

REGULAR MEETING OF THE PRICE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

June 16, 2020

County Board Room 101, 126 Cherry St, Phillips, WI 54555

Meeting called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Robert Kopisch, County Board Chairperson. Invocation: Pastor Jason Thomas. Pledge of Allegiance recited by those in attendance. Roll Call: Present (13): Larry Palecek, Ginny Strobl, Mark Kyle, Jeffrey Hallstrand, James Hintz, Paula Houdek, Dennis Wartgow, Alan Barkstrom, Jordan Spacek, Robert Kopisch, Waldemar Madsen, Bruce Jilka, William Teeters. Also present: Nick Trimner. Due to COVID regulations, the public was given the opportunity to attend via teleconference.

Approve minutes of the May 19, 2020 meeting: Motion Hintz/Strobl to approve the minutes of the May 19, 2020 meeting as presented. Motion carried.

Communications and Announcements: None

Public Hearing declared open at 9:11 a.m. for An Ordinance to Amend the Price County Code by Adding a New Section 55.11 Therefore, Entitled "Local Health Officer's Duties and Authority during Public Health Emergency. Public comment heard via teleconference call from: Anne Oswald-Balsavich, City of Park Falls; Marc Morrone, Town of Worcester; Rodney Price, Town of Ogema. Also, from Janene Ravet, Town of Catawba. Written comments read from Steve Ravet, Town of Catawba; Mike Reed; Town of Worcester; Krista Stebig; Town of Kennan; Deb Callahan; Town of Catawba. Public hearing declared closed at 9:42 a.m.

Ordinance:

Ordinance – POSTPONED FOR SIX MONTHS

Amend the Code of Price County Chapter 55, Thereof Entitled "Emergency Management", to add a New Section Providing for

Local Health Officer's Duties and Authority during Public Health Emergency
Chapter 55, Emergency Management
Article II, Public Health Emergencies

§ 55-11. Declared state of emergency. [Ch. 323, Wis. Stats.]

A. Declaration by County Board of Supervisors.

(1) Sec. 323.11, Wis. Stats. (as it currently exists or is hereafter revised) is incorporated herein by reference as if fully set forth.

(a) The Price County Board of Supervisors ("County Board") may declare, by ordinance or resolution, an emergency (including a public health emergency per Sec. 323.02(16), Wis. Stats.) existing within Price County whenever conditions arise by reason of a riot or civil commotion, a disaster, or an imminent threat of a disaster, that impairs transportation, food or fuel supplies, medical care, fire, health or police protection, or other critical systems of the local unit of government.

(b) The period of the emergency shall be limited by the ordinance or resolution to the time during which the emergency conditions exist or are likely to exist.

(2) If, because of the emergency conditions, the County Board is unable to meet promptly, the County Board Chair and/or the Emergency Management Committee, as defined in the Emergency Operations Plan (per Sec. 323.14 Wis. Stats.), will exercise by proclamation all the powers conferred upon the County Board under Subsection A above that are deemed to be necessary and expedient.

(a) The proclamation shall be subject to ratification, alteration, modification, or repeal by the County Board as soon as that body can meet.

(b) The subsequent action taken by the County Board shall not affect the prior validity of the proclamation.

B. The County Board or its designated Emergency Management Committee shall review all reports submitted by the local health officer under § 55-12A(1) below, and, within seven business days, confirm, modify or cancel any measures taken by the local health officer. Any modification or cancellation of such measures by the County Board or its designee in no way invalidates the local health officer's investigation findings, decisions or orders issued prior to review.

§ 55-12. Local health officer's duties and authority. [Sec. 252.03, Wis. Stats.]

A. Sec. 252.03, Wis. Stats. (as it currently exists or is hereafter revised) is incorporated herein by reference as if fully set forth.

(1) The Price County health officer, upon the appearance of any communicable disease in Price County, will immediately investigate all the circumstances and make a full report to the County Board and Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

(2) The Price County health officer will promptly take all measures necessary to prevent, suppress and control communicable diseases, and will report to the County Board the progress of the

communicable diseases and the measures used against them, as needed to keep the County Board fully informed, or at such intervals as the Wisconsin Secretary of Health may direct.

(3) The Price County health officer may inspect schools and other public buildings within his or her jurisdiction as needed to determine whether the buildings are kept in a sanitary condition.

(4) The Price County health officer may do what is reasonable and necessary for the prevention and suppression of disease; may forbid public gatherings when deemed necessary to control outbreaks or epidemics; and shall advise the Wisconsin Department of Health Services of measures taken.

