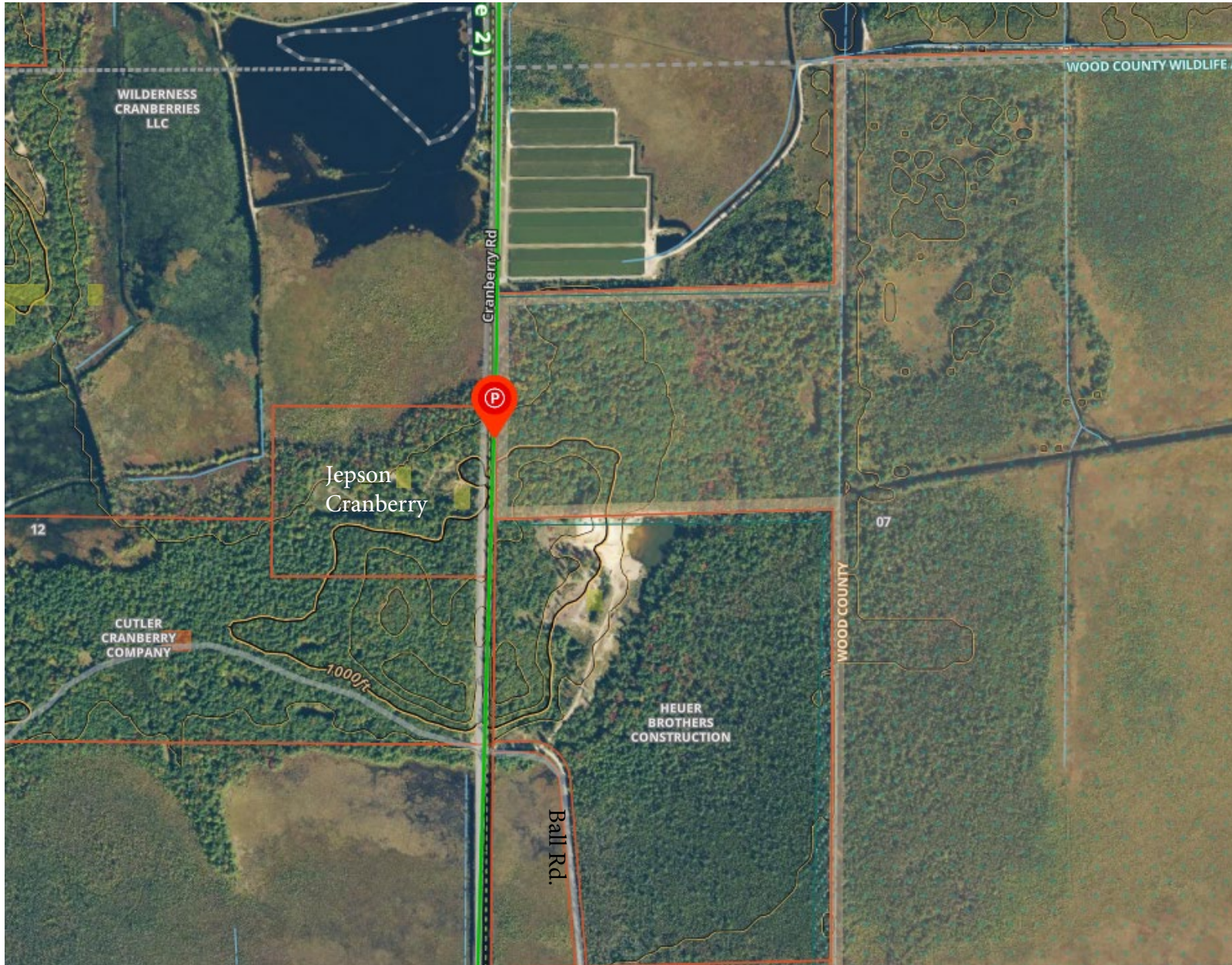
- 2027-2031 Capital Improvement Plan
- Updated Accounts Receivable Logs/Tracking
- Created internal 2026 Budget Books for Admin Staff
- Updated Program Assistant job description , posted job opening, screened applicants

