

**MEETING OF THE RUSK COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
JUNE 19, 2012
6:00 P.M.**

Meeting called to order by Chair Randy Tatur at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call. Present - 19. Present: Boss (6:06 p.m.), Biller, Nawrocki, Hauser, Knops, Roth, Lieftring (6:14 p.m.), Swoverland, Pedersen, Schneider, Gierke, Schmitt, Fisher, Hulback, Mai, Willingham, Freeman, Platteter, Tatur.

Invocation by Ron Freeman of Keystone New Life Alliance Church.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Phil Schneider, District #11 Supervisor.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Knops, second by Fisher to approve minutes of May 29, 2012. Tatur requested a correction in the appointments for Northern Regional Trails Advisory Committee (NORTRAC). Replacing Albarado with Paul Teska. Motion as corrected carried by aye vote.

To Review Letters of Intent and Confidentiality Agreement for Rusk County Memorial Hospital & Nursing Home

Closed Session announced by Chair for 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, WI Stats 19.85(1)(e).

Motion by Roth, second by Hauser to enter closed session. Roll call. Voting yes - 17. Voting no – 0. Voting yes: Biller, Nawrocki, Hauser, Knops, Roth, Lieftring, Swoverland, Pedersen, Schneider, Gierke, Schmitt, Fisher, Hulback, Mai, Willingham, Freeman, Platteter, Tatur. Motion carried by roll call vote.

CLOSED SESSION AT 6:05 p.m.

Motion by Schmitt, second by Fisher to return to open session. Motion carried by aye vote.

OPEN SESSION AT 6:36 p.m.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE MOTION

Authorization to Sign Confidentiality Agreement & Letters of Intent Regarding RCMH & NH Proposals: Grant Thayer of Senior Management out of Rochester MN introduced himself and gave a brief background on himself and his six nursing home facilities. Tatur opened the floor to questions.

Representatives from Sacred Heart Hospital and Marshfield Clinic spoke on their joint effort on letter of intent.

Motion by Pedersen, second by Willingham to authorize signing letter of intent and confidentiality agreement with Sacred Heart Hospital and Marshfield Clinic on the hospital. Motion carried by aye vote. Motion by Gierke, second by Roth to authorize signing letter of intent with Grant Thayer for the nursing home. Motion carried by aye vote.

RECOGNIZE SPECIAL GROUPS AND INDIVIDUALS

Georgie Anderson of Rusk Area Arts and Alliance spoke on plans for a “Fear Factor” contest between city council and county board members at the “Leaf it to Rusk” festivities September 29th. She is seeking two volunteers from the board. Knops and Fisher responded. City participants are Mike Hraban and Richard Mohr.

RESOLUTION #12- 13 RUSK COUNTY 911 DISPATCH CONSOLE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

WHEREAS, it is recognized that the Rusk County Sheriff’s Department dispatch console and mobile radios are obsolete, and;

WHEREAS, the Rusk County Sheriff’s Department received notice from Motorola that the current equipment is unserviceable as parts are no longer available, and;

WHEREAS, Rusk County is the sole dispatch center for Rusk County and all 911 emergency dispatching is through the Rusk County Sheriff’s Department Dispatch Center, and;

WHEREAS, the recommended equipment replacement is for two MCC 5500 dispatch consoles and a backup in addition to mobile radios, and;

WHEREAS, the cost to purchase the equipment is \$180,000.00 less applicable rebates available on the two dispatch consoles and mobile discounts, and;

WHEREAS, the Property Committee met on June 8, 2012 and made a motion to recommend the purchase from Rassbach Communications on the replacement dispatch console and mobile using lease option 3 up to \$180,000 plus interest, less any trade in for the two positions and forward to county board for approval, and;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Rusk County Board of Supervisor’s authorize the Sheriff of Rusk County to enter into the lease purchase contract with Motorola for the MCC 5500 dispatch console project.

Submitted by Property Committee: S/Tatur.

