

**MEETING OF THE RUSK COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
JUNE 18, 2013
7:00 P.M.**

Meeting called to order by Chair Randy Tatur at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call. Present – 16. Excused – 2. Present: Boss, Nawrocki, Knops, Lieffring, Swoverland, Pedersen, Schneider, Gierke, Schmitt, Fisher, Hulback, Mai, Willingham, Freeman, Platteter, Tatur. Excused: Biller, Hauser

Invocation by Ron Freeman of Keystone New Life Alliance Church.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Jim Platteter, District #19 Supervisor.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Gierke, second by Knops to approve minutes of April 30, 2013. Motion carried by aye vote.

RECOGNIZE SPECIAL GROUPS AND INDIVIDUALS

Andy Johnson & Bruce Nelson – Rusk County Jr. Fair: Andy informed the board that fair books are out, there will be a ribbon only open class, a carnival, and new entertainment and events this year.

Ambulance Presentation of History and Future of EMS in Rusk County: Knops introduced Marty Huhn and Amanda Nicholson, Rusk County EMTs. They provided a presentation on the history and future of EMS. A complete copy of the presentation is available in the clerk's office.

RESOLUTION #13-19 REALIGNMENT AND WAGE ADJUSTMENTS FOR THE FORESTRY DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, the Personnel, Finance, and Forestry Committees reviewed the employee turnover and recruitment process in the Forestry Dept over the past several years; and

WHEREAS, all three committees also reviewed the training process and experience needed for the duties performed by Forestry employees, especially marking timber; and

WHEREAS, in addition all three committees reviewed the Forestry department pay rates with the wages of comparable to other County Forestry positions; and

WHEREAS, all three committees concluded in order to retain Forestry employees after they had been properly trained that the adjustments requested need to be made; and

WHEREAS, the Personnel Committee recommends increasing the Forestry salaries based on the average presented at its meeting so the Forest Administrator annual salary would increase to \$65,280, the Assistant Forest Administrator hourly rate would increase to \$26.68, the Forester III hourly rate would increase to \$23.91, the Forester II and Parks Supervisor hourly rates would increase to \$21.99 and the Forestry Technician hourly rate would increase to \$18.64; and

WHEREAS, the Personnel Committee also recommends in the realignment process to eliminate the following job categories, Forester I, Park Supervisor I and Forestry Tech I positions; and

WHEREAS, the Finance Committee and Forestry Committee reviewed the wage recommendations and job category being eliminated and agrees with the Personnel Committee's recommendations.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Rusk County Board of Supervisors does hereby approve the recommendation of the Personnel Committee for the wage adjustments and realignment process of the Forestry Department effective June 1, 2013; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that it is understood that the Forestry Department employees who's wages are adjusted in this resolution would not be eligible to receive the 1% increase that will be provided to all non represented employees on July 1, 2013.

Submitted by Forestry, Personnel & Finance Committees: S/Schneider, Hauser, Nawrocki, Boss, Biller, Fisher, Willingham, Mai, Hulback, Tatur, Platteter, Knops

Motion by Fisher, second by Schneider to adopt. Fisher provided an explanation for realignment of salaries. Roll Call. Voting yes- 15. Voting no - 1. Voting yes: Nawrocki, Knops, Lieffring, Swoverland, Schneider, Gierke, Schmitt, Fisher, Hulback, Mai, Willingham, Freeman, Platteter, Tatur. Voting no. Pedersen. Resolution adopted by roll call vote.

RESOLUTION #00-40B RUSK COUNTY PARKS AND FORESTS ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

Sec. 34-194. - Applicability.

(c) Restrictions and allowance in Parks, Campgrounds and Boat Landings.

It shall be unlawful to operate or permit the operation of any all-terrain vehicle or snowmobile in the following areas:

4. Any area within the boundaries of Josie Creek Park **except the Josie Creek Campground area will be open to ATV during daylight hours and** except designated county snowmobile trail, and the parking lot located in the boat landing area for ice fishing use from November 16 through March 14.

Submitted by Land and Forestry Committee: S/Tatur.

Motion by Nawrocki, second by Schneider to adopt. Paul Teska, County Forester, explained intension of one year trial basis. Resolution adopted by aye vote. A complete copy of the ordinance is available at the clerk's office or online at ruskcounty.org.

RESOLUTION #13-20 RUSK COUNTY TO BECOME MEMBER OF RUSK COUNTY TRANSIT COMMISSION

WHEREAS, The County of Rusk, the City of Ladysmith and Indianhead Community Action Agency have partnered in a public transit program funded through the Wisconsin Department of Transportation under Sec. 85.20 of the Wisconsin Statutes and Section 5311 of the Federal Transit Act as Amended, and;

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation has informed the County and City that the current arrangement involves the procurement of services and the current partnership arrangement will not be permitted after January 1, 2014, and;

WHEREAS, the County, the City and Indianhead Community Action Agency have determined that the formation of a Rusk County Transit Commission is the alternative that will allow for continuity, coordination and growth for public transit in Rusk County, and;

WHEREAS, the formation of the Rusk County Transit Commission will not require an increase in the County of Rusk's contribution to public transit services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Rusk County Board of Supervisors, meeting this 18th day of June, 2013, does hereby express its intent to become a member of the Rusk County Transit Commission, and directs the County Board Chair to select the seven initial members of the Rusk County Transit Commission.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County of agrees to have three of its members appointed as Commissioners on the Rusk County Transit Commission.

