

REGULAR MEETING OF THE PRICE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SEPTEMBER 18, 2018

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 Matthew Arneson. Pledge of Allegiance recited by those in attendance. Roll Call: Present (13): Larry Palecek, James Adolph, Sheryl Slaby, Jeffrey Hallstrand, James Hintz, Paula Houdek, Dennis Wartgow, Sue Bocock, Jordan Spacek, Robert Kopisch, John Vlach, Bruce Jilka, William Teeters. Also present: Nick Trimner.

Presentations

1. Park Falls Area Community Development Corporation and Price County Economic Development Association: Sam Pritzl and Dennis Rodewald

Approve minutes of the August 21, 2018 meeting: Motion Hintz/Adolph to approve the minutes of the August 21, 2018 meeting as presented. Motion carried.

Communications and Announcements: Mr. Kopisch read a retirement letter from Maggie Obadal.

Public Comments: Julia Ruff representing the Community Bioethics Committee inviting the members to Current Issues in Ethical Decision Making. David Schmidt, Town of Lake, in support of the tourism restructure plan.

Resolutions

Resolution 24-18

Support Just Fix It Highway Transportation Funding Initiative

WHEREAS, local government in Wisconsin is responsible for about 90% of the road miles in the state; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's diverse economy is dependent upon county and town roads as well as city and village streets and transit systems across the state; and

WHEREAS, while the increase in transportation funding for locals in the last budget was certainly appreciated, many still aren't back to 2011 levels when you adjust for inflation; and

WHEREAS, locals, including Price County continue to struggle to meet even the most basic maintenance needs for our transportation system; and

WHEREAS, states surrounding Wisconsin and across the country have stepped up with sustainable funding plans for their state and local roads; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin will be at a competitive disadvantage if it does not implement a revenue and spending plan that addresses both our Interstates that were built in the 1950's and 60's *and* our local and state roads; and

WHEREAS, levy limits do not allow local government to make up for the deterioration of state funding; and

WHEREAS, local governments would not be forced to turn to local wheel taxes or increased borrowing or exceeding their levy limits if the state would finally pass a sustainable funding plan for transportation

WHEREAS, the Price County Board of Supervisors recognizes that our state highway and interstate system is the backbone of our surface transportation system and plays a vital role in the economy of Wisconsin. Both local *and* state roads need to be properly maintained in order for our economy to grow; and

WHEREAS, from a competitive standpoint, Wisconsin motorists pay significantly less than any of our neighbors when you combine the annual cost of the state gas tax and vehicle registration fees.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Price County Board of Supervisors urge the Governor and Legislature to Just Fix It and agree upon a sustainable solution: one that includes a responsible level of bonding and adjusts our user fees to adequately and sustainably fund Wisconsin's transportation system. Furthermore, the Price County Board of Supervisors directs the County Clerk to send a copy of this resolution to our State Legislators and to Governor Scott Walker. Submitted by the Price County Highway and Transportation Committee: s/Larry Palecek, Chair; Bruce Jilka; Jordan Spacek; William Teeters; Dennis Wartgow. Reviewed by County Administrator: s/Nicholas Trimner. Adopted by the Price County Board of Supervisors this 18th day of September, 2018. s/Robert D. Kopisch, County Board Chair; Jean Gottwald, County Clerk. For: 13, Against: 0. Motion Wartgow/Jilka to consider resolution for adoption. Roll call vote on resolution adoption: Yes (13): Palecek, Adolph, Slaby, Hallstrand, Hintz, Houdek, Wartgow, Bocock, Spacek, Kopisch, Vlach, Jilka, Teeters; No (0). Motion carried.

Resolution 25-18

Transition to Area Chambers of Commerce to Promote Tourism in Price County

Whereas, Price County values tourism as an positive influence on economic growth; and

Whereas, tourism spending is measured annually by the Wisconsin Department of Tourism and reported as the "Total Impacts" of tourism by County; and

Whereas, Price County ranks 66th in the State in tourism spending and the growth in Price County tourism from 2011 through 2017 (8.67%) has lagged the statewide results for tourism growth (28.3%); and

Whereas, increases in County operating costs due partly to the priorities of mandated services and unforeseen expenses beyond the County's control as well as the limited ability to increase the County's operating levy due to State imposed levy limits, has reduced our ability to fund non-mandated programs such as promoting tourism; and

Whereas, continuing to support tourism activities in Price County will require finding alternatives at a lower cost to the County; and

Whereas, Price County is fortunate to have two active chambers of commerce which are acting collaboratively to promote Price County tourism and could more effectively use the levy allocated to promoting tourism while continuing to offer the services currently being provided.

