

REGULAR MEETING OF THE PRICE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
October 12, 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: Pastor Larry Tenut.

Pledge of Allegiance recited by those in attendance.

Roll Call: Present (12): Alan Barkstrom, Doug Erickson, Brian Ernst, Jeff Hallstrand, James Hintz, Paula Houdek, Robert Kopisch, Mark Kyle, Waldemar Madsen, Jordan Spacek, Ginny Strobl, Dennis Wartgow.

Excused: Larry Palecek. Also present: Nick Trimner.

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

Approval of Minutes September 14, 2021: Motion Strobl/Madsen to approve the minutes of the September 14, 2021 meeting as presented. Motion carried.

Communications and Announcements: Habitat for Humanity requesting funding. Hearing for tax exempt status for NWRPC. Housing program initiative.

Public Comments: Sam Opresik Town of Elk regarding County ownership of the Fairgrounds.

Resolutions

Resolution 45-21

2022 – 2023 County Board Chair Salary and County Board Supervisor Per Diem (Administration):

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the Administrative Committee to review the County Board Chair's annual salary and the County Board Supervisors' per diem; and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the Price County Board of Supervisors to set the salaries for elected officials pursuant to Wis. State Statutes 59.15, "prior to the earliest time for filing nomination papers"; and WHEREAS, the County Board Chair's annual salary is currently \$6,000 plus \$75 per meeting day per diem for County Board meetings and \$50 per meeting day per diem for committee meetings he/she serves on and;

WHEREAS, the County Board Supervisors' per diem is \$75 per meeting day per diem for County Board meetings and \$50 per meeting day per diem for committee meetings he/she serves on; and

WHEREAS, the Administration Committee has reviewed the salary of the County Board Chair and the County Board Supervisors per diem and recommends that the County Board Chair annual salary should be \$6,000 and the County Board Supervisor per diem be \$75 for County Board meeting, \$50 for all other authorized committee/board/commission meetings and an additional \$25 for serving as chairperson of any standing committee/board/ad hoc of the County Board (excluding the Executive Committee). If more than one meeting is held on any one day, that is not a day that a County Board Meeting is held, the per diem for such subsequent meeting will be \$25.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Price County Board of Supervisors does hereby authorize the County Board Chair annual salary to be \$6,000 and the County Board Supervisor per diem to be \$75 for County Board meetings, \$50 for all other authorized committee/board/commission meetings attended, an additional \$25 for serving as chairperson of any standing committee/board/ad hoc of the County Board (excluding the Executive Committee) and \$25 for any subsequent authorized meeting(s) held the same day as another authorized meeting, except when held on the same day as a County Board meeting, to be effective at the beginning of the April 2022 term.

Submitted by the Price County Administration Committee. s/Dennis Wartgow, Chair; Alan Barkstrom; Jeff Hallstrand; Robert Kopisch; Jordan Spacek. Reviewed by County Administrator: s/Nicholas Trimner.

Adopted by the Price County Board of Supervisors this 12th day of October 2021. s/Robert D. Kopisch, County Board Chair; Jean Gottwald, County Clerk. For: 12, Against: 0. Motion Spacek/Wartgow to consider resolution for adoption. Roll call vote on resolution adoption: Yes (12): Barkstrom, Erickson, Ernst, Hallstrand, Hintz, Houdek, Kopisch, Kyle, Madsen, Spacek, Strobl, Wartgow. No (0). Motion carried.

Resolution 46-21

Repair of Normal Building HVAC System Using ARPA Funds (Executive)

Whereas, the maintenance of County buildings is necessary for the continuation of the provision of County services and the safety and well-being of County employees and the public that is served; and

Whereas, the instrumentation and controls for the HVAC system in the Normal Building have been determined to be have become inadequate to meet the demands on the system; and

Whereas, it is imperative that this system be repaired and returned to good operating condition; and

Whereas, the Buildings and Grounds Committee approved the project and contractor's bid at their October 5, 2021 meeting; and

Whereas, the County has received funding from the American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA) to be used for this type of project.

Now therefore be it resolved, that the Price County Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes the appropriation of up to \$300,000 in qualified ARPA funds to be used for the repair of the HVAC system in the Normal Building.

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

Adopted by the Price County Board of Supervisors this 12th day of October 2021. s/Robert D. Kopisch, County Board Chair; Jean Gottwald, County Clerk. For: 12, Against: 0. Motion Houdek/Barkstrom to consider resolution for adoption. Roll call vote on resolution adoption: Yes (12): Barkstrom, Erickson, Ernst, Hallstrand, Hintz, Houdek, Kopisch, Kyle, Madsen, Spacek, Strobl, Wartgow. No (0). Motion carried.

Appointments:

1. Park falls Library Board – Remainder of three-year term ending April 30, 2022 (Karen Tesmer): Motion Houdek/Hallstrand to approve the appointment. Motion carried.
2. Price County Library Committee – Remainder of three-year term ending April 30, 2023 (Karen Tesmer): Motion Houdek/Spacek to approve the appointment. Motion carried.

Committee of the Whole: 9:15 a.m.

