

VERNON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MINUTES
April 18, 2017

County Board Chairman, Dennis Brault, called the April 18, 2017 meeting of the Vernon County Board of Supervisors to order at 9:30 A.M. in the County Boardroom of the Courthouse Annex. Pastor Ray Matteson, Church of Christ, Viroqua, gave the invocation.

Board members and others present gave the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Brault affirmed there had been proper public notice of the meeting. Motion by Redington, 2nd by Amelse to excuse Brian Turben. Carried all. County Clerk Ron Hoff called roll call with 27 Supervisors present.

Chairman Brault moved to the minutes of the last meeting. Motion by Erlandson, 2nd by Beitlich, to approve the minutes of the February 7, 2017 meeting. Carried all.

Chairman Brault moved to the announcements on the agenda,

1. Amended agenda on your desk today as well as two updated Resolutions and a letter from Jay Vosseteig.
2. If you completed the survey in your packet, give to Clerk Hoff and they will be sent in all together.
3. Brault stated WCA Annual Conference is in Wisconsin Dells on September 24-26, 2017.
4. Resolutions must be submitted by June 26, 2017
5. Frank McCoy thanked Sheriff Spears and department for their wonderful work on the arrest of a National Fugitive, Jakubowski. A standing ovation was given to the Sheriff's department.
6. Servais stated the Dairy Breakfast is June 3, 2017 at the Servais Farm, Chaseburg. Eight to ten Board members are needed to help, contact Glenda Sullivan to sign up.
7. Servais gave an update on the Vernon Economic Development Association at the old NCR building. They need more funds for them to expand businesses. There are several businesses now in the building. Dahl stated the website is www.veda-wi.org

Chairman Brault moved to **Special Order of Business**

1. Election of Supervisor District # 2- David Strudthoff, District # 2, nominated by Chair Brault. Motion by Servais, 2nd by Leis. Carried all.
2. Circuit Court Judge Michael J Rosborough gave the Oath of Office to David Strudthoff .
3. Election of 2 board members to the Human Services Committee for a 3-year term previously held by Mary Bringe and Gail Muller and one community member for a 3-year term previously held by Jay Vosseteig. Motion by Redington, 2nd by Amelse for Community member Jay Vosseteig. Motion by Dahl, 2nd by McCoy to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Vosseteig as Community member. Carried. Motion by Dahl to nominate Mary Bringe and Gail Muller, 2nd by Richardson. Motion carried, voice all.
4. Election of one (1) Board member to Vernon Manor Committee for a 3-year term previously held by Jim Servais and one community member for a 3-year term previously held by Barb McNeal. Mischel nominates McNeal for Community member, 2nd by Dahl. Carried all. Goede nominated Servais, 2nd by Rae. Carried all, Voice vote.
5. Ben Wojahn, Assistant County Conservationist – LWCD presented annual 2016 Report. The department is down 1 ½ staff members from past years. Presented video overview of all jobs tasks of all programs for land owners. Approximately \$230,000.00 paid to land owners with farmland preservation program. Doing several programs involving our youth. \$9.5 million paid in Dam repairs since 2009. Approximately only 1% of Vernon County's tax levy dollars do these repairs, the balance, State and Federal Funds. 1900 acres in Vernon County are in Forest at present time. There are 48 permitted Quarries in Vernon County. Over 700 land owners served in 2016. 15,000 trees were sold in 2016 thru LWCD. Paul Krahn has served Vernon County over 30 years at LWCD and is leaving position on April 28, 2017. Every one thanked Krahn for his service. Erlandson asked why are strips mostly gone and now all large fields. Very hard to enforce and since less dairy it is less alfalfa and no till is meeting soil tolerance in many areas. Amelse and Brault thanked the Department for great progress in many areas of County.

6. Approval of Dams Maintenance Technician – Change in Status; Part time requires 6 months of hard break in hours. Full Time recommended and Highway can use employee in winter months. Motion by Eggen, 2nd by Larson to approve. Yttri asked about Fiscal impact. Original budget funding will cover costs. Carried all, Voice vote.
7. Solid Waste/Recycling Department – Increasing the Department’s Financial Manager/Administrative Assistant Position to Full Time. Administrator Gene Edwards explained that one staff has not been replaced and funding is allowed for in current revenue line, no tax levy. Would move position from 29 hours to full time with total increase in cost approximately \$20,000.00. Yttri stated in March the department had a public information class and are planning more in the future. Motion by Dahl, 2nd by Rae. Carried all, Voice vote.

Chairman Brault moved to **Regular Order of Business**

1. Petitions – there were none
2. Resolutions

Move Resolution # 2017 – 10 to last on the Agenda. Motion by Eggen, 2nd by Amelse. Carried all.

RESOLUTION # 2017 – 9

Title: Request For State Legislatures To Increase Nursing Home Medicaid Funding

WHEREAS, Vernon Manor’s mission is to enhance the quality of life for the residents of Vernon County; and, WHEREAS, there is an overall Medicaid deficit of \$331.8 million between the cost incurred by Wisconsin nursing homes to provide services and what they actually receive.

