

**LINCOLN COUNTY
SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
PUBLIC HEARING**

**Monday, November 10, 2025 at 4:00 p.m.
Lincoln County Service Center
Meeting room #247/248
801 N. Sales St., Merrill, WI**

MINUTES

2026 85.21 TRANSPORTATION APPLICATION

**1. Public Input pursuant to the requirements of Wisconsin Administrative Code:
Trans 1.07 Public Hearing**

- (1) A county applicant is required to conduct a public hearing so that interested persons in the county may be informed of the proposed project and have an opportunity to express their views before the application is submitted to the department. The applicant shall include in its application a brief description of the hearing and a summary of the views expressed at the hearing. Any written statements presented for the public hearing record shall be submitted to the department along with other documentation concerning the hearing. The public hearing shall be held not less than 14 days prior to the date on which a county submits its application.
- (2) The applicant shall publish notice of the public hearing not less than 10 days prior to the hearing. A preliminary draft of the application shall be available for public inspection not less than 10 days prior to the hearing. The published notice shall indicate where the draft application is available for public inspection. At a minimum, the public hearing notice shall be published in the official county newspaper, or if there is no official county newspaper, then in a newspaper likely to give notice in the area or to the persons affected in accordance with s. [985.02 \(1\)](#), Stats. A county applicant shall make appropriate efforts to encourage residents to attend the public hearing.

No members from the public were present for the public hearing. No comments were submitted prior to the hearing. A brief review of the application was provided to the Committee.

LINCOLN COUNTY SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Monday, November 10, 2025 - 4:00 PM

MINUTES

1. Call Committee Meeting to Order Immediately Following the 85.21 Public Hearing

Chair Thiel called the meeting to order at 4:16 pm.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Laurie Thiel, Dana Miller, Donald Dunphy, Marty Lemke

MEMBERS UNEXCUSED: none

MEMBERS EXCUSED: James Meunier

DEPARTMENT HEADS: Amber Rehberg, Jessi Rumsey

VISITORS: none

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Approval of Minutes

a. Approve Minutes from October 13, 2025

M/S Dunphy/Miller to approve minutes from October 13, 2025. Motion carried by a voice vote.

4. Public Comment

None

5. Social Services Financial

a. 2025 YTD

Report(s) placed on file.

6. Social Services Department Updates

a. Director's Report

Rumsey provided a verbal departmental update. Discussion regarding out of home placement expenses exceeding budget. This will continue to be monitored. Foster Parent recruitment session information shared.

- i) CLOSED SESSION: Motion to convene into closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. §19.85(1)(c) employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility; and (f) considering financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons, preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems or the investigation of charges against specific persons except where par. (b) applies which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or data, or involved in such problems or investigations, to wit: *Staffing Changes due to employee discharge***

M/S Lemke/Miller to convene into closed session to include Jessi Rumey, Director for Social Services. Roll Call Vote: 3-1

M/S Miller/Lemke to return to open session. Roll Call Vote: 4-0

No action on closed session item.

7. Approve Release of RFP for Supervised Visitation Services for the Child Welfare Unit

M/S Miller/Dunphy to Approve Release of RFP for Supervised Visitation Services for the Child Welfare Unit.
Motion carried by a voice vote.

8. UW Extension Financial

a. 2025 YTD

Report(s) placed on file.

9. UW Extension Department Updates

a. Area Extension Director's Update

- 4-H Membership Update; Cloverbuds (K–2): 17; Club Members (Grades 3–13): 174; Volunteers: 55
- Fall Trainings-Session provided by 4-H Educator to build capacity for volunteers and youth leaders.
- 4-H Newsletter provided; County Board Members always welcome to 4-H activities and events.
- Statewide restructuring is planned, including changes to the number of Area Extension Directors and county alignments. Further details and potential impacts on Lincoln County will be shared as available.

10. Future Agenda Items

Award bid for Supervised Visitation Services for the Child Welfare Unit.

11. Set Next Meeting Date(s)

Monday, December 8, 2025 at 4:00 pm.

12. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 5:28 pm.