Forest Administrator Report, by Fritz Schubert

- Timber Sales: Seven active timber sales in March. Logging activity on Wood County Forest has slowed due to thawing ground conditions and spring road postings. Several active timber sales have wood decked up, waiting to be hauled once road postings are lifted. We have had an excellent winter, one of the best in recent years.
- Worked on future tree planting plans. 2027 and 2028 could be bigger years for planting due to large acreages of red pine final harvests in the past couple years.
- Discussed and corresponded with DNR and Corp Counsel on easement issue pertaining to Wood County Wildlife Area. This is an agenda item and materials will be included in HIRC packet.
- Continued correspondence with DNR pertaining to paperwork/process to withdraw acres related to Nekoosa Marsh Road Cranberry land trade. DNR has been very difficult to work with and is causing this effort to drag on.
- Forestry Technician: Plowed snow at shooting range. Moved, cleaned, and maintained department trucks and machinery. Continued project to mow brush and improve ATV trails in the ATV intensive use area. We have rented a mini-excavator with a brush hog type head for this purpose. Cleaned shooting range.

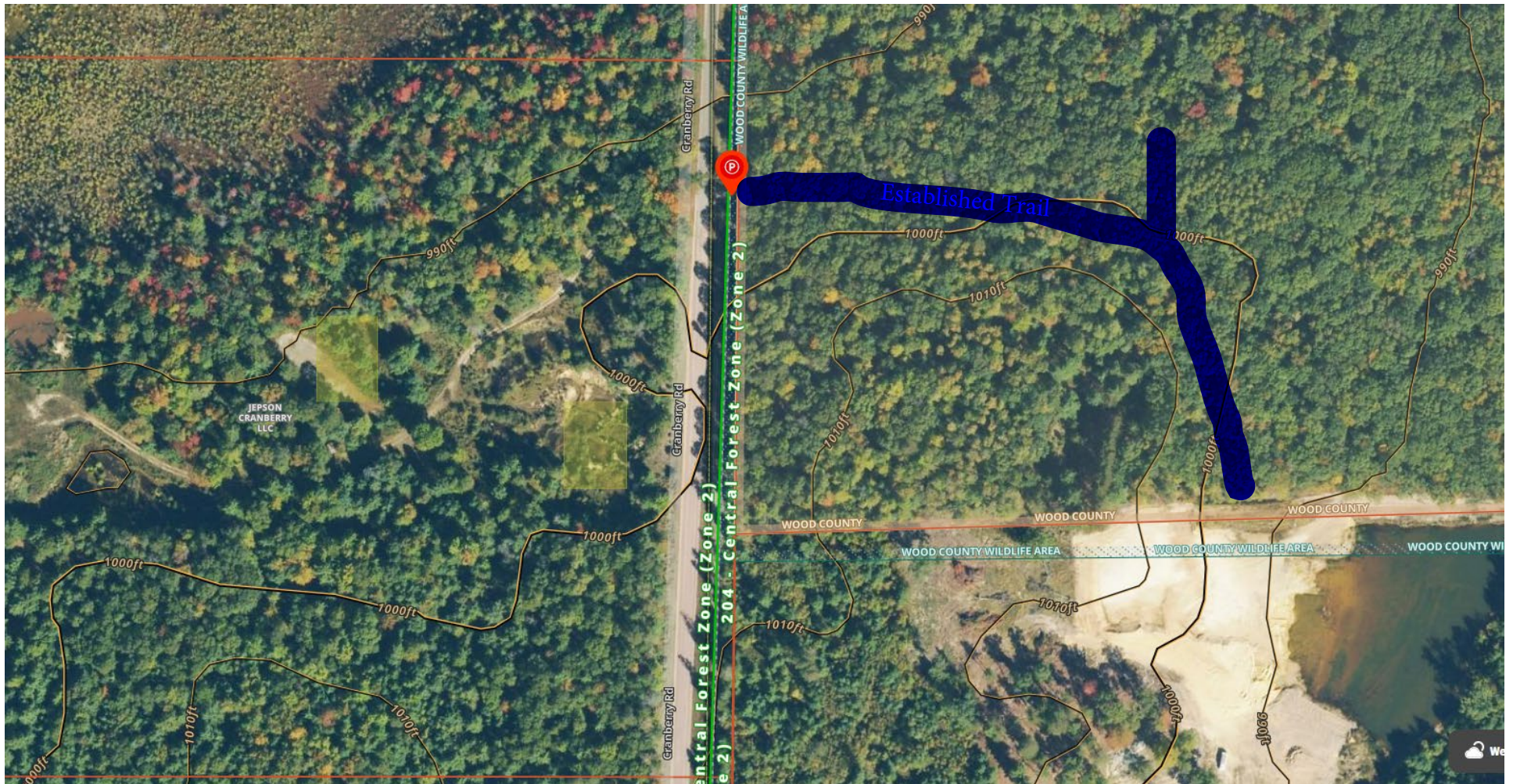
Landscape View

- Parking way point indicates location of access and potential easement. This is where access has been historically and there is a trail already established here.



Close up view:

