

SEPTEMBER COUNTY BOARD SESSION
September 27, 2021, at 7:15 p.m.

The Board met. Mr. Dennis Bork the Chair.

The roll was called, and all members were present, except Mr. Brad Schmidtknecht (who appeared via TEAMS). Others in attendance for all or portions of the meeting were Ms. Sonya Hansen, Ms. Roxann Halverson, Mr. Dave Rynders, Ms. Roselle Schlosser, Ms. Josie Knauber (TEAMS), Mr. David Brommerich (TEAMS), Ms. Carol Burmeister (TEAMS), and Ms. Lisa Schuh (TEAMS).

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Public Comments: None.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding the Previous Meeting Minutes: Ms. McMillan Urell made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Taylor. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding the Appointment of Ms. Beth Sass to the Highway Safety Commission: The Highway Safety Commission is an advisory committee that every county needs to have. Ms. Hansen reviewed Ms. Sass's biography and explained she will fill a vacancy due to retirement. Mr. Bruegger made a motion to approve the appointment, seconded by Mr. Taylor. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding an Update on COVID-19 in Buffalo County: Ms. Knauber explained the order that was issued to the Mondovi School District and the reason it was issued. She reviewed the number of cases in area schools in the last seven days (Mondovi School District 51 cases, Gilmanton School District 1 case, and Alma School District 2 cases). Ms. Knauber explained she has a duty and statutory authority to keep the public safe during a communicable disease outbreak. With the increase in numbers of COVID it is important to quarantine when ill or exposed due to close contact. She explained the process of quarantining someone. She gets the notification of a positive test and then reaches out to the school district to identify close contacts. The school makes the decision on who close contacts are. The link to the virtual meeting held with Mondovi is located on the county website.

Review/Discussion regarding the 2020 Clerk of Court Annual Report: Ms. Schlosser gave the annual report for the Clerk of Court's Office. She is contemplating the possibility of discontinuing the issuance of passports. This is not a mandated service and with an increase of other duties, she feels her staff's time is better spent on the mandated duties. Ms. Schlosser described how jury trials and other court hearings were handled during the pandemic.

Review/Discussion regarding the 2022 Draft Budget: The 2022 draft budget was reviewed. There were items removed since the initial presentation to try and balance

the budget. There is still a deficit of \$1,309,395.92. Finance recommended to take the funds from the general fund and to look at freezing new positions, delay hiring for vacant positions, and bonding for highway. This will be published in October and voted on at the November County Board meeting.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Resolution #21-09-01 A Resolution to Ratify 2022-2023 Buffalo County Law Enforcement Officers WPPA/LEER Collective Bargaining Agreement: Mr. Grisen reviewed the changes that have been agreed upon for the WPPA/LEER contract. Ms. McMillan Urell made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Taylor. A roll call vote was taken, and all were in favor. Carried.

Resolution/Discussion/Action regarding #21-09-02 A Resolution to Change a Position Providing Children's Long Term Services and Public Health Services to Allow for a Public Health Educator or Social Worker or a Four Year Degree Related to Social Work to Fill this Position in Addition to a Public Health Nurse: Mr. Rynders explained the struggle it has been in trying to fill the Public Health Nurse position. The DHHS Committee decided to expand the search to other qualified individuals that could perform the duties for Children's Long Term Services. Ms. McMillan Urell made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Danzinger. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding #21-09-03 A Resolution to Amend Salary Classification and Compensation System for Non-Represented Employees: This resolution adds some new positions to the scales and removes some positions that no longer exist. There are also a few title changes that have been updated in the classifications. Mr. Grisen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Hillert. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding #21-09-04 A Resolution to Identify Delinquent 2018 Real Estate Taxes: Ms. Halverson explained this resolution shows one property that is remaining from the 23 delinquent real estate tax properties when the process began. All past 2018 taxes have been paid except for this one. Ms. Gore did come to the Finance meeting and requested an extension to pay which was granted until January 2nd. This resolution is needed should she default on the taxes and Ms. Halverson would need to move forward with the foreclosure process. Ms. McMillan Urell made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Taylor. Carried.

Resolution/Discussion/Action regarding #21-09-05 A Resolution Updating the Fees Relating to the Wisconsin Statewide Voter Registration System (WisVote): Ms. Halverson explained that during her budget presentation the Finance Committee wished to see a more equitable way to charge for Voter Registration services. They decided \$1.00 per population based on the 2020 Census would be a fair fee. The City of Buffalo City has indicated that they may be taking over the service. It was not the cost that prompted this but the added work of reporting absentee ballots to us. They believe it would be best to enter this information themselves and not duplicate the work.

The Town of Belvidere and Town of Glencoe may be appealing their census numbers. Belvidere believes they have fewer people than the Census counted, and Glencoe believes they have more than the Census counted. If those appeals are granted the fee will change to reflect their new population. Ms. McMillan Urell made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Nathan Nelson. Carried.

Mr. Grisen asked if Ms. Halverson has received any emails regarding a request to secure the November 2020 election supplies. Ms. Halverson explained she had not received the email but was contacted by the AP to see if she received it. She then looked and could not find it and had Itechra look. They did find it in our virus protection program folder. They expressed concerns with the email and advised to not open it. She indicated that all election supplies are kept for a period of time dictated by statute and that all media from election machines is backed up with the programming company and kept for the statutory amount of time.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding #21-09-06 A Resolution to Approve County Recycling Agreement with the City of Buffalo City, Town of Belvidere, Village of Cochrane, and Town of Milton (Collectively Identified as BBC&M): Mr. Weiss explained recycling contracts are being updated. BBC&M is in the process of subcontracting recycling services. Mr. Ruff made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Weiss. Carried.

Committee Chair Reports: The HR Committee continues to work on health insurance and wage scales. Land Conservation is still working on filling the Land Conservationist position. They are going to interview two more candidates on Friday. They should know soon if they received the hazel nut grant and then can begin planning for the test plot. Highway is on track with roadwork and spending the bond money. DHHS reported earlier in the meeting on COVID updates and changes in job positions. The Executive Committee has held interviews for the Administrative Coordinator position. Five individuals were interviewed, and they would like to bring back one for a second interview with the Committee of the Board.

Administrative Coordinator Report: Ms. Hansen reported the ATV/UTV signs are installed. A map created by the Highway Department shows municipalities that are open and closed. The ordinance needs to be published and then the routes will be open. An individual from the State delivered a certificate to Buffalo County for being part of the Great River Road. Vacant positions were reviewed.

County Board Chair Report: Chair Bork reported on the WCA conference and resolutions that were discussed at the business meeting. He would like to have some research done on an MFL resolution and see if other counties would support changes to the MFL program. More land is being placed into MFL each year by out of county/state landowners.

Public Comments: None.

Adjournment: Ms. McMillan Urell made a motion to adjourn at 9:01 p.m., seconded by Mr. Ruff. Carried

Respectfully Submitted,

Roxann M. Halverson
Buffalo County Clerk