

**Winnebago County Board
River Bluff Board of Directors Meeting**
River Bluff Health & Rehabilitation
4401 North Main Street, Finch Room
Rockford, IL 61103

Tuesday, June 17, 2025
3:00 PM

Present:

Frank Perrecone, **Chairperson**
Bernice Marinelli, **Vice Chairperson**
John Butitta
Tim Delany
Jay Ferraro
Teresa Gobeli
Jim Knutson
Bob Nieman

Others Present:

Patrick Thompson, Winnebago County Administrator
Steve Schultz, Winnebago County Chief Financial Officer
Laura Schaffer, Administrator, River Bluff Health & Rehabilitation
Laura Doise, Asst. Administrator, River Bluff Health & Rehabilitation
Maggie Lewis, HR Representative, River Bluff Human Resources

Absent:

Lowell Ingram

AGENDA:

- A. Call to Order
- B. Roll Call
- C. Approval of May 20, 2025 Minutes
- D. Public Comment– This is the time we invite the public to address the River Bluff Health & Rehabilitation Board with issues and concerns. We ask you to limit your comments to three minutes. Personal attacks or inappropriate language of any sort will not be tolerated. We will allow a maximum of five speakers on a first come basis with sign-up at the meeting. Speakers may not address zoning matters which are pending before the ZBA, the Zoning Committee, or the County Board. Personnel matters or pending or threatened litigation may not be addressed in open session. An individual may speak a maximum of three times per calendar year on the same topic. This prohibition shall include the repetition of the same topic in a statement on what is purported to be a different topic. After acknowledgment by the Chairman, please stand and state your name. Thank you.
- E. Discussion Item – Administrators Report (Laura Schaffer)
 - 1. Census
- F. Discussion Item – Financial Report (Steve Schultz)
 - 1. Financial Statements (see attachment)
- G. Other Matters
- H. Adjournment

Call to Order

Chairperson Perrecone called the River Bluff Board of Directors meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Chairperson Perrecone, yes. Mr. Butitta, yes. Mr. Ferraro, yes. Ms. Gobeli, yes. Ms. Marinelli, yes. Mr. Nieman, yes. Mr. Delany, yes, Mr. Knutson, yes.

A quorum is present.

Approval of May 20, 2025 Minutes

Chairperson Perrecone called for a motion to approve the minutes of May 20, 2025.

Motion: Mr. Butitta. Second: Mr. Nieman.

Chairperson Perrecone called for any discussion, corrections, or additions.

The motion was passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Public Comment

Chairperson Perrecone omitted reading the Public Comment Section of the Agenda due to there being no one present to speak.

Discussion Item – Administrators Report (Laura Schaffer)

1. Census

The census currently reports 148 residents, including 122 on Medicaid, three on Medicare Part A, 27 with private pay, and 27 in hospice care (23 on Medicaid and four with private pay). The Managed Care Replacement is at 33.

Referrals

There were 25 referrals in May, with 10 of them being admitted. Additionally, two open admissions have been clinically accepted. Ms. Schaffer reviewed the denials.

Grievances/Complaint Surveys

There were no complaint surveys in May. With IDPH, there have been two investigations in June that were self-reported, but with no findings. There were no complaints of abuse or investigations. The Life Safety Plan of Correction was submitted and approved by the IDPH, with all items corrected in accordance with the submitted Plan of Correction.

CMS Star Rating

The facility has achieved a CMS two-star rating as of June 1, and new contracts can be secured once the CMS rating reaches three stars. Ms. Schaffer discussed the reasons for the lack of increase in the CMS rating. Teams are currently working on improving the quality measures. Ms. Schaffer reviewed further statistics.

Staffing

Ms. Lewis reported that there were 12 new hires and 12 terminations in May. The Business Office Manager position is open, and the Restorative Nurse position is expected to be filled this month. RN interviews are scheduled to fill open positions.

Call Light Update

The Operations and Administrative Committee and the County Board approved the Call Light Project contract. A kick-off meeting is scheduled with the vendor to implement the project in two phases: the first phase will occur this fiscal year, and the second phase will take place in the next fiscal year.

Camera Project

The installation of the cameras has been completed, and everything is labeled and fully operational.

FY26 Financial Budget

The FY26 Financial budget was submitted and is under review with some revisions.

Monthly Operations

Ms. Schaffer advised that this week is CNA Week, and next week is the 2025 Senior Expo on June 24, which runs from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Ms. Lewis reported that there are 42 vendors, with media

coverage by Aaron Wilson from WIFR, who will broadcast live from 6:00 to 7:00 a.m. Other television stations will also provide coverage. River Bluff has accepted some equipment and furniture from the Rockton Avenue Javon Bea Hospital facility, which is closing at this location.

Legislative

Ms. Schaffer informed the Board about recent legislative decisions concerning staffing requirements and related penalties. Proposed reductions for the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) are being considered. Medicare Advantage is expected to see a 2.8% increase in 2026.

Medical Director

A discussion ensued about the Medical Director's role at the facility, including the job description and current contract. Plans are to invite the Medical Director to attend the August Board of Directors meeting.

Discussion Item – Financial Report (Steve Schultz)

1. Financial Statements (see attachment)

Mr. Schultz reviewed the financial report for the month ended April and discussed the Balance Sheet through April 2025.

- Discussion followed.

Other Matters

- Stephenson County has a committee, Friends of Walnut Acres, that is working to turn around the nursing home, which does not fall under the County Board. The committee may be in contact with the River Bluff Board.
- Restoration of powers to the Winnebago County Board Chairman.

Adjournment

Chairman Perrecone called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion: Mr. Nieman. Second: Mr. Butitta.

Chairperson Perrecone called for a vote.

The motion was passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy K. Bleile
Executive Assistant