

**MEETING OF THE RUSK COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
JANUARY 24, 2017
9:00 A.M.**

Meeting called to order by Chair Pete Boss at 9:00 a.m.

Roll Call. Present – 15. Excused – 4. Present: Rathsack, Hauser, Knops, Stout, Tatur, Lieffring, Pedersen, Schneider, Gierke, Fisher, Hanson, Mai, Willingham, Hraban, Boss. Excused: Biller, Swoverland, Schmitt, Platteter.

Invocation by David Willingham of Island Lake Church of Christ.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Erik Stoker, Rusk County Veterans Officer.

Department Presentations

1. Karen Welke-Animal Control
2. Tom Hall-Emergency Management
3. Jim Rassbach-Medical Examiner
4. Kathy Walters-ADRC/Senior Services
5. Jeremy Jacobs-Adult Services / Behavioral Health
6. Sue Selzler-Children & Family
7. Sandy Stiner- Child Support
8. Irene Lehman-Economic Support
9. Chris Atwood-Home Health
10. Anita Zimmer-Public Health
11. Erik Stoker-Veteran Services
12. Jeff Wallace-RCSD
13. Cory DeWitt-UW Extension

Recess at 12:36 p.m.

Meeting called to order by Chair Pete Boss at 1:15 p.m.

Roll Call. Present – 17. Excused – 2. Present: Biller, Rathsack, Hauser, Knops, Stout, Tatur, Lieffring, Swoverland, Pedersen, Schneider, Gierke, Fisher, Hanson, Mai, Willingham, Hraban, Boss. Excused: Biller, Swoverland, Schmitt, Platteter. Excused: Schmitt, Platteter. Corporation Counsel, Rich Summerfield.

CLOSED SESSION

Announced by Chair for discussion and possible land acquisition – Purchase or Trade

For negotiating sale of city/county owned property: Deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session, WI Stats 19.85(1) (e). 7.

Motion by Knops, second by Tatur to enter closed session. Roll call vote. Voting yes: 17. Voting no: 0. Voting yes: Biller, Rathsack, Hauser, Knops, Stout, Tatur, Lieffring, Swoverland, Pedersen, Schneider, Gierke, Fisher, Hanson, Mai, Willingham, Hraban, Boss.

Closed session 1:15 p.m.

Motion by Gierke, second by Stout to return to open session. Motion carried by aye vote.

Open session 1:30 p.m.

RESOLUTION #17-1 AUTHORIZING AN APPLICATION FOR A \$1,270,000 STATE TRUST FUND LOAN

WHEREAS, By the provisions of Sec.24.66 of the Wisconsin Statutes, all municipalities may borrow money for such purposes in the manner prescribed, and,

WHEREAS, By the provisions of Chapter 24 of the Wisconsin Statutes, the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands of Wisconsin is authorized to make loans from the State Trust Funds to municipalities for such purposes. (Municipality as defined by Sec. 24.60(2) of the Wisconsin Statutes means a town, village, city, county, public inland lake protection and rehabilitation district, town sanitary district created under Sec. 60.71 or 60.72, metropolitan sewerage district created under Sec. 200.05 or 200.23, joint sewerage system created under Sec. 281.43(4), school district or technical college district.)

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the County of **Rusk**, Wisconsin, borrow from the Trust Funds of the State of Wisconsin the sum of **One Million Two Hundred Seventy Thousand And 00/100 Dollars (\$1,270,000.00)** for the purpose of **financing the purchase of property for county purposes** and for no other purpose.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, The loan is to be payable within **10** years from the 15th day of March preceding the date the loan is made. The loan will be repaid in annual installments with interest at the rate of **3.50** percent per annum from the date of making the loan to the 15th day of March next and thereafter annually as provided by law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that there shall be raised and there is levied upon all taxable property, within the County of **Rusk**, Wisconsin, a direct annual tax for the purpose of paying interest and principal on the loan as they become due.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that no money obtained by the County of **Rusk** by such loan from the state be applied or paid out for any purpose except **financing the purchase of property for county purposes** without the consent of the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in case the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands of Wisconsin agrees to make the loan, that the chairman and clerk of the County of **Rusk**, Wisconsin, are authorized and empowered, in the name of the county to execute and deliver to the Commission, certificates of indebtedness, in such form as required by the Commission, for any sum of money that may be loaned to the county pursuant to this resolution. The chairman and clerk of the county will perform all necessary actions to fully carry out the provisions of Chapter 24, Wisconsin Statutes, and these resolutions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this preamble and these resolutions and the aye and no vote by which they were adopted, be recorded, and that the clerk of this county forward this certified record, along with the application for the loan, to the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands of Wisconsin.

Submitted by the Committee: S/.

Motion by Lieffring, second by Fisher to adopt. Discussion. Roll call. Voting yes-15. Voting no-1. Voting yes: Hauser, Knops, Stout, Tatur, Lieffring, Pedersen, Schneider, Gierke, Fisher, Hanson, Mai, Willingham, Hraban, Biller, Rathsack. Voting no: Swoverland. Resolution adopted by roll call vote.

