

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE PRICE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**September 14, 2021**

County Board Room 101, 126 Cherry St, Phillips, WI 54555

Meeting called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Robert Kopisch, County Board Chairperson.

Invocation: None.

Pledge of Allegiance recited by those in attendance.

Roll Call: Present (13): Alan Barkstrom, Doug Erickson, Brian Ernst, Jeff Hallstrand, James Hintz, Paula Houdek, Robert Kopisch, Mark Kyle, Waldemar Madsen, Larry Palecek, Jordan Spacek, Ginny Strobl, Dennis Wartgow. Also present: Nick Trimner.

Instructions were given to any members of the public attending electronically.

Approval of Minutes August 17, 2021: Motion Hintz/Houdek to approve the minutes of the August 17, 2021 meeting as presented. Motion carried.

Communications and Announcements: None.

Public Comments: Supervisor Barkstrom read a communication from Sam Opresik, Town of Elk, regarding the ownership of the Fairgrounds.

Presentations:

1. 2020 Audit – Baker Tilly: Kim Shult presented the 2020 Audit report.

Public Hearing for the Price County Tentative Supervisory Redistricting Plan declared open at 9:33 a.m.

No comments received. Supervisor Houdek read communication from Wendy Orysen, Town of Hackett Clerk, regarding opposition to Redistricting Option 1. Reviewed Option 1 and Option 2. Public hearing declared closed at 9:36 a.m.

Resolutions:

**Resolution 35-21**

**Adoption of Tentative 2020 Supervisor Redistricting Plan**

WHEREAS, Wis. Stat. §59.10(3)(b) sets forth the procedures for reapportioning supervisory districts and requires that the County Board submit a tentative Supervisory District Plan and Written Statement to the various governing bodies of the municipalities in the County.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the following is the tentative Supervisory Redistricting Plan for the 2020 census:

1. Size. The size of the County Board shall be thirteen (13) Supervisors and, accordingly, there shall be thirteen (13) single Supervisory Districts.
2. District Boundaries. The District boundary lines shall be set forth on the proposed Reapportionment Districts Map dated September 14, 2021, which is made a part hereof by reference.
3. Contiguity and Equity. The tentative districts are substantially equal in population. Whenever possible, whole contiguous municipalities or contiguous parts of the same municipality have been placed within the same District.
4. Statement. The attached statement specifying the approximate location of the territory from which a ward is sought to be created and the appropriate population of the ward shall be the County's Statement and, together with this Resolution and the boundary map, shall be mailed by the County Clerk to each municipality within Price County upon adoption.
5. Request for Division into Wards. All involved municipalities are hereby requested to make a good faith effort to accommodate the proposed tentative District Plan and divide their municipal units into wards that will permit the creation of the Supervisory Districts proposed, all within thirty (30) days of the adoption of this Resolution.
6. Solicitation of Suggestions. The County Board does hereby request that each municipality unit submit to the County any suggestions as to boundary changes they feel are in the public interest and comply with the law on reapportionment.

Respectfully submitted by: Price County Redistricting Committee: s/Robert Kopisch, Chair; Jeff Hallstrand; Paula Houdek; Jean Gottwald. Reviewed by County Administrator: s/Nicholas Trimner.

Adopted by the Price County Board of Supervisors this 14<sup>th</sup> day of September 2021. s/Robert Kopisch, County Board Chair; Jean Gottwald, County Clerk: For: 12, Against: 1. Motion Houdek/Palecek to consider resolution for adoption incorporating Option 2. Roll call vote on resolution adoption: Yes (12): Barkstrom, Erickson, Ernst, Hintz, Houdek, Kopisch, Kyle, Madsen, Palecek, Spacek, Strobl, Wartgow. No (1): Hallstrand. Motion carried.

Resolution 36-21

Ratifying 2021 Price County Spring Land Sale

WHEREAS, Price County has exercised its right to conduct a sale of tax foreclosed properties; and WHEREAS, Price County has authorized the Land Use and UW-Extension Committee to set up and administer such land sale; and WHEREAS, the Price County Clerk has now exercised her statutory duty and has had deeds prepared and has signed such deeds to the successful purchaser upon their payment under the authorized process set out in the Price County Code, Chapter 511, Land Sales, all as itemized on the attached exhibit; and WHEREAS, it is in the benefit of the taxpayers of Price County for the Price County Clerk to have accepted the funds from such sale and to have concluded and recorded the deed for such sale. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Price County Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes the Price County Clerk's preparation and execution of any documents necessary to conclude the real estate sale set forth on the attached exhibit and fully ratifies any such documents already prepared, executed and/or recorded.