(5) No person may interfere with the investigation under this article of any place or its occupants by the Price County health officer or his or her assistants.

§ 55-13. Violation, penalty and enforcement procedures.

A. Any person who violates or obstructs this ordinance, or an order of the Price County Health Officer under § 55-12A above is subject to:

(1) The issuance of a citation pursuant to Ch. 290 of the Price County Code and Sec. 66.0113, Wis. Stats. A citation may be issued by the local health officer or his or her designee.

(2) Shall be subject to a forfeiture as provided in Chapter 290 of the Price County Code, together with the cost of prosecution.

(3) The issuance of a summons and complaint, and entry of a civil judgment for a forfeiture and (temporary or permanent) injunctive relief.

B. A separate offense shall be deemed committed each day during or on which a violation occurs or continues.

C. Proceeding under any other ordinance or law relating to the same or any other matter shall not preclude enforcement under this article.

§ 55-14. Severability.

Should any portion of this article be declared unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this article shall not be affected.

§ 55-15. Purpose.

The purpose of this article is to promote public health, safety, and general welfare.

§ 55-16. When effective.

This article shall take effect on the day following the date of publication.

Motion Palecek/Houdek to consider resolution for adoption. Motion Hintz/Barkstrom to postpone for six months. Roll call vote: Yes (7): Strobl, Hallstrand, Hintz, Barkstrom, Spacek, Madsen, Teeters; No (6): Palecek, Kyle, Houdek, Wartgow, Jilka, Kopisch. Motion carried.

Resolutions:

Resolution 15-20

Price County Airport Six Year Plan

WHEREAS, Wisconsin Statutes require a Statement of Project Intentions from airport owners contemplating federal and/or state aid within the next six years; and

WHEREAS, this Six-Year Statement of Project Intentions is used by the Department of Transportation, Bureau of Aeronautics for planning and budgeting purposes and is not a petition for federal and/or state aid; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined by the Price County Highway and Transportation Committee that the attached list of proposed improvements are in the best interest of the Price County Airport.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this governing body contemplates requesting federal and/or state aid for the projects listed on the attached schedule of airport improvements recognizing this plan is subject to change during this period due to unanticipated future requirements.

Submitted by the Price County Highway and Transportation Committee: s/Larry Palecek, Chair; Jeff Hallstrand; James Hintz; Jordan Spacek; William Teeters. Reviewed by County Administrator: s/Nicholas Trimner. Adopted by the Price County Board of Supervisors this 16th day of June 2020. s/Robert D. Kopisch, County Board Chair; Jean Gottwald, County Clerk. For: 13, Against: 0. Motion Hintz/Palecek to consider resolution for adoption. Roll call vote on resolution adoption: Yes (13): Palecek, Strobl, Kyle, Hallstrand, Hintz, Houdek, Wartgow, Barkstrom, Spacek, Kopisch, Madsen, Jilka, Teeters; No (0). Motion carried.

Resolution 16-20

Appointment of Price County Audit Firm

WHEREAS, there are numerous requirements for Price County to have an annual financial audit performed; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the County Board to appoint the county's audit firm with the installation of each new board; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Committee, along with recommendation from the County Administrator, determined that the current firm we have contracted with is doing a satisfactory job.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP is hereby designated Price County's audit firm for the fiscal years ending December 31, 2020 and 2021, or such time as the Board wishes to make a change; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED Price County agrees that the annual fees will not exceed \$69,100 and \$71,200 respectively.

Submitted by the Price County Executive Committee. s/Robert D. Kopisch, Chair; James Hintz; Paula Houdek; Larry Palecek; Dennis Wartgow. Reviewed by County Administrator: s/Nicholas Trimner. Adopted by the Price County Board of Supervisors this 16th day of June 2020. s/Robert D. Kopisch, County Board Chair; Jean Gottwald, County Clerk. For: 13, Against: 0. Motion Wartgow/Hallstrand to consider resolution for adoption. Roll call vote on resolution adoption: Yes (13): Palecek, Strobl, Kyle, Hallstrand, Hintz, Houdek, Wartgow, Barkstrom, Spacek, Kopisch, Madsen, Jilka, Teeters; No (0). Motion carried.

