



Executive Committee Meeting

Wednesday, May 7, 2025 – 8:00 a.m.

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

MINUTES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT IN PERSON: Karolyn Bartlett, Randy Cook Sr, Audrey Kusilek, Gary Nelson (Alternate), Louie Okey, Pete Olson, Bob Rogers, Marv Thompson and Stacey Wenzel .

COMMITTEE MEMBERS APPEARING VIRTUALLY: None at this time.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Bun Hanson.

STAFF PRESENT IN PERSON: Sheriff Fitzgerald, Administrator French, Chief Deputy Hagen, Captain Hodek, County Clerk Hodek, Corporation Counsel Muench, IT Director Peterson, HR Director Richie and Treasurer Sommerfeld.

OTHER COUNTY BOARD SUPERVISORS PRESENT: Diane Vaughn.

OTHERS PRESENT: Ruth Erickson (Chronotype), Bob Kazmierski (Housing Authority) and Tim Deaton (Horton Group).

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): Chair Okey noted the article written in the Wisconsin Counties Association magazine highlighting Barron County Men's Shed program.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT: Sheriff Fitzgerald thanked the Board for their support while serving as the Sheriff and noted that he feels Chief Deputy Hagen is the best choice for a smooth transition for the Sheriff's Department. He also mentioned the Sheriff makes significantly less than the Chief Deputy but has been working with HR Director Richie and County Administrator French to determine if there are options to review and/or adjust this midterm through the term ending in 2026. Chair Okey thanked Sheriff Fitzgerald for everything he has done personally and professionally while serving as our Sheriff.

APPROVE MINUTES OF APRIL 4, 2025: Motion: (Thompson/Bartlett) to approve. Carried.

UPDATE ON BARRON COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY PROJECT: Housing Authority Director Bob Kazmierski gave an update on the various housing projects and answered questions from the Committee.

HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN UPDATE – TIM DEATON, THE HORTON GROUP: Deaton gave a presentation with health insurance plan updates in preparation for the upcoming yearly renewal and answered questions from the Committee.

RESOLUTION – IN SUPPORT FOR INCREASING BASE FUNDING FOR COUNTY CONSERVATION STAFFING TO \$20.2 MILLION: Motion: (Cook/Rogers) to approve. Supervisor Kusilek asked that the signature for the resolution be changed to the LCC Chair rather than the Zoning Chair. Administrator French will make the correction to the resolution. Discussion. Carried.

DISCUSS/APPROVE OPPOSITION TO SENATE BILL 181 LEVY EXEMPTION FOR REGIONAL MEDICAL SERVICES: Administrator French noted that he does not support this Senate Bill 181 Levy Exemption. Discussion. Administrator French will complete additional research and will bring it back to the committee for discussion next month.



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STAFF REPORTS & UPDATES: None at this time.

REVIEW VOUCHER EDIT LISTS: Included in the packet.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

1. Update on Acid Gas Removal System
2. Discuss/Approve Opposition to Senate bill 181 Levy Exemption for Regional Medical Services

SET DATE FOR NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, June 4, 2025 at 8:00AM in the Auditorium of the Government Center.

CLOSED SESSION – 2026 HEALTH INSURANCE RENEWAL & PLAN DESIGN CHANGES:

Motion: (Bartlett/Olson) to enter 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 or bargaining reasons require a closed session to include the members of the Executive Committee, Administrator French, Corporation Counsel Muench, HR Director Richie, Supervisor Vaughn and Tim Deaton.

Administrator French took minutes for the remainder of the meeting.

Motion to return to Open Session: Olson/Cook, Carried.

No action taken.

Adjourn: Declared adjourned by unanimous consent by Chair Okey, 9.30am

Respectfully Submitted,
Jessica Hodek, Barron County Clerk