

# Richland County Executive & Finance Standing Committee

June 23, 2025

The Richland County Executive & Finance Standing Committee convened on June 23, 2025, in person and virtually at 5:00 PM in the County Boardroom of the Richland County Courthouse.

**Call To Order:** Committee Chair Williamson called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

**Roll Call:** Deputy Clerk Hege conducted roll call. Committee member(s) present: Steve Carrow, Gary Manning, Mark Gill, Craig Woodhouse, David Turk, and Steve Williamson, and Marc Couey. Committee member(s) absent: Ingrid Glasbrenner and Melvin “Bob” Frank.

Committee Chair Williamson requested that the minutes show that quorum was attained with 7 out of the 9 committee members being present.

**Verification Of Open Meetings Law Compliance:** Deputy Clerk Hege confirmed the meeting had been properly noticed.

Supervisor Glasbrenner joined the meeting in person at 5:02 PM.

**Approval Of Agenda:** Committee Chair Williamson amended the agenda to move items 11, 12, and 13 up on the agenda to follow item 7B. Motion by Manning to approve the agenda as amended, second by Woodhouse to approve agenda as amended. Motion carried and agenda was approved as amended and items 11, 12, and 13 were moved up on the agenda to follow item 7B.

**Approval Of Minutes From The June 10, 2025 Meeting:** Committee Chair Williamson asked if there were any corrections or amendments to the minutes from the June 10, 2025 meeting. Hearing none, Committee Chair Williamson declared the minutes from the June 10, 2025, meeting approved as presented.

**Public Comment:** Rafael De Lamour, an employee in the Richland County Emergency Services department, introduced himself to the committee and briefly spoke on behalf of himself and several other members of the Richland County Emergency Services department regarding events that took place Friday, June 20, 2025. Mr. De Lamour expressed the feeling that the staff had lost a source of advocacy with the County Board, requested the committee that any decision in regards to leadership of the EMS department that the EMS staff be consulted, and requested that committee be aware of the of the lack of respect and appreciation that the EMS staff was feeling and expressed his desire that the committee would take that into consideration. Committee Chair Williamson thanked the members of the Emergency Services department who were present for their service.

The Honorable Jennifer Harper, Richland County District Attorney, spoke to agenda item 13 “Discussion & Possible Action: Corporation Counsel Structure For 2026”. District Attorney Harper spoke on how changes to the Corporation Counsel structure could affect the District Attorney’s Office due to the Assistant Corporation Counsel also serving as Richland County Assistant District Attorney. District Attorney Harper expressed concerns on the difficulty in recruiting and retaining qualified attorneys to serve as the Assistant District Attorney. Committee Chair Williamson stated that the committee would take District Attorney Harper’s concerns into consideration as part of the discussion.

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### **Reports:**

**A. Administrator's Report:** County Administrator, Tricia Clements briefly stated that she had nothing to report at this time and would make her report to the full county board.

**B. Radio Tower Update:** County Administrator, Tricia Clements, presented a timeline from GenComm for the completion of the radio tower project and spoke on her upcoming meeting with Mike Day, the project manager. Brief discussion ensued.

**Discussion & Possible Action: Approval Of Pharmacy Services For Pine Valley Community Village:** Pine Valley Community Village Administrator, Brittany Paulus, explained the need to contract pharmacy services for Pine Valley Community Village and presented five different Pharmacy options and expressed her preference for HealthDirect Institutional Pharmacy Services Inc. Extensive discussion ensued on the pros and cons of the various options in general and the differences between Guardian Pharmacy of Madison, LLC and HealthDirect Institutional Pharmacy Services Inc in particular. Consensus was gained from the committee to have Administrator Paulus to submit a summary of the contracts and the recommendation of the medical director of Pine Valley Community Village along with the contract. Motion by Turk, second by Gill to approve the contract with HealthDirect Institutional Pharmacy Services and to move it onto the full county for final approval. Motion carried and the contract with HealthDirect Institutional Pharmacy Services Inc was approved and moved onto to the full county board for final approval.

**Discussion & Possible Action: Next Steps On Water Study For Pine Valley Community Village:** Bart Nies with Delta 3 introduced himself to the committee and presented the work he had done so far on behalf of Pine Valley Community Village and their aging water reservoir system. Mr. Nies presented a revised document outlining 5 different options. Extensive discussion ensued. Committee Chair Williamson called on Supervisor Severson for his input and Supervisor Severson expressed that there was a potential for growth in that section if there were city utilities available. Director Paulus expressed her concerns regarding the testing required to ensure the residents of Pine Valley Community Village were not exposed to the bacteria that causes Legionnaires disease. Extensive discussion on the costs of testing and other ongoing maintenance of the various options continued. Supervisor Couey expressed his preference of the water supply being part of the city vs an independent reservoir system. Supervisor Glasbrenner questioned how other similar facilities that were part of city water systems deal with water testing. Extensive discussion ensued. Supervisor Turk suggested that the County Administrator meet with the City of Richland Center Administrator to discuss the project. Discussion on other potential costs associated with being part of the city utilities continued. Consensus was gained from the committee to add this item to the July 8<sup>th</sup> agenda. No action was taken.

**Discussion & Possible Action: Corporation Counsel Structure For 2026:** Administrator Clements gave a brief background of the item and presented several pros and cons of having an inhouse corporation counsel. District Attorney, Jennifer Harper briefly spoke to the current structure of the District Attorney's Office and the potential hinderances of an inhouse Corporation Counsel. Extensive discussion ensued on the rates of an internal Corporation Counsel vs and external Corporation Counsel. Supervisor Glasbrenner requested the total number of service hours needed for Corporation Counsel. Consensus was gained from the committee to add this item to the July 8<sup>th</sup> agenda. No action was taken.

**Closed Session: The Chair May Entertain A Motion To Enter Closed Session Pursuant To Wis. Stat, Sec 19.85(1)(C): Considering Employment, Promotion, Compensation Or Performance Evaluation**

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**Data Of Any Public Employee Over Which The Governmental Body Has Jurisdiction Or Exercises Responsibility: Review Of Situation In Ambulance Services Department:** Committee Chair entertained a motion to enter into Closed Session. Motion by Manning, second by Carrow to enter into Closed Session. Motion carried unanimously at 6:16 PM.

**Return To Open Session:** Returned to Open Session at 6:54 PM.

**Possible Action On Items From Closed Session:** Committee Chair Williamson entertained a motion to appoint Richland County Administrator, Tricia Clements, the Acting Director of the Emergency Services Department until such time as a contracted provider can be secured. Motion by Turk, second by Couey. Motion to appoint Richland County Administrator, Tricia Clements, as the interim head of the Emergency Services Department carried unanimously.

**Correspondence:** None.

**Future Agenda Items:**

Discussion & Possible Action: Capital Improvement Plan

Discussion & Possible Action: Next Steps On Water Study For Pine Valley Community Village

Discussion & Possible Action: Corporation Counsel Structure For 2026

**Adjourn:** Committee Chair Williamson entertained a motion to adjourn. Motion by Manning, second by Gill to adjourn. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,



Myranda H. Hege  
Deputy County Clerk