

County of Buffalo
Alma, Wisconsin
Notice of Public Meeting

Committee: Economic Development Committee – Subcommittee of the Finance Committee
Date: Thursday, September 17, 2020
Time: 8:00 a.m.
Location: Buffalo County Courthouse
County Board Room – Third Floor
407 S. 2nd Street
Alma, WI 54610

AGENDA

The meeting is open to the public. Face coverings are required for those attending in person. The following matters may be considered and acted upon at the meeting, but deviation from the order shown may occur:

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call of the Members
3. Public Comments Regarding Agenda Items
4. Review/Discussion/Action ~ Minutes of the Previous Meetings
5. Review/Discussion/Action ~ A Resolution to Designate Additional Funding for Buffalo County Broadband Expansion
6. Review/Discussion/Action ~ A Resolution to Modify Buffalo County Broadband Award Policy to Increase Maximum Project Award
7. Public Comments Not Related to Agenda Items
8. Adjournment.

Date: September 14, 2020

Max Weiss, Chair

By: Roxann Halverson, County Clerk

Board Members: If unable to attend, please contact the Chair at 715-495-7532. If unavailable County Clerk's Office at 608-685-6209. If Chair or County Clerk are not available, please contact the Administrative Coordinator at 608-685-6235.

Persons with Disabilities: If you require special accommodations in order to attend this meeting, please contact the County Clerk's Office at 608-685-6209.

Public Access to the Courthouse: The South Entrance will be the only access to the building after 4:30 p.m.

BUFFALO COUNTY MINUTES

Committee of the Board:

Economic Development Committee

Date of the Meeting:

Thursday, August 20, 2020

Chair Mr. Max Weiss called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. in the Second Floor Conference Room of the Buffalo County Courthouse.

Board Members Present: Mr. Max Weiss, Mr. David Danzinger, Mr. Brad Schmidtkecht, Mr. Thomas Taylor and Ms. LeeAnne Bulman.

Others Present for All or Parts of the Meeting: Ms. Sonya Hansen, Administrative Coordinator appeared in person and Mr. David Schmidt appeared via telephone.

Public Comments regarding Agenda Items: There were no public comments.

Review/Discussion/Action – A Resolution to Designate Additional Funding for Buffalo County

Broadband Expansion: Mr. Brad Schmidtkecht informed the members that this request came from the Broadband Subcommittee. The subcommittee strongly supports broadband expansion to underserved areas of the County and requested to that a proposal be made to secure additional funding from CAPX2020 funds. Mr. Max Weiss discussed the potential for other broadband technology other than fiber. A motion was made by Mr. David Danzinger seconded by Mr. Brad Schmidtkecht to approve the resolution to designate additional funding for Buffalo County Broadband Expansion. Motion failed. Mr. Max Weiss, Mr. Thomas Taylor and Ms. LeeAnne Bulman voting no. Mr. David Danzinger and Mr. Brad Schmidtkecht voting yes. Mr. Thomas Taylor indicated that he would like to see additional language in the resolution and would provide his input for possible consideration at a future meeting.

Review/Discussion/Action – A Resolution to Support Telecommuter Forward! Certificate: Mr. Brad Schmidtkecht explained that this resolution reflects that the County supports telecommuting efforts and has no tax levy impact. The adoption of this support assists when apply for funding for broadband. A motion was made by Mr. Brad Schmidtkecht seconded by Mr. David Danzinger to support the application to apply to the Public Service Commissioner for Buffalo County to be certified as a Telecommuter Forward Community. Motion Carried.

Public Comment Unrelated to Agenda: There were no public comments.

Mr. Brad Schmidtkecht made a motion to adjourn seconded by Mr. David Danzinger at 8:30 a.m. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Sonya J. Hansen, Recording Secretary

BUFFALO COUNTY MINUTES

Committee of the Board:

Economic Development Committee

Date of the Meeting:

Thursday, August 20, 2020

Chair Mr. Max Weiss called the meeting to order at 2:50 p.m. at the Town of Buffalo – Town Hall located in Fountain City, Wisconsin.

Board Members Present: Mr. Max Weiss, Mr. David Danzinger, Mr. Brad Schmidtknecht, Mr. Thomas Taylor and Ms. LeeAnne Bulman.

Others Present for All or Parts of the Meeting: Ms. Sonya Hansen and Mr. David Schmidt.

Public Comments regarding Agenda Items: There were no public comments.

Review/Discussion/Action – Minutes of the Previous Meeting: Mr. Thomas Taylor corrected the date of the meeting to July 19th and the reference in the minutes to Ms. Weiss to Mr. Weiss. A motion was made by Mr. David Danzinger seconded by Mr. Brad Schmidtknecht to approve the minutes as amended. Motion Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action – Proposal from Ducks Unlimited: Mr. David Schmidt informed the members that he has not received a response back from this group and that no action is required at this time.

Review/Discussion/Action – Update from Broadband Committee: Mr. Brad Schmidtknecht reported that he had followed up with the use of existing current provider utility poles for broadband access. He indicated that the challenge was current easement agreements did not allow multi-use. Current easements are for single use only. He stated that he understood future legislative sessions were going to be discussing changes to make the use of current infrastructure more attractive to existing providers for adding additional services. Mr. Brad Schmidtknecht indicated that he would like to see support for broadband expansion funding and to discuss this further at the next meeting.

