

**AUGUST SESSION
MONDAY, AUGUST 27, 2018 AT 6:30 P.M.**

The Board met. Ms. Mary Anne McMillan Urell in the Chair.

The roll was called. Mr. Max Weiss joined the meeting at 6:31 p.m., Mr. Bernard Brunkow joined the meeting at 6:40 p.m., and Mr. Jon Seipel joined the meeting at 6:57 p.m. Mr. Don Black and Mr. Michael Taylor were excused. Others in attendance for all or portions of the meeting were Ms. Roxann Halverson, Ms. Sonya Hansen, Professor Thomas Kemp, UW Eau Claire Students (Lori Jo, Nate Goodell, Nevada Sweitzer, and Brady Seidlitz), Mr. Carl Duley, Mr. Dale Klopp, Mr. David Brommerich, Mr. David Schmidt, and Mr. Mike Owecke.

Public Comments regarding Agenda items: None.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Previous Meeting Minutes: Mr. Kriesel made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Nelson. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Resolution #18-08-01 “A Resolution Recognizing and Honoring the Retirement of Beatrice Gleiter”: Chair McMillan Urell explained that Ms. Gleiter was unable to be at the meeting, but she wanted to still recognize her for her service to Buffalo County. Mr. Nelson made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Bork. Carried.

Review/Discussion regarding a Presentation by UW-Eau Claire (Final Report on Current Economic Conditions, County Comparisons, and Growth Strategies): The UW Students gave their presentation on the work performed and outcome of their research for economic conditions in Buffalo County. They explained the differences and similarities between Buffalo County and the benchmark counties they chose. Buffalo County excels in Ag where others excel in health care and retail sales. The students feel Buffalo County needs to find a way to capitalize on the Ag tourism industry. People love petting zoos and learning how to make cheese or soaps. These types of services would be valuable to Buffalo County. Another area to look at is the river. There are many river boats that travel up and down the Mississippi River. Cities and towns in Buffalo County could install port access and capitalize on inviting exploration in their area. The report also shows that income for Ag in Buffalo County is one of the lowest in the State but expenses are one of the highest. Less than 75% of state aid is received by farmers in Buffalo County and this should be looked at to help aid the Ag industry. When asked if the students would consider living in Buffalo County, the answer was yes, but there needed to be broadband to help keep people here.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding the Zoning Department 2017 Annual Report: Mr. Owecke gave a presentation of work that was completed in 2017. He reviewed a septic grant that is available to low income families to help with replacement of failing septic systems. BOA accomplishments were reviewed. The next year will focus on enforcement efforts.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Resolution #18-08-02 “A Resolution to Purchase One (1) New Replacement Squad Using Insurance Deductible Funds: One 2005 squad was

totaled due to deer damage. The insurance deductible of \$10,000.00 will replace the squad and all accessories. Mr. Brunkow made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Smith. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Resolution #18-08-03 “A Resolution to Establish and Adjust Permit Application Fees for Ordinance Administration by the Zoning Department”: Mr. Brunkow explained the Zoning Committee reviewed fees and adjusted them to help cover costs of running the office. Fees were compared with other counties and set at an average. Mr. Kriesel made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Brunkow. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding #18-08-04 “A Resolution to Authorize the Purchase of Liquid Propane for the 2018-2019 Heating Season”: Ms. Hansen explained that bids are requested each year for liquid propane for the upcoming heating season. Premier Cooperative’s bid of \$1.079 per gallon for 40,000 gallons was approved at Finance Committee. Mr. Grisen made a motion to amend the last paragraph to change Countryside Coop of Mondovi to Premier Cooperative of Dodge, seconded by Mr. Nelson. Carried. Mr. Hillert made a motion to approve the amended resolution, seconded by Mr. Bork. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Resolution #18-08-05 “A Resolution to Amend Resolution #18-07-06 to Support Replacement and Upgrade of Uniform Address Signs”: Ms. Hansen explained that after last month’s meeting another bid was received for signs that was a lower cost. The municipalities requested to have maximum costs to them before they could make a decision. The installation of the signs is still being discussed. Lange Enterprises indicated they would still install the signs even if not purchased through them. Some of the towns would like to install their own signs to keep costs down. These details will need to be worked out. If costs were to go over the maximum cost offered to the municipalities the county would need to pay that difference out of CAPX funds. The signs will be blue flag style sign. The municipalities will need to let the county know by September 26, 2018 if they are going to participate and then they will have until March 1, 2020 to pay for their portion of the signs. Mr. Danzinger made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Brunkow. Carried.

Review/Discussion regarding the UW Extension 2017 Annual Report: Mr. Duley gave the 2017 annual report for UW Extension. He reviewed services that have been provided and work that will continue in 2018.

Committee Chair Reports: Mr. Grisen reported on leasing of heavy equipment. It has not been an option because if you do not own the equipment you cannot depreciate it and there are not enough hours put on the machinery to lease it. Highway is looking at having three locations in the county to have card gas pumps for all departments to use. Buying gas in bulk can save the county money.

Mr. Brunkow indicated the Zoning Committee will begin working on revisions of the Sanitary and Shoreland ordinances. Law Enforcement jail population is stable at 17-18 inmates. Hiring employees has been difficult for Communication/Corrections Officer positions. The lease vehicles are now in service.

Mr. Hillert reported the budget process will be starting next week.

Mr. Danzinger the broadband installation is moving forward in the Town of Milton. There will be more work in the future to continue broadband expansion.

Mr. Kriesel reported on the continued work DHHS is doing with out of home placements.

Administrative Coordinator Report: Ms. Hansen gave her report.

- The financial system has been down for a few weeks. The system crashed and every effort was made to repair what we have, but it cannot be fixed. A new system was ordered and will be installed in the next few weeks with our data being transferred to the new system. Things are still getting paid, but it is very labor intensive to get this accomplished.
- A groundbreaking was held at CFC Schools for the Town of Milton broadband project. The state is very impressed with the collaboration between the private industry, town and county.
- The quarterly report of meeting attendance is on everyone's desk.
- Mr. Tom Bilski has been appointed and sworn in as the new District Attorney. The Victim Witness position is still open.

County Board Chair Report: None.

Public Comments Not Regarding Agenda Items: None.

Adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roxann M. Halverson
Buffalo County Clerk