Submitted by the Price County Executive Committee. s/Robert D. Kopisch, Chair; Paula Houdek, Dennis Wartgow. Reviewed by County Administrator: s/Nicholas Trimner. Adopted by the Price County Board of Supervisors this 14th day of September 2021. s/Robert D. Kopisch, County Board Chair; Jean Gottwald, County Clerk. For: 13, Against: 0. Motion Strobl/Barkstrom to consider resolution for adoption. Roll call vote on resolution adoption: Yes (13): Barkstrom, Erickson, Ernst, Hallstrand, Hintz, Houdek, Kopisch, Kyle, Madsen, Palecek, Spacek, Strobl, Wartgow. No (0). Motion carried.

Resolution 37-21

Establish a Special Revenue Fund for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Revenue and Expenses: WHEREAS, Price County has been a recipient of funds from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021; and WHEREAS, in order to monitor, track and manage ARPA funds, Price County needs to establish appropriate financial management systems; and WHEREAS, proper record-keeping procedures will prevent and safe-guard against unauthorized use of funds; and WHEREAS, a separately designated special revenue fund within the general ledger will provide effective control over and accountability for all ARPA revenue and associated expenses; and WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the County to establish a separate general ledger fund to facilitate the County's allocation of ARPA funds.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Price County Board of Supervisors hereby establish the ARPA Fund to be assigned a general ledger position of 250.

Submitted by the Price County Executive Committee. s/Robert D. Kopisch, Chair; Paula Houdek, Larry Palecek, Dennis Wartgow. Reviewed by County Administrator: s/Nicholas Trimner. Adopted by the Price County Board of Supervisors this 14th day of September 2021. s/Robert D. Kopisch, County Board Chair; Jean Gottwald, County Clerk. For: 13, Against: 0.

Motion Madsen/Houdek to consider resolution for adoption. Roll call vote on resolution adoption: Yes (13): Barkstrom, Erickson, Ernst, Hallstrand, Hintz, Houdek, Kopisch, Kyle, Madsen, Palecek, Spacek, Strobl, Wartgow. No (0). Motion carried.

Resolution 38-21

Approve Transfer to Offset 2020 Budget Overages

WHEREAS, per County Board Policy, if a department exceeds its approved expenditure budget by 10% or greater, or for all General Fund Accounts (account code 100) any such spending that exceeds the approved expenditure budget by \$25,000 or 10% or greater, whichever is less, shall be referred to the Board for funding determination upon recommendation of the Executive Committee; and

WHEREAS, the unexpected and unbudgeted expenditures of the following departments have occurred resulting in an overage of the 2020 allowable expenditure budget, as stipulated above:

100-15	Elections	\$ 45,597
100-22	Land Information	\$121,941
100-79	Forestry & Parks	\$ 68,973
100-83	Dams	\$ 72,314

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Price County Board of Supervisors that the transfer is made from the general fund to cover the 2020 budget expenditure overages.

Fiscal Impact: \$308,825. (not budgeted)

Submitted by the Price County Executive Committee. s/Robert D. Kopisch, Chair; Paula Houdek, Larry Palecek, Dennis Wartgow. Reviewed by County Administrator: s/Nicholas Trimner. Adopted by the Price

County Board of Supervisors this 14th day of September 2021. s/Robert D. Kopisch, County Board Chair; Jean Gottwald, County Clerk. For: 13, Against: 0.  
Motion Houdek/Wartgow to consider resolution for adoption. Roll call vote on resolution adoption: Yes (13): Barkstrom, Erickson, Ernst, Hallstrand, Hintz, Houdek, Kopisch, Kyle, Madsen, Palecek, Spacek, Strobl, Wartgow. No (0). Motion carried.

