

**JUNE SESSION**  
MONDAY, JUNE 22, 2020 AT 7:00 P.M.

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

The roll was called, and all members were present, except District 5 which is vacant. Others in attendance for all or portions of the meeting were Ms. Roxann Halverson, Ms. Sonya Hansen, Ms. Brenda Creighton, Mr. Dave Rynders, Ms. Julie Lindstrom, Nik Fernholz, Jeremy Fernholz, Jemma Fernholz, Emily Walker, and Nikki Walker, Ms. Judie Sage (via TEAMS), and Mr. David Brommerich (via TEAMS).

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

**Public Comment Regarding Posted Agenda Items:** Ms. Sage spoke regarding concerns she has with ATV/UTV use on public roads. Ms. Sage sent in a list of questions for the Board that Ms. Halverson distributed. She is concerned with safety and recommended having this issue as a question on the November ballot.

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

**Review/Discussion/Action regarding Resolution #20-06-01 A Resolution to Honor the Retirement of Julie Lindstrom:** Ms. Halverson read the resolution and presented Ms. Lindstrom with a certificate for her 26-years of service to Buffalo County. Ms. Lindstrom thanked the Board and explained how she began employment with Buffalo County and what she will be doing in the future. Mr. Danzinger made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Ms. McMillan Urell. Carried.

**Review/Discussion regarding the 2019 Department of Health and Human Services Annual Report:** Mr. Rynders gave a presentation of services his department offers and the funding for those programs. He explained awards received by Ms. Janet Priefert and the Child Support staff. The overall unaudited budget looks to be in good shape.

**Review/Discussion/Action regarding Resolution #20-06-02 A Resolution to Create Public Health On-Call System During the Pandemic:** Mr. Rynders explained work the Public Health staff has done during the pandemic. The CARES act will cover expenses for the on-call system through the end of the year. On-call hours will be from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. each day during hours the DHHS office is closed. Ms. McMillan Urell made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Taylor. Carried.

**Review/Discussion/Action regarding Resolution #20-06-03 A Resolution to Add Limited Term 2020 Public Health Position for Providing Disease Investigations, Contact Tracing & Monitoring for Individuals to Contain the Spread of COVID-19:** Mr. Rynders explained the department could use up to two more full-time limited term employees to help with investigations, contact tracing and monitoring. The original resolution was for one position, but the Finance Committee amended the resolution to allow up to two positions. CARES funds

would cover this expense through December 31, 2020. Ms. McMillan Urell made a motion to approve the resolution for up to two positions by roll call vote, seconded by Nathan Nelson. All in favor. Carried.

**Review/Discussion/Action regarding Resolution #20-06-04 A Resolution to Increase Law Enforcement Process Service Fees for the Child Support Program:** The process service fee is currently set at \$75, which is more than the State minimum. The State during a review found that this needed approval by resolution to allow the charge to be more than the State minimum. Mr. Hillert made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Taylor. Carried.

**Review/Discussion/Action regarding Resolution #20-06-05 A Resolution to Support and Extend Funding of Trout Stream Restoration Projects in Buffalo County from CAPX2020 Funding:** This resolution will extend the Trout Stream Restoration Program for 5-years and funding of \$25,000.00. Ms. McMillan Urell made a motion to approve the resolution by roll call vote, seconded by Mr. Hillert. All in favor. Carried.

**Review/Discussion/Action regarding Resolution #20-06-06 A Resolution to Support and Extend Bluff Prairie Restoration Projects in Buffalo County from CAPX2020 Funding:** This resolution will approve funding of \$25,000.00 and extend the Bluff Prairie Restoration Program for an additional 5-years. Ms. McMillan Urell made a motion to approve the resolution by roll call vote, seconded by Mr. Schmidtknecht. All in favor. Carried.

A map of where all the CAPX2020 funds have been pledged will be created for the next meeting.

**Review/Discussion/Action regarding the Donation & Gift Policy:** Ms. Hansen reviewed the employee handbook language that governs gifts or donations to employees. Recently individuals have wanted to give funds to programs, and she felt a policy needed to be created to guide how donations or gifts could be accepted or denied. The Board discussed how gifts or donations would be denied and who would make the decision to deny them. Ms. McMillan Urell made a motion to approve the policy with the addition that the Finance Committee will make the final decision on denying a gift or donation, seconded by Mr. Taylor. Carried.

