



**MEETING OF THE RUSK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
**February 27, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.**  
**RUSK COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER LEC BOARD ROOM**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting called to order by Chairman Kalepp at 6:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Roll Call: Quorum Present (18 Present, 0 Absent)

Present: Terry DuSell, Tony Hauser, Terry Wedwick, Robert Stout, Randy Tatur, Tom Cudo, Phil Unterschuetz, Jonathon Unterschuetz, Phil Schneider, John Kalepp, Mike Hraban, Jim Meyer, Dan Gudis, Tom Hanson, Jerry Biller, Lois Goode, Dave Willingham and Mark Schmitt – Online – left at 9:45 p.m.

Others Present: A. Heath, J. Wilk, C. Meyer, J. Buchholz-Jones, A. Gudis, T. Larson, R. Summerfield, J. Wallace, J. Murray, D. Fleming, P. Grassmann, E. Vandoorn, A. Mautner, A. Gudis, J. Runstrom, J. Cooper, R. Rapp, L. Klink, J. Spooner, J. Wiles, S. Runstrom, C. Schultz, S. Moore, W. Stoll, J. Hoover, S. Christianson, S. Zimmer, M. Hash, C. Ostenso, K. Berner, Samuels Group, C. Holtebeck, M. Huhn, A. Dearhamer, E. Webster, T. Nelson, K. Gerkin, J. Kruger, J. Schmidt, T. Nussberger, B. Coggins, P. Kley, D. Kley, J. Waltz, A. Crabb, S. Dekrey, J. Dekrey, T. Makovsky, C. Longbella, G. Dukerschein, B. Dukerschein and J. Wappenschmidt.

**INVOCATION**

Invocation led by Supervisor District # 9 Phil Unterschuetz.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Pledge of Allegiance led by Supervisor District #4 Tony Hauser.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – January 23, 2024

*Motion by Hraban, seconded by DuSell to approve the January 23, 2024 minutes. Motion carried.*

Result: Passed by Majority Vote (YES: 18 NO: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 0)

YES: Terry Dusell, Jerry Biller, Tony Hauser, Terry Wedwick, Robert Stout, Randy Tatur, Tom Cudo, Phil Unterschuetz, Jon Unterschuetz, Phil Schneider, Jim Meyer, Mark Schmitt, John Kalepp, Tom Hanson, Lois Goode, David Willingham, Mike Hraban, Dan Gudis

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – Public spoke about agenda items.

**PRESENTATION**

Highway Annual Report – Highway Forman, Andy Mautner and Finance Accountant III, Emily Vandoorn presented the 2023 Equipment Inventory, 2023 County Road System Expenses, Bridges and Road Infrastructure, PASER Rating, Pavement Ratings and 5-year Road Improvement Plan.

Jail Presentation by Samuels Group, Kurt Berner – Samuels Group and Kurt Berner gave a presentation on options explored, proposed options, interior examples, the communications plan and gave an overview on the website that will be open to the public.

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE MOTION**

Approve Potential Jail Location, Letter to Tax Payers Regarding the Jail, Setting Town Hall Dates, and Approve Marketing Website – Discussion held.

*Motion by Hauser, seconded by Wedwick to Approve Potential Jail Location, Letter to Tax Payers Regarding the Jail, Setting Town Hall Dates, and Approve Marketing Website as amended. Motion carried.*

Result: Passed by Majority Vote (YES: 14 NO: 4 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 0)

YES: Terry Dusell, Jerry Biller, Tony Hauser, Terry Wedwick, Robert Stout, Randy Tatur, Tom Cudo, Phil Schneider, Jim Meyer, Mark Schmitt, John Kalepp, Tom Hanson, Lois Goode, Dan Gudis

NO: Phil Unterschuetz, Jon Unterschuetz, David Willingham, Mike Hraban

Minutes prepared by:  
Connie Meyer, Rusk County Clerk  
Jill Buchholz, Chief Deputy Clerk

*Motion by Wedwick, seconded by Cudo to amend the original motion to strike out Potential Jail Location. Motion carried.*

