MEETING OF THE RUSK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
December 20th, 2016  
7:00 P.M.

Meeting called to order by Chair Peter Boss at 7:00 p.m. 


Invocation by Dave Willingham of Island Lake Church of Christ. 

Pledge of Allegiance led by Jim Verdegan. 

Boss gave brief bio on Jim Verdegan. 

APPROVAL OF MINUTES 

Motion by Fisher, second by Hraban to approve minutes from November 15th, 2016 with correction on Schneider’s announcement. Motion carried. 

PUBLIC COMMENTS 

Friends of the Animal Shelter member, Joanne Spooner, thanked everyone for their support and gave an update on how well the recent fundraiser went. Spooner stated that once the animal shelter is built, she will put out a Rusk County Community Fund. 

Community member, Ron Freeman, asked questions concerning the Administrative Coordinator position and ask to please consider answering them when the board gets to this discussion. 

REPORTS 

Highway Commissioner, Scott Emch, gave his annual report and answered questions from the board. 

RESOLUTION # 16-27 LCDD Administrative Assistant Reclassified to Clerk III 

WHEREAS, the Rusk County Personnel Committee yearly reviews pay rates related to the point factor evaluation system in order to maintain internal pay equity and condense job titles, and 

WHEREAS, the Personnel Committee has been conducting on-going review of positions in order to classify like positions into like titles and pay grades, it has determined the following reclassification and wage adjustment would be in order; 

Reclassification: 
LCDD Administrative Assistant reclassified to Clerk III 

Wage adjustment: 
$16.91 to $17.57 (Current rate plus across the board wage adjustment on 1/1/17) 

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Rusk County Board of Supervisors does approve the recommended pay adjustment to take effect the first full pay period of 2017. 

Submitted by Rusk County Personnel Committee /S/ Hanson, Fisher, Stout, Willingham, Mai. 

Motion by Hanson, second by Stout to adopt. Discussion on point factor. Resolution adopted by aye vote. 

RESOLUTION # 16-28 To Return Grant Funding for CVSO to 1973 Level 

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin County Veterans Service Office has operated as a block-grant for CVSO salary supplement since legislative inception in 1973, to attract and retain CVSO talent, and 

WHEREAS, the 2015 Wisconsin Biennium Budget restricted this long-standing CVSO Grant block grant payment structure to a reimbursement only payment structure, and 

WHEREAS, the previous block grant payment structure of the CVSO Grant was weighted unfavorably against the smallest and poorest Wisconsin counties and weighted more favorably towards the most populous and affluent Wisconsin counties; and 

WHEREAS, the smallest and poorest of Wisconsin counties statistically have a significantly higher percentage of veterans in their aggregate general population; indicating the available county revenue is at a significant fiscal disadvantage to the larger more affluent Wisconsin counties in supporting their veteran population with veteran services. 

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the County of Rusk joins other counties in the State of Wisconsin, to express their desire to the Wisconsin State Legislature to have the County Veterans Service Office Grant returned to the original 1973 intent to be used strictly for supplementing the salary of County Veterans Service Officers in order to attract and retain talented personnel in those positions, and to restructure the payment structure in order to better advantage the poorest Wisconsin counties with higher veteran population concentrations in attracting and retaining talented personnel in these positions; and 

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent to all of Rusk County’s State Senators and Assembly Representatives, to the Wisconsin Counties Association, and to the President of the Wisconsin County Veterans Service Officer Association. 

Submitted by Rusk County Health & Human Services Committee /S/ Schneider, Tatur, Schmitt, Boss, Gierke, Willingham, Mai. 

Motion by Tatur, second by Schmitt to adopt. History of resolution was given. Resolution adopted by aye vote. 

RESOLUTION # 16-29 2017 COUNTY FOREST VARIABLE ACREAGE SHARE PAYMENTS 

WHEREAS, Counties having lands entered as “County Forest Lands” under the provisions of s.s. 28.11 (4) (b) of the WISCONSIN STATUTES, annually receive from the state as a non-interest bearing loan, the amount of preservation and maintenance of such lands; and 

WHEREAS, said loan monies are repaid through a 20% Severance tax on timber sales revenue coming from County Forest Lands unless a higher rate is mutually agreed to by the County and Department; and 

WHEREAS, the provisions of Section 28.11 (8) (b) 1. enacted in 1979 make it possible for the County at its option to receive instead of the payment based on 10 cents per acre, a payment more closely related to meeting the needs identified in its County Forest 15 Year Plan on the basis of $50 cents per acre. 

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we the Rusk County Board of Supervisors in consideration of meeting the needs identified in our County Forest 15 Year Plan hereby request the Department of Natural Resources to provide the 2017 payment to the County under s.s. 28.11 (8) (b) 1. on the basis of $50 cents for each acre of our County Forest Lands, and 

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to file this request with the Department of Natural Resources prior to December 31 preceding the year in which said payment is being requested to be made. 

Submitted by Rusk County Forestry Committee. /S/ Knops, Schneider, Biller, Boss, Lieffring. 

Motion by Schneider, second by Knops to adopt. Resolution adopted by aye vote. 

RESOLUTION Creating a County Administrator Position 

Relating to Creating a County Administrator Position 

The County Board of Supervisors of Rusk County, Wisconsin, duly assembled at its regular meeting begun on the 20th day of December 2016, does resolve as follows 

WHEREAS the County Administrator is described in Statute §59.18; and, 

WHEREAS Rusk County currently has appointed Ted East, as Administrative Coordinator, pursuant to Wisconsin Stat.§ 59.19; and, 

WHEREAS the Rusk County Board desire that the Administrative Coordinator have more managerial overseer and control, 

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the County of Rusk and the Rusk County Board of Supervisors do hereby establish the County Administrator position as provided for under Wisconsin Statutes. 


Motion by Tatur, second by Schmitt to adopt. Resolution adopted by aye vote.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the County Board of Supervisors approves creating the full time position of County Administrator in accordance with Wisconsin Statute §59.18. Effective January 1, 2017.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Rusk County Board of Supervisors hereby approve the Position Description attached hereto with the salary created by the 2017 budget and adjusted annually thru the budget process.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Rusk County Ordinances be amended as necessary to be consistent with the addition of the County Administrator position.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the current Administrative Coordinator, Ted East, be appointed to the position of County Administrator, effective January 1, 2017.

Submitted by Rusk County Board Chairmen. S/Boss

Motion by Fisher, second by Tatur to adopt. Discussion on resolution. Schmitt stated that the $7,000 that the former County Clerk asked for while filing this position was turned down, but now looking at creating full time position. Swoverland stated that a position like this should be advertised. Platteter questioned statute wording on resolution.

Willingham stated the County should be notified of changes of administration and that the board should be involved with the selection of jobs duties. Boss stated that in the last 6 months every committee has been involved and that East has a lot of experience with the daily operations at the courthouse. Comment was made that this is not a new position and Mai stated that this is not a current position and that in fact it is a new position. Fisher to amend resolution to Administrative Coordinator instead of it saying Administrator. Motion by Fisher, second by Knops to postpone resolution and to take it to the Personnel Committee. Motion passed by aye vote.

APPOINTMENTS

IFLS- Lyle Lieffring, 3 year term. Motion by Platteter, second by Gierke to approve appointment. Motion carried by aye vote.


ADJOURNMENT

Lieffring to adjourn. Adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Loren Beebe, Rusk County Clerk