

**Grant County Board of Supervisors
December 15, 2020**

The Grant County Board of Supervisors met on Tuesday, December 15, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. in the Administration Building, 111 South Jefferson Street, Lancaster, WI 53813 Second Floor, Room 264 pursuant to the adjournment of the November 10, 2020 meeting.

While meetings of the Grant County Board of Supervisors are considered an “Essential Government Operation” pursuant to the State’s Safer at Home Order, the meeting will be offered with the option to participate via Zoom meeting. Live participation in this meeting will be limited to Grant County Board Supervisors, County Clerk, and Corporation Counsel. Social distancing and other safety precautions associated with COVID-19 protocol will be followed.

Topic: County Board of Supervisors

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Consideration will be given and/or action taken on any or all of the following items:

Robert Keeney, County Board Chair called the meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Verification of compliance with the open meeting law was a notice in the Herald Independent stating the date, time and place of the County Board Meeting and posted in two public posting locations and the county website verified by Linda K. Gebhard, County Clerk.

Roll Call, December 15, 2020

	Present	Absent	Excused
Carol Beals (ZOOM)	X		
John Beinborn (ZOOM)	X		
Gregory Fry (ZOOM)	X		
Roger Guthrie	X		
Dale Hood	X		
Lester Jantzen	X		
Robert Keeney	X		
Mike Lieurance	X		
Dwight Nelson (ZOOM)	X		
Gary Northouse (ZOOM)	X		
John Patcle	X		
Gary Ranum	X		
Robert Scallon	X		
Patrick Schroeder	X		
Donald Splinter	X		
Mark Stead	X		
Porter Wagner	X		

Roll Call was taken resulting in 12 present in the room and 5 participating on ZOOM. Therefore, a quorum was present.

The following identified participants were recognized joining the meeting via ZOOM:

1. Ben Wood, Corporation Counsel, present
2. Garry Pluemer, Maintenance
3. Dave Lambert, Highway Commissioner
4. Carol Schwartz, Orchard Manor
5. Fred Naatz, Social Services
6. Amy Olson, Fair
7. Carrie Eastlick, Treasurer
8. Jeff Kindrai, Health Director
9. Lynda Schweikert, Conservation, Sanitation, Zoning
10. Amanda Degenhardt, Finance Director
11. Tonya White, Emergency Management
12. Shane Drinkwater, IT present
13. Tina McDonald, Clerk of Court
14. Doug Wagan, media
15. Linda K. Gebhard, County Clerk present
16. Steve Braun, Emergency Management
17. Dave Timmerman
18. Joyce Roling, Personnel

19. Carrie Kerstiens
20. Mayor David Varnam
21. Justin Johnson
22. Jim O'Brien

Agenda: Lester Jantzen, seconded by Patrick Schroeder, made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Minutes: Mark Stead, seconded by Gary Ranum, made a motion to approve the minutes of November 10, 2020 as presented. Motion carried.

Communication: Chair Keeney distributed the following letter which was sent to Hilbert Communications, LLC. Green Bay, WI.

November 11, 2020

Hilbert Communications LLC
417 Pine Street
Green Bay, WI 54301

To Whom It May Concern:

The Grant County Board of Supervisors wishes to promote the development of high speed broadband services to unserved and underserved areas within its boundaries. We are pleased to support the Hilbert Communications, LLC application to the State of Wisconsin Broadband Grant for the purpose of expansion of such services in our communities.

The lack of high speed internet is one of the key challenges for many Grant County homes and businesses creating a significant impediment to the quality of life and prosperity in our community. During these challenging times nearly every aspect of rural living suffers without adequate Internet service. Our schools implement technology that in many cases can't be utilized at home due to lack of connectivity thereby putting students at a disadvantage. Our agricultural producers need adequate broadband technology on the farm to monitor productivity, control equipment, interact with local, state and federal officials, and to market their product effectively. Governmental operations suffer as well while limiting entry into our facilities and meetings creating challenges for the public to receive the services they deserve and the ability to participate in meetings to follow governmental actions and to share their opinions.

