

MEETING OF THE PRICE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

October 18, 2022

Meeting Minutes

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

Meeting called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Alan Barkstrom, County Board Chair.

Invocation provided by Pastor Larry Tenut.

Pledge of Allegiance recited by those in attendance.

Roll Call: Present (12): Alan Barkstrom, Doug Erickson, Brian Ernst, Jeff Hallstrand, Jason Hastings, Paula Houdek, Mark Kyle, Larry Palecek, Patricia Stephan, Ginny Strobl, Lorelei Wakefield, Dennis Wartgow. Excused (1): Jordan Spacek. Also present: Nick Trimmer.

Instructions were given to any members of the public attending electronically.

Approval of Minutes September 13, 2022: Motion Houdek/Strobl to approve the minutes of the September 13, 2022 meeting as presented. Motion carried.

Communications and Announcements: Supervisor Strobl constituents concerned about the DNR abandonment of the Steve Creek Dam project. Supervisor Strobl questioned cost of charger hookup for electric cars. Nick received a question regarding the cost of supporting the Veterans Service Office. The Administration and Clerk's Office has been getting questions regarding the county referendum on the November ballot.

Public Comments: Tammy Hastings, City of Park Falls regarding funding for the Phillips Public Library. Presentation:

1. Auditors Report – 2021 Audited Financial Statements: Kim Shult from Baker Tilly presented.
2. Election Process Overview: Jean Gottwald and Nick Trimmer presented the election process and fielded questions.

Resolutions:

Resolution 41-22

Petitioning the Secretary of Transportation for Airport Improvement Aid

WHEREAS, Price County, Wisconsin hereinafter referred to as the sponsor, being a municipal body corporate of the State of Wisconsin, is authorized by Wis. Stat. §114.11, to acquire, establish, construct, own, control, lease, equip, improve, maintain, and operate an airport, and

WHEREAS, the sponsor desires to develop or improve the Price County Airport, Price County, Wisconsin, "PETITION FOR AIRPORT PROJECT"

WHEREAS, the foregoing proposal for airport improvements has been referred to the city plan commission for its consideration and report prior to council action as required by Wis. Stat. §62.23(5), and WHEREAS, airport users have been consulted in formulation of the improvements included in this resolution, and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held prior to the adoption of this petition in accordance with Wis. Stat. §114.33(2) as amended, and a transcript of the hearing is transmitted with this petition, and THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the sponsor that a petition for federal and (or) state aid in the following form is hereby approved:

The petitioner, desiring to sponsor an airport development project with federal and state aid or state aid only, in accordance with the applicable state and federal laws, respectfully represents and states:

1. That the airport, which it is desired to develop, should generally conform to the requirements for a General Aviation type airport as defined by the Federal Aviation Administration.
2. The character, extent, and kind of improvements desired under the project are as follows: Terminal Building Rehabilitation; Replace/Install Precision Approach Path Indicators (PAPI) and Runway End Identifier Lights (REILs) on both runways; Construct Hangars; Reconstruct crosswind Runway 6/24, including lighting; Construct/Reconstruct/Rehabilitate taxiways and taxilanes; Install/Replace taxiway lighting; Reconstruct Aprons; Crack fill and sealcoat airfield pavements; Conduct wildlife site visit; Install Approach Lighting System Runway 19; Develop/Expand hangar area; Purchase Snow Equipment; Conduct Airport Master Plan, Update Airport Layout Plan and Update Exhibit A; clear and maintain runway approaches as stated in Wis. Admin. Code Trans §55, and any necessary related work.
3. That the airport project, which your petitioner desires to sponsor, is necessary for the following reasons: to meet the existing and future needs of the airport.

