

JUNE COUNTY BOARD MEETING
Monday, June 24, 2019

Ms. Mary Anne McMillan Urell in the Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

The roll was called and all members were present except Mr. Max Weiss and Mr. Michael Taylor, who were both excused. District 1 is vacant.

Others in attendance for all or portions of the meeting were Ms. Sonya Hansen, Ms. Roxann Halverson, Mr. David Brommerich, Mr. Dave Rynders, Mr. Mark Noll, Mr. Wes Domine, Ms. Terri Roehrig, Mr. Bob Brunkow, Sheriff Mike Schmidtknecht, and Mr. Casey Brownell.

Public Comments regarding Agenda items: None.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding the Previous Meeting Minutes: A motion was made by Mr. Kriesel seconded by Mr. Schreiner to approve the minutes as sent. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action – Presentation by Terri Roehrig regarding a Ban on Baiting and Feeding:

Ms. Roehrig explained the Buffalo County Conservation Alliance is looking for a statewide ban on baiting and feeding deer in an effort to stop the spread of CWD. Buffalo County is already under a ban for 2 years due to a case of CWD in an adjoining county. This is imposed by the DNR.

Mr. Noll spoke about ways to combat CWD. One of the key ways is to stop deer from congregating at a feeding pile. CWD is spread through saliva which at a feeding pile is easily transmitted from one deer to another. If a deer is found to have CWD in your county there is an automatic 3-year ban on baiting and feeding and a 2-year ban on adjoining counties. He explained that during the 9 day deer hunt there will be six township in Eau Claire County that will have mandatory testing to see if the disease is spreading. The DNR would like to do more testing but with budgetary constraints are unable to. Other ways to stop the spread is to have proper deer carcass disposal and reducing the antlerless population. With having so many hunters taking bucks only, this only help the herd population grow and does not help reduce the population. Mr. Noll explained that they are not looking for an ordinance at this time, but would like to show the state that a ban on baiting and feeding is supported by Buffalo County.

Mr. Domine explained the issues he sees with baiting. He feels it creates poaching and conflicts between hunters. He distributed a document that shows various problems and how CWD can be contained. Ultimately legislature will need to make the change to ban baiting and feeding, but county supports is needed.

A discussion was held on a license procedure in IL for outfitters and how counties in WI can also implement an outfitter license. The outfitters can be regulated as to what types of deer they harvest, how many, and reporting requirements.

Mr. Black does not see a way to stop this disease and feels it needs to run its course. He explained how the disease has been in the US for over 50 years and it has yet to be proven that it can transfer to humans.

Mr. Bork wondered if farmers would be held responsible for spillage of corn when harvesting crops.

Mr. Bob Brunkow spoke on how important it is to ban baiting and feeding. He discussed how 30 years ago there was 29 deer per square mile and now there is three times that amount.

Review/Discussion/Action – 2018 Law Enforcement Annual Report:

Sheriff Schmidtknecht spoke regarding the changes to his office in 2018. A new K-9 dog was added to the force. This dog can find drugs and also has tracking abilities. Vehicles are now leased instead of purchased, active threat trainings have been held, courthouse security is a challenge that will need to be addressed, and he explained the issues Officers have faced recently.

Mr. Brownell presented a video showing how an inmate that had gotten out of control was handled. This is just one of many issues Communications/Corrections Officers face every day.

Review/Discussion/Action – 2018 Department of Health and Human Services Annual Report:

Mr. Rynders gave the report for DHHS. There has been a growth in services offered for mental health related issues, children long term services, Naloxone training, and well water testing at reduced rate has been completed. He explained the challenges the department faces and accomplishments.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Resolution #19-06-01 A Resolution to Create a Full-Time Comprehensive Community Services and Children's Long Term Support Social Worker Position:

Mr. Rynders explained this position was going to be presented with the 2020 budget, but funds became available through the state to begin the position in 2019. This position will provide services that can generate revenues through fees. The fiscal impact portion was amended at Finance to reflect an error in health insurance costs for the position. Mr. Kriesel made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Ms. Rosenow. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Resolution #19-06-02 A Resolution to Authorize Funding for 4-H Associate Educator Position in 2020: This position is a ½ time position that will help with the 4-H program and free up time for other staff. The increase to the contract will be \$8854. This position will be a state position, not a county position. Mr. Schreiner made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Bork. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Resolution #19-06-03 A Resolution to Amend Non-Metallic Mining Reclamation Annual Fees: This resolution amends the fees charged so that they are in line with actual expenses. Per state statute this program cannot make money and is meant to only charge fees to cover expenses. The fees are reduced by approximately 25%. Mr. Hillert made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Kriesel. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action - Committee Reports:

UW-Extension is preparing for the fair. Bathrooms should be completed by next Friday.

Corp. Counsel has approved the DNR ATV language as proposed by the Highway Committee. The county will not approve any ATV trails unless the town has given their approval.

Land Information is ready to send out RFP for completing the remonumentation for the five remaining towns. The Treasurer has reported that phase 1 of parcel mapping is completed but there are 400-500 properties that are unable to be mapped due to description issues. These may need some outside expertise to complete.

Review/Discussion - Administrative Coordinator Report: Ms. Hansen gave her report.

- The bond for Highway projects is being sent out for bids.
- Readdressing has been delayed until July pending the utility marking underground lines.
- Bids are being obtained for fuel.
- Departments are working on budgets.
- Recycling received their new truck, but there are some issues that are being worked out.
- The FSA lease is being worked on.
- There will be a Department Manager meeting tomorrow.
- Itechra sent out an email to help convert to 365. County Board Supervisors need to respond to the email.
- WCA conference is in the Dells in September. If attending please let Administration know so reservations can be made.
- Itechra has identified numerous computers that need to be updated due to Windows 7 no longer being supported. This is a cost of about \$127,000. This will all be put into one budget rather than individual budgets as has been done in the past.

Review/Discussion - Chair Report: Ms. McMillan Urell explained that Committee of the Board is discussing combining committees to reduce the number of meetings Supervisors need to attend and to make things more efficient.

Mr. Danzinger asked about the vacancy of one Supervisor seat. This will be advertised on the website for individuals that are interested in that position.

Public Comments Not Regarding Agenda Items: None.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roxann M. Halverson
Buffalo County Clerk