Grant County understands that cooperation with private-sector partners is necessary for the development of a county-wide broadband network. We understand the complexity of such a partnership to build an open access fiber optic backbone to facilitate the provision of such service, therefore, may be willing to negotiate a possible partnership to complete the project in a timely cost effective manner.

We are in full support of the efforts of Bug Tussel Wireless to help our community grow and prosper via today's modern technology and support their application to the State of Wisconsin Broadband Expansion Grant Program.

Sincerely,
Robert C. Keeney

Dave Timmerman, Editor of the Herald Independent was given time to speak about the seriousness of the COVID19 Pandemic. The Herald Independent lost one of their employees of many years; Phillip Muench to COVID19. Dave stated his disbelief regarding the Pandemic; no one would have thought this would take so many lives and cause so much trouble in our lives. Dave asked that all of us keep vigilant in wearing masks and social distancing. We are in a critical time right now with the holidays coming. This pandemic is not going away in the near future so we need to join together and keep going forward. He stated the County Board has a chance to be leaders, many people look up to them because they are in a position of authority. The County has taken some precautions as we have worked through this Pandemic; Dave's hope is that the County continues to keep sending out that message. A Pandemic like this has never happened in our life time, this is a first for many of us. He thinks we still have the feeling something like this will never happen to us, we live in a rural area not a big city, but it has. We cannot downplay this virus, returning to normal is not going to fix this. Isolation has been a negative effect; this has caused loneliness, people not going to the doctor for annual checkups because they are afraid of getting out. We need to come up with other alternatives to fight those negative practices. He has seen good things come out of the time also, farmers, processing plants, restaurants and businesses giving food away when there was no place to take the surplus. Dave encourages all to work together so sometime in the future we will see an end to this Pandemic.

Employee Recognition(s): None

Appointment(s): Don Splinter, seconded by John Patcle, made a motion to re-appoint Dave Lambert to another two year term, 01/01/2021 to 12/31/2022 as the Grant County Highway Commissioner. Motion carried.

Chair Keeney informed the Board Dave Lambert has notified the County that he will be retiring in April 2021. The job for Highway Commissioner has been posted.

Chair Keeney asked for approval to appoint Gary Kjos from the City of Boscobel to service as a citizen member on the ADRC Board.

A motion was made by Patrick Schroeder, seconded by Robert Scallon, to appoint Gary Kjos as a citizen member on the ADRC Board. Motion carried.

Grants: None

COVID-19 Update, discussion, and possible action: Jeff Kindrai, Health Director thanks Dave Timmerman for his positive reinforcement comments regarding COVID19.

Jeff gave the update on the numbers in the COVID19 Pandemic. As of this date there have been 3,886 confirmed cases reported, 406 probable cases, 73 deaths, 4 probably deaths, 3,539 recovered cases. Within the last 14 days that have been 353 confirmed cases reported, (25 cases per day) and 158 probable cases. The number of people getting tested at the sites is down from what it was but there are more positive results than before. Our State activity level is ranked very high, which is down from critical. The hospitals are better, hospital ICU beds are 82% full with about 22% of the bed capacity being used. Locally 81% ICU beds are full, 30% of the bed capacity be used.

Jeff gave the age breakdowns as follows:

	48%	50 or older
	17%	18 and under
Probable	34%	50 or older
Probable	16%	18 and under
	19%	Under 20
	14%	Age 20
	9%	Age 30
	10%	Age 40
	16%	Age 50
	16%	Age 60
	16%	Age 70 and over

Yesterday there were 2 COVID deaths reported. Of the confirmed reported cases in the past few days, 33% had a Platteville address and 27% probable cases.

Jeff touched on the COVID Vaccine situation. Pfizer has sent out a vaccine to the Health Care facilities in Wisconsin, however local health care facilities may not see any of that for a couple weeks yet. The Pfizer vaccine is hard to ship having very strict temperature requirements and having to be used within 5 days of being shipped. The Moderna vaccine is much easier to ship to rural areas and can be stored for 30 days under refrigeration or in a freezer for up to 6 months. Jeff stated it is more likely that rural areas will receive the Moderna vaccine; the two vaccines cannot be interchanged because they are a multiple dose series and cannot be mixed. The Moderna vaccine will be in its final stages of being approved on Thursday of this week; once approved it can then start being shipped.