Result: Passed by Majority Vote (YES: 16 NO: 1 ABSTAIN: 1 ABSENT: 0)

YES: Terry Dusell, Jerry Biller, Tony Hauser, Terry Wedwick, Robert Stout, Randy Tatur, Tom Cudo, Phil Unterschuetz, Jon Unterschuetz, Jim Meyer, John Kalepp, Tom Hanson, Lois Goode, David Willingham, Mike Hraban, Dan Gudis NO: Phil Schneider ABSTAIN: Mark Schmitt

*Motion by J. Unterschuetz, seconded by P. Unterschuetz to postpone till the March 19, 2024 County Board Meeting.*

*Motion failed.*

Result: Failed on Majority Vote (YES: 5 NO: 13 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 0)

YES: Phil Unterschuetz, Jon Unterschuetz, David Willingham, Mike Hraban, Dan Gudis

NO: Terry Dusell, Jerry Biller, Tony Hauser, Terry Wedwick, Robert Stout, Randy Tatur, Tom Cudo, Phil Schneider, Jim Meyer, Mark Schmitt, John Kalepp, Tom Hanson, Lois Goode

HCA Charities presentation regarding use of 906 College Ave – Gordie and Bev Dukerschein gave a presentation on the HCA Charities Visions, Founders, Needs, Whole Person, Integration Concept Program, Proven Success, Vocational Program, Campus, Collaborations, Economic Impact, Character and Foundational Principles.

Presentation by Prevea and Oak Leaf Providers Regarding Keeping Healthcare Options in Rusk County  
Dekrey (DO), Runstrom (MD), Crabb (APNP) and C. Longbella (MD) spoke about healthcare options in Rusk County and the purchase of the Prevea building.

## **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE MOTION**

Consider proposal to sell the former Marshfield Clinic Health Systems Building and Surrounding lands located at 906 College Ave., Ladysmith WI being part of the following parcel numbers: 246-03596-0000, 246-03597-0000, 246-03599-0000 – Discussion held.

*Motion by Cudo, seconded by Schmitt to hold the offer in abeyance and direct the property committee to create a bid process for the property and work with Counsel and Administrative Coordinator to develop the process. The property committee would refer their recommendation back to County Board with final consideration as amended. Motion carried.*

Result: Passed by Majority Vote (YES: 18 NO: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 0)

YES: Terry Dusell, Jerry Biller, Tony Hauser, Terry Wedwick, Robert Stout, Randy Tatur, Tom Cudo, Phil Unterschuetz, Jon Unterschuetz, Phil Schneider, Jim Meyer, Mark Schmitt, John Kalepp, Tom Hanson, Lois Goode, David Willingham, Mike Hraban, Dan Gudis

*Motion by DuSell, seconded by J. Unterschuetz to amend the motion to give HCA the right of first refusal on the offer as presented. Motion failed.*

Result: Failed on Majority Vote (YES: 4 NO: 14 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 0)

YES: Phil Unterschuetz, Jon Unterschuetz, Mark Schmitt, Tom Hanson

NO: Terry Dusell, Jerry Biller, Tony Hauser, Terry Wedwick, Robert Stout, Randy Tatur, Tom Cudo, Phil Schneider, Jim Meyer, John Kalepp, Lois Goode, David Willingham, Mike Hraban, Dan Gudis

*Motion by J. Unterschuetz, seconded by DuSell to allow legal counsel to negotiation right of first refusal with HCA and refer back to full County board for approval. Motion carried.*

Result: Passed by Majority Vote (YES: 11 NO: 7 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 0)

YES: Terry Dusell, Jerry Biller, Phil Unterschuetz, Jon Unterschuetz, Phil Schneider, Jim Meyer, Mark Schmitt, John Kalepp, Tom Hanson, David Willingham, Dan Gudis

NO: Tony Hauser, Terry Wedwick, Robert Stout, Randy Tatur, Tom Cudo, Lois Goode, Mike Hraban

### **Resolution 07-24**

Reclassification of Part-Time Animal Shelter Worker to Full-Time and Change in Job Description

Submitted by Rusk County Personnel Committee: S/ Terry DuSell, Bob Stout and John Kalepp.

