

**MEETING OF THE RUSK COUNTY  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
APRIL 17, 2018  
9:00 A.M.**

Meeting called to order by Vice-Chair Randy Tatur at 9:00 a.m.

**OATH OF OFFICE AND INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS**

Tatur introduced new board members by district, Terry DuSell, District #1, Kathy Vacho, District #5, Bill McBain, District #9 and Ken Brown, District #19. Judge Anderson administered oath of office to the 19 members of the Rusk County Board of Supervisors for two year terms.

Roll Call. Present – 19. Excused – 0. Present: DuSell, Biller, Rathsack, Hauser, Vacho, Stout, Tatur, Liefkring, McBain, Pedersen, Schneider, Gierke, Schmitt, Fisher, Hanson, Mai, Hraban, Brown, Willingham. Corporation Counsel, Rich Summerfield.

Introduction and brief biography of John Vacho by Ted East, Administrative Coordinator.

Invocation by David Willingham of Island Lake Church of Christ.

Pledge of Allegiance led by John Vacho.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion by Gierke, second by Hraban to approve minutes of February 27, 2018 & March 10, 2018. Motion carried by aye vote.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Donna Wishowski thanked board members for their service and leadership and invited board members to the national day of prayer services on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, handed out invitations to each supervisor.

**ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN**

Tatur called for nominations for County Board Chairman. Mai nominated Willingham. Tatur called for additional nominations three times. Motion by Pedersen, second by Stout to close nominations and cast unanimous ballot for Willingham. Motion carried. Willingham elected County Board Chairman.

Willingham called for nominations for County Board Vice-Chairman. Gierke nominated Tatur. Willingham called for additional nominations three times. Motion by Hraban, second by Gierke to close nominations and cast unanimous ballot for Tatur. Motion carried. Tatur elected County Board Vice-Chairman.

**ELECTION OF COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES**

**Western District** – Stout nominated Liefkring. Fisher nominated Schmitt. Willingham called for additional nominations three times. Nominations closed. Paper ballot results: Liefkring – 12, Schmitt – 5, Other – 2. Liefkring elected to Committee on Committees.

**Eastern District** – Gierke nominated Schneider. Rathsack nominated Hauser. Willingham called for additional nominations three times. Nominations closed. Paper ballot results: Schneider – 12, Hauser – 7, Other – 1. Schneider elected to Committee on Committees.

**Central District** – Stout nominated Mai. Hauser nominated Hraban. Willingham called for additional nominations three times. Nominations closed. Paper ballot results: Mai – 10, Hraban – 8, Other – 1. Mai elected to Committee on Committees.

**ELECTION OF HIGHWAY COMMITTEE**

**District #1 – Northeast** – Hauser nominated Biller. Stout nominated Hauser, Hauser declines nomination. Willingham called for additional nominations three times. Nominations closed. Motion by Hauser, second by DuSell to cast unanimous ballot for Biller. Motion carried. Biller elected to Highway Committee.

**District #2 – Northwest** – Liefkring nominated Stout. Hauser nominated Tatur, Tatur declines nomination. Willingham called for additional nominations three times. Nominations closed. Motion by Pedersen, second by Hraban to cast unanimous ballot for Stout. Motion carried. Stout elected to Highway Committee.

**District #3 – Southwest** – Stout nominated Liefkring. Schmitt nominated Fisher. Willingham called for additional nominations three times. Nominations closed. Paper ballot results: Liefkring – 13, Fisher – 5, Other – 1. Liefkring elected to Highway committee.

**District #4 – Southeast** – Stout nominated Pedersen. Schneider nominated Gierke. Willingham called for additional nominations three times. Nominations closed. Paper ballot results: Pedersen – 9, Gierke – 8, Other – 2. Pedersen elected to Highway committee.

**District #5 – Central** – Hauser nominated Hraban. Willingham called for additional nominations three times. Nomination closed. Motion by Hauser, second by DuSell to cast unanimous ballot for Hraban. Motion carried. Hraban elected to Highway Committee.

Chair Willingham asked unanimous consent to enter the following statement into the minutes of the April 17, 2018 board meeting: The Rusk County Board of Supervisors wishes to express its gratitude and appreciation to Peter Boss, Arian Knops, Gary Swoverland and James Platteter for their service to the Board and the citizens of Rusk County. They have served with honor and distinction. The Board also wishes to add a special word of appreciation to Peter Boss for his hard work and dedication during his service as Board Chair. Many of his ideas and innovations have prepared Rusk County for the future and his legacy along with that of his fellow retirees shall be one for which they and all of the Board should be justifiably proud.