Resolution 17-20

Opposing the Relocation of Problem Wolves in Price County

WHEREAS, in April 2010, with Resolution 24-10, the Price County Board of Supervisors supported delisting the gray wolf to allow for the effective management of the gray wolf population by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR); and

WHEREAS, although Price County supported a population goal of 350 wolves in 2010, gray wolf population has increased to approximately 950 wolves as of April 2019; and

WHEREAS, with the increase in the gray wolf population, Wisconsin residents have experienced depredation as well as threats to human safety and other animals resulting in reduced hunting opportunities and compromised agricultural operations; and

WHEREAS, one management control method the DNR has used to address depredation by wolves is to relocate problem wolves to other counties in the state; and

WHEREAS, such methodology has been found to be ineffective in eliminating depredation as these wolves continue to cause damage after relocation; and

WHEREAS, considering Price County has a large County forest and many agricultural operations, Price County is concerned that the relocation of problem wolves in the County would significantly impact recreational opportunities and agricultural operations.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Price County Board of Supervisors hereby opposes the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources relocating problem wolves into Price County from other counties and/or states; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Clerk shall mail copies of this resolution to Governor Evers, the State Legislators for Price County, the Secretary of the DNR, the Secretary of the Department of Ag, Trade and Consumer Protection and the Wisconsin Counties Association for consideration. Submitted by: Price County Forestry and Parks Committee: s/Jeff Hallstrand, Chair; Paula Houdek; Waldemar Madsen; Jordan Spacek; Ginny Strobl. Reviewed by County Administrator: s/Nicholas Trimner. Adopted by the Price County Board of Supervisors this 16th day of June 2020. s/Robert D. Kopisch, County Board Chair; Jean Gottwald, County Clerk. For: 13, Against: 0. Motion Houdek/Hallstrand to consider resolution for adoption. Roll call vote on resolution adoption: Yes (13): Palecek, Strobl, Kyle, Hallstrand, Hintz, Houdek, Wartgow, Barkstrom, Spacek, Kopisch, Madsen, Jilka, Teeters; No (0). Motion carried.

Amend Resolution 9-20

Declaration of Emergency in Response to the COVID-19 Coronavirus

WHEREAS, in December 2019, a novel strain of coronavirus known as COVID-19 was detected, and COVID-19 has continued to spread throughout the world, including to the United States and the State of Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, the federal government, state governments and local governments are working together to contain the further spread of the disease and treat existing cases; and

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, the United States Department of Health and Human Services declared a Public Health Emergency, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a pandemic, and on March 12, 2020 the Governor of the State of Wisconsin declared a Health Emergency in the State; and

WHEREAS, Price County (the "County") has been working to protect the health and well-being of its residents from the spread of COVID-19, and to prepare for the impacts the disease is likely to have on the County; and

WHEREAS, the County Board (the "Board") has determined that it is necessary to make all possible resources and means available to the County in order to protect the health, safety, and welfare of its residents from the threat posed by the continued spread of COVID-19.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 323.11 the Board finds and declares that an emergency exists within the County by reason of an imminent threat of disaster impairing medical care, health, and other critical systems of the County due to the spread of COVID-19; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that during the period of emergency prescribed by this Resolution, the Board may order, by ordinance or resolution, whatever is necessary and expedient for the health, safety, protection, and welfare of persons and property within the County; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Administrator is hereby authorized and directed by the Board to coordinate and administer the County's emergency management response and to carry out the orders of the Board related thereto; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Emergency Management Coordinator of the County is authorized and directed to carry out her duties under the County's Emergency Management Plan under the supervision and direction of the County Administrator and perform such other duties as may be directed by further resolution of the Board; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Supervisors are hereby authorized to attend meetings of the Board remotely, and the Board shall take all actions necessary to effectuate the same in compliance with all other applicable laws; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, based upon the information available to the Board and the ongoing threat posed by the spread of COVID-19, the period of emergency shall continue for ~~one hundred (100)~~ **one hundred sixty (160)** days from the effective date of this Resolution unless terminated sooner or extended by further resolution of the Board; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all actions heretofore taken by the Board and other appropriate public officers and agents of the County with respect to the matters contemplated under this Resolution are hereby ratified, confirmed and approved.

Done at the Price County Courthouse this 17th day of March 2020. s/Robert D. Kopisch; Chairperson, Price County Board of Supervisors. Adopted by the Price County Board of Supervisors this 17th day of March 2020. s/Robert D. Kopisch, County Board Chairperson; Jean Gottwald, County Clerk. For: 12, Against: 0. Amended by the Price County Board of Supervisors this 16th day of June 2020. s/Robert D. Kopisch, County Board Chair; Jean Gottwald, County Clerk. For: 7, Against: 6. Motion Houdek/Hintz to amend Resolution 9-20 to change "one hundred (100) days" to "one hundred sixty (160) days". Roll call vote on resolution amendment: Yes (7): Palecek, Kyle, Hintz, Houdek, Wartgow, Kopisch, Teeters; No (6): Strobl, Hallstrand, Barkstrom, Spacek, Madsen, Jilka. Motion carried.

