



BARRON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

MONDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2025 – 5:00 PM

BARRON COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER – AUDITORIUM
335 EAST MONROE AVENUE - BARRON, WISCONSIN 54812

MINUTES

PRESENT IN PERSON: Bob Anderson, Patti Anderson, John Banks, Karolyn Bartlett, Randy Cook Sr, Bill Effertz, Pam Fall, Craig Fowler, Jim Gores, Dennis Jenkins, Amanda Kohnen, Kathy Krug, Audrey Kusilek, Fran Langman, Carol Moen, Roberta Mosentine, Gary Nelson, Pete Olson, Tim Ploetz, Bob Rogers, Pete Schneider, Bill Schradle, Marv Thompson, Craig Turcott, Diane Vaughn and Stacey Wenzel.

ATTENDING VIRTUALLY: Louie Okey.

ABSENT: Dana Heller and Jamie McCready.

CALL TO ORDER: Vice Chair Bartlett called the meeting to order at 5:00PM.

ROLL CALL – PUBLIC NOTIFICATION: County Clerk Hodek took attendance and County Administrator French stated the County's compliance with open meeting laws.

INVOCATION: Led by Pastor Mark Librande from the River Church located in Rice Lake.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Recited.

SPECIAL MATTERS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (NON-ACTION ITEMS): Captain Hodek presented Lifesaver Awards to Detective Olson and Patrol Deputy Rausch for separate calls occurring in the County within the last month. Administrator French asked Public Service Officer Karla Potts-Shufelt to introduce herself as the next Health & Human Services Director, pending County Board approval later in the meeting.

APPROVE AGENDA: Motion: (Cook/B. Anderson) to approve. Carried with 27 Yes and 2 Absent (Heller & McCready).

APPROVE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 15, 2025: Motion: (Banks/B. Anderson) to approve. Carried with 27 Yes and 2 Absent (Heller & McCready).

PUBLIC COMMENT: None at this time.

SALLY PORT EXPANSION AND TECHNOLOGY IMPROVEMENTS – JUDGE JAMES BABLER: Judge Babler discussed concerns with the lack of incoming lawyers in the northern areas of the State including finding lawyers and public defenders to serve the area which requires lawyers coming from out of the County to represent the incarcerated. He noted that while there are attorneys willing to take cases, it will only occur if we can provide a Zoom option. This option is necessary to ensure court proceedings continue to operate consistently. The upcoming renovations within the Sally Port will provide additional spaces for Zoom meetings and court proceedings. Administrator French thanked Judge Babler for speaking on the technology upgrades within the Sally Port renovations at the Justice Center. Judge Babler also answered questions from the Board.

MOTOROLA RADIO UPGRADE PURCHASING AND FINANCING PRESENTATION: An issue paper was emailed to all County Board Supervisors from Chief Deputy Hagen prior to the meeting. The presentation created by Motorola that was presented at the Law Enforcement Meeting and the County Board meeting is available in a paper format with a request to the County Clerk's Office. Chad Olszewski, Senior Account Manager from Motorola, gave a presentation to the Board on the radio upgrade for the Sheriff Department and answered questions from the Board. Chief Deputy Hagen and Captain Hodek also answered questions from the Board. Discussion.

LEGAL OPINION FOR CONSTRUCT OF GENERAL OBLIGATION NOTE FOR MOTOROLA LEASE

PAYMENT OBLIGATIONS: Administrator French, has requested via email on October 20, 2025, “for a motion to approve \$3,000.00 to be appropriated so the law firm of Quarlls and Brady can construct a General Obligation Note which corresponds to the proposed lease payments for the Motorola lease, regarding the possible radio upgrade.”

Motion: (Thompson/Cook) to approve. Discussion. Carried with 27 Yes and 2 Absent (Heller & McCready).

2025-33 RESOLUTION – AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURE OF \$80,000 FROM SPECIAL REVENUE FUND

221 RECREATION DEPUTY PATROL BOARD REPLACEMENT PURCHASE: Motion: (Moen/Olson) to approve. Chief Deputy Hagen answered questions from the Board. Discussion. Carried with 27 Yes and 2 Absent (Heller & McCready).

Schradle departed the meeting at 6:11pm.

2025-10 ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT – REZONING – TOWN OF SIOUX CREEK, AMANDA

KELCH, OWNER: Motion: (Cook/Rogers) to approve. Carried with 26 Yes and 3 Absent (Heller, McCready & Schradle).

2025-34 RESOLUTION – ADOPTING ZONING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION TO DENY

PETITION FOR REZONING FOR JOSEPH AND JENNIFER ISAACS: Motion: (Olson/Kusilek) to approve. Carried with 26 Yes and 3 Absent (Heller, McCready & Schradle).

2025-35 RESOLUTION – ADOPTION OF THE BARRON COUNTY FARMLAND PRESERVATION PLAN

MAP AMENDMENT TO TOWNS OF BARRON AND CEDAR LAKE: Motion: (Rogers/Moen) to approve. Carried with 26 Yes and 3 Absent (Heller, McCready & Schradle).

2025-36 RESOLUTION – BARRON COUNTY LAKE MONITORING & PROTECTION NETWORK AIS

GRANT APPLICATION: Motion: (Kusilek/Cook) to approve. Carried with 26 Yes and 3 Absent (Heller, McCready & Schradle).

2025-37 RESOLUTION – AUTHORIZING OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN UPDATE 2025-2030: Motion:

(Mosentine/Turcott) to approve. Carried with 26 Yes and 3 Absent (Heller, McCready & Schradle).

2026 BUDGET – PUBLISHED DRAFT: Administrator French reviewed the 2026 published County Board budget,

summary tax allocation, fund balance, personnel requests, contingency and answered questions from the Board.

Finance Director Busch reviewed the levy limits, budget changes and answered questions from the Board.

Administrator French noted this budget is now locked until the Public Hearing in November. Supervisor Cook requested a Fund Balance, separated by department, at the upcoming Executive Committee meeting.

REPORT FROM COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

- A. **UPDATE ON HOURS USED FOR SKID STEER REPORT:** Chief Deputy Hagen emailed this report to all County Board Supervisors and this was also distributed prior to the meeting.
- B. **THIRD BRANCH ENEWS – JUROR PER DIEM INCREASE:** Information is included in the packet.
- C. **AMERICAN RED CROSS CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION:** Thank you to the Board for allowing the County to continue to host Red Cross Blood Drives and the impact it makes in our community.
- D. **EQUALIZATION BUREAU – WHAT ARE EQUALIZED VALUES:** Information is included in the packet.

APPOINTMENTS

- A. **HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES DIRECTOR – APPOINT KARLA POTTS-SHUFELT: Motion: (Olson/ P. Anderson)** to approve. Carried with 26 Yes and 3 Absent (Heller, McCready & Schradle).

CLAIMS, PETITIONS & CORRESPONDENCE: None at this time.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

- 1. 2026 County Budget
- 2. 2026 Health Insurance Renewal

3. 2026 County Board Meeting Dates
4. Motorola Radio Upgrades

NEXT MEETING DATE: Monday, November 3, 2025 at 5:00PM at the Government Center located in Barron.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 6:39PM.

All past Barron County Board of Supervisor meetings starting in August 2020 can be viewed at the link provided below:

<https://www.youtube.com/c/BarronCountyMeetings>

Respectfully Submitted,
Jessica Hodek, County Clerk

MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE COUNTY BOARD AT THE NEXT MEETING.