WHEREAS, it is recognized that the improvements petitioned for as listed will be funded individually or collectively as funds are available, with specific project costs to be approved as work is authorized, the proportionate cost of the airport development projects described above which are to be paid by the sponsor to the Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (hereinafter referred to as the Secretary) to be held in trust for the purposes of the project; any unneeded and unspent balance after the project is completed is to be returned to the sponsor by the Secretary; the sponsor will make available any additional monies that may be found necessary, upon request of the Secretary, to complete the

project as described above; the Secretary shall have the right to suspend or discontinue the project at any time additional monies are found to be necessary by the Secretary, and the sponsor does not provide the same; in the event the sponsor unilaterally terminates the project, all reasonable federal and state expenditures related to the project shall be paid by the sponsor; and WHEREAS, the sponsor is required by Wis. Stat. §114.32(5) to designate the Secretary as its agent to accept, receive, receipt for and disburse any funds granted by the United States under the Federal Airport and Airway Improvement Act, and is authorized by law to designate the Secretary as its agent for other purposes.

“DESIGNATION OF SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION AS SPONSOR’S AGENT”

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the sponsor that the Secretary is hereby designated as its agent and is requested to agree to act as such, in matters relating to the airport development project described above, and is hereby authorized as its agent to make all arrangements for the development and final acceptance of the completed project whether by contract, agreement, force account or otherwise; and particularly, to accept, receive, receipt for and disburse federal monies or other monies, either public or private, for the acquisition, construction, improvement, maintenance and operation of the airport; and, to acquire property or interests in property by purchase, gift, lease, or eminent domain under Wis. Stat. §32.02; and, to supervise the work of any engineer, appraiser, negotiator, contractor or other person employed by the Secretary; and, to execute any assurances or other documents required or requested by any agency of the federal government and to comply with all federal and state laws, rules, and regulations relating to airport development projects.

FURTHER, the sponsor requests that the Secretary provide, per Wis. Stat. §114.33(8)(a), that the sponsor may acquire certain parts of the required land or interests in land that the Secretary shall find necessary to complete the aforesaid project.

“AIRPORT OWNER ASSURANCES”

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the sponsor agrees to maintain and operate the airport in accordance with certain conditions established in Wis. Admin. Code Trans §55, or in accordance with sponsor assurances enumerated in a federal grant agreement.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Highway Commissioner and the County Administrator be authorized to sign and execute the agency agreement and federal block grant owner assurances authorized by this resolution.

Submitted by the Price County Highway and Transportation Committee: s/Larry Palecek, Chair; Doug Erickson, Brian Ernst, Mark Kyle. Reviewed by County Administrator: s/Nicholas Trimner. Adopted by the Price County Board of Supervisors this 18th day of October 2022. s/Alan Barkstrom, County Board Chair; Jean Gottwald, County Clerk.

Motion Ernst/Palecek to consider resolution for adoption. Roll call vote on resolution adoption: Yes (12): Barkstrom, Erickson, Ernst, Hallstrand, Hastings, Houdek, Kyle, Palecek, Stephan, Strobl, Wakefield, Wartgow. No (0). Motion carried

Resolution 42-22

Provision of General Assistance Services 2023 – 2024

WHEREAS, Price County’s General Assistance Services program has been established to meet temporary and basic needs of county residents who are determined to be in need of such assistance; and

WHEREAS, the program has proven to be a valuable, cost-effective, temporary mechanism for County residents who have needed short-term economic assistance; and

WHEREAS, after review and consideration of the policy, the Price County Health and Human Services Board has determined that the program is a necessary resource for eligible county residents.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Price County continues its General Assistance Services program for calendar years 2023 - 2024.

Fiscal Impact: It is anticipated that this resolution will be budget neutral over time due to the repayment requirement of the program however; due to current economic conditions this program could have a levy impact of up to \$5,100. Additional expenditures beyond \$5,100 will require further County Board action in the form of an amended resolution.

Submitted by the Price County Health and Human Services Board: s/Paula Houdek, Chair; Peter Dahlie; Mark Kyle; Sally Huml; Patricia Stephan; Gerald Swenson; Dennis Wartgow. Reviewed by County Administrator: s/Nicholas Trimner. Adopted by the Price County Board of Supervisors this 18th day of October 2022. s/Alan Barkstrom, County Board Chair; Jean Gottwald, County Clerk.

