

Executive and Finance

Meeting Minutes

October 2, 2026

Virtual and in-person at County Board Room-Service Center– 480 Underwood Ave., Montello, WI 53949

Members present: Chuck Bornhoeft-Chairperson, Lance Achterberg, Judi Nigbor, John Bennett, Mike Raddatz, Gary Sorensen, John Larkin, and Abby Swan (virtual at 11:31 a.m.)

Others present: Administrator Ron Barger, HR Manager Melanie Zuehls (virtual), Peggy Krause (virtual), UW Ext. Director Pat Wagner (virtual), Lead Accountant Stacy Kohn, Judge Hendee, EM Director Lt. Aaron Williams, CVSO Brandon Enck, HS Director Mandy Stanley, HS Finance Manager Jen Vote, P&Z Director Jean Potter (virtual), EMS Director Rob Lulling (virtual), Health Director Jayme Sopha (virtual), ROD Nicole Ziebell (virtual), Conservationist Pat Kilbey (virtual), Sheriff Joe Konrath, IT Director Dan Buchholz, DA Cliff Burdon, Treasurer Jody Myers, Alice Schlotte (virtual), Buildings & Grounds Superintendent Paul Van Treeck, Marquette County Library Directors, Winnefox Representative Clairellyn Sommersmith

1. Chairperson Chuck Bornhoeft called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
2. Moved by Mike Raddatz and seconded by Judi Nigbor to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.
3. Citizen Concerns and Comments- None
4. Packwaukee Library Director Heidi Marshall and Winnefox Representative Clairellyn Sommersmith presented information for the 2027 library funding request. They detailed circulation numbers and described expense formulas and statutory requirements. Montello Library Director Andrea Klapper reported on the services that would be affected at the City of Montello Library if the funding was not increased. Discussion followed. The committee reported further decisions would be made upon hearing county departments present their budgets.
5. Lt. Williams presented the proposed 2027 Emergency Management budget. Lt. Williams reported the Hazmat contract fee has increased for 2027.
6. Mandy Stanley and Jen Vote presented the proposed 2027 Human Services budget. Mandy reported out of home placements have decreased for various reasons. She noted that nutrition and transportation staffing models have been changed for 2027. Human Services is currently recruiting volunteer drivers for those services. Discussion followed on volunteer services. Line item #200 for 'services' on each budget within Human Services was discussed. Mandy reported that the part-time Nurse position will be contracted in 2027. The summary sheet had a formula error, which was fixed by Accountants Stacy Kohn and Jen Vote.
7. Ron Barger presented the proposed 2027 Medical Examiner budget. Corp Counsel is reviewing the 2027 ME contract with Waushara County.
8. Paul Van Treeck presented the proposed 2027 Buildings & Grounds budget. Paul reported he made reductions based on trend data.
9. Paul Van Treeck presented the proposed 2027 Property budget. Paul reported the 30% of Communication Towers has been put into the EMS budget. Tax Deed losses discussed.
10. Judge Hendee presented the proposed 2027 Judicial budget. Judge Hendee noted that the presented budget is broken down into circuit court and treatment court. Treatment court is funded through a TAD grant and a MAT grant.
11. Brandon Enck presented the proposed 2027 Veterans Service budget. Brandon

- reported care of Veterans graves is mandated through WI state statute, with expenses showing a slight increase.
12. Stacy Kohn reported that at the beginning of Wednesday's Executive & Finance Committee meeting the presented budgets had a general fund draw of \$546,337. The motion on Wednesday regarding the County Board salary change has now increased the general fund draw to \$548,490, which reflects both the updated salary line item and FICA. Administrator Barger reported that \$466,000 is projected to be returned from the 2026 budget. He requested the committee consider adding an additional 1% COLA to the already presented 1% COLA, which would increase the draw approximately \$112,000. However, it was noted that several departments are not tax levy, so the number is a high estimate. Administrator Barger suggested that the reductions made in the staffing in the UW Extension Office and District Attorney's Office remain.
 13. Chairperson Bornhoeft called for a short recess at 10:37 a.m.
 14. The meeting was called back to order at 10:43 a.m.
 15. Administrator Barger recommended that shared revenue not be utilized for alcohol compliance checks in the Health Department budget due to stipulations on shared revenue use. The line item may be moved to Sheriff's Office budget in the future.
 16. Clean sweep allocation discussed. Vice Chairperson Achterberg recommended \$6,000 be allocated for Clean Sweep. This allows Pat Kilbey to schedule Clean Sweep for 2028. The committee consensus was to move forward with the suggestion.
 17. Sheriff Konrath's request for an additional \$20,000 to be added to Care of Prisoners line item was discussed. The consensus of the committee is to not allocate the additional \$20,000 and leave the budget as presented.
 18. DA Legal Assistant position discussed. The position was presented within the 2027 budget reduced from 75% to 50%. Committee consensus is to continue with the presented budget for the 50% Legal Assistant. The committee recommended \$3,000 to be added to Expert Witness line item.
 19. The full library request was \$403,533. The presented amount within the budget is currently at \$378,000 through the Budget Team and Administrator recommendation. Moved by Gary Sorensen and seconded by Judi Nigbor to increase the library allocation by \$12,000. Discussion followed. Moved by Lance Achterberg and seconded by John Bennet to amend the \$12,000 to \$18,000. Motion carried 6:1 Noes: Raddatz. Amended motion carried. 7:0 (Abby Swan abstained due to joining the meeting after the conversation at 11:31 a.m.)
 20. Committee discussed CAP and Hope House allocation. Moved by Gary Sorensen and seconded by John Bennett to allocate a total of \$500 to CAP and \$2,500 to Hope House. Motion carried.
 21. Moved by Mike Raddatz and seconded by Lance Achterberg to assign the 2027 COLA at 2%. Stacy reported this would put the general fund draw at a maximum of \$639,787. This number would technically decrease due to HS, Highway, ROD, and L&W/Parks. Motion carried.
 22. The agenda having been completed Chairperson Chuck Bornhoeft declared the meeting adjourned at 11:48 a.m.

Kiley Lloyd, County Clerk