Resolution 39-21

2020 Transfer into Capital Improvement Fund

WHEREAS, the Price County Board of Supervisors approved resolution #33-07, Capital Improvement Fund, at a regular meeting held August 21, 2007; and

WHEREAS, resolution #33-07 calls for providing a funding mechanism in development of a Capital Improvement Fund as set forth:

- Sale of County-owned land (upon receipt of the sale proceeds less all sale expenses), and
- 20% of County sales tax revenues or ½ of the excess of General Fund (100) Revenues over General Fund (100) Expenditures for the fiscal year after adjustments for continued appropriations (carryovers), whichever is greater; and

WHEREAS, the sales tax revenue for 2020 was \$1,097,583 which would provide \$219,517 as per above provision; and

WHEREAS, the audited General Fund revenues for 2020 were \$8,888,914 and General Fund expenses for 2020 were \$9,038,576 resulting in a loss of \$149,662 of which an additional \$275,132 in continued appropriations and restricted fund balance has been added leaving a net profit of \$125,470 which would provide no transfer as per above provision; and

WHEREAS, the profit from the 2020 land sales was \$37,786 the entire amount of which shall be transferred to the Capital Improvement Fund.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the greater amount of \$219,517 plus \$37,786 profit from land sale for a total of \$257,303 be transferred from the General Fund into the Capital Improvement Fund for the year 2020.

Submitted by the Price County Executive Committee. s/Robert D. Kopisch, Chair; Paula Houdek, Larry Palecek, Dennis Wartgow. Reviewed by County Administrator: s/Nicholas Trimner. Adopted by the Price County Board of Supervisors this 14th day of September 2021. s/Robert D. Kopisch, County Board Chair; Jean Gottwald, County Clerk. For: 13, Against: 0.

Motion Hintz/Kyle to consider resolution for adoption. Roll call vote on resolution adoption: Yes (13): Barkstrom, Erickson, Ernst, Hallstrand, Hintz, Houdek, Kopisch, Kyle, Madsen, Palecek, Spacek, Strobl, Wartgow. No (0). Motion carried.

County Administrator – Nick Trimner

2022 Preliminary Budget: Maximum operation levy \$7,565,959. Assumptions: 1% new construction increase, 7% health insurance increase, 2% wage schedule increase, 3% deputy contract wage increase, decreased stumpage revenue \$100,000, increase sales tax revenue \$50,000, two additional Highway Operator positions, debt service levy \$3,124,568. Motion Hintz/Wartgow to approve the 1% new construction increase for the 2022 budget. Motion carried.

Resolution 40-21

Approve Price County 2022 Highway Department Road Construction Projects  
to be Financed with Short-term Debt - \$300,000

WHEREAS, the Executive Committee has identified the need for financing a portion of the 2022 Highway Department road constructions projects to the extent of \$300,000; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Committee has reviewed the financial impact of the proposed construction and recommends financing the projects through the use of short-term borrowing.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Price County Board of Supervisors authorizes the Executive Committee to proceed with the implementation of financing 2022 Highway Department road construction projects in an amount not to exceed \$300,000 to be financed through the issuance of short-term debt and to include such debt payments to begin with the 2022 Price County budget.

Fiscal Impact: \$104,653 in 2022, \$103,244 in 2023, \$101,662 in 2024 (budgeted)

Submitted by the Price County Executive Committee. s/Robert D. Kopisch, Chair; Paula Houdek, Larry Palecek, Dennis Wartgow. Reviewed by County Administrator: s/Nicholas Trimner. Adopted by the Price County Board of Supervisors this 14th day of September 2021. s/Robert D. Kopisch, County Board Chair; Jean Gottwald, County Clerk. For: 13, Against: 0. Motion Madsen/Spacek to consider resolution for

adoption. Roll call vote on resolution adoption: Yes (13): Barkstrom, Erickson, Ernst, Hallstrand, Hintz, Houdek, Kopisch, Kyle, Madsen, Palecek, Spacek, Strobl, Wartgow. No (0). Motion carried.

Resolution 41-21

Approve Price County 2022 Highway Department Road Construction Projects  
to be Financed with Short-term Debt - \$400,000

WHEREAS, the Executive Committee has identified the need for financing a portion of the 2022 Highway Department road constructions projects to the extent of \$400,000; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Committee has reviewed the financial impact of the proposed construction and recommends financing the projects through the use of short-term borrowing.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Price County Board of Supervisors authorizes the Executive Committee to proceed with the implementation of financing 2022 Highway Department road construction projects in an amount not to exceed \$400,000 to be financed through the issuance of short-term debt and to include such debt payments to begin with the 2022 Price County budget.