- Note: Wood County Land (aka Wood County Wildlife Area) is approx. 40 ft off the road. This 40 ft is owned by Jepson Cranberry and is technically private land. The proposal would be to establish an easement from the road to Wood County Wildlife Area boundary to promote public access and management actions (e.g., timber sales).



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

March Revenue - April HIRC

BUDGETED REVENUES 2026	SOURCE	YTD REVENUE	YTD REVENUE	MAR REV	MAR REV	ACTUAL REV
		2026	2025	2026	2025	2025
\$ 656,000.00	Camping Reservations	\$73,632.95	\$ 82,536.51	\$21,685.39	\$ 37,054.98	\$ 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	\$15,864.58	\$ 16,242.31	\$5,208.64	\$ 7,855.91	\$ 62,509.69
\$ 25,000.00	Shelters - Open	\$3,349.10	\$ 4,096.47	\$938.95	\$ 2,090.09	\$ 14,075.70
\$ 3,000.00	General Park User Fees (Use of open areas within parks)	\$1,180.09	\$ 966.82	\$0.00	\$ 966.82	\$ 1,260.66
\$ 45,000.00	Powers Bluff Winter Recreation	\$11,363.84	\$ 13,797.44	\$2,885.06	\$ 6,115.64	\$ 38,148.71
\$ 5,000.00	Trail Passes (Ski/Snowshoe/Multi-Use)	\$1,376.92	\$ 964.56	\$179.56	\$ 450.11	\$ 4,797.66
\$ 5,000.00	Disc Golf	\$22.92	\$ 143.80	\$0.00	\$ 132.81	\$ 3,984.96
\$ 30,500.00	Boat Launch	\$305.71	\$ 282.00	\$22.90	\$ 236.17	\$ 22,394.03
\$ 10,000.00	Gift Certificates	\$0.00	\$ -	\$0.00	\$ -	\$ 9,828.00
\$ 10,000.00	Miscellaneous	\$894.96	\$ 269.49	\$444.96	\$ 269.49	\$ 6,217.70
\$ 925,000.00	Miscellaneous Mar 26 = advertising (48000)	\$107,991.07	\$ 119,299.40	\$31,365.46	\$55,172.02	\$ 820,554.69
\$ 400,000.00	46813 - Timber Sales & Wood Cutting (90%/County & 10%/Townships) Monthly totals = NET Revenue	\$369,309.57	\$ 163,630.09	\$54,943.98	\$ 80,974.77	\$ 459,136.61
\$ 1,325,000.00		\$477,300.64	\$282,929.49	\$86,309.44	\$136,146.79	\$1,279,691.30

