



BARRON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

TUESDAY, APRIL 15, 2025 – 9:00 AM

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

MINUTES

PRESENT IN PERSON: Bob Anderson (Departed at 10:25AM), Patti Anderson, John Banks, Karolyn Bartlett, Randy Cook Sr, Bill Effertz (Arrived at 9:08AM), Pam Fall, Craig Fowler, Jim Gores, Bun Hanson, Dana Heller, Dennis Jenkins, Amanda Kohlen, Kathy Krug, Audrey Kusilek (Departed at 9:42AM), Fran Langman, Carol Moen (Arrived at 9:13AM), Roberta Mosentine, Gary Nelson, Louie Okey, Pete Olson, Bob Rogers, Pete Schneider, Bill Schradle, Marv Thompson, Craig Turcott, Diane Vaughn and Stacey Wenzel.

ATTENDING VIRTUALLY: None at this time.

ABSENT: Jamie McCready.

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Okey called the meeting to order at 9:00AM.

ROLL CALL – PUBLIC NOTIFICATION: County Clerk Hodek took attendance and County Administrator French stated the County's compliance with open meeting laws.

INVOCATION: Led by Eric Buhrow from the Immanuel Baptist Church located in Rice Lake.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Recited.

SPECIAL MATTERS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (NON-ACTION ITEMS): Sheriff Fitzgerald spoke regarding the 980 placement and public concerns brought up at previous County Board meetings. He also spoke about the working relationships between the Sheriff's Department and the police departments within the County and answered questions from the Board. Administrator French asked all County Board Supervisors to complete the IT training received in their email, thanked County Board Supervisors for attending the annual town day at the Highway facilities, invited the public to attend a Ladies Highway Department Open House hosted by Supervisor Mosentine on April 28th and thanked those for hosting the Men's Shed program at the Highway facilities. Administrator French also noted a change in the wording for the Awarding of the Sale of \$4,950,000 General Obligation Corporate Bonds, Series 2025A Resolution.

Supervisor Effertz arrived at 9:08AM.

APPROVE AGENDA: Motion: (Heller/Olson) to approve. Carried with 27 Yes and 2 Absent: McCready & Moen.

Supervisor Moen arrived at 9:13AM.

APPROVE MINUTES OF MARCH 17, 2025: Motion: (Cook/Langman) to approve. Carried with 28 Yes and 1 Absent (McCready).

PUBLIC COMMENT: None at this time.

2025-10 RESOLUTION – AWARDING THE SALE OF \$4,950,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION CORPORATE BONDS, SERIES 2025A: Administrator French noted the bonds were sold at a premium and the resolution will be updated to reflect the changes in savings to the County. Sean Lentz reviewed the bond sale that was conducted yesterday morning with the winning bid being awarded to the Bank of Oklahoma at 4.14% and asked the Board for approval. Lentz also answered questions from the Board. **Motion: (Kusilek/Thompson)** to approve. Carried with 28 Yes and 1 Absent: McCready.

2025-11 RESOLUTION – AUTHORIZING CONTRACT WITH MARKET AND JOHNSON FOR THE BARRON COUNTY SECURE SALLY PORT AND PROFESSIONAL VISITATION ADDITION TO THE

BARRON COUNTY JUSTICE CENTER, HIGHWAY 25 NORTH, BARRON, WISCONSIN FOR \$1,767,898.00: Administrator French asked for a change on the resolution which strikes “Market & Johnson” line #2 on page 31 to be replaced by “BOK Financial Securities Incorporated.” **Motion: (Hanson/Langman)** to approve. Discussion. Carried with 28 Yes and 1 Absent: McCready.

2025-12 RESOLUTION – FINAL BUDGET ADJUSTMENT(S) TO CLOSE 2024 ACCOUNTS: Motion: (Cook/Rogers) to approve. Carried with 28 Yes and 1 Absent: McCready.

