



PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, February 6, 2023 – 1:00 p.m.
Barron County Government Center – Room 2151
335 East Monroe Avenue - Barron, WI 54812

Minutes

Members Present: Dana Heller, Bill Effertz, Carol Moen, Jerry McRoberts, Bob Rogers, Bill Schradle, Karolyn Bartlett

Others Present: Jeff French, Louie Okey, Wendy Coleman, Jodi Busch, Steve Olson, Ken Beranek, Jeff Wolfe, Janette Cain, John Muench, Ryan Urban, Ruth Erickson, Patti Davis Green, Dan Thole, Joan & Todd Bader, Randy & Peggy Hanson, Abbey Fischer

The Property Committee was called to order by Chair Heller on Monday, February 6, 2023 at 1:00 p.m.

Public meeting notification was provided by French confirming compliance with open meeting requirements.

Public Comment: Joan & Todd Bader (Arland) question if the range could be closed for the weekend of their daughter's wedding since their property is near the Arland rifle range.

Motion: (Rogers / Schradle) to move agenda item # 9 Barron County Rifle Ranges to 5a and approve the agenda. Carried

Motion: (Moen / McRoberts) to approve the minutes of November 14, 2022. Carried

Barron County Rifle Ranges: Olson gave an update that the cameras are up and running. A work group will be meeting to look at options for the ranges. Effertz read a text message that he received from Mr. Straw who is an adjoining neighbor to the Cumberland rifle range regarding safety concerns at the range.

UWECBC Underground Piping Repairs – Replacement: Olson gave an update on a recent leak at the Campus and the concern that the entire system will need to be replaced in the future. Emergency repairs were completed and final repairs will have to be done in the spring however more leaks are expected. Discussion on possible options. Staff will be looking into options and will report back.

Resolution – Approving 2022-2023 Annual Accomplishment and Work Plan for the County Forest: Cain gave an update on the annual accomplishments and work plan. Markets are improving and will be working on more Aspen this year. Discussion on timber market. **Motion:** (Effertz / Rogers) to recommend approval of the 2022-2023 Annual Accomplishment and Work Plan for the County Forest resolution. Carried

Ice Age Trail – Request for Parking Area (Narrow Gauge): Cain gave an update that a recent harvest in that area has left a landing area that the Ice Age Trail group would like to use for parking. Staff will take a look at the location and provide additional information and costs in the spring.

Island City Snowmobile & ATV Club Loan Request: Wolfe provided information on the request to purchase a utility vehicle by the Island City Club. Busch has reviewed their financials and has no

concerns. Discussion on length of loan and interest rate. **Motion:** (Moen / Schradle) to approve the loan request with a 4 year payback and an interest rate of 1% over Local Government Investment Pool (LGIP). Carried

Snowmobile Bridges – Continued Repairs: Wolfe gave an update on repairs to the final bridge that was previously approved. All of the bridge work so far has been completed under budget with approximately \$100,000 remaining. Staff are requesting to use the remaining funds to continue repairs to the remaining bridges until the funds are depleted. Discussion. **Motion:** (Rogers / Effertz) to allow remaining funds to be spent on bridge repairs. Carried

Ann Street School – Potential Uses: French and staff have met with the City of Rice Lake regarding potential use of the Ann Street School for a Senior Center. Dave Armstrong is working to secure inspections and funding for use as a daycare. More information in the coming months.

Aging Kitchen / Old Jail Remodel: French is requesting to encumber ARPA funds to fund the development of plans and cost estimate to remodel the old jail for the Aging kitchen. Olson gave an update on the possible timeline. **Motion:** (Effertz / McRoberts) to recommend approval of the resolution to authorize encumbrance of \$250,000 for the remodel of the old jail for the Aging kitchen. Carried

Request to Plant Tree in Memory of Supervisor Terry Lee: French has received a request to plant a tree at the Justice Center in memory of Terry Lee. **Motion:** (Schradle / McRoberts) to approve planting a tree in memory of Supervisor Terry Lee. Carried

Staff Reports / Updates

- Dam Update: French reviewed photos of possible future improvements at the Chetek dam. Rice Lake dam concrete repairs are being developed and underwater camera survey will be completed at the Chetek dam.
- Museum Maintenance Report: McRoberts provided an Museum update on recent and upcoming projects.
- UWECBC Ballfields – Agreement with Rice Lake Little League: This agreement has been sent to UWEC for approval.
- Cleaning Contract Cost Increases for 2023: Costs for cleaning the buildings will increase by 3% but this was not known in time to budget for the increase.
- Wolf Management Plan Update – 2014 Resolution: French submitted previous resolution to the DNR and the comment period on the topic is open.
- Cedar Side Trail Update: French gave an update that the continued buckthorn abatement project will be working to the south of South Street and staff will be mowing the areas that have already been treated.
- Forestry Signs – Woodland Owners Donation: Proposed informational signs were presented. These signs will be paid for by the funds donated by the Barron County Woodland Owners.
- Pipestone Quarry – State Archaeologist: State Archaeologist will be viewing the Pipestone area on their spring tour.
- Snow Dumping: City of Rice Lake will be using the property south of South Street for piling snow.

Suggestions For Future Agenda Items: closure of the range for nearby wedding; rifle range issues, Ice Age Trail parking area, Ann Street School uses

The voucher edit lists were provided for review with a question regarding carpet at the Justice Center.

The next Property Committee meeting will be Monday, March 6, 2023 at 1:00 p.m.

Motion: (Effertz / Moen) to adjourn at 1:48 p.m. Carried

Minutes submitted by:
Wendy Coleman, Executive Assistant

Minutes are not official until approved by the Property Committee at their next meeting.