

COUNTY BOARD STAFF COMMITTEE
Minutes – January 10, 2017

Call to Order. Chair Podzilni called the meeting of the County Board Staff Committee to order at 4:00 P.M. in Conference Room N-1 on the fifth floor of the Rock County Courthouse-East.

Committee Members Present: Supervisors Podzilni, Kraft, Brill, Bussie, Mawhinney, Peer, and Sweeney.

Committee Members Absent: Supervisors Arnold and Thomas.

Staff Members Present: Josh Smith, County Administrator; Randy Terronez and Nick Osborne, Assistants to the County Administrator; Jeff Kuglitsch, Corporation Counsel; Annette Mikula, Human Resources Director; Kate Luster, Human Services Director.

Others Present: Jean and Jack Austin; Brett Frazier, Humane Society of Southern Wisconsin; Brad Yarmark and Jim Thorpe, Humane Society of Southern Wisconsin, Board of Directors.

Approval of Agenda. Supervisor Mawhinney moved approval of the agenda as presented, second by Supervisor Bussie. ADOPTED.

Citizen Participation, Communications and Announcements. None.

Approval of Minutes – December 13, 2016. Supervisor Brill moved approval of the minutes of December 13, 2016, second by Supervisor Peer. ADOPTED.

Transfers. None.

Review of Payments. The Committee accepted the report.

Resolutions.

Recognizing Patricia Nixon

“**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly assembled this _____ day of _____, 2017, does hereby recognize Patricia Nixon for her twenty-two (22) years of service and extend best wishes to her in her future endeavors; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Clerk be authorized and directed to furnish a copy of this resolution to Patricia Nixon.”

Supervisor Mawhinney moved approval of the above resolution, second by Supervisor Sweeney. ADOPTED.

Recognizing Vehicle Maintenance Technician Michael Natter

“NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly assembled this _____ day of _____, 2017, does hereby recognize Vehicle Maintenance Technician Michael Natter for his over 15 years of faithful service and recommends that a sincere expression of appreciation be given to Michael Natter along with best wishes for the future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Clerk be authorized and directed to furnish a copy of this resolution to Michael Natter.”

Supervisor Peer moved approval of the above resolution, second by Supervisor Kraft. ADOPTED.

Presentation by Humane Society of Southern Wisconsin Regarding request for County Property. Chair Podzilni introduced the Committee.

Mr. Thorpe said the current building the Humane Society of Southern Wisconsin is using, on S. Arch Street, is falling apart and needs to be torn down. He said he, and others, feel the location underserves the community as it is not the easiest to find. Mr. Thorpe said he would like to see the Humane Society built in an area he feels would benefit the whole county. Mr. Thorpe said they are before the County Board Staff Committee to request the donation of land or to purchase land for \$1. He suggested land located at the intersection of Highways 14 and 51 would be a great location for them.

Mr. Frazier handed out a list of the 23 municipalities who have contracted with them in 2016; a breakout of their revenue sources from 2013 – 2016; outcome trend breakdown of 2015 vs. 2016; some of the Humane Society’s successes; key points of their present location; key points of a new facility; and their plan for designing and building a new shelter. Mr. Frazier said they are in need of a new modern shelter with updated technology.

Chari Podzilni handed around maps of their current location, and the location Mr. Frazier referenced above.

Supervisor Mawhinney said their current location is 4.5 acres and asked why they could not build a new building there.

Mr. Thorpe said they could build there but it is in a location that is difficult to find, and they would like to be close to the Sheriff’s Office to utilize the people in jail. He added that they would like a site that is readily identifiable that would have good access to main roads.

Supervisor Kraft agreed they are in need of a new facility but felt it would be more prudent for them to stay at the location they are at now.

Mr. Yarmark said they felt it would be better to sell the location they are at and invest those funds into a new site.

Mr. Frazier said they learned many of the success and failures from Walworth, Dane and Jefferson Counties. He added that they would like to check all the boxes and upgrade.

Chair Podzilni suggested a site near the Rock Valley Community Programs facility.

Mr. Thorpe said they have looked into that site and have not been able to put anything together yet.

The Committee discussed the County owned property at the intersection of the Highways 14 and 51 and possible road access difficulties.

Mr. Thorpe said they felt it would take about a year and a half to put the money together for the project. Mr. Frazier added that they would use that time to put a plan together to fit the area.

Supervisor Kraft asked if they had contacted Mr. Freitag at the City of Janesville. Mr. Thorpe replied not directly. Supervisor Kraft said they may have more options for them.

The Committee expressed their concerns on gifting land and that it would set a precedent.

Supervisor Sweeney said the area of land they have expressed interest in has value that far exceeds the benefits of a project such as this. He suggested not using this property and that he has concerns about donating land as he feels the County will be fighting future requests forever. Mr. Sweeney suggested the property across the road from the old Rock Haven building.

Chair Podzilni said the Committee will discuss this request more at a future meeting and that the request would need to go to other committees as well.

Supervisor Kraft suggested contacting Mr. Freitag, City of Janesville, and Ms. Luther, City of Beloit.

Mr. Thorpe said they have other contacts as well.

Mr. Frazier said the Humane Society Board has also talked about leasing land at a price they would be able to afford.

Discussion and Possible Action on Human Services Department Request to Use County Seal to Sponsor YES! (Youth Emotional Stability) Summit. Mr. Smith said the policy on use of the County Seal should be ready soon, but we could not wait on this request. He said this request does meet the criteria we have used previously.

Ms. Luster explained this is a one day training conference and being shown as a sponsor of the event would be a win/win for all.

Supervisor Mawhinney moved approval for the use of the County Seal for this event, second by Supervisor Sweeney. ADOPTED.

Review and Possible Action on Updates to the Administrative Policy & Procedure Manual. Ms. Mikula explained that this is part of the County's wellness program and due to unforeseen issues with the new provider not being able to fulfil their obligations we will need to

pause the Healthy Employee Incentive Program for 2017. This means we will need to remove some of the language in Policy #5.17, as attached, for 2017.

Supervisor Mawhinney moved approval to make these changes to Policy #5.17, second by Supervisor Bussie. ADOPTED.

Semi-Annual Training and Conference Reports. The Committee accepted the reports. Ms. Mikula stated that the training she went on in October 2016 was one of the best she has ever attended.

Adjournment. Supervisor Sweeney moved adjournment at 4:59 P.M., second by Supervisor Brill. ADOPTED.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Bondehagen
Confidential Administrative Assistant

NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY COMMITTEE.