

**JUNE SESSION**  
MONDAY, JUNE 25, 2018 AT 7:00 P.M.

The Board met. Ms. Mary Anne McMillan Urell in the Chair.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

The roll was called and all members were present except Mr. Scott Smith and Mr. Nathan Nelson, who were excused. Others in attendance for all or portions of the meeting were Ms. Roxann Halverson, Ms. Sonya Hansen, Mr. David Brommerich, Mr. Dave Rynders, Ms. Diane Prenot, Mr. Bob Platteter, Ms. Tina Anibas, Sheriff Mike Schmidtknecht, Ms. Sue Burr, and Mr. Casey Brownell.

**Public Comments regarding Agenda items:** None.

**Review/Discussion/Action regarding the Previous Meeting Minutes:** Mr. Kriesel made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Brunkow. Carried.

**Review/Discussion regarding the Law Enforcement 2017 Annual Report:** Sheriff Schmidtknecht reviewed what happened in 2017 in the Sheriff's Department and Jail. New video cameras will be needed in the squads as the current ones are aging. The department faces challenges with health care and the mental health of the inmates. Drug abuse is on the rise causing more inmates in the jail. Sheriff Schmidtknecht reviewed the number of calls that come into dispatch as well as each type of call.

Mr. Casey Brownell, Jail Sergeant, gave a presentation on the jail structure and the work that Communication/Corrections Officer perform.

**Review/Discussion regarding the Highway Department 2017 Annual Report:** Mr. Platteter reviewed the accomplishments of the Highway Department for 2017. More roads were able to be worked on with the additional \$1,000,000.00 given to them from the General Fund. \$953,719.00 of that extra money was used for repairs and reconstruction. Fund balances were reviewed. The Highway Department is still waiting for reimbursement from the State for flood damage from 2016. The number of bridges in Buffalo County and deficiency replacement was discussed.

**Review/Discussion/Action regarding Resolution #18-06-01 "A Resolution to Place Referenda Question on the November Ballot":** Mr. Grisen explained a referendum question will be placed on the November ballot to get advice from the citizens on whether or not they want Buffalo County to bond \$4,000,000.00 for the repair and reconstruction of roads and keep that process on a 30-year rotation. If the referendum is voted down the roads will move to a 40-year reconstruction schedule. The cost to taxpayers for this bond is approximately \$23.00 for a \$50,000.00 home. Mr. Grisen made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Black. Carried.

**Review/Discussion/Action regarding Resolution #18-06-02 "A Resolution to Create a Full-**

**Time Social Worker Position for Adult Protection Services and Creating Dementia-Friendly Communities”:** Mr. Rynders explained the work that Buffalo County does with Pepin County to provide ADRC services. The State has encouraged us to expand those services or they may take back the carryover funds that ADRC has. There will be no need for additional levy dollars due to some restructuring that was done for this position. Mr. Kriesel made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Taylor. Carried.

**Review/Discussion/Action regarding Resolution #18-065-03 “A Resolution to Remove Outstanding Checks”:** Ms. Halverson explained this is a housekeeping resolution to remove checks that have not been cashed. The individuals have been contacted by the Buffalo County Treasurer, Ms. Tina Anibas, and no response was received. The funds from these check will go back into the General Fund. Mr. Kriesel made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Grisen. Carried.

**Review/Discussion/Action regarding Resolution #18-06-04 “A Resolution to Create and Fill a Full-Time Legal Assistant for the District Attorney’s Office”:** Ms. Hansen explained that Buffalo County, Pepin County and Florence County are the only counties that do not have full-time District Attorneys. Our District Attorney has resigned as he was elected to become the Buffalo-Pepin County Judge beginning August 1, 2018. The employees of his office are employees of the private law firm. The State recommends the position of Legal Assistant and Victim Witness Coordinator be county employees so if the person who is elected DA changes again there will be continuity in the office. Mr. Hillert made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Brunkow. Carried.

**Review/Discussion/Action regarding Resolution #18-06-05 “A Resolution to Create and Fill a Full-Time Combined Victim Witness Coordinator and District Attorney Legal Assistant Position”:** Ms. Hansen explained the Victim Witness position is a split position. 75% is Victim Witness and 25% is Legal Assistant. There is approximately 66% of the cost of the Victim Witness position reimbursed by the State. Mr. Bork made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Taylor. Carried.

