



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Minutes - November 12, 2025

CALL TO ORDER: The Rock County Board of Supervisors met at 6:00 p.m. in the Courthouse at Janesville, Wisconsin, pursuant to adjournment, on October 23, 2025.

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Chair Leavy called the meeting to order. Supervisor Pennycook gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL: At roll call, Supervisors Bobzien, Boehlke, Bostwick, Brien, Cullen, Fugelseth, Gorman, Homan, Knudson, Marshall, Mawhinney, Peer, Pennycook, Rashkin, Ringhand, Ryan, Schneider, Schulz, Schwarz, Stevens, Stone, Sutter, Sutterlin, Tillman, Towns, Whitledge, Wilson, Woodman and Leavy were present. PRESENT – 29. ABSENT – 0.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA: Supervisors Bostwick and Mawhinney moved to approve the agenda. APPROVED by acclamation.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION, COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS: Supervisor Schwarz noted the budget appeals are not numbered the same as they were at the Finance Committee meeting.

REPORTS:

Annual Report by County Clerk per Wis. Stats. 59.23(2)(o):

Clerk Tollefson gave the annual report for 2024.

The records for 2024 indicate the following:

Total Collections	\$611,889,525
Total Disbursements	\$599,794,610

Increase in Cash Balance or Investments	\$12,124,914
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The County collected \$431,794,584 in the first nine months of 2025. Disbursements were \$423,876,075 for the same period. As a result, the cash and investment balance of the County increased by \$7,918,509. The unassigned General Fund balance as of January 1, 2025 was \$28,022,168.

Recommendations by Finance Committee for Revisions to the 2026 Recommended Budget:
Report given by Supervisor Mawhinney.

- The committee approved purchasing digital evidence software for the District Attorney's office, replaces outdated laptops, and funds the purchase of nine additional scanners for the department in the amount of \$73,948. The funding for these expenditures would come from eliminating a vacant Legal Support Specialist position.
The committee approved this amendment on a vote of 5 to 0.
- The committee approved adding a .4 FTE Administrative Assistant to the Veterans office in the amount of \$19,530. The funding for this comes from a reduction in County Board per diems, a reduction in Community Initiative payments to the Tourism Council and Fair Board, and an increase in state aid for the EBDM program that the County was notified about after the development of the Administrator's Recommended Budget.
The committee approved this amendment on a vote of 5 to 0.
- The committee approved removing funding for the second Vice Chair position and redirecting it to the Veteran's budget for additional outreach in the amount of \$1,200.
The committee approved this amendment on a vote of 5 to 0.
- The committee approved providing a \$1 per hour wage adjustment in lieu of the 2.5% COLA incorporated in the Administrator's Recommended Budget. The additional \$460,650 needed for this change would be covered by drawing on the Health Insurance fund balance.
The committee approved this amendment on a vote of 5 to 0.
- The committee approved postponing the Siren System Upgrade project in the amount of \$531,000 and redirecting the sales tax to lower the debt service tax levy.
The committee approved this amendment on a vote of 4 to 1.
- The committee approved using \$2.2 million from the Health Insurance fund balance to pay for Highway road projects 26-31 (CTH O) and 26-32 (CTH M) and reduce 2026 debt issuance by the same amount.
The committee approved this amendment on a vote of 3 to 2.
- The committee approved postponing the Sportsman Park Shelter construction in the amount of \$700,000 and reducing the 2026 debt issuance by the same amount.
The committee approved this amendment on a vote of 3 to 2.
- The committee approved implementation of a Security Information and Event Management solution in the amount of \$70,000. The funding for this solution would come from reductions in the Information Technology budget.
The committee approved this amendment on a vote of 5 to 0.
- The committee approved reclassification of the Assistant Finance Director and the Parks Supervisor so to be placed correctly on the wage grid. The \$7,345 needed for the two reclassifications would come from each of the department's budgets.
The committee approved this amendment on a vote of 5 to 0.

NEW BUSINESS:

SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATIONS AND BUDGET CHANGES - ROLL CALL:

Consideration and Adoption of Recommended 2026 Annual County Budget: Supervisors Bostwick and Mawhinney moved the budget.

Amendment 1 - Supervisor Mawhinney and Schwarz moved to amend the 2026 recommended budget to fund the purchase of digital evidence software, laptops, and scanners for the District Attorney's office, which is funded from the elimination of a vacant Legal Support Specialist position.

Amendment 1 APPROVED by acclamation.

Amendment 2 - Supervisors Mawhinney and Ringhand moved to amend the 2026 recommended budget add a .4 FTE to the Veteran's Office in the amount of \$19,530. Funding would come from a reduction in County Board per diems, reduction in Community Initiative payments to the Tourism Council and Fair Board, and an unanticipated increase in state aid for the EBDM program. **Amendment 2 APPROVED** by acclamation.

