# BARRON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2025 – 9:00 AM**

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

## MINUTES

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Okey called the Public Hearing to order at 9:00AM.

**PUBLIC HEARING – PRESENTATION OF 2026 BARRON COUNTY BUDGET:** Administrator French presented the 2026 published budget in detail and answered questions from the Board.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None at this time.

**CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING:** Chair Okey closed the Public Hearing at 9:21AM.

**PRESENT IN PERSON:** Bob Anderson, Patti Anderson, John Banks, Karolyn Bartlett, Randy Cook Sr (Arrived at 9:23AM), Bill Effertz, Pam Fall, Craig Fowler, Jim Gores, Dana Heller, Dennis Jenkins, Kathy Krug, Audrey Kusilek, Fran Langman, Carol Moen, Roberta Mosentine, Gary Nelson, Louie Okey, Pete Olson, Bob Rogers, Pete Schneider, Bill Schradle, Marv Thompson, Craig Turcott, Diane Vaughn and Stacey Wenzel.

**ATTENDING VIRTUALLY:** Amanda Kohnen, Jamie McCready (Arrived at 9:31AM) and Tim Ploetz.

**ABSENT:** None at this time.

**CALL TO ORDER-ROLL CALL-PUBLIC NOTIFICATION:** Chair Okey called the meeting to order at 9:21AM. County Clerk Hodek took attendance. County Administrator French stated the County's compliance with open meeting laws.

*Supervisor Cook arrived at 9:23AM.*

**INVOCATION:** Led by Pastor Tom Olson from Hosanna Lutheran Church located in Cumberland.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Recited.

**SPECIAL MATTERS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (NON-ACTION ITEMS):** Supervisor P. Anderson presented a $1,000.00 check from the Haugen Auxiliary to the Barron County Veterans Office. County Clerk Hodek gave a review of the upcoming Spring Election procedures for ballot placement and deadlines for County Board Supervisor candidates. She strongly encourages anyone interested in a County Board Supervisor position to reach out to her directly to get all questions answered by the filing officer.

**APPROVE AGENDA: Motion: (Cook/Fowler)** to approve. Carried with 28 Yes and 1 Absent (McCready).

**APPROVE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 14, 2025 (HIGHWAY ASPHALT TOUR) AND OCTOBER 20, 2025 (REGULAR COUNTY BOARD MEETING): Motion: (Langman/Olson)** to approve both sets of minutes. **Motion: (Heller/Turcott)** to amend County Board Minutes from October 20, 2025 to change the next meeting date from November 3, 2025 at 5:00PM to November 3, 2025 at 9:00AM: Amendment Carried with 29 Yes. Original Motion Carried with 29 Yes.

**APPROVE MINUTES OF WPPA CONTRACT NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE OF OCTOBER 15, 2025 AND OCTOBER 27, 2025: Motion: (Rogers/Turcott)** to approve. Carried with 29 Yes.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None at this time.

**GENERAL OBLIGATION PROMISSORY NOTE PAYABLE FOR MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS ANNUAL LEASE PAYMENTS FOR 2026-2031: Motion: (Heller/Olson)** to approve. Carried with 29 Yes.

**2025-38 RESOLUTION – AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF A $1,582,622.40 GENERAL OBLIGATION PROMISSORY NOTE: Motion: (Cook/Kusilek)** to approve. Administrator French requested an amendment that was emailed to the County Board Supervisors on October 30, 2025. **Motion:** (Cook/Olson) to amend to add "for the 2026 Debt Service Payment the Finance Director is allowed to transfer $340,556.45 on January 2nd, 2026 from the Unassigned General Fund Fund Balance to the specific Debt Service Fund for the purpose of making this debt service payment, in 2026." Amendment carried with 29 Yes. Original motion carried with 29 Yes.

**REVIEW & ADOPTION OF THE 2026 COUNTY BUDGET**

a. **2025-39 RESOLUTION – FINANCING OF THE COUNTY FOR 2026 AND ADOPT 2025 LEVY: Motion: (Thompson/B. Anderson)** to approve. Carried with 26 and 3 No (Effertz, Kohnen & Vaughn.)

**2025-40 RESOLUTION – AUTHORIZING INCREASE TO COUNTY BOARD CHAIR ANNUAL SALARY: Motion: (Kusilek/P. Anderson)** to approve. Chair Okey gave an overview of the request and answered questions from the Board. Discussion. Carried with 29 Yes.

**2025-41 RESOLUTION – AUTHORIZING APPROVAL OF EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN FOR ONE ENERGY RENEWABLES BJORN SOLAR IN TOWN OF BARRON, BARRON COUNTY, WISCONSIN: Motion: (Cook/Effertz)** to approve. Administrator French gave an overview of the resolution. Carried with 29 Yes.

**2025-42 RESOLUTION – SUPPORTING APPLICATION FOR 2026 GRANT FUNDS FROM THE WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE: Motion: (Banks/Effertz)** to approve. Carried with 29 Yes.

**2025-43 RESOLUTION – OUTSTANDING ORDER CHECKS TO BE CANCELLED: Motion: (Gores/Moen)** to approve. Carried with 29 Yes.

**2025-44 RESOLUTION – SNAP (FOODSHARE): Motion: (Moen/Gores)** to approve. Carried with 29 Yes.

**2025-45 RESOLUTION – SETTING FORTH THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN BARRON COUNTY AND WISCONSIN PROFESSIONAL POLICE ASSOCIATION (WPPA): Motion: (Turcott/Heller)** to approve. Discussion. **Motion: (Cook/Bartlett)** to amend the minutes to read that Supervisor Nelson was absent during the negations. Amendment carried with 29 Yes. Chair Okey thanked the committee for the work done with the negations. HR Director Richie answered questions virtually from the Board. Discussion. Original motion carried with 29 Yes.

**APPROVE 2026 COUNTY BOARD MEETING DATES & TIMES:** Chair Okey noted a change that will be required to November 2026 – the date will change from Wednesday, November 11, 2026 to Tuesday, November 10, 2026. **Motion: (B. Anderson/Olson)** to approve.

**REPORT FROM COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR:** None at this time.

**APPOINTMENTS:**

a. **HIGHWAY COMMISSIONER – APPOINT NATE NELSON: Motion: (Nelson/Turcott)** to approve. Carried with 29 Yes.
b. **VETERANS SERVICE COMMISSION – REAPPOINT TOM PICHELMAN: Motion: (Nelson/Turcott)** to approve. Carried with 29 Yes.

**CLAIMS, PETITIONS & CORRESPONDENCE:** None at this time.

**SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:** None at this time.

**NEXT MEETING DATES:** Monday, January 12, 2026 at 9:00AM.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Chair Okey adjourned the meeting at 10:03AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jessica Hodek, County Clerk

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

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