



# **BARRON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**MONDAY, MARCH 20, 2023 – 5:00 PM**

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

## **MINUTES**

**PRESENT IN PERSON:** Bob Anderson, Patti Anderson, John Banks, Karolyn Bartlett, Stan Buchanan, Randy Cook Sr, Bill Effertz, Pam Fall, Jim Gores, Bun Hanson, Dale Heinecke, Dana Heller (Arrived at 5:08PM), Kathy Krug, Audrey Kusilek, Fran Langman, Jerry McRoberts, Carol Moen, Roberta Mosentine, Gary Nelson, Stacy Neuman, Louie Okey, Bob Rogers, Bill Schradle, Marv Thompson, Craig Turcott, Diane Vaughn and Stacey Wenzel.

**ATTENDING VIRTUALLY:** Pete Olson and Gary Taxdahl.

**ABSENT:** None at this time.

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

**INVOCATION:** Led by Pastor Arthur Bergen from the Bethany Church located in Rice Lake.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Recited.

**SPECIAL MATTERS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:** None at this time.

**APPROVE AGENDA: Motion: (B. Anderson/Olson)** to approve. Carried with 29 voting Yes.

**APPROVE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 20, 2023: Motion: (Cook/Heinecke)** to approve. Carried with 29 voting Yes.

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

**PROGRESS UPDATE ON HIGHWAY FACILITIES:** Highway Commissioner Servi gave an update on the progress of the new highway facility.

**FINANCIAL UPDATE ON HIGHWAY FACILITIES PROJECT:** Finance Director Busch gave an overview of the current financial spreadsheet of the new highway facility project, reviewed the bond activity and answered questions from the Board. Chair Okey also answered questions from the Board.

**2023- 2 ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT – REZONING – TOWN OF STANLEY, RED CEDAR VALLEY PROPERTIES LLC: Motion: (Cook/Wenzel)** to approve. Carried with 28 voting Yes and 1 voting No (Langman).

**2023-3 ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT – REZONING – TOWN OF ALMENA, LARRY J AND CAROL J HANSEN: Motion: (Kusilek/Thompson)** to approve. Discussion. Carried with 27 voting Yes and 2 voting No (Langman & Rogers).

**2023-11 RESOLUTION – AUTHORIZING BARRON COUNTY TO ENTER INTO THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENTS WITH TEVA PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRIES LTD., ALLERGAN FINANCE, LLC, WALGREEN CO., WALMART INC., CVS HEALTH CORPORATION AND CVS PHARMACY, INC., AGREE TO THE TERMS OF THE ADDENDUM TO THE MOU ALLOCATING SETTLEMENT PROCEEDS, AND**

**AUTHORIZE ENTRY INTO THE MOU WITH THE ATTORNEY GENERAL: Motion: (Buchanan/Heller)** to approve. Administrator French and Chair Okey answered questions from the Board. Carried with 29 voting Yes.

**2023-12 RESOLUTION – REQUESTING THE STATE TO REVISE THE CURRENT REAL ESTATE TRANSFER FEES REVENUE SHARING FORMULA: Motion: (Taxdahl/B. Anderson)** to approve. Carried with 29 voting Yes.

**2023-13 PROVIDE \$18.7 MILLION IN STABLE, CORE STATE FUNDING SUPPORT FOR COUNTY CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT STAFFING STATEWIDE: Motion: (Nelson/Langman)** to approve. Carried with 28 voting Yes and 1 voting No (Vaughn).

**2023-14 RESOLUTION – MODERNIZE AND IMPROVE THE WISCONSIN FARMLAND PRESERVATION PROGRAM: Motion: (Gores/P. Anderson)** to approve. Carried with 29 voting Yes.

**2023-15 RESOLUTION – AUTHORIZING 2023 BUDGET ADJUSTMENT AND SHORELINE UPGRADES AT THE CHETEK DAM: Motion: (Rogers/Banks)** to approve. Discussion. Carried with 29 voting Yes.

**2023-16 RESOLUTION – 2023 WORK ZONE AWARENESS WEEK IN BARRON COUNTY: Motion: (Effertz/Moen)** to approve. Carried with 29 voting Yes.

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

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

- A. UW TWO YEAR CAMPUSES:** Administrator French gave an overview of the struggles within the two year UW Campuses and potential changes to programs and answered questions from the Board.
- B. SELF-FUNDED HEALTH INSURANCE – 2022 FINAL:** French reviewed the final 2022 County Health Insurance financial analysis from the Horton Group.
- C. BROADBAND EQUITY AND DEVELOPMENT (BEAD) GRANT APPLICATION:** BCEDC Director Armstrong will be applying for this grant.

**APPOINTMENTS:** None at this time.

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

#### **SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**

- a. UWECBC Campus Update – Abby Fischer

**BARRON COUNTY HIGHWAY FACILITIES UPDATE PERTAINING TO A POTENTIAL CLAIM REGARDING CERTAIN COSTS INCURRED, DISCUSSION OF CONTRACTUAL RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES, REVIEW OF POTENTIAL RESOLUTIONS AND OTHERWISE REVIEW OF LEGAL STATUS IN RELATION TO PROJECT: Motion: (Turcott/Rogers)** to go into closed session pursuant to Section 19.85(1)(e) (deliberating or negotiating the purchase of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons required a closed session) and Section 19.85(1)(g) (conferring with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved) based upon the above description to include all County Board Supervisors that are present in person, Finance Director Busch, County Administrator French, Corporation Counsel Muench and IT Director Peterson. Carried with 29 voting Yes. Supervisor Taxdahl and Supervisor Olson excluded themselves from the Closed Session since they attended the meeting virtually. No action taken.

**NEXT MEETING DATE:** Tuesday, April 18, 2023 at 9:00AM in the Auditorium of the Government Center located in Barron.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Chair Okey adjourned the meeting at 6:22PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jessica Hodek, County Clerk

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