*Motion by Hraban, seconded by Tatur to approve the resolution for Reclassification of Part-Time Animal Shelter Worker to Full-Time and Change in Job Description as amended. Motion carried.*

Result: Passed by Majority Vote (YES: 14 NO: 4 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 0)

YES: Terry Dusell, Tony Hauser, Terry Wedwick, Robert Stout, Randy Tatur, Tom Cudo, Phil Schneider, Mark Schmitt, John Kalepp, Tom Hanson, Lois Goode, David Willingham, Mike Hraban, Dan Gudis

NO: Jerry Biller, Phil Unterschuetz, Jon Unterschuetz, Jim Meyer

*Motion by J. Unterschuetz, seconded by Stout to amend the resolution to remove the word attached in the last be it further resolved for it to read that the job description that was approved by personnel and the job description questionnaire will be submitted to Carlson Dettmann. Motion carried.*

Result: Passed by Majority Vote (YES: 15 NO: 3 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 0)

YES: Terry Dusell, Tony Hauser, Terry Wedwick, Robert Stout, Tom Cudo, Jon Unterschuetz, Phil Schneider, Jim Meyer, Mark Schmitt, John Kalepp, Tom Hanson, Lois Goode, David Willingham, Mike Hraban, Dan Gudis NO: Jerry Biller, Randy Tatur, Phil Unterschuetz

### **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE MOTION**

Consider purchasing the Prevea Clinic Building located of 1201 and 1101 Lake Ave. having the following parcel number: 246-02146-0000 and 246-02144-0000

Discussion held.

*Motion by Wedwick, seconded by Schneider to enter into closed session at 9:45 p.m. All responded yes.*

Result: Passed by Majority Vote (YES: 16 NO: 0 ABSTAIN: 2 ABSENT: 0)

YES: Terry Dusell, Tony Hauser, Terry Wedwick, Robert Stout, Randy Tatur, Tom Cudo, Phil Unterschuetz, Jon Unterschuetz, Phil Schneider, Jim Meyer, Mark Schmitt, John Kalepp, Tom Hanson, Lois Goode, Mike Hraban, Dan Gudis ABSTAIN: Jerry Biller, David Willingham

The County Board may go into Closed Session to discuss the above:

**CLOSED SESSION** – announced by Chair

Acquisition of Property pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 19.85(1)(e). - 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.

**OPEN SESSION** – at 10:23 p.m.

### **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE MOTION**

Approve Funeral Leave Policy – Ashley Heath, Administrative Coordinator gave an over-view on the funeral leave policy.

*Motion by Hraban, seconded by J. Unterschuetz to approve funeral leave policy as presented. Motion carried.*

Result: Passed by Majority Vote (YES: 17 NO: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 1)

YES: Terry Dusell, Jerry Biller, Tony Hauser, Terry Wedwick, Robert Stout, Randy Tatur, Tom Cudo, Phil Unterschuetz, Jon Unterschuetz, Phil Schneider, Jim Meyer, John Kalepp, Tom Hanson, Lois Goode, David Willingham, Mike Hraban, Dan Gudis ABSENT: Mark Schmitt

### **Resolution 08-24**

2024 ATV/UTV Trail Maintenance and Development

Submitted by Rusk County Forestry Committee: S/Terry DuSell, Phil Unterschuetz, Jerry Biller and John Kalepp

*Motion by Biller, seconded by DuSell to approve the resolution for 2024 ATV/UTV Trail Maintenance and Development. Motion carried.*

Result: Passed by Majority Vote (YES: 17 NO: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 1)

YES: Terry Dusell, Jerry Biller, Tony Hauser, Terry Wedwick, Robert Stout, Randy Tatur, Tom Cudo, Phil Unterschuetz, Jon Unterschuetz, Phil Schneider, Jim Meyer, John Kalepp, Tom Hanson, Lois Goode, David Willingham, Mike Hraban, Dan Gudis ABSENT: Mark Schmitt