The Grant County Health Department did register to be vaccinators. Once they receive the vaccine they will make sure the eligible recipients for the vaccine are contacted and given the opportunity to receive it. There are no rules in place, or mandates in taking the vaccine. Employers may try to mandate their employees take the vaccine but the legality of this has not been established.

The Health Department is waiting to hear on the funding they were to receive. They had anticipated receiving \$300,000.00 plus from the ELC funding from January 1, 2021 until November of 2022. The State notified them because of uncertainty on the Federal level and some other factors, those funds have been put on hold. They may opt to do smaller allocations starting at a base of \$50,000.00 through June of 2021. Jeff stated the funding was going to be used for contact tracing; without those funds the

process will be very difficult to do. All the other fund allocations will end on December 31, 2020. Jeff's hope is that as the Federal Government work through these allocations they will see the importance of these funds for Health Care Services and there will be flexibility in future funding.

Some questions were if you have had COVID are you eligible to receive the vaccine. Jeff stated Health Care worker who have direct contact with patients and Nursing Home workers will be the first to receive the vaccine. Jeff stated people who have had COVID may be delayed in getting the vaccine so the higher risk people can receive it first, but they do qualify to receive the vaccine.

Jeff stated the National Guard has extended their testing out through March of 2021. Steve Braun, Emergency Management has taken on this job to coordinate these testing sites.

CARES Funding-Routes to Recover Projects: Chair Keeney stated, at this time, there are no further projects for COVID the Board would need to approve. Amanda Degenhardt, Finance Director, to date, has applied for \$1,141,211.01. Grant County was allocated \$860,902.00, Village of Mt Hope and Town of Hickory Grove applied their unused portions to the County for a total of \$866,985.70. The State of Wisconsin used an algorithm to compute what will be allowed and what won't, the County does have some questions; this is where we are now. This leaves about \$274,000.00 that was not funded in the amounts that were applied for. There are other sources of funding like FEMA which the County can apply for; they are researching the sources to see what is available in those sources. The two areas that did not get full funding at this point are some IT equipment and an Orchard Manor project.

Discussion and possible action to rescind the motion to approve the bid submitted by Mary Krueger for the property known as 210 S. Bagley Ave, Bagley, WI Parcel 106-00067-0000 – Carrie Eastlick, Treasurer was contacted by Wisconsin Surplus stating the bid made by Mary Krueger was found to be illegal and cannot be accepted to purchase the parcel of land in the Village of Bagley. The motion made at the December County Board Meeting approving the sale of this parcel to her will have to be rescinded.

Porter Wagner, seconded by Patrick Schroeder, made a motion to rescind their motion made at the December County Board Meeting approving the sale of parcel 106-00067-0000 to Mary Kreuger. Motion carried.

Sale of tax deed parcel #106-00067-0000 Village of Bagley, Carrie Eastlick, Treasurer presented the bidding information for the same parcel of land 106-00067-0000 to Matthew O'Brien for \$21,650.00 for approval.

A motion was made by Roger Guthrie, seconded by Porter Wagner to accept the offer from Matthew O'Brien for parcel 106-00067-0000, 210 Bagley Avenue, Village of Bagley for \$21,650.00. A roll call vote was called for.