**RESOLUTION #18-9 JAILER/DISPATCH**

WHEREAS, on February 28th, 2017 the Rusk County Board of Supervisors ratified the agreement with the Wisconsin Professional Police Association for and on behalf of the Rusk County Jailer/Dispatchers;

WHEREAS, article I of said agreement delineates all regular part time and all regular full time Jailer/Dispatchers hired after January 1, 2017, will be classified as general municipal employees and will not be members of the aforementioned bargaining unit;

WHEREAS, the current pay schedule for non-represented jailer/dispatchers does not incorporate step process as articulated in Exhibit A of the ratified agreement.

WHEREAS, absent amending the current pay arrangement for non-represented to mirror the pay structure of the ratified agreement reduces the County's competitive nature in the recruitment and retention of the positions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Rusk County Board of Supervisors approve the non-represented jailer/dispatchers be compensated in accordance with the ratified agreement between the County and the Wisconsin Professional Police Association for and on behalf of the Rusk County Jailer/Dispatchers

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the effective date of the change be January 1, 2018.

Motion by Fisher, second by Gierke to adopt resolution. Fisher gave brief explanation of resolution. Discussion regarding jailer/dispatch personnel being under protective status versus general county employee. Discussion on 2018 budget, this amount was not part of the budget. Motion carried. Resolution adopted by aye vote.

**RESOLUTION #18-10 REGISTER OF DEEDS SUBSCRIPTION RATE**

WHEREAS, the Register of Deeds offers online access for real estate records, certified survey maps and plat maps and;

WHEREAS, the online access allows professional searchers and the occasional users the ability to search and access data and images 24 X 7 with the same functionality they would have if came into the Register of Deeds office and;

WHEREAS, there are three types of payment, escrow, credit card and subscription and;

WHEREAS, to maintain the online accessibility of the Register of Deeds office, there are annual support/maintenance agreements with the software vendors and;

WHEREAS, the costs associated with the annual support and maintenance promotes the review of the subscription fee the County is charging for the access. The current rate of \$250.00 per month was established by the Rusk County Board of Supervisors in March of 2009. Based on the review of the costs associated with the online access it is recommendation of the Finance Committee that the rate for the unlimited access fee be raised to \$350.00 per month.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Rusk County Board of Supervisors hereby approves the recommended \$350.00 subscription fee per month and the rate change will take effect June 1, 2018.

Motion by Hauser, second by Hraban to adopt resolution. Ted East, Administrative Coordinator, gave brief explanation of resolution. Motion carried. Resolution adopted by aye vote.

#### **RESOLUTION #16-26A AMEND 2017 BUDGET**

WHEREAS, the Rusk County Finance Committee has the authority to amend budgets that are within 10 percent of its budgeted expenditure; and

WHEREAS, at its March 21, 2018, meeting the Finance Committee reviewed the 2017 Budget and approved amending the budgets with forwarding the ones that were 10 percent or more over budget to the County Board for approval.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Rusk County Board of Supervisors approves amending the 2017 budget as follows:

100-05-51252-000 GAL/Indig. Add \$10,112.50 with funds from excess revenues in 100-05-48500-767 GAL-Reimb. Family.

100-10-51105-000 Board of Adj. \$867.00 with funds from excess revenues in 100-10-44401-000 \$600 and 100-10-44402-000 \$267.

100-13-51741-000 Plat Books \$16,491 with funds from 100-13-49990-300 Prior Year Funds.

100-44-55623-000 Junior Fair \$6,269 with funds from 100-44-49990-000 Prior Year Funds.

100-68-56702-000 Tourism \$9,910 with funds from 100-68-46740-000 Tourism-Guide Ad Sales.

100-71-51600-910 Vending Transfer to Equipment Fund \$942 with from Sale of Equipment.

100-72-51636-229 Gust Road Building \$12,159 with funds to come from rents.

100-93-54162-990 A/S Endowment Transfer to Building \$34,625 with funds coming from Prior Year Endowment Funds.

100-94-54163-810 A/S Building Expense \$386,259 with funds coming from 100-94-48900-000 Friends of Animal Shelter \$210,000, 100-94-47310-000 City of Ladysmith \$46,133, 100-94-48101-000 Interest \$224, 100-94-49210-000 Transfer from Endowment \$34,625 and the remainder from County Debt Service.

Motion by Hraban, second by Fisher to adopt resolution. Kitzie Nelson, Finance Director, gave brief explanation of resolution. Roll call vote. Voting yes – 19. Voting no – 0. Voting yes: Willingham, Hraban, Brown, DuSell, Biller, Rathsack, Hauser, Vacho, Stout, Tatur, Lieffring, McBain, Pedersen, Schneider, Gierke, Schmitt, Fisher, Hanson, Mai. Resolution adopted by roll call vote.