Amend Resolution 10-20

Provide County Administration Emergency Administrative Flexibility for COVID-19

WHEREAS, the United States is experiencing an expanding COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin has had confirmed cases of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, Price County desires to be as strategic as possible to ensure the health and safety of Price County staff, residents and those traveling throughout Price County; and

WHEREAS, Price County desires to maintain the highest level of services related to the general public, such as Public Safety, Health and Human Services, Emergency Management and those departments directly related to the general welfare of all residents; and

WHEREAS, Price County desires flexibility to manage operations throughout this national pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Price County is providing administrative flexibility to allow the County Administrator, in consultation with Public Health and the County Board Chair, the ability to, but not limited to:

- Close Price County government buildings as necessary,
- Implement strategic staffing and policy changes to ensure enough healthy staff are in place to carry out necessary and critical services, and
- Maintain employee benefit status regardless of hours worked; and

WHEREAS, the County Administrator and County Board Chair shall, within reasonable time, but no later than 24 hours after implementing necessary decisions, inform the Price County Board of Supervisors of the situation at hand by email and/or phone.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Price County Board of Supervisors does hereby acknowledge, accept and support the County Administrator and County Board Chair to strategically implement necessary plans to ensure the safety and health of the Price County staff, residents and those traveling throughout the county; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution will remain in effect for ~~one hundred (100)~~ one hundred sixty (160) days, unless extended by the Price County Board of Supervisors.

Submitted by the Price County Administration Committee. s/Dennis Wartgow, Chair; Jeff Hallstrand; Robert Kopisch; Jordan Spacek. Reviewed by County Administrator: s/Nicholas Trimner. Adopted by the Price County Board of Supervisors this 17th day of March 2020. s/Robert D. Kopisch, County Board Chair; Jean Gottwald, County Clerk. For: 12, Against: 0. Amended by the Price County Board of Supervisors this 16th day of June 2020. s/Robert D. Kopisch, County Board Chair; Jean Gottwald, County Clerk. For: 12, Against: 1. Motion Hintz/Wartgow to amend Resolution 10-20 to change "one hundred (100) days" to "one hundred sixty (160) days". Roll call vote on resolution amendment: Yes (12): Palecek, Kyle, Hallstrand, Hintz, Houdek, Wartgow, Barkstrom, Spacek, Kopisch, Madsen, Jilka, Teeters; No (1): Strobl. Motion carried.

Resolution 18-20

Ratify the Collective Bargaining Agreement between Price County and Price County Deputies Union LAW Local 116

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the Price County Administration Committee to negotiate labor agreement contracts; and

WHEREAS, the Administration Committee has reached an agreement between Price County and Price County Deputies Union LAW Local 116 for the 2020 Contract; and

WHEREAS, the contract agreed upon is for a three-year period; and

WHEREAS, the contract, with amendments identified, is attached in its entirety.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Price County Board of Supervisors ratify the Collective Bargaining Agreement between Price County and Price County Deputies Union LAW Local 116 covering the periods from January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2022.

Submitted by the Price County Administration Committee.

Fiscal Impact: \$90,000. Submitted by the Price County Administration Committee. s/Dennis Wartgow, Chair; Alan Barkstrom; Jeff Hallstrand; Robert Kopisch; Jordan Spacek. Reviewed by County Administrator: s/Nicholas Trimner. Adopted by the Price County Board of Supervisors this 16th day of June 2020. s/Robert D. Kopisch, County Board Chair; Jean Gottwald, County Clerk. For: 13, Against: 0. Motion Spacek/Wartgow to consider resolution for adoption. Roll call vote on resolution adoption: Yes (13): Palecek, Strobl, Kyle, Hallstrand, Hintz, Houdek, Wartgow, Barkstrom, Spacek, Kopisch, Madsen, Jilka, Teeters; No (0). Motion carried.

Elections and Appointments:

1. Appointments

- a. ADRC-N Governing Board – three-year term ending May 31, 2022 (Bill Teeters): Motion Spacek/Houdek to approve the appointment. Motion carried.
- b. Board of Adjustment – three-year term ending June 30, 2023 (Margaret Novak, Thomas Frane, Mark Luoma): Motion Strobl/Hintz to approve the appointments. Motion carried.
- c. Council on Aging Advisory Committee – fill remaining term ending April 30, 2021 (Bill Teeters): Motion Wartgow/Spacek to approve the appointment. Motion carried.
- d. Nutrition Advisory Council – two-year term ending April 30, 2022 (Judith Anderson, Shirley Cress, David Schmidt): Motion Strobl/Houdek to approve the appointments.