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

March Revenue - April 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
797	3-22	SCHREINER	\$30,770.00	5/27/2022	6/30/2026	\$34,410.00	\$43,727.97	\$43,727.97	\$0.00
800	6-22	SCHREINER	\$16,440.00	5/27/2022	7/31/2026	\$49.27	\$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
812	4-23	FLINK	\$11,813.85	6/1/2023	6/30/2026	\$834.22	\$9,695.55	\$9,695.55	\$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	\$6,532.68	\$18,465.28	\$18,465.28	\$0.00
818	10-23	MIDWEST HW	\$51,768.30	1/4/2024	12/31/2026		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
819	11-23	TNT Timber	\$124,257.30	4/30/2024	5/1/2026	\$3,235.99	\$167,235.74	\$167,235.74	\$0.00
824	5-24	KOERNER	\$53,280.00	4/30/2024	5/1/2026	\$2,829.32	\$27,311.22	\$27,311.22	\$0.00
827	7-24	MEDDA	\$60,286.80	12/19/2024	12/31/2026	\$9,536.72	\$63,118.82	\$60,005.88	-\$3,112.94
828	8-24	MIDWEST HW	\$75,328.40	12/19/2024	12/31/2026	\$3,610.67	\$78,663.48	\$78,663.48	\$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
837	1-25	WEEKLY	\$18,809.44	12/11/2025	12/31/2029		\$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				\$10.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	
Total Active Contract Value			\$806,486.99						
						Payments Received This Month:	\$61,048.87		
						\$ RECEIVED CURRENT MONTH			
2026 Budgeted Total Revenues						\$400,000	Jobs Finished		
2026 Total County Forestry Revenues this month (90%)						\$54,943.98	Jobs Started		
2026 Total Township Revenues this month (10%):						\$6,104.89	Jobs Continuing/Reactivated		
2026 TOTAL NET FORESTRY REVENUE TO DATE:						\$369,309.57	Jobs Gone Inactive		

MINUTES
PROPERTY & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

DATE: Monday, April 6, 2026
TIME: 8:30 AM
PLACE: Courthouse – Room 302

MEMBERS PRESENT: Al Breu, Jeff Penzkover, Dennis Polach, Brad Hamilton, Scott Brehm (WebEx, arrived at 9:17 AM)

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

1. Chairman Breu called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM.
2. There was no public comment.
3. The minutes of the March 2, 2026, meeting were reviewed. Motion by Hamilton/Polach to accept them as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
4. The Information Technology vouchers were reviewed. Motion by Hamilton/Penzkover to approve as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
5. The IT Report was reviewed and discussed.
6. IT Director Kaup presented her 2027-2031 CIP Plan and reviewed the various projects within the plan. Motion by Hamilton/Polach to approve the IT CIP as presented and forward to the Finance Dept. Motion carried unanimously.
7. Kaup reviewed the IT Employee Survey Summary with the committee and discussed the highlights and opportunities.
8. The Maintenance vouchers were reviewed. Motion by Hamilton/Polach to approve as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
9. The Maintenance Report was reviewed and discussed.
10. Facilities Manager Van Tassel presented the 2027-2031 Maintenance CIP and reviewed the projects within the plan. Motion by Hamilton/Penzkover to approve the Maintenance CIP as presented and forward to the Finance Dept. Motion carried unanimously.
11. Van Tassel reviewed the current condition of the egress stairs in front of the courthouse and would like to include the designing of their replacement along with the parking lot design in front of the courthouse since all the machinery would be in place at one time to complete the job as efficiently and cost saving as possible. Motion by Hamilton/Breu to add the design of the egress stairs to the design plan for the parking and the front of the courthouse. Motion carried unanimously.

12. We have received a request from two of the contractors of the jail project for permission for allocation of the tax deduction incentive under Sec 179D of the Internal Revenue Code regarding the Energy Policy Act of 2005, whereby allowing for tax breaks to those organizations. The county would then get monetary credit from those entities based on the total amount allowed by the IRS. Motion by Hamilton/Penzkover to authorize the Facilities Manager to approve and sign off on the request once a mutually agreeable percentage credit to the county can be obtained. Motion carried unanimously.

