

**MEETING OF THE RUSK COUNTY  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
MAY 26, 2020  
7:00 P.M.**

Meeting called to order by Chair Willingham at 7:05 p.m.

Roll Call. Present – 15. Excused – 3. Present: DuSell, Rathsack, Hauser, Miller, Stout, Tatur, McBain, Pedersen, Schneider, Meyer, Schmitt, Dobrowolski, Hanson, Hraban, Willingham. Corporation Counsel, Rich Summerfield. Lieffring at 8:20 p.m. Excused: Biller, Lieffring, Willingham

Invocation by David Willingham of Island Lake Church of Christ.

**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 128 officers were killed in the line of duty in 2019 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 10 - 16, 2020 as National Police week, and Friday, May 15, 2020, 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 26th day of May, two thousand and twenty.

Moment of silence in place of invocation in honor of Peace Officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion by Hraban, second by Stout to approve minutes of April 21 & 28, 2020. Motion carried by aye vote.

**REPORTS**

Emergency Management: Tom Hall, Emergency Management Director, gave brief overview of department, plans assisted in creating, and situations involved in helping to organize; work with FEMA and gave a summary of boards/committees Hall is a part of as director. Hall also presented a brief overview of ambulance/first responders' group and the calls they covered in 2019; average response time has gone down six minutes. Discussion on transfers.

Health & Human Services: Jeremy Jacobs, Health & Human Services Director, gave brief overview of the seven departments that are within Health & Human Services; staffing in each department as well as the services offered (ADRC, CPS, Adult Services, Child Support, Economic Support, Veterans Services & Public Health). Jacobs also gave explanation of COVID-19 numbers and the efforts Public Health puts forth for each case. Discussion on test result window/validity, comparison to flu, statistics – Jacobs suggested contacting Dawn Brost for any specific questions.

Sheriff's Department: Jeff Wallace, Rusk County Sheriff, provided handout and went through 2019 Annual Report as presented in handout; including staffing, operations, and brief summary of projects, services and outreach.

Lieffring present at 8:20 p.m.

Wallace continued report.

Medical Examiner: Jim Rassbach, Medical Examiner, presented power point with overview of department staff, deaths reviewed, transition to paperless. Discussion on burials vs cremations ratio through the years and current body bag shortage – all PPE is in short supply.

**RESOLUTION #18-34A 2019 BUDGET AMENDMENT**

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 May 21, 2020 meeting the Finance Committee reviewed the 2019 Budget and approved the line item transfers and amending the budgets, forwarding the ones that were 10 percent or more over budget to the County Board for approval.

WHEREAS, the 2019 budget had \$150,000.00 budgeted for contingency items in 100-91-41110-000, and \$109,552.29 has been requested to cover 2019 expenses.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Rusk County Board of Supervisors approves amending the 2019 budget as follows to add funds from the 2019 contingency budget 100-91-41110-000:

|                  |                                 |           |
|------------------|---------------------------------|-----------|
| 100-04-51261-216 | ME-AUTOPSY/INVEST.EXPENSE       | 6,042.05  |
| 100-08-51320-216 | CORP COUNSEL- CONTRACT SERVICE  | 260.14    |
| 100-16-51610-114 | COURTHOUSE-MAINTENANCE TECH     | 24,415.45 |
| 100-17-51750-111 | LAND INFO-MAP TECH/RES CLERK    | 12,937.32 |
| 100-21-52111-121 | SHERIFF- WAGES-PATROL           | 38,272.01 |
| 100-41-54165-115 | ANIMAL SHELTER-EX.HELP-OVERTIME | 4,759.68  |
| 100-42-51610-810 | JAIL MAINT- CAPITAL REPAIRS     | 12,150.72 |
| 100-43-51200-319 | DRUG COURT-SUPPLIES             | 7.28      |
| 100-46-52112-164 | CONS OFF-HOLIDAY OVERTIME       | 5,854.67  |
| 100-73-51630-512 | OTHER CO PROP-VEHICLE INS       | 3,358.60  |
| 100-84-55209-249 | CO OWNED DAMS- DAM REPAIRS      | 1,494.37  |

Grand Total      109,552.29

Submitted by Rusk County Finance Committee: S/Tatur, Willingham, Hanson, Hraban, Hauser.

Motion by Hraban, second by Hauser to adopt resolution. Explanation by Kitzie Winters, Finance Director. Discussion on budget lines. Roll call vote. Voting yes – 16. Voting no – 0. Voting yes: Schmitt, Dobrowolski, Hanson, Hraban, Willingham, DuSell, Rathsack, Hauser, Miller, Stout, Tatur, Lieffring, McBain, Pedersen, Schneider, Meyer. Resolution adopted by roll call vote.