#### **RESOLUTION #16-26B AMEND 2017 BUDGET FOR GOVERNMENT CENTER HEATING SYSTEM**

WHEREAS, at its November 14, 2017, meeting the Rusk County Board of Supervisors passed Resolution #17-27 to approve the replacement heating system projects for 2017 and 2018 and approved a State Trust Fund Loan for both of these projects; and

WHEREAS, the Property Committee along with the Buildings and Ground Supervisor and staff were able to monitor their budgets so that the net shortfall for the \$161,530.97 heating project in 2017 is \$80,655.93; and

WHEREAS, there is \$61,057.86 available in the 2017 contingency fund that could be applied towards the 2017 heating system expense with only \$19,598.07 additional needed from the general fund; and

WHEREAS, at its March 21, 2018, meeting, the Finance Committee passed a motion to propose using \$19,598.07 from the general fund for the heating system along with 2017 contingency funds instead of drawing from the State Trust Fund.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Rusk County Board of Supervisors approves amending the 2017 Maintenance budget expense line 100-16-51610-811 Courthouse-Heating System using \$61,057.86 from the 2017 contingency fund and \$19,598.07 from the general fund.

Motion by Hauser, second by Fisher to adopt resolution. Kitzie Nelson, Finance Director, gave brief explanation of resolution. Roll call vote. Voting yes – 19. Voting no – 0. Voting yes: Hraban, Brown, DuSell, Biller, Rathsack, Hauser, Vacho, Stout, Tatur, Lieffring, McBain, Pedersen, Schneider, Gierke, Schmitt, Fisher, Hanson, Mai, Willingham. Resolution adopted by roll call vote.

#### **RESOLUTION #16-26C AMEND 2017 DISTRICT ATTORNEY BUDGET**

WHEREAS, at its May 17, 2017, meeting the Finance Committee recommended that the District Attorney use contracted help to assist with the case backlog in 2017; and

WHEREAS, at its March 21, 2018, meeting the Finance Committee recommended using \$33,229.06 from the 2017 contingency fund for the 2017 overages in the District Attorney budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Rusk County Board of Supervisors approves amending the 2017 District Attorney budget using \$33,229.06 from the 2017 contingency fund.

Motion by Hraban, second by Stout to adopt resolution. Kitzie Nelson, Finance Director, gave brief explanation of resolution. Roll call vote. Voting yes – 18. Voting no – 0. Abstaining – 1. Voting yes: Brown, DuSell, Biller, Rathsack, Hauser, Vacho, Stout, Tatur, Lieffring, McBain, Pedersen, Schneider, Gierke, Schmitt, Fisher, Hanson, Willingham, Hraban. Abstaining: Mai. Resolution adopted by roll call vote.

#### **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE MOTION**

Proposed County Board Meeting Dates: Willingham informed county board members that the next regularly scheduled meeting is May 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 pm. Motion by Gierke, second by Pedersen to approve proposed meeting dates as presented. Approval of proposed meeting dates carried by aye vote.

Approval of Northwoods Rock Rally Permit: Motion by Hauser, second Rathsack by to approve permit. Loren Beebe, County Clerk, informed supervisors that the only change is the permit is going from 3000 people to 2000 people maximum attendance. Jeff Wallace, Sheriff, informed supervisors they have not had any problems in the past with this event. Biller abstained. Motion carried by aye vote.

Approval of Emergency Fire Warden List: Motion by Gierke, second by DuSell to approve emergency fire warden list. Tom Hall, Emergency Management Director, informed board that the DNR has now set it at 3 per county due to online purchase increase. Motion carried by aye vote.

**APPOINTMENTS**

Hospital Board: Motion by Hraban, second by Stout to appoint Jim Platteter to Hospital Board of Trustees. Discussion on appointment rather than election. Willingham explained that this appointment is to fill a vacated seat to finish the term. Motion carried by aye vote.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Hall invited board members to Sky Warn Training next Tuesday from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. and informed board members that Alert Sense is up and running and the link to sign up is on the county homepage.

Willingham mentioned that there was a conflict with ACT date for the 2018 February government day meeting and if that is the case the February 2019 meeting date may be moved.

Reminder to sign oaths and turn in to clerk and the Committee on Committees will meet in the small conference room across from the clerk's office once the picture is taken upstairs.

Nelson reminded supervisors that there is a Finance Committee meeting tomorrow, members will be notified following the committee assignments.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Liefkring, second by Gierke to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

Next meeting May 22, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

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