

BUDGET SUMMARY

Category	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Budget	2027 Requested Budget	2026/2027 Variance
Expenditures					
Personnel Costs	2,227,299	1,823,257	1,897,528	1,954,685	57,157
Operations Costs	713,956	284,076	831,380	419,573	(411,807)
Debt & Depreciation	0	0	0	0	0
Capital Outlay	0	0	0	0	0
Interdepartmental Charges	0	0	0	0	0
Total Expenditures	\$2,941,255	\$2,107,332	\$2,728,908	\$2,374,258	(\$354,650)
Revenues					
Other Direct Revenue	281,297	296,029	618,105	668,135	50,030
State & Federal Revenue	86,118	167,183	85,000	45,000	(40,000)
Indirect Revenue	0	21	0	0	0
Total Revenues	\$367,415	\$463,233	\$703,105	\$713,135	\$10,030
Tax Levy	\$2,573,840	\$1,644,099	\$2,025,803	\$1,661,123	(\$364,680)
Personnel					
Full Time Pos (FTE)	24.50	25.50	25.50	26.00	0.50
Overtime \$	805	2,040	0	0	0
Seasonal/Hourly/Pool	8,057	39,176	45,298	45,298	0

Department Mission:

The mission of the County Clerk's Office is to support the activities of the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors, the election activities of the Milwaukee County Election Commission, and the general operations of County government. The County Clerk's Office strives to provide high quality services to the public at the lowest cost to the taxpayers.

The Milwaukee County Election Commission administers elections in accordance with state statute and administrative procedures. The Milwaukee County Election Commission provides these services in conjunction with the direction and guidance of the Wisconsin Elections Commission. The County Election Commission maintains cooperative working relationships with State election administrators, 18 Milwaukee County Municipal clerks, and the City of Milwaukee Election Commission to effectively administer elections in Milwaukee County.

Department Vision:

The Milwaukee County Clerk's Office will continue to provide the highest quality service at the lowest cost possible. The County Clerk's Office will seek ways to maximize efficiency in every area of service it provides and will continue to advertise its services to the public to increase revenue.

The Milwaukee County Election Commission exists to administer federal, state, and local elections. The Election Commission administers these elections in a manner that fosters public trust in the accuracy, efficiency, and fairness of elections and develops confidence in the democratic process.

Department Description:

The independently elected County Clerk administers and records the proceedings of the County Board of Supervisors, maintains all legislative files, staffs County Board meetings and committees, updates existing ordinances and publishes new ordinances online.

The County Clerk's Office runs and maintains the legislative workflow software Legistar, its public-facing counterpart, the Milwaukee County Legislative Information Center (CLIC) and all the hardware and software that accompanies it.

The Clerk's Office provides support to the County Board through 6.0 FTE Administrative Secretary Legislative Assistant III positions.

The County Clerk issues marriage licenses and domestic partnership terminations, registers all lobbyists and lobbying principals, and reports lobbying registrations and expenditures to the County Board, County Executive, and the public.

The Office of the County Clerk serves as an information clearing house by: receiving and processing claims, court summons and complaints naming Milwaukee County; maintaining the central file of county deeds, contracts, insurance policies, agreements, leases, easements, and certificates of title for all county-owned vehicles; administering oaths of office and maintaining record of such oaths; receiving and publicly opening all sealed bids for County public improvement projects; and maintaining a file of qualified public improvement contractors. The County Clerk accepts and processes passport applications, sells Milwaukee County Transit System tickets and Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources licenses and permits; processes lien notices and actions against contractors performing County public improvements; serves as Executive Director of the Milwaukee County Election Commission; and provides support services to the Milwaukee County Election Commission (Agency 301).

The Milwaukee County Election Commission administers elections under the direction and guidance of the Wisconsin Elections Commission and maintains cooperative working relationships with State election administrators and the 19 municipal clerks to efficiently administer elections in Milwaukee County.

Strategic Program Area: County Clerk**Service Provision:** Mandated**How We Do It: Program Budget Summary**

Category	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Budget	2027 Budget	2026/2027 Variance
Expenditures	1,853,903	1,507,632	1,614,813	1,634,050	19,237
Revenues	281,182	296,050	617,355	667,635	50,280
Tax Levy	1,572,721	1,211,581	997,458	966,415	(31,043)
Full Time Pos (FTE)	21.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	0.00

What We Do With It: Activity Data

Activity	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Target	2027 Target
Claims processed	245	235	255	260
Contractor lien notices/vendor levies	2	8	5	5
County Board files maintained	1,056	1,300	1,200	1,200
County Ordinances published	14	15	15	14
Documents notarized	4,457	4,600	4,850	5,100
Lobbying registrations	3	3	5	5
Marriage license waivers	4,220	4,325	4,518	4,518
Marriage licenses issued	475	467	940	2,744
Oaths of Office administered	54	85	90	95
Passport applications processed	1,612	1,705	1,921	1,921
Summons and complaints processed	52	70	67	65
Wisconsin DNR licenses sold	0	0	65	65

How Well We Do It: Performance Measures

Performance Measure	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Target	2027 Target
Customer satisfaction survey rating	97%	93%	97%	98%

Strategic Overview:

The County Clerk's Office strives to provide the highest level of service at the lowest cost to the taxpayers. The Clerk's Office will continue to promote its services to attract revenue and continue to seek additional revenue streams.

Strategic Implementation:

The County Clerk's Office aims to perform at the existing high level of efficiency, expediency, and, above all, quality.

The County Clerk's Office interacts with members of the public daily and each customer is encouraged to complete a customer satisfaction survey. Performance ratings have been consistently exceptional and are reflected in the Performance Measures Table.

Additional Program Details:

Strategic Program Area: Election Commission**Service Provision:** Mandated**How We Do It: Program Budget Summary**

Category	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Budget	2027 Budget	2026/2027 Variance
Expenditures	1,087,353	599,701	1,114,095	740,208	(373,887)
Revenues	86,233	167,183	85,750	45,500	(40,250)
Tax Levy	1,001,119	432,518	1,028,345	694,708	(333,637)
Full Time Pos (FTE)	3.50	3.50	3.50	4.00	0.50

What We Do With It: Activity Data

Activity	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Target	2027 Target
Campaign finance statements	150	175	150	150
Elections	4	2	4	2
Nomination papers	36	1	24	0
Recounts	0	1	0	0
Special elections	2	0	0	0
State/City/Muni/School Board referendum	18	2	5	3

Strategic Overview:

The Milwaukee County Election Commission exists to administer federal, state, and local elections in a manner that fosters public trust in the accuracy, efficiency, accessibility, and security of elections, and develops public trust in the democratic process. Expenses vary every year to account for the number of regularly scheduled elections. In odd numbered years, there are two regularly scheduled county-wide elections.

The scheduled 2027 elections include:

Spring Primary - Tuesday, February 16, 2027

Spring Election - Tuesday, April 6, 2027

Strategic Implementation:

The Election Commission consistently strives to identify, evaluate, and implement process improvements. These process improvements ensure elections and related operations are conducted in a secure, efficient, and effective manner. The Election Commission will work to improve operational efficiencies by reassessing our internal ballot access procedures, expanding the public facing guidance and instructions related to ballot access challenges, and growing the resources available to voters and the public on our website. The Election Commission will also continue to work with our county partners to enhance the physical security of the Election Commission offices to better ensure the safety of Election Commission staff, resources, and official records.

Expenses decrease from 2026 due to a decreased number of elections. Milwaukee County held four elections in 2026 and will hold two elections in 2027.