

Grant County Board of Supervisors  
January 16, 2024  
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 eleven (11) members present in the room: Gary Ranum, Gary Northouse, Robert Keeney, Roger Guthrie, Joseph Mumm, Rick Sanson, Diane Nelson, Kathy Kopp, John Beinborn, Porter Wagner and Brian Lucey. Present virtually two (2) members: Adam Day and Patrick Schroeder. Carol Beals, Robert Scallon and Donald Splinter asked to be excused. Chairman Keeney asked the Board to approve Adam Day and Patrick Schroeder to participate and vote by Zoom per Board rules. Roger Guthrie, second by Kathy Kopp made a motion to approve the two (2) members to participate by Zoom. Motion carried by voice vote.

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

**Approval of Minutes:** Porter Wagner, second by Diane Nelson made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 19, 2023 meeting. Motion carried by voice vote.

**Communications:** Chairman Keeney advised the Board that the agreement with PAA for the County Administrator has been signed and the kick off meeting has been held. PAA has posted the Finance Director/Auditor position with closing on February 5, 2024. The Executive Committee will select finalists February 13, 2024 and interviews will be held at the end of February.

**Appointments:** Gary Northouse, second by Gary Ranum made a motion to approve Krogen's Do It Best as the DNR Emergency Fire Warden. Motion carried by voice vote.

Porter Wagner, second by John Beinborn made a motion to approve the appointment of David Swanson to the Southwest Wisconsin Library System Board of Trustees. Motion carried by voice vote.

Roger Guthrie, second by Diane Nelson made a motion to approve Jon Knautz as Highway Commissioner for the 2023-2024 term. Motion carried by voice vote.

**Grants:** There were no grants.

**Update on Fiber Optics/Communication Project:** Sheriff Dreckman advised that bid packets have been released for the next phase. The bid opening will take place February 6, 2024. The bid approval will go before the Law Enforcement/Emergency Management Committee February 12, 2024, with substantial completion on December 2024 and final completion March 2025. Shane Drinkwater, IT Director advised that the IT group has been working with the fiber optics installer for invoices. IT has installed a fiber loop router at the Platteville Police Department.

**Discussion and possible action on Resolution in support of increasing number of Deputies for the Grant County Sheriff's Office to replace jailers through jailer attrition:** Sheriff Dreckman presented the resolution to the Board. Roger Guthrie, second by John Beinborn made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-01 in support of increasing number of Deputies for the Grant County Sheriff's Office. Motion carried by voice vote.

**Discussion and possible action on Grant County Farmland Preservation Plan Map Amendment:** Erik Heagle, Conservation, Sanitation and Zoning Director presented the updated plan maps. Porter Wagner, second by Joseph Mumm made a motion to approve the amendment to the Grant County Farmland Preservation Plan Maps. Motion carried by voice vote.

**Discussion and possible action on Resolution establishing Ad Hoc Committee for Administrator Selection:** The County will be working with PAA for the recruitment of an Administrator. PAA would like to work with a team of five (5) members. Porter Wagner, second by Rick Sanson made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-02 establishing an Ad Hoc Committee for Administrator Selection. Motion carried by voice vote with one negative vote (Day).

**Discussion and possible action on appointment of Ad Hoc Committee for Administrator Selection:** Per the Resolution Chairman Keeney advised that the five-member team should consist of two members from the Administrative Committee, which talks about long range planning and goals of the County and the Executive Committee, which oversees the majority of the main functions of the County. Chairman Keeney recommended that himself, Kathy Kopp, Joseph Mumm, Roger Guthrie and Gary Ranum be appointed to the Committee. Once the Committee is selected there will be a kick off meeting that will take place at 1:00 p.m. today. The next meeting would take place on January 30, 2024 and if the documents were finalized at that time, recruitment would start on February 1, 2024. John Beinborn, second by Diane Nelson made a motion to approve and appoint Robert Keeney, Kathy Kopp, Joseph Mumm, Roger Guthrie and Gary Ranum as the Ad Hoc Administrator Selection Committee. Motion carried by voice vote.

At 10:39 a.m. Adam Day asked to be excused for the rest of the meeting.

**Discussion and possible action on approval of contract with Public Administration Associates, LLC:** Porter Wagner, second by Roger Guthrie made a motion to approve the service agreement with Public Administration Associates, LLC. Motion carried by voice vote.

**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:** Joseph Mumm, second by Roger Guthrie 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 twelve (12) Yes, one (1) vacancy and four (4) excused, therefore motion passed.

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

**Discussion and possible action on Allocation of Funds for purchase of Property by Grant County:**

Joseph Mumm, second by Gary Northouse made a motion to support the offer to purchase with the funding to come from the general fund. A roll call vote was taken with twelve Yes, one (1) vacancy and four (4) excused, therefore motion passed.

**Dog Claim(s) Grant County Humane Society:** Patrick Schroeder, second by Rick Sanson made a motion to approve the payment of \$960. 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:** John Beinborn, second by Kathy Kopp made a motion to adjourn until February 20, 2024. Motion carried by voice vote.