

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Date: May 13, 2021

Time: 9:00 a.m.

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

Meeting called to order by Robert Kopisch, Chairperson at 9:00 a.m. Roll Call: Present – Jim Hintz (arrived 9:21 a.m.), Paula Houdek, Robert Kopisch, Larry Palecek, Dennis Wartgow. Also present – Nick Trimner, Lynn Neeck, Joe Grapa, Carrie Kyle, Alan Barkstrom

Nick reviewed process for those attending electronically.

Items for discussion and possible action:

1. Public Comment: None.
2. Communications and Correspondences: None.
3. Meeting minutes April 15 and April 20, 2021: Motion Palecek/Houdek to approve the minutes of the April 15 and April 20, 2021 meetings as presented. Motion carried.
4. Treasurer – Lynn Neeck
  - a. Treasurer's monthly report: Reviewed report. Sales tax and property tax collections continue to go well.
  - b. Resolution – Designating Public Depositories: Motion Houdek/Palecek to approve the resolution and forward to the County Board with recommendation for adoption. Motion carried.
  - c. Open Accounts at Prevail Bank: Motion Palecek/Houdek to authorize two accounts at Prevail Bank, one for the ARPA funds and one for general operations. Motion carried.
  - d. Deposit of American Rescue Plan Act Funds – interest quotes: CDs: Community Financial .25 - .45, Prevail Bank .3 - .4, Forward .2 - .4. Money Market Accounts: Community Financial .35, Prevail .3 - .6, Forward .2. Motion Wartgow/Palecek to accept bid from Prevail Bank for the Money Market Accounts at .6%. Motion carried.
  - e. Tax Delinquencies / In Rem / Tax Deed
    - i. 2017: 32 parcels. Court date yet to be set.
    - ii. 2018: 210 parcels. Publication done in April. Redemption October 31<sup>st</sup> and then title searches will be ordered.
    - iii. 2019: Process not started.
    - iv. Delinquency and Payment Plan Status:
      1. Park Falls Development, LLC: Has been put in receivership. They had been making scheduled payments.
      2. Phillips Lionite Wood Products Company, LLC.: Making \$2,500 monthly payments. Have requested a larger payment to bring them current on 2017 taxes before date of redemption.
5. Resolution – Develop a Forest Carbon Offset Project for Price County Owned Land: Communicated with Bluesource LLC, a company that sells carbon credits on behalf of owners of forest land. Calculation will incorporate annual harvesting or any natural disasters. Payments made annually. Ten-year revenue estimate of \$3.6 million. Presentation done for the Forestry & Parks Committee. Motion Palecek/Wartgow to postpone until more information is provided. Motion rescinded. Motion Wartgow/Houdek to move discussion to closed session. Motion carried.
6. County Administrator – Nick Trimner
  - a. 2020 Actual vs Budget and Audit: Highway and general audit complete. Single audit in two weeks.
  - b. 2021 Actual vs Budget: New report format presented. Reviewed reports.
  - c. American Recovery Plan Act Update:
    - i. Allowable Uses: Guidance continues to come out and changes frequently. Program is still very vague. May require extensive reporting and spending requirements.
    - ii. Funding Timeline: Certification has been filed and the first half payment will be coming soon. Second payment will be at least a year later.
    - iii. Broadband Infrastructure Commitment: Reviewed potential resolution earmarking \$50,000 which may offer a better chance for providers to apply for grant money.

- d. WCA/NACo High Performance Leadership Training: 12-week program. Approximately \$1,600. Motion Palecek/Houdek to approve Nick Trimner's registration for the course. Motion carried.
  - e. Resolution – 2021 Budget Amendments: Motion Hintz/Wartgow to approve the resolution and forward to the County Board with recommendation for adoption. Motion carried.
  - f. Administrator Report: Nothing additional.
7. Economic Development
- a. Park Falls Area Community Development Corporation Restructuring Status: Michael Bablick, PFACDC Director, present remotely. Discussion of combining the three enterprises into one entity (both chambers and PFACDC) that would have combined resources.
  - b. Future Economic Development Spending: County is contributing to PFACDC and Chambers of Commerce for economic and tourism promotion.
8. Chambers of Commerce / Tourism Status: County payment will go to the Phillips Chamber to manage usage between the two chambers.
9. WCA Fall Conference
- a. Attendance: Deadline to submit registration request to County Clerk is June 15<sup>th</sup>.
  - b. Resolutions for Consideration: Will discuss at June meeting.
10. NW CEP – Chief Elected Official Shared Liability Agreement: Bob reviewed agreement.
11. Resolution Request from Supervisor Barkstrom: Preserve the US Constitution Second Amendment as Originally Intended: Motion Palecek to approve formatting the resolution in County format and bring back to next meeting for discussion. Motion failed due to lack of a second. Motion Houdek/Wartgow to postpone indefinitely. Roll call vote: Yes (3): Houdek, Kopisch, Wartgow. No: (2): Hintz, Palecek. Motion carried.
12. Resolution – Support of Exempt Status for Property Owned by Regional Planning Commissions: Motion Palecek/Wartgow to approve the resolution and forward to the County Board with recommendation for adoption. Motion carried.
13. Resolution – Adopting the Price County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan: Motion Houdek/Palecek to approve the resolution and forward to the County Board with recommendation for adoption. Motion carried.
14. Monthly Vouchers: Motion Palecek/Houdek to approve the accounts payable and payroll for the month of April in the amount of \$1,415,662.32 and vouchers in the amount of \$764,553.43. Motion carried.
15. Closed Session: Announcement and motion Houdek/Wartgow to adjourn to closed session at 11:21 a.m. pursuant to the exemption in Wis. State Statute 19.85 (1)(c) for considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility and (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. County Administrator Employment Agreement
  - b. Develop a Forest Carbon Offset Project for Price County Owned Land
  - c. Motion to Return to Open Session
- Roll call vote: Yes (5): Hintz, Houdek, Kopisch, Palecek, Wartgow. No: (0). Motion carried.  
Motion Houdek/Palecek in closed session to return to open session at 12:07 p.m. Motion carried.  
Roll call vote: Yes (5): Hintz, Houdek, Kopisch, Palecek, Wartgow. No: (0). Motion carried.
16. Take Action, as needed, on closed session items: Motion Wartgow/Palecek to refer the Forest Carbon Offset Project resolution back to the Forestry & Parks Committee for amending and return to the Executive Committee. Motion carried. Motion Houdek/Palecek to prepare a new County Administrator Employment Agreement as discussed and forward to the County Board for their consideration. Motion carried.
17. Date of Next Meeting: June 10, July 15, August 12
18. Meeting adjourned at 12:13 p.m.
- Respectfully submitted: Jean Gottwald, County Clerk