



# **BARRON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**MONDAY, MAY 16, 2022 – 7:00 PM**

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

## **MINUTES**

**PRESENT IN PERSON:** Patti Anderson, John Banks, Karolyn Bartlett, Stan Buchanan, Randy Cook Sr, Pam Fall, Jim Gores, Bun Hanson, Dale Heinecke, Dana Heller, Kathy Krug, Audrey Kusilek, Fran Langman, Jerry McRoberts, Carol Moen, Gary Nelson, Louie Okey, Pete Olson, Bob Rogers, Bill Schradle, Gary Taxdahl, Marv Thompson, Craig Turcott and Diane Vaughn.

**ATTENDING VIRTUALLY:** Bill Effertz, Terry Lee and Stacey Wenzel.

**ABSENT:** Robert Anderson and Roberta Mosentine.

**CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL - PUBLIC NOTIFICATION:** Chair Okey called the meeting to order at 7:00PM and stated the County's compliance with open meeting laws.

**INVOCATION:** Led by Pastor Paul Poppe from the Chetek Baptist Church located in Chetek.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Recited.

### **SPECIAL MATTERS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING JAMES C. BABLER AS JUDGE OF THE YEAR:** Judge Boyle read the proclamation and both Judge Boyle and Judge Bitney discussed the reasons they nominated Judge Babler for the award.
- B. PRESENTATION OF PLAQUES FOR OUTGOING SUPERVISORS:** Chair Okey presented plaques to former Supervisor Horstman, Pannier and Rindsig and thanked each for their service to Barron County. (Skoug was unable to attend but will receive his plaque at a later date.)
- C. RETIREMENT RECOGNITION – DEEANN COOK, COUNTY CLERK:** Administrator French thanked County Clerk Cook for her service and dedication to the County and Chair Okey presented her with a plaque.
- D. IN MEMORIAM – STAN BERGUM:** A moment of silence was observed for former County Board Supervisor Bergum that passed away on April 21, 2022.

**APPROVE AGENDA: Motion: (Olson/Heller)** to approve. Carried.

**APPROVE MINUTES OF APRIL 19, 2022: Motion: (Heinecke/Thompson)** to approve. Carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None at this time.

### **UPDATE ON HIGHWAY FACILITIES AND AUDITORIUM UPGRADES**

- A. UPDATE ON NEW HIGHWAY FACILITIES:** Servi gave an update on the progress on the new Highway facility and answered questions from the Board.
- B. REVIEW OF PROJECT FINANCIALS:** Finance Director Busch answered questions from the Board.
- C. FUTURE INFORMATION - TECHNOLOGY PURCHASES:** IT Director Koenecke is able to purchase ARPA authorized computers with substantial discounts. More information will be presented at the June meeting with potential modifications to the previous ARPA resolution.
- D. UPDATE ON AWARDING OF CTH P STP RURAL PROJECT:** This project has been given tentative approval and would begin in 2023.

**2022-25 RESOLUTION – AUTHORIZING THE BARRON COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY TO APPLY FOR 4% WISCONSIN HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY LOW INCOME HOUSING TAX CREDIT APPLICATION AND FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANK AFFORDABLE HOUSING GRANT APPLICATION AND HUD HOME PROGRAM GRANT APPLICATION AND ANY OTHER APPLICABLE GRANTS: Motion: (McRoberts/Nelson)** to approve. Chair Okey gave background on the previous Housing Authority financing requests and timeline. Discussion. Tom Landgraf was available virtually to answer questions from the Board. Carried.

**2022-26 RESOLUTION – WITHDRAW FROM THE AGING AND DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER OF BARRON, RUSK AND WASHBURN COUNTIES INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT: Motion: (Bartlett/Banks)** to approve. Discussion. Carried.

**2022-27 RESOLUTION – TO CREATE THE AGING AND DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER OF BARRON AND RUSK COUNTIES: Motion: (Cook/Hanson)** to approve. Discussion. Administrator French answered questions from the Board. Carried.

**2022-28 RESOLUTION – ELIMINATION OF BADGER CARE ELIGIBILITY CLIFF: Motion: (Gores/Schradle)** to approve. French answered questions from the Board. Carried.

**AUGUST COUNTY BOARD MEETING DATE AND LOCATION:** Chair Okey explained the conflict with his schedule and asked the August County Board meeting be moved to Monday, August 22, 2022 at 7:00PM. **Motion: (Buchanan/Olson)** to approve. Carried.

**OPERATION OF ATVS AND UTVS WITH POSSIBLE ORDINANCE CHANGE AND ATV & UTV TRAIL UPDATES:** Chair Okey gave an overview of the potential changes to the ordinance and described the past timeline in regards to the Law Enforcement and Highway Committee. The Highway Committee is in the process of determining which County roads they determine as safe to operate an ATV/UTV on but has no jurisdiction over State or municipal roads. If the Highway Committee approves the ordinance amendment at their June meeting, the County Board would then be asked to vote on the ordinance at the June County Board meeting. The proposed ordinance that was included in the packet was only a draft form and modifications can still be made at the Highway Committee level. Sheriff Fitzgerald and Highway Commissioner Servi answered questions from the Board. Corporation Counsel Muench explained that he is currently reviewing the proposed ordinance in accordance with the State statutes and will have an update, if necessary, next month.

**AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) EXPENDITURES / RULE CHANGES:** Information was included in the packet.

#### **REPORT FROM COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

- A. 1<sup>ST</sup> QUARTER FINANCIALS:** Finance Director Busch reviewed the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Financials and answered questions from the Board.
- B. MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION & ANALYSIS (MD&A):** Finance Director Busch reviewed the Management Discussion & Analysis and answered questions from the Board.
- C. SPECIAL PROSECUTOR FOR DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE:** Administrator French explained that the State pays the full cost of the payroll for the employee while deployed. The State has agreed to split the cost 50/50 of the Special Prosecutor replacement during the deployment thus resulting in an additional cost burden to the State.

- D. WCA ANNUAL RESOLUTIONS:** These resolutions are due to the State by June 20 and the County will be sending the Badger Care Cliff Elimination to WCA. Okey explained the timeline of the sending a resolution to the WCA.
- E. UPDATED FIXED ASSET POLICY:** The updated policy is included in the packet and was approved by the Executive Committee at their meeting earlier this month.

**APPOINTMENTS**

- A. REORGANIZATIONAL APPOINTMENTS – INCLUDED IN PACKET: Motion: (Olson/Buchanan)** to approve all appointments as presented. Carried.

**CLAIMS, PETITIONS & CORRESPONDENCE:** None at this time.

**SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**

1. ATV County Road Ordinance
2. County Owned Building Tours Prior to County Board Meetings held in June (Waste to Energy), July (Highway) & August (UW Eau Claire Barron County Campus)
3. ARPA Funding Technology Purchases from the IT Department

**NEXT MEETING DATE:** Monday, June 20, 2022 at 7:00PM at the Government Center located in Barron.

**HEALTH INSURANCE DATA:** Tim Deaton from the Horton Group gave a presentation regarding the County's self funded health insurance and answered questions from the Board. No action was taken at this time.

*Schradle departed the meeting at 8:21PM.*

**ADJOURNMENT:** Chair Okey adjourned the meeting at 8:37PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jessica Hodek, Deputy County Clerk

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