ROLL CALL VOTE

DATE: December 15, 2020

QUESTION: Approval of bid for Parcel 106-00067-0000

YES

NO

EXCUSED

1. GARY RANUM	X
2. GARY NORTHOUSE ZOOM	X
3. ROBERT SCALLON	X
4. ROBERT KEENEY	X
5. ROGER GUTHRIE	X
6. JOHN PATCLE	X
7. GREGORY FRY ZOOM	X
8. PATRICK SCHROEDER	X
9. MIKE LIEURANCE	X
10. MARK STEAD	X
11. DALE HOOD	X
12. DWIGHT NELSON ZOOM	X
13. CAROL BEALS ZOOM	X
14. LESTER JANTZEN	X
15. JOHN BEINBORN ZOOM	X
16. DONALD SPLINTER	X
17. PORTER WAGNER	X

County Clerk took the roll call vote resulting in 12 Present Yes votes and 5 ZOOM Yes votes. Therefore motion carried.

Resolution in Support of Increased County Child Support Funding: Carrie Kerstiens, Child Support Director presented the Resolution to the Board for approval.

A motion was made by Robert Scallon, seconded by Don Splinter, to approve the resolution in support of increased County Child Support Funding. Motion carried.

Resolution 20-20

Resolution in Support of Increased County Child Support Funding

WHEREAS: Grant County administers the Child Support Enforcement Program on behalf of the state, providing services to Grant County residents including paternity establishment, obtaining child support and health insurance orders for children, and enforcing and modifying those orders; and

WHEREAS: Our children’s well-being, economic security and success in life are enhanced by parents who provide financial and emotional support; and

WHEREAS: County child support agencies collected \$935 Million in child support during 2019, and established 98,405 health insurance orders for Wisconsin children: and

WHEREAS: Grant County’s Child Support Agency provides services to children as well as custodial and non-custodial parents that reduce childhood poverty rates, establish parental rights and promote the involvement of both parents in the lives of their children; and

WHEREAS: The economic security and social service programs provided by Grant County Child Support Agency are needed by Wisconsin children and families now more than ever due to the economic downturn caused by Covid-19; and

WHEREAS: State funding for county child support services has failed to keep up with county agency cost, which has steadily increased due to growing caseloads, inflation and new federal regulations; and

WHEREAS: Wisconsin's Child Support Enforcement Program has fallen from 2nd in the nation for collecting current support to 5th; and

WHEREAS: Wisconsin's decreased performance has led to the state losing out on an estimated \$70,000 in potential federal incentive payments between calendar year 2019 and 2020; and

WHEREAS: An abrupt federal interpretation change in June 2019 eliminated \$4.2 million in federal birth cost recovery matching funds for Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS: Wisconsin's strong performance in child support is at risk without additional state funding. Further drops in performance would result in additional reductions to federal funding for Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS: Decreased federal funding results in less funding for Grant County's child support agency. This could lead to reductions in child support enforcement staff and services and reduced child support collections; and

WHEREAS: New state investments in child support are amplified by a generous federal match. Every \$1 of state GPR invested in the Child Support Program generates \$2 in federal matching funds; and

WHEREAS: Wisconsin's Child Support Enforcement Program is incredibly cost-effective, collecting an average of \$6.20 in support for every dollar invested in the program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Grant County Board of Supervisors respectfully requests that state funding for county child support agencies be increased by \$4 million GPR in each fiscal year of the 2021-23 Wisconsin state budget, which will generate approximately \$7.7 million in additional federal funding each year. This investment will ensure that counties can continue to effectively provide economic support to our children.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded by the County Clerk to the Governor of the State of Wisconsin, State Senators and State Representatives representing Grant County, the Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Administration, and the Wisconsin Counties Association for consideration.

Date Signed: December 8, 2020

/s/ Gary Ranum

/s/ Mark Stead

/s/ John Patcle

/s/ Robert Keeney

Mike Lieurance
Dwight Nelson
/s/ Donald Splinter

ATTEST: I Linda K. Gebhard, Grant County Clerk, do certify that Resolution #20-20 stated above was approved by the Grant County Board of Supervisors at a meeting held on December 15, 2020 as presented.

/s/ Linda K. Gebhard, County Clerk

Convene to Public Hearing: A Public Hearing was called to discuss the proposed applications for Community Development Block Grant CDBG CLOSE Program funds. Chair Keeney asked for a motion from the Board.

