

JUNE SESSION
TUESDAY, JUNE 27, 2022, AT 7:00 P.M.

The Board met. Mr. Dennis Bork in the Chair.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

The roll was called, and all members were present, except Mr. Max Weiss, who was excused. Others in attendance for all or portions of the meeting were Ms. Roxann Halverson, Mr. Ryan VanDeWalle, Mr. Brett Fernholz, Mr. John Hadley, Mr. Shane Goplin, and Mr. Cale Severson. Others attending via Teams: Mr. Dave Brommerich, Mr. Chris Smith, and Ms. Tina Anibas.

Ms. McMillan Urell made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting, seconded by Ms. Carol McDonough. Carried.

Public Comments: None.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Presentation of the Candidates for the District 8 Vacancy: Mr. John Hadley introduced himself. He is a Navy Veteran who has worked in county government and likes to stay active in the communities he resides in.

Mr. Brett Fernholz explained he was born and raised in Buffalo County. He is a retired law enforcement officer and military veteran. He explained his past employment and experiences with other organizations.

The Board May Go Into Closed Session to Discuss the Candidates for the District 8 Vacancy: Ms. McMillan Urell made a motion to go into closed session, seconded by Mr. Ruff. Mr. Schmidtknecht-yes, Mr. Taylor-yes, Mr. Nathan Nelson-yes, Mr. Bruegger-yes, Mr. Stanton-yes, Mr. Sendelbach-yes, Ms. McDonough-yes, Mr. Steve Nelson-yes, Ms. McMillan Urell-yes, Mr. Ruff-yes, Mr. Michaels-yes, and Mr. Bork-yes. Carried.

The Board May Return to Open Session: Mr. Ruff made a motion to return to open session, seconded by Ms. McMillan Urell. Mr. Stanton-yes, Mr. Nathan Nelson-yes, Ms. McMillan Urell-yes, Mr. Taylor-yes, Mr. Ruff-yes, Mr. Sendelbach-yes, Mr. Bork-yes, Mr. Bruegger-yes, Mr. Michaels-yes, Mr. Steve Nelson-yes, Mr. Schmidtknecht-yes, and Ms. McDonough-yes. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding the Selection of the District 8 Representative and Oath of Office: A vote was taken with Mr. Hadley receiving 7 votes and Mr. Fernholz receiving 5 votes. Mr. VanDeWalle went to the candidates to explain the outcome.

Ms. Halverson issued the Oath of Office to Mr. Hadley.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Ordinance #22-06-01 An Ordinance Designating All-Terrain Vehicle Routes and Regulating the Operation of All-Terrain Vehicles: This

ordinance amendment adds a few sections of ATV/UTV route on State Road 88. The State has given their okay with these small sections but wanted the ordinance updated to show the County supported the addition. One other change was to the wording on the age limits to drive an ATV on the road. The driver can be between the ages of 12 and 15 if they are physically accompanied on the same ATV by an adult that possesses a valid driver license. DNR law states that you can only have two riders on an ATV that is manufactured for passengers and there are not many machines manufactured for this. For UTV driving you must be 16 and possess a valid driver license. A discussion was held on safety concerns using State Road 88. The County has the right to close any or all trails if an issue arises. Mr. Ruff made a motion to approve the ordinance, seconded by Ms. McDonough. Mr. Bruegger voting no. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Resolution #22-06-01 A Resolution to Support the Creation of the Statistical Boundaries of the Northern Grain Belt Port Statistical Area: Mr. Goplin explained he is the Secretary/Treasurer for the WI Corn Growers Association, and he was asked to come and explain the importance of supporting a Grain Belt Port Statistical Area. Documenting and tracking the use of the river for transporting goods will help to be able to show how important the river is to infrastructure of Buffalo County. These reports can then be used to help with funding and grants for repairs to the lock and dam structures. There is no cost to the County for supporting this effort. Ms. McMillan Urell made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Bruegger. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Resolution #22-06-02 A Resolution to Approve the Expenditure of ARPA Funds to Complete a Baseline Groundwater Quality/Well Sampling Project in Buffalo County: A discussion of the mixed use of mg/L and ppm in the resolution was discussed. Mr. Stanton made a motion to amend the resolution to use ppm to be consistent, seconded by Ms. McMillan Urell. Carried. There were concerns with the percentage of contamination reported in the resolution when no data from past studies can be found and how the sampling area is to be decided. Mr. Ruff would like to see a stratified testing base in watershed areas and areas that have suspected issues. Mr. Steve Nelson made a motion to approve the resolution by roll call vote, seconded by Ms. McMillan Urell. All in favor except Mr. Ruff who voted no. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Resolution #22-06-03 A Resolution to Authorize Unspent CAPX2020 Funding Under Resolution #17-05-01 to be Reallocated to PL-566 Repairs and Maintenance: Mr. Severson explained there was to be \$4,000 put into a fund for repairs and maintenance each budget year, but this had not been done for a while. This has now been corrected and the funds are now being put away again. There are two structures that need significant repairs. There is \$23,000 in the account and \$8,900 left in an unused Rose Valley CAPX account. This would be enough money to repair one of the structures. There is additional CAPX money from another project that could be used for the other structure and Mr. Severson will bring another resolution forward for that structure and funding source. He explained the repairs and costs