Motion Houdek/Wartgow to consider resolution for adoption. Roll call vote on resolution adoption: Yes (12): Barkstrom, Erickson, Ernst, Hallstrand, Hastings, Houdek, Kyle, Palecek, Stephan, Strobl, Wakefield, Wartgow. No (0). Motion carried.

Resolution 43-22

Accepting the Charter of, and Requesting Membership on, the Bay Area Rural Transit (BART) Commission

WHEREAS, the Bay Area Rural Transit (BART) Commission is a commission formed under Wisconsin Statutes Chapter 66; and

WHEREAS, the Red Cliff and Bad River bands of Lake Superior Chippewas; the Cities of Bayfield, Washburn, and Ashland; and the Counties of Bayfield and Ashland are the current members of the Commission; and

WHEREAS, Price County requests membership on the Commission; and

WHEREAS, Price County accepts the Charter executed by Members on August 21, 1984 as amended (Exhibit A) and its rights and responsibilities of the BART Commission; and

WHEREAS, Price County will designate a representative to the BART Commission Board; and

WHEREAS, Article X of the Charter states it may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the Board and upon ratification by a majority vote of the governing bodies of Members; and

WHEREAS, Members jointly will need to:

(1) Approve the addition of Price County to the BART Commission.

(2) Provide Price County to have one Commissioner.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the attached Bay Area Rural Transit (BART) Charter (Exhibit A) and amendments (Exhibit B) are approved by the Price County Board of Supervisors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Price County shall file a certified copy of this resolution with the BART Commission.

Submitted by the Price County Health and Human Services Board: s/Paula Houdek, Chair; Peter Dahlie; Mark Kyle; Sally Huml; Patricia Stephan; Gerald Swenson; Dennis Wartgow. Reviewed by County Administrator: s/Nicholas Trimner. Adopted by the Price County Board of Supervisors this 18th day of October 2022. s/Alan Barkstrom, County Board Chair; Jean Gottwald, County Clerk.

Motion Houdek/Stephan to consider resolution for adoption. Roll call vote on resolution adoption: Yes (11): Barkstrom, Erickson, Ernst, Hallstrand, Hastings, Houdek, Kyle, Palecek, Stephan, Wakefield, Wartgow. No (0). Abstain (1): Strobl. Motion carried.

Resolution 44-22

2021 Transfer into Capital Improvement Fund

WHEREAS, the Price County Board of Supervisors approved resolution #33-07, Capital Improvement Fund, at a regular meeting held August 21, 2007; and

WHEREAS, resolution #33-07 calls for providing a funding mechanism in development of a Capital Improvement Fund as set forth:

- Sale of County-owned land (upon receipt of the sale proceeds less all sale expenses), and
- 20% of County sales tax revenues or ½ of the excess of General Fund (100) Revenues over General Fund (100) Expenditures for the fiscal year after adjustments for continued appropriations (carryovers), whichever is greater; and

WHEREAS, the sales tax revenue for 2021 was \$1,251,662 which would provide \$250,332 transfer as per above provision; and

WHEREAS, the audited General Fund revenues for 2021 were \$9,988,312 and General Fund expenses for 2021 were \$9,247,270 resulting in a profit of \$741,042 of which an additional \$8,849 in continued appropriations and restricted fund balance has been deducted leaving a net profit of \$732,193 which would provide 50% or \$366,096 transfer as per above provision; and

WHEREAS, the net income from the 2021 land sales was \$24,835 which shall be transferred to the Capital Improvement Fund.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the greater amount of \$366,096 plus \$24,835 profit from land and property sale for a total of \$390,931 be transferred from the General Fund into the Capital Improvement Fund for the year 2021.

Submitted by the Price County Executive Committee. s/Alan Barkstrom, Chair; Brian Ernst, Jeff Hallstrand, Paula Houdek, Larry Palecek. Reviewed by County Administrator: s/Nicholas Trimner. Adopted by the Price County Board of Supervisors this 18th day of October 2022. s/Alan Barkstrom, County Board Chair; Jean Gottwald, County Clerk.

