



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Minutes - April 25, 2024

CALL TO ORDER: The Rock County Board of Supervisors met, pursuant to adjournment, on April 16, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. in the Courthouse at Janesville, Wisconsin.

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Chair Leavy called the meeting to order. Supervisor Bostwick gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL: Supervisors Boehlke, Bostwick, Brien, Cullen, Fugelseth, Gorman, Homan, Knudson, Marshall, Mawhinney, Peer, Pennycook, Rashkin, Ryan, Schneider, Schulz, Schwarz, Stone, Sutter, Sutterlin, Tillman, Towns, Whitledge, Wilson, Woodman and Leavy were present. Supervisor Bobzien was absent. PRESENT – 26. ABSENT – 1. VACANT- 2.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Supervisors Bostwick and Tillman moved the consent agenda. Chair Leavy asked for objections and questions about the items on the consent agenda. Consent agenda approved by acclamation.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – April 11, 2024 & April 16, 2024:

NOMINATIONS, APPOINTMENTS AND CONFIRMATION:

Appointment to the Environmental Management System Committee:

New Appointment: Jim Farrell

Effective Date: April 25, 2024

Confirmation of Chair's Appointments to Committees, Commissions, and Boards:

Standing Committees:

Agriculture & Extension Education Committee - Rich Bostwick, Chris Cullen, Debi Towns, Kim Schneider and April Whitledge.

Land Conservation Committee - Rich Bostwick, Debi Towns, Lori Marshall, Kim Schneider, Dave Homan, Philip Gorman and Chris Cullen.

Board of Health - Lou Peer, Kim Schneider, Kathy Schulz and Christine Fugelseth.

County Board Staff Committee - Rich Bostwick, Bill Wilson, Tom Brien, Kevin Leavy, Lou Peer, Mary Mawhinney, Debi Towns, Philip Gorman and Barb Tillman.

Education and Veterans Committee - Kim Schneider, Christine Fugelseth, Lou Peer, Mark Bobzien and Doug Sutter.

Finance Committee - Mary Mawhinney, Mike Schwarz, Debi Towns and Bill Wilson.

General Services Committee - Tom Brien, Mark Bobzien, Dave Homan and Bill Wilson.

Health Services Committee - Tom Brien, Kevin Leavy, Kathy Schulz, Christine Fugelseth and Sue Ryan.

Human Services Board - Brian Knudson (4/30/2026), Barb Tillman (4/30/2027), Ron Woodman (4/30/2026), Kathy Schulz (4/30/2025) and April Whitledge (4/30/2026).

Planning and Development Committee - RJ Sutterlin, Erica Boehlke, Yuri Rashkin, Bill Wilson and Chris Cullen.

Public Safety and Justice Committee - Brian Knudson, April Whitledge, Yuri Rashkin, Barb Tillman and Mike Schwarz.

Public Works Committee - Mary Mawhinney, Lori Pennycook, Ron Woodman, Doug Sutter and Dave Homan.

Southern Wisconsin Regional Airport Board - Mark Bobzien, Dave Homan and Erica Boehlke.

Other Committees, Commissions, and Boards:

Ad Hoc Broadband Committee - Rich Bostwick, Mary Mawhinney, Bill Wilson, RJ Sutterlin, Ron Woodman, Dave Homan and Christine Fugelseth.

Ad Hoc Committee on the Future of Rock Haven - Mary Mawhinney, Yuri Rashkin, April Whitledge, Dave Homan and Rich Bostwick.

Ad Hoc Committee on Passenger Rail Development - RJ Sutterlin, Dave Homan and Yuri Rashkin.

Ad Hoc Rock County Youth in Governance Program Exploratory Committee - Bill Wilson, Debi Towns and RJ Sutterlin.

Aging and Disability Resources Center (ADRC) Advisory Committee - Sue Ryan.

ADRC Nutrition Advisory Committee - Christine Fugelseth.

Behavioral Health Redesign Steering Committee - Lou Peer.

Community Action Program - Kathy Schulz and Bill Wilson,

COVID-19 Emergency Small Business Loan Fund Committee (Grant) - Barb Tillman, Dave Homan, Lori Pennycook and Kevin Stone.

COVID-19 Small Business Loan Fund Subcommittee - Kevin Stone, April Whitledge, Lori Marshall and Mike Schwarz.