A motion was made by Mike Lieurance, seconded by Lester Jantzen, to convene to the Public Hearing. Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

***County of Grant, Wisconsin
County Administration Building, 111 S. Jefferson St. Lancaster, Wisconsin
Tuesday, December 15, 2020
10:00 a.m..***

The County of Grant will conduct a public hearing regarding its proposed application for Community Development Block Grant CDBG CLOSE Program funds. The public is invited to attend to learn about the CDBG program, to help identify additional community development needs, and to comment on the activities proposed to be included in the CDBG application.

The agenda for the public hearing is:

- 1. Identification of total potential funds***
- 2. Eligible CDBG activities***
- 3. Presentation of identified community development needs***
- 4. Identification of any community development needs by public***
- 5. Presentation of activities proposed for the two CDBG applications, including potential residential displacement.***
- 6. Use of CDBG CLOSE Funds for the Southwest Opportunity Center Adult Daycare***
- 7. Use of CDBG CLOSE Funds for the Mining & Rollo Jamison Museum***
- 8. Citizen input regarding proposed and other CDBG activities***

Residents of Grant County are encouraged to attend, especially residents with low to moderate incomes.

The meeting room is handicapped accessible.

Persons needing additional accommodations should contact Linda Gebhard at telephone number 608-723-2675 (TDD: 608-723-2675) or email: lgebhard@co.grant.wi.gov.

Ron Brisbois, Economic Development took over the discussion explaining what is needed as the CDBG Program is closed out and a short history of why the program had been established back in 1996. The entities that this Block Grant funding program was meant to help were: public facilities, rehabilitation, home buying, infer structure, jobs for low and moderate citizens, special needs, senior citizens, housing, small business loans or grants.

The main item which needs to be addressed at this public hearing is the approval of a two resolutions which need to be submitted to apply for the funds that are left in the CDBG program by January 31, 2021. Ron stated at this time there is \$529,000.00 cash on hand in the Revolving Loan Program that will have to be sent back to the Department of Administration if it is not used. There is approximately \$459,500.00 of outstanding principle out in loans that are being paid back; once payments are received that money will be sent back. The two recipients who were chosen to receive the CBDG Block Grant Funds are Southwest Opportunity Center Adult Daycare for \$138,667.00 and Reroofing of the Mining & Rollo Jamison Museum for \$331,430.00 for a total of \$470,097.00. Ron's goal is to have both of these paid in full with the cash on hand left in the program. He has added in the administration costs, prevailing wages for the contractors and inflation, and inflated the cost for construction materials needed, the set up costs have been included in the loan amounts.

Chair Keeney asked about the document that needs to be signed by the County Board Chair on responsibility to pay these loans back if they default. Ron stated the State has held the position that as long as the County has done their due diligence through the court system to try and get these loans paid back if they go into default, the County will have no obligation to the Federal Government to pay them back. Ron stated at this time there is only one loan out now that has not been keeping up the payments, the County has tried to recoup the money through the courts, so the State will sign off on this not holding the County liable. Ron is confident that this is the case with the Department of Administration; but then not 100% certain.

Ron reiterated, at this time he needs approval for the two resolutions for the Block Grant funds to the two recipients. He does have three other items that need to be addressed but the County can address those in the January 2021 County Board Meeting.

The three items are as follows:

1. Some work changing as to be done to the Citizen Participating Plan for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program
2. Resolution to Adopt the Policy to prohibit the use of Excessive Force and the Barring of Entrances/Exits for Non-Violent Civil rights Demonstrations, Ron would like the input of Sheriff Dreckman on this resolution.
3. Residential Anti-Displacement and relocation Assistance Plan. The County may have one of these from prior years; Ron will check on this and report back to the County Board in January.

Gary Ranum stated that the money we are talking about today for the two projects are to use money that is considered Block Grant Funds. There should be not obligation for the County to have to pay back the loans if they default because they are considered grant funds. Ron confirmed that is was correct.

Chair Keeney asked for any more questions, hearing none he closed the Public Hearing to reconvene back to the County Board Meeting.