Now therefore be it resolved, that the Price County Board of Supervisors hereby approves:

- 1) the allocation of \$30,000 of Price County tax levy to be spent by the two Price County chambers of commerce to be used to promote Price County tourism in each of the 2019 and 2020 budget years and
- 2) the elimination of the Price County Tourism Department effective January 1, 2019 or at the earliest effective date, whichever is sooner; and

Be it Further Resolved, that the Price County Administrator will determine the specific allocation of the above tax levy to each chamber of commerce and will monitor the money allocated to the two Price County Chambers of Commerce to assure that the tax levy is being used effectively.

Submitted by the Price County Executive Committee. s/Robert D. Kopisch, Chair; James Adolph; James Hintz; Bruce Jilka. Reviewed by County Administrator: s/Nicholas Trimner. Adopted by the Price County Board of Supervisors this 18th day of September, 2018. s/Robert D. Kopisch, County Board Chair; Jean Gottwald, County Clerk. For: 10, Against: 1, Abstain: 1. Motion Adolph/Jilka to consider resolution for adoption. Lori Hanson from the Phillips Area Chamber of Commerce, Ed Kane and Pete Maynard from the Park Falls Area Chamber of Commerce and Kathy Reinhard from the Price County Tourism Department participated in discussion. Motion Hintz/Jilka to remove the third paragraph. Roll call vote: Yes (12): Palecek, Slaby, Hallstrand, Hintz, Houdek, Wartgow, Bocock, Spacek, Kopisch, Vlach, Jilka, Teeters; No (1): Adolph. Motion carried. Motion Jilka/Vlach to change effective date from January 1, 2019 to April 1, 2019. Roll call vote: Yes (6): Slaby, Hallstrand, Houdek, Spacek, Vlach, Jilka. No (7): Palecek, Adolph, Hintz, Wartgow, Bocock, Kopisch, Teeters. Motion carried. Roll call vote on resolution adoption: Yes (10): Adolph, Hallstrand, Hintz, Houdek, Wartgow, Bocock, Spacek, Kopisch, Jilka, Teeters; No (2): Palecek, Slaby; Abstain (1): Vlach Motion carried.

Elections and Appointments

1. Price-Taylor Rail Trail Corridor Commission: Board Members approved Trimner's appointment of Jeff Hallstrand.

Recess 10:25 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.

Convene to Committee of the Whole at 10:40 a.m.

1. 2017 Financial Summary Report as of 12/31/17 - Nick Trimner: 2017 audit will be presented at next meeting along with resolutions for transfer to Capital Improvement Fund and department overages.
2. 2018 Financial Summary Report as of 8/31/18 – Nick Trimner: Operations going well. Record sales tax revenue month. Forestry stumpage is doing well. Land Information has been implementing the LIDAR system.
3. 2019 Preliminary Budget – Nick Trimner: Preliminary budget presented and reviewed. Levy \$9,127,183. Motion Teeters/Jilka to proceed with highway construction and project borrowing (\$75,000; \$300,000; \$400,000). Motion carried. Motion Jilka/Hintz to use allowable increases of \$17,897 for TID growth and \$61,321 for new construction. Motion carried. Motion Hintz/Spacek to proceed with discretionary borrowing of \$325,000. Motion carried.
4. Board Chair Report – Robert Kopisch
 - a. Priority Issues with State Government: No additional items submitted.
 - b. WCA 8/17/18 Board Meeting: Discussed meeting attended.
5. Committee Chair Reports
 - a. Administration – Wartgow: Committee did not meet.
 - b. Executive – Kopisch: 2018 budget.
 - c. Forestry & Parks – Hintz: Stumpage doing well. Executive Committee approved a \$27,000 Stewardship grant.

- d. Health and Human Services – Jilka: Collaborating with UW-Extension and Phillips School District to determine needs and programming available. Health Department hosting needs assessment. Two dental hygienists (Michelle Tekkippe and Lori Krueger) were awarded the Jefferson Award for their volunteer work with Seal-a-Smile. Integrating Aging and Disabilities Resource Unit and Aging Unit. Amber Reinke hired as Fiscal and Administrative Supervisor. BART bus continues to do well.
 - e. Highway & Transportation – Palecek: Ready for winter maintenance.
 - f. Land Use & UW-Extension – Hintz: UW-Extension hired a new half-time 4-H coordinator, Andrea Rippley. Tailoring services to needs and budget.
 - g. Law Enforcement – Hintz: Safety Building remodel open house well attended. Staff is learning drone operation.
 - h. NW Wisconsin Concentrated Employment Program (CEP) – Slaby: Looking to run their summer camp at a different location. Getting more interest from older workforce. Unemployment is at all-time low.
6. County Administrator's Report – Trimner: Recruiting for Jail Correction Officers/Dispatchers. Reminder that the state highway construction being done are not County projects.

Convene out of Committee of the Whole at 11:55 a.m.

Date of Next Meeting: October 16, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. in the County Board Room

Meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.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 September 18, 2018 and the whole thereof. Dated this 21st day of September, 2018.



Jean Gottwald, County Clerk