

BUFFALO COUNTY MINUTES

Committee of the Board:

Finance Committee

Date of the Meeting:

March 18, 2021

Chair Mr. Dennis Bork called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m. in the third floor County Board Room, Buffalo County Courthouse, Alma, Wisconsin.

Members Present: Mr. Max Weiss, Mr. Don Hillert, Mr. Brad Schmidtkecht and Mr. Dennis Bork appeared in person. Mr. David Danzinger appeared via Teams.

Others Present for All or Parts of the Meeting in Person and Via Teams: Ms. Sonya Hansen, Ms. Roxann Halverson, Mr. Stephen Schiffli, Ms. Tina Anibas, Ms. Nettie Rosenow, Mr. Dave Schams, Mr. Dave Rynders, Mr. Jim Wilkie, Mr. Rick Diermeier, and Mr. David Kellum.

Public Comments regarding Agenda Items: Mr. Schams spoke supporting Phase II of the Flyway Trail. He explained the benefits of this project and that it will cost Buffalo County less than \$200,000 for a multimillion-dollar project.

Mr. Wilkie explained he will be setting up an escrow account at the Bank of Alma to keep funds in so that if the LAWCON grant fails to be awarded Buffalo County will get those escrowed funds.

Mr. Diermeier indicated his intent to donate \$90,000 to the project as matching funds for the engineering study.

Ms. Rosenow read an email she received regarding funds for the trail project, how the LAWCON grant is funded and the number of people that have donated to this project and want to see it completed. She also discussed the Buffalo County Outdoor Recreation Plan and how it talks about the trail in that plan.

Mr. Kellum discussed the benefits of having the trail and asks the Board to approve the resolution.

Review/Discussion/Action Regarding Minutes of the Previous Meeting: Mr. Hillert made a motion to approve the minutes by roll call vote, seconded by Mr. Weiss. All in favor. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action: A Resolution to Support the Great River State Trail – Winona Connector – Phase II: A discussion was held regarding concerns on the resolution changing from the Flyway Trail meeting to the Economic Development Committee meeting, and funding for the project. It was explained that there is money for the engineering study and without this study other grants cannot be applied for. A letter of understanding will be created for the escrow funds to be turned over to the county if

further funding for the project fails. The committee gave Ms. Hansen permission to sign that MOU. Mr. Hillert made a motion to approve the resolution pending approval of the MOU for the escrow funds, seconded by Mr. Schmidtknecht. A roll call vote was taken, and all were in favor. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding A Resolution to Approve a Limited Term Public Health Care Worker Position to Support COVID19 Response: Mr. Rynders discussed the position and some of the duties the person would have. The funding would come from state and federal sources. The position is for up to 600 hours through December 31, 2021. Mr. Schmidtknecht made a motion to approve the resolution by roll call vote, seconded by Mr. Weiss. All in favor. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding A Resolution to Merge Buffalo County WIC with the Trempealeau County WIC Program: Mr. Rynders explained Trempealeau County would be providing the WIC services if this merger were agreed to. This would help to save money by combining services. There would be no change to the clinics and where they are held. Mr. Hillert made a motion to approve the resolution by roll call vote, seconded by Mr. Schmidtknecht. All in favor. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding A Resolution to Approve 2021 Wage Increase for Administrative Coordinator: Chair Bork explained this resolution approves a 3% wage increase for the Administrative Coordinator. Mr. Schmidtknecht made a motion to approve the resolution by roll call vote, seconded by Mr. Hillert. All in favor. Carried.

Review/Discussion regarding Rule 24 of the Rules of Government Relating to County Board Attendance: This was discussed at Committee of the Board. Each committee chair should have cell numbers of all members to report of any changes of meeting times or other important information. Members that are unable to attend or wish to attend remotely must notify the chair 24 hours in advance. Agendas have been updated to show all members who to call if the chair or County Clerk is not available. Chair Bork would like members attending remotely to keep their cameras turned on during their remote attendance. Some members are having difficulty receiving their packets through SharePoint on their tablets. Each Department Manager will email the agenda to the committee members and the County Clerk's Office will upload the entire packet to the tablets.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Review of the Zoning Department Permits and Revenues: A written report was in the packets. Ms. Hansen will discuss pumping fees with Mr. Owecke.

Chairperson Report: Chair Bork reported he approved time off for the Highway Department due to the recent death of an employee.

Chair Bork was excused from the meeting at 9:53 a.m.

Review/Discussion/Action ~ Monthly Vendor Invoices/Vouchers/Employee Payroll/Funds Investment Report: Mr. Schmidtknecht made a motion to approve the vouchers and invoices by roll call vote, seconded by Mr. Hillert. All in favor. Carried.

Review/Discussion regarding a Financial Update: Ms. Hansen reviewed 2020 financials. Mr. Hillert made a motion to approve the update, seconded by Mr. Danzinger. All in favor. Carried.

Administrative Coordinator Report: Ms. Hansen explained she will be working with WCA on what the American Rescue Plan funds can be used for. A \$256 expenditure was approved in Law Enforcement to reimburse an individual for time and expenses. New dispatch stations are going to be installed. The jail report noted the need to make sure there are enough employees on duty to ensure the safety of employees and inmates.

Review/Discussion/Action Regarding the Next Meeting Date and Time: Thursday, April 15, 2021 at 8:30 a.m. will be the next meeting date and time.

Public Comments Not Related to Agenda Items: None.

Adjourned: Mr. Schmidtknecht made a motion to adjourn seconded by Mr. Hillert. Meeting adjourned at 10:18 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roxann Halverson
Buffalo County Clerk