

Executive Committee  
July 11, 2023 at 9:00 am  
County Board Room

Present: Dick Pufall, Mike Berlin, Clarence Campbell, Bill Metzinger, Martin Vitek

Others: Dan Grady, Lori Schmidt, David Meany, Brian Zupke, Heidi Thimm, George Bussey, Gary Mertig, Rich Huber

Dick Pufall called the meeting to order at 9:01 am and roll call was taken. Motion by Martin Vitek to approve the agenda as presented with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bill Metzinger. Motion carried.

Public Comments: David Meany spoke encouraging the Committee to approve all the wage appeals presented to them today.

Motion by Clarence Campbell to approve the June 13, 2023 meeting minutes as presented with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike Berlin. Motion carried.

Wage study appeals: Dan Grady informed the Committee that grades only can be appealed and not the steps. Discussion followed with many questions being asked. Dan Grady also informed the Committee that the Sheriff has two appeals, however, they were not given to Carlson Dettman because of certain conditions, however, Dan stated that they should be considered today along with all the others. Motion by Bill Metzinger to hear the reasons for the late appeals, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Clarence Campbell. Motion carried. Brian Zupke informed the Committee of the circumstances that the appeals were not presented and why he felt that these positions needed more money. Motion by Bill Metzinger to raise the grade to 11, step 1, wage at \$23.18 to start and \$24.57 after 6 months for both the full-time confidential secretary and part-time confidential secretary at the Sheriff's Department. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike Berlin. Motion carried. Motion by Dick Pufall to approve all of the wage study appeals including the two for the Sheriff's Department secretaries. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bill Metzinger. Motion carried.

Change Comprehensive Plan Committee to a Standing Committee: George Bussey explained that climate preparedness would fall under this Committee. Dan Grady stated that the Comp. Plan is due again in 2025 and that it is something that should be worked on/reviewed on a regular basis. Discussion followed regarding the "make-up" of the Committee, waiving the rule of the 3 Committee Rule, etc. Motion by Mike Berlin to change the Comprehensive Plan Committee from an Ad Hoc Committee to a Standing Committee. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Martin Vitek. Motion carried.

Supervisor Sztynodor to Joint Dispatch Intergovernmental Board: Dan Grady explained the reasoning behind this and discussion followed. Motion by Mike Berlin, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bill Metzinger to name Supervisor Ron Sztynodor to the Joint Dispatch Intergovernmental Board. Motion carried.

Grant Writer position: Dan Grady and Mike Berlin held discussion on the pros of this position. Dan also stated that the City of Ashland and Town of LaPointe expressed interest in the possibility of sharing this position. Motion by Mike Berlin to place in the 2024 budget the position of a Grant Writer. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Martin Vitek. Motion carried.

Sanborn discussion: Dan Grady stated that the State has passed a budget, however he did VETO in its entirety the piece regarding the Town of Sanborn and taxes. Discussion followed.

Economic Development: Dan Grady stated that the pressing need we have is for housing in the entire County. Discussion followed regarding the County using ARPA funds to purchase land with the City and

working with a contractor to ensure development. Chairman Pufall and Administrator Grady to discuss with the City and to come back with more information.

Uniquely Wisconsin: Discussion. Dan Grady will contact them to join in the next meeting.

Employee Handbook Update – Sick Leave: discussion followed regarding a “loop-hole” in the Handbook that employees are utilizing to donate their sick leave to other employees. Motion by Clarence Campbell to change the Employee Handbook stating the employees that have resigned or are terminated cannot donate any sick leave to any employee under any circumstances and that any transfer of sick leave has to be approved by the County Administrator and Board Chair. This change to be effective immediately. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Martin Vitek. Motion carried.

Updates: discussion followed regarding donating time during the “public comments” at Board meetings.

The next meeting was scheduled for August 15, 2023 at 9:00 am. Motion to adjourn by Martin Vitek with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike Berlin. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 10:48 am.

Lori Schmidt,  
Administrative Assistant