

**MEETING OF THE RUSK COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
APRIL 23, 2019
7:00 P.M.**

Meeting called to order by Chair Dave Willingham at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call. Present – 18. Excused – 1. Present: DuSell, Biller, Rathsack, Hauser, Vacho, Stout, Tatur, Lieffring, McBain, Pedersen, Schneider, Gierke, Schmitt, Hanson, Mai, Hraban, Brown, Willingham. Corporation Counsel, Rich Summerfield. Excused: Fisher.

Brief biography of Sergeant Clarence Clough, POW WWII read by Chair Willingham.

Invocation by David Willingham of Island Lake Church of Christ.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Robert Stout in memory of Clarence Clough.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Gierke, second by Hraban, to approve the minutes from the February 26, 2019 meeting. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Arian Knops explained gift of book handed out prior to meeting to each board member, “Diary of Clarence Clough Prisoner of the Japanese in World War II.”

Donna Wishowski thanked board for the time and leadership they offer and invited board members to prayer breakfast on May 2nd at OLS, also handed out invitations.

Sheila Weix spoke about services that will be offered through the clinic and handed out invitations to the grand opening service on Saturday, May 4th.

Heather Fick informed board that May is National Drug Court month and will come next month to do a department presentation, handed out invitations.

PROCLAMATION

Whereas, The Congress and President of the United States have designated May 15 as Peace Officers’ Memorial Day, and the week in which May 15 falls as National Police week; and

Whereas, the members of the law enforcement agency of Rusk County play an essential role in safeguarding the rights and freedoms of Rusk County; and

Whereas, it is important that all citizens know and understand the duties, responsibilities, hazards, and sacrifices of their law enforcement agency, and that members of our law enforcement agency recognize their duty to serve the people by safeguarding life and property, by protecting them against violence and disorder, and by protecting the innocent against deception and the weak against oppression; and

Whereas, during National Police week, and throughout the year, Rusk County recognizes and appreciates the critical contributions and sacrifices made by members of law enforcement at all levels, and honors their courage and dedication; and

Whereas, it is known that 145 officers were killed in the line of duty in 2018 and many others were seriously assaulted in the performance of their duties. Our community joins with other counties, cities, and towns to honor their memory and sacrifice, and pay homage to their legacy of excellence and devotion to duty.

Now, therefore, I, David Willingham, Chairperson of the Rusk County Board of Supervisors, do hereby proclaim May 12 - 18, 2019 as National Police week, and Thursday, May 16, 2019, as Peace Officers’ Memorial Day in honor of those law enforcement officers who, through their courageous deeds, have made the ultimate sacrifice in service to their community, or have become disabled in the performance of duty, and let us recognize and pay respect to the survivors of our fallen heroes. May we always remember what they do on a daily basis to defend and protect our rights and safety.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Seal of the County of Rusk this 23rd day of April, two thousand and nineteen.

Jeffrey Wallace, Rusk County Sheriff, informed board that the Memorial Service will be held May 1th at 7:00 p.m. at OLS. Motion by DuSell, second by Stout to approve proclamation. Motion carried.

EMERGENCY SERVICES ANNUAL REPORT

Sheriff’s Department – Jeffrey Wallace, Rusk County Sheriff, passed out report and gave updates on budget, personnel changes, department staffing, services and programs offered through the department, and community outreach and support.

Medical Examiner – Jim Rassbach, Rusk County Medical Examiner, presented power point and explained staffing of the ME office, steps/certification to become an ME or deputy, county death totals/investigations, and changes/considerations in 2019-2020.

Emergency Management/Ambulance – Tom Hall, Emergency Management/Ambulance Director, informed board that May 19th – 25th is EMS week and explained ambulance calls for service in 2018 in regards to emergency and non-emergency as well as the First Responder and EMT staffing in Rusk County, training done for community/schools/county staff. Hall explained that emergency management includes the Mitigation Plan, NWRP meetings, medication destruction, disaster relief, and he sits on many committees around the state.

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES ANNUAL REPORT

Jeremy Jacobs, Health & Human Services Director, provided handouts regarding programs and services offered and gave a power point presentation including information on adult services, ADRC, child support, children & family services, economic support, public health, veterans services, and data of Rusk County and surrounding counties.

RESOLUTION #19-10 RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF APRIL 8th THROUGH APRIL 12TH “WORKZONE SAFETY AWARENESS WEEK IN RUSK COUNTY IN 2019”

WHEREAS in 1999 the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) partnered with the American Association of State and Highway officials (AASHTO) and more recently with the American Traffic Safety Services Association (ATSSA) to create the National Work Zone Safety Awareness Week campaign, held annually in April prior to the construction season for much of the nation; and,

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin County Highway Association is asking all seventy-two (72) counties in the state to unite and kick-off “Work Zone Safety Awareness Week” with a resolution and campaign to raise awareness for its’ workers and those of various highway contractors performing work for the counties; and,

