

Grant County Board of Supervisors  
September 21, 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 verified the meeting was posted at the Grant County Administration Building, Grant County Courthouse and on the county website.

Roll Call was taken with fifteen (15) members present in the room: Carol Beals, John Beinborn, Greg Fry, Roger Guthrie, Dale Hood, Lester Jantzen, Robert Keeney, Mike Lieurance, Gary Northouse, John Patcle, Robert Scallon, Pat Schroeder, Donald Splinter, Mark Stead and Porter Wagner. Present virtually two (2) members: Gary Ranum and Dwight Nelson.

**Agenda:** Chairman Keeney asked the board for approval of the amended agenda with the addition of items 15 and 16. There is also an error on the agenda with the opening paragraph. It should read item 17.D instead of 15.D. John Beinborn, second by Greg Fry made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Motion carried by voice vote.

**Minutes:** Mark Stead, second by Porter Wagner made a motion to approve the minutes from August 17, 2021 with two corrections. Motion carried by voice vote.

**Communications:** Chairman Keeney reminded the Supervisors that the WCA Conference starts Sunday night.

The Administrative Committee did meet and has a tentative map that will be discussed at a public hearing on October 5, 2021 as part of the Grant County Board meeting.

There is an RFP on the county website for the former law enforcement property. Submittals need to be submitted by September 28, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. Sheriff Dreckman has also listed six items on govdeals.com which close September 23, 2021. Those items include the generator, a commercial washer, three phase air compressor, electric stove, commercial grade dryer and 220-foot radio tower.

**Appointments:** Dale Hood, second by Lester Jantzen made a motion to approve Rob Bell to the ADRC Regional Board. Motion carried by voice vote.

Lester Jantzen, second by Mark Stead made a motion to approve Vicki Hirsch to the ADRC Committee. Motion carried by voice vote.

**Grants:** Steve Braun, Emergency Management presented the HMEP Grant. Roger Guthrie, second by Porter Wagner made a motion to approve the application for the HMEP Grant. Motion carried by voice vote.

**Resolution- Grant County Conservation Aids Program:** James Schneider presented the resolution to the board. Bob Scallon, second by Pat Schroeder made a motion to approve Resolution #34-20 Grant County Conservation Aids Program. Motion carried by voice vote.

**Resolution Authorizing Participation in Public Funding for Snowmobile Trails:** James Schneider presented the resolution to the board. John Beinborn, second by Porter Wagner made a motion to approve Resolution #36-20 Authorizing Participation in Public Funding for Snowmobile Trails. Motion carried by voice vote.

**Resolution to Transfer Administrative Responsibility of the Alzheimer’s Family Support Program from the Grant County Department of Social Services to the Grant County Aging and Disability Resource Center of Southwest Wisconsin:** Lori Reid and Fred Naatz presented the resolution to the board. Pat Schroeder, second by Lester Jantzen made a motion to approve Resolution #35-20 to Transfer Administrative Responsibility of the Alzheimer’s Family Support Program from the Grant County Department of Social Services to the Grant County Aging and Disability Resource Center of Southwest Wisconsin. Motion carried by voice vote.

**Discussion and Possible Action on out of budget spending for the Grant County fiber optic loop from Platteville to Platteville Airport using ARPA funding:** Chairman Keeney turned the meeting over to Shane Drinkwater. Drinkwater explained that they would like to extend the fiber optic loop to the Platteville Airport while the contractor is in Platteville. Mark Stead, second by John Beinborn made a motion to approve out of budget spending for the Grant County fiber optic loop from Platteville to the Platteville airport using ARPA funding in the amount of \$124,456.30. A roll call vote was taken with 17 Yes, therefore motion carried.

**Discussion and Possible Action on out of budget spending for the Grant County fiber optic loop for 2 metro net routers for use with Lancaster, Platteville Police Department/PCAN and Platteville tower site using ARPA funding:** Shane Drinkwater explained that the metro net routers are needed for the communication from Lancaster to Platteville. Greg Fry, second by Gary Northouse made a motion to approve out of budget spending for the Grant County fiber optic loop for two (2) metro net routers for use with Lancaster, Platteville Police Department/PCAN and Platteville tower site using ARPA funding. A roll call vote was taken with 17 Yes, therefore motion carried.

**Discussion and Possible Action on Proclamation #15 TEMPORARY ORCHARD MANOR EXEMPT STAFF PAY DUE TO COVID-19 AND SHORTAGE OF HEALTH CARE WORKERS:** Carol Schwartz presented Proclamation #15 to the board. Don Splinter, second by Carol Beals made a motion to approve Proclamation #15 Temporary Orchard Manor Exempt Staff Pay Due to COVID-19 and Shortage of Health Care Workers. Motion carried by voice vote.