Review/Discussion/Action – Design Charges for Tourism 2020 Tourism Brochure:

Ms. Sonya Hansen indicated that she received a bill for the design charges from Vicki Stark at Evans-Stark Design for her work on the 2020 Buffalo County Travel & Visitor Guide. She indicated that the work completed updated the businesses in the directory and business advertising for the digital version which is now available on the County website. She indicated that Ms. Katherine Goodman feels that the design expense for the 2021 Travel & Visitor Guide should be minimal. A motion was made by Mr. David Danzinger seconded by Mr. Brad Schmidtknecht to approve the payment for the design work on the digital brochure. Motion Carried.

Chairperson Report: The Chair indicated he had no additional information to share at this time.

Economic Development Coordinator Report: Mr. David Schmidt indicated that to move forward with collaborative efforts with other counties would require input and support from the Board of Supervisors.

Public Comment Unrelated to Agenda: There were no public comments.

Review/Discussion/Action – Next Meeting Date and Time: The next meeting is scheduled for September 17th at 8:00 a.m. at the Buffalo County Courthouse in Alma, Wisconsin.

Mr. Thomas Taylor made a motion to adjourn seconded by Ms. LeeAnn Bulman at 3:30 p.m. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Sonya J. Hansen, Recording Secretary

Drafted By:
Sonya J. Hansen
Presented Month/Year:
September 2020
Involved Committees:
Finance
Economic Development



County Department:
Administration
Fiscal Impact: YES / NO
AC Approved: YES / NO

RESOLUTION # _____

A RESOLUTION TO MODIFY BUFFALO COUNTY BROADBAND AWARD POLICY TO INCREASE MAXIMUM PROJECT AWARD

WHEREAS, Buffalo County adopted Ordinance No. 17-09-01 to encourage the development of broadband access in Buffalo County; and,

WHEREAS, Buffalo County adopted Resolution No. 17-12-06 which defined the criteria for evaluating and awarding a project; and,

WHEREAS, the resolution had a maximum project award of \$100,000.00; and,

WHEREAS, the Economic Development Committee supports the need to increase the maximum project award for one project from \$100,000.00 to \$200,000.00 based on increase costs to provide broadband services to underserved or unserved areas of Buffalo County.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Buffalo County Board of Supervisors adopts this resolution to increase the maximum project award for any one project from \$100,000.00 to \$200,000.00 provided all criteria and approval processes as listed in Resolution No. 17-12-06 are met; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that if CAPX2020 funding is no longer available or approved to be used for the development of broadband access, that the County Board of Supervisors will review the existing Broadband Award Policy for continued participation.

Adopted at a duly called and noticed meeting of the Buffalo County Board of Supervisors on the _____ day of _____, 2020.

County Clerk

ATTEST:

County Board Chairperson

Economic Development Committee

Brad Schmidtkecht

Thomas Taylor

Max Weiss

LeeAnne Bulman

David Danzinger

Finance Committee

Dennis Bork

Donald Hillert

Max Weiss

Brad Schmidtknecht

David Danzinger

ANTICIPATED FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Amount designated each year by County Board of Supervisors

Drafted By:

Sonya J. Hansen

Presented Month/Year:

August 2020

Involved Committees:

Finance

Economic Development Committee



County Department:

Administration

Fiscal Impact: YES / NO

AC Approved: YES / NO

RESOLUTION # _____

A RESOLUTION TO DESIGNATE ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR BUFFALO COUNTY BROADBAND EXPANSION

WHEREAS, Buffalo County adopted Ordinance No. 17-09-01 and Resolution No. 17-12-06 to encourage the development of broadband access in Buffalo County; and,

WHEREAS, the County Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution #20-05-04 which carried over the unspent 2019 CAPX2020 funding up to \$100,000.00 to be designated for the purpose of improving the quality and availability of broadband communications in underserved and unserved areas of Buffalo County under the broadband award policy subject to approval by the Public Service Commission for the calendar year 2020.

WHEREAS, the Economic Development Committee recommends that an additional \$100,000.00 of CAPX 2020 funding be set aside for the purpose of improving the quality and availability of broadband communications.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Buffalo County Board of Supervisors hereby approves allocating an additional \$100,000.00 of CAPX 2020 funding for a total of \$200,000.00 to be designated for the purpose of improving the quality and availability of broadband communications in underserved and unserved areas of Buffalo County under the broadband award policy subject to approval by the Public Service Commission for the calendar year 2020.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the 2020 budget be amended to include this designation and fund expenditure.

Adopted at a duly called and noticed meeting of the Buffalo County Board of Supervisors on the _____ day of _____, 2020.

County Clerk

ATTEST:

County Board Chairperson

Respectfully Submitted:

Economic Development Committee

Brad Schmidtknecht

Thomas Taylor

Max Weiss

LeeAnne Bulman

David Danzinger

Finance Committee

Dennis Bork

Donald Hillert

Max Weiss

Brad Schmidtknecht

David Danzinger

ANTICIPATED FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

CAPX2020 Expenditure of \$100,000.00 (Previous)

CAPX2020 Additional \$100,000.00 (New)

Total \$200,000.00