WHEREAS, the average nursing home in Wisconsin loses \$55.89 each day for each Medicaid resident cared for, WHEREAS, after Supplemental Payment funding Vernon County lost \$40.68 each day for a total of (\$792,500.00) in FY 2015/2016 for our Medicaid residents we cared for,

WHEREAS, Wisconsin nursing homes and assisted living facilities are in a major workforce crisis with one out of every seven positions vacant,

WHEREAS, our dependency on insufficient Medicaid funding makes it extremely difficult to compete for staff in an extremely tight labor market,

WHEREAS, there is a direct correlation between quality staffing and quality care,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Vernon County Board of Supervisors urges Governor Scott Walker and the Wisconsin Legislature to provide sufficient Medicaid funding for nursing homes and assisted living facilities in the 2017-2019 state budget to help address the Medicaid deficit so these facilities have the financial resources available to compete for caregiver staff to ensure continued quality care to our residents and tenants,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the County Board of Supervisors authorizes the Vernon County Clerk to forward a copy of this resolution to the Wisconsin Counties Association, all Vernon County State Representatives and Senators, the Joint Finance Committee and Governor Scott Walker. Submitted February 10, 2017 by the Vernon Manor Board Members and Trustees

Ole Yttri, Eric Evenstad, James Servais, Barbara McNeal, Lonnie Muller, Trustees for Vernon Manor.

Motion by Dahl, 2nd by Amelse. Dan Meyer Administration explained Medicaid funding has dropped in past years and must have increase. Dahl feels we are training many new staff and then they move on to higher paying jobs. Motion by Brault to amend to also send to WCA annual conference, 2nd by Evenstad, amendment carried, all voice. Resolution passed voice vote all.

Break at 10:30 AM

Reconvene at 10:45 AM

RESOLUTION # 2017 – 11

Title: Dissolution of Long Term Care District Pursuant to Wis. Stat. §46.2895(13)

WHEREAS, Western Wisconsin Cares (“WWC”) is a long-term care district formed by La Crosse, Vernon, Jackson, Monroe, Trempealeau, Buffalo, Pepin and Clark counties by resolution pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 46.2895 for purposes of delivering services as a managed care organization (MCO) under the State of Wisconsin’s Family Care program; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, the Wisconsin State Legislature enacted 2015 Wisconsin Act 215 authorizing long-term care districts to convert to private, nonprofit corporations; and

WHEREAS, in April 2016, WWC’s Board of Directors passed a resolution to jointly create a non-profit corporation and merge operations with two other long-term care districts, ContinuUs and Community Care Connections of Wisconsin (“CCCW”); and

WHEREAS, the non-profit corporation was created in August 2016 to succeed WWC, ContinuUs and CCCW following approval from the State Department of Health Services (DHS); and

WHEREAS, in November 2016, DHS approved the transfer of the assets and liabilities of the three long-term care districts to the non-profit corporation and certified the corporation as an MCO effective January 1, 2017; and

WHEREAS, as of January 1, 2017, WWC has no continuing business operations and undertakes no activities related to the purpose for which it was formed, which was to contract with DHS for the provision of Family Care services; and

WHEREAS, the final step of winding down WWC’s operations is the dissolution of the district, which requires joint action by WWC’s Board and the county boards that formed the district pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 46.2895(13); and

WHEREAS, this Resolution is intended to act as Vernon County’s official action authorizing the dissolution of WWC; and

WHEREAS, the Secretary of DHS may rely on this Resolution as action on the part of Vernon County authorizing dissolution of WWC.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Vernon County Board of Supervisors that Vernon County hereby authorizes dissolution of WWC pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 46.2895(13).

FISCAL IMPACT: None

Dated: March 13, 2017

Human Services Committee, Chair Frank McCoy

Motion by Servais, 2nd by Bringe. Human Services Administrator, Pam Eitland explained that we started with seven other counties as Western Wisconsin Cares, now this joint venture is ending. Brault asked if other counties are all dissolving, Eitland answered yes. Carried all voice vote.

RESOLUTION # 2017 - 12

TITLE: Creation of Aging and Disability Resource Center of Vernon County

WHEREAS, counties that participate in managed care for long term care services are statutorily required to operate an Aging and Disability Resource Center (hereafter referred to as ADRC); and

WHEREAS, Vernon County has been part of the regional ADRC of Western Wisconsin which is dissolving and will cease to exist on June 30, 2017; and

WHEREAS, the State Dept. of Health Services (DHS) has budgeted for and provided an allocation for each county that operates an ADRC; and

WHEREAS, the Vernon County Board passed a resolution to integrate aging services into the ADRC; and

WHEREAS, funding for aging services at the local level is provided through allocations from DHS and Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources (GWAAR); and

WHEREAS, Vernon County allocates levy dollars in addition to the amount of funding provided by DHS and GWAAR to sustain programs and services; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Vernon County will benefit from a centralized location to obtain information, assistance, and referrals.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Vernon County Board of Supervisors that the Department of Human Services is hereby authorized to develop and submit to DHS an application to implement and administer the single county Aging and Disability Resource Center of Vernon County; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a governing board shall be established and shall represent the populations that receive services from the Aging and Disability Resource Center of Vernon County; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution supersedes and replaces any and all resolutions prior to November 10, 2016 regarding the ADRC and Unit on Aging.