### **Resolution 09-24**

2024 Recreational Boating Facilities Grant

Submitted by Rusk County Forestry Committee: S/ Terry DuSell, Phil Unterschuetz, Jerry Biller and John Kalepp

*Motion by Biller seconded by P. Unterschuetz to approve the resolution for 2024 Recreational Boating Facilities Grant. Motion carried.*

Result: Passed by Majority Vote (YES: 17 NO: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 1)

YES: Terry Dusell, Jerry Biller, Tony Hauser, Terry Wedwick, Robert Stout, Randy Tatur, Tom Cudo, Phil Unterschuetz, Jon Unterschuetz, Phil Schneider, Jim Meyer, John Kalepp, Tom Hanson, Lois Goode, David Willingham, Mike Hraban, Dan Gudis ABSENT: Mark Schmitt

### **Resolution 10-24**

2024 Snowmobile Trail Maintenance and Development

Submitted by Rusk County Forestry Committee: S/ Terry DuSell, Phil Unterschuetz, Jerry Biller and John Kalepp

*Motion by Biller, seconded by P. Unterschuetz to approve the resolution for 2024 Snowmobile Trail Maintenance and Development. Motion carried.*

Result: Passed by Majority Vote (YES: 17 NO: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 1)

YES: Terry Dusell, Jerry Biller, Tony Hauser, Terry Wedwick, Robert Stout, Randy Tatur, Tom Cudo, Phil Unterschuetz, Jon Unterschuetz, Phil Schneider, Jim Meyer, John Kalepp, Tom Hanson, Lois Goode, David Willingham, Mike Hraban, Dan Gudis ABSENT: Mark Schmitt

### **Resolution 11-24**

2024 County Conservation Maintenance and Development

Submitted by Rusk County Forestry Committee: S/ Terry DuSell, Phil Unterschuetz, Jerry Biller and John Kalepp

*Motion by P. Unterschuetz, seconded by DuSell to approve the resolution for 2024 County Conservation Aids Program. Motion carried.*

Result: Passed by Majority Vote (YES: 17 NO: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 1)

YES: Terry Dusell, Jerry Biller, Tony Hauser, Terry Wedwick, Robert Stout, Randy Tatur, Tom Cudo, Phil Unterschuetz, Jon Unterschuetz, Phil Schneider, Jim Meyer, John Kalepp, Tom Hanson, Lois Goode, David Willingham, Mike Hraban, Dan Gudis ABSENT: Mark Schmitt

### **Resolution 12-24**

Designating American Rescue Plan Act Funds to be used for Rusk County Housing Authority

Submitted by Rusk County Finance Committee: S/ Randy Tatur, Tony Hauser, John Kalepp and Phil Unterschuetz.

*Motion by Hauser, seconded by Hraban to approve the resolution for Designating American Rescue Plan Act Funds to be used for Rusk County Housing Authority. Motion carried.*

Result: Passed by Majority Vote (YES: 15 NO: 2 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 1)

YES: Terry Dusell, Jerry Biller, Tony Hauser, Terry Wedwick, Robert Stout, Randy Tatur, Tom Cudo, Phil Schneider, Jim Meyer, John Kalepp, Tom Hanson, Lois Goode, David Willingham, Mike Hraban, Dan Gudis  
NO: Phil Unterschuetz, Jon Unterschuetz ABSENT: Mark Schmitt

## **RECOGNITIONS**

Mary Berg (Register of Deeds) Governors Appointment to Electronic Recording Council – Administrative Coordinator Heath, recognized Mary Berg for her governor's appointment to electronic recording council.

Virginia Jacobs (Clerk III- HHS) State of WI 2024 Home Energy Plus Achievement Award - Administrative Coordinator Heath, recognized Virginia Jacobs for her State of WI 2024 Home Energy Plus Achievement Award.

## **ANNOUNCEMENT**

Next County Board Meeting Date – March 19, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

*Motion by DuSell, seconded by Biller to adjourn at 10:40 p.m. Motion carried by Voice Vote.*