

DECEMBER COUNTY BOARD SESSION
Monday, December 20, 2021, at 7:00 p.m.

The Board met. Mr. Dennis Bork in the Chair.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

The roll was called and all members were present except for Mr. Don Hillert and Mr. John Sendelbach, who were excused. Others in attendance for all or portions of the meeting were Ms. Roxann Halverson, Ms. Sonya Hansen, Mr. Ryan VanDeWalle, Mr. Steve Schiffli, and Sheriff Mike Schmidtknecht. Ms. Lisa Schuh, Ms. Carol Burmeister, Mr. Dave Brommerich, Mr. Nels Anderson, and Mr. Marvin Rieck attended via TEAMS.

Public Comments: None.

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

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Ordinance #21-12-01 An Ordinance to Amend the Official “Buffalo County Zoning District Map”, Town of Buffalo: This request is to rezone a property to commercial. Ms. McMillan Urell made a motion to approve the ordinance, seconded by Mr. Ruff. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Resolution #21-12-01 A Resolution Recognizing and Honoring the Retirement of Mr. Randy Johnson: Chair Bork read the certificate of retirement. Mr. Johnson was unable to attend the meeting. Mr. Grisen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Weiss. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Resolution #21-12-02 A Resolution Recognizing and Honoring the Retirement of Ms. Diane Mikelson: Chair Bork read the certificate for Ms. Mikelson, who was unable to attend the meeting. Sheriff Schmidtknecht will get the certificate to her. Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Ms. McDonough. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Resolution #21-12-03 A Resolution Recognizing and Honoring the Retirement of Ms. Sonya J. Hansen: Chair Bork read the certificate honoring Ms. Hansen for her 22 years of service to Buffalo County. Ms. McMillan Urell thanked Ms. Hansen for her guidance and for keeping everything running smoothly. Ms. McMillan Urell made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Schmidtknecht. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Resolution #21-12-04 A Resolution to Adopt the Outdoor Recreation Plan for Years 2021-2025: The Outdoor Recreation Plan was reviewed. It is a very detailed plan that should be reviewed regularly to follow through with the goals described. This plan shows local hiking trails and canoe trails and should be used to promote Buffalo County’s outdoor recreation activities. Mr. Steve Nelson made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Danzinger. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Resolution #21-12-05 A Resolution to Approve Donation to the Buffalo County Sheriff's Office from Ye Old School House:

The Ye Old School House received donations of clothing and household items. They in turn sell them and donate funds to local organizations. They have chosen the K9 program to donate \$7,486.83, which will cover the purchase and installation of the equipment needed in the new squad for the K9. Ms. McMillan Urell made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Taylor. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Resolution #21-12-06 A Resolution to Adopt Salary Classification and Compensation System for Non-Represented Employees:

This resolution officially approves the wages that were included in the budget. The exhibit was amended to include the Parts and Inventory Specialist and to change the job titles of the CJS Director and CJS Diversion Specialist. Mr. Grisen made a motion to amend the exhibit to the resolution, seconded by Mr. Taylor. Carried. Mr. Grisen made a motion to approve the amended resolution by roll call votes, seconded by Mr. Taylor. All in favor. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Resolution #21-12-07 A Resolution to Approve Health Insurance Benefit Plan for 2022:

This resolution identifies the health insurance plan and the agent of record as approved in the budget. Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Danzinger. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Resolution #21-12-08 A Resolution to Amend Policy No. 301- Health Insurance and COBRA:

The policy needed some updates with the new insurance coverages. Ms. McMillan Urell made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Nathan Nelson. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Resolution #21-12-09 A Resolution to Amend Policy No. 111 of the Buffalo County Employee Handbook – Salary Classification and Compensation System:

This resolution shows the update to the employee handbook. Mr. Grisen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Nathan Nelson. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Resolution #21-12-10 A Resolution to Increase Buffalo County Coroner, Chief Deputy Coroner and Deputy Coroner Per Diem:

This resolution would raise the per diem from \$125 to \$150 in the hopes to aid in recruitment and retention. Ms. McMillan Urell made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Ms. McDonough. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Resolution #21-12-11 A Resolution to Modify Broadband Funding Services:

The County will receive \$2,527,282.00 of ARPA funds which one of the approved uses is broadband. The Committee of the Board and the Finance Committee recommend the resolution be amended to approve \$1.3 million towards broadband which would include the \$100,000 for the Town of Naples and the \$200,000 originally approved from CAPX for Town of Cross and Town of Mondovi. Ms. McMillan Urell made a motion to amend the resolution to allow a max of \$1.3 million of ARPA funds to be used for broadband, of which the \$300,000 for Towns of Naples, Mondovi, and Cross are included in that \$1.3 million maximum, seconded by Mr.

