

**MEETING OF THE RUSK COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
April 2nd, 2020
10:00 A.M.**

Meeting called to order by Chairman David Willingham at 10:02 A.M.

Roll Call. Present – 14. Excused – 5. Present: Vacho, Stout, Tatur, McBain, Pedersen, Schneider, Gierke, Schmitt, Dobrowolski, Hanson, Mai, Hraban, Brown, Willingham. Corporation Counsel, Rich Summerfield. Excused: DuSell, Biller, Rathsack, Hauser, Lieffring.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Willingham.

Chairman Willingham explained that all motions will require a roll call vote with some supervisors appearing by phone.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Stout, second by McBain to approve the minutes from the March 17th, 2020 meeting. Motion carried.

REPORT

COVID-19: Dawn Brost, Rusk County Public Health Officer, provided supervisors with an update of COVID-19 in Rusk County. Brost is advising against any church services or travel for Easter. Discussion, question and answer session regarding: masks, gloves, prevention/contamination spread and concerns. Brost advised that gloves need to be changed with each task or there is no benefit, good hygiene is still a much better option.

Lieffring present by phone at 10:20 a.m.

RESOLUTION #20-10 ESTABLISHING TOTAL ANNUAL COMPENSATION FOR COUNTY ELECTED OFFICIALS PURSUANT TO WISCONSIN STATUTE 59.22

WHEREAS, pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 59.22(1), the Board must establish the total annual compensation for services to be paid to county elected officials (other than supervisors and circuit judges) prior to the earliest time for filing nomination papers for the county elective offices and;

WHEREAS, the Board desires to establish the total annual compensation for county elected officials, which is separate and distinct from the fringe benefits offered by the County to elected officials, and which fringe benefits are subject to increase or decrease during the officer's term at the discretion of the Board and in accordance with state and federal law and;

WHEREAS, as part of the County's fringe benefit program, county elected officials may participate in the Wisconsin Retirement System in accordance with state law and;

WHEREAS, as part of the County's fringe benefit program, county elected officials may elect to receive health insurance coverage under the same terms and conditions as the health insurance coverage offered to non-represented managerial county employees who are not law enforcement managerial employees or non-represented managerial employees described in Wis. Stat. § 111.70(1)(mm)2 and;

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the Personnel Committee to recommend salaries for elected officials to the Board for final approval; and

WHEREAS, the Personnel Committee has reviewed the elected officials salaries and recommends the following salaries starting on January 1, 2021 as follows;

OFFICIALS	2021	2022	2023	2024
Treasurer	\$58,349.50	\$60,099.98	\$60,700.98	\$61,307.99
Reg. of Deeds	\$58,349.50	\$60,099.98	\$60,700.98	\$61,307.99
County Clerk	\$58,349.50	\$60,099.98	\$60,700.98	\$61,307.99
Informational Only				
Clerk of Court	\$58,349.50	\$60,099.98		
Sheriff	\$72,141.20	\$74,305.44		

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Rusk County Board of Supervisor approves the recommendation of the Personnel Committee; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the aforementioned county elected officials are entitled to participate in the Wisconsin Retirement System in accordance with law and the County shall pay only its share of contributions required by law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the aforementioned county elected officials are entitled to participate in the County's health insurance program subject to the terms and conditions of the program, which may be modified from time to time, under the same terms and conditions as the health insurance coverage offered to non-represented managerial county employees who are not law enforcement managerial employees or non-represented managerial employees described in Wis. Stat. § 111.70(1)(mm)2.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the elected officials listed above shall be subject to the provision of the fringe benefit programs as set forth in the County Employee Handbook, except as otherwise required by State Law

Submitted by Rusk County Personnel Committee: S/Willingham.

Motion by Hanson, second by Pedersen to adopt resolution. Stout questioned Clerk compensation difference. Andy Albarado, Administrative Coordinator explained that was a typo. Explanation of resolution by Albarado, historical wage changes explained. Roll call vote. Voting yes – 14. Voting no – 0. Voting yes: Tatur, Lieffring McBain, Pedersen, Schneider, Gierke, Schmitt, Dobrowolski, Hanson, Mai, Hraban, Brown, Vacho, Stout, Willingham. Resolution adopted by roll call vote.

