



Minutes - February 21, 2022

Call to Order: Chair Richard Bostwick called the hybrid meeting of the County Board Staff Committee to order on Monday, February 21, 2022 at 4:30 P.M.

Committee Members Present: Supervisors Podzilni, Leavy, Beaver, Sweeney, Peer, Davis, Richard Bostwick, Brien (4:38 P.M.), and Yeomans (4:49 P.M.).

Committee Members Absent: None.

Staff Members Present: Josh Smith, County Administrator; Kate Luster, Human Services Director; Richard Greenlee, Corporation Counsel; Randy Terronez, Assistant to the Administrator; Terri Carlson, Risk Manager; Amy Spoden, Interim Human Resources Director; and Jodie Surber, Analyst.

Others Present: Supervisors Knudson and Schulz; and Nancy Stabb.

Approve Agenda: Supervisor Podzilni moved approval of the agenda as presented, second by Supervisor Peer. ADOPTED.

Citizen Participation, Communications and Announcements: Two public comments. Niel Deupree and Supervisor Williams submitted public comments (attached) expressing their support of item 5B resolution Creating a Housing Coordinator and Allocating Funding for Housing Consultant Services Using American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds.

Approval of Minutes:

February 7, 2022 Minutes: Supervisor Davis moved approval of the February 7, 2022 minutes as presented, second by Supervisor Beaver. ADOPTED.

Review and Approval of Resolutions:

Authorizing Premium Pay for COVID-19 Contact Risk Using American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds: "NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Rock County Board of Supervisors, duly assembled this ____ day of _____, 2022, does hereby authorize two payments of \$500 for all employees of the Sheriff's Office, Rock Haven, Human Services (including Council on Aging), Communications Center, Information Technology, and Medical Examiner, as well as Facilities Management staff that work out of the Sheriff's Office, Youth Services Center, Rock Haven, 911, and the Dr. Williams Resource Center, that are employed on the calculation date and meet the following criteria:

1. The employee must have performed in-person work that involves interactions with patients, the public, or coworkers for at least one day per week in the three months prior to the calculation date.
2. The employee must have worked at least 40 hours total in the three months prior to the calculation date.
3. The employee's position must fall into one of two categories:
 - a. The position is not exempt from the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) overtime provisions, OR
 - b. The addition of premium pay would not increase the total pay at any step on the position's pay range above 150% of the average annual wage for all occupations in the state or county, which is \$76,875 in Wisconsin per the currently available numbers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that eligibility will be calculated as of July 1, 2022 for the first payment and December 1, 2022 for the second payment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the 2022 budget be amended as follows:

..."

Supervisor Peer moved approval of the above resolution as presented, second by Supervisor Bostwick.

Supervisor Schulz spoke to the resolution. Supervisor Schulz expressed that the staff in these departments have provided excellent service and put themselves at risk of contracting COVID-19. She explained that this would encourage these staff and thank them for their work during the COVID-19 pandemic.

(Supervisor Brien arrived at 4:38 P.M.)

Supervisors discussed the impact of this resolution on employee morale. Supervisor Podzilni and Supervisor Beaver added that there are other departments in the courthouse that have also been at risk of contracting COVID-19.

(Supervisor Yeomans arrived at 4:49 P.M.)

Supervisor Schulz elaborated that this is a way to say 'thank you' to these workers.

YES - Supervisors Davis and Bostwick. NO - Supervisors Beaver, Sweeney, Leavy, Podzilni, Peer, Yeomans, and Brien. FAILED.

Creating a Housing Coordinator and Allocating Funding for Housing Consultant Services Using American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds: "NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly assembled this _____ day of _____, 2022 does hereby create a 1.0 FTE Housing Coordinator in Range 22 of the Unilateral Pay Grid as a project position in the Human Services Department and allocates up to \$428,772 of ARPA funds to be utilized for the costs of this position and contracted consultant services for planning efforts to reduce homelessness in Rock County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the 2022 budget be amended as follows:

..."

Supervisor Davis moved approval of the above resolution, second by Supervisor Brien.

Supervisor Knudson spoke to this resolution. He spoke to the issues that everyone is having with housing -- especially affordable housing.

Kate Luster expressed that the need for housing, especially affordable housing, is huge and is seen by many areas in the Human Services Department. She stated that there are many stakeholders, but there is not one position to address this right now.

Supervisor Peer call the question and end debate, second by Supervisor Podzilni. ADOPTED.

Committee members considered the original motion to approve the above resolution as presented. YES - Supervisors Leavy, Davis, Bostwick, Brien. NO - Supervisors Podzilni, Peer, Beaver, Sweeney, and Yeomans. FAILED.

Authorizing Overlap of Finance Accountant Position and Amending the 2022 Finance Department Budget: "NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly assembled this _____ day of _____, 2022, does hereby authorize the temporary overlap of up to five weeks for the Finance Department's Unilateral Accountant position and amends the Finance Department's 2022 budget as follows:

..."

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

Review, Discussion and Possible Action:

Employee Assistance Program administered by Humana: Supervisor Beaver moved to approve the Employee Assistance Program be administered by Humana, second by Supervisor Leavy.

Amy Spoden spoke to this. She explained that the county has been with current EAP provider since 2008. There was an RFP put out to see what EAP providers are available to provide services provided by the current provider. She stated that Humana would provide services that current provider provides plus more for the same rate.

ADOPTED.

Elected Officials Salaries : Amy Spoden spoke to this. She stated that position descriptions have been provided to the committee members as well as comparisons to other counties that Supervisors had requested. Chair Bostwick indicated that this will be discussed at a later meeting.

Next meeting date and time: Monday, March 7, 2022 at 4:30 P.M.

Adjournment: Supervisor Podzilni moved adjournment at 5:37 P.M., second by Supervisor Beaver.
ADOPTED.

Respectfully submitted,

Haley Hoffman
Office Coordinator

NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY COMMITTEE.

TO: Rock County Board Staff Committee

FROM: Rock County Board of Supervisor
Shirley Williams, District 14

RE: Proposed Resolution for Creating a Housing Coordinator and Allocating Funding for
Housing Consultant Services Using American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds

I strongly support the above referenced Resolution to allocate funds to support creating a 1.0 FTE Housing Coordinator position and contracted consultant services to address the homelessness and housing issues within Rock County.

Rock County Housing Coordinator Position

I support the proposal to create a Housing Coordinator position in the Human Services Department of Rock County.

The proposal, as presented by Supervisor Knudson and the Human Services Board, outlines the benefits of providing a staff person to assist people at risk of homelessness and the stresses that it causes.

I believe that it is helpful to have someone who is familiar with the issues and obstacles available to assist those who are feeling overwhelmed by their circumstances.

Neil Deupree, former member of the Human Services Board