



Executive Committee Meeting

Wednesday, January 8, 2025 – 8:00 a.m.

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

MINUTES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT IN PERSON: Bob Anderson, Karolyn Bartlett, Randy Cook Sr, Bun Hanson, Audrey Kusilek, Louie Okey, Bob Rogers, Marv Thompson and Stacey Wenzel.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: None at this time.

STAFF PRESENT IN PERSON: Administrator French, HHS Director Frolik, County Clerk Hodek, Corporation Counsel Muench, IT Director Peterson, HR Director Richie, IT Programmer Analyst Sirek, Financial Analyst Syvinski and Treasurer Sommerfeld.

OTHER COUNTY BOARD SUPERVISORS PRESENT: Patti Anderson (8:19AM) and Diane Vaughn.

OTHERS PRESENT: Rice Lake Mayor Harlan Dodge, Ruth Erickson (Chronotype), Pattie Greene and Ryan Urban (NewsShield).

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): Administrator French recommended all Committee members read the two Trends magazine articles on housing article and Kwik Trip.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT: None at this time.

APPROVE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 30, 2024: Motion: (Thompson/Anderson) to approve. Carried.

RESOLUTION – AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURE FOR DHHS SOFTWARE PURCHASE:

IT Director Peterson gave an overview of the selected software program for the Health & Human Services Department and answered questions from the Committee. **Motion: (Cook/Kusilek)** to approve. Discussion. Carried.

OUT OF STATE TRAVEL FORM UPDATE: Administrator French noted the Out of State Travel Form that was included in the packet does not need approval from the Committee.

BRIGHTSPEED BUSINESS ENDORSEMENT FOR BEAD GRANT: Kelly Shipley, Government Affairs and Public Policy Director from Brightspeed, gave a presentation to the Committee seeking an endorsement from the County Board for the BEAD Grant. Shipley also answered questions from the Committee. **Motion: (Cook/Bartlett)** to approve. Carried.

REQUEST TO CHANGES RULES & PROCEDURES TO ALLOW REMOTE ATTENDANCE AT COMMITTEE MEETINGS: Cook reviewed his reasons for requesting remote attendance at committee meetings. Discussion. Corporation Counsel Muench will review the statutes regarding creating public records and update the Board at the next meeting. Bartlett also requested a outlined procedure for this change when brought back to the Committee.



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CHANGE DATE OF MARCH COUNTY BOARD MEETING: Chair Okey was originally going to request to move the March County Board meeting date since he would be unable to attend but Vice Chair Bartlett has offered to run the meeting instead of changing the date. No date change is needed.

STAFF REPORTS & UPDATES:

- A. **SELF ORGANIZED COUNTY:** Chair Okey recently watched the “In the Board Room” webinar hosted by Andy Phillips and noted that Phillips recommended every county to become self-organized. Administrator French mentioned this was voted down previously when Jess Miller was County Board Chair. Chair Okey will discuss this topic with Andy Phillips and provide more information at a future meeting.
- B. **WTE PROJECT UPDATE:** Administrator French updated the Committee that over 90% of the project has been installed with the anticipation that it will be up and running in June of 2025. Discussion.
- C. **CTH TT TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PROJECT UPDATE:** Administrator French stated that this project is almost complete.
- D. **IT DEPARTMENT OUT OF STATE TRAVEL – KYLE EGGELSTON (LASERFICHE CONFERENCE):** Eggleston will be attending the annual conference located in Las Vegas in April.

REVIEW VOUCHER EDIT LISTS: Included in the packet. Administrator French answered questions pertaining to the Edit List.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Tim Deaton from the Horton Group - Final numbers on the County’s 2024 Self-Funded Health Insurance Plan.
2. Sean Lentz from Ehlers – Borrowing options for the remodel of the Justice Center Sally Port and potential payoff of short term loan from Sterling Bank.

SET DATE FOR NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, February 5, 2025 at 8:00AM at the Government Center in Barron.

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

Respectfully Submitted,
Jessica Hodek, Barron County Clerk