

Grant County Board of Supervisors
October 5, 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 sixteen (16) members present in the room: Carol Beals, John Beinborn, Gregory Fry, 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 one (1) member: Dwight Nelson.

Agenda: Chairman Keeney asked the board for approval of the agenda. Don Splinter, second by John Beinborn made a motion to approve the agenda. Motion carried by voice vote.

Minutes: Roger Guthrie, second by Gary Northouse made a motion to approve the minutes from September 21, 2021. Motion carried by voice vote.

Communications: Grant County continues to work on the communications system with conduit for the fiber loop. The contractor has reached Platteville and will be working in that area. The next area that is being considered is to start on County G and work back towards Lancaster. Tower sites are also being considered in Muscoda's industrial park, near or in the City of Boscobel and at a property on Preston Road east of Fennimore. RACOM has asked Grant County to consider some contract negotiations. Ben Wood, Corporation Council and Chairman Keeney will send a red line version to RACOM.

Opioid Litigation is entering the proposed opioid settlement phase. Action may be needed by the end of the year regarding the settlement.

Chairman Keeney asked everyone to be respectful, germane to the subject and follow the same rules as the September meeting.

Employee Recognition(s): None

Appointment(s): Porter Wagner, second by Gary Ranum made a motion to approve Lance Wetter to represent the Faith Community and Dr. Jacob Hiatt to represent the Medical Community to the CJCC. Motion carried by voice vote.

Grants: None

580th Zoning Amendment: Justin Johnson presented the 580th Zoning Amendment filed by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Town of Watterstown to the board. Porter Wagner, second by Gary Ranum made a motion to approve the resolution. Motion carried by voice vote.

COVID-19 Update, Discussion and Possible Action: Jeff Kindrai, Health Department reported 415 confirmed cases, 67 probable cases and 3 deaths since the meeting two weeks ago. Grant County is averaging 31.5 cases per day. 37.1% are under the age of 20, 10.7% are in their 20's, 13.4% are in their 30's, 11.8% are in their 40's, 9.1% are in their 50's, 9.3% are in their 60's and 7.2% are 70 or older. Platteville has 14.3% of the cases in the past 14 days, 19.2% in Lancaster, 10.2% in Fennimore, 19.7% in Boscobel, 5.7% in Muscoda, 6.1% in Hazel Green and 4.8% in Potosi. 31% of the probable cases are 18 and younger and 11.3% are 65 and older.

Hospitalizations have gone up 20, 217 listed as not hospitalized and 219 as unknown. Of the 400 known hospitalizations 7 are under the age of 18, 5 are 18 to 19 years old, 32 are in their 20's, 29 are in their 30's, 28 are in their 40's, 54 are in their 50's, 82 are in their 60's and 163 are 70 and older.

So far in October, there have been four breakthrough infections. In September, there were 166 breakthrough cases.

Free testing is being offered at the old Shopko building Monday, Wednesday and Friday from nine to noon. There is hope that a contractor can be brought in to do testing on Tuesday and Thursday. It would be a pay for service, either billing an insurance company or paying for cash. The tests would be a rapid test and the results would be within 30 minutes with a cost of around \$130. The details have not been completely worked out. Area providers are doing rapid tests with a cost of around \$75.

Vaccines are still being offered at the Health Department by appointment.

Porter Wagner made a motion to take authority away from the Health Department and place the authority to the school districts. Corporation Council advised that the Health Directors authority comes from State Statute not the Board, therefore the motion is out of order and no action can be taken.

Discussion and Possible Action to Rescind Resolution #70-18 adopted March 17, 2020: Pat Schroeder, second by Porter Wagner made a motion to rescind Resolution #70-18. A roll call vote was taken with five (5) Yes, and 12 (twelve) No, therefore motion failed, Ranum, Northouse, Scallon, Keeney, Fry, Lieurance, Stead, Hood, Nelson, Beals, Beinborn and Splinter opposing.

CSB Facilities Policy: Joyce Roling, Personnel presented the CSB Facilities Policy. There were some changes to the policy to make it consistent with the Administration Building and Courthouse policy. The policy stated space heaters were prohibited but now will be allowed. Another change will be the temperature control and where the temperature will be set. Gary Ranum, second by Mike Lieurance made a motion to approve the CSB Facilities Policy. Motion carried by voice vote.

Discussion and Possible Action on the Sale of Law Enforcement Center: There were no responses submitted to the RFP proposal. Kwik Trip does have the right of first refusal on the property. Chairman Keeney asked what direction the board would like to proceed. Estimated cost to demolish the building were around \$75,000 to \$125,000. Roger Guthrie, second by Mark Stead made a motion for Corporation Council and the County Board Chair to negotiate the sale with Kwik Trip. Motion carried by voice vote.

