

WACOSA Board of Directors Meeting
August 24, 2026
5:30 P.M.

Members Present:

Peggy Bayer
Matthew DesJardins
Bob Johnson
Laura Krueger
Dennis Meemken
Joe Perske
Lindsey Rennie
Collette Rubel
Erin Weightman
Sandie Westergren

Staff Present:

Nancy Betts
Julie Haag
Meghan Hines
Ann Kennedy
Traci McKinnon
Mary Rothstein

Members Absent:

Curt Gainsforth
Mollie Garden
Jennifer Johnson
Thad Olsen

1. INTRODUCTIONS

2. BOARD TRAINING PERSON CENTERED PLANNING

Nancy Betts provided training for the board regarding person centered planning; what it is, and the difference between what is important to a person and what is important for a person.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

One change in agenda in moving 5e up to 5a and 5a down to 5e.

A motion was made by Joe P., seconded by Matt D., to approve the amended agenda.
A vote was taken and motion passed.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES & NEW BOARD MEMEBERS

A motion was made by Matt D., seconded by Lindsey R., to approve May 18, 2026, minutes as presented. A vote was taken and motion passed.

A motion was made by Joe P., seconded by Matt D to nominate Bob Johnson as a board member. A vote was taken and motion passed.

A motion was made by Lindsey R., seconded by Collette R. to nominate Erin Weightman as a board member. A vote was taken and motion passed.

5. MARKETING, COMMUNICATION AND ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

Ann K. reported.

- The KPI's show increases in engagement with all our stakeholders, except for a decrease in social media engagement. This is most likely due to using paid ads in 2025 that we didn't do in 2026.
- The Marketing Dept. has been busy promoting all our upcoming fundraising and community events. The annual fundraiser, the Bash, will be held at the Moose Lodge on October 3rd. We will be providing some social media packets asking you to share with friends and family as you see fit.
- The annual report is complete and available on the website.

6. FUND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Meghan H. reported.

- BASH Updates: The largest fundraising part is the sponsorships from local businesses, totaling currently at \$29,650 with a few weeks to go. Tickets and T-shirts are available online at this time. Board sponsorships are still being accepted from our board members, please see Julie or Meghan with your contribution.
- Upcoming is the monthly giving launch called WACOSA Roots, with a hard launch scheduled for October 5th. This new endeavor will be in the newsletter and the annual appeal campaign.
- A WACOSA Legacy Society member recently passed, and we are waiting to receive what was left in the bequest.
- The butterfly release was last week to honor those that have passed in the past year at the Foley Mansion to let our family and friends know their loved ones will always be a part of WACOSA's legacy.

7. PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Mary R. reported.

- Cow Tipping Press: The Whitney and South programs completed the writing exercises and published a book of their writings. They celebrated with an author book reading event for the public at the B-Side Café coffee shop. We are looking at doing another Cow Tipping Press cohort this fall.
- Other events included: the play, "Cheese" at the opening of St. Cloud Granite City Days, in collaboration with the Paramount Centre for the Arts; Program staff

attended the MOHR spring conference; and the Whitney Aktion club started a school supply drive. We continue to work with the Stearns County grant to increase community competitive employment opportunities.

- At the June in-service we had a speaker, Lavonna Roth, that did a presentation on Be the Light at work and in life.

8. HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Nancy B. reported.

- We are happy to report that we made an offer to an applicant for the HR Manager position. The applicant comes with many years of experience and has accepted the position.
- Workers' compensation update: We met with our broker and were informed our mod rate would be increasing because our good years were dropping off the calculation.

9. FINANCE COMMITTEE

Traci M. reported.

- The finance committee met on Friday.

Revenues

- Program revenue is under budget by \$190K. MA revenue is coming in at slightly lower rates than expected and with less utilization. Nancy has referred to remediation as required by DHS as rate changes were implemented and then pulled back. We have spent hours doing takebacks and rebilling and only received about \$4K difference.
- The DEED state grant (EE grant) overproduced what we've received in the past. That grant runs from July-June. We overproduced in 2025 for two quarters. By overproducing now, there is a good chance VR will increase future funding.
- Vocational revenue is slightly under the budget for the year. Community crews are under budget because we have open positions without the qualified clients that can fill those.
- Production income and shredding income is over budget and those both had to do with price increases that we readjusted.
- ThriftWorks is over budget and that's due to price increase and the quality of the items being donated.
- Public support is over budget by approximately \$75K. Part of that has to do with the 5310 grant that we bought at the end of 2025 and we didn't get reimbursed until 2026.

- Investment revenue is over budget by about \$45K due to markets which are increasing compared to the last quarter.

Expenses

- Staff wages and related costs are under budget by about \$355K due to open positions.
- Health and life insurance we are under budget because we did not increase our enrollees.
- Client wages and related costs are under budget from the previous year by about \$62K.
- Building and equipment costs are running as expected.
- Advertising and public relations were under \$8,300 and will increase as the year progresses.
- Transportation costs are under budget by \$31K due to our investment in new vehicles over the past year.
- Miscellaneous expense is under budget by about \$80K, due to annual costs not being incurred yet.

The change in net assets year to date is a positive \$770K.

The finance committee met and shared that they had no concerns with the financial report. A motion was made by Matt D., seconded by Laura K. to approve the June 2026 financial report. A vote was taken and motion passed.

The Finance Committee requests to approve an increase to the capitalization limit from \$1K to \$5K, as is now standard practice. It would take affect 1/1/27, but be helpful for budgeting purposes now.

A motion was made by Laura K., seconded by Matt D. to approve an increase of capitalization limit to \$5K for 1/1/27. A vote was taken and motion passed.

10. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Nancy B. reported.

- The strategic plan update is on the portal. One of the major initiatives is the 1st Ave program. As we plan to find a space that would suit them better, we met with the owners of 250 Sundial Drive. They are interested in working with us and it would be the ideal spot. The next step in that process would be to verify with DHS about moving that license, though a slow-moving process.
- The APH fundraiser Friends of WACOSA event raised a gross total of \$513K, final numbers will be reported as received.

- 5310 grant vehicles are 45% of our vehicles, and the first minivan has been received and will be put into service shortly.
- Reminder – board terms are ending in December and Sandie will be reaching out for additional terms. Joe P. will be at the end of his third, three-year term this year.

11. ADJOURN THE BOARD MEETING.

A motion was made by Matt D., seconded by Lindsey R., to adjourn the meeting. A vote was taken and motion passed.

Next Meeting: Monday, October 5, 2026

Matt DesJardins, Board Secretary

Date