

**PRICE COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

Date: February 10, 2022

Time: 9:00am

Place: Courthouse County Board Room 101; 126 Cherry St; Phillips, WI 54555

Call to Order and Roll Call. Meeting called to order by Robert Kopisch, Committee Chairperson at 9:00 a.m. Present: Paula Houdek, Robert Kopisch, Larry Palecek, Dennis Wartgow. Excused: James Hintz

Also present: Nick Trimner, Carrie Kyle

Items for discussion and possible action:

1. Public Comment and Communications: Lynda Ludwig, Town of Worcester: County should not sell the fairgrounds to a private entity. David Valiquette, City of Phillips and SRC America: What is the County's plan for economic development? Concern about ability for employees to move to the area.
2. Sale/Lease of Fairgrounds Property: Committee adjourned into closed session.
3. Closed Session: Announcement and motion Palecek/Wartgow to adjourn to closed session at 9:10 a.m. pursuant to the exemption in Wis. State Statute 19.85(1)(e) 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. For the purpose of:
 - a. Negotiation on Sale/Lease of Fairgrounds Property
 - b. Motion to Return to Open Session

Roll call vote: Yes (4): Houdek, Kopisch, Palecek, Wartgow. No: (0). Motion carried.

Motion Palecek/Wartgow in closed session to return to open session at 10:20 a.m. Roll call vote:

Yes (4): Houdek, Kopisch, Palecek, Wartgow. No: (0). Motion carried.

4. Take Action, as needed, on closed session items: No action.
5. Resolution – Approve Sale of Price County Fairgrounds Property: No action.
Communications: Legislative initiatives: Nick testified for an Assembly Bill for cleanup of 5R Processing site. Change in qualifications of doctor and nurse representatives on Health & Human Services. Change in tax deed process that would give proceeds of sale to the ex-property owner.
6. Meeting minutes January 11 and 25, 2022: Motion Houdek/Wartgow to approve the minutes of the January 11 and 25, 2022 meetings as presented. Motion carried.
7. Treasurer Report – Lynn Neck
 - a. Monthly reports: Tax collections are going well.
 - b. Delinquent Taxes and In Rem: 2018 title searches completed and turned over to Slaby, Deda, Marshall. Process to take ownership scheduled to happen by the end of the year. Shopko building delinquent taxes were paid with sale of property. No activity from Phillips Lionite. Park Falls Development, LLC has not made the first installment of the property taxes.
8. County Administrator – Nick Trimner
 - a. Financial Reports:
 - i. 2021 Actual vs Budget – Reviewed under and overages. Some departments have been short staffed resulting in overtime for other employees. Jail is full with several inmates being housed out-of-county. Several unexpected Buildings & Grounds projects. Fairgrounds maintenance over. Some 2021 revenues will still be coming in 2022. Sales tax was over expected. Stumpage was good.
 - ii. 2022 Actual vs Budget: Reviewed. Loan payments will be due. More ARPA funds coming in.
 - b. 2021 Annual Report of Wages: Reviewed. Electeds by name and employees by position.
 - c. American Recovery Plan Act Update: \$900,000 remains unallocated.
 - d. Administrator Report: Attended WCA Legislative Meeting. Unified effort for the state to finance mandates and lift levy limits.
9. 2022 Payments to Non-profit and Community Partners: Payments have been made except Friends of Fred Smith and PFACDC. FoFS needs to provide their required financial statement. \$15,000 will remain of PFACDC funds.
10. Amend Resolution 37-21 – Establish a Special Revenue Fund for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA): Motion Wartgow/Palecek to approve amended resolution and forward to the County Board for their consideration. Motion carried.
11. Amend Resolution 56-21 – Establish an Opioid Abatement Account: Motion Houdek/Palecek to

- approve amended resolution and forward to the County Board for their consideration. Motion carried.
12. Resolution – Establish a Special Revenue Fund for Carbon Offset Project Revenue and Expenses – approve new language: Motion Houdek/Wartgow to rescind motion to approve the resolution from January 11, 2022. Motion carried. Motion Wartgow/Palecek to approve new resolution and forward to the County Board for their consideration. Motion carried.
 13. Resolution – Request to Apply for WDNR Cost Share Grant (Solberg Lake Boat Ramp): Motion Palecek/Houdek to approve resolution and forward to the County Board for their consideration. Motion carried.
 14. Resolution – Project Approval – Courthouse and Safety Building Chiller and HVAC Projects: Motion Wartgow/Palecek to approve resolution and forward to the County Board for their consideration. Motion carried.
 15. COVID Updates: Price County is slightly above state average of positive cases. EOC should meet and go through updates.
 16. Broadband Expansion Project Status: Charter has expressed interest in providing services.
 - a. Broadband Mapping Opportunity: Training opportunity March 3rd to find out more about the program.
 17. Economic Development / Tourism Update: Struggle pulling county-wide efforts together. Lyn Ludwig presented information on hiring an economic development consultant. Connect Communities, supported by Wisconsin Economic Development, could be the group that would be the lead. Lyn will provide more information when the plan is pulled together. Laura Palzkill, from the Phillips Area Chamber of Commerce, is overseeing the County's tourism funds. She will be the County representative on ITBEC.
 18. Monthly Vouchers: Motion Palecek/Wartgow to approve the accounts payable and payroll for the month of January in the amount of \$1,148,607.65 and Period 13 in the amount of \$717,153.74 and vouchers in the amount of \$845,358.12. Motion carried.
 19. Date of Next Meeting – March 10, April 14
 20. Meeting adjourned at 11:46 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Jean Gottwald, County Clerk