Motion Strobl/Kyle to consider resolution for adoption. Roll call vote on resolution adoption: Yes (12): Barkstrom, Erickson, Ernst, Hallstrand, Hastings, Houdek, Kyle, Palecek, Stephan, Strobl, Wakefield, Wartgow. No (0). Motion carried.

Resolution 45-22

2021 Approve Transfer to Offset Budget Overages

WHEREAS, per County Board Policy, if a department exceeds its approved expenditure budget by 10% or greater, or for all General Fund Accounts (account code 100) any such spending that exceeds the approved expenditure budget by \$25,000 or 10% or greater, whichever is less, shall be referred to the

Board for funding determination upon recommendation of the Executive Committee; and WHEREAS, the unexpected and unbudgeted expenditures of the following departments have occurred resulting in an overage of the 2021 allowable expenditure budget, as stipulated above:

100-12	Informational Technology	\$ 37,544
100-15	Elections	\$ 6,094
100-15	District Attorney	\$ 37,097
100-35	Sheriff	\$104,424
100-36	Corrections & Communications	\$178,786
100-42	Traffic Safety	\$ 80
100-83	Dams	\$637,232

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Price County Board of Supervisors that the transfer is made from the general fund to cover the 2021 budget expenditure overage.

Fiscal Impact: \$1,001,257 (not budgeted)

Submitted by the Price County Executive Committee. s/Alan Barkstrom, Chair; Brian Ernst, Jeff Hallstrand, Paula Houdek, Larry Palecek. Reviewed by County Administrator: s/Nicholas Trimner. Adopted by the Price County Board of Supervisors this 18th day of October 2022. s/Alan Barkstrom, County Board Chair; Jean Gottwald, County Clerk.

Motion Palecek/Wartgow to consider resolution for adoption. Roll call vote on resolution adoption: Yes (12): Barkstrom, Erickson, Ernst, Hallstrand, Hastings, Houdek, Kyle, Palecek, Stephan, Strobl, Wakefield, Wartgow. No (0). Motion carried.

Resolution 46-22

Release of Easement (W7194 Old 8 Road, Prentice)

WHEREAS, the Price County Highway Department has reviewed a request to relinquish rights of ingress and egress to and from all contiguous or nearly contiguous lands owned by Price County on a property described as Lot 4 of Section 7, Township 35, Range 1 East; Town of Prentice, Price County, Wisconsin as referenced in 1948 Quit Claim Deed recorded in Volume 121 of Deeds, Page 84 as Document Number 135401; and

WHEREAS, the Price County Highway and Transportation Committee has approved said request and recommends approval by the County Board.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Price County Board of Supervisors does hereby relinquish the retained easement to the property described above; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Price County Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes the Price County Clerk's execution of any documents necessary to conclude release of easement rights and said documents be completed and/or recorded.

Submitted by the Price County Executive Committee. s/Alan Barkstrom, Chair; Brian Ernst, Jeff Hallstrand, Paula Houdek, Larry Palecek. Reviewed by County Administrator: s/Nicholas Trimner. Adopted by the Price County Board of Supervisors this 18th day of October 2022. s/Alan Barkstrom, County Board Chair; Jean Gottwald, County Clerk.

Motion Palecek/Strobl to consider resolution for adoption. Roll call vote on resolution adoption: Yes (12): Barkstrom, Erickson, Ernst, Hallstrand, Hastings, Houdek, Kyle, Palecek, Stephan, Strobl, Wakefield, Wartgow. No (0). Motion carried.

Resolution 47-22

Join the WCA Uniquely Wisconsin Campaign Using ARPA Funding

WHEREAS, Wisconsin is rich with traditions, landmarks and gorgeous natural resources and as a part of the Uniquely Wisconsin campaign, counties have joined together to highlight and promote the stories of our state with the use of video, broadcast television, audio, podcasts and social media; and

WHEREAS, involvement in the Discover Mediaworks Uniquely Wisconsin campaign includes highlighting what is unique about each county and region, telling the stories of the people, the culture, the history, as well as promoting economic development and tourism; and

WHEREAS, the County has received funding from the American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA) to be used for this type of project.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Price County Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes the appropriation of up to \$60,000 in qualified ARPA funds to be used to join the Discover Mediaworks Uniquely Wisconsin promotional program (in conjunction with the Wisconsin Counties Association).