Criminal Justice Coordinating Council - Erica Boehlke.

Emergency Medical Services - Erica Boehlke.

Environmental Management System Committee - RJ Sutterlin, Chris Cullen and Philip Gorman.

Evidence Based Decision Making Ad Hoc Committee - Dave Homan.

Heritage Rock County - Brian Knudson.

Lake Leota - Kevin Stone.

Land Information Council - Mary Mawhinney (8/31/2024).

Local Emergency Planning Committee - Ron Woodman (7/31/2024) and Barb Tillman (7/31/2024).

Marsh Country Health Alliance Commission - Brian Knudson.

Mississippi Valley Health Services, Inc. - Brian Knudson.

Pecatonica Rail Transit Commission (PRTC) - Tom Brien, Dave Homan and Kevin Stone.

Prairie Lakes Library System (PLLS) Board of Trustees - Bill Wilson (1/1/2024)

Rock County Housing Authority - Kathy Schulz (10/14/2024) and Bill Wilson (10/14/2025).

Rock Koshkonong Lake District - Debi Towns.

Rock Valley Community Programs - Kim Schneider.

Tourism Council - Brian Knudson.

Traffic Safety Commission - Erica Boehlke (4/31/2025).

Transportation Coordinating Committee - Chris Cullen (12/31/2026)

Wisconsin Counties Utility Tax Association - Chris Cullen.

Wisconsin River Rail Transit Commission (WRRTC) - Tom Brien, Dave Homan and Kevin Stone.

Woodland Enhanced Health Service (WEHS) Commission - April Whitledge.

Groundwater Nitrate Workgroup - LCC Chair, P&D Chair, BOH Chair, Ron Woodman and Kim Schneider.

Chair Appointment to the Rock County Housing Authority:

Chair Appointment: Supervisor Bill Wilson

Effective Date: April 25, 2024

Chair Appointment to the Environmental Management System Committee:

Chair Appointment: Supervisor Chris Cullen

Effective Date: April 25, 2024

RECOGNITION OF COUNTY EMPLOYEES OR OTHERS: None

OTHER:

PUBLIC HEARING:

None

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION, COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

John Westphal, Claire Gray and Olivia McCarthy spoke in favor of Item 11.A. Authorizing ARPA Funds for Children's Museum of Rock County and Amending the 2024 Budget. Neil Deupree stated how proud he was of Rock County winning awards for diversity, equity and inclusion. Mike Zoril spoke in favor of item 11.C. Enhancing Oversight, Transparency, and Accountability in the Management of Rock Haven and item 11. D. Advancing Accountability to Ensure Ethical Conduct and Equal Treatment in Rock County. Dennis Hilgendorf read a letter from a constituent and spoke on Rock Haven.

Supervisor Bostwick spoke about April being County Government Month and gave information about Ron Coombs' wife passing. Supervisor Mawhinney gave condolences to Duane Jorgenson's family for the passing of his father.

NOMINATIONS, APPOINTMENTS AND CONFIRMATION:

RECOGNITION OF COUNTY EMPLOYEES OR OTHERS:

INTRODUCTION OF NEW RESOLUTIONS OR ORDINANCES BY SUPERVISORS FOR REFERRAL TO APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE:

REPORTS:

NEW BUSINESS:

SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATIONS AND BUDGET CHANGES - ROLL CALL:

Authorizing ARPA Funds for Children's Museum of Rock County and Amending the 2024 Budget:

Resolution No. R-2024-410

Item postponed during the debate at the March 28, 2024 County Board meeting to the April 25, 2024 County Board Meeting. (Supervisors Winter and Bomkamp moved this resolution in the March 28, 2024 meeting). Resolution FAILED on the following roll call vote. Supervisors Boehlke, Bostwick, Brien, Cullen, Gorman, Homan, Marshall, Peer, Pennycook, Rashkin, Schneider, Schulz, Tillman, Wilson, Woodman and Leavy voted in favor. Supervisors Fugelseth, Knudson, Mawhinney, Ryan, Schwarz, Sutter, Stone, Towns and Whitledge voted against. Supervisor Sutterlin abstained. Supervisor Bobzien was absent. AYES– 16. NOES- 9. ABSTAIN- 1. ABSENT – 1. VACANT- 2. (18 AYES required for passage.)