RUSK COUNTY FORESTRY DEPARTMENT 2016 ANNUAL REPORT

Motion by Biller, second by Schneider to approve the report. Motion carried by aye vote. A complete copy of the report is available in the clerk's office.

RESOLUTION #17-2 2017 RECREATIONAL BOATING FACILITIES GRANTS

WHEREAS, Rusk County is interested in acquiring or developing lands for public outdoor recreation purposes as described in the application; and;

WHEREAS, Financial aid is required to carry out the project; and;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Rusk County has budgeted a sum sufficient to complete the project or acquisition; and;

HEREBY AUTHORIZES Paul Teska, Rusk County Forestry Department to act on behalf of Rusk County to:

Submit an application to the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for any financial aid that may be available;
Submit reimbursement claims along with necessary supporting documentation within 6 months of project completion date;
Submit signed documents; and
Take necessary action to undertake, direct and complete the approved project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Rusk County Board of Supervisors will comply with state or federal rules for the programs to the general public during reasonable hours consistent with the type of facility; and will obtain from the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources or the National Park Service approval in writing before any change is made in the use of the project site.

Submitted by the Forestry Committee: S/Knops, Schneider, Biller, Boss Lieffring.

Motion by Knops, second by Hraban to adopt. Resolution adopted by aye vote.

RESOLUTION #17-3 ATV TRAIL MAINTENANCE AND DEVELOPMENT

WHEREAS, Rusk County is interested in acquiring or developing lands for public outdoor recreation purposes as described in the application; and;

WHEREAS, Financial aid is required to carry out the project; and;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Rusk County has budgeted a sum sufficient to complete the project or acquisition; and;

HEREBY AUTHORIZES Paul Teska, Rusk County Forestry Department to act on behalf of Rusk County to:

Submit an application to the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for any financial aid that may be available;
Submit reimbursement claims along with necessary supporting documentation within 6 months of project completion date;
Submit signed documents; and
Take necessary action to undertake, direct and complete the approved project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Rusk County Board of Supervisors will comply with state or federal rules for the programs to the general public during reasonable hours consistent with the type of facility; and will obtain from the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources or the National Park Service approval in writing before any change is made in the use of the project site.

Submitted by the Forestry Committee: S/Knops, Schneider, Biller, Boss Lieffring.

Motion by Biller, second by Schneider to adopt. Resolution adopted by aye vote.

RESOLUTION #17-4 2017 PARK AID DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

WHEREAS, Rusk County is interested in acquiring or developing lands for public outdoor recreation purposes as described in the application; and;

WHEREAS, Financial aid is required to carry out the project; and;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Rusk County has budgeted a sum sufficient to complete the project or acquisition; and;

HEREBY AUTHORIZES Paul Teska, Rusk County Forestry Department to act on behalf of Rusk County to:

Submit an application to the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for any financial aid that may be available;
Submit reimbursement claims along with necessary supporting documentation within 6 months of project completion date;
Submit signed documents; and
Take necessary action to undertake, direct and complete the approved project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Rusk County Board of Supervisors will comply with state or federal rules for the programs to the general public during reasonable hours consistent with the type of facility; and will obtain from the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources or the National Park Service approval in writing before any change is made in the use of the project site.

Submitted by the Forestry Committee: S/Knops, Schneider, Biller, Boss Lieffring.

Motion by Biller, second by Lieffring to adopt. Resolution adopted by aye vote.

RESOLUTION #17-5 EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR RESTORATION OF FUNDING FOR COUNTY FOREST ADMINISTRATION GRANT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, Rusk County has land entered into the Wisconsin County Forest Law (County Forest Law), ss. 28.10 and 28.11 Stats. and is a member of the Wisconsin County Forest Association (WCFA); and

WHEREAS, the WCFA is a nonprofit organization that represents the forestry interests of 29 counties with 2.4 million acres of forest lands entered into the County Forest Law; and

WHEREAS, the WCFA also provides leadership and counsel to each county's forest administrator and functions as an organizational liaison to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (department); and

WHEREAS, s. 28.11(5m) (am). Stats., authorizes the department to make grants, from the appropriation under s. 20.370 (5)(bw), Stats., to counties having lands entered under the County Forest Law in order to fund up to 50 percent of the costs of a county's annual dues to the WCFA; and

WHEREAS, historically, the total amount that the department could award in grants under this provision in any fiscal year could not exceed \$50,000; and

WHEREAS, while the statutory language remains in place, the State's 2015-17 biennial budget eliminated the \$50,000 grant for organizational dues payment; and

WHEREAS, Rusk County depends on the funds from the County Forest Administration Grant to assist in the operations and funding of the Rusk County Forest for the public's benefit; and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin forestry mil tax (segregated funds) provides the funding for the County Forest Administration Grant.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Rusk does hereby resolve that the County requests that the legislature restore the County Forest Administration Grant Program to its previous funding level in the next State Biennial Budget; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the proper County officials, including the Forest Administrator, are authorized to contact the State legislators for Rusk County requesting their support for restoration of this grant;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Clerk is directed to send a copy of this resolution to Governor Walker, the Joint Finance Committee of the Wisconsin Legislature, the state legislators for Rusk County, the Wisconsin Counties Association and WDNR Secretary Cathy Stepp.