Amendment 3 - Supervisors Mawhinney and Stevens moved to amend the 2026 recommended budget to remove funding for the second Vice Chair position and redirect the \$1,200 to the Veterans Office for additional outreach. **Amendment 3 APPROVED** by acclamation.

Amendment 4 - Supervisors Mawhinney and Boelke moved to amend the 2026 recommended budget to provide a \$1 per hour wage adjustment in lieu of the 2.5% COLA. The \$460,650 will be funded from the Health Insurance fund balance. **Amendment 4 APPROVED** by acclamation.

Amendment 5 - Supervisors Mawhinney and Towns moved to amend the 2026 recommended budget to postpone the Siren System Upgrade in the amount of \$531,000 and redirecting the sales tax to lower the debt service levy. **Amendment 5 APPROVED** on the following roll call vote. Supervisors Boehlke, Cullen, Fugelseth, Knudson, Marshall, Mawhinney, Pennycook, Ringhand, Ryan, Schneider, Schwarz, Stone, Sutter, Tillman, Towns, Whitledge, Wilson, Woodman and Leavy voted in favor. Supervisors Bobzien, Bostwick, Brien, Gorman, Homan, Peer, Rashkin, Schulz, Stevens and Sutterlin voted against. AYES - 19. NOES - 10. ABSENTEE - 0.

Amendment 6 - Supervisors Mawhinney and Towns moved to amend the 2026 recommended budget by \$2.2 million coming from the Health Insurance fund balance to pay for Highway road projects 26-31 (CTH O) and 26-32 (CTH M) and reduce the 2026 debt issuance by the same amount. **Amendment 6 APPROVED** on the following roll call vote. Supervisors Bobzien, Boehlke, Brien, Cullen, Fugelseth, Knudson, Marshall, Peer, Pennycook, Ryan, Schneider, Schwarz, Stone, Sutter, Tillman, Towns, Whitledge, Woodman and Leavy voted in favor. Supervisors Bostwick, Gorman, Homan, Mawhinney, Rashkin, Ringhand, Schulz, Stevens, Sutterlin and Wilson, voted against. AYES - 19. NOES - 10. ABSENTEE - 0.

Amendment 7 - Supervisors Mawhinney and Schwarz moved to amend the 2026 recommended budget to postpone the Sportsman Park Shelter construction in the amount of \$700,000 and reduce the 2026 debt issuance by the same amount. **Amendment 7 APPROVED** on the following roll call vote. Supervisors Boehlke, Brien, Cullen, Fugelseth, Homan, Knudson, Marshall, Peer, Pennycook, Ringhand, Schneider, Schwarz, Stone, Sutter, Sutterlin, Tillman, Towns, Whitledge and Leavy voted in favor. Supervisors Bobzien, Bostwick, Gorman, Mawhinney, Rashkin, Ryan, Schulz, Stevens,

Wilson and Woodman voted against. AYES - 19. NOES - 10. ABSENTEE - 0.

Amendment 8 - Supervisors Mawhinney and Schwarz moved to amend the 2026 recommended budget to implement a Security Information and Event Management solution in the amount of \$70,000. Funding would come from reductions in the Information Technology budget. **Amendment 8 APPROVED** by acclamation.

Amendment 9 - Supervisors Mawhinney and Woodman moved to amend the 2026 recommended budget to reclassify the Assistant Finance Director and the Parks Supervisor in the amount of \$7,345 so the positions would be placed correctly on the wage grid. Modifications in both the Parks and Financial Services budgets would be done to fund the reclassifications. **Amendment 9 APPROVED** by acclamation.

Amendment 10 - Supervisors Schwarz and Towns moved to amend the 2026 recommended budget to remove the Health Care Center Abatement project and use the sale tax to reduce the debt service levy. **Amendment 10 APPROVED** on the following roll call vote. Supervisors Boehlke, Cullen, Fugelseth, Knudson, Marshall, Peer, Pennycook, Ryan, Schneider, Schwarz, Stone, Sutter, Tillman, Towns, Whitledge, Woodman and Leavy voted in favor. Supervisors Bobzien, Bostwick, Brien, Gorman, Homan, Mawhinney, Rashkin, Ringhand, Schulz, Stevens, Sutterlin and Wilson voted against. AYES - 17. NOES - 12. ABSENTEE - 0.