Motion by Platteter, second by Knops to adopt. Brian Rassbach, Rassbach Communications, explained history and condition of current equipment and need for upgrade. Motion by Freeman, second by Platteter to amend resolution by adding “plus interest” after \$180,000. in the last Whereas. Motion to amend carried by aye vote. Resolution as amended adopted by aye vote.

RESOLUTION #12-14 PHONE SYSTEM UPGRADE WITH CENTURYLINK

WHEREAS, the current phone system is obsolete and there are no replacement parts available for repair should the phone system fail; and

WHEREAS, at its June 8, 2012, meeting the Property Committee reviewed proposals from four different companies and voted to recommend to the Rusk County Board of Supervisors to replace the phone system with the proposal from CenturyLink at a cost of \$75,200.34; and

WHEREAS, CenturyLink has offered twelve months interest free financing with the first payment due one month after the project is completed so \$25,060.12 will be due in 2012 and \$50,140.22 will be due in 2013.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Rusk County Board of Supervisors approves replacing the phone system under the proposal submitted by CenturyLink at a cost of \$75,200.34.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the four payments totaling \$25,060.12 be taken out of the 2012 contingency fund and the remaining balance of \$50,140.22 be included in the 2013 budget.

Submitted by Property Committee: S/Platteter, Freeman, Swoverland, Hauser.

Motion by Platteter, second by Lieftring to adopt. Manley Peterson, IT Director, explained recent failings of current phone system and distributed copies of Centurylink upgrade with bid recommended by the IT department. Josh Moe, Centurylink representative, explained some features of the new system. Resolution adopted by aye vote.

RESOLUTION #12-15 APPROVING A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION OF FORESTRY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE KNOWLES-NELSON STEWARDSHIP LAND ACQUISITION GRANT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, Rusk County has lands enrolled as County Forest pursuant to s. 28.11 of the Wisconsin statutes, and;

WHEREAS, the County Board of Supervisors on _____, adopted resolution # _____ approving the Rusk County Forest Comprehensive land Use Plan for a period of 15 years, and;

WHEREAS, the County Board has the authority to acquire properties for the purpose of establishing County Forest land pursuant to ss. 28.10, Wis. Stats and as outlined in Chapter 400 of the Rusk County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan.; and

WHEREAS, acquisition of said properties would perpetually provide forest products to our local economy, revenues to the County, outdoor recreation opportunities to the public, and improve property administration on the County Forest; and

WHEREAS, Rusk County is eligible to participate and make application to the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Land Acquisition Grant program for land acquisition consistent with said Plan; and

WHEREAS, grant funding may provide funding up to 50% of the acquisition price; and

WHEREAS, participation in the grant program requires a county to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Department of Natural Resources Division of Forestry (as required by NR 51.963 Wis. Adm. Code) to define the criteria for participating in the grant program; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Rusk County Board of Supervisors approves the MOA with the Department of Natural Resources Division of Forestry; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any potential County Forest land acquisitions eligible for Knowles-Nelson Land Acquisition Stewardship grant funding will be brought before the Rusk County Board for approval prior to making application;

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED AND RESOLVED that the Rusk County Forestry Committee is directed to forward this signed MOA to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Rusk County recognizes and acknowledges that if financial assistance is made available by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, and the County accepts the financial assistance, the County will comply with State rules for the program and meet the financial obligations under the grant;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Board will be notified if grant funding becomes available and then will consider authorization for the acquisition.

Submitted by Land and Forestry Committee: S/Schneider, Nawrocki, Biller, Boss, Hauser.

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

RESOLUTION #12-16 RUSK COUNTY FIRST RESPONDER STIPEND INCREASE

WHEREAS, the Rusk County Board has established a stipend for First Responders on a per call basis and;

WHEREAS, fuel prices, and automobile costs continue to be high and;

WHEREAS, the Committees involved agree that a raise in the stipend is warranted and;

WHEREAS, the money for this raise in stipend is available in the current budget and;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Rusk County Board of Supervisor's will raise the stipend amount from \$6.50 per call to \$8.00 per call effective the first day of April 2012.

Submitted by Personnel Committee: S/Fisher, Swoverland, Hulback.

