



HOUSING AUTHORITY
Minutes – May 3, 2023
In person at Planning Office
and via Zoom

Call to Order: Chair Schulz called the meeting of the Housing Authority of Rock County to order at 9:03 AM on Wednesday, May 3, 2023.

Members present via ZOOM: Chair Supervisor Kathy Schulz, and Billy Bob Grahm

Members Excused: Michelle Ponkauskas.

Rock County Staff present: Ilana Eisenberg (Office Coordinator) and Andrew Baker (Planning Director, acting as ex officio member per by-laws to make quorum)

Others Present: Bill Wilson (County Board Supervisor, Zoom)

Adopt Agenda: Mr. Grahm made a motion to approve. Director Baker seconded the motion. ADOPTED

Approval of Minutes from Meeting Held April 5, 2023: Mr. Grahm made a motion to approve. Director Baker seconded the motion. ADOPTED

Citizen Participation, Communications and Announcements: None

Follow Up Discussion on Developing a County-Wide Housing Strategy:

Director Baker suggested postponing any presentation to the County Board (possibly with James Otterstein, Economic Development Manager) until the Housing Authority had a full membership. Hopefully this will be resolved by late May or the month of June 2023. The Committee agreed with this.

Director Baker provided the information available for the ALICE Data. Newly updated figures were added at the end of April 2023. This data was provided by the United Way and a full scope of figures are located on the website. There is additionally a dashboard of figures that are compiled with each state to use as comparison. Mr. Wilson questioned whether the cost and/or percentages compiled may

not be accurate. He felt that these figures could be presented to the County Board to demonstrate the challenges throughout the county. The online presentation discussed was part of the University of Wisconsin Extension from 2022. Steve Deller, professor in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, with 30 years of experience in the field was one of the people to aid in compiling the data on the website. Interest in having Mr. Deller be a part of or supply figures specifically regarding Rock County for presentation to bring before the County Board was expressed. Motion for getting a recommendation from Mr. Deller was proposed by Mr. Grahn, seconded by Chair Schulz.

ALICE IN ROCK COUNTY



2021 Point-in-Time Data

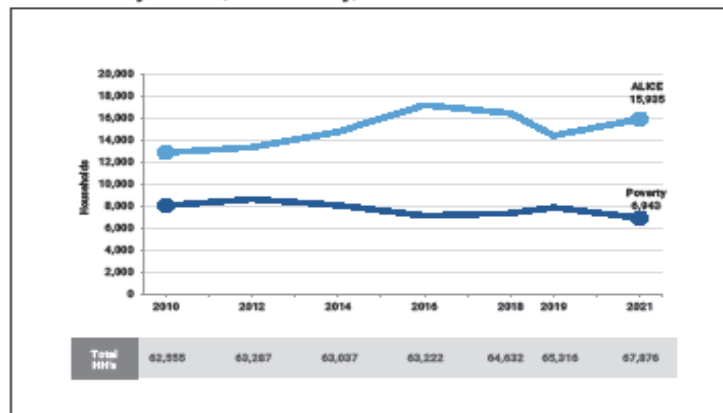
Population: 164,381 • Number of Households: 67,876 (4% change from 2019)
 Median Household Income: \$66,090 (state average: \$67,125)
 Labor Force Participation Rate: 65% (state average: 65.1%)
 ALICE Households: 23% (state average: 23%) • Households in Poverty: 10% (state average: 11%)

Financial Hardship Changes Over Time

ALICE is an acronym for Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed — households that earn more than the Federal Poverty Level, but less than the basic cost of living for the county (the ALICE Threshold). Households below the ALICE Threshold — ALICE households plus those in poverty — can't afford the essentials.

As circumstances change, households may find themselves below or above the ALICE Threshold at different times. While the COVID-19 pandemic brought employment shifts, health struggles, and school/business closures in 2021, it also spurred unprecedented public assistance through pandemic relief measures. In 2019, 22,328 households in Rock County were below the ALICE Threshold; in 2021 this number changed to 22,876, (a 2% change).

Households by Income, Rock County, 2010–2021



Note: See an interactive version of this data at UnitedForALICE.org/Wisconsin
 Sources: ALICE Threshold, 2010–2021; American Community Survey, 2010–2021

The Cost of Basics Outpaces Wages

The Household Survival Budget reflects the minimum cost to live and work in the modern economy and includes housing, child care, food, transportation, health care, a smartphone plan, and taxes. It does not include savings for emergencies or future goals like college or retirement. The Household Survival Budget is calculated at the county level and varies by household composition, as costs can vary greatly depending on location and household needs.

In 2021, household costs in Rock County were well above the Federal Poverty Level of \$12,880 for a single adult and \$26,500 for a family of four.

To see costs for different household compositions in Rock County, visit UnitedForALICE.org/Household-Budgets/Wisconsin

Household Survival Budget, Rock County, 2021		
	SINGLE ADULT	2 ADULTS, 1 INFANT, 1 PRESCHOOLER
Monthly Costs and Credits		
Housing – Rent	\$497	\$572
Housing – Utilities	\$154	\$292
Child Care	–	\$1,450
Food	\$411	\$1,120
Transportation	\$328	\$805
Health Care	\$240	\$759
Technology	\$75	\$110
Miscellaneous	\$170	\$511
Tax Payments	\$266	\$1,024
Tax Credits	\$0	–\$1,267
Monthly Total	\$2,141	\$5,376
ANNUAL TOTAL	\$25,692	\$64,512
Hourly Wage*	\$12.85	\$32.26

*Wage working full-time required to support this budget
 For ALICE Survival Budget sources, visit UnitedForALICE.org/Methodology

There was discussion about residents within the county creating a balance between health and safety and should it interfere with personal choices.

Edgerton Project Update:

There are currently two large projects underway in the Town of Edgerton. They are anticipated to cost roughly more than \$350,000.00 per project. One is for the senior apartment buildings. This project has

encountered delays due to the funding and paperwork from Rural Development. The other project in progress is ECO. These are new dwelling units (5-6 units) that will be given preference to veterans. The lower level of the building will also function as a meeting space.

Suggestions for Future Meeting Topics:

The next meeting is to be on June 7, 2023, at 9 am. There will be a Cinco de Mayo event, where Ilana Eisenberg (Office Coordinator) will be handing out brochures about the Rehabilitation Program that is offered by Rock County. This is an excellent opportunity to get the word out in the community and refresh residents' minds about what is offered.

Adjournment:

Mr. Grahn made the motion to adjourn at 9:49 am. Director Baker seconded the motion. ADOPTED

Next meeting: 06/07/2023 at 9:00AM

Respectfully submitted,
Ilana Eisenberg, Office Coordinator