2022 Budget Workshop: Amanda Degenhardt, Finance Director presented the 2022 budget. Degenhardt outlined a few major items that were included by departments. The budget reflects a 1% wage increase for employees starting January 1, 2022 and another 1% wage increase starting July 2022. This also

reflects an increase in the wage schedule for January 1, 2022 which drops the bottom two levels of the wage schedule and adds two to the top. The change was requested by multiple departments to assist with employee retention and recruitment. There is a 6.5% increase in health insurance premiums. There is also a change to the County's contribution to the single plan health insurance participants. Changing the County portion to 15% from 5% to match other plans. There is also an increase in HRA contribution charged to each department to maintain sufficient fund balance. There is an estimated 5% increase in workers compensation. There is a decrease of 0.25% in general retirement rates and increase for protective of 0.25% in 2022. Estimated 1% increase in sales tax revenue over projected 2021 receipts and requested use of sales tax revenue carryover of \$300,000. There is also an increase in shared revenue of \$16,000 and increase of computer aid of \$30. Departments expect to lapse \$114,000 at the end of 2021. Departments also requested to use \$200,000 from the farm fund which leaves approximately \$80,000. Hospice carryover was utilized in the amount of \$250,000 and \$125,000 from the Highway Department capital outlay building account. The mileage reimbursement rate was changed to match the state rate instead of the federal rate due to funding source reimbursement concerns. There were also many capital projects that were removed from the budget. The 2022 budget still has a shortfall of \$448,000. Gary Ranum, second by John Patcle made a motion to refer the budget back to the Executive Committee for further discussion. Motion carried by voice vote.

Dog Claims: Pat Schroeder, second by Greg Fry made a motion to approve two outstanding invoices to Grant County Humane Society in the total of \$310. Motion carried by voice vote.

Committee Reports:

Administrative – Chairman Keeney advised the committee discussed the Grant County Storage Facility, the Veteran Services Office relocating to the vacated IT space and the redistricting plan. The committee also agreed to make Shane Drinkwater the project manager for the fiber optic project.

Ag/Extension – Pat Schroeder advised there was no update from the Ag/Extension Committee.

Aging and Disability Resource Center of Southwest Wisconsin-Grant County – Dale Hood advised there was no update from the ADRC Committee.

Board of Health – Carol Beals advised the committee discussed COVID, filling open position and hiring bonuses.

Conservation, Sanitation and Zoning Department – Mark Stead advised that CSZ director is working with Corporation Council regarding permit and citation issues. Bill Kletecka is the new Soil Conservationist. Criminal Justice Coordinating Council-CJCC – Gary Ranum reported that CJCC discussed sending out a survey. Approved the appointment of two new members.

Economic, Tourism and Resource – John Beinborn advised that the next meeting will be in Lancaster on October 27, 2021.

Executive – Gary Ranum advised the committee discussed the budget and upgrading of building policies.

Hidden Valley – Robert Scallon advised that Hidden Valley had a few bad years but is doing well now.

Highway/DMATS – Donald Splinter advised that County Z has been paved. There is a possibility that some striping of the roads may be completed.

Land Information Council – Chairman Keeney advised the Land Information Council has elected Lynda Schweikert as the Land Information Officer. The Council is also working on updating the plan to submit to peers throughout the State before final submission.

Law Enforcement/Emergency Management – Roger Guthrie advised the next meeting is Monday.

Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) – Chairman Keeney advised the committee met a few weeks ago to look over the plans that needed to be submitted to WEM.

Orchard Manor/County Farm – Donald Splinter advised Orchard Manor is having staff shortages.

Social Services Board – John Beinborn advised the committee will meet Wednesday.

Southwest Community Action Program (SWCAP) – Carol Beals advised SWCAP will meet again on the 4th Thursday.

Unified Community Services Board of Directors (UCS) – Gary Ranum advised that the budget was discussed and possibly changing the location of where the meetings will take place.

Veterans – Lester Jantzen advised the committee is pleased to be moving into a bigger office space.

Wisconsin River Rail Transit Commission – Mike Lieurance advised the next meeting will be in Waunakee.

Recess until 1:00 p.m. for Public Hearing: John Patcle, second by Mark Stead made a motion to recess until 1:00 p.m. for public hearing. Motion carried by voice vote.

Convene to Public Hearing on Tentative Supervisory District Plan: Chairman Keeney called the public hearing to order at 1:00 p.m.

Reconvene to County Board Meeting: Porter Wagner, second by Don Splinter made a motion to reconvene to County Board meeting. Motion carried by voice vote.

Discussion and Possible Action on Tentative Supervisory District Plan: Pat Schroeder, second by Gary Northouse made a motion to move forward with the version that was forwarded from the Administrative Committee. Motion carried by voice vote.

Adjournment: John Beinborn, second by Lester Jantzen made a motion to adjourn the meeting pursuant to the next County Board meeting on November 9, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.