WHEREAS, between 2012 and 2018, there were 64 fatalities recorded as a result of crashes in Wisconsin work zones including three Wisconsin County Highway workers which were killed in work zones in 2015 in the counties of Calumet, Lincoln, and Shawano; and,

WHEREAS, construction and maintenance activities on our streets and highways periodically require that work zones be established; and,

WHEREAS, there has been over 2,000 work zone crashes in Wisconsin in each of the last four years; and,

WHEREAS, in 2018, Wisconsin suffered from were 3174 crashes in road construction and maintenance zones, resulting in 1274 injuries and nine fatalities; and,

WHEREAS, for the State of Wisconsin in 2017, 2700 crashes were reported in work zones resulting in 1000 injuries and 6 fatalities; and,

WHEREAS, through their enforcement activities and other participation, the Rusk County Sheriff's Office, Wisconsin State Patrol, and the Rusk County Highway Department will work to make "Work Zone Safety Awareness Week a success; and,

WHEREAS, the County Sheriff's Office is committed in 2019 to conduct enforcement activities and work jointly with the County Highway Department to make "Work Zone Safety Awareness Week" a success in Rusk County; and,

WHEREAS, the Rusk County Highway Department and Sheriff's Office have employees whose daily duties are to work within work zones and traffic; and,

WHEREAS, the Federal Highway Administration has designated April 8 through April 12, 2019 as National Work Zone Safety Awareness Week with this year's theme "Work Zone Safety is Everyone's Responsibility!" which focuses on awareness to all drivers in work zones,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Rusk County Board of Supervisors that the week of April 8th through April 12th, 2019 be designated as "Work Zone Safety Awareness Week" in Rusk County.

Submitted by the Rusk County Highway Committee: S/Biller, Hraban, Pedersen, Lieftring, Stout.

Motion by Stout, second by Pedersen to adopt. Willingham pointed out information regarding crashes, injuries and fatalities. Motion carried. Resolution adopted by aye vote.

RESOLUTION #19-11 CHANGES TO POSITIONS AND WAGES IN LAND CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT

WHEREAS, a position vacancy offered an opportunity to review position functions in the Land Conservation & Development office; and

WHEREAS, a modification of position responsibilities and capabilities was identified; and

WHEREAS, the modification of positions will improve the operations of the office and service to the public; and

WHEREAS, it was determined that the County Conservationist, Engineering Technician I and Survey Technician positions should be modified; and

WHEREAS, the Personnel Committee has reviewed the duties and responsibilities of the positions, approved the modified job description, and determined the new point factors and modified wages for the positions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Rusk County Board of Supervisors does hereby approve the modified jobs and wage adjustments,

	Former wage	New Wage
County Conservationist	\$26.03	\$26.03
Engineering Technician I	\$20.54	\$21.54
Survey Technician (change to GIS Technician)	\$19.39	\$20.14

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that wage adjustments will be effective once employees have completed training and are performing to modified job descriptions.

Submitted by the Rusk County Personnel Committee: S/Hanson, Mai, Willingham, Stout.

Motion by Hanson, second by Gierke to adopt. Tesky explained resolution and review of duties after conservationist left in February and it has been approved by the Personnel Committee. Albarado clarified that the wages do not go into effect until employees meet the new requirements. Roll Call Vote. Voting Yes – 16. Voting No – 2. Voting Yes: Lieftring, McBain, Pedersen, Schneider, Gierke, Schmitt, Hanson, Mai, Hraban, Brown, DuSell, Rathack, Vacho, Stout, Tatur, Willingham. Voting No: Biller, Hauser. Resolution adopted by roll call vote.

RESOLUTION #19-12 AMBULANCE RATE SCHEDULE CHANGE

WHEREAS, the Ambulance Service had not had a rate change since 2015, and

WHEREAS, the current usage of the ambulance involves more treatments without transport calls than in the past, and

WHEREAS, current billing company has advised we should pursue other billing avenues, and

WHEREAS, Emergency Services Committee recommends the following changes to rate schedule,

Base Rate BLS	\$1,000.00	(currently \$750)
Non-Resident Rate	\$1,200.00	(currently \$750)
On Scene Assistance	\$150.00	(currently \$200)
BLS care no transport	\$150.00	(new)
BLS advanced care	\$200.00	(new)
Emergency Medical Responder w/no ambulance	\$100.00	(new)

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the new rate schedule is approved as listed and that these increases will take place the 1st day of May 2019.

Submitted by the Rusk County Emergency Services Committee: S/.

Motion by Schmitt, second by Hraban to adopt. Hall explained resolution and changes in billing. Motion by Schneider, second by Biller to postpone and send back to committee to provide more information in the resolution. Discussion on billing, insurance and proposed changes. Motion to postpone failed by aye vote. Motion to adopt resolution carried. Resolution adopted by aye vote.