needed for each structure. Ms. McMillan Urell made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Taylor. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Resolution #22-06-04 A Resolution to Create and Fill a Full-Time Zoning/Land Conservation Administrative Assistant: Mr. VanDeWalle explained this position is budgeted for, but the resolution is needed to correct create the shared position. Ms. McMillan Urell made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Stanton. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Resolution #22-06-05 A Resolution to Establish Membership and Compensation for the Land Information Council: This resolution is being updated to allow a citizen member to be paid a per diem and mileage as shown in the Rules of Government. Mr. Steve Nelson made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Ms. McMillan Urell. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Resolution #22-06-06 A Resolution to Apply for the PSAP Grant Funding for One Public Safety Answering Point per County: Mr. VanDeWalle explained this resolution is needed to designate the County as the Public Safety Answering Point for future Federal grants. Ms. McMillan Urell made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Ms. McDonough. Carried.

Committee Chair Reports: Mr. Ruff reported that Land Conservation lost the Resource Management Specialist. This position will need to be refilled as it works on Non-Metallic Mining. There is work still to be done on the Buffalo White Sands Mine. The mine is reportedly being sold to Ryan Barth. Mr. Ruff is also trying to work with the State to help control Wild Parsnip with additional mowing along the roads. He was told it could not be mowed a second time because of the Monarch butterfly. He is going to continue working on controlling Wild Parsnip.

Ms. McMillan Urell reported that DHHS has interviews on Friday for the Account Clerk position. They are looking at contract or working in collaboration with other counties for the Public Health Officer position. There were 1,000 COVID surveys sent out and only 144 returned. There will be a reminder postcard sent out to have those surveys returned.

Mr. Steve Nelson reported on HR Committee. Position descriptions are in the process of being reviewed and should be completed in about a year. He also reported on Land Use Committee. They are waiting for the DOJ to issue a letter on how they would like Buffalo County to proceed with the Herold issues.

Ms. McMillan Urell requested that all Committee Chairs inform other Supervisors when something is on an agenda that affects a certain municipality.

Mr. Schmidtknecht reported on Economic Development. More broadband grants have been awarded. Ntec received one for the Town of Canton. The Town of Buffalo was

not awarded their grant, but he will keep them informed when more funding comes available.

Administrative Coordinator Report: Mr. VanDeWalle reported that he will be attending another webinar tomorrow for the Opioid settlement and the options counties have for payment.

He will be putting LP fuel out for bids and will have them sent back before the August Finance and County Board meeting. Last year 42,000 gallons of LP was used.

There will be a demo on Thursday with Tyler Technologies, Pepin County and staff from Buffalo County for the new financial system. Funds for the new financial system were allocated out of the ARPA funds.

Mr. VanDeWalle discussed options to revamp the Land Conservation, Zoning, and GIS departments under a Land Management Department. He understands something of this nature has been tried previously in Buffalo County and has talked to the individuals who are all interested in this option. He believes it will help with retention of employees. He will continue to work on this concept.

County Board Chair Report: None.

Public Comments: None.

Next meeting date and time is Monday, August 22nd at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Bruegger made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Schmidtknecht at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Roxann Halverson
Buffalo County Clerk