**Review/Discussion/Action regarding Confirmation of Appointment of Barry Draskowski to the Buffalo County Board of Adjustments:** There are only three individuals that serve on the Board of Adjustments. Currently there are no alternates to the Board of Adjustment Committee, but they are needed. Mr. Nathan Nelson made a motion to approve the appointment of Mr. Barry Draskowski to the Board of Adjustment, seconded by Ms. McMillan Urell. Carried.

**Review/Discussion/Action regarding Confirmation of Appointment of David Ebert to the Buffalo County Veterans Service Commission:** The Veteran Service Commission has three members who meet as needed to address Veterans relief. Mr. Danzinger made a motion to approve the appointment of Mr. David Ebert to the Veterans Service Commission, seconded by Mr. Ruff. Carried.

**Review/Discussion/Action regarding Confirmation of Appointment of Citizen Members to the Department of Health and Human Services and Veterans Committee (Richard Mueller term expiring May 31, 2023, Joette Gillett term expiring May 31, 2022, Wendy Kleinschmidt term expiring May 31, 2021, Linda Smith term expiring May 31, 2021):** Ms. Hansen explained the by-laws for DHHS guide how citizen members are chosen and what population they represent. One of the citizen members will be moving soon, but with approval will be appointed and then the position filled when it becomes vacant. Ms. McMillan Urell made a motion to approve the appointments, seconded by Mr. Schmidtknecht. Carried.

**Review/Discussion regarding the ATV Routes & Policy:** Mr. Grisen explained this policy has been worked on for 2 years and follows the DNR guidelines with slight changes to fit Buffalo County. This policy involves the municipalities and gets their blessing of any approved routes. If a municipality does not wish to have ATV/UTV routes in their municipality then they do not apply for them. Concerns over safety and additional enforcement work for Law Enforcement was discussed. Ms. Hansen indicated the Warden is reviewing this and will let her know of any concerns he has. She also sent the policy to all municipalities requesting their input. Mr. Hillert discussed routes the City of Mondovi has had for a few years and has not heard of any issues. Ms. Halverson discussed costs of fire and ambulance calls and who will pay for those. Charging a permit fee to cover costs was discussed. Mr. Hillert will do some research on a permit fee and bring it to the August meeting. This policy will be up for action in August.

**Committee Chair Reports:** The Law Enforcement Committee met to approve bills and elect officers. Interviews were held for CCO positions and will hopefully be filled in the next few weeks.

HR will be meeting with Finance to go over health insurance and budgeting guidelines.

DHHS will be holding a joint meeting with Pepin County to discuss ways they can work in collaboration for programming to try and save each county funds.

Highway has had a resignation in the Highway Commissioner position. They will be looking for a replacement. Construction is on schedule.

Land Conservation & Ag and Extension met. The fair has been canceled. The State Extension Office would not allow staff to participate in the fair. Land Conservation will be moved to the first part of the meeting to allow the FSA member to leave the meeting if they choose to after Land Conservation items are discussed.

Land Use Committee discussed the addressing project and remonumentation.

Recycling has experienced some hiccups with single stream recycling. These are being worked out by Mr. Fuerbringer and Mr. Johnson.

Finance Committee had DHHS, Highway, and Law Enforcement give updates on their 2020 budgets. Work will begin soon on the 2021 budget.

**Administrative Coordinator Report:** Ms. Hansen reported with the fair being canceled the Finance Committee offered a furlough of the principal payment to the Fair Association. The sales tax revenue through May is up from 2019, but there could be a drop over the next few months that are normal tourism months. Telecommuting is still working well. There are also some departments doing alternative work schedules to keep a limited number of staff working too close together. The tablets for County Board will be ready for August. Payroll stubs are being worked on to better show the number of meetings Supervisors are being paid for. Local revenues are down so this may affect some budgets. The Administrative Assistant position has been filled and will start July 6<sup>th</sup>. There will be a Department Head meeting tomorrow at 9:00 a.m.

**County Board Chair Report:** None.

The next meeting date and time is August 24, 2020.

**Adjournment:** Mr. Weiss made a motion to adjourn at 9:00 p.m., seconded by Mr. Ruff. Carried.

Respectfully Submitted:

Roxann Halverson  
Buffalo County Clerk

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