



# Executive Committee Meeting

Wednesday, May 3, 2023 – 8:00 a.m.  
Barron County Government Center – Auditorium  
335 East Monroe Avenue – Barron, Wisconsin 54812

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## MINUTES

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

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS ATTENDING VIRTUALLY:** None.

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:** Carol Moen.

**STAFF PRESENT IN PERSON:** Finance Director Busch, Administrator French, County Clerk Hodek, ADRC/Aging Director Jako, ROD Katterhagen, Deputy Corporation Counsel Mohns, Corporation Counsel Muench, HR Director Richie and Treasurer Sommerfeld.

**OTHER COUNTY BOARD SUPERVISORS PRESENT:** Patti Anderson, Bill Effertz, Kathy Krug and Diane Vaughn (8:15AM).

**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):** Menards Corporation recently emailed Supervisors with a request for a roundabout at the intersection in front of Menards and Kwik Trip in the City of Rice Lake at South Access Road and Decker Drive. Chair Okey discussed the resolution that Supervisor Vaughn brought to the HHS Committee last week and concerns regarding parliamentary procedure.

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Patti Greene, 1229 21<sup>st</sup> Street in Cameron - spoke regarding the current Citizens Academy hosted by the Barron County Sheriff's Department and the ethical concerns with current parliamentary procedures at committee meetings.

**APPROVE MINUTES OF APRIL 5, 2023: Motion: (Heinecke/Hanson)** to approve. Carried with Buchanan abstaining.

**USDA COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS GRANT PRESENTATION – PRESTON PEARSON, MOSAIC TECHNOLOGIES:** Pearson gave a short presentation regarding a potential grant application regarding rural broadband growth which would allow Mosaic Technologies to partner with Barron County for broadband growth in our local communities. Pearson and Fornaro answered questions from the Committee.

### RECOMMENDATIONS FROM STRATEGIC PLANNING WORK GROUP

- A. **\$2,500 FROM CONTINGENCY FUND FOR RECRUITMENT ACTIVITIES: Motion: (Cook/Nelson)** to approve \$2,500.00 from the Contingency Fund for Recruitment Activities and the 2024 Budget for a Wage Study. Carried.
- B. **2024 BUDGET FOR WAGE STUDY: Motion: (Cook/Nelson)** to approve \$2,500.00 from the Contingency Fund for Recruitment Activities and the 2024 Budget for a Wage Study. Carried.

**WAGE INCREASE FOR PART-TIME CASUAL EMPLOYEES (PARKS/AGING):** HR Director Richie explained the request for the increase to these positions and answered questions from the Committee.  
**Motion: (Buchanan/Thompson)** to approve. Carried.



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**RESOLUTION – AUTHORIZING BARRON COUNTY MAINTENANCE DIRECTOR TO PROCEED WITH CONTRACTOR BIDS FOR NEW AGING / ADRC KITCHEN LOCATED AT THE BARRON COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER: Motion: (Cook/Rogers) to approve.**

Discussion. Carried.

**COUNTY BOARD SUPERVISOR APPOINTMENTS TO MUNICIPAL LIBRARY BOARDS (DISCUSSION ONLY):** Administrator French explained the reason for the future appointments to the library boards within the County due to the library funding rate increase that was passed during last year's County budget process. Administrator French also answered questions from the Committee.

### STAFF REPORTS & UPDATES

- A. **WILD RIVERS TRAIL SIGNAGE:** Work continues with the Governor's Office and WEDA to secure the remaining \$7,302.50 to complete the signage project.
- B. **BROTEN PROPERTY – COOPER ENGINEERING:** A future meeting will be planned with Bruce Markgren and the DNR to discuss the clean-up process.
- C. **WI SUPREME COURT PPAC – COURT SECURITY:** Administrator French feels there will be a substantial need for security enhancements at the Justice Center in the future. Information from the Supreme Court has been provided in the packet.
- D. **REFUNDING ANALYSIS – COUNTY DEBT:** Attached is the analysis from Ehlers and at this time, no potential savings were discovered for the County.
- E. **ACID GAS REMOVAL:** This is still in process and has Senator Baldwin and Congressman Tiffany's support. WTE Director Bohn is also researching grants from the EPA.
- F. **HVAC at CAMPUS –** Maintenance Director Olson is currently working with various engineers at the UWBC Campus and estimates for replacement of this system are anticipated to be 2 million dollars.

**REVIEW VOUCHER EDIT LISTS:** Included in the packet. Administrator French answered questions from the Board.

### SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

- A. Potential Closed Session Regarding Highway
- B. Replacement of HHS Client Management System
- C. Review of Insurance Coverages (Fraud & Cyber Security)
- D. Compensatory Time and Carryover of Vacation (Highway & Administration Staff)
- E. Supervisor Vaughn requested time to respond to Chair Okey's comments made during the Special Matters and Announcements regarding the parliamentary procedures from the April HHS Committee meeting. No action was taken and no item was suggested as a future agenda item.

**SET DATE FOR NEXT MEETING:** Friday, June 9, 2023 at 8:00AM.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Chair Okey adjourned the meeting at 8:58AM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jessica Hodek, Barron County Clerk