

Grant County Board of Supervisors  
December 19, 2023  
Administration Building  
111 S. Jefferson Street  
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 the open meeting law. White verified the meeting was posted at the Grant County Administration Building, Courthouse, on the county website and in the Herald Independent.

Roll Call was taken with sixteen (16) members present in the room and one (1) vacancy: Gary Ranum, Gary Northouse, Robert Scallon, Robert Keeney, Roger Guthrie, Joseph Mumm, Adam Day, Patrick Schroeder, Rick Sanson, Carol Beals, Diane Nelson, Kathy Kopp, Porter Wagner, John Beinborn, Donald Splinter and Brian Lucey.

**Approval of Agenda:** John Beinborn, second by Gary Northouse made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Motion carried by voice vote.

**Approval of Minutes:** Roger Guthrie, second Kathy Kopp made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 14, 2023 meeting. Motion carried by voice vote.

**Communications:** Chairman Keeney received an email from Maple Street Daycare. They are in the process of remodeling a building on the south side of town. They are looking for a letter of support.

**Appointments:** There were no appointments.

**Grants:** There were no grants.

**Memoriam for Beverly Hartnett:** Chairman Keeney read the memoriam for Beverly Hartnett.

RESOLUTION #49-22  
IN MEMORIAM OF BEVERLY HARTNETT

The Grant County Board of Supervisors, assembled this 19<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2023 issues the following commemoration:

WHEREAS, the death of Beverly Hartnett has come to the attention of this body; and

WHEREAS, Beverly Hartnett served as the Grant County Treasurer for sixteen years; and

WHEREAS, her many friends and acquaintances will long cherish in memory her willingness to serve through public office and to assist in the interest and welfare of Grant County.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Grant County Board of Supervisors commends the life and public service of Beverly Hartnett and that this memorial be set forth at length upon the minutes

of the meeting and that a copy, properly attested by the signature of the Chairperson and the Clerk, be sent to the family.

/s/ Robert C. Keeney, County Board Chairman

/s/ Tonya White, County Clerk

Carol Beals, second by Joseph Mumm made a motion to approve the resolution in Memoriam of Beverly Hartnett. Motion carried by voice vote.

**Administrator presentation from Andy Phillips and Sarah Diedrick-Kasdorf from WCA:** Andy Phillips and Sarah Diedrick-Kasdorf gave a presentation County Government Administrator options. They then answered questions relating to the role of a County Administrator.

**Discussion and Possible Action Resolution on the creation of a County Administrator:** Chairman Keeney explained that there are two resolutions before the Board. The resolutions are a choice of Administrator or Administrator/Finance Director. Gary Ranum, second by Carol Beals made a motion to approve the resolution for County Administrator pursuant to Wis. Stat. §59.18 (1). A roll call vote was taken with eleven (11) Yes (Ranum, Northouse, Scallon, Keeney, Sanson, Beals, Nelson, Kopp, Wagner, Beinborn and Splinter), five (5) No (Guthrie, Mumm, Day, Schroeder and Lucey) and one (1) vacancy, therefore motion passed.

**Discussion and Possible Action on the funding for Public Administration Associates, LLC services related to the recruitment of the Finance Director/County Auditor:** Roger Guthrie, second by Carol Beals made a motion to approve the out of budget spending to hire Public Administration Associates for the recruitment of a Finance Director/County Auditor. A roll call vote was taken with fifteen (15) Yes, one (1) No (Schroeder) and one (1) vacancy, therefore motion passed.

**Discussion and Possible action on easement for Alliant Energy:** There are three areas that Alliant Energy is looking for an easement. Porter Wagner, second by Patrick Schroeder made a motion to approve all three easements with contingency on FEMA approval for the Jackson Street parcel. Motion carried by voice vote.

**Update on Fiber Optics/Communication Project:** Sheriff Dreckman advised that they are currently working through the USDA requirements. Bids are ready to be sent out with a return date of February. Shane Drinkwater, IT Director advised that the IT Department in conjunction with the Maintenance Department has been installing equipment at various sites.

**Discussion and possible action to finalize the Potosi property transfer:** Chairman Keeney advised that the deed has been recorded.

**Convene to closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. sec 19.85 (1)(e) for the purpose of deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conduction other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session regarding the purchase of property:** Robert Scallon, second by John Beinborn made a motion to convene to closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. sec 19.85 (1)(e) for the purpose of deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conduction other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session regarding the purchase of property. A roll call vote was taken with sixteen (16) Yes, one (1) vacancy,

therefore motion passed. Chairman Keeney asked for the IT Director, Maintenance Director and Unified Director to stay in the room.

**Return to open session:** Roger Guthrie, second by Gary Northouse made a motion to return to open session. Motion carried by voice vote.

**Discussion and possible action on closed session item:** Gary Northouse, second by Porter Wagner made a motion for Corporation Counsel, County Board Chair and the County Clerk to negotiate an offer to purchase. Motion carried by voice vote.

**Dog Claim(s) Grant County Humane Society:** Patrick Schroeder, second by Adam Day made a motion to approve the payment of \$320. Motion carried by voice vote.

**Committee Reports:** Chairman Keeney advised that the committee reports would be forfeited due to the length of the meeting.

**Adjournment:** Robert Scallon, second by Joseph Mumm made a motion to adjourn until January 16, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. Motion carried by voice vote.