RESOLUTION #20-11 AMENDING CHAPTER 2 OF THE RUSK COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR CHANGE IN COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

WHEREAS, Rusk County operates under a Code or Ordinances

WHEREAS, within Chapter 2 of these Ordinances it outlines the operation of the County including County Board Committees and responsibilities, and

WHEREAS, from time to time it is necessary to change the Committee structure and responsibilities so as to provide appropriate oversight for County Departments and programs,

WHEREAS, it has been determined that a change is necessary to provide Committee oversight and guidance to the District Attorney, Clerk of Courts, Judge and related programs, and

WHEREAS, to accomplish this the current UW-Extension and Recycling Committee can become the Justice and Youth Committee and be assigned the District Attorney, Clerk of Courts, Judge and related programs

WHEREAS, the Recycling program oversight can be moved to the Property Committee

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Rusk County Board of Supervisors does hereby approve changes to Chapter 2 of the Rusk County Code of Ordinances more specifically to sections, 2-232 (Property Committee) 2-235 (change UW-Extension and Recycling Committee to Justice and Youth Committee, copies of the changes are attached hereto and made a part of; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, changes to Chapter 2 of the Rusk County Code of Ordinances will be made as attached and be effective April 21, 2020.

Submitted by Chairman: S/Willingham.

Motion by Gierke, second by McBain to adopt resolution. Explanation of resolution and oversight changes by Albarado. Discussion on committee structure, oversight, and responsibilities. Motion by Pedersen, second by Hanson to amend ordinance as presented to include "Extension" in the title of the committee. Roll call vote. Voting yes – 12. Voting no – 2. Voting yes: Liefkring, McBain, Pedersen, Schneider, Gierke, Dobrowolski, Hanson, Mai, Hraban, Vacho, Stout, Willingham. Voting no: Schmitt, Tatur. Amendment passed by roll call vote. Roll call vote. Voting yes – 14. Voting no – 0. Voting yes: McBain, Pedersen, Schneider, Gierke, Schmitt, Dobrowolski, Hanson, Mai, Hraban, Vacho, Stout, Tatur, Liefkring, Willingham. Resolution adopted as amended by roll call vote.

RESOLUTION #20-12 CREATING YOUTH REPRESENTATION ON THE COUNTY BOARD

WHEREAS, the Rusk County Board of Supervisors is responsible for determining policy and priorities for County Government, and

WHEREAS, many of the decisions made by the Board of Supervisors impact youth, and

WHEREAS, Rusk County desires to get more young people involved in their community and take an interest in the future of the County, and

WHEREAS, involving youth in the deliberation and decision-making process by inviting their opinions will help encourage more to consider making Rusk County their home in adulthood, and

WHEREAS, a number of Wisconsin counties have established County Board seats specifically for youth, and

WHEREAS, these youth are selected for their Board seats through an application process and are appointed for 1 year terms on County Board and are also assigned to County Board committees, and

WHEREAS, the Youth County Board members are generally high school age residents of the County and are allowed to provide input, debate topics, and vote on issues, however, their vote is not tabulated for the purposes of the official vote.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Rusk County Board of Supervisors does hereby establish a Youth on the County Board program under the direction of the UW-Extension 4H/Community Youth Development Agent and the Agent's designated committee, with all details not included in this authorizing resolution to be determined by the Committee, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Youth on the County Board program shall appoint 2 youth members (1 male, 1 female) who are County residents and Sophomores or Juniors in High School for a term of one year to be seated at the April meeting annually, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Youth will be appointed to up to two committees, receive a \$25/meeting stipend and mileage, and will have the same responsibilities as an elected County Board member with the exception of participation in Closed Sessions and their vote not being a part of the official decision on the record.

Submitted by Chairman: S/Willingham

Motion by Vacho, second by Gierke to adopt resolution. Explanation of resolution by Albarado. Breanne Meyer, Community Youth Development Educator, explained the input she has received from the schools so far and the guidance she is following. Roll call vote. Voting yes – 14. Voting no – 0. Voting yes: Pedersen, Schneider, Gierke, Schmitt, Dobrowolski, Hanson, Mai, Hraban, Vacho, Stout, Tatur, Liefkring, McBain, Willingham. Resolution adopted by roll call vote.

RESOLUTION #20-13 AUTHORIZING THE CREATION OF A COURT SECURITY OFFICER POSITION

WHEREAS, the Rusk County Government Center includes the operation of court proceedings and courtrooms as part of the criminal justice system, and

WHEREAS, security of the courtrooms and related offices is of utmost importance to provide for the safety of employees and public, and

WHEREAS, courtroom security is the responsibility of the Sheriff and has been providing security through the use of deputies of transport officers, and

WHEREAS, the Sheriff has determined it prudent to dedicate one officer for the purposes of Court Security, and

WHEREAS, the Sheriff has requested to create 1 part-time non-union position of no more than 1,200 hours per year for this purpose, and

WHEREAS, this position would be accommodated through the existing Sheriff's Department budget and would result in the reduction of overtime costs by reducing the amount of Deputy time performing Court Security, and

WHEREAS, the Sheriff would appoint a Court Security Officer and it will be a non-union position, and

WHEREAS, the EMS & Personnel Committees have reviewed the current means of providing court security and the Sheriff's request for a Court Security officer position and determined it appropriate to create a dedicated part-time, no more than 1,200 hour annually, Court Security Officer position at a rate of \$20/hr..

