



Executive Committee Meeting

Wednesday, January 3, 2024 – 8:00 a.m.

Barron County Government Center – Auditorium
335 East Monroe Avenue – Barron, Wisconsin 54812

MINUTES

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

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ATTENDING VIRTUALLY: None.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT IN PERSON: Finance Director Busch, Sheriff Fitzgerald, Administrator French, County Clerk Hodek, Highway Commissioner Mike Hoefs, ROD Katterhagen, Corporation Counsel Muench, IT Director Peterson, HR Director R. Richie and Treasurer Sommerfeld.

OTHER COUNTY BOARD SUPERVISORS PRESENT: Patti Anderson, Kathy Krug, Audrey Kusilek (Arrived at 8:06AM), Fran Langman (Departed at 8:06AM), Gary Nelson and Diane Vaughn.

OTHERS PRESENT: Ruth Erickson and Russell Rindsig.

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): County Clerk Hodek gave an update on the April 2024 Spring Election County Board Supervisor filings.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT: None at this time.

APPROVE MINUTES OF DECEMBER 6, 2023: Motion: (Rogers/Moen) to approve. Carried.

RESOLUTION – AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURE AUTHORITY OF AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) DOLLARS FOR BARRON COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY APARTMENT COMPLEX REHABILITATIONS NOT TO EXCEED \$3.5 MILLION: Motion: (Hanson/Moen) to approve. Discussion. Administrator French read an email from Landgraf and asked if the Committee would like Landgraf to appear at the January County Board meeting to answer questions from the full Board. Discussion. **Motion: (Cook/Buchanan)** to amend on Line #45 – strike “2025, 2026 Budget, over the projected life of this” and on Line #46 strike “project” and “in an amount not to exceed \$3.5M: And.” Carried. Main motion carried as amended.

EHLER’S PRESENTATION ON POTENTIAL BORROWINGS: (Due to inclement weather conditions, this item was moved one item down on the agenda.) Sean Lentz gave a presentation regarding the potential financing options of anticipated 2024 capital projects and answered questions from the Board.

CONTRIBUTION TO WISCONSIN COUNTIES ASSOCIATION FOR CREATION OF NATIONAL CENTER FOR PUBLIC LANDS: Chair Okey gave an explanation of the WCA request. **Motion: (Cook/Hanson)** to approve. Carried.

STAFF REPORTS & UPDATES

- A. **BEAD CHALLENGE PROCESS:** BCEDC Director Armstrong is currently working on this program with the recent inaccurate speed test reports.



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B. 2023-2024 EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION: No employee recognition was distributed in 2023 due to time constraints and funds from this line item were carried over into 2024. There is potential that both years would be combined, 4 or 8 hours of PTO would be allocated to every full time employee to utilize in 2024, preferably on Friday, July 5, 2024 unless their office was open to the public on this day. This would result in all non-essential office closure on Friday, July 5, 2024.

C. FLEX TIME: Information was included in the packet.

D. SALES TAX DATA: Information was included in the packet and French noted that sales tax is now one of the biggest drivers in the annual budget.

REVIEW VOUCHER EDIT LISTS: Included in the packet.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

1. 2023-2024 Employee Recognition
2. Resolution – Municipal Libraries – Per Diems & County Board Representation
3. New Position (One FTE) Sheriff Department – Justice Center Screener/Court Security Personnel
4. Discuss/Approve – One-Time, Non-Binding, Step Increase for Dispatch & Correction Officers
5. Tim Deaton from the Horton Group – County Health Insurance Update

SET DATE FOR NEXT MEETING: Friday, February 9, 2024 at 8:00AM.

CLOSED SESSION – JOINT DEVELOPERS AGREEMENT – MAPLE GROVE SOLAR: Motion: (Rogers/Cook) to go into Closed Session pursuant to 19.85(1)(g) for the purpose of conferring with legal counsel with respect to current or potential litigation and 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 to include Administrator French, Corporation Counsel Muench, Highway Commissioner Hoefs, P. Anderson, Krug, Kusilek (departed prior to Closed Session starting), Nelson and Vaughn. All present voting Yes.

Minutes during Closed Session recorded by Administrator French. Motion: (Cook/Rogers) to return to Open Session. Carried. No action was taken during Closed Session.

ADJOURNMENT: Chair Okey adjourned the meeting at 9:32AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jessica Hodek, Barron County Clerk