Schmidtknecht. Carried. Ms. McMillan Urell made a motion to approve the amended resolution by a roll call vote, seconded by Mr. Schmidtknecht. All in favor. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Resolution #21-12-12 A Resolution to Appoint the County Surveyor: Mr. Danzinger made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Weiss. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Resolution #21-12-13 A Resolution Authorizing Approval of the Buffalo County Land Information Plan 2022-2024: Mr. Anderson explained there were not many changes to the plan. Mr. Ruff made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Weiss. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Resolution #21-12-14 A Resolution to Support the Buffalo County Re-Monumentation Project – Town of Milton: Town of Milton is the next town to have remonumentation completed. They would like an assurance that the project would be completed by 2025 or they would get their \$60,000 back that they are putting into the project. Auth Consulting has agreed if it is not completed in time, they will repay the funds. Mr. Ruff made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Weiss. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Resolution #21-12-15 A Resolution to Authorize Buffalo County to Enter into the Settlement Agreements with McKesson Corporation, Cardinal Health Inc., AmerisourceBergen Corporation, Johnson & Johnson, Janssen Pharmaceuticals Inc., Ortho-McNeil-Janssen Pharmaceuticals Inc., and Janssen Pharmaceutica Inc., Agree to the Terms of the MOU Allocating Settlement Proceeds, and Authorize Entry into the MOU with the Attorney General and hereby allowing the Buffalo County Administrative Coordinator to Review and Sign all Current and Future Documents Related to the Settlement: The County should be receiving \$354,625.52 for the opioid settlement, with 20% of this needing to be put away in an escrow account for attorney fees (if requested by the attorney). By approving this resolution, it will accept the funds and allow the Administrative Coordinator to sign all documents necessary. Ms. McMillan Urell made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Taylor. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Appointment of Mr. Nels Anderson as the Land Information Officer Effective January 2, 2022: Ms. Hansen has served as the Land Information Officer since Mr. Poser passed away. With her retirement a new LIO needs to be appointed. Mr. Anderson has the knowledge and expertise to fill this vacancy. Ms. McMillan Urell made motion to approve the appointment of Mr. Nels Anderson as the Buffalo County Land Information Officer effective January 2, 2022, seconded by Ms. McDonough. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding the 2022 County Board Meeting Dates and Times: The 2022 meeting dates were reviewed and no changes were indicated.

Committee Chair Reports: Law Enforcement will be holding interviews for the Administrative Assistant position and Communications/Corrections Officer positions. Mr. Logan Olson has been hired as the new Jail Administrator.

Land Conservation will be holding interviews for the Resource Technician. There has been a good response to the advertisement for this position.

HR held interviews for the Personnel Advisor and will be speaking with a candidate again.

DHHS discussed the ARPA funds wish list they presented and also reviewed the dialog used for contact tracing.

Highway is working on a fuel management system that other departments may want to look at to save money for the county. They are also working on a new timecard system to more efficiently track work done on individual projects and to save office staff time in reentering information. The Office Support Specialist will be retiring in March.

Mr. Bruegger shared an article that was in the paper regarding MFL. He said it was a good article for residents to read and see how this affects their tax dollars.

Administrative Coordinator Report: Mr. VanDeWalle discussed a meeting he and Ms. Hansen had with Public Health. With the increase in COVID cases Public Health would like to see face masks required in the courthouse for employees and visitors, more telecommuting, video visits instead of in-person visits, and an increase in vaccines and boosters. HR discussed this at their meeting and would like to hold off on any action pending further information.

County Board Chair Report: None.

Public Comments: Ms. Halverson would like to remind everyone to get their nomination papers in by January 4th. No one has taken out papers for District 4, District 6, or District 7. Mr. Hillert for District 4 has already signed his Noncandidacy paperwork. If those representing Districts 6 and 7 do not wish to run again Ms. Halverson asked that they come sign the necessary paperwork by close of business on Wednesday, December 22nd.

Adjournment: Mr. Taylor made a motion to adjourn at 8:41 p.m., seconded by Mr. Schmidtknecht. Carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Roxann M. Halverson
Buffalo County Clerk