

Grant County Board of Supervisors
January 19, 2021
Administration Building
111 S. Jefferson St. Room 264
Lancaster, WI 53813

The Grant County Board of Supervisors meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chairman Robert Keeney. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Chairman Keeney asked the County Clerk, Tonya White to verify that the meeting was held in compliance with open meeting law. White said the meeting was posted at the Grant County Courthouse, Grant County Administration Building and on the county website.

Roll call was taken with thirteen (13) members present in the room: Roger Guthrie, Dale Hood, Lester Jantzen, Robert Keeney, Mike Lieurance, Gary Northouse, John Patcle, Gary Ranum, Robert Scallon, Patrick Schroeder, Donald Splinter, Mark Stead and Porter Wagner. Present virtually four (4) members: Carol Beals, John Beinborn, Greg Fry and Dwight Nelson.

Others present in the room: Ben Wood, Corporation Council; Andrea Noethe, Register of Deeds; Ron Brisbois, Economic Development; Shane Drinkwater, IT; and Tonya White, County Clerk.

Others present virtually: Justin Johnson, CSZD; CeCe Fishnick, Social Services; Jane Whitish, Doug Wagen, Amanda Degenhardt, Finance; Carrie Eastlick, Treasurer; Mary Mezera, Carol Schwartz, Orchard Manor; Nate Dreckman, Sheriff's Office; Bennett Goldstein, Telegraph Herald; Fred Naatz, Social Services; Steve Braun, Emergency Management; Garry Pluemer, Maintenance; Lynda Schweikert, CSZD; Jeff Kindrai, Health Department; Brandon Behlke, Tina McDonald, Clerk of Court; Lori Reid, ADRC; Jack Johnson, Sheriff's Office; Amy Olson, Fairgrounds; Carrie Kersteins, Child Support; Eileen Nickels, Barb Daus, Joyce Roling, Personnel; Chris Johll, Sheriff's Office; Dave Swanson, Terry Brennan, RACOM; Sam Fleege, RACOM; Tanner Metz, RACOM; Ken Fleege, RACOM; and David Timmerman, Herald Independent.

Agenda: Chairman Keeney asked the board for approval of the agenda and asked the board to consider moving the zoning item up to follow the resolutions. Porter Wagner, second by Robert Scallon made a motion to approve the agenda with the zoning item move. Motion carried by voice vote.

Minutes: Mark Stead, second by Pat Schroeder made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 15, 2020 meeting with two minor changes to page five. Motion carried by voice vote.

Communications: Chairman Keeney welcomed the newly elected officials. Carrie Eastlick was elected for her first official full term of Treasurer; Tonya White has been elected as County Clerk and Andrea Noethe as Register of Deeds.

Chairman Keeney advised the board that the County Clerk has shared an idea of an electronic calendar for the County Board Room and Room 264. Tonya is willing to take over the calendar so that meetings can be scheduled in Outlook like is done at CSB.

Employee Recognition: Chairman Keeney recognized Jane Whitish for her 36 years of service to Social Services.

Appointments: None

Grants: Chairman Keeney presented for approval for WLIP Grant (Wisconsin Land Information Program Grant). There are three sections for the grant; Training and Education Section, Strategic Initiative Section and Base Budget Grant. Greg Fry, second by Mike Lieurance made a motion to approve the application for WLIP Grant. Motion carried by voice vote.

Ratify Proclamation #12 COVID Allowable Leave: Joyce Roling, Personnel Director explained that the COVID allowable leave proclamation is based off of what was in place prior to the expiration of the previous FFCRA rules. Grant County is allowing employees to have the time off for COVID related quarantine. Grant County will not contribute the additional 80 hours of paid time. Employees will have to use paid time off. Gary Ranum, second by Dwight Nelson made a motion to approve the proclamation. Motion carried by voice vote.

COVID-19 Update, Discussion and Possible Action: Jeff Kindrai, Health Department Director gave an update on COVID-19. As of this date there have been 4,379 confirmed cases, 568 probable cases, 78 deaths and 4,154 recovered. The Health Department is investigating five possible reinfection cases. In the last fourteen days about 12% of the cases are 18 and younger, 41% are 50 and older. University of Wisconsin – Platteville will no longer be testing after January 22, 2021. Grant County will continue testing on Tuesdays at the Fairground in Lancaster and Fridays at the Armory in Platteville.

Cares Funding – Routes to Recover Projects: The projects continue to move forward. IT is continuing to work hard on all of the projects. Garry Pluemer, Maintenance, said the third floor is almost all sheet rocked.

Resolution Supporting Increased Funding for Aging and Disability Resource Center: Mary Mezera, Regional Manager ADRC of Southwest Wisconsin, presented the resolution to the Board. Greg Fry, second by Dale Hood made a motion to approve the resolution. Motion carried by voice vote.

Resolution In Support Of Increased State Funding For More Equitable Return of Utility Tax Collections To Counties And Municipalities: Chairman Keeney presented the resolution to the Board. Pat Schroeder, second by Mark Stead made a motion to approve the resolution. Motion carried by voice vote.

Zoning Amendment: Justin Johnson presented the 573rd Zoning Amendment filed by Linda Dressler in Paris Township to the Board. Porter Wagner, second by Lester Jantzen made a motion to approve the resolution. Motion carried by voice vote.