2025-13 RESOLUTION – AUTHORIZING TRANSFER OF \$64,650.78 FROM THE 2025 BARRON COUNTY CONTINGENCY FUND FOR DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK POSITION: Motion: (P. Anderson/Gores) to approve. Carried with 28 Yes and 1 Absent: McCready.

2025-14 RESOLUTION – AUTHORIZING ROOF REPLACEMENT AT UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN EAU CLAIRE BARRON COUNTY CAMPUS STUDENT CENTER AND GYMNASIUM WITH USE OF AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) FUNDS: Motion: (Cook/Rogers) to approve. Carried with 28 Yes and 1 Absent: McCready.

2025-15 RESOLUTION – AUTHORIZING \$50,000 OF TECHNOLOGY IMPROVEMENTS TO THE PROPOSED NEW SECURE SALLY PORT EXPANSION AND THE BARRON COUNTY JUSTICE CENTER WITH USE OF AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA): Motion: (Moen/Olson) to approve. Discussion. Carried with 28 Yes and 1 Absent: McCready.

2025-16 RESOLUTION – 2025 WORK ZONE AWARENESS WEEK IN BARRON COUNTY: Motion: (Hanson/Langman) to approve. Carried with 28 Yes and 1 Absent: McCready.

2025-17 RESOLUTION – SUPPORTING FEDERAL BIPARTISAN LEGISLATION EXPANDING DIRECT PRIMARY CARE ACCESS: Motion: (Mosentine/Olson) to approve. Supervisor Vaughn requested the County Clerk to forward the resolution to Senator Jesse James. Carried with 28 Yes and 1 Absent: McCready.

2025-3 - ORDINANCE – TO AMEND PARKS & RECREATION ORDINANCE TO ALLOW ATV/UTV USAGE: Motion: (Effertz/Kohnen) to approve. Carried with 28 Yes and 1 Absent: McCready.

2025-4 ORDINANCE – REPEALING AND RECREATING SECTION 50 OF THE BARRON COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES REGARDING TAXATION: Motion: (Heller/Turcott) to approve. Carried with 28 Yes and 1 Absent: McCready.

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

REPORT FROM COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

A. FINAL STRATEGIC PLAN WORK GROUP DOCUMENT: Included in the packet.

CLAIMS, PETITIONS & CORRESPONDENCE: None at this time.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Tim Deaton from the Horton Group – 2026 Self-Funded Health Insurance Plan (Closed Session)
2. Review County Board Rules & Procedures
3. Presentation from WestCap

NEXT MEETING DATE: Monday, May 19, 2025 at 5:00PM at the Government Center located in Barron.

Supervisor Kusilek departed at 9:42AM.

CLOSED SESSION – PETITION FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW OF PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION’S DECISION REGARDING MAPLE GROVE SOLAR: Motion: (Bartlett/Hanson) for the County Board of Supervisors to go into closed session pursuant to Section 19.85(1)(e) for the purpose of deliberating or negotiating purchase of public property, investing public funds, other specific business or whenever competitive or bargaining reasons

require a closed session and 19.85(1)(g) for the purpose of conferring with legal counsel with respect to current or potential litigation to include all County Board Supervisors, Administrator French, Corporation Counsel Muench, IT Director Peterson and Sean Lentz. Carried with 27 Yes, and 2 Absent: Kusilek & McCready.

County Administrator French took minutes for the remainder of the meeting.

Supervisor R. Anderson departed at 10:25AM.

Motion to Return to Open Session by Supervisor Olson, Second Supervisor Hanson, Carried.
10.28am we are back in Open Session

Motion Supervisor Bartlett, Second Supervisor Rogers to confirm the action taken by the Executive Committee to file the Petition for Judicial Review and authorize Attolles Law to continue with negotiations with Maple Grove Solar to conclude a Joint Developer's Agreement. Carried

Adjourn: Declared Adjourned by Unanimous Consent by County Board Chair Okey at 10.30am

Respectfully Submitted,
Jessica Hodek, County Clerk

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