13. The next meeting will be determined at a later date.

14. Chairman Breu declared the meeting adjourned at 9:38 AM.

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



Wood County WISCONSIN

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

March 2026

1. Network staff completed work with the Communications Department on the radio over IP upgrade project. The vendor was onsite for installation previously, however upon switchover, issues were found and staff continued to work to ensure the network is configured to meet project requirements. IT staff worked with a vendor and the root issue was identified and corrected. All channels that have now been brought online on the new radio network and have been monitored and remain stable. This was a long ongoing project that required a lot of time, testing and patience. IT and Communications continue to monitor the Radio system since cutover was completed mid-March.
2. Network staff have transitioned WAN circuits between locations to a different provider. This will give us increased speed as well as reduce overall cost.
3. The Citrix environment, the County's virtual server and application software, is undergoing a major overhaul. This Citrix solution provides access to several key software systems. New storage hardware has been built and is in production. New infrastructure servers and Virtual Machines are being configured. This overhaul will extend our support window and support OS updates.
4. Several security enhancements were implemented this month. These include device lock after inactivity, standard County backgrounds on all devices, a splash screen containing use responsibility notice and agreement prior to login, enforcement of Managing Information Assets portion of the Cybersecurity policy, Software Restriction Policy (SRP) deployment, browser security controls and locking laptop screens when closed. All these enhancements are part of ongoing efforts to keep the Wood County network secure.
5. After reviewing the feedback from the State audit on jail forms, research continues to obtain CJIS, Criminal Justice Information Services, compliance. Completed response sheet for CJIS follow up questions for the Jail. Continue to work with Jail and Dispatch on CJIS follow ups. At this time all follow ups with CJIS have been answered and there are no more pending audit questions. IT continues to identify action-based items on the 2025 CJIS Audit and will work to implement.
6. Completed work to resolve accessibility issues flagged on the public website.
7. For the month of February, 541 helpdesk requests were created, with staff completing 557 tickets and leaving 119 open requests. In addition, there are currently 166 project requests.



Wood County WISCONSIN

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

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8. A total of 5 actionable Security alerts were received this month. Each incident was addressed and resolved.
 9. Completed integrating spam prevention measures into public facing county web forms.
 10. Working on a request from the Clerk's office to simplify the expense submission process for Supervisors and address iPad usability concerns.
 11. Worked with CIS, Countywide law enforcement system, to update the email domain for Marshfield. This will provide Marshfield users the ability to use their new email domain when changing passwords.
 12. 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.
 13. Programming staff continue courses and training to maintain and advance best practices concerning code, security and support of in-house developed systems.
 14. Assisting county email users with mailbox cleanup in preparation with migration of the County Outlook email system.
 15. Work continues on year-end processes support, updating reports, W2 print management and multiple system configurations to support Finance and HR systems.
 16. The Countywide backup solution is up for renewal in 2026. Staff continue to hold meetings with vendors to review options to determine the best backup solution.
 17. The firewalls are set for replacement this year. Staff have reviewed options for replacement to determine which solution will best protect the County network and our data. The order for new firewalls has been placed.
 18. Continued implementing Laserfiche document management for the Finance department.
 19. Created and deployed a requested Smartcare report comparing unit types between billing and procedure.



Wood County WISCONSIN

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

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20. Continued work on forms process improvement and document storage in Information Technology leveraging Laserfiche.
 21. 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 on the job.
 22. Assisting Port Edwards with refreshing end-user computing devices for staff and Trustees.
 23. 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.
 24. The new IT request form and procedure developed and implemented has improved 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.
 25. 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.
 26. Continued developing a bulk import program for Laserfiche document management for the Finance department.
 27. Met with various companies for an external network pen test and plan to engage in a pen test later in the month of April.
 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.



Wood County WISCONSIN

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

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29. Substantial time was spent negotiating an Enterprise Agreement (EA) with a vendor who provides maintenance to various hardware and software solutions. The County has entered into a 5-year EA which will result in a \$341,463.89 savings and lock in maintenance agreement costs over the next 5 years.
 30. 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.
 31. 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.
 32. The IT Security Team continues the Security Awareness Program. Additional security training is being assigned to all who fail a phishing campaign.
 33. Employees submitted approximately 238 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.
 34. Programming staff works to improve support documentation for the Sage HRMS, Human Resources Management System, system for employee benefit and payroll data. Programming staff composed an RFP for a replacement system for HRMS and payroll. The RFP was released in late January. Staff is reviewing responses received by the March 25th deadline.
 35. 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.
 36. The EvenTide project for Dispatch continues. This will replace their current solution as the emergency protocols recording software in Dispatch. EvenTide will interface with Total Response and CIS so this project is being scheduled now that the Total Response implementation is finalized.



Wood County WISCONSIN

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

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37. Implementation phase continues and training begins for a project for the Highway Department to replace the current Highway permit system with Delasoft vendor software. Research continues 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.
 38. 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.
 39. System code improvement for the in-house Planning & Zoning permitting system continues.
 40. Continued work improving database server security.
 41. 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 continue to be adjusted.
 42. 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
 43. Support for GCS\Catalis property tax systems is ongoing Initial training and migration of the 34 municipalities to the new system is complete. Security and best practice research to address a request by the County GIS specialist for the City of Marshfield GIS specialist to obtain direct access to the County tax database is on hold.
 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.



