



# Executive Committee Meeting

Wednesday, October 5, 2022 – 8:00 a.m.  
Barron County Government Center – Room 110  
335 East Monroe Avenue – Barron, Wisconsin 54812

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## MINUTES

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT IN PERSON:** Karolyn Bartlett, Stan Buchanan, Randy Cook Sr, Dale Heinecke, Carol Moen, Louie Okey, Bob Rogers and Marv Thompson.

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS ATTENDING VIRTUALLY:** None.

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:** Bun Hanson.

**STAFF PRESENT IN PERSON:** WTE Director Bohn, Finance Director Busch, Sheriff Fitzgerald, Administrator French, DHHS Director Frolik, WTE Assistant Director Hanson, County Clerk Hodek, Aging Director Jako, ROD Katterhagen, IT Director Koenecke, Corporation Counsel Muench and HR Director Richie.

**OTHER COUNTY BOARD SUPERVISORS PRESENT:** Kathy Krug, Audrey Kusilek, Fran Langman and Diane Vaughn.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Okey called the meeting to order at 8:00AM.

**PUBLIC MEETING NOTIFICATION:** Administrator French read the Public Meeting Notification.

**SPECIAL MATTERS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (NON-ACTION ITEMS):** None at this time.

**APPROVE AGENDA: Motion: (Heinecke/Cook)** to approve. Carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Walter Herman – 1708 12 ¾ Street in Barron spoke regarding accountability with the County budget and the new Highway Facility overruns.

**APPROVE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 7, 2022: Motion: (Thompson/Moen)** to approve. Carried.

**ETHICS & CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:** Supervisor Langman requested this topic be brought to the Committee and discussed his concerns. Corporation Counsel Muench gave an overview of the reason why he believes this is not a conflict of interest concern for the Board Supervisors. No action taken.

### HEALTH INSURANCE

- A. **2022 HEALTH INSURANCE COSTS:** Tim Deaton from the Horton Group was at the meeting to discuss the 2022 insurance claims as well as the 2023 renewal rate for the County. Deaton also discussed the potential Opt Out Option for employees. No action taken.
- B. **2023 HEALTH INSURANCE AND HEALTHJOY RENEWAL – CONTRACT EXTENSION:** Administrator French requested the committee approve the 2023 Health Insurance Renewal with Voya, Delta Dental and HealthJoy. **Motion: (Cook/Thompson)** to



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approve. Carried. The Committee determined there was no need for a Closed Session regarding Health Insurance Costs later in the agenda.

**SCHOOL LIAISON OFFICER REQUEST:** Sheriff Fitzgerald discussed adding an additional school liaison officer that would be shared with the Town of Cedar Lake on a 70/30% basis. Administrator French addressed his concerns on the long term effects on the County budget. Sheriff Fitzgerald confirmed this would be a budget neutral position and this would be brought to the Law Enforcement Committee prior to coming back to the Executive Committee for approval.

**BORROWING FOR ACID GAS REMOVAL SYSTEM:** WTE Director Bohn gave an overview of the logistics behind the Acid Gas Removal System and answered questions from the Committee. Administrator French gave his recommendation for the loan for the new Acid Gas Removal System and distributed the two potential resolutions that will be presented to the County Board later this month. **Motion: (Cook/Heinecke)** to approve the resolution Authorizing the Installation of the New Acid Gas Removal System at the Barron County Waste to Energy Plant and add additional language regarding performance level guarantees to the resolution. Carried. **Motion: (Thompson/Buchanan)** to approve the resolution Board of Commissioners of Public Lands – State Trust Fund Loan, in the amount of 4 million dollars, for Barron County Waste to Energy Acid Gas Removal System. Carried.

**2023 BUDGET DRAFT FOR PUBLICATION:** Administrator French and Finance Director Busch presented the 2023 County Budget and answered questions from the Committee. **Motion: (Buchanan/Cook)** to publish the October draft with Position Requests. Carried.

**PRE-ORDER OF TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT FOR JUSTICE CENTER – ARPA FUNDS:** Administrator French gave an overview of the request from IT Director Koenecke. **Motion: (Cook/Moen)** to approve. Carried.

**JUSTICE CENTER SALLY PORT ENGINEERING STUDY:** Administrator French outlined the request which allows Sheriff Fitzgerald to go out for requests for the potential project. **Motion: (Buchanan/Cook)** to approve. Carried.

#### STAFF REPORTS & UPDATES

- A. **ANN STREET – DAYCARE STUDY:** BCEDC Director Armstrong had an inspection of Ann Street School and the continuation of this site becoming a daycare is ongoing.
- B. **WISCONSIN COUNTY MUTUAL 2022 ANNUAL REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY:** Chair Okey gave a brief update.
- C. **LEVY LIMITS:** Administrator French reviewed the memo he previously emailed to the County Board.

**REVIEW VOUCHER EDIT LISTS:** Included in the packet.



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#### SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Committee of the Whole and Levey Limits Discussion
2. October 18 – WCA Roles & Responsibilities Training Session

**SET DATE FOR NEXT MEETING:** Wednesday, November 2, 2022 at 8:00AM.

**NEGOTIATION FOR HIGH SPEED FIBER TO COMMUNICATION TOWERS: Motion: (Bartlett/Buchanan)** to go into closed session pursuant to Section 19.85(1)(e) for the purpose of deliberating or negotiating purchase of public properties, investing public funds, other specific business, or whenever competitive bargaining reasons require a closed session. Carried on a roll call vote with all present voting yes. *Administrator French took minutes for the remainder of the meeting.*

Motion to return to open session: Cook/Bartlett, Carried.

Motion, Rogers/Heinecke to approve \$600,000.00 expenditure High-Speed Fiber to Communication Towers, twenty, (20) year agreement, with performance provisions, to be paid with ARPA funds, carried.

10.08am declared adjourned by Chair Okey, Unanimous Consent.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jessica Hodek, Barron County Clerk