Fiscal note: The state DHS allocation, DHS/GWAAR funding and county levy will be combined to fund the Aging and Disability Resource Center within the Department of Human Services.

Date: April 17, 2017

Vernon County Human Services Committee, Chair Frank McCoy

Adopted by Vernon County Board of Supervisors on April 18, 2017

Motion by Dahl, 2nd by Bringe. Eitland explained the past merging of Aging and ADRC. But on June 30, 2017 the 4 County merger is dissolving. Vernon County will have a stand-alone Aging and ADRC service unit. State needs to approve the Plan. No reduction in any service of Aging Programs for the County since department was transferred to Human Services department. Eitland will be applying for a \$29,900.00 grant for the integration of Aging and ADRC into Human Services. County has not been in full compliance with some past Aging Policies. Home delivered meals must be 5 days a week; citizens can go to any meal sit. All persons getting home delivered meals should be evaluated every year. Dahl asked why are we going to Individual County Programs? Eitland stated Aging and Human Services Programs blend together and more easily served together. Servais stated meals sites are four days a week, yes, but home delivered meals are not in compliance, they need to be five days a week. Amelse is confident the program will be very successful as we keep moving forward. Sheriff Spears stated Aramark maybe could provide the one cold meal, Eitland will work with Sheriff Spears on this meal. Voice vote carried all yes.

RESOLUTION # 2017-10

Title: Human Services Director Reclassification

WHEREAS, the Vernon County Board of Supervisor approved a change in responsibilities for the Human Services Director that includes Child Support and the Unit on Aging duties; and

WHEREAS, the organizational structure involves a revision in job description and additional authority; and

WHEREAS, a study of the salary data for comparable counties indicates that an increase in salary is appropriate for these organization changes;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Vernon County Board of Supervisors approves placement of this position in in Pay Grade 30.

Fiscal Impact:

Increase: \$4933.50

FICA: 377.41

WRS: 335.48

Total \$5646.39

Pay increase will be retroactive to January 1, 2017

Personnel Committee, Will Beitlich, Chair

Dated April 11, 2017

Human Services Committee, Frank McCoy, Chair

Adopted by Vernon County Board of Supervisors on April 18, 2017.

Motion by McCoy, 2nd by Mitchell. McCoy would like to delete the fiscal impact on Resolution, 2nd by Richardson. McCoy stated there was a joint meeting with Personnel and after meeting Fiscal impact is being

questioned. A May 15, 2017 Human Services meeting is planned for supervisors to attend for reclassification at 9:00 AM. Eitland has inherited Aging and Child Support Department and dealt with closing of Center Point Counseling and McCoy feels increase of Grade 26 to 30 is appropriate. Brault explained Human Service Committee would set the step not the County Board. Grade increase takes 2/3 vote of the County Board. Motion by Brault to amend to allow Human Services Committee to set the step. Beitlich stated this is not complete and should be presented with total Fiscal impact at June Board meeting because it is retro to January 1, 2017 and we need to see Fiscal impact. Nickelatti explained we could start lower and revisit next year. She feels we are moving on increase too much and too fast. Amelse stated County looks at bench marks of other comparable Counties and that lead to the grade 30. Evenstad stated this is about the position not a person, steps can be set by Human Services Committee. Dahl asked about \$5,646.39 increase in budget is it in our 2 1/2 % budget levy decrease. Amelse stated they studied the grade recommendation, the step can be done at committee level for an employee. Yttri would like to see grade of neighboring counties to compare. The Highway Committee increased Commissioner 4 grades last year. Brault stated that was a grade set last year with comparisons of comparable counties. The fiscal impact on Resolution 2017-10 is set at step 7 grade 30. Erlandson stated we have a great director and that this is a fair starting place at step 7. Kica explained Human Services committee should set step placement. Committee used average #'s from seven counties our size to establish grade 30. Beitlich stated again we should bring back in June meeting with true fiscal impact. Yttri stated from past history, we do need to support grade 30. Vote on amendment to remove fiscal impact on resolution 2017-10. Passed, voice vote with several no's heard. Resolution 2017-10 as amended passed 25 yes 3 no. The No votes were Leis, Nickelatti and Rae.

No Ordinances
No Memorials

Ceremony for Fallen officers is May 16, 2017 at 10:00 AM
Darcy Rood was congratulated on winning the Circuit Court Judge election for Vernon County.

No Remonstrance
No Reports of standing or special committees

The next County Board meeting will be June 6, 2017 at 9:30 am in the County Board Room at the Courthouse Annex. With the meeting concluded, a motion was made by Amelse and 2nd by Ofte to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:55 p.m.

CERTIFICATION

State of Wisconsin ()
County of Vernon () Office of the Vernon County Clerk

I, Ronald C. Hoff, County Clerk of Vernon County, Wisconsin DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the statements above are a correct report of all actions and decisions of the Vernon County Board of Supervisors at the meeting of April 18, 2017 as indicated in transcription taken personally by me.

(Seal)

/s/ Ronald C. Hoff
Vernon County Clerk