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Rusk County Board of Supervisors does hereby approve of the creation of a no-more than 1,200 hours annually, part-time Court Security officer position at a rate of \$20/hr.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Court Security Officer position be created effective April 1, 2020.

Submitted by Rusk County Personnel Committee: S/Willingham.

Motion by Stout, second by McBain to adopt resolution. Explanation of resolution by Jeff Wallace, Sheriff. Discussion on the process of determining the number of hours, need for position. Roll call vote. Voting yes – 14. Voting no – 0. Voting yes: Schneider, Gierke, Schmitt, Dobrowolski, Hanson, Mai, Hraban, Vacho, Stout, Tatur, Liefkring, McBain, Pedersen, Willingham. Resolution adopted by roll call vote.

RESOLUTION #20-14 ADOPTING TEMPORARY POLICY FOR EMERGENCY PAID SICK LEAVE AND EXPANDED FMLA & DEFINING EMERGENCY RESPONDERS AND HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS

WHEREAS, on January 3, 2020, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 to be a Public Health Emergency of International Concern;

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, Governor Tony Evers declared a public health emergency to direct all resources needed to respond to and contain COVID-19 in Wisconsin;

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, President Donald Trump proclaimed a National Emergency concerning COVID- 19;

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2020, President Donald Trump signed the Families First Coronavirus Response Act ("FFCRA"), which expands the Family and Medical Leave Act (Emergency Family and Medical Leave Expansion Act), and creates a paid sick leave entitlement for certain eligible employees (Emergency Paid Sick Leave Act);

WHEREAS, the provisions of the FFCRA allows employers to exempt "emergency responders" and "health care provider" from provisions of the FFCRA;

WHEREAS, on March 24, 2020, the State of Wisconsin issued a Safer at Home Emergency Order, Emergency Order #12, in response to the emergency;

WHEREAS, Paragraphs 1 and 12 recognize that all services provided by local governments to ensure the continuing operation of the government body and provide and support the health, safety, and welfare of the public are considered "Essential Governmental Functions" that must continue during the duration of Emergency Order #12;

WHEREAS, Emergency Order #12 categorically exempts broad categories of local government employees from the restrictions contained therein and otherwise provides local governments with broad discretion to identify employees and contractors necessary for the performance of a local government's "Essential Governmental Functions;" and

WHEREAS, the purpose of this Resolution is to adopt the temporary Emergency Paid Sick Leave and Expanded Family Medical Leave policy and for identifying employees, categories of employment, positions and/or departments that are “emergency responders” or “health care providers” under the FFCRA and, as a result, exempt from the provisions of the FFCRA.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. The following positions in Rusk County are hereby designated as “emergency responder” for purposes of the application and implementation of the FFCRA: Emergency Responders and Health Care providers, such as Public Health Employees, Sheriff Department employees, Health and Human Service Employees, Emergency Management employees, and other employees as determined to support these operations.
2. The following positions in Rusk County are hereby designated as “health care provider” for purposes of the application and implementation of the FFCRA: all employment positions associated with or related to those within the meaning of section 101 of the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (29 U.S.C. 2611) and as further clarified by 29 CFR 825.124.
3. It is the intent of this Resolution to define the terms “emergency responder” and “health care provider” in the broadest sense possible consistent with the law in an effort to ensure and continue our essential functions during this time of emergency. Final determinations regarding the definition of emergency responder and/or health care provider as applied to any employment position with Rusk County shall be determined by the Rusk County Board of Supervisors with such decision being final.
4. This Resolution is effective immediately.

Submitted by Chairman: S/

Motion by Hraban, second by McBain to adopt resolution. Explanation of resolution and the expansion of FMLA, sick leave and temporary status as it ends December 31, 2020 by Albarado. Roll call vote. Voting yes – 14. Voting no – 0. Voting yes: Gierke, Schmitt, Dobrowolski, Hanson, Mai, Hraban, Vacho, Stout, Tatur, Lieftring, McBain, Pedersen, Schneider, Willingham. Resolution adopted by roll call vote.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Albarado announced that he has been sending out updates and encourages anyone with questions to contact him, daily meetings at 1:00 p.m. for updates with emergency management, hospital, public health.

Willingham informed board that there may be some criticism in print regarding the short notice of the meetings and explained that policy changes have come up and notice is given as soon as it can be.

Willingham announced annual organizational meeting is being planned and working out details on how to do it properly.

Willingham presented plaque to Kathy Mai for her retirement from County Board after her many years of service to the county.

Albarado discouraged committees from meeting if possible, if a need to meet arises committees are encouraged to use special accommodations.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Lieftring, second by McBain to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Next meeting April 21, 2020 9:00 a.m.

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