

## Village Board Meeting – February 9, 2026

On February 9, 2026, the Village Board met at the Village Hall, 613 Main St, Colfax, WI at 7:00 p.m. Members present included Trustees Burcham, Davis, Rud, Jenson, Best, and Prince. Trustee Stene was excused. Others present were Public Works Director Brett Sajdera, EMS Director Chrystal Smith, Library Director Lisa Bragg-Hurlburt, Rand Bates, Robert Kelsall, Autumn Wildfeuer, Chloe Styer, Stryker Rep Ryan Kusilek, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Sheila Riemer, Administrator-Clerk-Treasurer Julie Mitchell and LeAnn Ralph with the Messenger.

### **Communication from the Village President – None**

**Public Comment** – Lisa Bragg-Hurlburt gave the Board an update on the 2025 Annual Report, as well as an update on the elevator project. Bragg-Hurlburt said the elevator project needs an updated quote for the work that was originally quoted in 2018. This is needed to compete for grants at a higher level. The elevator fund committee can vote on paying for that updated quote with interest earned on elevator funds.

### **Consent Agenda**

- **Regular Board Meeting Minutes** – January 26, 2026
- **Review Statement of Bills Dairy State Bank** – January 26, 2026 – February 8, 2026
- **Review Statement of Bills Solid Waste & Recycling Checking** – January 26, 2026 – February 8, 2026
- **Licenses – Operator’s License** – None
- **Training** – None

A motion was made by Trustee Burcham and seconded by Trustee Best to approve consent agenda items 5a-5e.

A voice vote was taken with all members voting in favor. Motion carried.

### **Consideration Items:**

**Public Works Organizational Set-up Discussion:** Mitchell reported that Rand Bates tendered his resignation, effective February 17, 2026. President Prince thanked Bates on behalf of the Board for his service. Director Sajdera asked for two full-time operators going forward.

**Employment Ad-Public Works-Finalize and Approve** – Sajdera presented an ad that he created for the Public Works Operator positions. Discussion involved the wage listed on the advertisement. A motion was made by Trustee Burcham and seconded by Trustee Rud to approve two full-time operators and the ad with the wage changed to “starting at \$22.00/hour and up based on experience”. Voting for: Trustees Best, Jenson, Rud, Davis, Burcham and Prince. Voting against: none. Motion carried.

**LUCAS 3 Device Cot and Stair chair Quotes:** Ryan Kusilek from Stryker was on hand to talk about the need to replace the current cots and stair chair. The cots went into service almost 14 years ago, and the FDA recommends updating those every seven years. Kusilek said equipment that old is difficult to service and find parts for. The LUCAS device was previously discussed, and the stair chair was physically present at the meeting, and he gave a brief demonstration on how the stair chair works. Kusilek said that the cot and LUCAS device could be demo versions, which means they are either slightly used or brought out only for demonstrations. This would create significant savings for the Village. The stair chair is a brand-new model, so a demo of that piece of equipment is not available. Kusilek also presented three payment options for all three pieces of equipment: a. one single payment of \$55,877.90; b. two annual payments interest-free for \$27, 938.96; or c. three annual payments interest free of \$18,625.97. Options b and c would require the first payment at the time of delivery in 2026, with subsequent payments in subsequent years. A motion was made by Trustee Burcham and seconded by Trustee Best to approve the purchase of the LUCAS, cot and stair chair under three-year payment plan. Voting for: Trustees Best, Jenson, Rud, Davis, Burcham and Prince. Voting against: None. Motion carried.

**Furnace Quotes-Rescue Squad** - Mitchell stated that the furnace at the rescue squad started on fire and needs to be replaced. There were three quotes in the packet. Director Smith said that CCS Services, LLC were local people with a business based out of Eau Claire. Their quote was for a 100,000 BTU, 96% efficient gas furnace with a 2-year labor warranty and a 1 year warranty on all parts and 10 years on the heat exchanger. The second quote was from Cedar Falls Heating & A/C Inc. Their quote included two options: the first was for an Amana Deluxe 100,000 BTU 96% AFUE with a 5 year warranty on all parts, 1 year on labor and a limited 20 year heat exchanger warranty for \$6,413.00; the second was a Goodman 100,000 BTU 96% AFUE with the same warranties for \$5,342.00. The third was from Hurlburt Heating & Plumbing. Their quote included three options: the first was a Lennox T3 97% AFUE with a warranty of one year on parts and labor, and 5 years on the heat exchanger for \$6,717.00; the second option was a Lennox T2 97% AFUE with the same warranties as the T3 for \$7,381.00, and the third was a Lennox T1 99% AFUE with the same warranties for \$8,490.00. Logslett Heating & Cooling submitted a quote on Monday prior to the meeting for a 100,000 BTU 96% efficiency with a 5 year parts, 1 year labor and 20 year heat exchanger warranty for \$5,325.00. Trustee Burcham made a motion to accept Logslett Heating & Cooling quote and was seconded by Trustee Rud. Voting for: Trustees Jenson, Rud, Davis, Burcham, Best and Prince. Voting against: None. Motion carried.

