



# Executive Committee Meeting

## Wednesday, February 5, 2025 – 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:** Bob Anderson, Karolyn Bartlett (8:10AM), Randy Cook Sr, Audrey Kusilek, Gary Nelson, Louie Okey, Bob Rogers and Marv Thompson.

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:** Bun Hanson and Stacey Wenzel.

**STAFF PRESENT IN PERSON:** Administrator French, County Clerk Hodek, ADRC Director Jako (8:21am), ROD Katterhagen, Corporation Counsel Muench, IT Director Peterson, HR Director Richie, GIS Specialist Sukys and Treasurer Sommerfeld.

**OTHER COUNTY BOARD SUPERVISORS PRESENT:** Patti Anderson, Kathy Krug and Diane Vaughn.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Ruth Erickson (Chronotype) and Bob Zientara (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 noted the bid for work relating to the \$75,000 UWECBC PSC Energy Grant came in at \$40,000. The remainder will be applied to building upgrades.

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

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

**APPROVE MINUTES OF JANUARY 8, 2025: Motion: (Anderson/Cook)** to approve. Carried.

*Bartlett arrived at 8:10AM.*

**PRESENTATION ON BORROWING FOR JAIL SALLY PORT – SEAN LENTZ, EHLERS:** Ehlers reviewed the Pre-Sale Report that was included in the packet and answered questions from the Committee. Sheriff Fitzgerald and Administrator French also answered questions from the Committee. **Motion: (Kusilek/Bartlett)** to recommend the borrowing options to the County Board as presented. Carried.

### REQUEST TO CHANGE RULES & PROCEDURES TO ALLOW REMOTE ATTENDANCE AT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- A. **ORDINANCE REVISING SECTION 2.04(D)(2)(C) OF THE BARRON COUNTY RULES & PROCEDURES:** Chair Okey reviewed the current ordinance which does not allow for remote attendance by committee members at committee meetings. **Motion: (Cook/Kusilek)** to change the rules and procedures to allow remote attendance by committee members at the committee level. French asked for “or County Administrator” to be added after County Clerk in section C. vi. of the ordinance. Discussion. **Motion: (Cook/Kusilek)** to amend to use the same language in the ordinance in regards to County Board remote attendance for Supervisors. Discussion. Carried. Original motion carried as amended.

**CARRYOVER OF HHS FUNDS TO 2025 FOR BIRTH TO THREE:** Administrator French noted that he is allowing carryover of \$50,000 for the Birth to Three Program into 2025 at the request of HHS Director Frolik.



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**RESOLUTION TO AMEND SUPERVISORY DISTRICT DUE TO AN ANNEXATION TO THE CITY OF RICE LAKE:** GIS Specialist Sukys gave a brief overview of the annexations between the City of Rice Lake and the Town of Rice Lake in regards to the County Board Supervisory Districts and answered questions from the Committee. Discussion. **Motion: (Cook/Bartlett)** to approve. Carried.

**ELEVEN (11) YEAR WRITE OFF OF TAX CERTIFICATES:** Treasurer Sommerfeld asked for approval for the eleven year write off of tax certificates included in the packet. **Motion: (Thompson/Kusilek)** to approve. Carried.

**SALE OF RICE LAKE ARMORY BUILDING:** Administrator French asked for the Committee to decline this purchase. **Motion: (Kusilek/Rogers)** to decline the purchase of the Rice Lake Armory Building. Discussion. Carried.

#### STAFF REPORTS & UPDATES

- A. ANNUAL TRAINING DATE:** Administrator French thanked HR Director Richie for her work on the Annual Training Day for County staff.
- B. COST FACTORS OF HEALTH INSURANCE INCREASES:** Information received from Tim Deaton was included in the packet.

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

**SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:** None at this time.

**SET DATE FOR NEXT MEETING:** Friday, March 7, 2025 at 8:00AM at the Government Center in Barron.

**MAPLE GROVE SOLAR JOINT DEVELOPERS AGREEMENT: Motion: (Bartlett/Rogers)** to go into closed session pursuant to Section 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 the Executive Committee, Administrator French, Corporation Counsel Muench, Supervisor P. Anderson, Supervisor Krug and Supervisor Vaughn.

*Administrator French took minutes during the closed session and through the remainder of the meeting.*

Closed Session: Roll Call Vote with all members voting in the affirmative. Supervisor Kusilek recused herself and left the meeting at this time.

Motion to return to Open Session: Cook/Bartlett Carried

Committee directed staff to carry on negotiations for the Joint Developers Agreement.

Adjournment: Declared adjourned by unanimous consent by Chair Okey at 9.15am.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jessica Hodek, Barron County Clerk