Amendment 11 - Supervisors Gorman and Sutterlin moved to amend the 2026 recommended budget to add a rooftop project to a County Building by increasing sale tax revenue. **Amendment 11 FAILED** on the following roll call vote. Supervisors Bobzien, Bostwick, Brien, Cullen, Gorman, Homan, Rashkin, Ringhand, Schulz, Stevens, Sutterlin and Wilson voted in favor. Supervisors Boehlke, Fugelseth, Knudson, Marshall, Mawhinney, Peer, Pennycook, Ryan, Schneider, Schwarz, Stone, Sutter, Tillman, Towns, Whitledge, Woodman and Leavy voted against. AYES - 12. NOES - 17. ABSENTEE - 0.

Amendment 12 - Supervisors Fugelseth and Towns moved to amend the 2026 recommended budget to eliminate the Equity, Diversity, Inclusion & Belonging (EDIB) program and use the funds to decrease the debt service levy. Supervisors Tillman and Mawhinney called the question to end debate. Debate ended on the following roll call vote. Supervisors Bobzien, Boehlke, Bostwick, Brien, Cullen, Fugelseth, Gorman, Homan, Knudson, Marshall, Mawhinney, Pennycook, Ringhand, Ryan, Schneider, Schulz, Schwarz, Stevens, Stone, Sutterlin, Tillman, Towns, Whitledge, Wilson, Woodman and Leavy voted in favor. Supervisors Peer, Rashkin and Sutter voted against. AYE - 26. NOES - 3. ABSENTEE - 0.

Amendment 12 FAILED on the following roll call vote. Supervisors Cullen, Fugelseth, Marshall, Pennycook, Ryan, Schneider, Schwarz, Stone, Sutter, Towns, Whitledge and Woodman voted in favor. Supervisors Bobzien, Boehlke, Bostwick, Brien, Gorman, Homan, Knudson, Leavy, Mawhinney, Peer, Rashkin, Ringhand, Schulz, Stevens, Sutterlin, Tillman and Wilson voted against. AYES - 12. NOES - 17. ABSENTEE - 0.

Amendment 13 - Supervisors Wilson and Bobzien moved to amend the 2026 recommended budget for reallocation for a Facilities Assistant Director, Facilities Executive Assistant, and the addition of a Float Maintenance Assistant. Supervisors Towns and Cullen called the question to end debate. Debate ended on the following roll call vote. Supervisors Bobzien, Boehlke, Bostwick, Cullen, Fugelseth, Gorman, Homan, Knudson, Marshall, Mawhinney, Peer, Pennycook, Rashkin, Ringhand, Ryan,

Schneider, Schulz, Schwarz, Sutter, Sutterlin, Tillman, Towns, Whitledge, Wilson, Woodman and Leavy voted in favor. Supervisors Brien, Stevens and Stone voted against. AYE - 26. NOES - 3. ABSENTEE - 0.

Amendment 13 APPROVED on the following roll call vote. Bobzien, Bostwick, Brien, Cullen, Gorman, Homan, Knudson, Marshall, Peer, Rashkin, Ringhand, Schneider, Schulz, Stevens, Stone, Sutter, Sutterlin, Wilson and Woodman voted in favor. Supervisors Boehlke, Fugelseth, Leavy, Mawhinney, Pennycook, Ryan, Schwarz, Tillman, Towns and Whitledge voted against. AYES - 19. NOES - 10, ABSENTEE - 0.

Budget as amended APPROVED on the following roll call vote. Supervisors Bobzien, Boehlke, Bostwick, Brien, Cullen, Fugelseth, Gorman, Homan, Knudson, Marshall, Mawhinney, Peer, Pennycook, Rashkin, Ringhand, Ryan, Schneider, Schulz, Schwarz, Stevens, Sutterlin, Tillman, Towns, Whitledge, Wilson, Woodman and Leavy voted in favor. Supervisors Stone and Sutter voted against. AYES - 27. NOES - 2. ABSENTEE - 0.

Meeting recessed at 8:56 p.m. for the Finance Committee to meet to set the tax ley and tax rate for 2025.

Meeting reconvened at 9:04 p.m.

Setting the Tax Levy and Tax Rate for 2025 (The Finance Committee will complete the resolution upon adoption of the 2026 Budget.):

Resolution No. R-2025-137

Supervisors Tillman and Schwarz moved to approve the resolution. APPROVED by acclamation.

Cancellation of Checks Over Two Years Old:

Resolution No. R-2025-125

Supervisors Mawhinney and Brien moved to approve the resolution. APPROVED by acclamation.

ADJOURNMENT: Supervisors Bostwick and Pennycook moved to adjourn at 9:10 p.m. to Thursday, November 13, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. APPROVED by acclamation.

Prepared by Lisa Tollefson, County Clerk and Jaymee Stephens, Deputy County Clerk.