RESOLUTION #19-13 SHERIFF TRANSPORT OFFICER PART-TIME EMPLOYEE WAGE ADJUSTMENT

WHEREAS, Rusk County employs part-time Transport Officers within the Sheriff's Department; and

WHEREAS, these Transport Officers are move inmates and work within the courtrooms providing cost effective staffing; and

WHEREAS, the Transport Officer position is paid an hourly wage and is not covered under the Union contract and was not included in the 1.5% wage adjustment applied to full-time positions at the start of 2019; and

WHEREAS, the Personnel Committee is recommending that this position also receive the annual wage adjustment.

WHEREAS, the 1.5% increase will increase the hourly wage from \$15/hr to \$15.23/hr and have a fiscal impact of less than \$500 for the remainder of 2019.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Rusk County Board of Supervisors does approve applying the 1.5% increase to the Transport Officer wage and making it effective April 1, 2019.

Submitted by the Rusk County Personnel Committee: S/Hanson, Mai, Willingham, Stout.

Motion by Hanson, second by Schmitt to adopt. Wallace explained resolution. Motion carried. Resolution adopted by aye vote.

RESOLUTION #00-40E RUSK COUNTY PARKS FOREST ORDINANCE - AMENDMENT

Chapter 34, Article VII Vehicle Regulation – Section 34-194 Applicability

(c) Restrictions and allowance in parks, campgrounds and boat landings. It shall be unlawful to operate or permit the operation of any all-terrain vehicle or snowmobile in the following areas:

- (1) Any area within the boundaries of Audie Lake Park, except: the parking lot located in the boat landing area for ice fishing use from November 16 through March 14 and ATVs will be allowed to load and unload at the designated ATV loading and unloading area in the Audie Lake boat landing area, except from March 15 to the Thursday before Memorial Day weekend.
- (2) Any area within the boundaries of Perch Lake Park, except the ~~parking lot located in the boat landing area for ice fishing use from November 16 through March 14.~~ parking lots, access road, designated ATV/UTV trail and designated campsites.
- (3) Any area within the boundaries of Community Park, except the parking lot ~~located in the boat landing area for ice fishing use from November 16 through March 14.~~ and paved access road.
- (4) Any area within the boundaries of Josie Creek Park except the Josie Creek Campground area will be open to ATV during daylight hours and except designated county snowmobile trail, and the parking lot located in the boat landing area for ice fishing use from November 16 through March 14.
- (5) Any area within the boundaries of Murphy Flowage Recreation Area (campground and picnic area), except the parking lot located in the boat landing area for ice fishing use from November 16 through March 14.
- (6) Any county maintained boat landing and associated parking lot from March 15 through November 15, except for winter ice fishing use from November 16 through April 15.

Submitted by the Rusk County Forestry Committee: S/Schneider, Lieftring, DuSell, Rathsack, Biller.

Motion by Schneider, second by Lieftring to adopt. Jeremy Koslowski, Forestry Administrator, explained resolution incorporating changes previously made by the board. Koslowski also explained the resolution would need to be amended. Motion by Schneider, second by DuSell to amend resolution by striking out “located in the boat landing area for ice fishing use from November 16 through March 14” in number (3) and add “and paved access road.” Motion carried. Resolution as amended adopted by aye vote.

RESOLUTION #05-60E AMENDING THE RUSK COUNTY FOREST COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN

WHEREAS, Rusk County has lands enrolled as County Forest pursuant to §. 28.11 of the Wisconsin statutes, and;

WHEREAS, the Rusk County Board of Supervisors on December 22, 2005, adopted resolution #05-60 approving the Rusk County Comprehensive Land Use Plan for a period of 15 years, and;

WHEREAS, said Plan is a dynamic document to be revised as changing conditions require, and;

WHEREAS, subsection (5) (a) of the above referenced State statute requires said Plan Amendments be approved by the County Board of Supervisors and the Department of Natural Resources, and;

WHEREAS, Plan amendments for the fifteen year period encompassing 2006-2020 have been prepared by the Rusk County Land and Forestry Committee and are submitted for approval before the Rusk County Board of Supervisors;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the County Board of Supervisors of the County of Rusk does ordain as follows: The Rusk County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan be amended as attached.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Rusk County Land and Forestry Committee is directed to forward these amendments to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for their approval.

Submitted by the Rusk County Forestry Committee: S/Schneider, Lieftring, DuSell, Rathsack, Biller.

Motion by Biller, second by Rathsack to adopt. Koslowski explained resolution. Motion carried. Resolution adopted by aye vote.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE MOTION

Approval of Proposed County Board Meeting Dates – Motion by Gierke, second by Hraban to approve proposed meeting dates. Motion carried.

Required Fuel Tank Upgrade at Highway Department – Tatur gave brief explanation of project and that the Finance Committee asked that full board be given information regarding the project. Scott Emch, Highway Commissioner, explained that the update is required to be completed by 2020 and is a complete replacement of the entire fuel system. Discussion on the project.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Loren Beebe, County Clerk, announced that the conference materials arrived and registration opens on May 1st and anyone with questions can let her know.

Lieftring announced that the Town of Stubbs Clerk of 53 years passed away on Monday.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Lieftring, second by McBain to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Next meeting May 28, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.