Fiscal Impact: \$402,250 in 2022 (budgeted)

Submitted by the Price County Executive Committee. s/Robert D. Kopisch, Chair; Paula Houdek, Larry Palecek, Dennis Wartgow. Reviewed by County Administrator: s/Nicholas Trimner. Adopted by the Price County Board of Supervisors this 14th day of September 2021. s/Robert D. Kopisch, County Board Chair; Jean Gottwald, County Clerk. For: 13, Against: 0.

Motion Barkstrom/Erickson to consider resolution for adoption. Roll call vote on resolution adoption: Yes (13): Barkstrom, Erickson, Ernst, Hallstrand, Hintz, Houdek, Kopisch, Kyle, Madsen, Palecek, Spacek, Strobl, Wartgow. No (0). Motion carried.

Resolution 42-21

Implement Price County 2022 Capital Projects  
to be Financed with Short-term Debt #1 - \$252,500

WHEREAS, the following capital projects have been identified by the Price County Executive Committee:

Solberg Lake County Park boat landing and pavilion

Big Falls County Park electric service

Three squad car replacements

WHEREAS, the Executive Committee has reviewed the financial impact of these projects and recommends short-term borrowing to finance these projects; and

WHEREAS, the project components and estimated cost is approximately \$252,500; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Price County Board of Supervisors authorizes the Executive Committee to proceed with the implementation of 2022 Capital Projects #1 in an amount not to exceed \$252,500, to be financed with short-term debt and to include such debt payment to be incorporated in the 2022 Price County budget.

Fiscal Impact: \$253,763 for 2022 (budgeted)

Submitted by the Price County Executive Committee. s/Robert D. Kopisch, Chair; Paula Houdek, Larry Palecek, Dennis Wartgow. Reviewed by County Administrator: s/Nicholas Trimner. Adopted by the Price County Board of Supervisors this 14th day of September 2021. s/Robert D. Kopisch, County Board Chair; Jean Gottwald, County Clerk. For: 13, Against: 0.

Motion Hallstrand/Madsen to consider resolution for adoption. Roll call vote on resolution adoption: Yes (13): Barkstrom, Erickson, Ernst, Hallstrand, Hintz, Houdek, Kopisch, Kyle, Madsen, Palecek, Spacek, Strobl, Wartgow. No (0). Motion carried.

Resolution 43-21

Implement Price County 2022 Capital Projects  
to be Financed with Short-term Debt – Two Year - \$760,000

WHEREAS, the following capital projects have been identified by the Price County Executive Committee:

Price County Annex/Normal Building window replacement

Computer server and storage infrastructure upgrade

WHEREAS, the Executive Committee has reviewed the financial impact of these projects and recommends short-term borrowing to finance these projects; and

WHEREAS, the project components and estimated cost is approximately \$760,000; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Price County Board of Supervisors authorizes the Executive Committee to proceed with the implementation of the 2022 Capital Projects #2 in an amount not to exceed \$760,000, to be financed with short-term debt and to include such debt payments to begin with the 2022 Price County budget.

Fiscal Impact: \$391,438 for 2022 and 2023 (budgeted)

Submitted by the Price County Executive Committee. s/Robert D. Kopisch, Chair; Paula Houdek, Larry Palecek, Dennis Wartgow. Reviewed by County Administrator: s/Nicholas Trimner. Adopted by the Price County Board of Supervisors this 14th day of September 2021. s/Robert D. Kopisch, County Board Chair; Jean Gottwald, County Clerk. For: 13, Against: 0.

Motion Hintz/Palecek to consider resolution for adoption. Roll call vote on resolution adoption: Yes (13): Barkstrom, Erickson, Ernst, Hallstrand, Hintz, Houdek, Kopisch, Kyle, Madsen, Palecek, Spacek, Strobl, Wartgow. No (0). Motion carried.

#### Resolution 44-21

#### Approve Price County 2022 Highway Department Road Construction Projects to be Financed with Short-Term Debt - \$2,000,000

WHEREAS, the Executive Committee has identified the need for financing a portion of the 2022 Highway Department road construction projects to the potential extent of \$2,000,000; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Committee has reviewed the financial impact of the proposed construction projects and recommends financing the projects through the use of short-term debt.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Price County Board of Supervisors authorizes the Executive Committee to proceed with the implementation of financing 2022 Highway Department road construction projects in an amount not to exceed \$2,000,000 to be financed through the issuance of short-term debt and to include such debt payment in the 2023 Price County budget.

