

Iron County Human Services Board Meeting
January 19, 2026
5:00 p.m. – County Board Room

1. **Meeting called to order** at 5:00 p.m. by Lauer.
Members present: Karen Lauer, Tom Innes, Roy Haeger, Doug Swartz, Jennifer Rye and Larry Youngs, County Board Chair.
Members absent: Mario Loreti, Lauren Snyder, Kurt Wolff
Staff members present: Cally Bucknell, Krystal Ferrell, Trista Olson, Diane Schmidtke.
Student members absent: Natalie Cane, Keira Koski,
2. Bucknell acknowledged the meeting was properly posted and advertised.
3. **Public Comment** – Youngs reported that Mario Loreti now lives in Michigan so is no longer on this committee. It was decided that we will wait until the spring election for a replacement committee member. Teresa Way, Child Support Administrator, will report to this committee once per quarter. She will have her own agenda and minutes and present at the beginning of the meeting.
4. **Approval of minutes from previous meetings:** Motion by Innes to approve minutes from the November 10, 2025 meeting, seconded by Swartz. AIF.
5. **Budget Update 2025 and 2026** – Bucknell referred to handout #5 and advised that 2025 is not final and the 2026 budget was not in Workhorse yet, so we were unable to provide a 2026 budget update. No questions were asked.
6. **Adult & Children Placements 2025** – Bucknell referenced handout #6 and advised that four children entered foster care at the end of 2025 and these are anticipated to be lengthy placements. No questions were asked.
7. **Discussion/Action Contracts** – Bucknell referred to handout # 7 which listed the 2026 contracts. Bucknell advised that the State has a threshold of \$10,000 for contracts so we will be using the attached Purchase of Service Agreement, BAA (Business Associate Agreement) when applicable, and Emergency Plan for providers that fall under that threshold. Questions were answered regarding contracts. Lauer asked if there were any increases for 2025 contracts and Schmidtke advised that there were no amendments needed for 2025 contracts. Motion by Rye to approve the 2026 contracts and utilization of the Purchase of Service Agreement, second by Haeger. AIF.
8. **Discussion/Action Resolution 2026-4052 – Approving and Advertising ADRC Information and Assistance Specialist Position** - Bucknell advised that this vacancy is in our 2026 budget and was created when Gerard Randall accepted the Veteran’s Service Officer position. This resolution is on the January 20th Finance agenda. Motion by Rye to approve Resolution 2026-4052 and forward to Finance, second by Innes. AIF.
9. **Agency Updates and Information**
 - a. **Director Update** – Bucknell gave updates that have occurred since our last meeting:
 - WHEAP funding has been released.
 - Our new CCS/CSP/CLTS worker started last week, and things are going very well thus far.
 - Federal freezing of funds for childcare to some states is not expected to impact Wisconsin but we are following it closely.
 - Due to power outages around Thanksgiving, Human Services staff were activated for Emergency Shelter coverage. Bucknell reported that she recognized and thanked her staff for stepping up to the plate so quickly, even during a holiday.
 - b. **Transportation** – Bucknell said she has no official numbers for January from BART. We received one complaint this month from an occupational therapist regarding a scheduling issue. Olson added that BART had hired an additional driver who is no longer working for BART so they are currently working on hiring another driver.

10. **Children & Families Update** – Ferrell reported that she is working on some projects with DCF which allows her to see how other counties do things and may prompt us to do some things in other ways. Ferrell then reviewed placements and case information and answered a couple of questions relating to recent placements and activity with the DA’s Office.
11. **ADRC & Aging**
 - a. Upcoming Meeting Schedule:
 - Aging Advisory Committee – 3/10/26
 - Nutrition Advisory Committee – 3/5/26
 - Hurley Senior Center Board Meeting – 1/28/2
 - b. ADRC and Aging Services Update – Olson referred to handout #11a & b and reviewed caseloads and advised that Miranda has taken on Gerard’s caseload. Other updates from Olson include:
 - * Jerri Swartz has been very busy with tax prep and reported an economic impact of \$46,350 in December.
 - * Both Hurley and Mercer meal sites recently re-branded. Hurley members chose “The Gathering Place” and Mercer chose “Northwoods Hub”.
 - * The ADRC newsletter is coming back in an electronic version.
 - * Jerri will be visiting meal sites to provide homestead tax credit prep information. A schedule of those visits will be provided soon.
12. **Review/Approve credit card bill and vouchers** – Bucknell indicated that there are several handouts for #12. No questions were asked. Motion by Haeger, seconded by Swartz to approve the Oct/Nov and Nov/Dec credit card bills and Nov-Dec vouchers. All in favor.
13. **Future Agenda Items** – February – interviews for ADRC I & A
14. **Set next board meeting date and location** – Tentatively set for 2/17/26 @ 4:00 p.m. in the County Board Room.
15. **Adjourn** –Lauer adjourned the meeting at 5:39 p.m.