CONTRACTS – ROLL CALL:

Enhancing Oversight, Transparency, and Accountability in the Management of Rock Haven:

Resolution No. R-2024-411

Supervisors Sutter and Schwarz moved the resolution. Supervisors Wilson and Mawhinney motioned to postpone indefinitely.

Resolution POSTPONED INDEFINITELY on the following roll call vote. Supervisors Boehlke, Bostwick, Brien, Cullen, Gorman, Homan, Knudson, Mawhinney, Peer, Pennycook, Rashkin, Schulz, Stone, Sutterlin, Tillman, Towns, Wilson and Leavy voted in favor. Supervisors Fugelseth, Marshall, Ryan, Schneider, Schwarz, Sutter, Whitledge and Woodman voted against. Supervisor Bobzien was absent. AYES – 18. NOES -8. ABSENT – 1. VACANT- 2.

Advancing Accountability to Ensure Ethical Conduct and Equal Treatment in Rock County:

Item postponed during debate at the March 28, 2024 County Board meeting to the April 25, 2024 County Board Meeting. (Supervisors Zoril and Pennycook moved this resolution in the March 28, 2024 meeting). At the time of postponement, the substitute resolution below, moved by Supervisors Wilson and Stevens, was being discussed.

Substitute Resolution

Ensuring Equal Opportunity in Rock County Hiring Practices:

R-2024-405 Substitute Resolution submitted by Supervisor Wilson

"Ensuring Equal Opportunity in Rock County Hiring Practices

Whereas, Rock County is dedicated to upholding the principles of equality, fairness, and legal compliance in its employment practices and workplace environment; and,

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Whereas, Rock County is committed to emphasizing individual merit and qualifications in employment decisions but acknowledges that implicit bias can affect decision-making based on a variety of personal affinities and characteristics;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that Rock County shall actively work to identify and mitigate implicit biases in its hiring and promotion decisions and shall demonstrate a commitment to applying the principles of individual merit, qualifications, professional competence in its hiring practices; and,

Be It Further Resolved, that it is the policy of Rock County to foster a merit-based, unbiased decision-making culture in hiring and promoting staff."

Supervisors Gorman and Fugelseth moved to postpone indefinitely. Motion FAILED on the following roll call vote. Supervisors Boehlke, Bostwick, Fugelseth, Gorman, Homan, Knudson, Peer, Rashkin, Ryan and Leavy voted in favor. Supervisors Brien, Cullen, Marshall, Mawhinney, Pennycook, Schneider, Schwarz, Schulz, Stone, Sutter, Sutterlin, Tillman, Towns, Whitledge, Wilson and Woodman voted against. Supervisor Bobzien was absent. AYES - 10. NOES - 16. ABSENT - 1. VACANT - 2.

Supervisor Cullen left the meeting at 6:51 p.m.

Substitute Resolution APPROVED on the following roll call vote. Supervisors Boehlke, Bostwick, Brien, Gorman, Knudson, Marshall, Mawhinney, Peer, Pennycook, Rashkin, Ryan, Schneider, Schulz, Schwarz, Stone, Sutter, Sutterlin, Tillman, Towns, Whitledge, Wilson, Woodman voted in favor. Supervisors Fugelseth, Homan and Leavy voted against. Supervisors Bobzien and Cullen were absent. AYES - 22. NOES - 3. ABSENT - 2. VACANT - 2.

Substitute Resolution ADOPTED on the following roll call vote. Supervisors Boehlke, Bostwick, Brien, Homan, Gorman, Knudson, Marshall, Mawhinney, Peer, Pennycook, Rashkin, Ryan, Schneider, Schulz, Schwarz, Stone, Sutter, Sutterlin, Tillman, Towns, Whitledge, Wilson, Woodman voted in favor. Supervisors Fugelseth and Leavy voted against. Supervisors Bobzien and Cullen were absent. AYES - 23. NOES - 2. ABSENT - 2. VACANT - 2.

ADJOURNMENT: Supervisors Bostwick and Whitledge moved to adjourn at 7:06 p.m. to Thursday, May 9, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. APPROVED by acclamation.

Prepared by Lisa Tollefson, County Clerk and Jaymee Stephens, Deputy County Clerk.