Fiscal Impact: \$2,010,000 (2023 budget)

Submitted by the Price County Executive Committee. s/Robert D. Kopisch, Chair; Paula Houdek, Larry Palecek, Dennis Wartgow. Reviewed by County Administrator: s/Nicholas Trimner. Adopted by the Price County Board of Supervisors this 14th day of September 2021. s/Robert D. Kopisch, County Board Chair; Jean Gottwald, County Clerk. For: 13, Against: 0.

Motion Palecek/Hallstrand to consider resolution for adoption. Roll call vote on resolution adoption: Yes (13): Barkstrom, Erickson, Ernst, Hallstrand, Hintz, Houdek, Kopisch, Kyle, Madsen, Palecek, Spacek, Strobl, Wartgow. No (0). Motion carried.

Resolution - Afghan Refugees in Price County (presented by Supervisor Madsen): Referred to the next Executive Committee meeting.

Convened to Committee of the Whole at 10:43 a.m.

1. County Administrator Report
  - a. 2020 Financial Summary Report as of 12/31/20: Covered with audit presentation.
  - b. 2021 Financial Summary Report as of 8/31/21: Nothing out of the ordinary since last report. Tax settlements were processed. Tax collections have gone well. Park Falls Paper Mill paid all back taxes with the sale of the mill. Stumpage revenue is on track. Highway construction projects are being completed.
  - c. American Recovery Plan Act update: First reporting was filed. Baker Tilly was used to calculate the revenue loss of \$1 million, which changes the reporting requirements when that portion of the grant is spent.
2. Board Chair Report – Bob Kopisch
  - a. WCA annual meeting resolutions: Business meeting will address the resolutions submitted by various counties.
  - b. COVID-19 pandemic update: Price County has been in high community transmission status. New employer mandate requiring vaccination or weekly testing for businesses of more than 100 employees.
3. Committee Chair Reports:
  - a. Administration – Wartgow: Reclassified one Sheriff Deputy position to Lieutenant. Reviewed County Board per diem for presenting at the October County Board meeting. County Board Policy and Procedure Manual updates.
  - b. Buildings & Grounds – Spacek: Continued with summer projects. Electric repairs at the Fairgrounds. Normal Building chiller project continues.
  - c. Executive – Kopisch: County economic development has not gone any further. Broadband project grants submitted. Park Falls Paper Mill back taxes have been paid \$613,000.
  - d. Forestry & Parks – Hallstrand: Three active timber sales. \$1,365,000 in stumpage sales. Pine Line Trail sale is done. Mid October will start shutting down campgrounds. Did not receive the Timm's Hill DNR grant and it is unexpected to receive the Big Falls grant.
  - e. Health and Human Services – Houdek: Annual report comparisons. Keep updated on

COVID-19 statistics. Woodland Enhanced Commission meeting information. Park Falls Senior Dining site will open for in-person October 4<sup>th</sup>. Recruiting for two social workers. Dental Hygienist has resigned.

- f. Highway & Transportation – Palecek: Prepping for next year's construction projects. Fall maintenance and prepping for winter. Preventative equipment maintenance and setting up for winter maintenance. New truck ordered. Normal dam levels. Winter drawdown starting October 18<sup>th</sup>. Weimers Dam project on schedule. Finishing summer projects at the airport.
- g. Land Use & UW-Extension – Barkstrom: Conditional use permits continue to be filed. Price County Fair was held, adjusting for lack of two of the former exhibit buildings. Ordinance to implement fee for septic system maintenance program was postponed indefinitely. UWEX continues with a vacant position. Committee will review position structure and programming.
- h. Law Enforcement – Hintz: Reevaluated Sheriff Department staffing structure. Recruiting for two deputies.

Date of Next Meeting: October 12, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. in the County Board Room

Meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

STATE OF WISCONSIN, COUNTY OF PRICE. I, Jean Gottwald, County Clerk in and for Price County do hereby certify that the within and foregoing is a true and correct record of all the proceedings held by and before the Price County Board of Supervisors at the meeting held on September 14, 2021 and the whole thereof.



Jean Gottwald, County Clerk