Convene to Public Hearing: Chairman Keeney asked for a motion from the Board to convene to public hearing. Don Splinter, second by Gary Ranum made a motion to convene to the Public Hearing. Motion carried by voice vote.

Ron Brisbois, Grant County Economic Development Director, took over the discussion for the CDBG-CV (Community Development Block Grant-COVID). The application was submitted in December with the intent of assisting small businesses that have been impacted by COVID. The allocation will be for 40 business grants totaling up to \$5000 per business. Businesses that will be eligible will have less than five employees and the wages of the owner shall not exceed \$39,700. There may be an adjustment on the amount by HUD. The application has to be submitted by February 26, 2021 with awards announced on or before March 26, 2021. Ron will work with the area Chamber of Commerce, economic development and municipal clerks. An intent to apply application has been submitted and approved to start the application process.

Chairman Keeney asked for any questions, hearing none he asked for a motion to close the Public Hearing to reconvene back to the County Board meeting. John Patcle, second by Mark Stead made a motion to reconvene as the County Board. Motion carried by voice vote.

Discussion and Possible Action on Proposed Application for CDBG CLOSE Program Funds: Ron Brisbois explained that these items are required of the application for the CDBG Close program and any other future application the county would put forward. This is required of all municipalities that ever submit a CDBG application to the State of Wisconsin. Two projects have been identified; the re-roofing of the Rollo Jamison Mining Museum and expansion and improvements to Southwest Opportunity Center adult daycare facility.

- a. Citizen Participation Plan for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG): Grant County has one on file but the verbiage needed to be updated. The new plan will bring the plan up to date and address that the County Board of Supervisors be the organization that approve the application. Motion by Roger Guthrie, second by Mark Stead to adopt the Grant County WI Citizen Participation Plan for CDBG. Motion carried by voice vote.
- b. Resolution to Adopt the Policy to Prohibit the use of Excessive Force and the Barring of Entrances/Exits for Non-Violent Civil Rights Demonstrations: This is relatively new and the State has come forward with some standard language. Sheriff Dreckman has reviewed the resolution and it follows the policy that the Sheriff's Office has in place. Motion by Mark Stead, second by Don Splinter to adopt the resolution. Motion carried by voice vote.
- c. Residential Anti-Displacement and Relocation Assistance Plan: This plan has been reviewed and pertains to doing a CDBG housing project. There will be some modifications to the plan. The front page has optional items that have not been considered and will be removed from the plan. On the third page under contacts, the name and phone number of the office of those responsible needs to be filled in. Pat Schroeder made a motion, second by Porter Wagner to adopt the Residential Anti-Displacement and Relocation Assistance Plan inserting the Grant County Board of Supervisors and 608-723-2675 under contacts.

Presentation on Phase 3 Telecommunications Project: Chairman Keeney turned the meeting over to Tanner Metz, Sam Fleege, Ken Fleege and Terry Brennan from RACOM who gave the presentation on phase 3 of the telecommunications project. Phase three consists of countywide five channel simulcast land mobile radio system and paging. Phase three has eleven to thirteen tower sites. RACOM is proposing to give 95% coverage in large towns, midsized towns, smaller towns and 80% coverage in unpopulated areas. The pager coverage for outdoor coverage is 94.5% and outdoor coverage is 85.6%. The paging system would utilize the same infrastructure as the radio system. The project now has added the paging system, an additional channel to be used by all departments, including the highway department and land mobile radio connectivity. There have been significant cost increases since a year ago when RACOM gave a preliminary cost. The benefit of owning tower sites is renting the excess capacity to others looking for site acquisition like FirstNet or cellular companies. The cost of the project presented was \$8,960,732 but does not include the land acquisition or maintenance contract. Roger Guthrie, second by Gary Northouse made a motion to refer the project back to Law Enforcement for further discussion and future action by the county board. Motion carried by voice vote.

Progress Report, Discussion & Possible Action on Grant County Community Services Facility: Chairman Keeney stated that they are still waiting on DNR permission to bury the 52 Building.

Workplace Bullying Policy: Joyce Roling, Personnel Director explained this policy will expand the statement on workplace violence. It will be placed in the Employee Handbook and defines bullying and gives examples. Gary Ranum, second by Greg Fry made a motion to approve the Workplace Bullying Policy. Motion carried by voice vote.

Dog Claim(s) Grant County Humane Society: Pat Schroeder presented the dog claims for the month. Pat also stated that if we do not have the claims within 30 days, with Corporation Council approval, the claims could be denied. Pat Schroeder, second by Mike Lieurance made a motion to approve the dog claims in the amount of \$1240.00. Motion carried by voice vote.

Committee Reports: Roger Guthrie, second by Lester Jantzen made a motion to forgo the committee reports due to the length of the meeting. Motion carried by voice vote.

Chairman Keeney did advise the board that the Administrative Committee is moving forward with a Strategic Plan. James Schneider will be sending out a survey within the next week. Chairman Keeney asked that everyone look at the 2009 and 2014 Strategic Plans so there are ideas for the direction of the plan.

Adjournment: Robert Scallon, second by Mark Stead made a motion to adjourn the meeting pursuant to the next County Board Meeting on February 16, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. Motion carried by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 12:26 p.m.

Note: Grant County resolutions and ordinances are available for viewing at the Grant County Clerk's Office.