**RESOLUTION #20-15 2020 SMALL SCALE TRM GRANT APPLICATION**

**WHEREAS,** The Rusk County Land & Water Conservation Division is interested in obtaining a cost-share grant from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for the purpose of designing and constructing a barnyard runoff control structure within the Red Cedar River watershed (as described in the grant application);

**WHEREAS,** the Red Cedar River watershed has a completed TMDL and EPA 9-key elements plan with the purpose of reducing phosphorus and sediment delivery to surface waters;

**WHEREAS,** the applicant attests to the validity and veracity of the statements and representations contained in the grant application;

**WHEREAS,** a grant agreement is requested to carry out the project; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Rusk County Land & Water Conservation Division will meet the obligations necessary to fully and satisfactorily complete the project and hereby authorizes and empowers the following employees to submit the following documents to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for financial assistance that may be available:

| <b>Task</b>  | <b>Title of Authorized Representative</b> | <b>Email address and Phone Number</b>  |
|--|---|--|
| Sign and submit a grant application  | County Conservationist                    | <a href="mailto:nstadnyk@ruskcountywi.us">nstadnyk@ruskcountywi.us</a><br>(715) 532-2162 |
| Enter into a grant agreement with the DNR  | County Conservationist                    | <a href="mailto:nstadnyk@ruskcountywi.us">nstadnyk@ruskcountywi.us</a><br>(715) 532-2162 |
| Submit quarterly and/or final reports to the DNR to satisfy the grant agreement, as appropriate    | County Conservationist                    | <a href="mailto:nstadnyk@ruskcountywi.us">nstadnyk@ruskcountywi.us</a><br>(715) 532-2162 |
| Submit reimbursement request(s) to the DNR no later than the date specified in the grant agreement | County Conservationist                    | <a href="mailto:nstadnyk@ruskcountywi.us">nstadnyk@ruskcountywi.us</a><br>(715) 532-2162 |

Submitted by Rusk County Land & Water Conservation Committee: S/Stout, DuSell, Meyer, McBain, Schmitt.

Motion by Schmitt, second by DuSell to adopt resolution. Nick Stadnyk, LCDD Director, explained resolution and grant application as well as the plans involved in the process. Motion carried by aye vote. Resolution adopted.

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE MOTION**

Status of 2020 County Fair: Judy Srp gave update on behalf of the Junior Fair Board; rodeo has been cancelled thus far. Andy Albarado, Administrative Coordinator, gave update on CDC guidelines/discussion with Public Health. Discussion on plans in place and working on back-up plans and will bring an update to the June meeting.

Update on COVID-19: Albarado updated on the opening of the courthouse; doors are still locked and by appointment only as currently waiting on more cleaning/sanitizing stations. Discussion on possibility of placing a phone in entrance. Albarado explained that some counties are now adding PPE ordinances to local ordinances at this time.

**APPOINTMENTS**

Explanation of appointments and the reason for 3 year or 2 year as appointment was missed in 2019. Willingham announced proposed appointment of Robert Lorkowski (3-year term) and Robert Nelson (2-year term) to Board of Adjustment and proposed appointment of Besty Patterson (3-year term) as alternate of the Board of Adjustment. Motion by Schneider, second by Lieftring to approve all appointments to Board of Adjustment as presented. Motion carried.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Albarado encouraged County Board to attend County Board Officials’ workshops – all are being done online by webinar; let Andy know if you need any information.

Loren Beebe, County Clerk, reminded supervisors to get the form for the WCA conference back by tonight as rooms need to be booked by June 1<sup>st</sup>.

Willingham explained that any new supervisors can attend the conference with no registration fee.

**CLOSED SESSION**

Announced by Chair for consultation with legal counsel regarding DWD litigation

Conferring with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved. WI Stats 19.85(1)(g).

Motion by Rathack, second by Hraban to enter closed session. Roll call vote. Voting yes – 16. Voting no – 0. Voting Yes: DuSell, Rathack, Hauser, Miller, Stout, Tatur, Lieftring, McBain, Pedersen, Schneider, Meyer, Schmitt, Dobrowolski, Hanson, Hraban, Willingham.

Closed session at 9:35 p.m.

Open session at 9:47 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Lieftring, second by McBain to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:47 p.m.

Next meeting June 23, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

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