**Grassland WWTR Proposal-** Mitchell explained that CBS Squared came back with some numbers regarding the discharge of Grassland’s waste water which is currently trucked to an offsite plant. Bates provided more background and explanation. The biggest and most expensive concern is the Phosphorus discharge. Under any agreement, we would have full access to sampling at any time. We would begin by testing the samples daily to see how they run. We would also have something in the agreement that would shut down the

discharge if they exceeded what we determined to be acceptable levels. Prince said we should also add something saying that Grassland would be responsible for any damage to our system because of their discharging. Mitchell will talk with Village Attorney Wachewicz to ask CBS Squared to move to the next step in the process of determining how much extra Grassland's discharge will cost the village in sample gathering, testing, additional chemicals and manpower. Bates said the Village needs to make sure our costs are covered.

**Public Property Committee Recommendations – Basement Bids** – Trustee Burcham explained that we still have a water problem in the basement, and this needs to be fixed before it negatively impacts the structural integrity of the Municipal Building. Mitchell asked three contractors to bid on the basement water remediation. Those bids were included in the packet. Previous tries at waterproofing the basement have not been successful, as water continues to come in. Several Trustees voiced their frustration regarding continuing to spend money to waterproof the basement when previous attempts haven't worked. Mitchell said that Groundworks provides a lifetime warranty, but members of the Board were skeptical. Trustee Davis made a motion that was seconded by Trustee Jenson to table this item until Groundwork's consultant can come to explain the process to the Board. Voting for: Trustees Best, Jenson, Rud, Davis, Burcham and Prince. Voting against: None. Motion carried.

**Public Property Committee Recommendations – PW Building Plans** – Trustee Burcham explained the Public Property committee discussed moving the Police Department to the cold storage area of the Public Works building. More space is needed for the Library, and adding that square footage would help to determine next steps for the Library expansion. Much discussion was had regarding the options, and Prince said that much more discussion will need to happen. A motion was made by Trustee Davis and seconded by Trustee Burcham to table this item for further discussion and for Bragg-Hurlburt to bring in Library space needs to the board. Voting for: Trustees Best, Jenson, Rud, Davis, Burcham and Prince. Voting against: None. Motion carried.

**EMS District/Towns Association:** Mitchell explained the effort by the Dunn County chapter of the Wisconsin Towns Association to organize an EMS District county-wide. The Towns Association received a grant to conduct a study with Strategic Management & Consulting LLC to determine the Recommendations for the Innovation Grant & Guide to Shared Services/Consolidation/Merging. The innovation grant would be 5 years and \$5,000,000 or \$1M/per year. This plan includes most of Dunn County, including the Menomonie, Boyceville and Colfax EMS squads. Mitchell, Prince and Davis attended an information session hosted by the Towns Association on Monday, February 12 where most Townships were represented. Prince said he was concerned that Menomonie would take resources away from the smaller Boyceville & Colfax squads. Mitchell said that the plan as presented in the report by Strategic Management & Consulting did not seem to fit the mission and goals of the Colfax Rescue Squad. There was also concern expressed that extra levels of bureaucracy would eat up much of the grant funding. A big concern was what happens after the five years and these extra costs could go back to the municipalities. President Prince said that the effort seems to be intended to fix a problem that doesn't currently exist. A motion was made by Trustee Jenson and seconded by Trustee Rud that the Village of Colfax does not participate in the Towns Association effort to create an EMS District. Voting for: Trustees Burcham, Davis, Rud, Jenson, Best and Prince. Voting against: None. Motion carried.

**Recommendation to Move Board Meetings to the Fire Hall:** Trustee Burcham stated that she thought the space at the Fire Hall would be more appropriate for the Village Board meetings than our current chambers. When we get members of the public and village staff attending these meetings, it becomes cramped and some Trustees have their backs to members of the community. Mitchell stated it was possible for the Fire District to charge us to host the meetings. Trustee Best mentioned the Rescue conference room may be appropriate, but Trustee Burcham said that it would not be a good fit. Trustee Jenson mentioned that closed sessions in the Rescue Squad would not be possible. President Prince stated that the logistics for Riemer and Mitchell may be difficult for bringing information back and forth from the fire hall. While there was agreement that the Village Board needs more space, a move does not seem to be appropriate at this time.

**Rescue Report Update:** Riemer gave an update to the Rescue numbers that there have been 92 calls so far this year, which projects to a potential 1700 calls for 2026.

**Closed Session**-Motion to convene into closed session pursuant to WI Statutes 19.85 (1) (f) considering financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons, preliminary consideration off 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. A motion was made by Trustee Burcham and seconded by Trustee Davis to go into closed session at 9:15pm. Voting For: Trustees Best, Jenson, Rud, Davis, Burcham, and Prince. Voting Against: none. Motion carried.

**Open Session**- A motion was made by Trustee Burcham and seconded by Trustee Davis to re-convene into open session at 9:53pm. A voice vote was taken with all members voting in favor. Motion carried. No action taken.

**Adjourn** – A motion was made by Trustee Burcham and seconded by Trustee Davis to adjourn the meeting at 9:54pm. A voice vote was taken with all members voting in favor. Meeting Adjourned.

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Jeff Prince, Village President

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Julie Mitchell Administrator-Clerk-Treasurer