Wood County WISCONSIN

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

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45. 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.
46. 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 will be effective late March 2026. Training of PBJ backup super users continues and is now mostly conducted by PBJ submission staff.
47. 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 March 2026. Review and research regarding the Fidlar Tech hosted solution and backup solution begins.
48. 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 April 2026

Ongoing Projects and Planning

Jail Project – Exterior cladding has been installed where the old jail previously connected to the Courthouse. Landscaping and other finishing touches should be complete soon.

Although steps were taken during design and construction to mitigate ground water infiltration, there is water entering the first floor of the Courthouse where the old jail was demolished. The design team is investigating and will be working on a solution.

Building automation system adjustments are ongoing.

Courthouse – Startup of the air-cooled chiller serving the Courthouse exposed some problems with one of the two compressors; we are exploring possible causes and solutions in order to repair the chiller.

Continuing to work with City of Wisconsin Rapids and other County staff to modify the Courthouse property boundary in conjunction with vacating Market Street.

River Block – Beginning to make arrangements for heating system updates during the upcoming summer months. Also reviewing proposals for updates to the aging air conditioning system.

Miscellaneous

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

Supporting Norwood and Edgewater with various project planning.

Completed several interviews for the recently approved Building Automation Specialist.

Made arrangements with City of Wisconsin Rapids staff for them to utilize part of our parcel along Saratoga Street this summer during their Jackson Street construction project.

CWSF Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 16th, 2026, at 6:30 PM – Fair Office

513 East 17th Street, Marshfield, WI 54449

Call to Order: David Lang called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm

Roll Call: Dale Christiansen, Gary Bymers, Brad Hamilton, Joyce Karl, Scott Karl, Kate Kohl, Dave Lang, Heather Wellach, Rob Wiskerchen

Not present- Nick Wayerski, Andrew Reigel, Peggy Sue Behselich

Not present (excused)- Sandy Leonhard

Public Comments: none

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Brad Hamilton to approve the submitted minutes. Gary Bymers, no further comments – unanimous approval

Financial Report: Motion by Brad Hamilton to approve the submitted financial report 2nd by Rob Wiskerchen – no further discussion - unanimous approval

Executive Director’s Report: The Eagles Club will be taking over the Lions Den stand. Some cleanout will be needed this spring.

Junior Fair Report: Meeting Wednesday. To note, Market Sale has voted to redo their scholarship; this will be discussed at the meeting on Wednesday.

Fair update: Announcements for the Friday night show will be made on Tuesday, with ticket sales released Friday morning. The stage company is going out of business and working with a new provider. The price has gone up. Continuing to plan its coming together “fairly” well.

Executive Committee- did not meet

Sponsorship Committee- Forms are out and on the website. A couple have come in Dale is committed to working on this.

Market Committee- Billboards have fair dates with the theme “Something greats about to happen” with the sheep. Spacing out advertising dollars

Fairest of the Fair- Haley and Melissa to meet.

Volunteer Committee- has not met

Livestock Committee- Dave Lang is working on pulling a meeting together and working on communications problems. Talk about the round barn cleanout. Having 3 meetings a year to help keep lines of communication open with superintendents.

Draft Horse Committee- no update

Building and Grounds Committee/ Fair Park Management- Dale to meet with county board chair about grounds and legal holdings. Dale and Gary also met with the inspector for water and sewer plans on the south side of 17th street for future planning. More to come as a few more meetings happen to add to the plans. Dale to plot out potential new barn for new transformer installation.

New Business:

Code of Conduct- tabling till Sandy is back.

Committee Assignments- to be completed in March- Bring back ideas of NEW people to help support the board and the fair.

Born to Dairy / Cheeselandia Event- Dairy Farmers of Wisconsin- “Born to Dairy” event. More to come. Great ideas thrown out. Dale is to go to kick off event. Will cover again in March with a plan.

Agenda Item for next meetings- Code of Conduct, Committee assignments, Born to Dairy follow-up

Adjournment: Moved to adjournment by Gary Bymers, 2nd by Joyce Karl, no discussion- unanimous approval