

CRAWFORD COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
November 10, 2020

The Crawford County Board of Supervisors met in annual session at the Crawford County Administration Building in Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin on November 10, 2020.

The Board was called to order by Chairman Tom Cornford. Roll was called with all members present except Supervisors Hayes-Hall and Jerrett. Supervisor Mary Kuhn appeared via Zoom.

The Chairman led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting was verified as being properly posted.

Motion by Kelley, second by Steiner to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Supervisor Duane Rogers, Chairman of the Finance Committee, gave a presentation to the Board of the 2021 proposed budget, which includes a historical perspective of all fund balances and the changes in those fund balances. The General Fund increased by almost \$500,000 between 2018-2019. This increase was largely driven by the sale of Blackhawk Junction.

Supervisor Rogers explained that initially the 2021 budget was \$850,000 above the allowable levy limit. This includes the recently approved wheel tax, which is estimated to bring in an additional \$320,000. In order to balance the budget, \$425,000 was applied from the General Fund and the county would borrow \$425,000 to provide to Highway in order to reduce their operating budget. The borrowing would then be paid back in the same year that it was borrowed. Borrowing would require approval of three-fourths of the present members elect. If the borrowing is approved, the mill rate would decrease to 7.19, which is a 3.9% decrease from 2020.

Supervisor Linda Munson questioned what the rate would be for the borrowing. The county has not requested proposals yet from any financial institutions. The approval of the borrowing option would be voted on today. However, at a future County Board meeting there would be a vote on proposals regarding the rate, terms and financial institution. At least 50% of the Supervisors has to approve one of the proposals.

Supervisor Larry Kelley questioned if the county is paying the money back in the same year that it is borrowed, why are we having to even borrow? Supervisor Rogers explained that if we didn't borrow, the county would be over the levy limit. Kelley also asked if the county has ever considered a referendum. Supervisors Rogers acknowledged that could be an option to consider in the future.

Chairman Cornford stated that the County Board of Supervisors will now take up the matter of the 2021 Budget.

Motion by Orr, second by Dull that the Clerk shall read the budget totals only for each department. The motion carried and the Clerk read the budget total for each department.

Cornford asked the Board to approve the short-term borrowing in order to balance and approve the Budget.

Motion by Dull, second by Olson to approve \$425,000 in short term borrowing for the 2021 Budget. Motion carried unanimously upon call of the roll.

Motion by Rogers, second by Orr that the budget be read by summaries only. The motion carried and the Clerk read the budget by summaries only.

Chairman Cornford stated that the Budget has been read and considered several times, the question is, "Shall the 2021 Budget be adopted?"

Motion by Orr, second by Krachey that the 2021 Budget be adopted. Motion carried upon call of the roll.

Chairman Cornford announced that he would like to appoint Dennis Pelock to the Hidden Valley Board.

Motion by Flansburgh, second by Munson to approve the appointment of Dennis Pelock to the Hidden Valley Board. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Cornford thanked the Finance Committee and Duane Rogers for the presentation of the 2021 Budget.

Chairman Cornford stated there was no representation from Bug Tussel. Cornford allowed for public comment from Lila Marmel and Alvin Felch, Town of Clayton, regarding the wireless towers and their impact on landscape and intrusions of taxpayers' lands and property values.

Jay McCloskey, 3C Co-op, addressed the Board requesting a vote to establish a broadband study committee, develop a plan for building an internet infrastructure and begin implementation of that plan. 3C Co-op is committed to the rural internet issue of Crawford County.

Chairman Cornford asked the Board for comments or questions regarding the Resolution Authorizing Broadband Expansion Grant Application. There were several unanswered questions regarding the towers and the cost to the county. Supervisor Stirling had concerns that at this point the county does not have enough information in order to pass this resolution today.

Motion by Olson, second by Dull to table the Resolution Authorizing Broadband Expansion Grant Application. Roll vote was taken with 8 members voting aye and 7 members voting nay. Members voting aye were: Russell, Stirling, Dull, Kelley, Kozelka, Kuhn, Lorenz and Olson. Members voting nay were: Rogers, Steiner, Cornford, Flansburgh, Krachey, Munson and Orr.

RESOLUTION NO. 17-2020

RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2021 BUDGET

BE IT RESOLVED that the County Board of Supervisors of Crawford County now in open session this 10th day of November, 2020, that the 2021 Budget be adopted.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Clerk be and hereby is instructed and ordered to assess the same against the taxable property of Crawford County, both real and personal, pursuant to the action and recommendations of the County Board and the Wisconsin Statutes.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

Duane S. Rogers

Geri Kozelka

Greg Russell

Gerald F. Krachey

Wayne Jerrett

Motion by Orr, second by Krachey to adopt the resolution. Motion carried unanimously upon call of the roll.

Under new business there was a **motion by Krachey, second by Olson to approve a 2% pay increase for employees in 2021. Motion carried unanimously.**

There being no further business to come before the Board there was a motion by Flansburgh, second by Dull to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned.

STATE OF WISCONSIN

(ss)

COUNTY OF CRAWFORD

I, Janet L. Geisler, Clerk of County of Crawford, State of Wisconsin, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Journal of Proceedings of the Crawford County Board of Supervisors at the Annual Session on November 10, 2020.

Janet L. Geisler, Crawford County Clerk