



MARATHON COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Thursday, May 13, 2021, at 4:30 p.m.

WebEx/Courthouse Assembly Room, B-105, 500 Forest Street, Wausau WI

Members	Present/Web-Phone	Absent
Chair Kurt Gibbs	X	
Vice Chair Craig McEwen	X	
Matt Bootz	W	
Tim Buttke		Excused
Sara Guild	W	Later excused
Jacob Langenhahn	X	
Alyson Leahy	W	
John Robinson	X	
EJ Stark	W	
Randy Fifrick	W	

Also present: Lance Leonhard, Scott Corbett, William Harris, Kim Trueblood, Valerie Carrillo, Meg Ellefson, Toshia Ranallo and members of the public including the citizens listed below.

WebEx/Phone: Jean Maszk, Sandy Cihlar, Ka Lo, Michelle Van Krey, and seven unidentified callers.

1. Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Kurt Gibbs at 4:30 p.m.

2. Public Comment (15 Minutes)

The following citizens spoke in favor for the “Community for all Resolution”:

Dan Barth	206540 Hrebik Ln	Mosinee	Called In
Jane Graham Jennings	3200 Hilltop Ave	Wausau	In Person
Patrick Bacher	505 S. 22 nd Ave	Wausau	In Person
Bruce Grau	1115 N 10 th St.	Wausau	In Person
Christine Salm	3312 N. 11 th St.	Wausau	In Person
Katie Rosenberg	407 Grant St	Wausau	In Person
Jeff Sargent	920 Winton St	Wausau	Called In
Crystal Kriesher	507 Seymour St.	Wausau	In Person
Kimberly Pufall	410 Edgar Ave	Rothschild	In Person
Ron Alexander	15420 Brandenburg	Merrill	Called In

The following citizens spoke in opposition for the “Community for all Resolution”:

David Baker	690 Happy Hollow Rd	Kronenwetter	In Person
Joanne Leonard	923 Maple Hill Rd	Wausau	In Person
Cindy Beaty	135029 Jersey Falls Trail	Marathon	In Person
Erin Crawford	234905 Clay Rd	Aniwa	In Person
Tanya Riehle	223828 Orchid Lane	Wausau	In Person
Heidi Lewerenz	3507 Pat St.	Weston	Called In
Roger Cook	750 Figon St	Mosinee	Called In
Jack Hoogendyk	4508 Hilltop Road	Wausau	In Person
LaVerne Rondeau	5403 JM Place	Weston	In Person
Tina Jensen	178808 Pine View Dr.	Birnamwood	In Person
Bruce Bohr	440 North Ridge Rd	Marathon	Called In
Thomas Kreager	241560 Saw Mill	Aniwa	Called In
Kevin McGary	539 Commerce St	Dallas, TX	Called In
Cory Tomczyk	1040 Indianhead Dr.	Mosinee	In Person
Jeff Kocha	151678 Lily Ln	Wausau	Called In
Verna Rodriguez Wesenick	3605 Howland	Schofield	In Person
James Juedes	232534 Pleasant View Rd	Ringle	In Person
Joel Straub	860 W Nelson Rd	Mosinee	In Person

3. MOTION BY ROBINSON; SECOND BY LANGENHAHN TO APPROVE THE APRIL 15, 2021, 2021 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES. MOTION CARRIED.

4. Policy Issues for Discussion and Possible Action

A. County Board Meetings to be Held in Person

Discussion:

Chair Gibbs reported new CDC guidelines were released today explaining Individuals who have been fully vaccinated no longer need to wear a mask or social distance. He feels that in the near future the Board should return to in-person meetings.

Supervisors Comments:

- Not comfortable yet with returning in person.
- COVID still remains at high level in the County. Want to maintain social distancing.
- Could be a premature decision to return in person.
- Would like a compromise with the options to return in person, and WebEx now or potentially long term.
- WebEx allows supervisors to attend meetings while they travel and out of town.
- In person meetings solve problems better. Missing social aspect.
- Develop a timeline to return to in-person meetings by examining Covid rates and vaccination threshold.