Submitted by: S/Tatur.

Motion by Platteter, second by Knops to adopt. Jim Wheeler, ICAA Transit Services, was present to answer questions and give history of the transit commission. Motion by Freeman, second by Boss to amend the resolution by striking out the fourth WEAREAS. Roll Call. Voting yes- 7. Voting no - 9. Voting yes: Knops, Lieffring, Hulback Willingham, Freeman, Boss, Nawrocki. Voting no. Swoverland, Pedersen, Schneider, Gierke, Schmitt, Fisher, Mai, Platteter, Tatur. Amendment failed by roll call vote. Motion by Boss, second by Lieffring to postpone until Corporation Counsel has reviewed. Motion carried by aye vote.

RESOLUTION #13-21 SALARY ADJUSTMENT FOR HIGHWAY ASSISTANT TO COMMISSIONER / FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATOR

WHEREAS, the regular Highway Department office hours for the Asst. to Hwy Commissioner/Hwy Financial Administrator were changed from 38 ¾ hrs per week to 40 hrs per week in order to be consistent with the other Highway Office staff and Crew and to be able to meet the positions supervisory requirements; and

WHEREAS, the Highway Committee and Personnel Committee have approved that the increase in hours for the Asst. to Hwy Commissioner/Hwy Financial Administrator should reflect a salary compensatory adjustment; and

WHEREAS, the salary set for the Asst. to Hwy Commissioner/Hwy Financial Administrator at 38.75 hrs (2022.75 hrs per year) is \$44,159.19 and the increase in salary to compensate for the increase to 40 hrs (2088 hrs per year) is \$45,583.68 reflecting a \$1424.49 difference; and

WHEREAS, the Highway Department has the \$1424.49 in their budget to cover the increase in salary for the Asst. to Hwy Commissioner/Hwy Financial Administrator.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Rusk County Board of Supervisors does hereby approve a salary compensatory adjustment for the Asst. to Hwy Commissioner/Hwy Financial Administrator, increasing the salary for this position from \$44,159.19 to \$45,583.68 so as to reflect compensation for the additional hours required for supervisory duties and to be consistent with the department office staff and crew schedules.

Submitted by Personnel Committee:

Motion by Fisher, second by Gierke to adopt. Fisher explained the rationale for adjustment. Discussion on need for position to work 40 hrs per week. Resolution adopted by aye vote.

RESOLUTION #13-22 PETITIONING THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION FOR AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT AID

WHEREAS, Rusk County, Wisconsin hereinafter referred to as the Sponsor, being a municipal Body Corporate of the State of Wisconsin, is authorized by law (sec. 114.11, Wis. Stats.) to acquire, establish, construct, own, control, lease, equip, improve, maintain, and operate an airport, and

WHEREAS, the Sponsor desires to develop or improve the Rusk County Airport, Rusk County, Wisconsin,

"PETITION FOR AIRPORT PROJECT"

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 Chapter 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: Drainage improvements; conduct wildlife study; airfield electrical; relocate windsock; obstruction surveys and obstruction removal; feasibility study for runway extension; land acquisition for runway extension; clear and maintain runway approaches as stated in Transportation Administrative Code Chapter 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 law (sec. 114.32(5), Wis. Stats.) 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 chapter 32 of the Wisconsin Statutes; 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 Section 114.33(8)(a) of the Wis. Stats., 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 Chapter Trans 55, Wisconsin Administrative Code, or in accordance with Sponsor assurances enumerated in a Federal Grant Agreement.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE Rusk County Board Chair and Rusk County Clerk be authorized to sign and execute the Agency Agreement and Federal Block Grant Owner Assurances authorized by this Resolution.

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

Motion by Platteter, second by Schmitt to adopt. Andy Albarado, Ec. Development Director, explained petitioning process. Resolution adopted by aye vote.

RESOLUTION #13-23 RUSK COUNTY AIRPORT STATEMENT OF PROJECT INTENTIONS

RESOLVED, by the Rusk County Board of Supervisors that the attached list of proposed improvements are in the best interest of the Rusk County Airport;

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

(County Board Meeting of June 18, 2013 cont. Page 3)

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.

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

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

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE MOTION

Closed session announced by Chair for the purpose of Negotiating the Sale/Lease of the Rusk County Memorial Hospital/Nursing Home. For 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 Fisher, second by Swoverland to enter closed session. Roll call. Voting yes - 16. Voting no - 0. Voting yes: Boss, Nawrocki, Knops, Lieffring, Swoverland, Pedersen, Schneider, Gierke, Schmitt, Fisher, Hulback, Mai, Willingham, Freeman, Platteter, Tatur. Motion carried by roll call vote.

Closed session at 9:09 p.m.

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

Open Session at 9:41 p.m.

Motion by Lieffring, second by Freeman to authorize an addendum to the lease to grant a utility credit in the amount of \$135,000 to Senior Management, Inc. Motion carried by aye vote.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tatur announced John McMann, Northern Bridges CEO, will be retiring.

Embridge is currently doing maintenance line projects.

Sandy Roth, Dist #6 Supervisor, has resigned.

Lieffring provided handouts on the Ice Age Trail and acknowledged the volunteers for helping.

Fisher announced the Arts in the Garden tour at his home this weekend.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Swoverland, second by Gierke to adjourn. Motion carried by aye vote. Meeting adjourned at 9:43 p.m.

Next meeting July 30, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

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