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

RESOLUTION #12-17 RESOLUTION TO CHANGE RUSK COUNTY GOVERNING ORDINANCE SECTION 2

WHEREAS, currently under the Rusk County Code of Ordinances the Property Committee oversees all county owned buildings except as otherwise assigned by resolution or statute; and

WHEREAS, jointly owned property is governed by both the property committee and the joint management committee, and

WHEREAS, the management of the library, animal shelter and visitor center buildings currently are overseen and managed by two committees, i.e. the property committee and the joint management committee, and

WHEREAS, it is unnecessary and burdensome to have two committees oversee and manage the same buildings; and

WHEREAS, the property committee would like to be able to exempt itself from the management and oversight of property where another committee such as the joint management committee would be better suited to manage.

WHEREAS, the joint management committee would be the proper committee to manage and oversee the library, animal shelter and visitor center building

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Rusk County Board of Supervisors does hereby amend Rusk County Code Sec. 2-267 as follows:

The Joint Management Committee:

- (1) Shall consist of five members, three of whom shall be selected by the board of supervisors but one of those selected shall be a member of the property committee and one of those selected shall be a representative from a supervisory district which is located within the city limits of the City of Ladysmith. The members shall be appointed for a term of one year. Members shall be appointed at the January regular county board meeting of each calendar year.
- (2) Shall oversee development and implementation of all city/county economic development building projects.
- (3) Shall oversee maintenance of the Library, Animal Shelter and Visitor Center Buildings.

Submitted by Property Committee: S/Platteter, Swoverland, Hauser, Freeman, Roth.

Motion by Platteter, second by Hauser to adopt. Platteter explained history of operations. Resolution adopted by aye vote.

RESOLUTION #11-39F AMEND 2012 BUDGET FOR VETERANS SERVICE DONATION FUND CARRY FORWARD

WHEREAS, donations were received to assist with transportation costs to continue the existing level of transportation services for veterans; and

WHEREAS, at the end of 2011, there was a balance of \$2,315.00 in these donation funds that was not spent; and

(County Board Meeting of June 19, 2012 cont. Page 3)

WHEREAS, at its April 18, 2012, meeting the Finance Committee approved forwarding the request to carry forward these veterans transportation donation funds to the County Board.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Rusk County Board of Supervisors approves carrying forward \$2,315.00 in 2011 veteran's service donation funds into 2012 to be used on veteran's transportation services.

Submitted by Finance Committee: S/Tatur, Knops, Platteter, Fisher.

Motion by Schneider, second by Gierke to adopt. Roll call. Voting yes - 19. Voting no - 0. Voting yes: Biller, Nawrocki, Hauser, Knops, Roth, Lieffring, Swoverland, Pedersen, Schneider, Gierke, Schmitt, Fisher, Hulback, Mai, Willingham, Freeman, Platteter, Boss, Tatur. Resolution adopted by roll call vote.

Swoverland requests postponing Approval of Trails End By-Laws and Statement of Understanding.

APPOINTMENTS

ADRC – Kathy Mai. Motion by Willingham, second by Fisher to approve appointment. Motion carried by aye vote.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE MOTION

Sprinkler System – RCMH & NH: Motion by Roth, second by Lieffring to authorize the Board of Trustees to accept the low bid for the sprinkler system and related upgrades to RCMH & NH and to pay for the projects using hospital funds. Motion to approve carried by aye vote.

Consulting Firm Agreement – RCMH & NH: Andy Albarado, Economic Development Coordinator, distributed information on consulting firm WIPFLI CPA's & Consultants, explained cost range, time frame and funding to assist with the transition of RCMH & NH. Motion by Knops, second by Pedersen to authorize entering into an agreement with WIPFLI for consulting regarding sale of RCMH & NH. Motion carried by aye vote. Fisher abstained.

Nursing Home Committee Formation: Discussion on core group working on proposals. Motion by Hauser, second by Platteter to use the same core group to continue negotiations. Motion carried by aye vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Hauser, second by Biller to adjourn. Motion carried by aye vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Next meeting July 31, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.

Denise Wetzel, Rusk County Clerk
Bonnie Stoneberg, Chief Deputy Clerk