Submitted by the Forestry Committee: S/Knops, Schneider, Biller, Boss Lieffring.

Motion by Knops, second by Tatur to adopt. Resolution adopted by aye vote.

RESOLUTION #17-6 2017 COUNTY CONSERVATION AID PROGRAM

WHEREAS, Rusk County is interested in acquiring or developing lands for public outdoor recreation purposes as described in the application; and;

WHEREAS, Financial aid is required to carry out the project; and;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Rusk County has budgeted a sum sufficient to complete the project or acquisition; and;
HEREBY AUTHORIZES Paul Teska, Rusk County Forestry Department to act on behalf of Rusk County to:

- Submit an application to the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for any financial aid that may be available;
- Submit reimbursement claims along with necessary supporting documentation within 6 months of project completion date;
- Submit signed documents; and
- Take necessary action to undertake, direct and complete the approved project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Rusk County Board of Supervisors will comply with state or federal rules for the programs to the general public during reasonable hours consistent with the type of facility; and will obtain from the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources or the National Park Service approval in writing before any change is made in the use of the project site.

Submitted by the Forestry Committee: S/Knops, Schneider, Biller, Boss Lieffring.

Motion by Schneider, second by Biller to adopt. Resolution adopted by aye vote.

RESOLUTION #17-7 SNOWMOBILE TRAIL MAINTENANCE AND DEVELOPMENT

WHEREAS, Rusk County is interested in acquiring or developing lands for public outdoor recreation purposes as described in the application; and;

WHEREAS, Financial aid is required to carry out the project; and;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Rusk County has budgeted a sum sufficient to complete the project or acquisition; and;

HEREBY AUTHORIZES Paul Teska, Rusk County Forestry Department to act on behalf of Rusk County to:

- Submit an application to the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for any financial aid that may be available;
- Submit reimbursement claims along with necessary supporting documentation within 6 months of project completion date;
- Submit signed documents; and
- Take necessary action to undertake, direct and complete the approved project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Rusk County Board of Supervisors will comply with state or federal rules for the programs to the general public during reasonable hours consistent with the type of facility; and will obtain from the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources or the National Park Service approval in writing before any change is made in the use of the project site.

Submitted by the Forestry Committee: S/Knops, Schneider, Biller, Boss Lieffring.

Motion by Biller, second by Schneider to adopt. Resolution adopted by aye vote.

RESOLUTION #17-8 Creation of an IT Specialist I Position and Reclassification of IT Specialist to IT Specialist II.

WHEREAS, the Property Committee has made a request of the Personnel Committee to hire an additional employee for the IT Department due to increased workload; and

WHEREAS, the IT Department currently has one Department Head, one IT Specialist, and one vacant IT Technician position and both committees agree that due to advances in technology, a technician level of expertise is no longer sufficient for the needs of the Rusk County IT Department; and

WHEREAS, with assistance from the IT Department, the Personnel Committee has determined that reclassifying the current IT Specialist to an IT Specialist II, while maintaining the current pay rate and creating a position of IT Specialist I at a pay rate of \$23.50 per hour, the current and future needs of the IT Department would best be met.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Rusk County Board of Supervisors do approve the creation of an IT Specialist I at a pay rate of \$23.50 per hour and reclassifying the current IT Specialist to an IT Specialist II with the current wage of \$26.52.

Submitted by the Personnel Committee: S/Hanson.

Motion by Fisher, second by Hraban to adopt. Resolution adopted by aye vote.

RESOLUTION #17-9 Creating a Full Time County Administrative Coordinator Position

Relating to Creating a County Administrative Coordinator Position

The County Board of Supervisors of Rusk County, Wisconsin, duly assembled at its regular meeting begun on the 24th day of January 2017, does resolve as follows:

WHEREAS the County Administrative Coordinator is described in Statute §59.19; and ,

WHEREAS the Rusk County Board desires that the Administrative Coordinator have more managerial oversight and control, requiring fulltime attention

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the County Board of Supervisors approves creating the full time position of County Administrative Coordinator in accordance with Wisconsin Statute §59.19. Effective January 24th, 2017

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Rusk County Board of Supervisors hereby approve the Position Description attached hereto with the salary of \$79,085.93 and adjusted annually.

(County Board Meeting of January 24, 2017 cont. Page 4)

Submitted by the Committee: S/Boss, Hanson, Fisher, Willingham, Mai, Stout.

Motion by Fisher, second by Hauser to adopt. Discussion on position and concerns shared with several board members from the public. Resolution adopted by aye vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Gierke, second by Hraban to approve minutes of December 20, 2016, January 10, 2017 and January 17, 2017. Motion carried by aye vote.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Boss apologized for later than normal notice for meetings and assured the board that posting deadlines were met, some agenda items took longer than planned to get together.

ADJOURNMENT

Lieffring to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 2:07 p.m.

Next meeting February 28, 2017 at 9:00 a.m.

Loren Beebe, Rusk County Clerk
Danielle Zimmer, Chief Deputy Clerk