**Discussion and Possible Action on Proclamation #16 TEMPORARY ORCHARD MANOR EXPANDED BONUS/INCENTIVE PROGRAM TO INCREASE STAFFING NEEDS:** Carol Schwartz presented Proclamation #16 to the board. Carol Beals, second by Don Splinter made a motion to approve Proclamation #16 Temporary Orchard Manor Expanded Bonus/Incentive Program to Increase Staffing Needs. Motion carried by voice vote.

**COVID-19 Update, Discussion and Possible Action:**

**A. Health Department Report:** Jeff Kindrai reported that Grant County has had 5,641 confirmed cases, 858 probables and 103 deaths. Grant County is averaging 27.1 cases per day. Currently 33.9% of cases

are 18 and younger and 9% are 65 and older. In the past 14 days 29.3% of the probable cases have been 18 and younger and 5.2% are 65 and older.

There are 380 known hospitalizations since March 2020, 3084 are listed as not hospitalized and 3,019 are listed as unknown because that information has not been filled in. Under the age of 18 there were 7 that were hospitalized, four are 18 to 19 years old, 29 are in their 20's, 27 are in their 30's, 27 are in their 40's, 48 are in their 50's, 80 are in their 60's and 158 are 70 and older.

In September, so far there have been 78 breakthrough cases. 88.5% of the cases were over 100 days after completing the series. In August there were 61 breakthrough cases with 90.2% being over 100 days out from completing the series. Prior to August there were 14 total, with 21.4% over 100 days out.

Testing is taking place at the former Shopko building M/W/F from 10 to 12. There was a request for the National Guard support to assist with testing. The Guard will start assisting this Friday from 8 a.m. until noon and every Friday until December 10, 2021 excluding the day after Thanksgiving. Their availability is still questionable. Area providers are also providing testing and several schools have contracted with the state to offer testing.

Vaccination is still ongoing. There was an uptick of vaccination just before school started. A large percentage of the people getting vaccinated were school aged kids and immunocompromised individuals. Vaccinations are being done at the Health Department and they would prefer an appointment be scheduled.

Jeff shared some information off of the DHS website. He showed how to navigate through the county level data, Wisconsin deaths, deaths by age range and deaths by group. Jeff also navigated through the hospital and school information that is posted on the DHS website.

**B. Orchard Manor Operational Challenges and possible action:** Carol Schwartz explained that Orchard Manor is still under guidelines where they have to test employees more frequently. The unvaccinated staff have to be tested twice a week. Orchard Manor is allowing some visitation. It has not been determined how the vaccination mandate will work. They have extended the date for the information coming from Medicare and Medicaid. The mandate now involves all health care workers and states that if the facility does not mandate vaccinations the facility will not receive any Medicare or Medicaid funding.

**C. Other Department operations and possible action:** Tina McDonald gave an update for the Courthouse. The courthouse is still holding jury trials and following CDC guidelines. There is still security at the front door.

Jon Knautz, Highway Department gave an update for the Highway Department. They provided vaccination opportunity at the shop. They are trying to social distance as much as possible.

Sheriff Dreckman gave an update for the Sheriff's Office. They have not changed protocol.

Lori Reid gave an update for ADRC. They have seen significant changes. ADRC staff are all masked when outside of the offices. There have also been several people out on leave for various COVID related illnesses. A few meal sites have been impacted and Lori is having a hard time finding back up vendors.

Fred Naatz gave an update for Social Services. They are trying to follow the CDC guidelines. They are asking individuals inside the office to wear face masks. Social Services has had a few individuals come in contact with COVID and had to quarantine.

Jeff Kindrai shared the WIAA guidance. For determining close contacts with sporting events the Health Department works closely with the schools and coaches to identify who is a close contact and only exclude those that are. In some cases, there is grey areas, and when there are grey areas the Health Department consults with the state. There have been outbreaks associated with sports in Grant County.

**D. Closed session per statute 19.85(1) (c) Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility as it relates to the Grant County Health Officer:** Greg Fry, second by Porter Wagner made the motion to go into closed session. A roll call vote was taken with 17 Yes, therefore motion carried.

**Return to Open Session:** Dale Hood, second by John Patcle made a motion to reconvene to open session. Motion carried by voice vote.

**Possible Action on Closed Session discussion:** Pat Schroeder made the motion to release Jeff Kindrai as Health Director and try to restore unity back in Grant County. For lack of receiving a second on the motion, the motion dies.

**Adjournment:** Mark Stead, second by Gary Northouse made a motion to adjourn until October 5, 2021. Motion carried by voice vote.