

Grant County Board of Supervisors  
July 15, 2025  
Administration Building  
111 S. Jefferson Street  
Lancaster, WI 53813

The Grant County Board of Supervisors was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by County Board 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 in the Administration Building, Courthouse, on the county website and published in the Herald Independent.

Roll Call was taken with thirteen (13) members present in the room: Gary Ranum, Gary Northouse, Robert Scallon, Robert Keeney, Joseph Mumm, Patrick Schroeder, Rick Sanson, Carol Beals, Roger Lange, Lester Jantzen, John Beinborn, Mike Timmerman and Brian Lucey. Roger Guthrie, Adam Day, Diane Nelson and Kathy Kopp asked to be excused.

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

**Approval of Minutes:** Patrick Schroeder, second by John Beinborn made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 17, 2025 meeting. Motion carried by voice vote.

**Communications:** Chairman Keeney welcomed Mike Timmerman as the District 16 Supervisor. Mike Timmerman gave a brief introduction to the board.

Chairman Keeney provided a brief summary of the recently passed state budget and the Big Beautiful Bill. Due to timing, both were passed around the same time. The Wisconsin Counties Association shared a summary highlighting key items impacting counties, including:

- Approval of conservation staffing grants
- An increase in General Transportation Aids (GTA)
- An additional \$100 million for the Local Roads Improvement Program (LRIP)
- A reinvestment of \$150 million in the Agricultural Road Improvement Program (ARIP)
- A 5% increase in funding for Veterans Services
- Addition of 43 assistant district attorney positions statewide

Under the federal One Big Beautiful Bill the most significant county impact is related to the SNAP program. According to NACo, the program is transferring more responsibility to state and counties.

Administrator Dreckman explained under the state budget's allocation of 43 assistant district attorney positions, Grant County received 1.5 positions. Dreckman has been working with District Attorney Kieler to make sure office space is available for staff expected to begin in October.

There is also a shift in court cost. WCA has been urging for the state to assume a greater roll in funding since it is a state-operated court system.

**Appointments:** There were no appointments.

**Grants:** Sheriff Reukauf presented the PSAP Feasibility Study Grant, which will allow the City of Platteville and Grant County to conduct a study on the potential consolidation of their dispatch centers. Matrix Consulting has been selected to perform the study. The 10% match for the grant is \$6,050 with Grant County responsible for \$3,025. Robert Scallon, second by Rick Sanson made a motion to approve the Sheriff's Office to apply for the PSAP Feasibility Study Grant. Motion carried by voice vote.

**616<sup>th</sup> Zoning Amendment:** Rick Sanson, second by Joseph Mumm made a motion to approve the 616<sup>th</sup> Zoning Amendment for Jordan and Ashlyn Fritche in the Town of Fennimore. Motion carried by voice vote.

**Update on Fiber Optics/Communication Project:** Work is ongoing at the Cassville site, with additional concrete work to be completed. At the other tower sites, lines and antennas are being installed. On the network side, testing is underway to make sure the radio signal is circulating through the loop.

There have been some issues with the legacy system in a few areas. The Emergency Management Director has been working to ensure that communities on the northern part of the county maintain coverage. A few temporary solutions have been implemented to keep the paging running smoothly.

**Orchard Manor Strategic Plan Presentation:** The plan was developed in collaboration with the Southwest Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission. Phase one included a SWOT analysis, identifying 33 strengths, 29 weaknesses, 30 opportunities and 27 threats affecting the facility.

Currently the focus is on three priority areas. One of the primary goals of the strategic plan was to look at the demographics of potential future residents. There has been discussion about the possibility of adding assisted living facility at Orchard Manor. The strategic plan provides the information needed to assist in the planning for the facility's future.

One of the priorities is establishing a foundation. They are currently seeking donations to cover the \$5,000 startup costs, which includes \$2,700 in attorney fees for filing. The remaining funds will go toward initial expenses. There is also a need for individuals to serve on the foundation board. Establishing a foundation will allow Orchard Manor to seek grant opportunities that they currently cannot.

Another priority is researching options for onsite laundry services. Currently, discussions are underway with the Sheriff's Office to determine if it would be feasible to utilize their laundry facility.

**Southwestern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission Presentation:** Troy Maggied, SWWRPC Director provided an annual update. Grant County's cost for participation is \$0.96 per capita. SWWRPC's assets have increased by 193%, and county contributions have increased by 27%. The commission focuses on capacity building, economic development and planning. Recently, they partnered with the Platteville School District to assist with understanding open enrollment. Another project SWWRPC is involved with is SWISH (Southwest Wisconsin Infill Solutions to Housing), a collaboration with Southwest CAP. The goal of SWISH is to install modular homes on vacant lots in Lancaster. SWWRPC also manages the Revolving Loan Fund, which provides gap funding to support business growth and startups.

**Discussion and possible action on Amendment to Ordinance 206-16.3 Nuisance calls for law enforcement service:** Rick Sanson, second by Brian Lucey made a motion to approve amending

Ordinance 206-16.3 by adding the word “or and removing the word “fraudulent”. Motion carried by voice vote.

**Resolution Authorizing the Sale of a Parcel of Property to the Wisconsin DNR:** Patrick Schroeder, second by Lester Jantzen made a motion to approve resolution 2025-07 Authorizing the Sale of a Parcel of Property to the Wisconsin DNR. Motion carried by voice vote.

**Resolution Authorizing Grant County to Enter into settlement for Sandoz Opioid Litigation:** Gary Northouse, second by Carol Beals made a motion to approve resolution 2025-08 Authorizing Grant County to Enter into settlement for Sandoz Opioid Litigation. Motion carried by voice vote.

**Discussion and possible action on out of budget spending for the Finance Department to fund the Assistant Finance Director position through the end of 2025 using ARPA funding interest:** An update on the 2023 audit was provided. Baker Tilly confirmed they are on track to provide the draft audit by the end of July. The published audit will be presented to the Executive Committee at the August meeting.

The cost for the end of the year to hire an Assistant Finance Director full-time will be \$59,847 which includes the 10% recruiting fee. The cost to continue the contract with Truity would cost \$91,700. Joseph Mumm, second by Rick Sanson made a motion to approve the Assistant Finance Director position through 2025 using ARPA interest. A roll call vote was taken with eleven (11) Yes, two (2) No (Scallon and Beals), and four (4) excused, therefore motion carried.

**Committee Reports:** Ag & Extension/Fair: Joseph Mumm provided a report.

ADRC: Lester Jantzen advised there was nothing to report.

CJCC: Gary Ranum provided a report.

CSZD: Joseph Mumm provide a report.

DMAT: Brian Lucey advised there was nothing to report.

Hidden Valley: Robert Scallon provided a report.

Railroad: Robert Scallon provided a report.

Economic Development: John Beinborn provided a report.

Law Enforcement/Emergency Management: John Beinborn provided a report.

Executive: Robert Keeney provided a report.

Highway: Gary Northouse provided a report.

Library: Roger Lange provided a report.

Orchard Manor: Rick Sanson provided a report.

HHS: Gary Ranum provided a report.

SWCAP: Carol Beals provided a report.

UCS: Carol Beals provided a report.

Veterans: Lester Jantzen provided a report.

**Adjournment:** John Beinborn, second by Lester Jantzen made a motion to adjourn the meeting until August 19, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. Motion carried by voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 11:17 a.m.