1. County Administrator Report – Nick Trimner
 - a. 2021 Financial Summary Report as of 9/30/21: Reviewed. 75% complete. Nothing noteworthy. Working with regional administration group to get state support for high-cost placements.
 - b. 2022 Budget – Final: Budget \$31,098,374. Levy \$10,980,439. Motion Hintz/Madsen to approve the 1% new construction (\$75,265). Motion carried. Motion Madsen/Wartgow to approve the 2022 budget, with a 2021 tax levy of \$10,980,439, and forward to the public hearing. Motion carried on voice vote.
 - c. American Recovery Plan Act update: The County Board will approve the major projects as they are decided. Have not heard from Norvado regarding their broadband grant applications.
 - d. Future of Fairgrounds Property: The property has been determined to be clear for sale. There continues to be major repairs needed to keep the property usable. Suggested contracting a firm to develop a plan of what continued County ownership would entail and also getting a plan from any potential buyers. Language could be included in the sale to preserve usage by entities that currently are utilizing the property. County would have first right of refusal if property would be sold. Daren and Alexis Baratka spoke indicating they are intending to preserve and improve the property. Motion Houdek/Strobl to proceed with the option of the potential sale of the Fairground property. Motion Barkstrom/Madsen to amend the motion to simultaneously direct the Buildings and Grounds Committee to develop a conceptual plan of County continued ownership and operation of the Fairgrounds property. Roll call vote on amendment: Yes (8): Barkstrom, Erickson, Ernst, Hallstrand, Hintz, Madsen, Spacek, Wartgow. No (4): Houdek, Kopisch, Kyle, Strobl. Motion carried. Motion Houdek/Ernst to amend the motion to have plan available for County Board review by December 14th. Roll call vote on second amendment: Yes (12): Barkstrom, Erickson, Ernst, Hallstrand, Hintz, Houdek, Kopisch, Kyle, Madsen, Spacek, Strobl, Wartgow. No (0). Motion carried. Roll call vote on original motion as amended: Yes (11): Barkstrom, Erickson, Ernst, Hallstrand, Houdek, Kopisch, Kyle, Madsen, Spacek, Strobl, Wartgow. No (0). Abstain: (1): Hintz. Motion carried.

Mr. Hintz left at 10:25 a.m.

2. Board Chair Report
 - a. WCA annual meeting: Mr. Madsen – attended sessions: Issues Impacting the Wisconsin Sheriff; Change Against Systemic Racism and Inequity. Mr. Ernst appreciated the networking. Attended: Creating Tax Sustainability; Broadband; Renewable Energy; Roles in County Administration; Use of ARPA Funding; Electric Vehicles. Mr. Kopisch attended: Creating Tax Sustainability; Use of ARPA Funding; Wisconsin's Migration Challenges; Roles in County Administration. WCA established a taskforce for diversity, equity and inclusion with Mr. Trimner as a member. Next annual conference is September 18-20, 2022.
 - b. COVID-19 pandemic update: Continue in high community transmission.
 - c. Develop a Forest Carbon Offset Project for County Owned Land: Several counties are moving forward. Nick has worked with legal counsel on development of a contract. Will bring in Bluesource and legal counsel for discussion at the next meeting. Motion Wartgow/Kyle to

proceed with gathering information to be presented at the November 9th County Board meeting. Motion carried on voice vote.

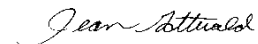
3. Committee Chair Reports:

- a. Administration – Wartgow: Reviewed Airport Technician position. Health insurance renewal came in at 19.7%. Broker is getting proposals from other providers. Updated employee COVID procedures.
- b. Buildings & Grounds – Spacek: Continuing with maintenance projects. New Normal Building chiller up and running.
- c. Executive – Kopisch: Decided on loan bids with Prevail Bank for 2022 loans. Laura Palzkill, of the Phillips Chamber, will be handling the County tourism initiative going forward. Nothing new on CDC. Madsen resolution was tabled indefinitely. Delinquent tax status looking good. Lionite will be asked to increase payments to catch up with unpaid taxes. 20 In Rem properties left for 2017. 133 properties for 2018.
- d. Forestry & Parks – Hallstrand: Have not met. Ready for fall timber sales. Campgrounds shutting down. Shooting range update moving forward. Timber sales \$1.4 million. Next meeting November 8th.
- e. Health and Human Services – Houdek: Have not met. Next meeting November 3rd.
- f. Highway & Transportation – Hallstrand: Continued maintenance projects and readying for next year's construction projects. Public meeting October 27th for Highway E project. Ready for winter maintenance. Weimers Dam gate project starting. Winter drawdown to begin October 18th. Maintenance continues at Airport.
- g. Land Use & UW-Extension – Barkstrom: Addressed several conditional use permits and special exceptions. Started discussion on cervid farm restrictions. Set 2021 crop prices and application deadline. CleanSweep held. Price County Fair attendance and participation down. Identifying programming for vacant UW Extension position. Next meeting November 18th.
- h. Law Enforcement: Have not met. Held two lieutenant interviews.

Date of Next Meeting: November 9, 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 October 12, 2021 and the whole thereof.



Jean Gottwald, County Clerk