

**PRICE COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

Date: January 11, 2022 Time: 9:00am

Place: Courthouse County Board Room 101; 126 Cherry St; Phillips, WI 54555

Call to Order and Roll Call. Meeting called to order by Robert Kopisch, Committee Chairperson at 9:00am. Present: Paula Houdek, Robert Kopisch, Larry Palecek, Dennis Wartgow. Excused: James Hintz Also present: Nick Trimner, David Bockerstette, Carrie Kyle, Al Barkstrom, Mark Kyle, Jeff Hallstrand.

Items for discussion and possible action:

1. Public Comment and Communications: Letter from Laurie Groskopf regarding updated wolf management resolution – referred to Forestry & Parks Committee. Information from NWRPC regarding their Civic Games – referred to Paula Houdek and school districts.
Regarding sale of Fairground property: Mr. Barkstrom read communication from Sam Opresik. Myra Grapa, Town of Worcester presenting communication from Gene Grapa. James Yanich, Town of Worcester, regarding value and bid process for sale. Lynda Ludwig, Town of Worcester, representing Price County Fairgrounds United presented information gathered regarding the mission of the non-profit. Remotely: David Schmidt, Town of Lake supporting sale of the Fairground property. Ginny Strobl, County Board Supervisor regarding amending the resolution that was adopted by the County Board.
2. Meeting minutes December 9, 2021: Motion Wartgow/Palecek to approve the minutes of the December 9, 2021 meeting as presented. Motion carried.
3. Treasurer Report
 - a. Monthly reports: Reviewed report.
 - b. Delinquent Taxes and In Rem: Reviewed listing. 2017 In Rem process ended in taking five properties. Land Use & UW-Extension Committee will set minimum bid prices for auction. 2018 process started with 95 parcels.
4. County Administrator – Nick Trimner
 - a. Financial Reports – 2021 Actual vs Budget: Reviewed. Some 2021 revenues will still be coming in 2022. Will bring budget amendments to adjust for unbudgeted projects. Will provide information on Sheriff and Jail overages. Highway Department had a lighter than normal early winter maintenance. Forestry stumpage did well. High cost placements have trended well. County parks did well.
 - b. American Recovery Plan Act Update: Interim final rule came out last week. Being reviewed by Wisconsin Counties Association. Opened up some of the restrictions. Will continue to do project based spending. Of the \$2.6 million to the County, approximately \$600,000 has not been designated. Starting RFP process for Courthouse and Safety Building projects.
 - c. Administrator Report: UW-Extension interviews scheduled. Legislative Conference in Madison. Employees appreciated Christmas card sent by County Board.
5. Sale/Lease of Fairgrounds Property: Resolution from the County Board directed Nick to continue gathering information regarding lease or sale of the Fairgrounds Property. Advertising was done. Received interest from two parties: Price County Fairgrounds United and Darin Baratka and Alexis Baratka. Nick and Carrie met with both parties to review their plans and proposal. Both parties are proposing growth of the facilities. Reviewed contingencies: bankruptcy, potential sale, continued use by current entities. Working with legal council to finalize property description and structure. Consulted with local realtors regarding value of the property.
6. Closed Session: Announcement and motion Houdek/Palecek to adjourn to closed session at 10:10 a.m. pursuant to the exemption in Wis. State Statute 19.85(1)(e) Deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session. For the purpose of:
 - a. Negotiation on Sale/Lease of Fairgrounds Property
 - b. Motion to Return to Open Session

Roll call vote: Yes (4): Houdek, Kopisch, Palecek, Wartgow. No: (0). Motion carried.

Motion Wartgow/Palecek in closed session to return to open session at 11:02 a.m.

Roll call vote: Yes (4): Houdek, Kopisch, Palecek, Wartgow. No: (0). Motion carried.

Supervisor Palecek left the meeting at 11:02 a.m.

7. Take Action, as needed, on closed session items: Members need additional information. Meeting to be scheduled for January 25 or 26 at 9am.
8. 2022 Payments to Non-profit and Community Partners: Motion Houdek/Wartgow to make the first \$15,000 of the \$30,000 Tourism payment to the Phillips Chamber of Commerce. Motion carried. Payments to be held \$15,000 Economic Development and \$5,000 to Friends of Fred Smith for further information.
9. Resolution – Establish a Fund for the Receipt and Disbursement of Carbon Offset Project Revenues: Motion Wartgow/Houdek to approve the resolution and forward to the County Board for their consideration. Motion carried.
10. Resolution – Use of Highway Fund to Purchase Contractor Equipment: Motion Wartgow/Houdek to approve the resolution and forward to the County Board for their consideration. Motion carried.
11. WCA meetings
 - a. Legislative Exchange: February 8-9, Madison: Registration deadline January 17th. Motion Wartgow/Kopisch to approve Supervisor Houdek attend the conference. Motion carried.
 - b. Annual Conference: September 18-20, Sauk County: County Board is scheduled for September 20th. Will need to reschedule. Recommend to the County Board to change to the September 13th.
12. COVID Vaccination Mandates
 - a. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS): For organizations that received federal funding. Vaccination mandate for any of their meetings.
 - b. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA): Mandate currently being contested on the federal level. Wisconsin does not currently fall under OSHA regulations.
13. Broadband Expansion Project Status: The 339 project was approved. The Southern Price County project was deferred for final selection.
14. Economic Development / Tourism Update: Phillips Chamber of Commerce taking care of the Price County tourism promotions. Park Falls Chamber of Commerce did not want to participate. Park Falls Area Community Economic Development declined County support.
15. Monthly Vouchers: Motion Houdek/Wartgow to approve the accounts payable and payroll for the month of December in the amount of \$2,456,980.87 and voucher in the amount of \$162,500.29. Motion carried.
16. Date of Next Meeting – January 25 and February 10 and March 10.
17. Meeting adjourned at 11:33 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Jean Gottwald, County Clerk