

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

Tuesday, April 21, 2026
1:30 PM

Present:

Frank Perrecone, Chairperson
Bernice Marinelli, Vice Chairperson
John Butitta
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:

Tim Delany
Jay Ferraro
Lowell Ingram

AGENDA:

- A. Call to Order
- B. Roll Call
- C. Approval of February 17, 2026 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 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. Discussion Item – Administrators Report (Laura Schaffer)
 1. Census
- F. Discussion Item – Financial Report (Steve Schultz)
 1. Financial Statements (see attachment)
- G. Other Matters
- H. Next Meeting – Tuesday, May 19, 2026, 1:30 pm, Finch Room at River Bluff Health and Rehabilitation, 4401 North Main Street, Rockford, Illinois 61103
- I. Adjournment

Call to Order

Chairperson Perrecone called the River Bluff Board of Directors meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

Roll Call

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

A quorum is present.

Approval of February 17, 2026 Minutes

Chairperson Perrecone called for a motion to approve the minutes of February 17, 2026.

Motion: Mr. Butitta. Second: Mr. Knutson.

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

Chairperson Perrecone called for a vote on the motion.

The motion was passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Public Comment

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

Discussion Item – Administrators Report (Laura Schaffer)

1. Census

Ms. Doise reported that the average daily census for February was 156 residents, with a peak of 157. In March, the average daily census was 154 residents, peaking at 159, with 10 new admissions each month. There are 121 on Medicaid, six on Medicare Part A, 24 on private pay, and 20 in hospice care (4 private and 16 Medicaid). Ms. Schaffer provided more details on the census.

- A discussion followed regarding accounting and financial matters.

Admission and Referrals

Two admissions were open in February. There were 10 admissions; 3 were lost, and 21 were denied, for a total of 36. In March, there were 5 open, 10 admissions, 8 lost, and 23 denied, for a total of 46 referrals. Ms. Doise reviewed the losses and denials.

- A discussion ensued regarding the planning necessary for the private rooms.
- Administration is asked to review and report at the May or June meeting on the benefits and drawbacks of private rooms, in light of the number of open beds. Ms. Schaffer will provide layouts showing the demographics at the next meeting. Ms. Schaffer will provide information on supportive living in four months.

Discharges

Ms. Doise reported 3 discharges to home, 6 deaths for a total of 9 discharges for February. In March, there were 5 discharges to home and 9 deaths for a total of 14 discharges.

Grievances

Ms. Schaffer reported that three grievances were filed in February and another three in March. There was a three-day complaint survey in February with no findings from IDPH, and two additional complaint surveys in March with no findings from IDPH.

- A discussion followed.

Quality Measures

Ms. Schaffer reviewed the facility's quality measures for February and March.

- A discussion followed.

Staffing

Ms. Lewis reported on new hires and terminations for February and March. Currently, three CNA positions are open, as well as a Unit Coordinator and a PM House Supervisor. Interviews are being conducted this week and next.

Call Light Project

Ms. Schaffer advised that the call light replacement project is complete, except for a few outstanding needs. Meetings are scheduled with the vendor to discuss the system's report-writing capabilities.

Agency Usage

Agency usage continues to stabilize with core staff, though several staff members are still out on FMLA.

Other Administrators Updates

The Union Management Task Force was completed, and recommendations will be presented to management.

Medicaid Cost Report

The Medicaid Cost report was submitted. The business office continues to complete work on Medicaid applications and old accounts.

Navigator Group Purchasing

The Cost Analysis with McKesson was completed for medical supplies, and the products are being transitioned with a 30% cost savings.

Resident Activities

The annual Skills Fair was held in March, and the community's Easter Egg Hunt.

IDPH Annual Survey

The facility is in the IDPH annual survey window. The facility's annual licensure application is being filed with IDPH.

2027 Budget

Ms. Schaffer is working on the FY2027 budget.

Chairperson Perrecone asked if there were any questions or follow-up regarding Ms. Schaffer's and Ms. Doise's Administrator's Report.

Discussion Item – Financial Report (Steve Schultz)

1. Financial Statements (see attachment)

Mr. Schultz reviewed page one (the summary page) and subsequent pages of the February 2026 financial report. Chairperson Perrecone called for any questions on the financial report.

Other Matters

- Reminder to submit the Statement of Economic Interests due May 1, 2026.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is on **Tuesday, May 19, 2026**, at **1:30 pm** in the **Finch Room** of River Bluff Health & Rehabilitation, 4401 North Main Street, Rockford, IL 61103

Adjournment

Chairperson Perrecone called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion: Mr. Nieman. Second: Mr. Knutson.

Chairperson Perrecone called for a vote to adjourn the meeting.

The motion was passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy K. Bleile
Executive Assistant