

**REDISTRICTING PUBLIC HEARING**  
**Monday, August 23, 2021, at 7:00 p.m.**

The Board met for the Redistricting Public Hearing. Mr. Max Weiss in the Chair.

The roll was called, and all members were present, except Ms. Carol McDonough, Mr. Michael Taylor, and Mr. Dennis Bork. Others in attendance for all or portions of the meeting were Ms. Sonya Hansen, Ms. Roxann Halverson, Mr. Tim Wucherer, Mr. Joe Bragger, Ms. Wednesday Jordan, Ms. Pat Malone, Ms. Josie Knauber, Mr. Lucas Teska, Ms. Gabby Janovec (Teams), and Mr. David Brommerich (Teams).

**Public Comments Regarding the Tentative 2022 Redistricting Plan of the County Board of Supervisors:** Ms. Halverson reviewed the maps for the current district and the reduction to 12 districts. After further work today the population of Buffalo County is down by 270 citizens. She indicated that she does not recommend decreasing in size because of the added workload of those remaining members and difficulty with having a quorum for meetings. Mr. Danzinger explained by reducing the number of districts you would now have six urban (city) districts and six rural (town) districts. Variations in the population of the different districts and the municipalities that were grouped together were discussed. Redistricting can only be done every 10 years after a Census count.

Mr. Danzinger made a motion to adjourn the public hearing, seconded by Mr. Bruegger at 7:14 p.m.

**AUGUST COUNTY BOARD SESSION**  
**August 23, 2021, at 7:15 p.m.**

The Board met. Mr. Max Weiss in the Chair.

The roll was called, and all members were present, except Ms. Carol McDonough, Mr. Michael Taylor, and Mr. Dennis Bork. Others in attendance for all or portions of the meeting were Ms. Sonya Hansen, Ms. Roxann Halverson, Mr. Tim Wucherer, Mr. Joe Bragger, Ms. Wednesday Jordan, Ms. Pat Malone, Ms. Josie Knauber, Mr. Lucas Teska, Ms. Gabby Janovec (Teams), and Mr. David Brommerich (Teams).

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

**Public Comments:** None.

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

**Review/Discussion/Action regarding Resolution #21-08-01 A Resolution to Support the Town of Montana to Establish an Agricultural Enterprise Area:** Mr. Wucherer gave a presentation on the request of the Town of Montana to create an

Agricultural Enterprise Area. A discussion was held on allowing AEA when the municipality is not in county zoning. Mr. Sendelbach made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Ruff. Mr. Danzinger voting no. Carried.

**Review/Discussion regarding the 2020 Land Conservation & Resource Management Annual Report:** Mr. Ruff presented the 2020 Land Conservation annual report. He highlighted the work accomplished in 2020, grants applied for, work on nonmetallic mines, PL-566 structures, and how the overall budget ended for the year.

**Review/Discussion regarding the 2020 UW Extension Annual Report:** Ms. Malone presented the 2020 UW Extension annual report. She discussed the challenges of providing services during 2020, grants received, and continuing work with 60 different agencies.

**Review/Discussion regarding COVID Masks & Vaccination Updates:** Ms. Knauber gave a presentation on the status of vaccines, spikes in cases, and masks. Buffalo County has seen a spike in cases, some of those are individuals that have been vaccinated, but the majority are unvaccinated. Ms. Knauber reviewed some places that are mandating employees to have vaccines and the CDC recommendation that all citizens, regardless of vaccination status, wear masks in an indoor setting. Buffalo County Public Health has received word that they will receive enough funding to continue COVID work through 2024.

**Review/Discussion/Action regarding the Administrative Coordinator Position Description:** Mr. Grisen explained the HR Committee reviewed and approved the changes to the Administrative Coordinator position description and recommended it be sent to the County Board for approval since there is no scheduled meeting of the Committee of the Board in the near future. Mr. Grisen made a motion to approve the position description, seconded by Ms. McMillan Urell. Carried.

**Review/Discussion/Action regarding the Appointment of the Allocation Subcommittee:** The Committee of the Board suggested a subcommittee be set up to establish guidelines for allocation of the ARPA funds. County Board Chair Dennis Bork would like to appoint Mr. Hillert (Highway Chair), Mr. Grisen (HR Chair), Ms. McMillan Urell (DHHS Chair), and Mr. Taylor (Law Enforcement Chair). Either the County Board Chair or Vice Chair will also sit on this subcommittee. Ms. Hansen explained to the Board if anyone else was interested they can let Chair Bork know.

**Resolution/Discussion/Action regarding #21-08-06 A Resolution to Create and Fill an Emergency Management and Risk Management/Safety Director:** Ms. Hansen reviewed the needed changes in the Highway Department and the resignation of the current Emergency Management Director. Mr. Danzinger made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Hillert. A roll call vote was taken. All in favor. Carried.

**Review/Discussion/Action regarding the Appointment of Mr. Lucas Teska as the Emergency Management & Risk Management/Safety Director:** Mr. Teska

introduced himself. Ms. McMillan Urell made a motion to approve the appointment, seconded by Mr. Grisen. Carried.

