



PUBLIC SAFETY & JUSTICE COMMITTEE
Minutes – October 18, 2021

Call to Order. Chair Beaver called the meeting of the Public Safety and Justice Committee to order at 5:30 P.M. at the Rock County Communications Center.

Committee Members Present: Supervisors Beaver, Taylor, Bomkamp, Knudson, and Rynes.

Committee Members Absent: None.

Staff Members Present: Josh Smith, County Administrator; Randy Terronez, Assistant to the County Administrator; Melissa Wittwer, Child Support Director; Sheriff Knudson; Chief Deputy Strouse; Captain Fell; Terri Carlson, Risk Manager; Kathy Sukus, Communications Center Director; Mark Stevens, Business Manager; and David O’Leary, District Attorney.

Others Present. None.

Adoption of Agenda. Supervisor Taylor moved approval of the agenda as presented, second by Supervisor Knudson. ADOPTED.

Public Comment. Mark Stevens, Human Services Business Manager, expressed his support for the Rave Emergency Notification System. His comment is attached.

There was also a public comment submitted by Dorothy Harrell. She expressed her support for the Treatment Coordinator. Her comment is attached.

Approval of Minutes – October 4, 2021

Supervisor Rynes moved approval of the October 4, 2021, second by Supervisor Knudson. ADOPTED.

Resolutions and Committee Approval.

Establishing Housing for Sexually Violent Offenders

“**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly assembled this _____ day of _____, 20__ adopts Option 4 in the County Administrator’s July 21, 2021 report titled Options for Housing Sexually Violent Offenders on Supervised Release in Rock County Placed under Chapter 980 of the Wisconsin Statutes—to place duplex housing on the northwest corner of the County Farm property in the Town of Janesville.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that County Administrator Smith is directed to take all necessary and lawful steps in furtherance of this policy, including, but not limited to, approaching the State of Wisconsin to request and develop a pilot program for funding of the construction, or a portion of the construction costs of such housing, and work with the Town of Janesville to address any further concerns or barriers to development.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that County Administrator Smith shall keep all options for housing sexual violent offenders on supervised release open and consider alternatives to Option 4 shall any barriers to implementation be determined to be insurmountable.”

Supervisor Rynes moved approval of the above resolution, second by Supervisor Taylor. Supervisor Rynes expressed her support for this resolution. Supervisor Knudson expressed his concerns and pointed to the proximity to a nearby subdivision. Supervisor Knudson suggested reconsidering naming a location in the resolution. He expressed concern on breaking apart the County Farm. Supervisor Rynes asked why this specific location was being recommended. Josh Smith clarified that in December, the County Board directed the Administrator’s Office to explore housing options for sexual offenders per Chapter 980. A report prepared by the County Administrator dated July 21, 2021 identified four sites. There were other issues with the other proposed locations and this location was the least problematic. Supervisor Rynes suggested a more mobile type of housing instead of a traditional - standard building. Josh stated that the suggested mobile building type might not be approved by the State. YES – Bomkamp, Taylor. NO – Rynes, Knudson, Beaver. FAILED.

Approving Contract with Lyme - Rave Emergency Notification System

“**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly assembled this day of _____, 2021, authorizes the County Administrator to enter a five-year contract with Lyme, also known as RAVE, an emergency notification system, through a Governmental Services Agency contract GS-35F-465GA with the initial purchase cost of \$40,937.50 and subsequent annual costs for years two through five at \$36,637.50.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the 2021 Rock County budget be amended as follows:

...”

Supervisor Knudson moved approval of the above resolution, second by Supervisor Bomkamp. ADOPTED.

Update, Discussion, and Possible Action

Review and Discussion of the 2022 Recommended Budget

Supervisor Beaver reminded department heads that they need to attend Finance Committee on November 4 at 7:30am to appeal budgets.

Sheriff

Josh Smith went over his recommendations. He started with the Sheriff’s Department budget. Sheriff Knudson advocated for the Treatment Coordinator position. Supervisor Rynes referenced the opioid litigation and inquired how much Rock County will be getting. She asked if this is something that we could use these funds for. Josh said that Rock County does not expect to get those funds until sometime next year. Supervisor Beaver advised that this is something that could go to Finance Committee.

Captain Curt Fell advocated for the communication and intelligence vehicle. Supervisor Beaver

asked how much sales tax is available. Josh answered that there was \$1,000,000 available in the Excess Sales Tax account. Supervisor Rynes asked if ARPA funding would be another appropriate funding source. Supervisor Knudson motioned to move them on to Finance Committee for appeals, second by Supervisor Rynes.

Circuit Court/Clerk of Court

Supervisor Beaver moved next to the Circuit Court/Clerk of Court. Jacki Gackstatter advocated for the reclassification for the Chief Deputy Clerk of Circuit Court Unilateral Pay Range 19 C to a Clerk of Court Administrator Unilateral Pay Range 21 C. Josh Smith stated that this position was not recommended due to the recommended wage study. Supervisor Bomkamp expressed his support in waiting to move this forward due to wage compression. Supervisor Beaver instructed Josh to talk to Human Resources regarding potential changes to the job description consistent with the requested changes.

911 Communications Center

Josh moved on to the 911 Communications Center Administrator's Comments. Kathy Sucus advocated for increasing the GIS Coordinator position from 0.75 FTE to 1.0 FTE. The current GIS Coordinator is retiring soon, and as technology changes, the increase in FTE is needed. Kathy asked to wait until after the wage study to reallocate the Communications Director.

Supervisor Rynes to remove the \$4,099 reallocation for the Communication Center Director, second by Supervisor Taylor. Supervisor Bomkamp expressed his support for reallocating the Communication Center Director from PR 32 C to PR 33 C. YES – Taylor, Rynes. NO – Beaver, Knudson, Bomkamp. FAILED.

District Attorney's Office

Supervisor Beaver moved to the District Attorney's Office Administrator's Comments. Josh highlighted the Administrator's Comments. DA O'Leary touched on difficulty hiring attorneys in the DA's Office. The DA's Office is also seeing that with the Legal Support Specialists. DA O'Leary advocated for the wage study to be completed. Josh stated that the title changes in the Circuit Court and the DA's Office cannot happen due to them being in different page ranges. Supervisor Bomkamp moved to remove the title changes for the Circuit Court Office Manager and the DA Office Manager, second by Supervisor Taylor. Passed unanimously.

Medical Examiner

Supervisor Beaver moved to the Medical Examiner's Administrator's Comments. Josh highlighted the comments.

Child Support

Supervisor Beaver moved to the Child Support Services. Josh covered the Administrator's Comments. Melissa Wittwer advocated for the wage study.

Evidence-Based Decision-Making

Josh highlighted the EBDM Administrator's Comments.

Supervisor Bomkamp asked about how salaries for elected department heads are established and determined. Josh explained the process used.

Committee Requests and Motions

Supervisor Rynes asked to clarify the budget appeals process. Supervisor Beaver stated that the department head and herself will present the 2022 budget appeals to the Finance Committee on Thursday, November 4, at 7:30am.

Tour of the 911 Communications Center.

Adjournment. Supervisor Rynes moved adjournment at 7:07 P.M., second by Supervisor Bomkamp. ADOPTED.

Respectfully submitted,

Haley Hoffman
Office Coordinator

NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY COMMITTEE.