Submitted by the Price County Executive Committee. s/Alan Barkstrom, Chair; Brian Ernst, Jeff Hallstrand, Paula Houdek, Larry Palecek. Reviewed by County Administrator: s/Nicholas Trimner. Adopted by the Price County Board of Supervisors this 18th day of October 2022. s/Alan Barkstrom, County Board Chair; Jean Gottwald, County Clerk.

Motion Houdek/Hallstrand to consider resolution for adoption. Roll call vote on resolution adoption: Yes

(11): Barkstrom, Erickson, Ernst, Hallstrand, Hastings, Houdek, Kyle, Palecek, Stephan, Wakefield, Wartgow. No (1): Strobl. Motion carried.

Appointments:

1. Veterans Service Commission – three-year terms to expire 12/31/2025 (Brittany Devries) and 12/31/2023 (David Schmidt): Motion Wartgow/Wakefield to approve the appointments as presented. Motion carried.

Reports on file:

1. Price County Fair Association – as of September 25, 2022
2. 2021 Audited Financial Statement
3. Health & Human Services Department 2021 Annual Report

Committee of the Whole at 11:45 a.m.

1. Board Chair Report – Alan Barkstrom: Attended Annual WCA Conference along with Supervisor Houdek. Discussed sessions attended. Reminded supervisors about using personal devices, especially during open meetings, and open record criteria.
2. County Administrator's Report – Nick Trimner
 - a. 2022 Financial Summary: Nothing major to report.
 - b. 2023 Budget – Approve and Forward to Public Hearing: Motion Palecek/Strobl to approve the budget with a tax levy of \$11,340,117 and forward to the November 15, 2022 public hearing. Motion carried.
 - c. Updates
 - i. Fair Grounds Transfer: Working with the engineer and DNR to complete the hydrology study for potential new building. Transfer anticipated by end of year.
 - ii. WCA Conference: Attended the conference and several sessions.
3. Committee Chair Reports:
 - a. Administration – Wartgow: Discussed personal cell phone/device use policy. Set options and premiums for the 2023 health insurance, switching to a self-funded plan. Deputy union negotiations starting.
 - b. Buildings & Grounds: Have not met. Next meeting November 10th.
 - c. Executive – Barkstrom: Taking the 5-R Processing properties in order for the DNR to provide funding for clean-up. Aspirus Nursing Home closure. New process for retaining the profits from land sale for five years.
 - d. Forestry & Parks – Hallstrand: Shooting range project complete. Fall timber sale bids. Three active timber sales. Parks are being winterized. Damage and vandalism continue.
 - e. Health and Human Services – Houdek: Another spike in COVID cases. New booster and flu vaccines available. Quarterly division reports. Aspirus nursing home closure involvement. Discontinuing carry-outs at senior meal sites and maintaining criteria for home deliveries. Difficulty finding Children and Youth placement facilities.
 - f. Highway & Transportation – Palecek: Culvert replacement. Shouldering. Spray patching and rut wedging. Counties I, O, M repaving complete. Ready for winter maintenance. Airport project wrapping up. Dam water levels are low due to weather conditions. Next meeting November 8th.
 - g. Land Use & UW-Extension – Wartgow: Several short-term rental conditional use permits and questions why they are approved even with objections. Counties do not have the authority to deny conditional use permits. DNR approval for four snowmobile bridges. Approved wildlife management claims, crop prices and 2023 budget. 4-H busy with summer activities. StrongBodies will continue under County administration. Town of Worcester deciding on returning zoning to the County.
 - h. Law Enforcement – Palecek: Have not met. Next meeting November 11.

Convene out of Committee of the Whole at 12:17 p.m.

Date of Next Meeting: November 15, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. in the County Board Room

Meeting adjourned at 12:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Jean Gottwald, County Clerk