**Review/Discussion/Action regarding Resolution #21-08-02 A Resolution to Pay Remaining Dog License Fund Money to the Buffalo County Humane Association:**

Ms. Halverson reviewed the contract. The updated contract will be for three years (previously one year), have a holding time of seven days for stray animals versus five days, and have annual fiscal and activity reports due by July 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. The money paid to the Humane Association is not tax levy money, but money collected from the issuance of dog license tags. If it is decided to not have a contract the price charged for the dog license will need to be reduced as statutes indicated that you may only raise the amount if you are supporting a humane organization. Mr. Danzinger made a motion to approve the resolution by roll call vote, seconded by Mr. Schmidtknecht. All in favor. Carried.

**Review/Discussion/Action regarding #21-08-03 A Resolution to Approve Identification & Key Card Policy:**

Ms. Hansen reviewed the policy. New ID's will be issued to employees. The ID will then be used as a key to enter into assigned areas of the building. Access can be revoked at any time without having to rekey the entire building. The system also allows monitoring. Mr. Schmidtknecht made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Ms. McMillan Urell. Carried.

**Review/Discussion/Action regarding #21-08-04 A Resolution to Update Employee Handbook Policy 108 Travel, Meals and Lodging:**

The HR Committee approved increasing the reimbursement of breakfast, lunch, and dinner when an employee is traveling for work. This increase would not go into effect until January 1, 2022. Mr. Steve Nelson made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Grisen. Carried.

**Resolution/Discussion/Action regarding #21-08-07 A Resolution to Fill a Parts and Inventory Specialist:**

Mr. Hillert explained this position would better serve the Highway Department with inventory of parts and help with accounting functions. Mr. Hillert made a motion to approve the resolution by roll call vote, seconded by Mr. Danzinger. All in favor. Carried.

**Review/Discussion/Action regarding #21-08-05 A Resolution to Rescind Resolution #21-04-01, A Resolution to Create and Fill a Parts/Safety & Training Coordinator Position:**

Mr. Bruegger made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Steve Nelson. Carried.

**Review/Discussion/Action regarding Resolution #21-08-08 A Resolution for 2022 Buffalo County Supervisory Redistricting Boundaries Plan:**

Ms. Halverson reviewed the options for redistricting. The Board can vote to reduce, remain the same, or increase districts. Ms. McMillan Urell made a motion to leave the districts at fourteen districts, seconded by Mr. Bruegger. A roll call vote was taken. All in favor. Carried.

**Review/Discussion/Action regarding Resolution #21-08-09 A Resolution to Rescind Resolution #16-06-05 to Support North American Wetlands Conservation Grant Application by Department of Natural Resources:** Ms. Hansen explained the DNR asked for support for a grant to purchase land in Buffalo and Dunn counties. The grant was approved only for the purchase of the Dunn County property. This resolution would rescind the \$1,000 CAPX support and allow the money to be used in another project as the county sees fit. Ms. McMillan Urell made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Ruff. Carried.

**Review/Discussion/Action regarding Resolution #21-08-10 A Resolution to Support the Buffalo County Trail Riders with a Donation from CAPX2020 Funding for Signs:** The Club is requesting \$1,823 for signs for the ATV/UTV routes. They have raised \$24,000 towards the purchase of signs. A discussion was held regarding the cost of signs, using ARPA funds for signs, and paying for signs when the Club originally said they would pay for the signs themselves and the county would not need to spend any money on this project. Ms. McMillan Urell made a motion to approve the resolution by roll call vote, seconded by Mr. Nathan Nelson. Mr. Schmidtknecht, Mr. Bruegger, and Mr. Sendelbach voting no. Carried.

**Committee Chair Reports:** HR is working on the wage scales and with the insurance advisors. Highway is continuing to get road work done and should have all bond money spent this year. They are currently three months behind on accounting, with two months being the standard normal lag. The bridge on Alleman Road is being completed ahead of schedule. Office staff is back to four days a week instead of five days a week. Land Conservation applications were due by the 17<sup>th</sup>. Those will be reviewed for the interview process.

**Administrative Coordinator Report:** Ms. Hansen gave her report.

- The annual conference is coming up in September. If anyone would like to sign up for that let her know. It is held in La Crosse.
- Sale tax for this year looks good.
- There is grant funding available for new businesses.
- Budget meetings will be this Friday.
- Applications for the Administrative Coordinator position will be screened on Friday.
- Ms. Sadie Gunderson has accepted the position in the Clerk of Courts Office. This will leave another vacancy in the Communications/Corrections Department.
- There is an Economic Support Specialist and Public Health position still vacant.
- The Foreman position was filled from within at the Highway Department. This leaves a Patrol position vacant.

**County Board Chair Report:** None.

**Public Comments:** None.

**Adjournment:** Mr. Weiss made a motion to adjourn at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Roxann M. Halverson  
Buffalo County Clerk