**Review/Discussion/Action regarding Resolution #18-06-06 “A Resolution to Adopt Amendment No. 2 to Solid Waste Disposal Agreement”:** Ms. Hansen explained that La Crosse would like to extend the contract we currently have another seven years with two additional five year extensions past that. There would be no additional cost to the contract. Mr. Black made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Kriesel. Carried.

**Review/Discussion/Action regarding Confirmation of Appointment of Non-County Board Members to the Land Information Council (Jason Poser, Tammy Huber, Joe Nelsen, Susan Loomis, Carol Burmeister, Tina Anibas, and Barry Drazkowski):** A discussion was held regarding the confirmation of these appointments. Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve the appointments, seconded by Mr. Weiss. Carried.

**Review/Discussion/Action regarding a Summary Report of CAPX2020 Funding & Guidelines:** Ms. Hansen gave a review of where the CAPX2020 funds came from and what has been spent or pledged so far. There is approximately \$930,000.00 left out of the \$2,352,858.00

that was received. Future projects were discussed. New address signs was one of the projects. A request from the Nelson Fire Department for \$25,122.00 for a brush truck was discussed.

**Review/Discussion regarding Uniform Sign Replacement:** This item has been discussed at Finance. Our current ordinance shows that sign replacement is the responsibility of the towns and not the county. Re-writing the ordinance was discussed. There is currently a GIS intern out reviewing signs and any addressing errors they may find. She is currently working in the Town of Maxville and will report her findings to the Finance Committee before the completion of the project. A discussion was held on how to finance replacement of the signs. A 50/50 split between the county and municipality was discussed. There are also signs in each city that will need to be replaced as well, this is not just a town issue. Mr. Danzinger explained that if this is done as a special charge the municipalities can place the cost on the tax roll after the signs are in place. The signs cannot be installed until 2019 and therefore the cost would not show up on the tax bill until 2020. The cost for the signs, posts and installation is \$41.03 per sign (a cost of \$20.52 per sign for the municipality if split). This will be taken to the Towns Association meeting to be discussed further.

**Review/Discussion/Action regarding Schedule of Committee of the Board Meeting:** Chair McMillan Urell would like to discuss short and long term goals and begin budget talks. The meeting will be July 27 at 10:00 a.m.

**Review/Discussion/Action- Committee Reports:** Law Enforcement is working with CFC Schools regarding a Resource Officer. This person would also be a part-time Deputy for our Law Enforcement with the funds coming from the part-time Administrative Assistant position that was put in the budget but not wanted. There will be a vacancy in the Communication/Corrections Officer area as a person is retiring effective August 1<sup>st</sup>.

DHHS is still having lots of out of home placements. Currently there are 22 children on the caseload.

Zoning is still working on the ordinance revision. There will be a special information meeting on July 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

Land Conservation- Ms. Rosenow and Ms. Olson recently attended a district meeting in Chippewa County. They toured the Chippewa Valley Bean Factory that grows 70% of the kidney beans used.

The Highway Committee met with the Waumandee Town Board. The plan is to meet on a more regular basis. They also toured roads and reviewed upcoming projects.

The Economic Development Committee is still working on broadband and applying for another grant. The 2018 Buffalo County Visitor Guides are out and available from the County Clerk's Office.

**Review/Discussion - Administrative Coordinator Report:** Ms. Hansen gave the Administrative Coordinator Report.

- The US Supreme Court recently ruled that states have the right to have online retailers collect sales tax for their state. The Wisconsin Counties Association will be watching this closely. Mr. Grisen explained he heard on the news that Governor Walker intends to cut other taxes dollar for dollar based on what is received from online retailers.
- The DOT is installing a bridge in Trempealeau County that will have some effect on the Town of Buffalo. They will have a public meeting to discuss issues this may cause.
- There has been issues with the long distance. With so many carriers in the area each company is blaming the other for the problems.
- The leased vehicles have not arrived yet.
- The Fair Association was in and signed the note for the loan for bleachers. So far \$39,000.00 was loaned to them.

**Review/Discussion – Chair Report:** Chair McMillan Urell recently attended a tour of the Whitehouse in Washington DC and returned with some legislative information from NACO. Ms. Halverson will scan this information in and send it to each supervisors email.

**Public Comments Not Regarding Agenda Items:** None.

**Adjourned** at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roxann M. Halverson  
Buffalo County Clerk