

Grant County Board of Supervisors
June 20, 2023
Youth & Agriculture Building
916 E Elm Street, South Room
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 Deputy County Clerk, Karla Schwantes to verify that the meeting was held in compliance with open meeting law. Schwantes verified the meeting was posted at the Grant County Administration Building, Courthouse, on the website and in the Herald Independent.

Roll Call was taken with thirteen (13) members present in the room: Gary Ranum, Gary Northouse, Robert Scallon, Robert Keeney, Roger Guthrie, Adam Day, Patrick Schroeder, Carol Beals, Kathy Kopp, John Beinborn, Porter Wagner, Donald Splinter and Brian Lucey. Present virtually one (1) member; Elias Cox. Joe Mumm and Diane Nelson were excused. Brandon Snyder was absent. Chairman Keeney asked the Board for approval for Elias Cox to participate by Zoom per Board Rules. John Beinborn, second by Kathy Kopp motioned to allow Elias to participate via zoom. Motion carried by voice vote.

Approval of Agenda: Donald Splinter, second by Pat Schroeder made a motion to approve the agenda. Motion carried by voice vote.

Approval of Minutes: Roger Guthrie, second by Gary Ranum made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 16, 2023 meeting. Motion carried by voice vote.

Communications: Thank you for allowing the County Board meeting to relocate to the Youth & Ag Building; Tyler Munis training was scheduled in the board room in the Administration Building under the assumption there would not be a County Board meeting.

Please turn in your signed "Acknowledgement of Conduct and Dispute Resolution Policies." These policies were adopted in 2011 and had not been signed by the current County Board.

Letter received acknowledging Grant County Child Support Agency being recognized by the Federal fiscal year 2022 Participation Certificate of Excellence.

Information only; Steve Wetter has resigned from the Lower Wisconsin River Way Board, Bob Carey has offered to fulfill Steve's term through the end of year. Bob submitted a letter to the Governor for action on this appointment.

Amy Olson proudly announced that Grant County's Direct Visitor Spending increased by 17.3% from 2021 to 2022 for tourism. This is a higher percent compare to the entire State of Wisconsin's 15.7%.

Grant County Fair dates are August 16-20. Please take some brochures, posters and counter displays back to your communities. New entertainment this year on the dirt track will be Motorcycle Supercross Racing, admissions to the grandstand have raised to \$15.00. Wood carver returning and some new music. Gate admission is \$5.00 from 9 AM-4PM; 8 and under FREE.

Appointment: Veterans Service commission had James Knautz resign; Ken McAndrew is recommending Lester Jantzen to fill in this spot. Motion by Gary Ranum, second by Donald Splinter to approve this appointment. Motion carried by voice vote.

Grants: Nate Dreckman present a \$2,000.00 grant from WE Energies Foundation for equipment (ear pieces for new portable radios); no matching. John Beinborn, second by Kathy Kopp motioned to approve this grant. Motion carried by voice vote.

595th Zoning Amendment: Erik Heagle, CSZD presented the 595th Zoning Amendment for Brandon Reese in Town of Jamestown, John & Kelly Jansen in Town of Jamestown, Jerry Allen in Town of Liberty and Pelky's Midway LLC in Town of Potosi. Porter Wagner, second by Gary Northouse made a motion to approve the 595th Zoning Amendment. Motion carried by voice vote.

Fiber Optics/Communication Project: Shane reported we are continuing our fiber optic 2023 goals. Having some issues with the fiber location service, IT is in the process of verifying that their maps are in sync with our maps in regards to location; will be working on this in the coming week. Four sites in the punch list being conducted this week, HVAC soon to be turned on. Spending considerable time on the Cassville location. Locations good in Bloomington, Potosi, Bagley, Southern district and Millville. More building permit applications to be conducted.

Cassville Tower Site: Administrative committee put out an Offer to Purchase property for the tower site; land owner did not respond for 10-11 days, therefore the offer to purchase was not fully executed within the 7 days requested to respond. Bob, Nate and Shane have attended meetings with the Village of Cassville; still no firm location for this town site. No action at this time.

Pat Schroeder left the meeting.

Out of Budget Spending: Amanda presented a request to purchase the Tyler Munis Employee Expense Reimbursement module; utilize \$6,000 from ARPA and \$2,916 first year annual fees from the General Fund. Gary Ranum, second Carol Beals made a motion to approve this out of budget spending. Motion carried by voice vote.

Electronic Meeting Participation: Chair Keeney quoted the motion from Administration Committee "ask that participation at all meetings be requested and approved by the remainder of the quorum at the meeting with the camera on." The question before the County Board is, Do we continue to offer the zoom for convenience of the public to monitor the meetings? John Beinborn pointed out this policy was established to be certain a quorum was met at meetings; but not to be utilized on a regular basis. The policy was adopted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Lori Reid voiced the opinion that her committee may have problems achieving a quorum during bad weather due to the size of Grant County. Corporation Counsel offered his interpretation of this policy was the intent to not allow participation if the member has habitually been absent. Carol Beals motioned to remove the word "committee" in two locations within the policy; should only refer to the full County Board meetings, second by Gary Northouse. Ben questioned if the committees were at the discretion of having the meeting via zoom may open up discrimination potential. Discussion continued. Should this be referred back to Administrative Committee to then be brought back to the Full County Board? Motion was restated; "Rules for participation at Grant County Board of Supervisors meetings" and remove the word "committee" in the two locations paragraph C & H. Gary Northouse asked if he could rescind his second to the motion. John Beinborn then second Carol's motion. Ben asked if the policy had already been discussed during this legislative session. Roger questioned when this policy was adopted as the Board rule is not to revisit a policy during the same legislative session. Would action be breaking our own rule? During discussion, County Board Chair researched to find that previous action was for policy adoption at the April 15, 2022 meeting which was the Board's initial meeting of this legislative session. No action was taken on the motion. Discussion at Committee level will continue so the Policy can be brought back after April election 2024.

Dog Claim(s): Motion by Roger Guthrie, second by Adam Day to approve paying \$320.00 dog claims.
Motion carried.

Committee Reports: Motion by Roger Guthrie to forgo committee reports, second by Gary Ranum.
Motion carried.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourn until July 18, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.