

MAY SESSION
MONDAY, MAY 18, 2020 AT 7:00 P.M.

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

The roll was called, and all members were present. Others in attendance for all or portions of the meeting were Ms. Roxann Halverson, Ms. Sonya Hansen, Ms. Tina Anibas, Ms. Brenda Creighton, Ms. April Loeffler, Mr. Dave Rynders, Mr. Tom Bilski, and Sheriff Mike Schmidtknecht.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Public Comment Regarding Posted Agenda Items: Ms. Halverson indicated she had received letters from the Bank of Alma, Ms. Penny Danzinger, and Ms. Becca Fuller. Each letter urged the County Board to allow businesses to remain open and follow safe practices of sanitizing and social distancing. Ms. Halverson will put a copy of each letter on file with the official minutes.

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

Review/Discussion/Action regarding COVID-19 Plan: Ms. Hansen reviewed the plan to reopen the courthouse and safety precautions that will be taken. Employees will return to work on May 26th unless approval has been granted to continue working from home. Wearing of facemasks by employees is encouraged. Cleaning and sanitizing were discussed. Items that cannot be sanitized will need to be removed from public areas. This plan is only for activity within the courthouse and does not affect businesses throughout the county. Ms. McMillan Urell made a motion to approve the plan, seconded by Mr. Taylor.

Ms. Loeffler explained work she and her staff have been doing regarding the COVID-19 pandemic. They have done 521 investigations with five of those cases being positive and one death due to the virus. She showed outreach her department has done to keep the public informed and to help people cope with the safer at home order. There have been no clear directives from the State on guidance on how to proceed. A discussion was held on large gatherings and creating a health care ordinance. The ordinance could be a tool to use in the event there is an increase in the spread of the virus. Mr. Rynders reviewed financial expenses the department has seen in relation to the virus and how senior meals will be handled. Beginning June 1st people will be able to pick up their meals from the meal site and take them home. Mr. Grisen made a motion to have Ms. Loeffler and Mr. Bilski draft language for a health care ordinance and bring back for review, seconded by Mr. Taylor. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Technology Purchase for County Board Supervisors: Ms. Hansen explained the Executive Committee had approve the purchase of Surface Pro 1 for Supervisors to help reduce the amount of paper sent out and get information out in a more timely fashion. These have been backordered and since the approval the new Surface Pro 2 has been released. This tablet has a better battery life and more storage. There is a price increase. The cost for the Surface Pro 2 is \$11,252. Mr. Taylor made the motion to move forward with the

purchase of the Surface Pro 2, seconded by Mr. Schreiner. Carried. It is the hopes to have these for the June meeting and to have a training on their use at that time.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding 2019 Wisconsin Act 185: Act 185 would allow the property tax payment to be delayed to October 1st with no interest or penalty. This would require programming updates for the Treasurer's Office to adjust those dates. It would also mean additional work with settlements with municipalities and schools. If the county approves this, it does not mean the municipalities would need to approve this. If not all municipalities approve the delay, there would be several times that the Treasurer would need to settle taxes. However, if the county does not approve this none of the municipalities can offer the delay in payment. The Executive Committee reviewed this and recommended that we not delay payment of property taxes. Mr. Bruegger made a motion to follow the recommendation of the Executive Committee and not postpone property taxes, seconded by Mr. Danzinger. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Resolution #20-05-01 A Resolution to Authorize the Purchase of Liquid Propane for the 2020-2021 Heating Season: Each year the purchase of LP is put out for bids. This year Countryside Cooperative was the low bid at \$.84 per gallon for 45,000 gallons. Mr. Hillert made a motion to approve the resolution by roll call vote, seconded by Mr. Taylor. All voted in favor. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Resolution #20-05-02 A Resolution to Approve 2020 Wage Increase for Administrative Coordinator: This resolution would allow for a 3% wage increase. Mr. Grisen made a motion to approve the resolution by roll call vote, seconded by Mr. Taylor. All in favor. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Resolution #20-05-03 A Resolution to Authorize Courthouse Maintenance Projects from CAPX2020 Funds: The projects identified in the resolution would be paid for from CAPX2020 funds. The only thing not included, but still needing to be repaired is the windows. There are \$172,911 of uncommitted funds remaining. Some of the funds are committed to a certain project, but not all the funds committed will be needed. Mr. Schreiner made a motion to approve the resolution by roll call vote, seconded by Mr. Weiss. All in favor. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Resolution #20-05-04 A Resolution to Designate 2020 Funding for Buffalo County Broadband Expansion: This resolution would allow money that was committed for broadband expansion but not spent to be carried forward for future projects. Mr. Hillert made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Ms. McMillan Urell. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding #20-05-05 A Resolution to Replace Resolution #14-12-06 Establishing the Buffalo Pepin Justice Coordinating Council and Establish the Buffalo Pepin Criminal Justice Collaborating Council: Ms. Hansen reviewed the work done by the CJS program and how the program is funded. The resolution would allow CJS to increase the membership on its council. Mr. Ruff made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Taylor. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding #20-05-06 A Resolution to Purchase 2020 Equipment Investments: This resolution would allow the Highway Department to purchase equipment that was approved in the budget without bringing each purchase back to County Board. They could also delay a purchase to obtain another piece of equipment needed as long as it stays within budget. If they need to go outside of the budget they would need full County Board approval. Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Ms. McMillan Urell. Carried.

Committee Chair Reports: Ms. McMillan Urell reported that DHHS held their organizational meeting and discussed senior meals, telecommuting for staff, appointments to the ADRC board and Western Dairyland. DHHS does have a citizen vacancy on their board that will need to be filled.

Administrative Coordinator Report: Ms. Hansen reported that the Fair Association will be recognizing Buffalo County for their contribution to the bathroom project. They are also looking for direction on whether the fair should continue or not. A discussion was held on this and it was decided a Fair Board member should attend the next Ag & Extension meeting to discuss this.

WCA will hold virtual trainings for newly elected officials in June. Ms. Hansen will send out the information to all members.

Emergency Management is preparing for a full exercise in September.

The Flyway Trail will have a soft opening in June. There will be more information on this project at a future meeting.

County Board Chair Report: Chair Bork discussed changes to the process to approve resolutions. He would like the information presented at the first meeting and then the actual resolution approved at a future meeting. He feels this would give members more time to do research on the subject that is being presented.

Adjournment: Mr. Ruff made a motion to adjourn at 9:19 p.m., seconded by Mr. Hillert. Carried.

Respectfully Submitted:

Roxann Halverson
Buffalo County Clerk