

Polk-Burnett Charities, Inc./Operation Round-Up® Board of Directors Meeting Minutes, January 7, 2026

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Polk-Burnett Charities, Inc. was held at Polk-Burnett Electric Cooperative, 1001 State Road 35, Centuria, Wisconsin, on Wednesday, January 7, 2026, 1:30 p.m. pursuant to notice duly given.

Present: JoAnn Kipping, Gary Ganje, Elvira Schmidt, Marlyn Bottolfson, Julie Minell, Diane Lund, Mary Erickson and Joan O'Fallon (facilitator).
Absent: Ed Peterson and Gretchen Sampson.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Marlyn Bottolfson, vice president, called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was approved with a motion by Diane Lund and seconded by Elvira Schmidt.

APPROVAL OF OCTOBER MINUTES

A motion was made by Mary Erickson and seconded by Diane Lund to approve the October 2025 meeting minutes. Motion approved. Joan O'Fallon will post minutes on the website.

APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT

Elvira Schmidt, secretary/treasurer, presented the treasurer's report. Year-to-date funds through November 2025 totaled \$90,500.01. Year-to-date disbursements totaled \$69,413.80, and \$1,072.40 was paid for mileage reimbursement. The ending balance was \$20,013.81. A motion was made by JoAnn Kipping and seconded by Mary Erickson to approve the treasurer's report. Motion approved.

MEETING FACILILATOR'S REPORT

Joan O'Fallon distributed thank-you notes and publications from grant recipients, and newspaper clips from recent Operation Round Up grant presentations.

A new Operation Round Up policy was shared with the board. Policy No. 8 was approved by the Polk-Burnett Charities Board (electric co-op board) December 15, 2025, and states that Polk-Burnett Charities/Operation Round Up may solicit and accept contributions from sources other than rounded up electric bills. The new Policy No. 8 will be accepted at the Operation Round Up organizational meeting in July 2026, during the annual review of bylaws and policies.

READING OF THE MISSION STATEMENT

Diane Lund read the mission statement to guide the board's consideration of grant requests.

MOTION TO APPROVE GRANT FUNDING

A motion was made by Gary Ganje and seconded by Mary Erickson to approve \$13,992 in grant funding for 14 organizations listed below. Motion approved.

- 1. Yellow Lake Food Distribution, \$1,500, food for distribution to people in need**
- 2. Polk County Historical Society, \$1,000, new flooring**
- 3. Polk County Drug Endangered Children Committee, \$575, volunteer training**
- 4. Polk County Dept. of Children and Families, \$1,000, gas cards to help with transportation**

5. **Interfaith Caregivers of Polk County, \$1,500, services to help seniors and adults with disabilities**
6. **Amery Girls Booster Basketball, \$500, uniforms**
7. **Coats for Kids, \$1,000, coats, snow pants, boots, hats, gloves for Frederic area kids and families**
8. **Feed my Neighbor Community Food Pantry, Centuria \$1,500, food for distribution to people in need**
9. **Clear Lake Area Community Center, 1,000, sound system for community events**
10. **Balsam Lake Public Library, \$1,000, red-light therapy units to check out from library**
11. **Clear Lake Track & Field, \$500, storage container for track equipment**
12. **Golden Age Manor, Amery, \$1,917, portable cart with respiratory care equipment**
13. **Forest Timberwolves 4-H Club, \$500, accessible swing for park in Deer Park**
14. **Clear Lake Elementary School, \$500, children's books for local bars and restaurants**

MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT

A motion was made by JoAnn Kipping and seconded by Elvira Schmidt to approve mileage reimbursement for board members who submitted expense forms. Motion approved. Checks will be mailed by Polk-Burnett's finance department.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice President Marlyn Bottolfson adjourned the meeting at 2:25 p.m.

Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, April 1, 2026, 1:30 p.m., Centuria