



BARRON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

MONDAY, MARCH 21, 2022 – 5:00 PM

BARRON COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER – ROOM 110
335 EAST MONROE AVENUE - BARRON, WISCONSIN 54812

MINUTES

PRESENT IN PERSON: Robert Anderson, John Banks, Karolyn Bartlett, Stan Buchanan, Bill Effertz, Pam Fall, Jim Gores, Dale Heinecke, Dana Heller, Don Horstman, Steve Johnson, Jerry McRoberts, Carol Moen, Roberta Mosentine, Gary Nelson, Louie Okey, Russell Rindsig, Bob Rogers, Bill Schradle, Bert Skinner and Marv Thompson.

APPEARING VIRTUALLY: Tod Gerland, Bun Hanson, Terry Lee, Pete Olson, Eric Pannier, Oscar Skoug and Stacey Wenzel.

ABSENT: Gary Taxdahl.

CALL TO ORDER-ROLL CALL- PUBLIC NOTIFICATION: Chair Okey called the meeting to order at 5:00PM. County Clerk Cook took attendance and stated the County's compliance with open meeting laws.

INVOCATION: Led by Pastor Tom Olson from the Hosanna Free Lutheran Church located in Cumberland and Pastor Sara Feld from the United Lutheran Church located in Prairie Farm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Recited.

SPECIAL MATTERS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS: Sheriff Fitzgerald gave a brief update on the frozen lake rescue from the weekend in Chetek involving three County deputies. Administrator French reminded the Board that the April County Board meeting will be held at the Mosaic Telecom Office building in the Village of Cameron. Board Supervisors must attend this meeting in person to take their oath of office and cast ballots for Board Leadership and the Highway Committee. Chair Okey received a letter from the Canadian National Railway, which stated they will be making a 1.1 million dollar donation, in Canadian currency, to help the Canadian-Ukraine Foundation.

APPROVE AGENDA: Motion: (Anderson/Schradle) to approve. Carried.

APPROVE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 21, 2022: Motion: (Heinecke/Rindsig) to approve. Carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Quinn Johnson: 2740 7th Avenue in Chetek – declined, Pattie Greene: 1229 21st Street in Cameron spoke regarding the public seating with the Auditorium remodel and Brett Moravitz: 1099 19th Street in Cameron – declined.

RECOGNITION OF RETIRING MEMBERS OF THE COUNTY BOARD: Retiring County Board Supervisors Tod Gerland, Steve Johnson and Bert Skinner were thanked for their service to Barron County. Supervisor Skinner read a letter thanking his jurisdiction, current Supervisors and County staff.

UPDATE ON HIGHWAY FACILITIES AND AUDITORIUM UPGRADES –CBS²: Zach Elstran from CBS² gave an update regarding the Highway facilities and answered questions from the Board. Elstran also gave an update on the Auditorium remodel and still expects the remodel to be completed by May 1, 2022.

ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

- A. 2022-3 REZONING – TOWN OF CRYSTAL LAKE, DBM PARTNERS LLC:**
Motion: (McRoberts/Effertz) to approve both Rezoning Ordinances. Carried.
- B. 2022-4 REZONING – TOWN OF CHETEK, QUINN & BRANDY JOHNSON:**
Motion: (McRoberts/Effertz) to approve both Rezoning Ordinances. Carried.

2022-14 RESOLUTION – RESOLUTION SETTING FORTH THE PROCESS BY WHICH THE COUNTY CLERK AND COUNTY TREASURER SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS WHEN EITHER OF THESE POSITIONS ARE VACATED MID-TERM: Motion: (Thompson/Gores) to approve. Carried.

2022-15 RESOLUTION – AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF \$144,243.62 OF FUNDS FROM THE FUEL SYSTEM/WASTE OIL COLLECTION PROJECT TO CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND 405 HIGHWAY BUILDING PROJECTS FUNDS: Chair Okey gave a brief explanation of the resolution and Finance Director Busch answered questions from the Board. Motion: (Hanson/Horstman) to approve. Carried on a roll call vote with 28 Yes and 1 Absent – Taxdahl.