Discussion possible action on proposed application for Community Development Block Grant CDBG CLOSE Program funds: Mark Stead made a motion, seconded by John Beinborn, for the Grant County Board of Supervisors to authorize two resolutions for the application submission to use the remaining funds in the CDBG Block Grant Funds for Southwest Opportunity Center Adult Daycare in Lancaster and reroofing of the Mining & Rollo Jamison Museum in Platteville. A roll call vote was called for.

ROLL CALL VOTE

DATE: December 15, 2020

QUESTION: Authorizing the resolutions for Southwest Opportunity Center Adult Daycare and reroofing the Mining & Rollo Jamison Museum.

	YES	NO	EXCUSED
1. GARY RANUM	X		
2. GARY NORTHOUSE ZOOM	X		
3. ROBERT SCALLON	X		
4. ROBERT KEENEY	X		
5. ROGER GUTHRIE	X		
6. JOHN PATCLE	X		
7. GREGORY FRY ZOOM	X		
8. PATRICK SCHROEDER	X		
9. MIKE LIEURANCE	X		
10. MARK STEAD	X		
11. DALE HOOD	X		
12. DWIGHT NELSON ZOOM	X		
13. CAROL BEALS ZOOM	X		
14. LESTER JANTZEN	X		
15. JOHN BEINBORN ZOOM	X		
16. DONALD SPLINTER	X		
17. PORTER WAGNER	X		

County Clerk took the roll call vote resulting in 12 Yes Present votes, 5 ZOOM Yes votes. Therefore motion carried.

Progress Report, Discussion & Possible action on Grant County Community Service Facility: Chair Keeney gave some updates on the CSB Facility. The sewer plant has been demolished and buried. They are waiting on the approval from DNR to bury the rubble from the 52 Building. There was some lead paint found, that will have to be separated out and the rest can be buried. DNR has 90 days to let the County know if it can be buried on site.

Chair Keeney has had conversation with Brad Bierman, EPIC on closing out the project for the CSB Building. There are some small items that need to be addressed so there will be no further action taken today.

There is a crack in the floor near the bathrooms in the CSB Building. All entities have been notified, Garry Pluemer reported, it is just to find a time when all of them can meet.

Comprehensive Plan Change: None

Zoning Amendment: Justin Johnson presented the 572nd Zoning Amendment to the Board for approval. The amendment has been approved by the Township Board and Conservation, Sanitation, Zoning Committee.

A motion was made by Porter Wagner, seconded by Lester Jantzen, to approve the 572nd Zoning Amendment including Petition 20-21 Scott Haverland, Town of Potosi. Motion carried.

**572nd AMENDMENT TO THE
GRANT COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCE
December 15th, 2020**

WHEREAS, a petition for map amendment was filed and a public hearing was held by the Grant County Conservation, Sanitation and Zoning Committee, meeting the requirements of Chapter 59.69 (5) (e) 2.

WHEREAS, a proof of publication and giving notice to each affected township clerk of such hearing is attached to this document. Chapter 59.69 (5) (e) 4

WHEREAS, the Conservation, Sanitation and Zoning Committee now recommends to the Board of Supervisors of Grant County the adoption of the following map amendments.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Grant County Board of Supervisors does ordain as follows. That the Zoning District Map for Grant County will be amended to reflect the following:

PETITION #20-21: Rezone request for Scott Haverland, PIN: 052-01156-0000, to change the zoning classification from Farmland Preservation to Agricultural-2, to allow for the use of a nonfarm residence & shed. This is for +/- 10.0 ac located in the SW ¼ of the SE ¼ of Section 13, T2N, R3W, in Potosi Township

Adopted by the Grant County Board of Supervisors this 15th day of December, 2020

/s/ Robert Keeney, County Board Chairman **Attest:** /s/ Linda Gebhard, County Clerk

Dog Claim(s): Patrick Schroeder, seconded by Mike Lieurance, made a motion to approve paying \$155.00 to the Grant County Humane Society for one dog claim submitted contingent on the final approval of the Ag and Extension Committee. Motion carried.