Follow Up:

Keep as a reoccurring agenda item for discussion.

B. Administrator's 2021 Work Plan and Capacity**Discussion:**

Administrator Leonhard provided the committee with an updated workplan located [here in the packet](#). He is concerned on the capacity of the workplan due to the following significant vacancies, new staff, and being able to recruit for positions effectively and selectively.

- Corporation Counsel
- Health Officer
- Deputy Administrator
- Newly appointed CPZ Director
- Communication Specialist to start in June
- Employee Resources Director appointed in April

Leonhard encourage all board members to review the 151 page guide for the American Rescue Act. Marathon County is to receive \$26.3 million over the life of the act. Significant resources will be needed as it is far more complex than the Route to Recovery Program. This undertaking is not listed in the Workplan as well as a significant discussion around an infrastructure package at the federal level. The county is also in the middle of a selection process for an Enterprise Resource Planning System, and ongoing facility planning and renovation projects.

Follow up:

Reach out to Administrator Leonhard if you have questions.

C. Review of Past Discussions of County Event Policy and Discussion of Next Steps**Discussion:**

Administrator Leonhard reported this item is number 27 listed in the Workplan. Discussions began at the Public Safety committee level in 2019. Policy drafts were created to govern events at county-owned properties or on roadways that require the utilization of county staff. The efforts ultimately ceased to focus on our pandemic response. Leonhard had conversations with individuals from the City of Wausau and they are interested in putting together a comparable policy across municipal lines. He indicated this may not be a priority task in the Workplan at this time, but if he is directed by the board to direct his attention on it, he will do his best to focus on it.

Follow up:

No follow up at this time.

D. DOJ Requests a Letter of Support be sent to Legislators for Treatment Alternative Diversion Program Funding**Discussion:**

Administrator Leonhard explained DOJ's request is to send a letter of support for expansion of TAD funding for treatment and diversion programs. The Public Safety Committee discussed this at their last meeting but felt they should bring it to the Executive Committee since priorities for items in the governor's budget had already been prioritized and illustrated to legislatures.

Action:

MOTION BY LANGENHAHN; SECOND BY MCEWEN TO HAVE STAFF DRAFT A LETTER OF SUPPORT, SIGNED BY THE COUNTY CHAIR AND THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE CHAIR, AND SENT TO LEGISLATORS FOR THE EXPANSION OF TREATMENT ALTERNATIVE DIVERSION PROGRAM FUNDING. MOTION CARRIED.

Follow up:

Send letter to legislators.

E. June Dairy Breakfast Poster

Discussion:

Chair Gibbs explained he was contacted by the Partnership for Progressive Agriculture for permission to place the Marathon County logo on their poster. This stems from a miscommunication a few months ago when an invitation was distributed with the county's logo promoting an in-person event in the middle of the pandemic.

Action:

MOTION BY ROBINSON; SECOND BY MCEWEN TO REFER PARTICIPATION IN THE JUNE DAIRY BREAKFAST POSTER NEXT YEAR. MOTION CARRIED

Follow up:

Chair Gibbs to contact and inform the Partnership for Progressive Agriculture of the committee's decision.

F. Request for Education by Kevin McGary to the Full Board

Discussion:

Chair Gibbs explained a supervisor requested a presentation be given to the full board due to the community interest surrounding the "Community for All Resolution". The initial cost request was \$250 dollars the same as a previous speaker but if the cost is not approved, McGary agreed to speak for nothing.

Supervisors suggested developing a policy in regards to community-based education presentations that are requested to be heard by the County Board. It should be consistent to the strategic plan and mission goals and define what constitutes as an expert speaker.

Action:

MOTION BY BOOTZ; SECOND BY FIFRICK TO HAVE KEVIN MCGARY GIVE A PRESENTATION TO THE COUNTY BOARD DURING AN UPCOMING EDUCATIONAL MEETING. MOTION CARRIED.