2022-16 RESOLUTION – DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF APRIL 11TH THROUGH APRIL 15TH “WORKZONE SAFETY AWARENESS WEEK”: Motion: (Heller/Skinner) to approve. Carried.

2022-17 RESOLUTION – AUTHORIZING HIGHWAY INTERGOVERNMENTAL SERVICE AGREEMENT: Motion: (Moen/Mosentine) to approve. Chair Okey gave an overview of the resolution and answered questions from the Board. Carried.

PRESENTATION ON AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) EXPENDITURES: Finance Director Busch outlined current and projected expenditures from ARPA projects to date. Finance Director Busch and Administrator French answered questions from the Board.

REPORT FROM COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

- A. STATE TAX REBATE:** There is a projected 7.2 billion dollar surplus and the State is proposing a tax rebate.
- B. UPDATE ON STRATEGIC PLAN AND SWOT ANALYSIS:** The Strategic Plan and SWOT Analysis is updated on an annual basis and included in the packet.
- C. 2021 HEALTH JOY DATA:** Included in the packet were the 2021 Year End Statistics. As of March, this program has saved the County approximately \$91,000 since the beginning of the year.
- D. 2021 SELF-FUNDED HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN – FINAL NUMBERS:** 92% usage with a cost avoidance of \$342,946.84.
- E. UPDATE ON COUNTY DEBT:** The County is currently debt free besides the new Highway Shop project.
- F. BARRON/BURNETT COUNTY SHARED MEDICAL EXAMINER POSITION:** After reviewing the position, it did not benefit either County to share a Medical Examiner position.
- G. ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT REVIEW – MCGRATH CONSULTING:** These positions were examined in the pay compression review and select positions were adjusted as noted in the packet.
- H. SUPREME COURT SALES TAX DECISION – BROWN COUNTY:** This will benefit Wisconsin Counties by allowing the County Board to remain as the taxing authority for general operating and future expenses.
- I. SNOWMOBILE/ATV BRIDGE INSPECTIONS, REPAIRS AND REHABILITATION:** Numerous bridges on the trails throughout the County will need to be reconstructed due to deterioration with a possibility of using ARPA funds to finance this project.
- J. NEIGHBORHOOD INVESTMENT GRANT PROGRAM AND HEALTHCARE INFRASTRUCTURE CAPITAL GRANT PROGRAM:** The County missed out on funding for the remodeling of Ann Street School but the City of Rice Lake received \$3,157,057.00 to use for Revitalization/Blight Elimination.

APPOINTMENTS

- A. HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES BOARD – APPOINT JERRY APFEL, CITIZEN MEMBER (3 YEAR TERM): Motion: (Buchanan/Rogers) to approve both appointments. Carried.**
- B. OFF-ROAD VEHICLE COUNCIL – APPOINT DAN THOLE: Motion: (Buchanan/Rogers) to approve both appointments. Carried.**

CLAIMS, PETITIONS & CORRESPONDENCE: None at this time.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

- 1. Update on New Highway Facilities - Monthly
- 2. Discuss/Approve Financing for New Acid Gas Removal System – May or June

3. Appoint 5 Year Library Board Members – May or June
4. Snowmobile, ATV/UTV Bridge Inspections, Repairs and Rehabilitation
5. Near Sight Clinic – Closed Session
6. Ann Street School

NEXT MEETING DATE: Tuesday, April 19, 2022 at 9:00AM at the Mosaic Telecom Office located at 401 South 1st Street in Cameron.

ADJOURNMENT: Chair Okey adjourned the meeting at 5:45PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jessica Hodek, Deputy County Clerk

MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE COUNTY BOARD AT THE NEXT MEETING.

DRAFT