



## MARATHON COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Monday, January 7, 2020, 4:00 p.m.  
Courthouse Assembly Room B-105, 500 Forest St, Wausau WI 54403

Attendance:	Present	Absent
Kurt Gibbs, Chair	X	
Craig McEwen, Vice-Chair	X	
Matt Bootz	X	
Sara Guild	X	
Jacob Langenhahn		EX
Allen Opall	X	
John Robinson	X	
E J Stark	X	
Jeff Zriny		EX

**Also Present:** Lance Leonhard, Scott Corbett, Jon Graveen, Becky Frisch, Arnie Schlei, Mary Palmer

### 1. Call Meeting to Order

Meeting was called to order by Chair Kurt Gibbs at 4:00 p.m.

### 2. Public Comment: None

### 3. Approval of the December 10, 2019, Minutes

**MOTION BY STARK, SECOND BY MCEWEN, TO APPROVE THE DECEMBER 10, 2019, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES. MOTION CARRIED.**

### 4. Policy Issues Discussion and Committee Determination to the County Board for its Consideration

#### A. Recap of 2019 Administrator's Work Plan

#### **Discussion:**

Brad Karger gave the full board an overview of the 2019 Administrator's Work Plan at the end of 2019. Lance Leonhard, Interim County Administrator, went quickly through the 2019 Work Plan to get ready for agenda item 4B and the 2020 Administrator's Work Plan. A couple comments on the 2019 Work Plan emerged:

- Housing for UW students is a big issue for recruiting students.
- Creating a long-term facilities plan - is there anything in the plan for security at other buildings? Don't just do a master plan for specific buildings, but look at all at a high level and enhance services and consolidate departments such as forming a Health and Human Services Department.

#### **Action:**

None Taken.

#### **Follow through:**

A footnote should be added to the 2019 plan that the County Board directed that a considerable amount of the Administrator's time was to be spent on the jail.

#### B. Input for the 2020 Administrator's Work Plan

#### **Discussion:**

Interim Administrator Lance Leonhard handed out a draft of many possible topics that could be addressed in the 2020 Work Plan. This plan also includes 2019 topics that were not completed. The designation by committee was removed. Each committee member was asked by Chair Gibbs to rank the priorities and get him their top 10 items of importance by January 21. He will compile the

information and bring back in February. Other questions are what will we hold the Administrator accountable for in rating his performance?

Were any items missed that should be considered for 2020?

1. New Judge, earliest would be in 2021 budget
2. Close out of jail renovation and completion and ending the emergency. Close out budget portion of the emergency and then aesthetics to be completed in warmer weather.
3. Downsize of board taskforce?

There will be a new financial system and will that work with Priority Based Budgeting?

**Action:**

No action taken.

**Follow through:**

Get top 10 priorities to Kurt Gibbs by January 21. He will compile and bring to the February meeting.

C. Discussion on Membership to the Downsizing of the County Board and Recommendation to the Board

**Discussion:**

The Board approved the creation of a taskforce to make recommendations to the board on possibly downsizing. Each standing committee is asked to bring forward at least one name who would be willing to serve on the taskforce regardless if they will run for re-election or not. The committee wants to make sure the makeup of the taskforce has adequate representation from both rural and urban supervisors. The taskforce members will compile information surveyed from various counties, do foundational development, decide on what information we want and how it relates to Marathon County. Then what do we do with it to change policy?

Becky Frisch, Conservation, Planning & Zoning (CPZ) Director, volunteered her staff to do a survey of counties before the Task Force begins. CPZ will contact the North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Council and the Wisconsin Counties Association along with other counties. The timeline would look something like this: The taskforce will meet for the first time in April, continue meeting through October to come up with a recommendation, have a public hearing in November, take the recommendation to the Executive Committee in December and to the full Board in January. Some dates will need to be revised in the Charter by the Board.

Once the census goes out, the County only has 60 days to act on this. February, 2021, would be the latest to do something relating to Board size.

Supervisor Opall had to leave 5:33 p.m.

In March or April make outgoing taskforce members, citizen members for continuity and additional new members.

Chair Gibbs will meet with Becky Frisch to help create a list of information the taskforce may want and then decide if we pursue and direct CPZ to do a survey.

Supervisor Guild excused. 5:37

**Action:**

No action taken.

**Follow through:**

- Chair Gibbs will meet with Becky Frisch to help create a list of information the taskforce may want.
- Each standing committee will submit a name to be on the taskforce.

**5. Operational Functions Required by Statute, Ordinance, or Resolution - None**

**6. Educational Presentations/Outcome Monitoring Reports**

A. Update on the Administrator Recruitment

**Discussion:**

There have been 14 applicants as of today. That recruitment closes on January 13. There will be a tentative committee review of the applicants to see if they meet requirements on January 21.

**Follow through:**

No follow through needed.

**7. Next Meeting Time, Location, Agenda Items and Reports to the County Board**

- Committee members are asked to bring ideas for future discussion and educational presentations for the County Board
- Next regular meeting: Tuesday, February 11, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. in the Assembly Room

**8. Announcements:**

Supervisor Robinson –Frontier is having difficulty supporting land lines in rural communities and many are not able to dial 911. Infrastructure and Public Safety will be discussing this. Is there anything the county can do and should it go on the work plan? We should do information gathering on where and how many. Provide that information to agencies such as DTCAP and FCC. How would we gather the information? Should not necessarily be on the work plan, but is definitely a public safety issue.

**9. Adjournment**

There being no further business to discuss, **MOTION BY MCEWEN; SECOND BY ROBINSON, TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. MOTION CARRIED.** Committee adjourned at 5:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Mary Palmer  
Prepared on January 31, 2020