

Grant County Board of Supervisors
March 19, 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 13 present in the room: Gary Ranum, Robert Scallon, Robert Keeney, Roger Guthrie, Joseph Mumm, Rick Sanson, Carol Beals, Diane Nelson, Kathy Kopp, Porter Wagner, John Beinborn, Donald Splinter and Brian Lucey. Gary Northouse, Adam Day and Patrick Schroeder asked to be excused and there is one vacancy.

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

Approval of Minutes: Diane Nelson, second by Rick Sanson made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 20, 2024 meeting. Motion carried by voice vote.

Communications: Michael Goff, Business Development Manager from Pattern Energy gave a brief update on the status of the wind farm that will be coming into Grant, Iowa and Lafayette County.

Chairman Keeney gave an update on the County Administrator recruitment process. The selection committee screened nine candidates down to two candidates. The two candidates are scheduled to be in Grant County on Friday. The candidates will have a tour of the facilities and meeting with department heads. The meet and greet will take place at the Youth and Ag Building from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. That will allow everyone the opportunity to interact with the candidates. Interviews will start at 1:30 p.m. with deliberation after the two interviews are complete.

Chairman Keeney advised that April is County Government month and there will be staff appreciation meals. The dates have been set for each campus.

Chairman Keeney thanked the Tourism Council for distributing the Visitors Guide.

Appointments: Roger Guthrie, second by Gary Ranum made a motion to appoint Al Baker to the Grant County Housing Authority. Motion carried by voice vote.

Employee Recognitions: Chairman Keeney recognized Peter Janisch for his 27 years of service. Chairman Keeney recognized Leslie Gulliford for her 26 years of service. Chairman Keeney recognized Sarah Campbell for her 21 years of service.

Grants: Tonya White, County Clerk presented the grant on behalf of the Grant County Fairgrounds. Roger Guthrie, second by Robert Scallon made a motion to approve the DRA grant application. Motion carried by voice vote.

Update on Fiber Optics/Communications Project: Sheriff Dreckman advised that Finish Excavating will be starting the Bloomington site on April 8th with the goal of being done in July. They will also be working on the Millville site. Shane Drinkwater, IT Director advised that his team is working on moving all the NexGen 911 to the fiber optic loop. RACOM is working through a plan to connect the fiber optic loop to the Community Services Building and to the Platteville Police Department.

601st Zoning Amendment: Erik Heagle, CSZD Administrator presented the 601st Zoning Amendments for Bollant Farms Inc. in the Town of Wingville and Richard and Judith Henkel in the Town of Potosi. Porter Wagner, second by John Beinborn made a motion to approve RZ24-03 and RZ24-04. Motion carried by voice vote.

Resolution 2024-03 Authorizing the County Treasurer to Take the Tax Deed Parcels Which Have Taxes Owning on the 2020 Tax Rolls (2021 Tax Certificates): Carrie Eastlick, County Treasurer presented the resolution. John Beinborn, second by Kathy Kopp made a motion to approve resolution 2024-03. Motion carried by voice vote.

Resolution 2024-04 Authorizing Salaries for County Clerk, Register of Deeds and County Treasurer for the term 2025-2028: Carrie Eastlick, County Treasurer presented the resolution. Gary Ranum, second by Porter Wagner made a motion to approve resolution 2024-04. Motion carried by voice vote.

Unified Community Services request to use \$2,208 from the General Fund for Institute Supplement Payment: Holly Knapp, UCS Director explained the request. John Beinborn, second by Joseph Mumm made a motion to approve the request of \$2,208 from the General Fund. A roll call vote was taken with thirteen (13) Yes, three (3) Excused and One (1) Vacancy, therefore motion carried.

Military Leave policy update: Joyce Roling, Human Resources Director presented the policy update. Carol Beals, second by Gary Ranum made a motion to approve the change in language in the military leave policy. Motion carried by voice vote.

Discussion and possible action on Rules of the Board: Chairman Keeney explained how the process will be for the reorganization meeting in April. Many Counties are structured like the proposed rules. A majority of County Board Chairs and per statute County Board Chairs are to appoint committee members. Roger Guthrie, second by Gary Ranum made a motion to adopt the amended Rules of the Grant County Board of Supervisors as presented, with the following changes; on page 2 under recognition, it shall say and/or hand raise, under page 3, change the word wish to which, under Highway Committee, strike elected in both positions and strike elected on Health and Human Services Committee. Motion carried by voice vote with two negative votes (Beinborn and Beals).

Convene to closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. sec 19.85(1)(e) for the purpose of deliberating or negotiating the purchases 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 a property: Robert Scallon, second by Joseph Mumm made the motion to convene to closed session. A roll call vote was taken with thirteen (13) Yes, three (3) excused and one (1) vacancy, therefore motion carried.

Return to open session: Porter Wagner, second by Diane Nelson made a motion to convene to open session. Motion carried by voice vote.

Donald Splinter asked to be excused for the remainder of the meeting.

Discussion and possible action on occupancy of property at 237 W. Maple Street: Grant County has acquired the former BMO bank building. There was some discussion at the Executive Committee meeting about occupancy. The Executive Committee recommended to the County Board that Unified Community Services should occupy that facility. Chairman Keeney turned the meeting over to Garry Pluemer and Shane Drinkwater. Garry showed the Board a possible plan for additional offices to accommodate more staff members. Shane Drinkwater explained that a fiber optic path has been completed to the building, installed three cameras that cover all the entrances and established an environmental sensor in the boiler area. Roger Guthrie, second by John Beinborn made a motion to have Unified Community Services work with IT and Maintenance on a plan for repurposing the building at 237 W. Maple Street for occupancy of Unified Community Services. Motion carried by voice vote.

Dog Claim(s) Grant County Humane Society: Roger Guthrie, second by Robert Scallon made a motion to approve the payment of \$160 to the Grant County Humane Society for one dog. Motion carried by voice vote.

Committee Reports: Committee reports were foregone.

Adjournment: Joseph Mumm, second by Kathy Kopp made a motion to adjourn to call of the chair. Motion carried by voice vote.