

**Winnebago County Board
Finance Committee Meeting**
County Administration Building
404 Elm Street, Room 303
Rockford, IL 61101

Thursday, February 5, 2026

Immediately following the Operations & Administrative Committee Meeting

Present:

John Butitta, Chairperson
Paul Arena
Valerie Hanserd
John F. Sweeney
Christina Valdez

Others Present:

Patrick Thompson, County Administrator
Steve Schultz, Chief Financial Officer (Staff Liaison)
Lafakeria Reuter, State's Attorney's Office
Hope Edwards, Director, Purchasing
Chris Dornbush, Chief Operations Officer
Shawn Franks, Director, Facilities
Dan Magers, IT (via Zoom)
Rick Ciganek, WCSO
Lucas Wagner, WCSO
Tom Jakeway, Court Administration
Mary Rasho, Motorola Solutions
Dominick Storelli, Motorola Solutions
Clayton Nelson, Huffiman Keel
Dominic Barcellona, Retired Deputy Chief WCSO

Absent:

Joe Hoffman
Keith McDonald

AGENDA:

- A. Call to Order
- B. Roll Call
- C. Approval of January 15, 2026 Meeting Minutes
- D. Public Comment – This is the time we invite the public to address the Finance Committee 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 that 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. Ordinance for a Budget Amendment for CASA Funding
- F. Resolution Authorizing Settlement of Pending Litigation (Careleen Hinsley, as Independent Administrator of the Estate of Ronald J. Griffen, deceased v. County of Winnebago d/b/a River Bluff Nursing Home et al.)
- G. Discussion Item: Motorola Radio Purchase for the Sheriff's Office
- H. Discussion Item: PSB Owner Direct Cost
- I. Fiscal Year 2025 Financial Report – Draft
- J. Closed Session to Review Closed Session Minutes
- K. Approval of Minutes of Closed Session Meetings
- L. Other Matters
- M. Adjournment

Call to Order

Chairperson Butitta called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM.

Roll Call

Chairperson Butitta, yes; Mr. Arena, yes; Ms. Hanserd, yes; Mr. Sweeney, yes; Ms. Valdez, yes.

A quorum is present.

Approval of January 15, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Motion: Chairperson Butitta. Second: Ms. Hanserd.

Chairperson Butitta called for any discussion.

Chairperson Butitta called for a vote to approve the minutes of the January 15, 2026, meeting.

The motion was passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Public Comment

Chairperson Butitta omitted reading the Public Comment Section of the Agenda because no one was present to speak.

Ordinance for a Budget Amendment for CASA Funding

Motion: Chairperson Butitta. Second: Ms. Valdez.

The Ordinance for the Budget Amendment for CASA Funding was removed from the agenda. Mr. Sweeney advised that funding for CASA is already included in the budget and that a budget amendment is not needed for this or the next fiscal year. The Ordinance will be added to the Public Safety & Judiciary Committee for approval at its next meeting on Tuesday, February 17, 2026.

Resolution Authorizing Settlement of Pending Litigation (Careleen Hinsley, as Independent Administrator of the Estate of Ronald J. Griffen, deceased v. County of Winnebago d/b/a River Bluff Nursing Home et al.)

Motion: Chairperson Butitta. Second: Ms. Valdez.

Ms. Reuter advised that the case was discussed with outside counsel in December 2025 and that mediation was recently held. A settlement amount was agreed upon, subject to the County Board's approval. The committee agreed to add a discussion of this resolution to today's Closed Session.

Discussion Item: Motorola Radio Purchase for the Sheriff's Office

Mr. Storelli and Ms. Rasho of Motorola Solutions were introduced to the committee. Background information was provided on the purchase of the Motorola radios. Chief Deputy Ciganek led a discussion on the purchase of the Motorola radios and the need for replacements.

Lieutenant Wagner introduced himself to the committee and discussed officer safety.

- A discussion followed.

The next step is to bring the resolution to the committee.

Discussion Item: PSB Owner Direct Cost

Mr. Dornbush provided the committee with documents to review the Public Safety Building's owner-direct costs and timeline. Mr. Dornbush will prepare a Budget Amendment for the Finance Agenda on Thursday, February 19, 2026.

Fiscal Year 2025 Financial Report – Draft

Mr. Schultz presented the 2025 Fiscal Year Finance report to the committee and invited questions.

- A discussion followed.

Closed Session to Review Closed Session Minutes

Chairperson Butitta called for a motion to enter a Closed Session to review Closed Session Minutes.
Motion: Ms. Hanserd. Second: Ms. Valdez.
The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Roll Call

Chairperson Butitta, yes; Mr. Arena, yes; Ms. Hanserd, yes; Mr. Sweeney, yes; Ms. Valdez, yes.

Chairperson Butitta – No action was taken during the closed session.

Resolution Authorizing Settlement of Pending Litigation (Careleen Hinsley, as Independent Administrator of the Estate of Ronald J. Griffen, deceased v. County of Winnebago d/b/a River Bluff Nursing Home et al.)

Motion: Chairperson Butitta. Second: Ms. Hanserd.
Chairperson Butitta called for any discussion.
Chairperson Butitta called for a vote to approve the resolution.
The motion was passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of Minutes of Closed Session Meetings

Motion: Chairperson Butitta. Second: Ms. Hanserd.
Ms. Reuter provided the dates of the Closed Session minutes that were reviewed during the Closed Session.

November 17, 2022	March 21, 2024
April 6, 2023	June 20, 2024
October 12, 2023	August 15, 2024
October 19, 2023	August 29, 2024
November 16, 2023	December 5, 2024
December 7, 2023	December 12, 2024
February 15, 2024	January 2, 2025

Chairperson Butitta called for any discussion.
Chairperson Butitta called for a vote to approve the minutes of the Closed Session meetings.
The motion was passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Other Matters

Camera Discussion – A memo written by the State’s Attorney’s office will be shared with the Finance committee members to review prior to the next meeting.

Adjournment

Chairperson Butitta called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.
Motion: Mr. Sweeney. Second: Ms. Valdez.
The motion was passed by a unanimous voice vote.
The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Bleile
Executive Assistant