Convene to Committee of the Whole at 11:11 a.m.

1. Board Chair Report – Kopisch: Report from meetings attended: Northwest Regional Planning Corporation and NW CEP. WCA Board meets June 18th. Encouraged members take advantage of the County Officials Workshops.
2. Committee Chair Reports
 - a. Administration – Wartgow: Will continue work on the Employee Handbook and Administration Manual. Union negotiations. Recruiting for two Sheriff Deputies, two jailer/dispatch, investigator, HHS Program Assistant, Dam Keeper/Operator I and Operator II.
 - b. Executive – Kopisch: Delinquent taxes are in process with In Rem being on schedule.
 - c. Forestry & Parks – Hallstrand: \$729,939 stumpage revenue. Summer work at parks and campgrounds. DNR grant application for dam repair. Working of 15 Year Plan. Possible expansion of County rifle range.
 - d. Health and Human Services – Houdek: Eliminated the Finance Sub-committee. Staff have been working on-site and remotely. Accepting appointments. Quarterly unit updates. COVID-19 update. World Elder Abuse Day. BART Bus still doing well.

- e. Highway & Transportation – Palecek: Summer maintenance and equipment repairs. Some high water issues. Document culvert data. County Road W bridge project ahead of schedule. Road tour August 4th. Dams have dealt with high water issues. Dams keeper resigned. DNR grant for power gates at Weimers. Airport travel is picking up. Becher Hoppe chosen for project engineer.
 - f. Land Use & UW-Extension – Hallstrand. Have not met. New 4-H Educator has been hired. Shared position with Taylor County.
 - g. Law Enforcement – Hintz: Interviews scheduled for Deputy position. Vehicle purchases have been baked up.
 - h. Ad Hoc Committee on Damage to Fairground Buildings – Houdek: Committee had first meeting which included visit to view damage to the Barn and Open Class Building, which have been cordoned off for safety reasons. Fair is still scheduled. Executive Committee authorized \$7,500 to contract with Samuels Group to do analysis and recommendation. Next meeting July 9th.
3. County Administrator's Report – Trimner
- a. 2019 Financial Summary: Audit work is wrapping up.
 - b. 2020 Financial Summary – May 31, 2020: Sales tax is on track so far. Campgrounds have opened. Stumpage revenue expected to slow down. Refinanced Safety Building loan from 4% - 2.15%. Eligible for \$240,000 to cover COVID expenses.
 - c. 2021 Budget: Instructions went out to departments with 0% change in operating expenses. Assumptions: 2% wage increase, 8-10% health insurance increase. Variables: debt service, Sheriff's Department radio upgrades, Fairground building repairs.
 - d. COVID-19 Pandemic Update: Opened park playgrounds with sanitation stations and extra cleaning. Pavilions are not open for group gatherings. County departments will continue working with public by appointment only through July 6th. Weekly meetings with WCA, Executives/County Administrators, Local Partners, EOC Group. Also daily updates with Public Health and Emergency Management.

Closed Session: Announcement and motion Hintz/Palecek to adjourn to closed session at 12:01 pm 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 for the purpose of:

- a. County Administrator Performance Review
- b. Motion to Return to Open Session

Roll call vote: Yes (13): Palecek, Strobl, Kyle, Hallstrand, Hintz, Houdek, Wartgow, Barkstrom, Spacek, Kopisch, Madsen, Jilka, Teeters; No (0). Motion carried.

Motion Spacek/Strobl in closed session to return to open session at 12:18 p.m. Roll call vote: Yes (13): Palecek, Strobl, Kyle, Hallstrand, Hintz, Houdek, Wartgow, Barkstrom, Spacek, Kopisch, Madsen, Jilka, Teeters; No (0). Motion carried.

Take Action, as needed, on closed session item: Motion Houdek/Hallstrand to approve the performance review of Nicholas Trimner, Price County Administrator. Motion carried.

Date of Next Meeting: August 18, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. in the County Board Room

Future Agenda Items: None listed.

Meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

STATE OF WISCONSIN, COUNTY OF PRICE. I, Jean Gottwald, County Clerk in and for Price County do hereby certify that the within and foregoing is a true and correct record of all the proceedings held by and before the Price County Board of Supervisors at the meeting held on June 16, 2020 and the whole thereof.



Jean Gottwald, County Clerk