Follow up:

Chair Gibbs will contact Kevin McGary to see when he would be available.

5. Operational Functions Required by Statute, Ordinance, or Resolution

A. Designating May 5, 2021 as a "Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls" in Marathon County.

Discussion:

A Supervisor referenced a news article published in November 2020 titled *Without a Trace, the Missing People in Central Wisconsin*. Presently, there are 29 people that are missing in Marathon County. It was suggested to amend the resolution and include these additional missing people.

A Supervisor explained May 5th is a day of awareness nationally and it was brought to the attention to the Diversity Affairs Commission by members of the indigenous community who expressed women and girls in their family are being killed at a higher rate. The purpose is not to exclude anybody else but rather bring attention and awareness.

Action:

MOTION BY ROBINSON; SECOND BY LEAHY TO MOVE A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING MAY 5, 2021 AS A "DAY OF AWARENESS FOR MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS WOMEN AND GIRLS" IN MARATHON COUNTY TO THE COUNTY BOARD FOR CONSIDERATION. MOTION CARRIED.

Follow up:

Forward to County Board.

B. Resolution Recognizing the Historical Significance of the Mexican holiday of Cinco de Mayo – May 5th.

Discussion:

Supervisor Robinson offered on amendment to include an additional paragraph with local statistics.

Action:

**MOTION BY ROBINSON; SECOND BY LEAHY TO AMEND THE RESOLUTION ADDING THE PARAGRAPH BELOW:
MOTION CARRIED.**

WHEREAS, there are an estimated 4,270 citizens of Hispanic decent living in Marathon County with approximately 40 percent are of Mexican descent who contribute to the local economy and culture; and

**MOTION BY LEAHY; SECOND BY ROBINSON TO MOVE THE RESOLUTION WITH AN AMENDMENT RECOGNIZING
THE HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE MEXICAN HOLIDAY OF CINCO DE MAYO – MAY 5TH TO THE COUNTY
BOARD FOR CONSIDERATION. MOTION CARRIED.**

Follow up:

Forward to County Board.

C. Resolution Declaring Marathon County “A Community For All”

Discussion:

The committee thoroughly discussed the resolution and considered all public comment before voting.

Action:

**MOTION BY ROBINSON; SECOND BY LANGENHAHN TO HAVE THE COUNTY BOARD CHAIR APPOINT A
WORKGROUP MADE UP OF COUNTY BOARD SUPERVISORS TO CREATE A RESOLUTION WITHIN 60 DAYS.
MOTION FAILED.**

A roll call vote was performed: Chair Kurt Gibbs yes; Vice-Chair Craig McEwen no; Matt Bootz no; Randy Fifrick no; Jacob Langenhahn no, Alyson Leahy no, John Robinson yes, E.J. Stark no.

**MOTION BY LEAHY SECOND BY ROBINSON TO MOVE A RESOLUTION DECLARING MARATHON COUNTY “A
COMMUNITY FOR ALL” TO THE COUNTY BOARD FOR CONSIDERATION. MOTION FAILED.**

A roll call vote was performed: Chair Kurt Gibbs no; Vice-Chair Craig McEwen no; Matt Bootz no; Randy Fifrick no; Jacob Langenhahn no, Alyson Leahy yes, John Robinson yes, E.J. Stark no.

Follow up:

No follow up needed.

6. Educational Presentations/Outcome Monitoring Reports - None

7. Next Meeting Date & Time, Location, Announcements and Future Agenda Items:

A. Supervisor Dickinson stated Kevin McGary will be available for the May 20th educational county board meeting and requested he be placed on the agenda.

B. Next Meeting: **Thursday, June 10, 2021, at 4:00 p.m.**

8. Adjournment

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO DISCUSS, MOTION BY LANGENHAHN; SECOND BY MCEWEN TO
ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 7:35 P.M. MOTION CARRIED.**

Respectfully submitted by,
Toshia Ranallo