Discussion and possible action to decrease the County Board per diem effective April 20, 2022: This item was initiated by a discussion held at the November County Board Meeting. The County struggled to balance the 2021 Budget so it was suggested the County Board take a cut in their pay to show that they were doing their part also.

John Beinborn stated he would like to see the per diem stay the same.

Don Splinter stated he feels the per diems have gone down already because of ZOOM Meetings; this action would not take place until 2022 so he feels it is unnecessary to action now.

Gary Ranum shared a graph that the Board has been working for a long time to bring down the administrative cost of the County Board. Committees have been combined to cut down on the number of committee meetings. This has caused the work load of those committees to go up. More evaluations are being done now. Using the graph information over a period from 2014 to 2020 employees have had a 12% increase in wages. If you look at what the county is spending to operate, over the same time

period there has been a 36% decrease in operation costs of the County Board. He feels the County Board is doing a good job and Chair Keeney has done a good job to try to decrease the costs. He feels it should stay the same.

Patrick Schroeder stated his thought was the decrease would be for this year voluntarily. There were a lot of people who stepped up to the plate to balance the budget. Porter and he felt it should be everyone who should help in balancing the budget not just left up to a few departments and the County Board Members should lead by example. Pat stated the 2022 Budget will be even more challenging and everyone is going to have to chip in.

Carol Beals suggested taking no mileage would help. Porter Wagner stated some of the Board Members don't put in for their mileage already. Carol Beals stated some of the Board Members haven't put in for their per diems either for a few months.

No action was taken on this issue, it was decided to wait until closer to the County Board Election in April of 2022 and then address it prior to the election.

Committee Reports:

Health Committee-Carol Beals: The meeting will be held tonight; last week's meeting was postponed because of internet issues. At last month's meeting, they discussed the 2021 budget, had a COVID update, and approved the Child Safety Seat grant application.

Administrative Committee—Robert Keeney: The committee discussed the storage facility the County would like to build on the 52 Building site. The framing is done on third floor in the Administration Building; some of the electrical is done. The County will be scheduling a Strategic Planning Meeting to discuss the next 5 year plan for the County and the plan for the Administration Building once IT and Maintenance moves up on third floor.

Unified Community Services-Gary Ranum: COVID was discussed in how it has impacted the Country's mental health, including increased use of narcotics, alcohol and increasing amounts of depression. Seven staff members from Unified had to be quarantined due to COVID. Unified got an extension on their State Opioid Response Grant for over \$700,000.00, which can now be used for both Opioids and also stimulants.

Executive Committee-Gary Ranum: For the next meeting they are hoping to look into the long hours of some of the Senior Employees who have been working very long hours through this Pandemic. They will be looking at the mental health and morale issues associated with that to see if in those special situations there would be any kind of relief that the County could offer, they don't know what that would be, but it is up for discussion.

Economic Development-John Beinborn: It was discussed to move the Economic Development Offices from Southwest Technical College to the Administration Building once the IT Department has moved.

Orchard Manor-Don Splinter: Orchard Manor still struggles to get enough workers needed but seem to be getting the COVID situation under control.

Fair-Patrick Schroeder: At the January meeting they will be discussing the morale of people, and will be discussing the 2021 Fair. They are hoping to have a Fair but safety will come first

Veterans Service-Lester Jantzen: Veterans Officer are very busy, since the doors in the Administration Building were opened this has made it a lot easier for them to deal with their customers.

Chair Keeney told the Board after the meeting they would run a short video from WCA, they sent their Christmas Greetings to the Board.

The Grant County Board of Supervisors extended their Thank you and ovation to Linda K. Gebhard congratulating her on her retirement. Linda has worked for Grant County for 30 years, for the past 12 years she has served as Grant County Clerk. Chair Keeney also thanked Marilyn Pierce, Register of Deeds for her 43 years of service to Grant County; she will also be retiring at the end of the year.

Adjournment: Mark Stead seconded by Dwight Nelson made a motion to adjourn the meeting pursuant to the next County Board Meeting on January 19, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. Motion carried.