BUFFALO COUNTY MINUTES

Committee of the Board: **Finance Committee**

Date of the Meeting: **Thursday, January 15, 2026**

Chair Dennis Bork called the meeting to order at 8:20 a.m.

Members Present: Mr. Dennis Bork, Mr. William Bruegger, Mr. Brian Michaels, and Mr. Steve Nelson. Mr. Max Weiss joined the meeting at 8:29 a.m.

Others Present for All or Parts of the Meeting: Mr. Lee Engfer, Ms. Lisa Schmitt, Mr. Steve Wall, Ms. Emily Scholl, and Ms. Tina Anibas. Ms. Julie Vollmer, Mr. Christopher Murray, Ms. Leslie Sendelbach, and Ms. Ashley Knudston attended virtually.

Public Comments Regarding Agenda Items: None.

Review/Discussion/Action Regarding the Previous Meeting Minutes: Mr. Bruegger made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting, seconded by Mr. Nelson. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action Regarding Risk Management and Safety Update: Mr. Wall reported that he is working on insurance renewals. Worker's compensation has been submitted for 2025 and there were three recordable events. There were two injuries in the Sheriff's Office in January, but the employees did not miss any work because of the injuries.

Review/Discussion/Action Regarding Update on Housing Inmates Out of County: Ms. Scholl presented the committee with an Out of County Jail Financial Report for the period covering October – December 2025. An update was also given on current staff and jail conditions. The report, which listed housing, transport, and meal costs was discussed. The 2026 contract with Trempealeau County has not been signed yet.

Review/Discussion/Action Regarding DNR Licensing Service: Ms. Schmitt informed the committee on the various costs involved with offering DNR licensing services. The gross sales and expenses associated with issuing licenses were discussed, along with reduced staffing in the County Clerk's office and the limited capability and inconvenience for those customers who want to use a credit card. These services are available online and at local businesses throughout the county. After discussion, it was decided to authorize the County Clerk to end the Wisconsin DNR sales agent contract. Mr. Bruegger made a motion to terminate the DNR sales contract, seconded by Mr. Michaels. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action Regarding Non-Compliant Solid Waste Hauler(s): Mr. Engfer reported on two companies that were notified of being non-compliant and operating without the proper permit. A final warning was issued in December. One of the companies has been bought out by another company from Montana. It was decided not to seek legal action against this company for an ordinance violation. Legal action will be taken against the other company who continues to haul without a license.

Review/Discussion/Action Regarding Monthly Vendor Invoices/Employment Payroll/Investment Report: Mr. Engfer answered questions regarding the reports. Mr. Bruegger made a motion to approve the vouchers as presented, seconded by Mr. Weiss.
A request was made to add sales tax information to future reports. Carried.

Chairperson Report: None.

County Administrator Report: Mr. Engfer reported that we are in the process of acquiring a new financial auditing firm. An RFP for this is currently posted. Auditing begins in April, with preparation being done before that time.

Public Comments Unrelated to Agenda Items: None.

Next Date and Time: The next regular meeting date will be February 19, 2026, at 8:30 a.m.

Adjournment: Mr. Bruegger made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:04 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Schmitt
County Clerk